

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

FROM: Wynne Smith, Executive Director
TO: BMW CCA National and Service Officers,
Chapter Presidents, Newsletter Editors
DATE: November 19, 2002

MEMBERSHIP STATS as of 11/19/2002

	Full	Associate	Total
Current Membership	63660	7348	71008
Last Month's Membership	63651	7324	70975
Monthly Net Gain (Loss)	9	24	33
Monthly % Change	0.01%	0.33%	0.05%
Last Year's Membership	57901	6477	64378
Annual Net Gain (Loss)	5759	871	6630
Annual % Change	9.95%	13.45%	10.30%
New Members, 11/02	1230		
Renewals 11/02	67.3%		
Roundels Mailed	64,700		

DEC ELECTIONS – DEC Congress

For the first time since the committee was formed, regional representatives serving on the driving events committee will be elected by the chapters they represent. Ballots are enclosed in this packet and available on the BMWCCA-DEC digest and BMWCCA-Presidents digest in the FILES section. Ballots must be returned no later than January 15, 2003. Each chapter gets one vote. The chapter vote will be cast by the chapter's driving events coordinator or equivalent position, as identified by the chapter president. If the chapter has no driving events coordinator or equivalent position, the vote will be cast by the chapter president. The candidate receiving the most votes wins. In the event of a tie, the regional vice president will select the DEC representative from among the candidates tied with the most votes. In future, the DEC will be called upon to play a greater role not just in driving school policy and instructor training, but in all aspects of BMW CCA driving events.

Candidates:	North Atlantic	Ross Karlin	
	South Atlantic	Scott Collins	
	North Central	Geoff Tolsdorf	Lance White
	South Central	Steve Williams	
	Pacific	Wes Hill	Dan Tackett

The location is not set, but a Driving Events Congress will be March 1-2, 2003. We are looking for a site with moderate temperatures for that time of year and that will be relatively easy and cost-effective flight-wise. The conference will be hosted by the BMW CCA Driving Events Committee. BMW CCA will reimburse travel expenses as set forth in Section IV of the club's Operation Manual (pages 1 and 2) for up to two representatives per chapter, for those persons serving as the **chapter driving events coordinator** and the **chapter chief instructor**. The same restrictions apply as in the past – if the driving events coordinator is not available, this does not mean the chief instructor's spouse may attend at the club's cost instead. More details will be forthcoming as plans are finalized. A survey will be sent to potential attendees in the next few weeks so

we can be sure to cover at least some of the topics you all want covered. The agenda will be distributed in advance so that conference attendees can research the issues ahead of time.

A NEW BENEFIT OF MEMBERSHIP

BMW CCA has entered into a program with Cross Country Warranty – the folks that have been the provider for BMW for 'lo these many years. When you sign onto the bmwcca.org website – check out the new button. Driver's Elite is an Emergency Roadside Assistance program designed with safety as its Top Priority.

The benefits associated with a Driver's Elite membership offer Security, Savings and Peace of Mind. Membership includes all of the following:

- Roadside Service 24 Hours a Day Everyday! Nationwide!
- Emergency Lockout Service
- Trip Routing / Map Services
- Auto, Truck and RV Rental Discounts

When we conducted the Motorsports Clubs Round Table here in Greenville in March of this year, Cross Country was on site and gave us an hour-long presentation. Coincidentally, the evening before, one of the presenters from the South Carolina Upstate Alliance had (unsolicited) recounted a story about his BMW Motorcycle's battery dying and how impressed he was with Cross Country's service. For those of us with aging BMWs, and those of us nearing the end of our roadside service agreements, this can be a cost-effective alternative to AAA and some of the other more costly roadside assistance programs available.

BMW CCA MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE December 1!

Scheduled to go live on December 1 – you'll be able to purchase some really great items from the club's new merchandiser. Watch Roundel and the bmwcca.org website!

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

Two proposed amendments to the BMW CCA Bylaws were presented to the Club's Board by Bailey Taylor and Michel Potheau prior to the meeting earlier this month in Austin, TX. The first would have limited all National Board members, not just the president, to two elected terms in succession. As you can imagine, there was considerable discussion. It was felt by a majority of the Board that by limiting the terms of service it would follow that there would be a great deal of turnover on the Board. It takes a while for any new Board member to feel comfortable in the position and to review and understand the history of matters, become familiar with the issues before the Board and to establish a good working relationship with the person's peers serving on the Board. Things often move slowly in an organization like ours so constant turnover causes problems. More of the strategy of running of the club would move to the National office instead of the Board. Two terms is not enough time if term limits are determined to be necessary for any position other than President. Still another point stated was that de facto term limits already exist, since members of the Club can vote incumbents in or out as they see fit. The term limits proposal was essentially defeated by a vote of 5 to 3 with 1 abstention.

If you read News from National last month, you'll recall that the second proposed bylaws amendment presented by Bailey Taylor and Michel Potheau was to require that in order for the Board to vote on a motion in between regularly scheduled board meetings, the motion to call for the vote would have to pass by a 2/3 majority. The Board decided to not put this proposal on the ballot. In discussion, it was determined that the Bylaws was not the appropriate place for this type of rule, inasmuch as the Bylaws state simply that Roberts Rules is the parliamentary authority. The Operations Manual is the current and appropriate place where Roberts Rules are refined and tailored to the needs of the Club. The proponents of this amendment were apparently under the impression that between-meeting motions were not reported in the minutes. In fact, all between-meeting motions are reported by the secretary in the pre-meeting report that is provided to all members of the Board and this office, and which becomes an official part of the minutes. To ensure that such

motions are not missed by those members who may read the minutes of future meetings, the results of between-meeting motions will be reported in a separate section of the minutes. The proponents of this amendment also felt that since discussions and motions by the Board in between regular meetings were done without having any other members present (there often two or three local area members in attendance during open sessions of regular meetings) and that gave an air of secrecy to the transactions. In fact, most of the matters discussed and voted on between meetings are either procedural, or need to be addressed quickly. For example, the three motions voted on between the August and November 2002 meetings involved approving the minutes, releasing funds to the Foundation that were already allocated, and sending a letter of intent to revoke an individual's membership for misconduct.

In the future, it is expected that the voting and discussion will take place in public on the redesigned club website.

INFORMATION, and lot's of it!

Many of you will be holding chapter elections in the next few weeks, please be sure to tell newly elected board members of the various Yahoo digests available to them to help them obtain information regarding their responsibilities and any issues at hand:

BMWCCA-DEC for Driving Education Coordinators

BMWCCA-Presidents

BMWCCA-Treasurers are on an invitation only basis, please have the newly elected officer contact me and I will send them an invitation to join

BMWCCA-Editors – restricted membership, please contact: kelly@kellz.com

BMWCCAtalk – open to all BMW CCA members, this digest can often be the source for a lively exchange of ideas and opinions on topics as diverse as the back-end of the newer 7-series to the upcoming BMW CCA elections. The list is not endorsed by the CCA and serves only as an area for the exchange of ideas by the members.

ELECTIONS 2003

During the most recent Board Meeting the Board was asked to consider returning to the old postcard ballot method of voting. Using any of the online election services from which we received proposals would cost \$38,000 to \$45,000 not including the cost of mailing. The cost to include a ballot bound into Roundel with removable labels and the tabulation of the ballots by the club's accounting firm is going to be considerably less and the funds saved can be better used elsewhere – say, for insurance rebates to the chapters. The January (election) Roundel would go out with a note on the mailing wrapper urging members to save the label to use for voting. Members will once again place their label on the prepaid postcard and cast their votes accordingly. It's not exactly state of the art, but it's more fiscally responsible at this point in time. The Board decided to return to the above method for the upcoming election and has made a commitment to have us explore more cost effective methods of electronic balloting for the future. Photos and candidacy statements of the individuals running will appear in the January Roundel and on the bmwcca.org website.

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The National Office will be closed the afternoon of Tuesday, December 24th and Christmas Day; and closed again the afternoon of Tuesday, December 31st and New Year's Day.

The National Office staff joins me in wishing you and your families a safe and joyous holiday season!

Best regards,