



NEWS FROM NATIONAL

FROM: Wynne Smith, Executive Director
 TO: BMW CCA National and Service Officers,
 Chapter Presidents, Newsletter Editors
 DATE: January 20, 2005

MEMBERSHIP STATS as 01/20/2005

	Full	Associate	Total
Current Membership	66,428	8,765	75,193
Last Month's Membership	66,625	8,686	75,311
Monthly Net Gain (Loss)	-197	79	118
Monthly % Change	-0.30%	0.91%	-0.16%
Last Year's Membership	66,997	8,329	75,326
Annual Net Gain (Loss)	-569	436	-130
Annual % Change	-0.85%	5.23%	-0.18%
New Members, 01/05	1,027		
Renewals, 01/05	48.8%		
Roundels Mailed	67,650		

MEMBERSHIP STATS

As you can see, the statistics are not moving in our favor. One of the goals discussed at the Senior Leaders conference in November of last year was to grow the club's membership by at least 10% in 2005. Well, it's not looking like we're going to meet or exceed that goal. The first line of defense is our chapters, and I am wondering if all of you will make a concerted effort to make sure the dealerships and shops in your area have updated application/brochures available. Send us an email and we will ship apps out within 24 hours to whomever you specify.

DIRECTORS & OFFICERS LIABILITY INSURANCE

By now everyone should have received the packet of information. If for some reason you did not receive the D & O information for your chapter – please send me an email and I will email the materials, or fax them to you.
wynne_smith@bmwcca.org

I have received completed applications (or know that they are on the way) from every chapter **except:**

Sunshine Bimmers Mountain State Pocono Mountain Allegheny
 Wasatch and Hawaii

It is imperative that the forms be returned to me as soon as humanly possible. If you have misplaced yours please call me and I will send replacements.

DEC ELECTIONS

Deadline to vote for your candidate is Friday, **February 11th**.

CRAC ELECTIONS

Congratulations to Terry Sayther the new Club Racing Advisory Representative for the South Central Region; and to Louis Payant, the new Club Racing Advisory Representative for Canada.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR/WEBMASTER CONFERENCE May 13-15, 2005

The BMW CCA Newsletter Editor/Webmaster Conference will be held the weekend of May 13 – 15, 2005 in **Atlanta, GA.**

If you are a Newsletter Editor – you should have been emailed this link to fill out a pre-meeting survey: <http://imisw.bmwcca.org/surveys/editors/> If you have not already filled out the survey, please do so.

If you are a Webmaster, you should have been emailed this link to fill out a survey: <http://imisw.bmwcca.org/surveys/webmasters/>

BMW CCA will reimburse travel expenses as set forth in Section IV of the club's Operation Manual (pages 1 and 2) for up to two representatives per chapter, **being those persons serving as the Chapter Newsletter Editor, and the Chapter Webmaster.** Substitute attendees will be considered on a case-by-case basis, just give me a call or send me an email. Hotel room costs (single or double) for two nights will be covered by National. Attendees who drive to the conference will be reimbursed at a rate of \$.40 per mile round trip, not to exceed the lowest 21-day advance airfare, from the closest airport. **National will provide luncheon on Saturday and dinner Saturday evening.**

Registration forms are included in this packet and will be available electronically on the website February 1, 2005.

We will be staying at the Westin Atlanta Airport a sweeping expanse of marble, glass, and foliage. The newly renovated full-service hotel offers spacious, upscale guest rooms featuring Westin's famous Heavenly Bed®, a variety of quality dining options, and a complimentary fitness center as well as a cigar bar. Only eight miles from downtown and most Atlanta area attractions the hotel is conveniently located adjacent to Hartsfield International Airport at major interstates I-85 and I-285, just down the road from the Georgia International Convention Center. There is complimentary 24-hour shuttle transportation both to and from Hartsfield International Airport and to the Hartsfield MARTA rail terminal will get you where you need to be when you need to be there.

We have a number of excellent speakers lined up and we have quite a selection of materials for you, so leave a little room in your briefcases and/or luggage for the trip back.

Saturday evening we will be taken by motor coach to an undisclosed location in the city of Atlanta for an outstanding meal and entertainment. Want to know where? Register for the congress <G>.

NATIONAL BOARD MEETING

The BMW CCA National Board met in Tampa this past weekend. Special thanks to Carlos Diaz-Estrada and the Florida Suncoast chapter officers that welcomed us all by collecting us at the airport and joining us for meals and the meeting. The minutes from the meeting will be provided to you as soon as the Board approves them – but some here are some highlights:

BMW NA is working on an exciting preview of the E90 3-series. You will be receiving calls from your Regional V.P.s about possible chapter participation in the very near future. BMW NA is also pulling together a great corral program for the Grand American race series. Details will follow- there are funds to help chapters host corrals, drivers and instructors available for "chalk-talks" and the possibility of seats in the M-School Driving School at the Performance Center being raffled off on site during the corrals.

Since we're on the subject on amazingly fun driving opportunities. Be sure to visit the BMW CCA Foundation website: <http://www.bmwccafoundation.org/ffeDrive.asp>

You may just be one of two lucky winners when your support of the BMW Car Club of America Foundation could win you a day at Summit Point Raceway in a PTG 'race-prepared' BMW M3. **TWO** lucky enthusiasts will win travel expenses, food, lodging, professional instruction, race crew plus a day of driving a PTG M3 - this is a **ONCE IN A LIFETIME** priceless opportunity! By sponsoring the BMW CCA Foundation, you're helping to support worthwhile programs, including the Street Survival™ teen car control program, preservation programs, and a BMW archive.

OKTOBERFEST 2005 – Is shaping up to be an outstanding vacation for anyone attending. There's a BMW CCA Club Race scheduled, Club Racing School, three days of **Driving School** at **VIR**, a track-course autocross, Street Survival program, outrageous rallies and so much more has been planned I haven't enough room to list it all in this report. The registration form will begin appearing in the April Roundel.



Approach to Left Hook



Roller Coaster

OKTOBERFEST 2006 – We had an embarrassment of riches for consideration for the host site for Oktoberfest 2006 this year. BMW Car Club Canada asked to have Mt Tremblant considered as a site for a joint BMW CCA/BMW CCC Oktoberfest; The National Capital Chapter submitted an extremely well developed proposal to host Oktoberfest 2006 in D.C., and the National Board requested a proposal to host the event in Grand Rapids, MI working with volunteers from the Motor City, Michiana, Hoosier and Windy City chapters. After much consideration, the BMW CCA Board decided to set Oktoberfest 2006 ion Grand Rapids, MI. As Executive V.P. Mark Calabrese pointed out, "I'd like to go someplace, new. D.C.? Been there, done that. I think people like someplace new and different each year."

Much thanks to the National Capital team for a spectacular proposal, and thanks to our friends to the north for an intriguing invitation.

TECH FEST 2006 – As you know, Tech Fest 2005 has been postponed and we are hoping that the Chapter Boards of the Hoosier and Bluegrass Chapters will see their way clear to join forces with the national events group to host Tech Fest 2006 in Indy.

RAFFLE 2005 – You'll want to start spreading the word. We're raffling the new **M5** this year. With production beginning in September, BMW NA expects the cars to be rolling onto the floors of the dealerships in late October, early November.

AUTOCROSS MINIMUM STANDARDS – Thanks to all of your chapter autocrossers out there who provided feedback, observations and corrections to the preliminary draft of the Autocross Minimum Standards. Rafael Garces, in particular obviously spent a great deal of time and presented the BMW CCA Board with a detailed critique. Your comments and suggestions will be incorporated into the document and a second draft will be sent out for your evaluation.

2005 MOTORSPORTS INSURANCE RATES – have gone up 15%. This is not a reflection on our loss and incident rate, but based on the rise in how many events have been put on between the 2003 and 2004 season. We're not doing anything wrong; we're just way more active than we have been. Cost for certificates **per event** will be as follows 2/1/2005 – 1/31/2006:

Club Race	\$ 1,650
CR/Driving School	\$ 1,495
Driving School	\$ 1,300
Autocross/CCC	\$ 255
Tours/Rallies/Concours	\$ 138

ADDITIONAL INSURED STATUS with respect to MOTORSPORT LIABILITY COVERAGE – There has been some confusion regarding who and what may be added as an additional insured to the certificates issued for events by Wisenberg. Please be sure everyone in your chapter involved with obtaining coverage for events understands that any participant that signs a waiver is covered as an additional insured. **However**, if the individual has a "business", that business can't be added as an additional insured to our policy. Often chapters are then asked to "indemnify" such a business, but if we ever had a claim, this would not be looked upon favorably by the carrier. Be sure your corner workers, instructor trainers, driving instructors, etc. sign the waivers at each event. Be sure to **READ** contracts carefully and thoroughly so that you are not agreeing to indemnify the business of a paid participant. If you have questions or need help with reviewing contracts submitted to you – please call me or your regional D.E.C. representative.

FORMS

Please, please, please send those Chapter Officer Questionnaires and related forms to us as soon as you can! Especially the Chapter Officer Questionnaires. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. From time-to-time we receive complaints or find complaints posted to the various digests that people within the chapters who need information are not being provided with it. We really want to do a good job for you, and we're happy to include any and everyone in mailings, but we need updated info in order to do so.

We expect the new web site to be launched in the next few weeks. Updated forms will be available electronically, hard copies have been provided, we're happy to email forms to you.

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best regards,

The National Office will be closed Monday, February 21 for President's Day.

Wynne