

das Kummert

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



January • February 2016



CONGRATULATIONS BMW!

3-Series x 6 generations = 40 years of SUCCESS!

ANNUAL BANQUET

Our 2016 annual chapter banquet will be held at the Doubletree Airport Hotel, 1500 North Military Highway, Norfolk, VA 23502, telephone number 757-466-8000 **Saturday, January 23, 2016.**

A cash bar social hour begins at 6:30 PM, with a dinner buffet at 7:30 PM. After dinner we will raffle off donated door prizes provided by advertisers, local merchants, shops and dealers.

If you have questions call Chris Triplett – 757-620-6623 or email activitiescommittee@tidewaterbmwcca.org.

Special note: The hotel holds us to guarantees so please RSVP and pay by Saturday January 16, 2016 to secure best pricing. If your info and/or payment will be later than the 16th, please contact Chris Triplett directly, per her info below.

Email your information below to cmtrip@cox.net – or send filled-out form by mail — and mail check payable to “Bey Em Vey” for \$25.00 per person, to Chris Triplett, 625 Johnson Street, Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

Inside This Issue

OFFICERS & KEY PEOPLE

President

Jeff Triplett (757) 620-4171
president@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Vice President

OPEN
VP@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Secretary

Darin Kwasniewski (757) 484-2656
secretary@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Treasurer

Tiffany Crossley (615) 967-7774
treasurer@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Activities Committee

OPEN
Marc Garcia (757) 803-5658
Chris Triplett (757) 620-6623
Jaeson Dandalides
activitiescommittee@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Membership Chairperson

Chris Triplett (757) 620-6623
membership@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Member-At-Large

Bob Eveleigh (757) 491-0955
memberatlarge@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Webmeister

Judy Semo (757) 456-9923
webmeister@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Newsletter Editor

Mark Jumper (224) 213-0417
editor@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Driving School Events Chairman

Chief Instructor
Bob Brochu (757) 430-8124
drive@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Tech Session Chairman

OPEN
techsession@tidewaterbmwcca.org

BMW Classics Chairman

Steve Waddell (757) 539-1305
classics@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Williamsburg Rep

Brad Purvis (757) 869-1459
bradpurvis@mac.com

Outer Banks N.C. Rep

Jack Robey (252) 480-3356
obx@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Foodbank Chairperson

Chris Triplett (757) 620-6623
foodbank@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Merchandise

OPEN
merchandise@tidewaterbmwcca.org

3	Farewell to Jeff Triplett	11	NASA End Year Review
4	So Mini!	12	Farewell to Jeff Triplett
8	Club Calendar	13	OBX Drive Report
8	Classifieds	16	Editor's Desk

**MEMBERSHIP**

Tidewater Chapter: 738 as of December 2015
National: 70,426 as of January 2015

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. If you are a member of our Yahoo Group, DasKummet@yahooroups.com, please also remember to update your profile.

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 10th of the month preceding the date of next 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!

Visit our Chapter web pages at:

www.tidewaterbmwcca.org
on Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/140702964729/>

To subscribe to our email lists: <http://www.tidewaterbmwcca.org/lists/>

FINE PRINT NOTICE: Das Kummet is published bimonthly and remains the property of the Tidewater Chapter BMW CCA, P.O. Box 62145, Virginia Beach, VA. 23462-2145. All information is for members and advertisers only. Ideas, suggestions, writings, and opinions are those of the contributing authors without authentication by or liability to the BMW CCA, the Editors, or Officers of the Tidewater BMW CCA chapter. No information in das Kummet bears the status of "Factory Approved" unless so stated and implies no endorsement or guarantees expressed. The Tidewater Chapter of the BMW CCA is completely independent of and in no way connected with BMW NA or BMW AG. The contents of this publication remains the property of the chapter. All BMW CCA chapters, with permission, may quote or copy from the publication provided full credit is given to the author and the Tidewater Chapter unless noted as "Copyrighted" and is not used for commercial purposes.

Farewell to Chapter President, Jeff Triplett

By Darin Kwasniewski, Secretary

Without the leadership, knowledge, and investment of time from Jeff during his presidency, our club would look much different—and not in a good way! He has stepped up over these years to keep the club moving forward: dealing with the bank, editing the newsletter, and leading a drive. He was always willing to figure out what needs to be accomplished, and how, without always having the luxury of others' knowledge and advice. I am grateful to Jeff for the efforts he has put forth for all of us. But also I am personally grateful to him for his invaluable partnership on the Board, and teaching me the business of the Board. Jeff will be missed, and I my hope is that he will continue to provide our Club insights and knowledge as we continue to move forward. Thank you, Jeff!

By Mark Jumper, Editor

I'd experienced BMW CCA chapters in Connecticut, Illinois, and Texas before coming here to Tidewater in 2014. Each had its own corporate personality and traditions, and each offered its own good mix of people, cars, events, and gatherings. I quickly became aware here of a "deep bench" of chapter experience and commitment, personified by Jeff.

Here's a guy with a hobby enjoying Bimmers, willing to help others enjoy their shared hobby a bit more; but his hobby then became more of a job than any of us would want when the chapter lost some crucial leaders due to death or moves.

It seems to me that when Jeff stepped up to serve, and kept serving more than he'd ever bargained for, he not only saved this chapter, but put it in a place to grow better! This last year under Jeff has seen a real turnaround from the crisis days. We've grown from survival to surge with increased social events and driving events. Jeff made this possible.

Yes, a volunteer group like ours will always need those who step up to serve and lead. If you want to know the how and the who of this: just look to Jeff.

Thanks, Jeff, for all you are and all you've done! We hope and pray that you now get to sit back and ENJOY just being a Bimmer guy; and that you also get to enjoy seeing the fruit of all your efforts in an ever-strong Tidewater Chapter!

Look for another farewell tribute on page 12!

Our Chosen Charity For 2016:

Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia



You can support this effort by bringing canned goods or money to any chapter event. However, money provides more meals than canned goods. Chris Triplett leads the committee. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Chris Triplett, foodbank@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Join Us On Facebook!

Join us on Facebook to stay up to date with all your club's activities!

To become part of our Facebook group, you must have a Facebook account. After you sign on to Facebook at www.facebook.com, enter "Tidewater BMW CCA Activities Page" in the search block. You should be shown our activities page along with a link labeled "Join Group". Click on join group, a box will appear that will ask you if you want to join this group, click the "Join" button. You are then taken to our club activities page, where you can see and post activities and pictures.



So MINI!

by Ray Laffoon



Mini quickly made its mark even in Texas. Here's the first one sold in Texas, to a family in Arlington, in 1959.

The Mini has been with the human race since its conception in 1959. Jeremy Clarkson of BBC's *Top Gear* fame said "[the] fact that this little car has survived, more or less intact, the hopeless ministrations of Austin, Morris, BMC, British Leyland, Leyland Cars, BL, BL Cars, Austin Rover and Rover Group, in that order, is reason enough to roll out the bunting."

Then came a new century, a new owner—BMW—and a new lease on life! I have enjoyed my 2008 MINI Cooper S, 6 speed manual transmission, for more than five years and each drive continues to be a true joy. For you to understand my rationale, if you can call an emotive response rational, I am compelled to go back a bit to explain the MINI for those readers who do not realize that MINI has been part of the BMW Group since 2000, and is thus part of the BMW story.

The original Mini grew out of the Suez Crisis and the resulting fuel shortages in the 1950s. Sir Alex Issigonis, who worked for British carmaker Austin, led the team that developed a very minimalist car, constrained by the need for light weight to maximize economy. Front wheel drive and placing the wheels out on the corners maximized the space, and a relatively low center of gravity with a sorted out suspension helped the car to handle well. Sir Alex enjoyed racing but he never intended for the Mini to be raced. The first cars were a bit underpowered, when there was power. The electric components were built by Lucas Electric of the "prince of darkness" fame, the windows and floor board leaked and rust was a problem. Over time these problems were mostly resolved.

Austin was absorbed by BMC, and the BMC

competition department was given several production cars for development, but they really had no idea what to do with it. In good time, one of the cars ended up in the hands of John Cooper whose race cars were driven by drivers such as Stirling Moss, Jack Brabham, Bruce McLaren and Graham Hill. Cooper also dominated Grand Prix racing at the time and had a Grand Prix championship or two.

Cooper in due course produced the Mini Cooper and the Mini Cooper S that went on to dominate rally and saloon (British English for sedan) car races across Europe. This dominance includes several wins of the Monte Carlo rally against more powerful machines produced by companies like Porsche, Mercedes Benz and Ford. The Mini Cooper S helped launch the racing careers of notable drivers such as Jackie Stewart, James Hunt, Niki Lauda, Roger Penske, and the list can go on.

With racing wins came celebrity popularity. Steve McQueen drove a Mini as did each of the Beatles. Peter Sellers owned several. Royalty drove it. Enzo Ferrari owned three of them. The Mini was also the ride of the Self Preservation Society in the classic movie, *The Italian Job*.



Mini did well in the Rally world, winning Monte Carlo twice in the 1960s. Here's the Morris Cooper Mini S winning Monte Carlo in 1965

As Jeremy Clarkson mentioned, when BMW obtained the Rover group and the rights to the Rolls Royce brand, in also got Mini. (Somehow Volkswagen ended up with Bentley and the Rolls Royce factory, but not the rights to the flying lady and the Rolls Royce brand. That's a fascinating, back-stabbing story in itself!) BMW set about designing a new Rolls Royce and constructing a factory as well as acquiring a trained work force to build the new Rolls.

BMW also chose to design a new MINI and update its factory. The designer of MINI, Frank Stephenson—also of Fiat 500 and McLaren fame—speaks of basing his design on an evolutionary redesign at ten-year intervals, resulting in the 1999 design which we now call the BMW MINI. Somehow the DNA of the older, classic Mini carries over but with updates for today's emissions and safety. Note the transition. Under BMW, the MINI became its own brand and is now spelled with all caps.



Minis raced and raced well in many venues.

Unfortunately today's MINI is not so mini, especially when looking at the Countryman, which I refer to as the MINI Maxi. The classic Minis were modified into vehicles such as the Mini Moke and the Traveler. Today's MINI has done the same thing to include multiple versions. MINI also achieved racing success through dominance in the Dakar over the past 4 years using the MINI Countryman ALL4. Plus the BMW MINI starred in a remake of the movie *The Italian Job*!

I grew up on Chevys and Mopars, so how did I end up with a MINI Cooper? My first encounter with a classic Mini was when I was training to fly bombers in the Air Force. One of my instructors drove an orange classic Mini Cooper S, right hand drive. For some strange reason I found this little car to be intriguing. I never drove it, but I could tell it could handle. About one year later, I drove my Air Force navigator's BMW 320i, and my bank account has never been the same since. I bought and sold numerous cars, and developed a love for European machinery. I was aware of Minis, and noticed the new BMW MINI when it came out. I first noticed MINIs being tested by BMW while I lived in Germany, especially driving near Munich. I thought they were good looking and they certainly had the speed on the autobahn.

Then I transferred to Hawaii where MINIs were showing up at the SCCA Hawaii autocross events where they ran fast lap times. I went to the local dealership interested in a test drive. They said they only had a base model with an automatic transmission that I could test drive. The car had a lot of aftermarket modifications that were more for show than go. The wheels were wrong and hurt the steering feel, and then the salesman only let me drive it around the block in the Honolulu traffic. The result was me buying an Acura RSX Type S with a marvelous 6 speed manual transmission. Later I talked to others who were able to test drive a MINI Cooper S around in the mountains above Honolulu. If I had done that I probably would not have bought my RSX (which I did enjoy driving). I stopped looking at MINIs and went on with life.

Five years later I sold the RSX with mixed emotions to the young man across the street. I had my motorcycle and two good cars that I enjoyed, and the RSX was getting older, so I decided to find it a good home and use the money to do some work on the house which absorbs the cash that I would rather spend on cars. Several months later, I found myself thinking about autocross and looking at Miatas and turbocharged MINIs. My beautiful and intelligent wife comes with a tremendous amount of practical heritage, so that pretty much meant the MINI would be acceptable in the household. Let me clarify that my wife likes convertibles and roadsters as long as she can look at them and not use them to haul huskies, groceries and shopping bags, sometimes all at the same time.

One evening in July, I found myself looking at Auto Trader online when I noticed a very nice looking dark silver 2008 MINI Cooper S with a 6 speed manual transmission located at Starr Motors in Suffolk, Virginia. The routine began. I looked at the various reviews. I calculated values and other costs. I worked out a deal that I could live with in my mind and then determined a starting point for negotiation. I was prepped! My wife planned to attend a women's event at our church on Saturday morning, so I suggested she attend her event and I would visit Starr Motors to test drive this MINI. We both left about the same time. I called ahead so the MINI was waiting. I looked it over, and liked what I saw. I wanted to look and feel the engine before we drove it. Neither the salesman nor I knew how to open the hood. Eventually we found a sales person that did, and I learned how to open the hood (in reference to its British heritage, call it a bonnet). Like the rest of the car the engine looked good, but then again it was only two years old with 9,000 miles on it.

Then I drove it. The feedback my body received from the car was amazing as I accelerated onto the entry ramp onto US 460 by the dealer. The steering was great, reminding me of all that I enjoyed in every BMW I had driven. The car was smooth and capable, allowing me to drive it with surgical precision. The seat was perfect conforming to my body. This MINI was a lot of FUN! Then I discovered SPORT mode. I have no clue how I could see the road with that smile I was wearing. I was enraptured! Driving ecstasy! I did not want to stop (which it could do very well) but eventually had to return to the dealer. Making the deal was a pleasant experience, but I had done something I never do...I bought a car without my wife's agreement.

The MINI was in the driveway when she came home. She thought I had it for a test drive and was surprised to discover we now owned it! My wife is marvelous! She was surprised but not angry. I let her drive

Continued on pg 10

Activities Committee

We are glad that you are supporting our events - THANK YOU! It is still VERY important to RSVP (as early as possible) of your participation to any upcoming activities. These numbers are needed to allow our hosting restaurants to be prepared for us. Inaccurate totals make for unhappy restaurant managers and cause them to be reluctant to allow our group to book in the future.

We are always on the lookout for members that would like to be a part of the Activities Committee. Currently, the Activities Chairman position is open. If you are interested please contact Sam Wood for details. Meanwhile, read Das Kummet and check our websites regularly. We, of course, welcome your ideas, thoughts, and suggestions...as well as your 'constructive' criticisms! Please feel free to contact any one of the following committee members

Chris Triplett – (757) 620-6623
cmtrip@cox.net

Jason Dandalides -
dandalides.2@gmail.com

Marc Garcia - (757) 803-5658
marcg007@gmail.com

activitiescommittee@tidewaterbmwcca.org

...AND KEEP COMING TO THOSE EVENTS!!

Club TOOLBOX

The following tools are available for members use. A deposit may be required and will be refunded upon return of the tool in working condition.

- 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
- **NEW!!** SRS Air Bag Scanner

Call Bob Parsons at 587-7423 for your needs.

Club MERCHANDISE

We have made arrangements through Lands End for club members to order a wide variety of chapter logo items. Access by going to: http://ces.landsend.com/Tidewater_BMWCCA

Currently: The Merchandise Chair Position is open. Please contact Jeff Triplett at president@tidewaterbmwcca.org for details.

NAME TAGS: We have also arranged with KayCee Engraving for members to order name tags with the chapter logo. Contact Info: Kay Cee Engraving, PO Box 625, Heathsville, VA 22473-0625 or Call (804) 580-8247. Kayceetags.com & kctags@yahoo.com

BMW CCA Map Grille Badges	\$20
Chapter Logo Decals/License Plate Frames:	FREE at club events
Various BMW CCA Decals	CALL!

Advertisements

Non-commercial classified ads are free to chapter members. Ads will run in three published issues and then may only 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 Kummet" reserves the right to edit or reject any ad submitted.

FULL PAGE

...\$135 per issue or \$700 per yr.

HALF PAGE

...\$65 per issue or \$350 per yr.

1/4 PAGE

...\$50 per issue or \$225 per yr.

BIZ CARD

...\$20 per issue or \$100 per yr.



Casey BMW

12861 Jefferson Avenue
Newport News, VA
757-989-1300

www.caseybmw.com



The Peninsula's ONLY location for factory BMW trained service!
NEW STATE OF THE ART FACILITY NOW OPEN!



The Largest Selection of New and
Certified Pre-Owned BMW's on
the Peninsula

Scheduled Maintenance

10% Off

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF SERVICE. VALID ONLY AT CASEY BMW.

Wash, Wax, and Buff

\$79.95

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF SERVICE. VALID ONLY AT CASEY BMW.

Power Steering Flush

\$129.95

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF SERVICE. VALID ONLY AT CASEY BMW.

FULL DETAIL CLEAN!!!

\$159.95

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF SERVICE. VALID ONLY AT CASEY BMW.

Brake Fluid & Coolant Flush

\$169.95

MUST PRESENT COUPON AT TIME OF SERVICE. VALID ONLY AT CASEY BMW.



**Schedule Your Next BMW Service -
ONLINE!!!**

CASEY
B M W

Casey BMW

bmwusa.com
1-800-334-4BMW



The Ultimate
Driving Machine®

Club Calendar 2016 Tidewater BMW CCA

JANUARY

16 JAN, Saturday, 9:00 AM: Monthly Bimmer Breakfast:

Pops Diner, 1424 Greenbrier Pkwy, Chesapeake. Wake up with the Club to some hot breakfast and lots of Bimmer talk with some great Bimmer folk, followed by Car Show & Tell in the parking lot. No reservation needed. Contact Darin Kwasniewski at secretary@tidewaterbmwcca.org, 757-304-1512 for further info.

23 JAN, Saturday, 6:30 Social Hour, 7:30 Dinner: Annual Banquet:

Doubletree Airport Hotel, 1500 North Military Highway, Norfolk, VA 23502, telephone number 757-466-8000. See Banquet page for further info.



FEBRUARY

14 FEB, Sunday, 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM: Annual Valentine Day Drive and Dine:

Williamsburg. Follow the leader drive through the back roads of the Peninsula enjoying the scenery and curves, followed by an Italian feast at Sal's by Victor Italian Restaurant (<http://salsbyvictor.com/>). Contact & RSVP: activitiescommittee@tidewaterbmwcca.org

20 FEB, Saturday, 9:00 AM: Monthly Bimmer

Breakfast: Pops Diner, 1424 Greenbrier Pkwy, Chesapeake. Wake up with the Club to some hot breakfast and lots of Bimmer talk with some great



Bimmer folk, followed by Car Show & Tell in the parking lot. No reservation needed. Contact Darin Kwasniewski at secretary@tidewaterbmwcca.org, 757-304-1512 for further info.

MARCH

5 MAR, Saturday, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM: New (and Old)

Member Drive and Quarterly Club Dinner: Follow-the-leader drive on the south side for new members to get their feet wet (all members are welcome), concluding with quarterly dinner at local restaurant. Locations TBD. Contact & RSVP by March 3rd activitiescommittee@tidewaterbmwcca.org or Marc Garcia, marcg007@gmail.com, 757-803-5658

7 MAR, Monday, ALL DAY: BMW's Official 100th Anniversary!



Classifieds

CARS FOR SALE:

1988 e30 325is (auto) with only 93k original miles. 100% original with no mods. Interior in exceptional condition with like new dash. Seats in very good condition. Recent OEM front suspension parts replaced. Timing belt replaced 5k miles ago. Zinnoberrot (Red) exterior with black sport seats. Car is in exceptional condition. \$8,500 firm. Contact Randy at Phone: 757-749-7809 Cell Phone: 757-749-7809

X3 2007 , 3.0 Si, low mileage - Heated front seats and steering wheel, Navigation, leather seats, Xenon headlights, back up sensors (BMW calls this PDC), Alarm, AM/FM HD radio, Michelin tires with spare, All weather protective mat for storage area, Carpet floor mats. All service records available. Priced significantly under private sale and in excellent condition. Pictures available via email. Contact davelender@cox.net via email or call Dave at Phone: (757) 229-2018 Cell Phone: (919) 412-7078

PARTS & ITEMS FOR SALE:

Headlights from 2006 E85 Z4 roadster Left and right sides. These headlights are used and in very good condition. They should fit 2003 to 2008 Z4 roadsters. Price is \$350.00 plus \$20.00 shipping. Phone (cell): 267-229-1244 or email: 60michael@msn.com

Your obsession – our passion

SPORTS & IMPORTS

1322 Transylvania Ave.

Chesapeake VA 23324

8-5 Monday-Friday

757-545-9394

sportsandimports.net



DPMOTORWERKS

DPMOTORWERKS.COM

757 427 2008

**2128 London Bridge Rd, Suite 107,
Virginia Beach, Va. 23456**



**Specializing in BMW
& Mercedes Benz**

So Mini continued from pg 5

it back to the dealership to finish the paperwork and pick up the car I had left there. We then spent the weekend learning my MINI. This was my first introduction to owning a BMW product.

I found myself in a very good situation. I like to explore roads and now I had two vehicles that encouraged my wanderlust. The first was my 2007 Ducati ST3, a marvelously lightweight but strong motorcycle built for sport touring. Speed and handling are its strengths, and it has opened up some marvelous driving roads across the state of Virginia for me. I also love to take it to the mountains where I grew up and ride the roads where I first learned to ride a motorcycle. And now I had the MINI which is the perfect machine for learning new roads. My wife and I enjoy opening the big panoramic sunroof and finding new places to explore.

One such trip was in the October after buying the MINI. We decided New England would be nice to visit. We could enjoy the colors and I could enjoy a 2-day rally racing course at Team O'Neal Rally Racing School in Littleton, New Hampshire. I love rally racing because competition is usually held on normal roads with different road surfaces, and in different weather conditions. MINI's rally heritage was one of the things I loved about the car. We left after work on a Friday, heading across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel enroute to Dover where we spent the first night on the road. The MINI was comfortable, handling the drive with 2 adults and luggage aboard. The seat does not have an adjustable lumbar; however, I find that it fits my back perfectly so I can spend hours sitting there without getting sore or uncomfortable.

Leaving Dover, we worked our way across the Delaware to New Jersey and then headed north. I did not want to go through New York City, so we circled around to the west eventually stopping in Burlington, Vermont. We enjoyed dinner with friends from when I was stationed at Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. They retired to a life of teaching school in New York state not far from Lake Champlain and Burlington. I liked Burlington, especially the way it sits near the lake and that it seems to have more Saabs per capita than any other place in the United States.

We left Burlington on a very wet day. The winding roads covered



MINI by the lake

with wet and colorful leaves created their challenges, but once again I was impressed by the capabilities of the MINI. We stopped at a chocolate shop to satisfy Debbie's fondness for chocolate. Our next desire was for some good German food.

We wound our way to the ski resort near Stowe, Vermont built and operated by the von Trapp family of *The Sound of Music* fame. We've come across two other instances of encounters with the von Trapp family in our journeys. The first was in Salzburg, Austria where they lived for a while, and the second at the Submarine Museum at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Captain Georg von Trapp was a successful World War I submarine commander for the Austro-Hungarian navy. After Nazi Germany annexed Austria in 1938, the von Trapps realized that they would have to live under a regime they abhorred. They migrated to the United States, performed as a musical family and eventually settled near Stowe, Vermont and built a ski resort.

I loved being in the mountains and found time to enjoy a cheese spaetzle, comfort food from southern Germany and Austria. We finished the day of driving at my cousin's house, stopping to buy maple syrup along the way. The MINI stuck to the wet and winding road most enjoyably!



Debbie delights in Chocolates

Eventually we made it to Littleton, New Hampshire near where the rally school is located. Debbie and I stayed at the historic Thayer Inn located near the center of town. I spent the next couple days learning to left foot brake, how to make pendulum turns (aka the Swedish flick), and generally make the car do what I wanted on low traction and sometimes rough surfaces. We started in rally-prepped, Euro-spec Ford Fiestas which were set up for rally. Frankly these cars take a pounding from the students. One

Continued on pg 12

NASA Mid Atlantic Year-End Review

by Ron Boustedt

Another season is in the bag for the National Auto Sports Association (NASA) Mid Atlantic Region, and the Tidewater hotshoes that participate. For me it was a bit of a surprise because I had no idea I was even close in the point standings for German Touring Series 2 (GTS2), and I wound up taking 3rd in the region. Not bad considering I missed two weekends of racing (one due to a front end collision during the March Madness race, and one after I spun a rod bearing at Hyperfest).

The final race of the season, Octoberfast at VIR on 10-11 October, was actually pretty exciting. My buddy Jeff Emanuelson had a tight hold on first, so much so that he didn't even have to race that weekend (which was good for him because he had crunched his car a bit during the Eastern Championships the month before and was still repairing his car). Madison Whittle, a Danville local, had 2nd pretty well sewn up—if he showed—but lucky for my friend Lawrence Gibson and me he didn't show. Lawrence had 25 points more than I, which meant that as long as he finished top three in one race and just finished the second race, he'd take 2nd in the standings.

I gave it my best shot and took 1st in the first race, with Lawrence 2nd, and he beat me out by a nose in the second race for a 1-him, 2-me finish. This was a truly awesome finish because he took me on the last turn coming out of Hogpen, having run nose to tail the whole race.

With that exciting close, the Regional standings stood with Jeff in 1st, Lawrence in 2nd, and lil'ol'me in 3rd. Awesome year!

I'd say that next year will be "my" year, but that's a whole 'nuther story. NASA GTS has decided to change the rules for 2016 and it's resulting in a LOT

of folks being pushed into other classes, including me and Lawrence. More to come on that if I can quell the frustration.

In GTS3 the star of the show was our friend Ted Ambrose. He not only took 3rd in the region, against some extremely fast drivers (Eric Wong the series leader took 1st, and Vernon McClure with a 2nd), but he also took Rookie of the Year! Ted ran every single race in 2015, including Nationals. Awesome job Ted and you deserve it!

Another Tidewater rookie on the podium was Savvas Sakkadas in GTS4. Although Savvas wasn't at Octoberfast, he had enough points to cinch up 3rd for the Mid Atlantic Region. Congrats Savvas!

Last but definitely not least was my buddy Ken Van de Water, in Spec E46. This was a new class for 2015, with some really fast drivers. The champions from several other classes moved to Spec E46 and the highly competitive races showed it. Ken's car wasn't complete until about mid year so points-wise he fought an uphill battle. Unfortunately a paperwork snafu kept him off the track for Octoberfast. Hang in there Ken, 2016 will be much better! (You never know, with all the GTS rule changes I might be looking in the Spec E46 direction myself.)

Happy New Year everyone, and if you ever want to learn more about high performance driving, racing, or anything BMW please join us during our monthly Bimmer Breakfasts for great company, and lots of car talk.



Ron races!

(Photo provided courtesy Chris Schutze, Finish Line Productions, www.finishlineprod.net)



MINI does Vermont

of the other drivers managed to mess up the front suspension on our car. Thankfully they had another, and we kept going.

I really enjoyed driving the rally race-prepared Audi Quattros that came out during the afternoon of the second day. I had fun in the Fiesta but found the Audis, with more power and their all wheel drive, to be a better match to the way I naturally drove the car—at least according to the instructor and by the way I felt. Maybe I will buy an all wheel drive car to enjoy someday.

While I was having fun in the woods, Debbie spent her days crossing covered bridges, visiting the flea market and shops in Littleton, plus the local church and graveyard, and having a good time exploring. She also had the credit card.

We've since made several trips in the MINI. Peddle placement is perfect for my feet, enabling my feet to dance with the car so I can confidently play with the throttle, clutch and brakes.

The steering feedback feels

direct and allows me to know exactly what the front tires are doing. I've also enjoyed the days in the snow with it since this allows me the opportunity to turn off the electronic nannies and practice what I learned during my trip to New England. I love getting the MINI sideways and finding that I can control it. The MINI is saturated with the purity of driving, and I love it as a result.



Debbie stand on the US/Canada border with mixed directions!

Top Gear's Richard Hammond is right when he says that everyone should own a MINI at least once in their life.

Farewell to Our President (and Welcome to Just Being a Member Again!)

By Bob Eveleigh, Former President
Current Member at Large

A friend of mine is fond of saying this isn't his first rodeo. And by now Jeff has been through the Tidewater BMW CCA Presidential rodeo a few times. So when I heard Jeff was passing the Presidential baton I immediately thought of all the things Jeff has contributed to the Club over the years. I recall when he first became Newsletter Editor. It was not entirely voluntary on his part but I do remember Jeff's willingness to jump in and help the Club in any way he could. And, when other "opportunities" came available he and his wife Chris were always willing to jump in to help.

Leading the Club isn't always easy but it is rewarding. Jeff and Chris have always given more than their fair share to provide every member the opportunity to enjoy some facet of the Club whether the member's interest leans toward a spirited drive, or tech session, or a good dinner with fellow Club members.

Here's to Jeff and Chris Triplett! Sing along with me to the tune of The Beverly Hillbillies song:

Come and listen to a story about a man named Jeff
A happy Club member, nary a BMW Club care,
And then one day he was driving off to work,
And up through the phone came bubblin call.

From the Pres that is, Bob Eveleigh.

Well the first thing you know ol Jeff's a volunteer,
Kinfolk said "Jeff run away from there"
Jeff said "Higher office is the place I ought to be"
So he loaded for bear and thought Presidential

Of Bey Em Vey, that is. Newsletters, driving events...

Well now it's time to say good bye to Jeff and all his kin.
And they would like to thank you folks fer kindly droppin in.

You're all invited back again to this locality
To have a heapin helpin of their hospitality

Triplett style that is. Set a spell, Take your shoes off.
Y'all come back now, y'hear?

The next time you see Jeff and Chris please thank them for their service to the Club!

OBX DRIVE REPORT

By Bob Parsons

Saturday, December 5th was a beautiful fall morning that started with temps in the 30s but warmed up comfortably to the 60s—a great day to drive to the Outer Banks of North Carolina for the Tidewater Chapter's final tour event of the year.

Twenty-five Chapter members showed up in fourteen cars, starting from two launch points: Virginia Beach and Deep Creek. Jeff Caplan, owner of *Odometer Gears*, appeared with his “new” ride, a partially restored 1968 1600. I say partially because Jeff has plans to “make it better.” He has the bug, and this will be a project that he will work on with his son, Mathew, who was also in attendance for the drive. I hope he has deep pockets—these project cars have gotten more expensive to restore as the years go by. Good luck with that, Jeff and Mathew! Jeff also generously donated several of his company T-shirts to a fortunate few.

The Virginia Beach group joined the Deep Creek group at the North Carolina rest stop just north of



Gandy to caravan east to Mile Post 14 and lunch. Amazingly all fourteen cars made it through every traffic light together to our final destination.

We had a new destination this year for lunch — *La Fogata Mexican Restaurant* in Nags Head—and I think, based on how quiet it became after all the food arrived, that it was a nice change of venue. After lunch the group broke up to enjoy a great OBX day, whether checking out some shops, hitting the beach, or enjoying the Wright Brothers Memorial, followed by a relaxing drive home.

See y'all next year!



NICK'S UPHOLSTERY

Nick • 757.962.6124 FREE ESTIMATES nicks_upholstery@yahoo.com 5207 Cleveland Street
Virginia Beach, VA 23462



IMPORT CAR PARTS

Major parts brands for BMW and other import cars.



11246 Jefferson Ave., Newport News 757.599.3360

1300 East Little Creek Road 757.440.0004

606 First Colonial Rd., Virginia Beach 757.425.7100

or on the web at www.BAP-GEON.COM

Import Autowerks

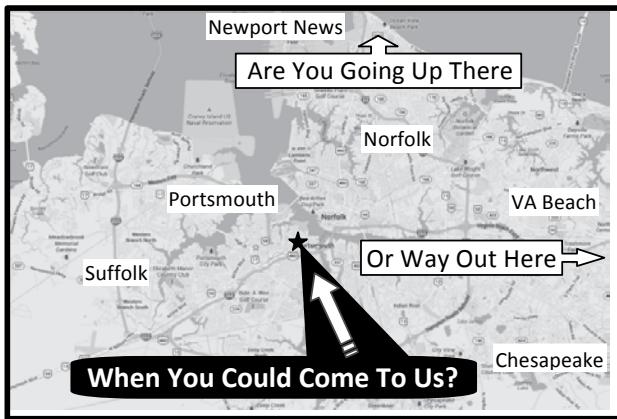
BMW & Mercedes-Benz Service, Repair & Sales

3040 High St. (Corner of High & Airline), Portsmouth

757-966-9528

- All Repairs & Service
- Latest Factory Diagnostic Equipment
- Virginia State Inspection
- Quick Turn-Around
- Genuine & OEM Parts
- A/C Service, Tires, Alignment
- Monday – Friday, 9AM to 6PM
- Low mileage, excellent condition pre-owned BMW & Mercedes

Owner & Operator: Jon Mack jon@import-autowerks.com



www.Import-Autowerks.com

Website

Import Autowerks

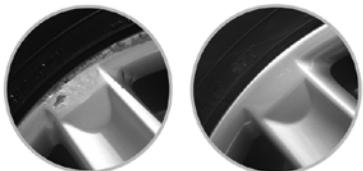


LOOK!
6 Month
No Interest
Financing
Available



Mobile Alloy Wheel Repair

We make your scratched, gouged, bent alloy wheels LOOK LIKE NEW!



Cosmetic Repair

Complete repair to alloy wheels that are scratched, scraped, peeling or flaking.



Wheel Straightening

Complete repair to alloy wheels that are vibrating or bent in the front and back.



Call today to schedule an appointment!

Newport News Area - (757) 876-8866

Richmond Area - (804) 512-5795

Virginia Beach Area - (757) 969-7292

sevirginia@awrswheelrepair.com

**Alloy
Wheel
Repair**
specialists®



**Sealed Cans. Fresh Fuels.
Ready when you are.**

We keep a diverse inventory in stock, so we'll have what you need when you need it.

No long delivery times. No shipping costs.

We have it all, from 98 – 104 ethanol-free unleaded to 110 – 116 leaded fuels, as well as Methanol and Nitromethane. We even carry various power adders and a selection of lubricants like top-end lube and Brad Penn oils. Special order exotics available as well!

Available Locally!



SFR Enterprises
757.437.7223
Hampton Roads, VA



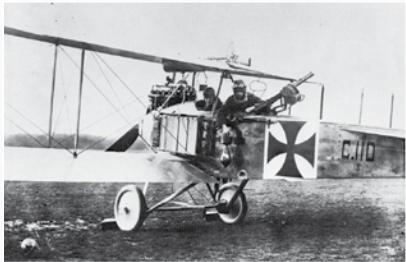
Abacus Racing
757.363.8878
Virginia Beach, VA

www.SunocoRacingFuels.com

Editor's Desk: Celebrating Major Milestones With BMW

By Mark Jumper

We're celebrating some marvelous milestones for BMW in 2015 and 2016!



An observer demonstrates the sophisticated bomb-drop technique from an Albatros C.I., built by BFW (later BMW)

engine-making roots. BFW built Albatros C.I. reconnaissance planes under license. (Manfred von Richthofen, the famed Red Baron, started his aerial combat career as an observer on an Albatros C.I. on the Eastern Front, before becoming a pilot and the war's highest scoring ace, with 80 victories, on the Western Front.) (However as documented thoroughly in *Roundel*, the blue and white BMW logo does not represent a spinning airplane propeller, but instead refers to the national colors of Bavaria.)

Germany, a loser of World War I, was not allowed by the victors to build aircraft. Various corporate changes and mergers occurred with BFW, resulting finally in the name *Bayerische Motoren Werke* (Bavarian Motor Work) (BMW) as production transitioned from aircraft engines to motorcycle engines, motorcycles, and eventually, cars. There is much more to note in BMW's history, but this year we mainly commemorate what BMW counts as its founding date: 7 March 1916—100 years ago!

100 YEARS AND COUNTING (1916-2016) – BMW began with another name in 1916: *Bayerische Flugzeugwerke* (Bavarian Plane Manufacturing) (BFW) was founded 7 March 1916, in the midst of World War I, with mainly



The revolutionary BMW 328 hit the world with a thunderclap of beauty and sport that won hearts, races, and a place in history as one of the most significant cars of the 20th century

80 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST 328 (1936-2016)

– BMW went on to build various cars but mostly motorcycles. Then came BMW's most iconic car design prior to World War II: the legendary 328 in 1936. This car was stunningly beautiful and elegant; it was sporting and had performance sufficient to win races, including various wins at the Mille Miglia; and it exuded a certain charisma that has long been recognized and appreciated. This pre-war 328 was one of 26 finalists chosen by an international panel of automotive journalists seeking in 1999 to declare a Car of the Century for the 20th Century (won by the Ford Model T). That name, 328, is one of the most hallowed in BMW's history and consciousness.

Thus if you have a modern 328, you are part of a legend lasting now 80 years! While that nameplate was not built continuously, being resurrected only in 1995, it is still a legitimate link to history. Only two other automotive nameplates sold today have such history. The Chevrolet Suburban beat the 328 into production by one year, starting in 1935, and has been built every year since except for World War II. One current nameplate predates both the Bimmer and Suburban: the Rolls Royce Phantom was first sold in 1925—with many built in the Springfield, Massachusetts U.S. plant till 1931. While it missed production in the 1940s due to World War II, the Phantom has long epitomized Rolls Royce at its best, and is still sold today by Rolls Royce's owner/parent: none other than BMW! BMW thus lays claim to two of the three oldest automotive nameplates sold in the world today.



This 1957 BMW Isetta, restored and displayed at The Automaster BMW in Vermont, represents the models that saved BMW during tough times in the 1950s.

Continued on pg 18

AUTO ENVY

BMW Specialist

- Factory Trained BMW Technicians
- Free estimates with repair
- Fully equipped for all repair and diagnostics
- Active Duty Military discounts with I.D.

936 Professional Place, Chesapeake, VA 23320
Conveniently located about 1 mile from Greenbrier Mall

Call us today
757-842-4517
or
Contact us on our website
autoenvybmw.com



Free Tech Inspections for all BMW CCA members

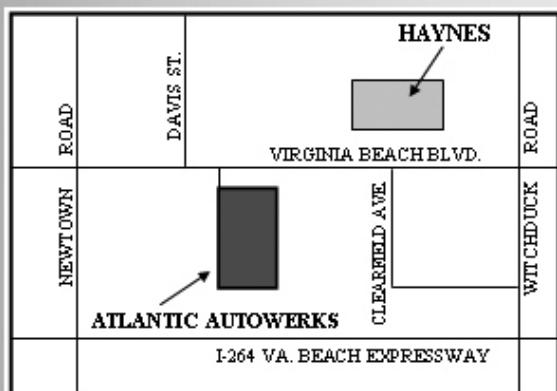


5461 VIRGINIA BEACH BOULEVARD
SUITE 101
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA. 23462

757-466-1269



OUR HOURS ARE:
MONDAY - THURSDAY 7:30 - 5:30
FRIDAY 7:30 - 5:00



BMW AND MINI CLUB MEMBERS RECIEVE

- 5% Parts and 10% Labor discount on all work except oil changes and diagnostics.
- \$10.00 off of a Pre-purchase Inspection
- \$5.00 off of a Virginia State Inspection
- FREE Tech Inspection for driving schools and track events
- *Also take advantage of our refer-a-friend program you each get \$20.00 off your next visit.

We perform all factory services as well as vehicle upgrades and State Inspections. We are ASE certified and Factory trained! Call or email us at service@atlanticautowerks.com today.

We are Hampton Roads leading **BMW** and **MINI** specialists!



BMW 3-Series has steadily grown in prominence, sales & significance.

40 YEARS OF THE 3-SERIES (1976-2016) – While BMW Neue Klasse designs revived the company in the 1960s, leading to the 2002 that practically invented the sport sedan concept, it was the 2002's successor, the 3-Series—begun with the 320i in 1976—that has taken the world by storm as the distilled essence of the best “mid-size sport saloon,” as the Brits say. The 3-Series has long been known as both defining its class and best of its class, winning a spot on *Car and Driver*'s annual Ten Best list (commenced in 1983) for many years. It has become the target for competitors to copy, emulate, or beat—with varying degrees of success—as it singlehandedly lifted the level of automotive quality, excellence, and performance worldwide. It even became, recently, the best-selling car line of all cars sold in car-crazy California! The 3-Series is now in its sixth generation, the F30, with more sure to come as the now-iconic nameplate builds from strength to strength.



BMW facilities in North America, from headquarters to manufacturing, are world-class.

40 YEARS OF BMW OF NORTH AMERICA (1975-2015) – BMWs, both cars and motorcycles, had been sold in the U.S. at least since the end of World War II. Importer Max Hoffman personally oversaw the growth of European car sales in the U.S. through his network of boutique dealers in the 1950s and 60s. He represented at various times Alfa Romeo, Aston Martin, BMW, Fiat, Healey, Jaguar, Lagonda, Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, and Volkswagen. According to his Automotive Hall of Fame Citation, “In the early 1960's, Hoffman broke ties with a few manufacturers to pursue his new love, BMW, and became their exclusive importer.” I well remember sitting in and marvelling over a Bavaria in his St.

Louis showroom (room was the operative word, as in singular—one small room—in an area zoned for retail shops), and later a 2002 in his more palatial Tulsa display, where I was struck by the roomy back seat for my 6'3" frame, and the extraordinary visibility from anywhere in the car.

U.S. sales grew to such significance under Hoffman that BMW decided to come here corporately and directly, buying out Max and presenting its vehicles directly to the American public, from 1975. A combination of outstanding product, corporate interest and presence, and the market's needs and trends—including oil shortages bringing demands for more efficiency—resulted in BMW's dramatic rise here as a builder of sporty, premium, class-defining vehicles. BMW went on to build its world-standard plant in Spartanburg, South Carolina in 1994, where it builds Z cars and X cars at a growing rate, many for export.

And our place in this great story? – It's obvious that BMW has become legendary through much trial, effort, creativity, persistence, purity of purpose, and vision that never stops growing. That these milestones have not just been achieved, but built upon with success upon success, speaks to the presence of greatness. It is our privilege, not just to note these milestones, but to be part of them: today as yesterday; then tomorrow!



The BMW Rapp 100th Anniversary Concept pays tribute to BMW's remarkable past while pointing toward a great future!

RACE WERKS

EUROPEAN & DOMESTIC CAR SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE



757-427-0742

RACEWERKS IS AN ALL SERVICE FACILITY FOR BOTH EUROPEAN AND DOMESTIC CARS. SPECIALIZING IN PORSCHE, BMW, AUDI AND OTHER PERFORMANCE CARS.

WE OFFER:

- ROUTINE SERVICE & REPAIR, INCLUDING PARTS
- APR TUNING
- TECH SUPPORT
- MOUNTING & BALANCING
- SCALES FOR CORNER BALANCING
- IN-HOUSE WELDING
- SUSPENSION TUNING & ALIGNMENT
- PERFORMANCE UPGRADES
- MUCH MORE!

BBS

RACEWERKS IS NOW HAMPTON ROADS EXCLUSIVE DEALER FOR BBS WHEELS!

DIRECTIONS TO RACEWERKS

- TAKE 264 EAST TOWARDS THE OCEANFRONT
- EXIT 19A LYNNHAVEN PKWY SOUTH
- NEXT LEFT ON POTTERS RD
- RIGHT (SOUTH) ON LONDON BRIDGE RD
- FOLLOW LONDON BRIDGE RD UNTIL IT DEAD ENDS INTO DAM NECK RD
- LEFT ON DAM NECK RD
- NEXT LEFT ON TAYLOR FARM RD



20% OFF
OF INSPECTION I & INSPECTION II SERVICES

RACE WERKS
EUROPEAN & DOMESTIC CAR SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE

JOHN KOPP
JOHN@RACEWERKS.NET

2445 CASTLETON COMMERCE WAY
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23456

DAN TIEDEMANN
DAN@RACEWERKS.NET

**BMW Car Club
of America
Tidewater Chapter**



BEY EM VEY, Inc.
Tidewater Chapter BMW Car Club of America
P.O. Box 62145
Virginia Beach, VA 23462-2145

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
NORFOLK, VA
PERMIT NO. 256



VOTED BEST PRE-OWNED DEALERSHIP 6 YEARS IN A ROW
3 VIRGINIA BEACH LOCATIONS
OVER 70 PRE-OWNED 2001-2014 BMW'S IN STOCK
FACTORY WARRANTY VEHICLES
RATES AS LOW AS 2.99% wac

Other Services We Offer:
- Professional Car Buying Service
- Luxury Rental Cars
- Full Detail Services

Contact Us For More Info

757.412.1234



Select Automotive
5073 Virginia Beach Blvd..
Virginia Beach, VA. 23462

Select Imports
5048 Virginia Beach Blvd..
Virginia Beach, Va. 23462

Select Auto Outlet
4935 Virginia Beach Blvd.
Virginia Beach, Va. 23462

SELECT AUTO COLLECTION.COM