



**NEWS FROM NATIONAL**

FROM: Peggy Helmke, National Office  
 TO: BMW CCA National and Service Officers,  
 Chapter Presidents, Newsletter Editors  
 DATE: January 24, 2008

**MEMBERSHIP STATS as of 1/18/2008**

	<u>Full</u>	<u>Associate</u>	<u>Total</u>
Current Membership	<b>66,141</b>	<b>9,682</b>	<b>75,823</b>
Last Month's Membership	<b>66,454</b>	<b>9,730</b>	<b>76,184</b>
Monthly Net Gain (Loss)	-313	-48	-361
Monthly % Change	-0.47%	-0.49%	-0.47%
Last Year's Membership	<b>65,987</b>	<b>9,857</b>	<b>75,844</b>
Annual Net Gain (Loss)	154	-175	-21
Annual % Change	0.23%	-1.78%	-0.03%
2006's Membership	<b>65,800</b>	<b>9,316</b>	<b>75,116</b>
Net Gain (Loss) for 2 years	341	366	707
% Change for 2 years	0.52%	3.93%	0.94%

New Members            948  
 Renewals                48.40%  
 Roundels Mailed        65,284

**NATIONAL OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS**

Monday, February 18, 2008 - Closed

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**BMW CCA HAS A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!**

The process is complete. After an exhaustive search and interview process, the BMW CCA Board of Directors extended an employment offer to Mr. Frank Patek, II. Frank has accepted the offer. He will be moving to Greenville, South Carolina the last week in January and will be in position at the National Office starting Monday, February 4, 2008.

Frank is an experienced Executive Director at the national level, having held that position for the past nine years with the noted Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland. In all, he has worked in the not-for-profit association field for more than 14 years. Frank originally hails from the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania area, and his education background includes a law degree from Duquesne University.

As he acclimates to the position and becomes current on Club policies, procedures, and issues, Frank will be taking steps to get to know chapter and program officers and volunteers. You can look forward to hearing from him soon.

The search process began last year when BMW CCA retained a search firm that specialized in not-for-profit association executives. The search firm received more applications for the BMW CCA position than any other search they conducted in 2007. They screened the applications and conducted telephone interviews to reduce the number of candidates. This was followed by selected in-person interviews, background checks, and reference checking. In November 2007, the BMW CCA Executive Director Search Committee was presented with four finalist candidates. The Search Committee interviewed these four over a two-day period, and then made their recommendation to the full Board of Directors. Finally, during their recent meeting on January 19, 2008 in Greenville, the full Board interviewed Mr. Patek in person, and then voted to approve his hiring.

The National Office staff is excited about our new Executive Director and is looking forward to great things to come.

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**GREAT NEWS ON LIABILITY INSURANCE. NO INCREASE FOR 2008!**

We are pleased to announce that the rates that Chapters will pay for event insurance for 2008 will be the same as in 2007. We were able to hold the line on our general liability policy for this year. We'd like to thank Bill Wade, who coordinated the renewal, and Pete Lyon, our liaison to Wisenberg. The procedures that chapters must follow also remain the same. Chapters must complete the application (available from the [bmwcca.org](http://bmwcca.org) website), and send it in with payment in advance of the event. If you need an insurance certificate, submit the form at least two weeks prior to your event.

The 2008 rates are:

TYPE OF EVENT	RATE PER EVENT
Driving School conducted pursuant to the BMW CCA Operations Manual standards	\$1,400
BMW CCA Club Races	\$1,650
BMW CCA Club Race held in conjunction with a BMW CCA Driving School	\$1,550
Autocross	\$ 275
Car Control Clinic a/k/a Safety School	\$ 275
TSD Rally (Time-Speed-Distance)	\$ 275
Fun Rally	\$ 150
Gymkhana	\$ 150
Tours	\$ 150
Concours a/k/a Car Show	\$ 150
Social Events / Tech Sessions	\$ 0

As before, Chapters may request a rebate after completing the event on rallies, gymkhanas, tours, and concours/car shows. The rebate application is also available from the website.

One of the reasons we can arrange these rates is the confidence that Wisenberg has in us that we follow our own standards at all times, and that we are diligent in getting everyone at our events to sign the insurance waiver forms. Don't let the Club down. Know the event standards and adhere to them. Please, please make sure that everyone signs the waivers, that the waiver headers are properly filled out, and that the waiver witness portion is

also signed. Be especially vigilant with minor waivers, where applicable. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call the National Office.

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**BMW CCA WEBSITE**

BMWCCA 2.0, the club's new website, is still experiencing some teething pains. Small glitches, most of which involve website integration with the Club's iMIS database, have required additional code to be written. This affects final testing, submission of classified ads, and the subsequent launch. Keep checking [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) for news.

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**BMW CCA ELECTION**

The 2008 BMW CCA National Election has started. Ballots for BMW CCA members are in the January *Roundel* magazine. Ballots for associate members were mailed directly from the National Office during the first two weeks of January.

Each year, the January issue of *Roundel* magazine is normally delivered to members a few days later than usual due to the holiday schedule at the printing company. Beyond that, ultimate delivery time of the magazine to members' mailboxes is a function of the US Postal Service. The USPS and individual Post Offices have a wide latitude in the time frames in which they are allowed to deliver magazines. This year, delivery to some areas seems to be even later than normal for the January issue. Members who have not received their January *Roundel* by the end of January, and associate members who have not received their mailed ballot by that time should contact the National Office for a replacement ballot.

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**NEWSLETTER EDITOR/WEBMASTER CONFERENCE APRIL 4-6, 2008**

Please note the dates. Two representatives from each Chapter, the persons serving or about to serve as the Chapter Newsletter Editor and the Chapter Webmaster, may travel to **Salt Lake City, UT** to learn and network with other editors and webmasters.

Please let Linda Axelson in the National Office know if you have any additional topic suggestions.

BMW CCA will reimburse travel and lodging expenses as set forth in Section 4.1 of the Club's Operation Manual for up to *two authorized* representatives per chapter. Please have your designees review that section so that they know what travel expenses are reimbursable and under which rules. Chapters may elect to send additional attendees at the chapter's cost, but they must register ahead of time.

If there is any question about whether an individual is eligible to represent the chapter at this conference, please contact the National Office for a determination before the individual registers or makes airline arrangements.

The registration form is available online at [bmwcca.org](http://bmwcca.org).

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**ZF Public Service Awards and BMW CCA Charity Matching Funds**

A very big thank you goes to all chapters that conducted fund raising and public service work to help others in 2007. Now is the time to get the recognition you deserve and some additional money for your charities, and maybe some for the chapter, too.

Chapter applications for the 2008 ZF Public Service Awards and Charity Matching Funds Program are now available. The ZF Public Service Awards are sponsored by ZF Sales and Service, NA, located in Vernon Hills, Illinois. In addition, chapters that raised funds for charity last year are eligible to receive a percentage of the matching funds allocated in the BMW CCA budget by the National Board. The same application serves both purposes.

BMW CCA chapters that conducted charitable or public service activities in 2007 may apply for a 2008 ZF Award. Please note that eligible activities include not only fund-raising events, but other activities in which the chapter provided service and involvement assistance to a worthwhile cause or community activity.

The application packet contains the application form and instructions. Please limit your submissions to the information on the application form. If the ZF Awards Committee at ZF Sales and Service, NA requires more information, they will contact you. Seriously, let's save some paper this year. If you receive a receipt from the charity for your donation, there's no need to include copies of cancelled checks. We also don't need all the organizational e-mails it took to set up the event or copies of the insurance coverage. Chapters submitting applications for multiple charities should summarize all the activities on a single one-page narrative on the application's back page.

The due date has been changed this year to give you more time to prepare. Applications must be received at the BMW CCA National Office no later than March 17th, 2008. When your application is received at the National Office, receipt will be confirmed by e-mail to the address listed on the application. If you haven't received confirmation of receipt by the National Office by the second week in March (assuming you submitted your application before that), please contact the National Office to determine the status of your application. Of course, we would prefer you all submitted your applications well before the deadline, but if it gets close, please call the Executive Director to let him know when and how your application will arrive. We want every single chapter that prepares an application to get the proper credit, matching funds, and entry for the ZF Awards.

Once received, applications will be checked for completeness and then forwarded to the ZF Award evaluation committee. The 2008 ZF Awards will be announced at the Oktoberfest 2008 Awards Dinner on September 27, 2008.

Once all applications have been received and checked at the National Office, they will be totaled and computations made to determine the percentage of each chapter's matching funds. Checks to the appropriate charities will then be prepared.

For administrative purposes, the ZF Award application and BMW CCA Charity Matching Funds application are the same form. Application for the ZF Award is automatically an application for BMW CCA Matching Funds, and vice versa. Do not complete two separate forms; one is sufficient.

Applications are available on [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) and will also be sent to Chapter Presidents.

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### **Maintaining the Chapter in Good Standing**

The vast majority of BMW CCA Chapters are quite good at meeting the minimum standards required for chapters. They get their Annual Financial Reports and Chapter Officer Questionnaires in on time, and provide their

members newsletters on a timely and regular basis. But because we're all human—and volunteers—every now and then things slip through the crack or we find ourselves with an empty Newsletter Editor position. So a report doesn't get sent to National on time or the Chapter members go longer than 90 days (sometimes much longer) without getting their newsletter. If this happens to your chapter and the requirement is not addressed, it's likely the chapter will be placed on probation.

No one likes to put a chapter on probation, certainly not the National Office or Regional Vice President. We would much rather work with the Chapter before probation becomes necessary, to provide whatever assistance we can to get those reports in on time and get the newsletters to the members. The National Office staff or BMW CCA Treasurer can help answer questions about the Chapter Annual Financial Report, and if you get stuck without a Newsletter Editor, we can send you a basic template as a Word or text file that you can fill in, print, mail, and meet the newsletter requirement. It may not be a glossy magazine, but at least your members will know that the chapter is still there and there are activities going on. Most problems that wind up with a chapter going on probation can usually be fixed easier if you ask for help before the requirement is due.

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### OKTOBERFEST 2008 IN HISTORIC WATKINS GLEN, NY, SEPTEMBER 23 – SEPTEMBER 27, 2008

Planning continues at a rapid pace for Oktoberfest 2008, and it looks like this is going to be a memorable event. There is already a buzz about the event around the country. It's a gorgeous location and September in New York's Finger Lakes Region is a great time to be there. The area is famous for its wineries and we'll take advantage of that. Watkins Glen was the site of the first post-World War II road racing in the U.S. You can still drive (at legal speeds) the original 6+ mile road course through the village and up around the surrounding hills and countryside. If you sign up for the driving schools or club races, you'll be on the same track that was home to the United States Grand Prix for many years, and still hosts the NASCAR Sprint Cup series, Rolex Grand Am endurance race, Speed World Challenge, and more. Whether you participate in the driving events, show off your car, compete in the Club Races, meet your BMW CCA friends (and make new ones), explore Watkins Glen State Park, take a wine tour, or just enjoy the Finger Lakes Region, we have what you need for an terrific trip. And wait until you see where we're holding some of the evening receptions and dinners. All the fun of a traditional Oktoberfest, but with some new twists. You don't want to miss it.

OKTOBERFEST 2008 Schedule					
Tues 9/23	Wed 9/24	Thurs 9/25	Fri 9/26	Sat 9/27	Sun 9/28 (bonus)
Registration Opens @ WGI	Registration @ WGI	Registration @ WGI	Registration @ WGI	Registration @ WGI	
	Driving School Club Race School Gymkhana	Driving School Club Race School Auto X	Driving School Club Race Auto X	Driving School Club Race TSD Rally	Driving School Club Race
New Member Meeting Welcome Reception	Fun Rally Concours (afternoon) Reception with concours at Logan Ridge Winery	Fun Rally Reception at Corning Museum of Glass	Fun Rally Night Rally	Car Control Clinic Banquet/Car Show at Wings of Eagles	

To keep you informed, you may subscribe to the Ofest08 Mailing List. This is an announcement only list. To subscribe to this list, send a message to: [ofest08-request@bmwccaofest.org](mailto:ofest08-request@bmwccaofest.org) with the word subscribe as the subject.

In mid-February, we'll unveil the Oktoberfest 2008 website. We're designing it to be the complete Oktoberfest reference and guide.

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