



The Rio Grande Redline



BMW CCA New Mexico Chapter

www.nmbmwcca.org

BMW Breaches the Final Frontier

Announces New Y7 SUV Full Size Pick Up

By Andy Sencak

BMW NA Director of Public Relations Hanke Panke recently announced BMW's newest addition to the Bavarian lineup. "We felt the Americans have dominated the large pickup truck market long enough. We've given the soccer moms the X5, and more recently the X3, and now it's time to appease the soccer dads with the Sport Utility Crossover, or SUV." BMW's first pickup will be based on the 7 series platform and utilize that model's V8 and V12 engines, both turbocharged, with all wheel drive.

Similar in appearance to the Ford Explorer Sport Trac, but about the size of an Excursion, it will have four full size doors and a short bed. Unlike the Ford, or any other pickup on the market, the SUV will feature a third row seat for those families with two children. Each seating position will feature an independent DVD playback system with Dolby Surround. "We know space and entertainment are extremely important to American children, and after all, aren't they the decision makers today?"

The truck bed will be short in order to keep overall length of the vehicle small enough to fit between two parking meters. "We know our buyers will not actually be hauling anything with these vehicles... it's all about image."

As you would expect, the new Y7 will be loaded with eclectic, electronic, ego-boosting features. Of course the navigation system will be standard fare, as well as such plebian features as a low tire pressure warning system,

satellite radio (both XM and Sirius), six-zone climate control, heated and massaging seats, Bluetooth capability, voice recognition control, Internet access, and the usual alphabet soup of ABS, ASC, DSC, ABC, NBC and CBS. The most dramatic new feature will be the introduction of IDRIVE, accessible through the iDrive controller. This will incorporate the BMW Night Vision infrared imaging feature with new lane sensing capabilities linked to a laser-based automatic cruise control system. "This will allow the Y7 driver to focus on his cell phone call without being distracted by the demands of driving the vehicle," explained Panke. "Our internal code name for this product is 'Why Drive'."

In keeping with BMW's recent practice of simplifying vehicle maintenance, the transmission will have lifetime fill, there will be no dipstick, radiator cap or oil filler cap. "We are introducing the lifetime oil fill in conjunction with BMW's free recommended service during the warranty period," Panke stated.

Herr Panke concluded, "The new SUV series will surely keep BMW at the top of the Ultimate Status class for the foreseeable future." The Y7 is expected to hit showroom floors in Spring 2007, as a 2008 model. BMW dealers are taking deposits now. Be sure to wish them Happy April Fools Day as you write your check.

The information in this story is fictional; any resemblance to an actual person or vehicle is coincidental.

UNDER THE HOOD

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

Behind the Wheel

Spring has finally arrived (did we have a winter?). It is time to change our clocks forward and prepare for the longer days of summer.

This past quarter, we had two membership meetings and a tech session.

Tim Ellis and his fine crew at Chet's Wheel Alignment did a great February tech session. The topic was alignment and wheel balance. This is an important topic for BMW owners. Our cars are very precise, and therefore sensitive to misalignment and imbalances. Thanks go to event coordinator David Penasa, who volunteered his M3 as the demonstration car. I wonder, did we ever get all the parts put back together?

Thanks also go to Matt DiGregory, who arranged our membership meetings at his restaurant, The Range.

The annual Spring Tour is planned for Sunday, April 2, which will have passed by the time you read this (weather permitting). Phil Márquez is the planner and coordinator for this event. Thank you, Phil.

Our annual Clean Car Show will be on April 30, 2005. Bob Kauffman will again be the event coordinator. Jim Johnson, at Sandía BMW will be the chief judge. Get the dust off your BMW and bring it to the show. Remember we will also have New México Chapter officer elections. If you have ever had a desire to run for office (President, for example), this is your opportunity.

The June tech session will be at Santa Fé BMW, starring Andy Caperones (Service Manager).

The New México Chapter has expanded! Our chapter will now also include the El Paso area, which was formerly a part of the Tejas Chapter, based in Austin. We are planning to arrange future events (meetings, tours, tech sessions, etc.) in the El Paso and southern New México area. As this is written, we are still working out the details of this transition. Please help welcome these new members to the New México Chapter.

The New México chapter of the BMW CCA is always looking for event leaders, and also officers for the board of directors. If you are interested, please notify someone on the current BoD.

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

I hope to see each of you soon!

In memoriam. As I write this column, I have just been notified that Ramona Bivians has passed away, after a struggle with cancer. Ramona was in Colorado at the time of her death. There is to be a memorial service on March 31, at the Albuquerque Fraternal Order of Police. To those of you in the club less than five years, Ramona was a previous New México Chapter President. I will always remember Ramona's smiling face, happy attitude, and her zippy BMW Z3. She will be missed. Please remember Ramona in your prayers.

Jon van Arsdel
President

NMBMWCCA Financial Statements 2005

BALANCE SHEET

	Year Ending 12/31/2005	Year Ending 12/31/2004
ASSETS		
Cash in bank accounts	\$4,762.49	\$3,546.87
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	\$4,762.49	\$3,546.87

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

	Year Ending 12/31/2005	Year Ending 12/31/2004
INCOME		
Membership dues	\$4,882.16	\$4,624.76
Rebates from National	\$597.32	\$95.40
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	\$550.00	\$12.50
Total income	\$6,029.48	\$4,732.66

EXPENSES

Newsletter costs	\$832.18	\$509.69
Postage	\$1,083.30	\$1,080.50
Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00
Driving school expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Autocross expenses	\$0.00	\$145.00
Meeting expenses	\$2,520.96	\$2,104.15
Other event expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Telephone expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00
Misc./other	\$377.42	\$516.12
Total expenses	\$4,813.86	\$4,355.46
Net income (loss)	\$1,215.62	\$377.20

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WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE Z4

or *THE RANTINGS OF ANOTHER OLD CRANK*

By S. Lemons, Roswell, NM

This is Dave's fault. We were having dinner, it was a fairly civilized gathering, and discussing topics I might write about for "Redline." After listening to me spout the demerits of the Z4 (having voluntarily driven one for a day) he asked with a grin, "how about what's wrong with the Z4?" I'm just gullible enough to do it.

First, there's the so-called instrumentation. Tach and speedo are fine, but what happened to the coolant and fuel gauges? The designer was far sighted or the bean counters found a way to save \$1.25. In any event they are so small I could hardly read them. Of course the trend with BMW tells me coolant temperature isn't important and fuel level, well, who really wants to know? Sensitive to our denial of shrinking oil reserves BMW will likely do away with that gauge too.

As for the rest of the dashboard, put a spring clip on one end and it would function nicely for cleaning fish. My mother taught me how to clean fish and I'm glad she did, but that's another story.

Then there's the placement of the switches on the driver's door for the windows. Or does everyone else have an additional joint in their left forearm? Right for the UK audience. I'd like to hear a BMW Rep. explain this one. How does this figure into the "Ultimate Driving Machine?" What's the MSRP? Operating these switches was for me painful, with the grab handle smack dab in the way and all. Oh well, so many pesky little details.

Open the door and the window goes down a smidge. Close it and it goes up the same amount of smidge – one hopes. When women were women, and roadsters were roadsters, windows didn't do this. Give me a while and I'm sure I could come up with quite a list of useless complexity. But then, maybe I'd rather get to the bingo tournament on time. Speaking of doors, those on an Acura sound more substantial when you close them. When BMWs were as Great Spirit intended, the doors sounded like the main vault at Die Deutsche Bank.

The trunk is too big. Certainly too big to justify all that vertical real estate of the rear end, topped off by that lovely D.A. Certainly too big to justify the harsh ride quality/absence of a spare tire/space and weight saving/runflat malarkey. A trunk like this only enables one to take along things which turn out to be completely unnecessary. I am after all a motorcyclist at heart. Did I mention harsh ride quality? Expansion joints in high speed curves easily have the thing losing it's grip. And the 4 weighs more than it's predecessor.

This being a complete rant, I'll say a few things about esthetics and then promise to shut up. For now. Elegant design relies on the fewest and most subtle elements. Sadly it appears Mr. Bangle and associates are getting their inspiration from comic books. Take away those Frankensteinian winky blinkies, take away the D.A., please. As for flame surfacing, using a torch on those clay mock-ups didn't turn out to be such a good idea. I prefer my BMW without the crumple zones pre-delineated. Fortunately I had the Z4 for only a day.

Good motoring to you.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Tim Helmick	'06 750i
Cody Cast	
Chris Enke	'06 325i
Peter Naumburg	'86 635csi/'88 325ic
Tom Lukes	'00 Z3
Bernie Silvers	'02 330i
Dale Pattyn	'04 325i
Kyla Thompson	
David R. Sullivan	'96 328ic
Beverly Armstrong	'96 M3
Linh Nguyen	'04 X5
Brian Robertson	
Alicia Unrath	'02 325i
Chris Abadie	'02 530i
Walter Rogowski	'88 325ix
John C. Lucas	'06 Z4

Back Seat Driving

Come out and vote!

We have lots of events coming up in the next few months, not the least of which is the chapter election being held in conjunction with the clean car show at Sandia BMW on April 30. Be sure to vote. The candidates are: Jon van Arsdel, President; Skip Johansen, VP; David Penasa, Treasurer; Bob Kaufman, Secretary; Steve Nowaczek, Webmaster (all incumbents); and Gordon Bunker, running for Newsletter Editor. There may be some last minute write-ins as well. Be sure to vote.

Speaking of Sandia BMW, don't forget they support us with a 10% parts discount for members. Take advantage of it.

Lots of material in this issue, including a full page of classifieds and the club financial statement. Glad to see we're still in the black. We also have a contribution from new member Sam Lemons. You may have guessed, he drives a Z3. Not much room for pictures in this issue, sorry to say.

Greg and Nicole Villareal have offered to bring their huge barbecue trailer to Mariposa park and cook up the feast on May 13. Now that's getting involved with the club. Should be lots of family fun, with ribs, chicken thighs, burgers, etc. RSVP to Greg at villarealg@yahoo.com by May 6. Plan to bring something to sit on and maybe a Frisbee or a ball.

Andy Sencak

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On the Docket

April 2 Sunday all day. Spring Tour. See info below.

April 30 Sunday. Clean Car Show and election. Sandia BMW. Gates open at 10, judging begins at noon.

May 13 Saturday Noon BimmerQue, Mariposa park. RSVP to Greg Villareal at vil-larealg@yahoo.com by May 6.

June 7 Wednesday 6 pm. Tech Session. Santa Fe BMW with Andy Caperones.

July 6 Thursday 6 pm. (Possible Isotopes Night. Details still in the works, TBA.)



Hangin' with the brainiacs at Lobo Motorsports.

Spring Tour

- *Meet up at Sandia BMW (Albuquerque) at 7:00 am, plan on leaving by 7:30ish.
 - *Head south on I-25 to I-40 then west to exit 89 (69 mi), south on S.R. 117 to S.R. 36 to Quemado (77mi).
 - *Stop at Quemado for potty break (15-20 min.).
 - *West on US Hwy 60 to Springerville, AZ (48 mi).
 - *Lunch in Springerville at Booga Reds (60-90 min.).
 - *After lunch, head out south on Hwy 180 to Alpine (28 mi), through Luna, and on to Reserve (31 mi).
 - *East from Reserve to Datil (60 mi) continuing east through Magdalena to Socorro (61 mi).
 - *Head north on I-25 back to ABQ (65 mi).
- TOURMEISTER: Phil Marquez

Tech Tips

With the clean car show coming up soon, I thought this would be a good time to run an article on wheel detailing, having already printing one on claying the paint. This is courtesy of Pelican Parts, and there's more to the article dealing with scratches and repainting.

The wheels that are in good shape are the easiest to work on. They need elbow grease, but not much more. You will need the following tools; soft rags, water, polishing compound and Mothers Wheel Polish. Do not use rubbing compound, it is too harsh and will scratch your rims. Take a rag and dip it into water. Wring as much water as you can out of the rag. Next scoop a little polishing compound onto the rag, maybe just enough to cover the tips of two fingers. Choose a flat part of the wheel to start on. You haven't done this before, so you do not want to start on the petals of the wheel. Move the rag with the compound using a circular motion, similar to how you put on wax. Press on the rag, but not too hard. You are just trying to move the surface grit off the wheel, not dig into it. Keep doing this in the same area until the compound starts to disappear. That part of the rag will get really black, don't worry that is normal! Now let's take another rag and wipe that section off, you will see the dull finish is beginning to disappear. Do this with the rest of the wheel, but be patient! Do not start this project an hour before you are to go somewhere, because you will not be done. Once you have used polishing compound on the entire wheel, rub the wheel down with a fresh rag. You will see some improvement just from using the polishing compound. Now, get another rag and put some Mothers on it. Using the same circular motion and pressure, rub the Mothers into the wheel. The oxidation will come off on the rag, causing it to turn the blackish color. Make sure you rub it in good, refreshing the rag with Mothers as needed. Once you have completed rubbing in the Mothers, take another rag to wipe down the wheel. Your arms are going to get tired, you will need to put muscle into rubbing the wheel down – the more pressure you use wiping off the wheel, the more gleam you will get! To finish one wheel probably took you a couple hours – If not you probably did not get the results you were hoping for. That was the hard part! Rubbing Mothers onto your wheels once a month will increase the depth of the shine, but the amount of elbow grease actually decreases.

Bev Frohm, bev@pelicanparts.com

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

April 22-23 Pacific Northwest 8-Fest in Ferndale, WA.

May 18-21 East coast 8-Fest, called the "South East 8-Fest" in Ft.Lauderdale-Sebring, FL. Find more information on both 8-Fests at www.8-fest.com.

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

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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*. Ads may be edited due to space limitations.

BMW's FOR SALE

2001 X5 4.4i CPO warranty Topaz/silver 80k miles, dealer maintained, fully loaded, winter package, DSP, PDC, Nav, recent service, needs nothing, great condition \$26,900. Buying new ones, must sell!!! Call 934-0051 bigfinsnm@aol.com

2001 X5 4.4i CPO warranty Topaz/beige 70k miles, dealer maintained, tow pkg, AM/FM/CD recent service, needs nothing, great condition \$24,900. Buying new ones, must sell!!! Call 934-0051 bigfinsnm@aol.com

2000 Roadster Imola Blue, ISR3. Dinan concept car, #3 of 5 built, has mechanic's signature plate. "Everything Dinan has to offer is on this car." Moving and building necessitates sale. Only 40k miles, BMW serviced, two sets of wheels. Own a unique collector's car for only \$45,000. Contact David Seybold at 505-753-5414 or e-mail at fastfossil@cybermesa.com.

1999 M3 Convertible, 46,000 miles, red/gray interior, 5-speed, HK sound, 6-disk CD, heated seats, bought and serviced at Sandia BMW. \$25,000. Leo Romero 505-836-5257.

1995 540i 92K mi, rare 6-spd w/M-Technic sport package, oxford green w/ tan leather, burl walnut trim, all options plus built-in radar and tint, new Yokohama AVS Db2 tires, radiator, water pump, hoses, belts, syn oil, all records and Bentley manual, completely stock, Excellent condition, Very fast, \$9,800 OBO. Renzo at 505-842-7732.

1994 318i 4-dr sedan, 89K mi, Boston Green with Tan leather Interior. Runs great. Body has dings and chips, sunroof doesn't function. \$4,000 OBO. Original owner with records. Call Paul at (505) 797-3282.

PARTS FOR SALE

Four 15 inch stock wheels from **1994 325is**. Curb scrapes on one. Free. David Peters, 271-6696.

Z3 Parts: 1.) Rubber Floor Mats (left and right side) in original plastic wrap. Z3 Solutions List @ \$49.95 + shipping & handling Condition: Very Good Sale Price 35.00 / New Price \$25.00 2.) Mesh Windblocker (for roll hoops equipped roadsters) Z3 Solutions List (sale) @ \$134.95 + shipping & handling Condition: Very Good Sale Price \$75.00 / New Price \$60.00 3.) Z Pack from Z3 Solutions (storage unit attaches to roll hoops and hangs between front seats - removable back pack) Z3 Solutions List @ \$59.95 + shipping & handling Condition: Like New Sale Price \$40.00 / New Price \$35.00 4.) Bentley BMW Z3 Roadster Service Manual for 4-Cylinder & 6-Cylinder 1996, 1997, & 1998 (Paperback out of print) (Amazon price range: \$38.00 - \$60.00 + shipping) Condition: Like New Sale Price \$35.00 / New Price \$30.00 Also, complete set of *Roundel* from May of 1982 to current issue and BMW sales brochures for various models beginning with the 320i. Contact Joe McKinney, 505.242.4209 (H).

E46 parts: Titanium silver headlight surrounds for 4 door or Touring, 1999-2001. These are new BMW parts with new gaskets. \$50 [these would retail at \$75 plus shipping]. Tom Berg, 505-455-2380 or tomberg455@msn.com.

E36 M3 parts: OEM headlights, work perfectly - \$25. M3 springs, 50k miles - \$50. M3 Doublespokes, minor scratches, w/ tires (5-10k left on them) \$500 or w/o tires \$400. Amber corners, \$10. M3 lighted shift knob and leather handbrake, \$25. Todd 505-853-4005 .

Four Pirelli Winter 210s, size 205/60R15s. They fit **E36 sport package** cars, as well as E46s through 99. Used on snow packed Iowa roads for two winters, and still have well over half of their tread remaining. \$200, obo. 856-5034 x101 (w). Peter Lyons

Schroth Rally Harness and Stable Energies harness bar removed from **1987 325iS**, but may fit other models. The bar mounts on the B pillars between the two attach points for the shoulder strap of the stock three-point belts. It is adjustable so it may fit other models. The belts are four-point and do a good job of keeping the driver and passenger firmly planted during abrupt changes of direction or speed. All parts use stock attach points so no drilling or alteration of any kind is needed. The lap part of the belt uses the stock mounting points for the three-point setup. The shoulder straps go over the bar and attach to the rear seat belt attach points. The stock rear seat belts can be left in place and used as desired-but not when the four-point setup is in use. The purpose of the harness bar is to prevent downward pressure on the spine in the event of a frontal impact. \$200.00 or OBO. Original price was \$380.00. In Albuquerque. Possible buyers are welcome to inspect parts and trial fit the bar. For more info contact Joe Stephenson 235-1795, graphicjoe@comcast.net.

UPDATE YOUR INFO ON THE NATIONAL WEBSITE

The new site is up and running, and has many more features than the old site. You may want to make sure all your info is current, especially if you've recently moved or changed your email address. Go to www.bmwcca.org and log in using your membership number as your user name, and your password is the first three letters of your last name plus your five-digit zip code. In the Members Only section you can access and change your membership information by clicking on the Edit button. Double check your new info - you don't want your *Roundel* ending up in someone else's mailbox, do you? And don't forget to send your new email address to Steve Nowaczek at webmaster@nmbmwcca.org with "Email Address Update" in the subject line.

In Memoriam

Ramona Bivians
Former NMBMWCCA President

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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