



The Rio Grande *Redline*



BMW CCA New Mexico Chapter

www.nmbmwcca.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Spring to everyone! New México has had a wet and stormy winter, which was a challenge for any car enthusiast. There is a rumor circulating that the wiper blade companies had dramatically increased profits. In BMW CCA of NM terms, we had a good winter, with several well-attended events.

On January 13, we had a general membership meeting at The Range Café in Albuquerque. Attendance was great, with long-time members as well as new members coming to socialize and talk about BMW's. Special thanks to Matt DiGregory for making the arrangements at his restaurant.

The February 10 tech session was at the Tint and Trim Factory in Albuquerque. Owner Shawn Windecker and his staff gave a presentation and a demonstration of premium window tinting, and clear film shield protection for the front of BMW's. The clear shield was a new product for many club members, and several decided to get it for their own cars.

The March 24 club event was another tech session, this time with Robert Weinberg, owner of European Automotive Specialists in Albuquerque. Robert made a presentation on the topic of required maintenance for BMW's. He especially talked about the needs of aging BMW's.

During the coming quarter, the chapter is planning several events, including a tour, a car show, and a tech session. Check the Calendar and watch your email for more details.

The New México Auto Show is scheduled for April 21-24 at the Albuquerque Convention Center. The club has been invited to display some of our cars adjacent to the convention center. We would have to choose a day for the club, and give them an estimate of the number of cars to be displayed. So far I have not received a lot of interest on this, so please drop me a note ASAP if you are interested (also which day is best, if we get a choice in the matter). I need a few more participants before I can say "yes" to the show organizers.

The annual Spring Tour is tentatively scheduled for April 24. Tourmeister Andy Rutkiewicz is currently exploring tour routes to the south of Albuquerque.

The Susan G. Komen Drive for the Cure will be early this year. Scheduled for Saturday, April 30, this will be your opportunity to contribute to breast cancer research. How do you contribute? By driving more miles on a brand new BMW!

May 15 is the planned date for the Clean Car Show. It will be at Sandía BMW (thanks to Mike Houx). We will also elect club officers for the next year.

The June 15 tech session will be held at Santa Fé BMW, led by Service Manager Andy Caperones will lead the session. There is a good chance the new E90 (3-series) will arrive in time for our session.

As always, watch your email for changes and updates to the events. You can also check <http://www.nmbmwcca.org/> for additional information.

I hope to see each of you soon!

Jon van Arsdel
President

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 21-24 all day. New Mexico Auto Show @ Albuquerque Convention Center.

April 24 (Tentative) all day. The annual NMBMW CCA Spring Tour. Watch your email for updates.

April 30 10-6. The Susan G. Komen Drive for the Cure. Take an opportunity to support a very worthy cause (breast cancer research) and also drive a new BMW. Info / registration at www.bmwusa.com/bmwexperience/EventsandProgr

May 15. The annual BMW CCA Clean Car Show. Do your annual spring-cleaning and bring your car to the show. We will also have officer elections.

June 15. Tech Session with Andy Caperones at Santa Fé BMW.

July 14. Thursday at 6:00 p.m. General membership meeting. Socialize, eat, and talk about BMW's.

August. BMW/PCA Challenge.

September 8. Thursday at 6:00 p.m. General membership meeting.

October 2. Sunday all day. The Annual Karl H. Fox Memorial Fall Tour. A beautiful drive through the northern NM mountains, and a tribute to Karl, whose memory lives on in our chapter.

November. Tech session with Manny Córdova at Southwest Collision Craftsmen.

December. Tech Session with Jim Johnson at Sandía BMW.

Remember to check our web site for periodic updates: www.nmbmwcca.org

UNDER THE HOOD

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TECH TIPS

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

The March Tech Session was held at NMBMWCCA member Robert Weinberg's shop, European Automotive Specialists in Albuquerque. His enthusiasm for the marque is obvious if you ever meet the man. He discussed quite a bit of the maintenance that should be performed on the cars as they age. Much of this relates to E36s. I'll summarize below:

Oil & filter—change every 3k w/ petroleum-based or 6k w/ synthetic

Auto trans—change fluid every 30k

Manual trans—change fluid every 60k

Differential—change fluid every 60k

Brake fluid—pressure bleed every 2 years (DOT 4)

Brakes—your results may vary, but expect to change rotors with pads

Cooling system—flush at 4 years, then every 2, change thermostat & pump at 60k

Radiator—expect to replace at 90-100k

Fan belts—replace at 60k

Driveshaft flexdisk—expect to replace at 60-70k

Center bearing support, mid- and rear Ujoints—expect to replace at 100k

Fuel injectors—use cleaner every 6 months

Fuel filter—replace every 60k

Control arm bushings—replace at 60k

One thing Robert stressed is that if you plan to keep your new BMW for more than 100,000 miles, do NOT follow the new factory service intervals. Changing your oil every 15,000 miles is good for BMW (with it's "free" maintenance" but not good for *your* BMW. Same thing with "lifetime fill" fluids, like transmission fluid.



Clear protective shield being applied at Tint & Trim Factory during February's Tech Session. Thanks to owner Shawn Windecker.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB	
Anne Benz	1/14/05
Kurt Winkler	1/18/05
John Engen	1/18/05
Abe Gurule	1/18/05
Robert Alexander	1/25/05
Walt Witkowski	1/25/05
Terry Morgan	1/25/05
Keeley Bihl	2/07/05
Susan Kirst-Millspaugh	2/07/05
Travis Coleman	2/09/05
Sean Duquette	2/09/05
Ron VanEck	2/07/05
Randy Alkire	2/18/05
Pat Lupo	2/22/05
Jack Lemire	3/01/05



Tint application, live and in-person. The Tint & Trim Factory tints many cars for Sandia BMW.

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Rants & Raves

If you're like me, you probably have an insatiable appetite for Bimmer-related reading material. While I was renewing a magazine subscription on Amazon.com about a year ago, I was perusing the list of automotive titles, sifting through the usual R&T, C&D, MT, etc. and found a few that looked interesting. *EuroTuner* and *European Car* are both Primedia publications. Judging by the editorial efforts, I'd say they're about as well funded as this newsletter. But I can overlook a few typos if the content is worthy.

Eurotuner is targeted to the Fast and Furious, massive subwoofer, baggy pants crowd, with abundant articles about tuning VWs, and the occasional Audi or BMW article thrown in so they don't have to change the name on the cover to *DubTuner* or some such thing. There is usually plenty of coverage (or un-coverage) of various automotive aftermarket shows replete with scantily clad young ladies. Lots of turbos and nitrous, and a few interesting how-to articles for DIYers. I've let my subscription lapse.

It's sister publication, *European Car*, is toward a more...mature audience. Coverage includes more BMWs and Porsches. Recent articles included a "first look" at the new M5 and hopefully the last look at the supremely ugly Schnitzer Z4 orange creamsicle. Definitely more interesting to my old eyes, but they couldn't pry another 24 bucks from my fingers.

The third one was a charm. If you haven't yet laid your hands on a copy of *Bimmer*, do so now. It is a first class glossy that is all about BMW and nothing but BMW, published by that media powerhouse Ross Periodicals in Novato, CA. In addition to the usual reviews of new models, there are plenty of features on classic Bimmers, and a huge Tech Q&A section compiled by Mike Miller. It's definitely worth the search and the \$20 price of admission for a year of entertainment. My only disappointment is that it's only published eight times a year.

Andy Sencak

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

APRIL 23 The Rocky Mountain Chapter's **Spring Warm-up Autocross** will be held at the Denver International Airport Mt. Elbert remote parking lot. Details and registration via the web at www.rmcbmwcca.org/autocross.htm.

APRIL 22-24 **SONORA CHAPTER SPRING TOUR** to Silver City has been CANCELLED.

MAY 14 The first event in Rocky Mountain Chapter's 2005 **Autocross Points Series** will be held at the Denver International Airport Mt. Elbert remote parking lot. Details and registration via the web at www.rmcbmwcca.org/autocross.htm.

MAY 14-15 **Sin City Chapter Driving School** at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway (newly expanded and renovated 2.4-mile outside road course) For information contact Teri Lachman at TalonM3@earthlink.net or 702-656-7799. Application will be available in mid-February on the chapter web site at www.sincitybmwcarclub.com.

MAY 27-29 **5er Fest 2005** An annual event dedicated to BMW e12 and E28 5-Series automobiles and their devoted owners! The 2005 event will be held at the BMW Zentrum in South Carolina. Events to include technical sessions, autocross, group photo, awards and trophies, factory tours, banquets, parties and more! Details and information available at the 5er Fest 2005 Web site: www.5erfest2005.org

AUGUST 8-10 **Nurburgring Driving School** The International BMW School gives BMW CCA members a chance to experience the world's most incredible racetrack. Special activities for BMW CCA members, including attending a DTM race, begin on August 3rd. Reservations are first-come, first-served by calling the BMW CCA office at 864 250-0022. All details at www.AutobahnTours.com/nurburgring.htm.

SEPTEMBER 17-23 **OKTOBERFEST 2005** in Greensboro, North Carolina. The Tarheel Chapter of the BMW CCA and the National organization are the proud hosts of the club's premier event. Watch Roundel and the www.bmwcca.org website for details.

More information on these and other events is available on the club's website calendar: www.nmbmwcca.org.

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NMBMWCCA Financial Statements 2004

BALANCE SHEET

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>Current Year Ending 12/31/2004</u>	<u>Prior Year Ending 12/31/2003</u>
Cash in bank accounts	\$3,546.37	\$3,169.67
Inventory	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Accounts receivable	\$0.00	\$0.00
Prepaid expenses/deposits	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total assets	\$3,546.37	\$3,169.67

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Accounts payable	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other:	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equity/retained earnings	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total liabilities and equity	\$0.00	\$0.00

INCOME STATEMENT

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>Current Year Ending 12/31/2004</u>	<u>Prior Year Ending 12/31/2003</u>
Membership dues	\$4,624.76	\$4,343.66
Rebates from National	\$95.40	\$390.00
Advertising revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00
Driving school fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Autocross fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other event fees	\$0.00	\$0.00
Merchandise sales	\$0.00	\$0.00
Interest	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc./other	\$12.50	\$30.00
Total income	\$4,732.66	\$4,763.66

EXPENSES

Newsletter costs	\$509.69	
\$529.61		
Postage	\$1,080.50	
\$1,231.40		
Insurance	\$0.00	
\$216.00		
Driving school expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Autocross expenses	\$145.00	

Steve has always been an "early adapter," as evidenced by his second generation satellite radio antenna. It was a big improvement over the 8-foot dish.



NEW MODELS AND PRICING ANNOUNCED

Early '06s to be here in May

Prices have been announced for the 2006 3 Series and 7 Series as well as the 2006 5 Series, including all-wheel drive models. Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Prices for the 325i and 330i sedans are \$30,995 and \$36,995 respectively. A typically equipped 325i includes the Premium Package, an automatic transmission, leather upholstery and metallic paint. At \$35,645, a typically equipped 2006 325i is only \$150 more than its 2005 counterpart and has substantially more equipment. When you factor in the Xenon Adaptive Headlights which are standard on the 2006 330i, that model with Premium Package, automatic transmission and metallic paint is actually \$100 less than a similarly equipped 2005 model, again with substantially more equipment..

In only its third model year the latest 5 Series enters the 2006 model year with BMW's newest generation of inline 6-cylinder engines, available all-wheel drive and the return of the 5 Series Sports Wagon. The 5 Series shares its two 3-liter engines with the new 3 Series. The 525i/xi go from 184 to 215 horsepower while the 530i/xi go from 225 to 255 hp. All models are offered with a 6-speed manual transmission with an available 6-speed STEPTRONIC automatic. The 530i is also available with a 6-speed Sequential Manual Gearbox.

The 5 Series are the first passenger cars that use BMW's xDrive all-wheel drive system, which has proven itself in the X3 and X5 Sports Activity Vehicles. xDrive goes beyond the traditional advantages of all-wheel drive to offer the driver an even higher level of stability and traction in all driving situations. While conventional all-wheel drive only responds when the wheels are already spinning, xDrive begins to react even before wheel spin is able to build up. Via an electronically controlled multiple-plate clutch, the flow of power is redistributed within milliseconds between the two axles in the interest of enhanced traction, driving stability and agility.

The 5 Series Sports Wagon returns as the 530xi. Offered only as an all-wheel drive model, the 530xi Sports Wagon offers advantages not only over the Sedans, but also over its predecessor, last offered in 2003. The 530xi abounds with rational design and thoughtful details which include a high-lift tailgate - almost 73 in. head clearance - with Soft Close feature. The tailgate is electrically released from the exterior or interior switch or the remote. The rear window may be opened separately, for convenient loading without opening the tailgate. A power opening and closing feature is included in the Premium Package. Wider than that in the previous Wagon, and with straight, essentially vertical sides, the cargo area offers 17.6 cu ft. of volume up to the tops of the upright rear seats and a maximum of 58.3 cu ft., rear seats folded, cargo loaded to ceiling. The cargo area includes a lockable storage space under the cargo floor, in a tray with adjustable dividers to help secure smaller objects.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads are free for NMBMWCCA Chapter members. Only BMW cars, parts, aftermarket add-ons will be published. All ads will run in one issue and will be removed unless a request is made to run the ad again. Member number must be included in all submissions. Please submit all ads to editor@nmbmwcca.org / *subject:Classifieds*.

2003 Z4 3.0

BLACK/BEIGE, 1900 mi, SPORT PKG, PREMIUM PKG, WINTER PKG, M SPORT SUSPENSION. THIS CAR IS LIKE BRAND NEW! ASKING 35,900 OBO. CAMILLENCO@COMCAST.NET

17x 8.0 Cross Spoke Bolted II Alloys

These wheels were on the 2003 530 I bought in Germany. 17x 8.0 Cross Spoke Bolted II Alloy Wheels with 235/45R Michelin XSE Tires. The wheels are in EXCELLENT condition only about 12K miles and the tires are also in good shape. I'm selling them because I put 18" BBS wheels on the car. Asking price is \$1000. Please Call: 505-263-7937

GOOD LSD WANTED (that got your attention, right?)

Looking for reasonably priced limited slip to fit '75 2002. 3.90? tcoleman30@comcast.net

Like the Sedans, the Sports Wagon comes standard with a power moonroof; however, the Wagon's is a dual-panel Panorama Moonroof, a feature also seen in the X3 and X5 Series. With its overall roof opening of 41.9 x 34.8 in., the Panorama concept gives occupants almost the feeling of being in a convertible. The power glass roof consists of two panels, both of which can be tilted up at the rear. The forward, larger panel can also be slid open; together, their glass area is almost 10 square feet. Although the glass is effectively tinted, there is also a power-operated interior shade; a wind deflector rises at the front of the opening to reduce wind buffeting when panels are open. All motions have 1-touch operation, including that of the interior shade.

In addition to other enhancements, Servotronic vehicle-speed sensitive power steering is standard on all models and Adaptive Xenon Headlights are standard on 530i/xi models.

Manufacturer Suggested Retail Prices for the 525i and 530i Sedans are \$42,495 and \$47,195 respectively. For the all-wheel drive Sedans, the MSRPs are \$44,695 for the 525xi and \$49,395 for the 530xi. The all-wheel drive 530xi Sports Wagon has an MSRP of \$51,795.

The price of the 750i and 750Li are \$71,195 and \$75,195 respectively. This represents a \$600 increase over the previous models. Prices for the 2006 760i and 760Li are \$110,695 and \$118,095 respectively.

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**Sonic Bimmer
Burger Night**



Not a NMBMWCCA event.
Everyone welcome.

**Join fellow enthusiasts for
Burgers and Chat!!
3rd Sunday of every month
4 - 6pm.**

**Sonic Drive In
5000 San Mateo NE
(between Montgomery and
McLeod on the east side of
San Mateo)**

Don't forget to write...

As the Chapter continues to grow and evolve, some changes need to be made. With over 330 members plus associates, getting current information about upcoming events to members is crucial. The email list has about 200 addresses on it. Please send an email with your current email address to:

webmaster@nmbmwcca.org
Subject: Email Address Update

I can make the changes as needed, but if you change internet providers or email addresses, please let the chapter know. This way our database stays as current as possible. Thanks.

Your NM Chapter Webmaster, Steve Nowaczek

The *Rio Grande Redline* is the official publication of the New Mexico Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc. (BMW CCA of NM), and is not in any way affiliated with the Bayerische Motoren Werke AB of North America, Inc. It is published quarterly, and provided by and for the members of the BMW CCA of NM. Unless otherwise stated, maintenance and modification procedures herein are not "factory approved", and their use may void your BMW warranty. Ideas and opinions are those of the writer, and the editors or publishers, who assume no liability for information contained herein, imply no authentication or approval. Articles submitted are subjected to editing. Only the BMW CCA and its chapters may reproduce these contents without permission in writing.

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