

# Pferdestärke

BMW Car Club  
of America  
Bluegrass Bimmers



BLUEGRASS BIMMERS CHAPTER | BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA

VOLUME 14 WINTER 2018/SPRING 2019



## WHAT'S INSIDE

Tire Rack Street Survival  
Burt Finds a New Home  
Remembering Eddie Lietz  
Upcoming Events and  
other good stuff...

**SOME GREAT EVENTS ARE GOING ON IN 2019, SO WATCH YOUR EMAIL, "LIKE" BGB ON FACEBOOK, AND VISIT THE BGB WEBSITE FOR FURTHER DETAILS. Be sure to check our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/213004217599/> This has almost all the upcoming events and some great conversation. [www.bluegrassbimmers.org](http://www.bluegrassbimmers.org)**

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# WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fausto Sarmiento, Bluegrass Bimmers President  
fausto@performancedrivenky.com



Hello bimmer enthusiasts!

When the winter chill starts to give way to warmer spring mornings, I am sure many of you are like me. Early in the week, you start eyeing five day forecasts to think about potential weekend driving conditions. You check tire pressures more often, making sure you'll always have good grip in the midst of Kentucky's wildly fluctuating temperatures. In short, you hear your BMW calling out to you. The engine's ignition becomes a siren song, tempting you to give your bimmer just a little more gas. Always, just a little more gas!

It's time for us BMW nerds (as BMW CCA member Ben Strauss likes to say) to meet and gather together to eat, talk about memorable moments behind the wheel, and, of course, make more memorable moments behind the wheel! Ladies and gentlemen, the driving season is officially here! The main function of The Ultimate Driving Machine is the theme of this newsletter: DRIVING!

Inside this issue, you'll read about how a young driver utilized the skills he developed at the Tire Rack Street Survival program to show his family his driving skills on a road trip to Florida! You'll read about how a memorable drive back in 1986 in a new-at-the-time E28 5 series was the start of the road to the 2019 BMW Vintage (which just happens to feature 5ers this year!).

You'll also get details on the first official drive of the Bluegrass Bimmers, the 2019 Spring Drive! The Spring Drive will take BMW CCA members and their guests on a twisty drive from Frankfort to the private BMW car and memoribila collection of BMW Foundation member Lance White, who lives just outside Cincinnati. Oh, and there will be a stop for bratwurst, schnitzel, and other Bavarian favorites.

If you happen to succumb to the siren's call for more gas, join me on the road to the Windy City BMW CCA chapter's High Performance Driving Education event the weekend of May 17 - May 19th! HPDE events are a great way to take your bimmer out on a closed track and learn the art of high performance driving. Details inside!

Sincerely,

Our newsletter title, the German word Pferdestärke, translates to Horsepower in English.

BLUEGRASS BIMMERS CHAPTER  
BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA

[www.bluegrassbimmers.org](http://www.bluegrassbimmers.org)

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**BMW Car Club  
of America  
Bluegrass Bimmers**







# BMW CCA DINNER SOCIALS

BMW CCA Dinners Socials open to both BMW CCA Members and General BMW Enthusiasts

## Lexington

Second Tuesday of Every Month

Meet & Greet at 6:30 PM

Dinner at 7 PM

BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse

3297 Nicholasville Rd. Lexington, KY

## Louisville

Second Wednesday of Every Month

Dinner @ 7 PM

BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse

7900 Shelbyville Rd. Louisville, KY

## Bowling Green

Second Thursday of Every Month

Dinner 7 PM

Pub By Novo

2425 Scottsville Rd. #127 Bowling  
Green, KY



**BMW Car Club  
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# A New Driver's Experience at TRSS

By: Nolan Sanchez



As someone who's been into the car scene since for as long as I can remember, the biggest thing I looked forward to was getting my drivers license. The ability to get into a car and be in control and just drive wherever you want has always fascinated me. However, as a new driver, I had my concerns.

I had always felt comfortable with myself as a driver. It was the fear of the unknown and other drivers that ultimately scared the crap out of me! I was laying in bed one evening scrolling through Facebook when I stumbled upon the link to sign up for the Tire Rack Street Survival program hosted by the Bluegrass Bimmers on December 1, 2018.



I was immediately intrigued, yelled downstairs to my parents, and was registered in about 15 minutes.

It was one of the best decisions I have made! It was an opportunity to learn how my car handled. It gave me insights on what to pay attention to as a new driver. Ultimately, it helped me conquer my fears! From sliding around the skid pad, to the slalom course, to the hard braking exercises, and even in the classroom sessions, I built more confidence in myself as a driver than ever before!



Shortly after the TRSS program, I felt comfortable enough to tackle a 14-hour drive to Sarasota, FL on my own! Needless to say, this would've been out of the question previously.

To anyone with kids, from a kid's perspective, this is a must for new drivers!



## Editor's Note:

Tire Rack Street Survival is open to all marques of car. No BMW CCA membership required. The cost for the program is \$95. Bluegrass Bimmers will host another TRSS program later in 2019. Stay tuned!

Please visit [www.streetsurvival.org](http://www.streetsurvival.org) for additional information about the Tire Rack Street Survival Program.



# Meet Burt!

By: John Rice

It all began with a Facebook message.

*"Want to talk to you about my 86 535 some time."*

*"Cool, what's up?"*

*"Would you be interested in the car? I am willing to give it to a good home."*

*"Yes. Definitely interested."*

That's how a 33 year old e28 affectionately known as Burt ended up at my house. The previous owner, Chuck, is a family friend. Somebody I credit with getting me hooked on Bimmers. He took me on a ride in a brand new 5er back in about 1986. It was a ride I will never forget.

Back in 1986, I was a teenager who was into cars. I knew the BMW 3 series was pretty cool, but I was mostly into Porches and Corvettes. The boxy 4 door sedan e28 with narrow tires seemed to me to be more of an executive car that would spend most of it's time parked at the office or a country club.

The day of the drive was just like any other day in 1986 for me. I had probably made several calls to friends from my corded landline phone. I was probably wearing a Polo shirt, khaki pants, penny loafers and had just wrapped up seeing who shot JR on a VHS tape.

The doorbell rang. It was Chuck. At first, I thought he was there to see my dad. I looked out and saw he was in a brand new 5 series. He asked if I wanted to take a ride. I remember it being more of an invitation to have the ride of my life.

And that it was.

We went out Liberty Road and Todds Road. The whole area is nothing but houses now, but back then, it was a nice country road. There was a super sharp right turn on what was then called something like Athens-Chilesburg Road, Walnut Hill-Chilesburg Road, or something like that. It was not only a sharp right turn, it was uphill too.

Chuck took that turn at a speed that I doubt my favorite car at that time, a C4 Corvette, could hope to do.



Photo by Stuart Rice



Photo by Stuart Rice



The road got narrower and we kept accelerating. I don't remember much after that turn. Maybe I blacked out? I learned two things that day: First, the e28 IS a serious driver's car. Secondly, Chuck sure knew how to drive it! That turn no longer exists. There are now houses and a cul-de-sac where one of the most exciting automotive moments of my life happened. I've been driving past this spot for over 30 years since that day and I still think about that car and Chuck every time.



Photo by Stuart Rice

Speaking of that car, back to Burt now. Burt is far from a garage queen. Burt is just a car that has been somebody's daily driver for all of his life. He has some rust and all the patina you would expect from serving as the Ultimate Driving Machine for all that time. Everything except the tach and odometer work. He was overheating a bit, so we got him a new radiator, thermostat and fan clutch. The driver's seat was broken beyond repair. The only seat I could find was blue cloth. I am slowly changing all of the interior over to be blue. Right now he has a red leather backseat and door cards, with blue cloth front seats. (Anybody have red leather front seats or the rest of a blue cloth interior??)

My plans for Burt are just to keep him on the road. I don't think I would restore him even if I could afford to do so. He wears his patina with pride. I don't want to erase any of his history by changing things just to make him look younger. I'll fix things as they break. I'll keep him off of salted roads.....and if all goes as planned, I will take him to either The Vintage or the Southeast Shark Fest this year.



**SESF**

2019 Southeast Shark Fest  
April 25th - April 28th  
Spartanburg, SC

<https://www.bmwsharkfest.org/>

# The Vintage

Celebrating the history of BMW

**May 16-19  
2019**

**Asheville/Hot Springs, NC**

**SCHNELL YEAH!**

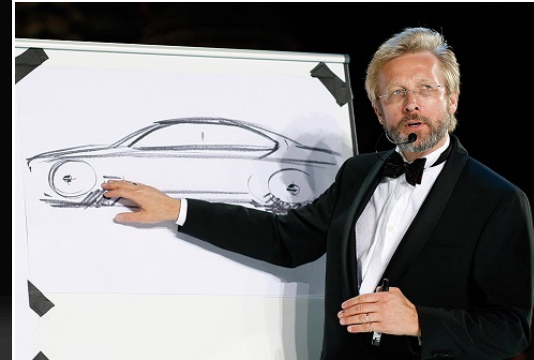


# Art, Creativity & BMW: Accelerating Past 100 MPH!

By: Fausto Sarmiento

Art and motorsports go together like BMW and a twisty road. Motorsports fuels artistic creativity in its quest to provide drivers and passengers with a safe method of transportation while delivering sensory stimulation to our senses of sight, hearing, touch and smell. Indeed, racers even say champagne tastes better after winning an on-track battle! The design elements in our cars often create indelible memories all enthusiasts can talk about with a smile, as they often mirror our own. I can still remember how, as a young kid, seeing the shark gill-like vents of a 1996 BMW Z3 made me promise myself that I, one day, would own a BMW. I can still remember how the steering

wheel felt in my hands the first time I sat in the driver's seat of a BMW M4 during the BMW Performance Center's Two Day M School. The balance between the beautiful aesthetics of a BMW and the ultimate driving performance is no coincidence.



Chris Bangle in 2007, discussing the 7 Series

Chris Bangle, BMW's Chief of Design from 1992 - 2009, is not surprised by the emotive way we connect with our cars. "Cars are the sculptors of our every day lives" he told MotorTrend. "We at BMW do not build cars as consumer objects, just to drive from A to B. We build mobile works of art."

Esther Mahlangu's BMW 525i, Art Car #12, 1991



Cao Fei's BMW M6 GT3, Art Car #19, 2017

*"Cars are an expansion of yourself: they take your thoughts, your ideas, your emotions, and they multiply it"-  
Chris Bangle*

The famous "Hofmeister Kink" that gives all BMWs their quintessential rear-wheel driven athletic aesthetic.







Andy Warhol's BMW M1, Art Car #4, 1979

Jeff Koons' BMW M3 GTS, Art Car #17, 2010



While various other manufactures --and many different industries--have strong, storied traditions of creative artistic design in their products, BMW does more than most to utilize their motorsports and performance heritage to influence the art world. For more than 40 years, BMW's unique Art Car project has given artists from around the world the chance to interpret speed and performance in their own unique, memorable ways.

In fact, BMW currently manages over 100 active worldwide projects through its Arts and Culture division. To learn more about the artists behind BMW's creative endeavors, visit the BMW Art Journey website (clickable on e-newsletter). To learn more about the variety of artistic and creative projects in BMW's portfolio, visit the BMW Group's Cultural Engagement website (clickable on e-newsletter).

*"To me, light represents thoughts. As the speed of thoughts cannot be measured, the (M6 GT3) Art Car questions the existence of the boundaries of the human mind. We are entering a new age, where the mind directly controls objects and where thoughts can be transferred, such as unmanned operations and artificial intelligence. Which attitudes and temperaments hold the key to opening the gateway to the new age?"*

– Cao Fei, Digital Artist, BMW M6 GT3 Art Car



Jenny Holzer's BMW V12 LMR, Art Car #15, 1999



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# Remembering Eddie Lietz

April 9, 1976 - March 1, 2019

By: Kelli Logsdon



Eddie was my big brother and my best friend. We shared 21 years worth of memories. I am so thankful to have shared so many great memories with my big brother. Not only did he give me so many great memories, he also gave me my beautiful niece Audrey and my handsome nephew Zachary, both of whom I love very much. While 42 years is such a short time to live, Eddie surely lived his life to the fullest. He shared his life with so many great people, all of his friends and family.

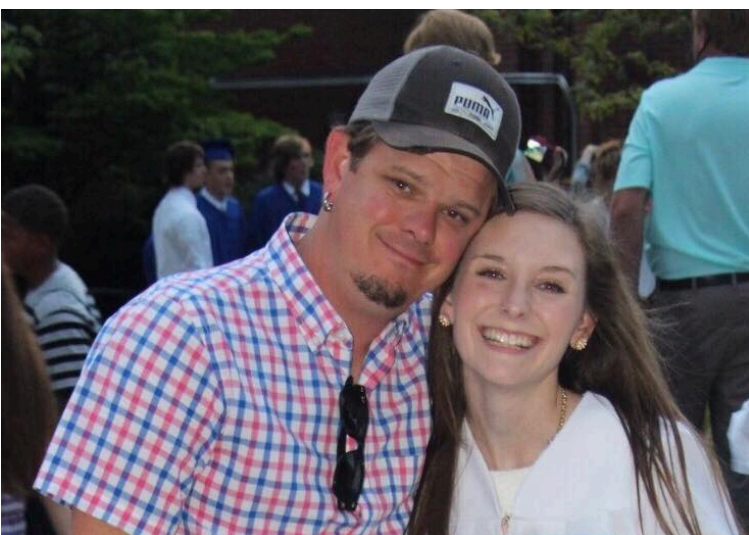
Eddie cherished all of you. He was a member of the BMW CCA, where he shared his love for cars with so many of his lifelong friends. Eddie would travel all over Kentucky just to sit back and share a couple of laughs with his BMW friends. He truly treasured those moments.

I can remember going with him several times to car shows. The happiness and love that poured out from Eddie at car events like the one at the waterfront in Louisville are unforgettable.

Eddie, I will miss you every stop of the way throughout the rest of my life. I will carry a heartful of memories with me always. I know you're now cruising around in a heaven without speed limits in a nice, shiny BMW.



*"Eddie would travel all over Kentucky just to sit back and share a couple of laughs with his BMW friends. He truly treasured those moments."*







# Event Information

## Dinner Socials

2nd Tuesday of the Month: Lexington  
BJ's Restaurant Brewhouse  
6:30 PM Meet & Greet, 7 PM Dinner  
Contact: John Rice  
realtorjohnrice@yahoo.com

2nd Wednesday of the Month: Louisville  
BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse  
7900 Shelbyville Rd.  
7 PM Dinner  
Contact: Greg Nehring  
greg@claritydesignlou.com

2nd Thursday of the Month: Bowling Green  
Pub by Novo  
2425 Scottsville Rd #127  
7 PM Dinner  
Contact: Michael Starling  
mike.starling.jr@gmail.com

## Upcoming BMW CCA Track Events Got the Need for Speed? Click below! (E-only)

BMW CCA National Capital Chapter  
ChapterFest HPDE Summit Point Raceway  
May 10 - May 12, Summit Point, WV

BMW CCA Windy City Chapter  
Autobahn Country Club HPDE  
May 17 - May 19, Joliet, IL

BMW CCA Buckeye Chapter  
Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course  
August 16 - August 18, Lexington, OH

## 2019 SPRING DRIVE



[bluegrassbimmers.org](http://bluegrassbimmers.org)

### Saturday, April 20th



Featuring a back roads driving tour, lunch at the Hofbräuhaus, and a showing of Lance White's private collection of BMW cars and collectibles!

Groups will meet in Lexington and Louisville for for an informal drive to Frankfort, where the Bluegrass Bimmers Spring Drive will officially commence! Registration required through MotorSportsReg!

Drivers must be BMW CCA members as the drive will be insured through the BMW CCA. Guests and passengers do not have to be BMW CCA members. All BMW CCA members will receive a ticket for a free beverage at the Hofbrauhaus!

08:30 - 09:15 AM Meet in Louisville and Lexington areas for back roads drive to Frankfort.

10:00 - 10:30 AM Convene in Frankfort to check in, sign waivers, prepare for The Drive!

12:00 - 1:30 PM Lunch stop at the Hofbrause

1:30 - 2:00 PM Depart to the private collection of Lance White

2:00 - 4:00 PM Tour and socialize at Lance White's Showroom

The event will officially end at the Showroom. Some members will go have fun in the OTR area, others will hit the road home. What you do is up to you!

Information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1242178525939805/>

## Registration: [www.motorsportsreg.com](http://www.motorsportsreg.com)

Click above (PDF/Ezine) or Search MotorSportsReg for "Bluegrass Bimmers Spring Drive"







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*"In memory of Dallas Tidwell"*

### Member Update

Don't forget to join the facebook page and to visit the social closest to your specific area. It's a great way to meet and get to know other members.

Visit [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) to join or renew. The BMW CCA is the largest single-marque car club in the world!

Benefits include:

Vehicle and motorcycle rebates

Discounts at various businesses-local and nationwide!

Roadside Assistance

Online Forums and BMW CCA Apps

Access to Ombudsmen & Technical Service Advisors

Members Only Activities!

## THANK YOU MEMBERS!

New and Renewing  
Sept 2018 - February 2019

Tyler Smith  
Kevin Alexander  
Vaughn Holder  
Emilie Balthrop  
Kendall Brewer  
Joseph Cupolo  
Lauren Depa  
Ty Dominguez  
Jack Thomas Guffey  
Rachel Herrin  
Ben Jones  
David Mosher  
Lynda Newman  
Rebecca Newman  
Adie Preston  
Kaleb Weis  
Atticus Youngs  
Nolan Sanchez  
Robert Turner  
Todd Hoon  
Andrew Leonard  
Edward Ritchie  
Travis Kyle  
David Hostetter

Michael Coons  
Randall Capps  
Michael Gipe  
Matthew Myers  
Jonathan Crosby  
Ken Maxwell  
Sam Morrow  
Matthew Cooper  
Brandon Pretlow  
Ted Barrett  
Collin Brown  
James Taylor  
Sally Taylor  
Lee Tompkins  
Ryan Schuler  
Rebecca Gardner  
Joseph Bongiovi  
Robert Phillips  
Daniel Lowe  
Ben Strauss  
Eric Wheatley  
Simon Baksh  
Zachary Ketrang  
Haijun Duan



[bluegrassbimmers.org](http://bluegrassbimmers.org)

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# History

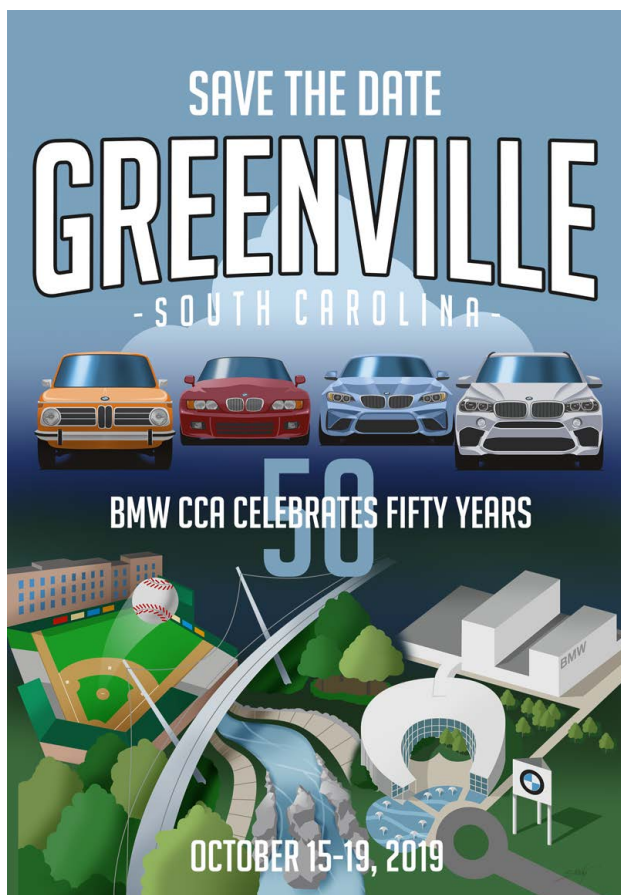
**BMW Car Club  
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It doesn't matter what model you drive. Whether you're on your first Bimmer, or your thirtieth, there are certain subjects that resonate differently with BMW owners. Founded in 1969, the BMW Car Club of America is where we address the object of our desires, socialize with other bimmer enthusiasts, and find creative ways to express our passions—regardless if we're talking about our daily drivers or our specially built track weapons. Today, BMW CCA has 67 chapters nationwide, with more than 75,000 members, mutually enhancing each other's BMW ownership experience.

Our official mission is to enhance the BMW experience for our members by providing services, support, information, and activities that promote camaraderie and encourage social awareness and responsibility. Unofficially, we're a big support group for Ultimate Driving Machine addiction. Nothing wrong with that.

BMW CCA enjoys a strong yet independent relationship with BMW AG and its BMW of North America subsidiary. We are a not-for-profit corporation governed by a nine-member elected board of directors -- four national officers and five regional vice-presidents who serve the interests of our chapters. Each chapter is an independent corporation chartered by BMW CCA. Our headquarters is in Greenville, SC.



## Save the Date

**OctoberFest 2019!  
October 15 - 19, 2019**

Make sure to mark your calendar now for the 50th Annual BMW CCA Oktoberfest presented by Michelin, which will be held on October 15-19, 2019 in Greenville, South Carolina!

Yes, this is the year we have all been waiting for! 50 years of the club and Oktoberfest! This will be an unforgettable event as club members make the journey back "Home" to the Greenville/Spartanburg area from all over the country and the world.

We will have exciting social, driving, and exclusive anniversary events taking place at the BMW Performance Center, BMW Plant Spartanburg—where the X3 through the X7 are made, Michelin's Headquarters and Proving Grounds, and the BMW CCA National Office. This will be an absolutely amazing event with many great surprises in store for attendees! We hope to see you there!

<https://ofest.bmwcca.org/>