

March • April 2018

das Krummet

The Newsletter of the Tidewater Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America



UPCOMING EVENTS

3/17 BIMMER BREAKFAST

Pop's Diner in Greenbrier at 9am

3/24 PENINSULA BREAKFAST

Baker's Crust at 9am
5234 Monticello Ave #115, Williamsburg, VA

4/14 PHOTO OPS DRIVE

Williamsburg, VA

4/19 BIMMER BREAKFAST

Pop's Diner in Greenbrier at 9am

4/28 ANNUAL BMW CCA PCA BBQ

Deep Creek, VA 11am-4pm

6/9 M-Performance Driving School

Greer, SC

*RSVP and details for all events
at <https://www.motorsportreg.com/>*

Questions: send email to events@tidewaterbmwcca.org



www.tidewaterbmwcca.org



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MEMBERSHIP

Tidewater Chapter: 672 as of February 2018
 National: 65873 as of October 2017

ADDRESS CHANGES

Address changes can be made on the BMWCCA National website (www.bmwcca.org) by hitting 'Login' and following instructions on site. From there, click on the 'Manage Account' link on the top of the page; then click on the 'Change Addresses' link.

Or write to:

ROUNDEL BMW CCA
 640 South Main Street - Suite 201
 Greenville, SC 29601

All changes done through the National office will update both your National and Tidewater Chapter address information.

NEWSLETTER and PHOTO CONTRIBUTIONS:

Your articles and photos are very welcomed by us. To be included in an issue the materials must be received by the 1st of the month preceding the date of the issue. To spice up the newsletter we always need photos of chapter events. We may also use them on the chapter website. Send your contributions to Editor@tidewaterbmwcca.org. Thanks!

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Chapter web site: www.tidewaterbmwcca.org
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 Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/twBMWCCA/>
 Follow us on Twitter: @TWBMWCCA
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President's Corner

The reports of my ascension to the Presidency are altogether true. Hello Tidewater Chapter BMW CCA, my name is Shawn Halsey and I could not be more proud to be your 2018 Chapter President. Having never held the bully pulpit before, I ponder what to include in my column (assuming it is read by **ALL** members). I would like to address what is happening within the club, update you on our strategic goals, and perhaps even provide a little insight about who I am. Those of you I did not get to meet at the Annual Banquet may be curious as to the leadership and direction of our club.

I say our club because it is just that, *our club*. We always need volunteers and if you think you don't have enough time or you don't have anything to contribute, rest assured we can use your help. By simple math, the more volunteers we have the easier it becomes for each of us. On an interesting note, I was a member of our Chapter for an entire year before I attended my first event! My first was one of our monthly breakfasts in Chesapeake. Shortly thereafter I got involved on a regular basis; and now I find myself President!

According to the BMW CCA we are designated a *medium* sized club. We place at the top of the medium range. It is wonderful news for us and it comes with great benefits and responsibilities. At a minimum we are required to publish four newsletters per year. We are also required to have *gatherings* on a regularly scheduled basis. We have been exceeding both of these responsibilities for some time now. You may be thinking; "They don't have many events by me." Well, that may be true, or rather was. In 2017 we made a concerted effort to alternate our activities between both sides of the James River. We also tried to alternate between Saturdays and Sundays to be accommodate various work and family schedules. We accomplished that and as such increased participation at our various events. With increased participation comes an increased need for volunteers to aid in the coordination and management of affairs. That's where you come in. The more volunteers we have, the easier it is to put on events closer to you! We experienced some growing pains last year and this will continue into the foreseeable future, which is nothing to fear. We can all embrace growing pains as we increase our membership, increase participation in events, increase the number of events, and perhaps even increase the frequency of publication of our newsletter (one day)!

I'm sure we all have different stories about our introduction and fascination with BMW. I for one enjoy hearing and reading others' stories. Although not the genesis of my obsession, my passion was fueled when I worked for a BMW dealership in Ohio. I had the most perfect job any young person with a passion could hope for. I learned how to service and maintain BMWs and I had access to internal information where I was able to learn how the E90 improved the aerodynamic drag coefficient over the E46. I personally tested the anti-trap feature on the one-touch windows and on my most stressful days I took a few minutes and would sit in the backseat of a very beautiful 7 Series in the showroom. For a young college man with a passion for BMW, life was perfect!

As a club, we have many wonderful things to look forward to in 2018. We have at least one event planned each month and several months with more than one event scheduled. We will continue to have our regularly scheduled breakfasts and drives. Your Board is eagerly looking forward to putting on another Street Survival event as well as a M-Performance School at the BMW Performance Center in Greer, South Carolina. We are also looking to implement a new website, expand our apparel collection and work towards a strategic goal of increasing the funds in our bank account. Having financial resources allow us to deliver outstanding newsletters and to put on quality events, chiefly our annual banquet.

In closing I am looking forward to an awesome 2018! We will maintain our monthly breakfasts in Chesapeake, and quarterly breakfasts on the Peninsula. We will also strive to deliver at least one driving event per month. As our board has had some shake-up, we do have positions open. Whether you think you want to serve on the board or simply help with a particular event, please reach out to us. I look forward to seeing you on the road!

Shawn Halsey
Fröhliches Autofahren!
President, Tidewater Chapter BMW CCA

Join Us On Facebook!

Join us on Facebook and stay up to date with all your Club's activities! The Club "Page" is open to the public and includes basic Club information and our events: www.facebook.com/twbmwcca

Our "Member's Group" is a closed group for our registered members where you can post your pictures, ask questions, and join the discussions: www.facebook.com/groups/twbmwcca

BMW TOPS TIRAMISU!

by Mary Kwasniewski

Literally! And if you were at the 2018 Annual Tidewater BMW Banquet you know what I'm talking about!

The City Center Marriott exceeded our expectations and the atmosphere, ease of parking, appetizers and food made this year's event one to be replicated! We feasted on an Italian buffet complete with authentic antipasto which won rave reviews! The Chef also prepared a special tiramisu complete with the BMW logo in cocoa powder as a special surprise! With the help of a small volunteer banquet committee the evening was enjoyed by all!

President Shawn Halsey provided a short synopsis of past year events including a month by month video highlighting our cars and the club activities.

Raffle items were again up for grabs - items were generously donated by Original Tidewater Chapter Charter Member Jim Craig, Import Autowerks, Checkered Flag BMW, and Casey BMW. Highlights included weather proof floor mats, Import Autowerks Bimmer cash towards service, and a cuddly BMW teddy bear!

The banquet is traditionally what kicks off our new year – and this event was no exception to that rule! Looking ahead to the future please come and get involved with the activities committee - we are always look for new input and ideas for other events and venues that can help us continue to grow and reach new audiences!

Thank you for making the 2018 Annual Tidewater BMW Banquet a special occasion!



Photos by associate member Hali Elliott





EDITOR'S ARTICLE

by Kelly Elliott

Welcome BMW CCA Tidewater Chapter Family!

It is both an honor and a pleasure to bring to you the second publication of the 2018 Das Kummel Newsletter. I'm looking forward to sharing this year's events with you all.

This is our space for news, events and random musings on BMW happenings and events in your area. Brought to you by BMW enthusiasts with a passion for "sheer driving pleasure". Including one of my favorite things...gatherings that usually end with food.

Already this year is off to a great start with such events as the Annual Banquet, the Valentine's Day Drive and meal at Sal's by Victor and our monthly breakfasts. We have so many wonderful events planned for the club this year. I invite you to attend as many as you are able, and bring your friends and family along for the ride. See you soon!

Advertisements

Non-commercial classified ads are free to chapter members. Ads will run in three published issues and then may be continued in subsequent issues only by contacting the Newsletter Editor. Ads submitted are limited to 200 words per ad including name, address, phone number and email address if available. Items offered for sale must be the personal property of the submitting member or family and not of a business.

Commercial ads are available to members and non-members. Such ads must be accompanied by payment in full. Rates shown below are per year (approximately 6 issues). All ads must be submitted in a usable digital format or as camera ready. "Das Kummel" reserves the right to edit or reject any ad submitted.

FULL PG ...\$135/issue or \$700 per yr.

HALF PG ...\$65/issue or \$350 per yr.

1/4 PG ...\$50/issue or \$225 per yr.

BIZ CARD ...\$20/issue or \$100 per yr.

Club TOOLBOX

For those that have always wanted us to put a name with a face, here's a picture of our club tools. They've been relocated to our treasurer Ron Boustedt's house. Feel free to reach out if you need to scratch your shade tree mechanic itch.

- **HELMETS for track events**
- Service light resetting tools - very useful
- Tie rod separator - pickle forks
- Remote starter switch
- Clutch Alignment tool
- Pilot bearing puller
- Fan clutch wrench & bar
- Electric impact wrench
- Lockstrip tool
- 17mm Trans. drain socket
- Brake bleed system - very useful
- Coil spring compressors
- PEAKE code/reset tool - all models can be connected under hood or dash
- SRS air bag scanner

Contact borrowequip@tidewaterbmwcca.org for your needs.



Club MERCHANDISE

Apparel from Land's End with Tidewater Chapter logo is available for purchase. Contact merch@tidewaterbmwcca.org for availability and questions about the following merchandise:

Apparel (polos, hats, etc.) - various prices at club events
Chapter Logo Decals • BMW CCA Decals: FREE at club events

Personalized Club nametags, for club events, can be ordered from Tag-Ink for \$20 each.
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Valentine's Drive

by Al Resnick

On Sunday, February 11, we had some 17 cars for a terrific drive and luncheon. Our drive began in Lightfoot. We wound our way into Toano with a photo stop at the Little Creek Dam. We continued on some picturesque country roads on down to historic Jamestown Island (which turned out to be a first for several long time members).

After this scenic trip around the Williamsburg area, we ended up in Williamsburg at Sal's by Victor. Here almost 40 of us had an old fashioned Italian Grande Festa that began with plates of several antipasto, salad, several types of bread, multiple pasta dishes, a choice of main courses and dessert – which many of us applied the line from *The Godfather* (“Take the Cannoli....”); all of this with several varieties of wine and, of course, BimmerTalk. Thanks to all for coming out!



Valentine's Drive



ABS, TPMS and Driving

RAY LAFFOON

The motor industry, prompted by government regulation and consumer concern, has worked for 3 decades to improve vehicle safety. We have seen the advent of airbags, crumple zones, improved lighting, blind spot warning, etc. etc. etc. I have concerns about effectiveness of many of the so-called improvements since more and more of today's drivers seem to be oblivious to the traffic, pedestrians and other things around them while actively inhibiting traffic flow. In many instances, these "drivers" expect the car to cover their short comings. Unfortunately, too many drivers do not know how to set up or use the systems in their cars. The antilock brake system (ABS) is an example. Observations and interviews show that many drivers do exactly the wrong thing when the ABS intervenes in an emergency situation. Instead of firmly pressing the brake pedal to let the system work, these oblivious ones realize the system has intervened and let up on the brake pressure, thus increasing their braking distance. Unfortunately, they also don't think about steering out of a situation.

Another modern system is the TPMS (Tire Pressure Monitoring System). The TPMS is a fixture in today's cars, making it so the driver knows when their tires have a problem with air pressure. Recently, a close friend of mine and I had a discussion on Facebook about this system and the value of tire pressure monitor sensors. These are actual posts.



BRUCE

Ugh. The tire pressure light indicator came on in the RAV tonight, a day after the dealership checked the tires. The spare turned out to be low, but the light was still flashing after I brought it up to pressure. Meanwhile, the other tires were all 3 lbs. over the pressure specified on the sticker in the door frame.

I guess I've got a bad pressure sensor. All of which makes me want to rant on two pet peeves:

- 1. Why is it that mechanics always overinflate tires? Every time I've checked the tire pressure after a tire was installed or serviced by a professional, the pressure has been higher than the vehicle manufacturer specifies. This has been consistent for the last 35-40 years.*
- 2. I really hate tire pressure monitor systems. The reason we have them is because Ford made the Explorer with too high a center of gravity and because too many fools insisted on driving them at excessive speed while failing to check tire pressure. As a consequence, we all get stuck paying an extra \$30 per tire for pressure sensors every time we buy new tires. And sometimes they must surely go bad.*

Of course, being the car enthusiast, I **MUST** respond to my close friend.



RAY

1. Bruce, there is a school of thought among some mechanics that slight over inflation will improve fuel economy since it reduces rolling resistance. That theory works if all of your driving is done with no turning. Maybe that is why many drivers sit in the left (the passing) lane creating a moving chicane at 5 MPH under the speed limit.

2. My BMW dealer sets the tire pressure PRECISELY at the recommendation. It must be a German thing. Germans do not block the left (the passing) lane because they know it is dangerous and impedes the efficient flow of traffic. Reduction in road rage improves fuel economy.

Continued on pg 11

3. The tire pressure light has helped me on 2 occasions over the last 10 years in my cars. In both cases I found a slow leak due to a small puncture. I find it irritating when the light illuminates after the ambient temperature cools off abruptly. This usually occurs when my wife is driving to work while I am working in Germany (and enjoying no one blocking the left (the passing) lane on the autobahn).

4. I do not understand why drivers ignore low pressure and check engine warning lights. These lights let you know there is a problem. Germans will get off the autobahn where they are not blocking the left (the passing) lane to ascertain whether there actually is a problem.

5. All of my cars, including the German cars, have different tire pressure sensor reset procedures. I do not recommend resetting the system while in the left (the passing) lane.

BRUCE

The verdict is that there are two dead sensors, one on the spare. I'm wishing that I had been patient enough to Google "disable TPM system", because it sounds like it would be fairly easy on this car.



Bruce was able to resolve his TPMS issue to questionable satisfaction without blocking the passing lane. Since one of the failed sensors was on his car's spare tire, we BMW owners can be assured the failed TPMS was not on a BMW. Many of our new BMWs come without a spare. Somehow this is another safety annoyance of questionable value on our modern cars, especially those of us driving cars equipped with Run Flat Tires*. Additionally, systems wise, nothing is simple on a BMW. Make sure your tires are inflated, you are using your brakes properly, and the electronic nannies are properly fed while out driving your BMW. Use the passing lane for what BMWs do best!

**I know Run Flat Tires need TPMS for safety reasons. Now is a good time to laugh or grimace a bit to annoy those around you!*



BMW Breakfast

Scheduled Peninsula BMW Breakfast on the 4th Saturday of every 3rd month.

We'll be at Baker's Crust, 5234 Monticello Ave #115, Williamsburg, VA 23188. Breakfast starts @ 09:00 am on March 24th with Car talk during and to follow afterwards with Club members.



MEMBERSHIP AND BENEFITS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS.

We are thrilled to have you as part of the BMW-CCA Tidewater Chapter!

William Anthony

Connor Benway

Mikaela Benway

Rebecca Ann Betit

Alexander Crosson

Tony Dail

Branden Evans

Larissa foster

Tyrone Harris

Destiny Hunt

Kristina McCullough

Earl Nabritt

Ryan Nash

Robert David Sweat

Blake Widder

Todd Williams

Whatever your reason for owning a BMW, you have the opportunity to meet others with common interests, form new friendships, and learn more about your "Ultimate Driving Machine!" You decide how you want to participate...face-to-face, virtually, actively, occasionally.

Membership benefits include:

- Free subscriptions to the national club magazine, the *Roundel*
- Free bi-monthly Tidewater Chapter newsletter, *Das Kummel*
- Rebates on purchase of new or CPO BMW car or new BMW motorcycle
- Discounts on parts from participating dealers and private companies
- National discounts from travel and service providers like Sprint
- Access to BMW CCA online forum
- Access to technical experts via telephone, email, or forum
- Free classified advertising in *Roundel*, *Das Kummel*, and on the chapter web site
- Chapter events throughout the year
- New friends with a variety of interests including, of course, BMWs!
- Many other benefits! For a complete list, see <https://www.bmwcca.org>

This is honestly one membership that pays tremendous dividends, so give us a try!

HOW DO I JOIN?

To join, just visit the membership signup page on the National BMW CCA site at www.bmwcca.org/join. Check out www.tidewaterbmwcca.org and our Facebook page, or [email membership@tidewaterbmwcca.org](mailto:email_membership@tidewaterbmwcca.org) for more information about participation and the many membership benefits.

The Classics are hibernating, but we'll be out soon. If you like the older BMWs join us for some vintage fun. Again we'll be heading to "The Vintage" in Asheville N.C. MAY 17-20 for the largest vintage BMW gathering in the U.S. Plus garage time, lunches, drives, Great Pumpkin Fun Run etc. Contact Classic chairman Steve Waddell 535-5878 for more info.



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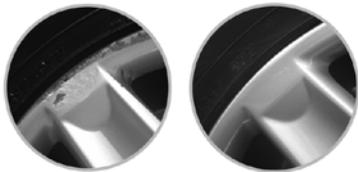
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ANNUAL OBX DRIVE

by James Loriol

It was a cool brisk day on the first Saturday in December, but the weather was great for a drive to the shore. We designated two starting locations, one in Virginia Beach the other in Chesapeake, where the convoys began their journeys traveling south to the Currituck Visitor's Center to unite. Taking advantage of the collection of varied models of BMW's, of course it immediately became a great opportunity for photos and conversation. The stop also offered an opportunity to introduce new members to the group, this being their first drive. Heading south along Hwy 158 down to Kitty Hawk, there were some breathtaking views for our thirteen car convoy to enjoy. We stopped at a rest area to pick up one car, then another at the OBX Visitor's Center, and then traveled the last few miles for lunch at a local's favorite called Barefoot Bernie's. Plentiful conversation welled up amongst the 24 people as we enjoyed the fare. Rather than the planned drive to the Currituck Lighthouse in Corolla after lunch, we traveled back to the OBX Visitor's Center to admire the Monument to a Century of Flight and pose for more photos before a fond farewell for the day. Thanks to everyone who came out!



Thumbs up to the BMW lineup



Exploring the 'Monument to a Century of Flight'



ANNUAL OBX DRIVE



Photos by associate member Hali Elliott



Lunch at Barefoot Bernies

Import Autowerks

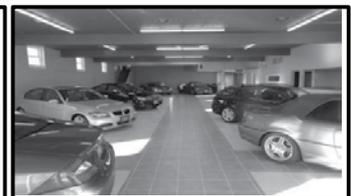
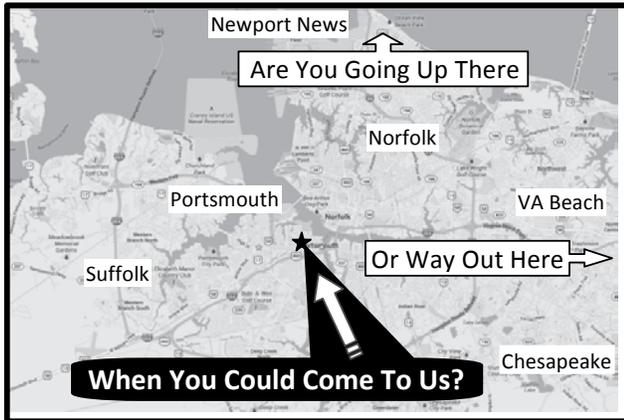
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M-Performance Driving School



JUNE 8 & 9, 2018. RSVP EARLY

Join us for a day of driving at the M Performance School.

We'll learn from the best driving instructors and put our skills to the test, whipping around the track in M2s, M3s and M4s!

This event will be at the BMW Performance Center in Spartanburg, SC on Saturday, June 9, 2018 and we'll be driving their M cars.

Space is limited; only the first 32 registrants will be able to participate; driving registrants must be members of the Tidewater BMW Car Club. Only \$800 for a full day of training and track time.

When registering, you can order lunches for your non-driving guests; guest lunches will be \$30 (driver lunches will be provided).

We are also making arrangements through BMW to reserve a block of rooms at a nearby hotel for the evening of June 8, 2018; we're also, looking at traveling down to the Performance Center in a group -- we'll send an EMail to all registrants when those details are finalized.

Don't delay, registration just opened on Sunday, January 28, 2018.
-- Visit the following site to enter: <https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/tidewater-bmw-cca-m-performance-school-center-738574>



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Chapter Website UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Please pardon our mess! It may be hard to see, but our website is undergoing major renovations. Our engineers are hard at work improving the user experience. Several enhancements include improved functionality, native support across all browsers and platforms, increased efficiency when navigating events and their respective photos & online ordering. Our target for full implementation is the first quarter of 2018.

If you have tech experience, creative ideas or a desire to provide our webmaster with more caffeine, please reach out to us. Assistance is always appreciated, so ask how you can help.

Email: webmeister@tidewaterbmwcca.org.

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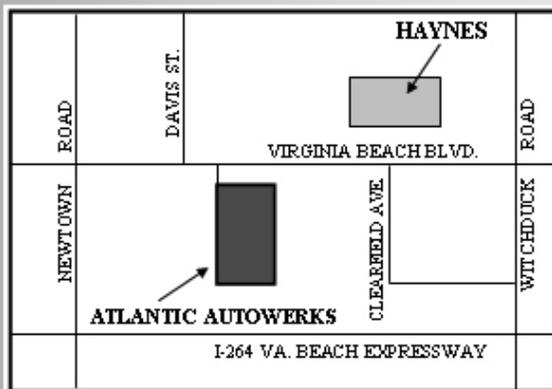


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