

**BMW Car Club
of America
Sierra Chapter**



Sierra Scene

January - March 2018 Issue



From the President's Desk

Springtime is one of the best times to go out, watch winter disappear and enjoy the road. I hope you and your family appreciate this time of year as much as I do. Whether you're eager to take a long road trip or just a quick weekend jaunt this is the perfect season. Spring is in the air and I'm inspired to spend more time outside. Bring on the driving events!

We had a tour of the National Automobile Museum (The Harrah Collection) on Feb 10th. Pat McGoff arranged the tour and we had 25 members show up for the event. With 200 plus cars spread around 4 galleries the group immediately immersed itself with the collection and the stories that came with every car. We took a break and headed to Bertha Miranda for lunch and to relax for a bit before going back to look at some more cars.

The first of many driving events of the year will be on May 19th. John English will take the group to Virginia City thru Incline Village and Carson City. The tour will end up at the Palace for a well-deserved lunch.

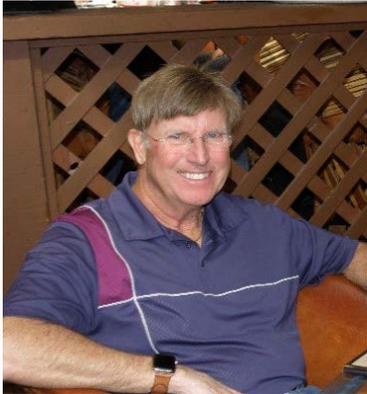
Have you registered for O'fest 2018 yet? The BMWCCA have received a record number of early registrations for Oktoberfest and the host hotel is filling up fast! Host Hotel: Sheraton Pittsburgh at Station Square. Oktoberfest will kick off on Monday, July 9, and will encompass all the great social and driving events that members are accustomed to. It is also the 50th Anniversary of the iconic BMW 2002. So, you might be in for a treat as this might be the largest gathering of '02s ever assembled. The event concludes on Sunday July 15th.

Besides the obvious camaraderie and good cheer, we do like to talk about and drive our BMWs. We still meet on the second Thursday of the month, so I encourage everyone especially the "non-attendees" to check us out.

- Ron Nicasio, President

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Featured Articles



BMW Performance Driving School West (Street Survival on Steroids)

I was fortunate enough to take the BMW Performance Driving School in Thermal, CA on March 25th. I would consider this event as one of the most mind-blowing times of my life. The school certainly started out very tame with a 30-minute class on how to adjust your seat, position your hands on the steering wheel and the agenda for the morning.

The morning started out like most Street Survivals. The slalom course was up first. We used the M240 for the event. The instructor was excellent at explaining the proper approach, speed and handling thru the course. I certainly learned a bunch going thru the course about 10 times. Next up was the emergency lane change course. Unlike Street Survival which has a left and right lane change, this course only had a left lane change which made it much easier to maneuver. Again, we used the M240 for this course. The instructor demonstrated the technique at speeds of 40 and 50 mph. It was an extremely tight turn, especially at 50 mph. We went thru the course 6 times, mostly at 50 mph. I was lucky enough to get thru all runs without clipping any cones. Not bad for an old man.

Then came the last event for the morning. We got to drive the performance race track. I was not expecting this at all. The instructor was driving an M4 and he drove the course with our group of four m240's following. He demonstrated the proper entrance technique, apex position and exit technique. He also explained when to do maximum acceleration and breaking. Then we all got to go around the course as fast as we possible could go. Talk about heart pumping. We got to go around several times. Slower cars were made to pull off to let faster cars go by. Funny how I was able to catch 2 of the 3 cars during the time we had on the track. Great fun!!

We had a wonder lunch at the Performance School Cafeteria. They had a buffet of several salads, sandwiches and desserts. After lunch is was back down to the classroom to go over sliding control methods and how to turn off the DSC so the car can skid on the skid pad.

But before we got to the skid pad, we did emergency braking to experience ABS braking. This was like Street Survival with one big difference. We brake around a curve, not in a straight line. Amazing how a

John and Norma English brought their children and they appeared to have a blast. Mateusz Sasiada, one of our new members came with a friend. It was great to see our members taking advantage of a free day at the museum.

Around noon, we all headed down the block to Bertha Miranda's Mexican Restaurant for lunch. Bertha's is one of the oldest Mexican restaurants in Reno. The atmosphere was authentic Mexican, and the food was wonderful.

After lunch, members had the option to return to the museum to take a free guided 90-minute tour by a docent. This was a great way to learn first hand about all those beautiful autos and to learn the details of how Bill Harrah made this one of the five greatest car museums in the nation. If you have never been to this spectacular museum, you are missing out on some of the most incredible autos in the nation. Many are a one of a kind model that you will never see anywhere else in the world.

~ Pat McGoff

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BMW's at The Classic Auto Show in Los Angeles

The Classic Auto Show in Los Angeles, March 2-4 featured a number of interesting BMWs among the hundreds of display cars. Here are some pictures I snapped of them.

~ John Strom

[See pictures and read more...](#)



Past Events

2018 National Car Museum

On Saturday, February 10th, the BMW Sierra Chapter Car Club visited the National Car Museum in downtown Reno. It is also known as the Harrah Car Museum since the late Bill Harrah created the museum with some of the 4000 cars he owned over the years. We had a wonderful turnout with 25 members and guests attending. The Chapter paid for all the entry fees which included a self guided audio tour.



The museum is made up of 4 galleries that are broken down by era. Connecting all the galleries are mock roads and buildings with some very beautiful vintage cars parked along the road. The oldest gallery has cars dating back to the late 1800's and early 1900's. The 1907 Thomas Flyer was the most impressive car for me. It managed to go around the world back in early 1900. Back then that was close to an impossible feat. The 1913 yellow Mercer was another example for early transportation in an open cockpit.

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~ Pat McGoff

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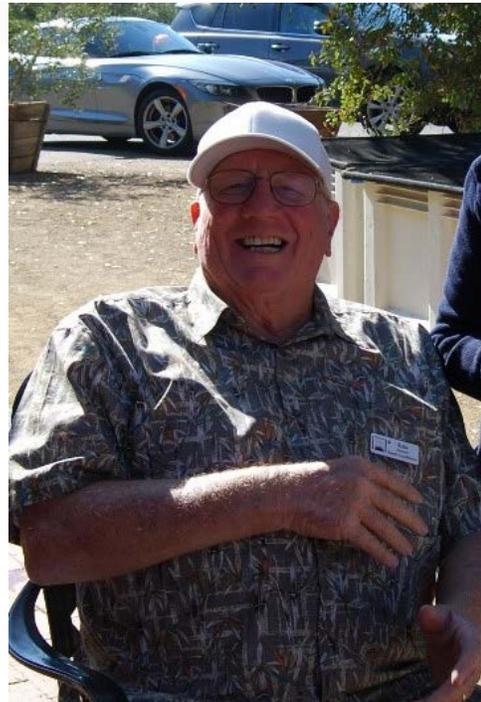
[Click here to view the video](#)

[Click here to view the picture gallery](#)

Get To Know Your Members

My Name is Russ Huntoon

Born during WW2 in Southern California. Moved to Reno Nevada in 1949. Met my now wife, Cheri, of 52 years at Reno High School. We now have two Kids, two Grand Kids, and two Great Grand Kids. Early interest in Motorcycles and fast Cars led to racing at a young age, I met with some success earning three Distinct 36 AMA Championships and the number 1N racing number plate. Learned fabrication and mechanical skills through racing that brought people to me for building their cars and motorcycles. Worked in the automotive and motorcycle shops for 10 plus years, then started my own company. An automotive air conditioning specialist shop building air conditioners for production and specialty and exotic cars. Opened Intrepid Motor Car and maintained the classic historic race and street cars. Built a manufacturing company have building refuse and recycling equipment for the waste industry.



~ Russ Huntoon

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A Little Trivia

A little trivia: Mart Jaama has been a member of the BMW for many years. The logo on the top is from his original Identification Card back in the early years. It was only used for a short while until powers that be at BMW said that they had to make a change. The one on the bottom is what we now use. Just to keep the big bosses happy!



~ Mart Jaama

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Message from your Editor

Another Winter has ended and so the doldrums should also go by then wayside. WE have several events scheduled for the upcoming months. Winter months are very hard to plan events around. However, the Auto Museum was well worth the time. If you weren't there, you missed a great time with our club members. Besides seeing the fine collection of early automobiles, these activities are a great way to meet other BMW owners. We all have the same common interest, which is having FUN. Look at the schedule of upcoming events

and mark your calendars. The next event is the Virginia City Tour guided by John English. Hope to see you there!

- Fred Watson

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2018 Planned Events

- May 10, [Meeting/Social](#), Bill Pearce BMW/TBD 6pm
- May 19, [Virginia City Tour](#)
- June 14, [Meeting/Social](#), Bill Pearce BMW/TBD 6pm
- June 16, Tour to the Berlin Ghost Town*
- Jul 12, [Meeting/Social](#), Bill Pearce BMW/TBD 6pm
- July 21, [Poker Run](#)
- August 9, [Meeting/Social](#), Bill Pearce BMW/TBD 6pm
- August 11, [Fifth Annual BMWCCA Sierra Chapter Picnic](#)
- September 13, [Meeting/Social](#), Bill Pearce BMW/TBD 6pm
- September ??, Mammouth Tour*
- October 11, [Meeting/Social](#), Bill Pearce BMW/TBD 6pm
- October 13-14, [El Dorado & Amador County Wine Tour](#)
- November 3, [Fun Rally](#)
- November 8, [Meeting/Social](#), Bill Pearce BMW/TBD 6pm
- December 13 - [Christmas/Holiday Party](#)

*Details forthcoming

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