

BMW IM HERZEN DES SUDENS

2016, Issue 1 • January 2016

2016 Kick-Off Party and Auto-Cross Sunday, January 24, 2016



Photos Courtesy of Troy Wesson
from October 27, 2013 event

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SAVE THE DATE: Heart of Dixie Kick-off Party and Auto-Cross on *Sunday, January 24, 2016*

Join us at the Pelham Civic Center at
500 Amphitheater Rd, Pelham, AL
for our annual Kick-Off Party.

Events will include:

- Food
- Introduction of the new officers
- Club T-Shirts for sale
- Raffles and Giveaways
- 2016 Event Calendar
- Auto-Cross (no experience required—The biggest risk for anyone participating will be straining a muscle from all the smiles.)

Monitor your e-mail in the coming weeks for event details, cost, times and registration.



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President's Letter

I would like to thank all of the Officers and elected Chairpersons that have made this club function so smoothly over the many years. I want to especially thank **Jonathan and Paula Holly** as they have tirelessly contributed to our club in so many ways.

It is an honor to serve in the capacity as your president and I take that responsibility very seriously as we move into the next two years. I want thank the members that took the time to cast their votes during this election. It is my desire to continue the traditions and level of excellence that this Chapter has become known for on a National and local level. Join me in welcoming your new officers for 2016. Please see their contact information on the first page of the newsletter.

I want to especially welcome Chris Jones as our new Vice President. Chris has shown that his desire to contribute to the club will be a

positive influence on our members and the BMW Community.

We are a club of various interest and ways in which we enjoy our beloved BMWs. It is the desire of the officers to provide leadership to guide the direction of our club in a way that will satisfy these varied interest. We are putting together a schedule of events for 2106 that we hope will excite and bring enjoyment to the members of the Heart of Dixie Chapter. If you have any ideas for events that especially peek your interest, don't hesitate to contact any of the officers and let us know how you best enjoy your BMW and the comradery of your fellow Bimmerphiles.

Until we meet.

Steve Lowery,
President -
Heart of Dixie
Chapter

BMW Car Club
Of America
Heart of Dixie Chapter

**Welcome your new 2016-2017 Heart of Dixie BMWCCA Officers:**

- President: Steve Lowery
- Vice President: Chris Jones
- Treasurer: Dale Sitton
- Secretary: Carol Lowery

Join us on **January 24th** to meet them!

See their contact info on the sidebar.



Steve



Chris



Dale



Carol

Mentone Fun Run—October 17 2015

By Don Bishop



Photo Courtesy of Wildflower Cafe

(I took delivery of a 2015 228i convertible 16 Oct. The Mentone Fun Run gave me and Tommy an opportunity to check out the 228 and we decided it's a keeper if for nothing else it is a lot easier to get in and out of.)

I confess I am a fun run junkie. I love fun runs...I love the journey...the destination is always secondary, even if the destination is to Miss Mary Bobo's, but that is another story. I drive BMW's because nothing else I have ever driven comes close.

On to Mentone: After gathering at the Shell station on US72 at Moore's Mill Rd the convoy headed for Mentone. The first leg to Scottsboro is on US72 four lanes and not much fun, but at Scottsboro we turn right on AL35 and cross the Tennessee River. The real fun begins when we turn left onto AL40 just across the bridge and up the mountain toward Henagar (I have driven this road many times and it is always a special drive). Most of you that were awake will remember the CURVE a few miles east of Henagar just past a 4 way stop. It starts out easy but suddenly tightens up into a hairpin, it caught me and Tommy by sur-

prise and Tommy who never complains managed to let out a "oh my, oh my", well the 228 took the curve like a champ.

On to Henager and the very old (built in 1932) abandoned gas station and garage west of Henager. The station is beautifully constructed of rock and sits at an angle close to the road in the apex of a sweeping curve. It seems to be taunting drivers. It is a beautiful structure that I hope remains forever. (My grandson Steven Bugg and I returned to the station on the 27th where I pulled in to get some gas, but they did not have premium. Steven took several pictures of the old station along with my new 228)

On through Henager and more great curves and rolling hills scenery. There is a mixture rusted mobile homes, abandoned old cars and trucks and some very nice new and old farm houses and a few herds of cattle here and there. About 5 or 6 miles east of Henager is a very large mansion that sits up

a slopping pasture on the left. Construction on this house probably started about 30 years ago. In the mid 90's construction ceased and it was boarded up for several years. Around 2000-2002 it was finished and is quite a site. You will miss it unless you know where to look. I'm sure there is a story about the construction of the house.

Next is Valley Head. Valley Head is known for its antebellum bed and breakfast that sits across the RR tracks on your left. This B&B has been featured in several magazines and a few travel logs on TV. From Valley Head on to Mentone we travel through more great scenery and curves over hill and dale. Going up the mountain to Mentone is a great drive.

As our convoy approached the crest at Mentone there was a local policeman directing traffic at a flashing light, and it was apparent he had not been to traffic directing school (did I mentioned Mentone was having their annual Colorfest Arts celebration). We managed to make it though that intersec-

tion and on to the Wild Flower Café where we found scarce but adequate parking.

The Wild Flower was very crowded and they seated us outside under a canopy (it was a little chilly and very breezy). The Wild Flower is known for its Sweet Potato Biscuits which we all ate our share (I brought a dozen home). The service was very, very slow (don't go to the Wild Flower during Colorfest). After a two hour plus meal and some great conversation Tommy and I headed back to Huntsville. Some traveled on to Desoto State Park and Desoto Falls, a truly beautiful spot in North East Alabama and well worth a visit.

Tommy and I made it back past the old gas station and through the CURVE and on to Huntsville without incident. It was a great fun run. Many thanks to the planners. If you haven't been on an HOD Fun Run in your BMW you are missing a lot of what makes a BMW "The Ultimate Driving Machine".



Birmingham Motoring Club Car Show at the Summit on Saturday, October 10, 2015



Photos Courtesy of Jonathan Holly and Jack Joyner

Show participants: Dylan Holly- 1987 BMW E30 Convertible---“Best German Car in Show” winner; Jonathan Holly- 1987 Alfa Romeo Spider; Jack Joyner- E36 Race car; Scott Montana- Aston Martin Vantage; Toby Rumbarger- De Tomaso Pantera; Hank Bowman- 1M; Art Bowman- M3; Bill West- 575 Maranello





Prospective club member with his 1988 BMW M3



Earl Myers' 1974 BMW 2002



Earl Myers' Volvo 1800 ES



Photos Courtesy of Mark Cunningham and Troy Wesson



Troy Wesson's 2014 MINI Cooper Roadster S

EuroSunday—Huntsville

Looking for local car shows to show off your BMW? EuroSun-



day is a free event on the last Sunday of every month (January—November) in Huntsville. The gathering starts at 7am and usually breaks up around 9am or so before church. Coffee locations vary monthly throughout Huntsville.

Next meet-up is **January 31, 2016** at **Grounded Coffee** (in the Publix Shopping Center) at 12120 County Line Road in Madison.

EuroSunday
Driven to Drive

Now in Huntsville!

If you speak the language of M3, TR6, Enzo, R8, 911, Sunbeam, AMG, Lamborghini, E Type, Norton, BSA, Ducati, Triumph, *this is your club!*

EuroSunday is a FREE, informal, family friendly get together. Come grab some coffee and a bagel. Enjoy a variety of interesting vehicles. Make new friends, or catch up with some longtime friends.

Bring your camera!
You never know what exotic might show up.

We are EuroSunday, a monthly gathering of European auto and motorcycle enthusiasts. We speak your language... no translation needed!

See our website or Facebook page for this month's location

facebook.com/EuroSundayHuntsville
www.EuroSunday.net

Regional MINI Events for 2016



1929 Dixi 3-15 DA
Courtesy of Wikimedia

Did you know the first BMW was the Dixi? The Dixi was licensed from the Austin Motor Company in 1927 as a left-hand drive variant of the Austin 7 to the Automobilwerk Eisenach company. In 1928, BMW, looking to get into the automobile business, purchased Automobilwerk Eisenach. Variants of the Dixi continued in production with BMW until 1932.

In 1952, the Austin merged with Morris to form the British Motor Corporation. In 1959, they introduced its new small car under the names Austin Seven and Morris Mini-Minor. Over the years as the car gained fame, it became known as the Mini. In the meantime, through various acquisitions, BMC and the Mini came to be owned by the Rover Group. In 1994, BMW acquired the Rover Group (Austin, Rover, Mini, MG, Land Rover, Leyland and others) and sold off a majority of the makes by 2000, with the exception of Mini.

In 2001, BMW launched the new MINI Cooper and is now on their third-generation platform. Our club has always been welcoming to fans of the BMW marquee whether they drive a BMW or not. We have hosted Jaguars, Mazdas and Hondas on a number of our fun runs, in addition to MINI.

We have a number of MINI owners in our club and we worked with two local MINI chapters to come together a Barber Historics in 2015. Unlike BMW CCA that is more top-down corporate structured, MINI corporation has allowed for a more regionalized structure where club members come together as a grass-roots effort from the bottom-up:

Rocket City MINI Club

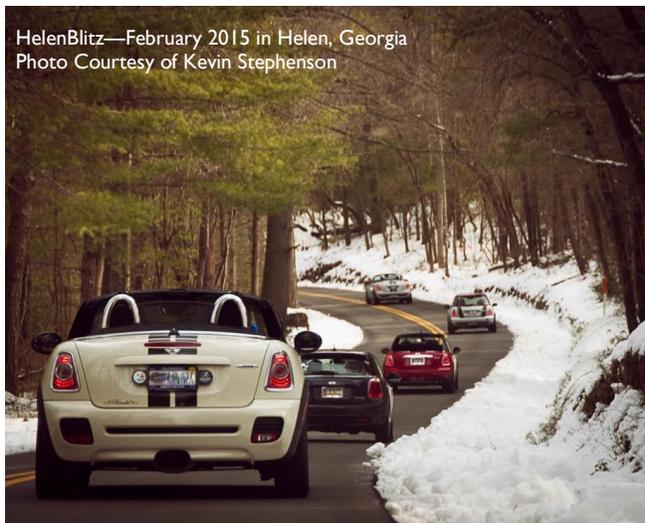
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/RocketCityMINIs/>

Magic City MINI Club

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/magiccityminis/>

Like BMW has Oktoberfest, there are a number of Southeast regional MINI events. (See sidebar to the right.) Like BMW CCA sponsors its annual Oktoberfest, MINI corporation sponsors its bi-annual MINI Takes the States cross country rally. For our members and friends with MINIs, be sure to check out the list of upcoming events.

HelenBlitz—February 2015 in Helen, Georgia
Photo Courtesy of Kevin Stephenson



Regional Events for 2016:

MINI Takes the States from Road Atlanta, Georgia to BMW Performance Center West in Thermal, California
July 9-23, 2016

Cross country 15-stop rally with social events every evening
<http://www.minitakesthestates.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MTTS2016/>

HelenBlitz in Helen, Georgia
February 18-21, 2016

Social gathering and fun runs in the Georgia mountains
<http://www.helenblitz.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Helenblitz/>

MINIs on the Dragon at Fontana Village, North Carolina
May 11-15, 2016

Social gathering, US29 Dragon runs, fun runs
<http://www.minisonthedragon.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/MINIs-on-the-Dragon-132529612962/>

Be sure to also look up these additional regional events on your favorite search engine:

Mickey and MINI (Orlando) in September 2016

MINIs Slay the Sleeping Dragon in October 2016

MINIs in the Ozarks in October 2016

Facebook tends to have the most current information for events.



Jones Farm—October 2015 in Huntsville, Alabama
Photo Courtesy of Troy Wesson



2015 328i Sedan

MSRP \$43,830

Sonic Price: \$36,991

Lease for:
\$349/month + tax for 36 months
\$3,000 down

Stock #FNS87261

- ▶ VIEW VEHICLE
- ▶ SCHEDULE TEST DRIVE
- ▶ EASY FINANCING



TOM WILLIAMS BMW

1000 Tom Williams Way Irondale, AL 35210
Contact us: 800-550-3865

Free maintenance for 4 yrs. / 50000 miles, Pay Nothing \$0

*lease payments plus tax, title fee and dealer fee with approved credit. X5 and X3 prices and payments include BMW FS loyalty, must finance with BMW Financial.



2016 BMW X3 sDrive28i SAV

MSRP \$45,245

Sonic Price: \$40,991

Lease for:
\$469/month + tax for 36 months
\$3,000 down

Stock #G0R32734

- ▶ VIEW VEHICLE
- ▶ SCHEDULE TEST DRIVE
- ▶ EASY FINANCING



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Free maintenance for 4 yrs. / 50000 miles, Pay Nothing \$0

*lease payments plus tax, title fee and dealer fee with approved credit. X5 and X3 prices and payments include BMW FS loyalty, must finance with BMW Financial.



2015 BMW 335i Sedan

MSRP \$46,825

Sonic Price: \$40,994

Stock #FNS66712

- ▶ VIEW VEHICLE
- ▶ SCHEDULE TEST DRIVE
- ▶ EASY FINANCING



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Free maintenance for 4 yrs. / 50000 miles, Pay Nothing \$0

*lease payments plus tax, title fee and dealer fee with approved credit. X5 and X3 prices and payments include BMW FS loyalty, must finance with BMW Financial.



2015 BMW 750Li Sedan

MSRP \$101,450

Sonic Price: \$83,494

Stock #FD782478

- ▶ VIEW VEHICLE
- ▶ SCHEDULE TEST DRIVE
- ▶ EASY FINANCING



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Contact us: 800-550-3865

Free maintenance for 4 yrs. / 50000 miles, Pay Nothing \$0

*lease payments plus tax, title fee and dealer fee with approved credit. X5 and X3 prices and payments include BMW FS loyalty, must finance with BMW Financial.

Receive an **EXTRA \$700.00** of Heart of Dixie Chapter money when purchasing a new BMW in stock! For questions or to schedule a product demonstration and test drive, please contact **Parker Rosenberger** at **205-443-8613** or email **parker.rosenberger@tomwilliamsbmw.com**.



**BMW Car Club
of America
Heart of Dixie Chapter**



Must bring this flyer and active CCA Membership card to claim money

THE HEART OF
DIXIE CHAPTER
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NEWSLETTER

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BMW CCA
P. O. Box 361645
Birmingham, Alabama
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www.albmwcca.org

 You can also find
your local chapter
on Facebook at:
[www.facebook.com/
HeartOfDixieBmwCca](http://www.facebook.com/HeartOfDixieBmwCca)

Got an idea for a story?
Interested in providing
pictures or a story from
our next club event? If
so, contact Troy Wesson,
Newsletter Editor, at
troy.wesson@gmail.com

BMW Car Club
Of America
Heart of Dixie Chapter



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The Benefits of a BMW Club Membership

- Vehicle Rebate: BMW CCA members in good standing (membership for 12 months prior to the purchase) may be eligible for substantial rebates up to \$1,500 on the purchase or lease of a new or Certified Pre-Owned BMW from any authorized U.S. BMW Center. See bmwcca.org for details.
- Outstanding national events including BMW CCA's premier annual gathering, Oktoberfest.
- 12-month subscription to the Club magazine, *Roundel*.
- Driving schools, autocrosses, safety schools, fun runs and Club Racing.
- Regional club-sponsored car corrals at major road races, like the Indy and Grand Am Series at Barber Motorsports Park.
- Free classified ads on the website and in *Roundel* magazine.
- Access to our Technical Service Advisors for personalized advice.
- Ombudsmen to help with dealer issues.
- Friends of BMW: A roster of fellow BMW CCA members who can offer coffee and conversation, repair tools, workspace, sometimes even help when you're out on the road.
- Club library and video services. Borrow BMW-related books and videos.
- Availability of a BMW CCA affinity credit card.
- Free BMW CCA decals available from the club office.
- Access to all areas of the growing online community at www.bmwcca.org.



Steven Bugg
Photography

Don Bishop's new 2015 BMW 228i Convertible in Henager, Alabama