



The Rio Grande Redline

BMW CCA New Mexico Chapter www.nmbmwcca.org

WEATHER FORCES PURCHASE OF NEW X5

“With 18” of snow even a 330Xi isn’t going to get you through this NM Winter”

By Todd Tabb



Now seating seven passengers for cool Soccer Moms

Recently I drove the first generation X5 to mixed reviews. Sure it was nearing the end of it’s product cycle but I found the ride to be overly harsh and the interior very dated. The new generation is set to rewrite the standards set by the industry and challenge even the vaunted Porsche Cayenne for road supremacy, good thing as the Porsche has recently been upgraded as well.

The new model boasts greater interior space and superior road dynamics both on and off road. Of course there are always compromises when attempting to satisfy both requirements and let’s face it, this car is for the upscale soccer mom crowd/urban executive. The road manners are sure to take priority with an occasional trip to go fishing and no more. A recent X5 was seen testing at the Nurburgring which I interpreted as a



Better off-road capable and still able to Haul @\$!\$%

Possible M variant but now, it is apparent that the version that was running amazing times was the top of the line V8 version of the new X5. With all the competition, BMW will continue to be pressured to produce a M variant. Corporate culture suggests BMW AG will decline on the basis of brand dilution.

With seating for seven this time around, sales are sure to increase over the previous model. It seems the product lines are running at full capacity in Spartanburg these days as both the Z4 and X5 are produced there...Z4 sales are on the rise again thanks to the Z4M infusion of adrenaline, looks like another home run for BMW. Now if I could only talk Stacey (my wife) out of her Avalanche and into the new X5. I guess her new stereo system is proof she is a die hard Chevy SUV fan = (Nobody is perfect!

UNDER THE HOOD

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

President's Message

by Jon van Arsdel

October 2006

Happy winter holidays to everyone! The emphasis here is on winter. As I write this, we are receiving major amounts of snow. I am sure each of you is enthusiastically driving your BMW in the snow/ice/slush/sand/salt. Aren't high-performance tires fun in the winter?

This past quarter, we had a tour and two tech sessions.

Our annual Karl H. Fox Memorial Fall Tour was October 1st. The weather was very nearly perfect through the mountains of northern New Mexico. The tour took us through Jemez Springs and the now famous Valle Vidal. The fall colors were spectacular. Greg Villareal arranged the very scenic and interesting drive, with lunch just north of Santa Fé.

The November 16th tech session was at Southwest Collision Craftsmen. Owner and proprietor Manny Córdova demonstrated and discussed the use of non-steel materials in modern cars, specifically aluminum and plastics. Major sections and sub-frames (not to mention body panels) are now made from aluminum. These new materials demand new methods of bonding and repairing. Manny also gave us a facility tour; Southwest Collision is in the midst of a dramatic expansion. Thank you to David Penasa for bringing the pizzas.

The December 13th tech session was at Sandía BMW, with Jeff Cline, Peter Limone, and Jim Johnson. This was an all-star cast of BMW experts. New engine technology was the main topic for the evening, with demonstrations of the new twin-turbocharged 335i. They had several new BMW's on display for members to admire. All of us learned a lot of new information. We also had a great dinner brought in. Thank you to Bob Kauffman for coordinating this event and providing the food.

Upcoming events will be two membership meetings and a tech session. The meetings will include dinner. Details on the tech session are still pending as I write this. Please stay tuned for more information on these future events.

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!

Jon van Arsdel

President
BMW CCA of NM

President	Jon van Arsdel
Vice-President	Bob Kauffman
Treasurer	David Penasa
Secretary	Dan Flegel
Newsletter Editor	Todd Tabb
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS, TOP OF PG. 4

BMW // Motorsports

Formula 1 Testing Season Begins



BMW motorsport director Mario Theissen acknowledged that the team's achievements in 2006 -- two third places, one each from Heidfeld and Kubica -- were more than anticipated, which can bring problems of its own. "In 2006 we exceeded our own targets," he explained. "Now expectations are rising faster than the team can develop. That's the punishment for excelling yourself."

"2007 marks the second and final year of our development phase. Our aim is to make it onto the podium on our own merit. If the leading teams show any sign of weakness, we want to be ready to breach the gap. Victories on our own merit are not yet a realistic prospect for 2007. We are aiming for that in 2008. In 2009 we want to be in contention for the World Championship title." The drivers will be Nick "the Quick" Heidfeld and Robert "yet to be nicknamed" Kubica. Expect Nick, the F1 veteran, to make consistent points



Redline



Ahhh, Beautiful scenery and Bimmers



Thanx Greg, what a great time!



Hey let's keep to that speed limit!

WELCOME TO THE CLUB

Lindenmeyer	320i	1980		
th MacRae				
ndon White	525i	1995	325i	1995
an Ingles				
Andrews				
n Zimmerman	325is	1988	740i	1994
iam Jolley	335i	2007		
athan Rivera	330i	2006		
hua Craft	Z3	2000		
obert Copeland	525it	2002	325ix	1991
vid Grammer	535i	2002	535i	2004
Boris Rosev	328ic	1996		
Leonard Delayo				
Paul Adkin	330i	2006		
Audrey Zagar	325i	2002		
De Arman	325is	1993		
Fernando Baca	M5	2000	528i	1999
Thomas Grob	325es	1986		
Tim Salazar	328i	1998		

Back Seat Driving

Well, I guess this is farewell for me as far as living in the land of enchantment. I unfortunately or fortunately found a job in the land of our Queen Mary as Stacey calls it in (Maryland) and I am shipping out on the 26th of January...explanation as to why the newsletter is late again. I am going to be a C-130 test pilot and this suits me to a T, Stacey is going back to school and little Ian will most likely become a yanky...not what I envisioned but still a great opportunity both professionally and personally as my Mom is aging and lives nearby in VA. I am going to miss the club members immensely as it is the best car club I have belonged to...OK the only club I have belonged to but still the members and friends I have made, set high standards for what I expect from the club in Maryland. Thanx, especially to Steve, Jon and Phil...you guys have been great and I will miss you the most...yes, even Phil =)

*Please look me up if you are ever in the Washington DC area, I will be an hour south in Lexington Park, MD. You can expect a warm meal and bed and a frosty beverage of choice...keep the shiny side up...
-T2*

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On the Docket



Jan 18 Membership Meeting

Feb 15 Tech Session—Mesa radio is hosting a fix your stereo/blown speakers or buy subs and blow your eardrums out tech session

March 15 Membership meeting

April 28 Spring Tour



It's "ALL FUN" at Manny's Pizza Party

The next Tech Session will be held at Mesa Radio on Menaul...I recently replaced my wife's stereo head unit with a Sony Blue Tooth compatible unit. She can now speak hands free through the microphone built into the controller and hear the call through the speakers. For newer BMWs this is nothing new but for aftermarket this now can be had for around \$400. Astounding and essential considering laws in New Mexico will soon outlaw cell phone usage unless you have a hands free device. The sound quality of the calls are 1000% better and much safer than holding a cellphone in your hand while driving... Again, If you have an idea for a tech session, pass in on to any of the board members...we will discuss it at the next applicable board meeting.

-T2

Tech Tips

Some listeners are satisfied with the radio that came with their vehicle from the dealership. That's because some people drive leased vehicles, and don't want to take apart the dashboard to install a new receiver. Others prefer their current tuner, or just like the feel of their familiar factory stereo.

But even with a factory receiver, you can still enjoy an expansive world of audio options. With a little installation handiwork, you can add the exceptional variety of satellite radio, the convenience of a multi-disc CD changer, the bass impact of a powered subwoofer, and other options that'll keep you glued to your car radio a lot more often than you would have thought. You can even add mobile video without removing your factory radio, or spice up your car's looks with custom car accessories.

Factory-compatible CD changers and adapters—A large number of factory stereos have CD changer controls, but you're not limited to the expensive changers suggested by your dealer. For particular makes and models of vehicles, some manufacturers now make CD changer/adapter packages that simply plug into the rear of your in-dash stereo. Also, you might be able to find an adapter cable that lets you hook up an aftermarket changer directly to your changer-controlling receiver. The cable connects your changer and stereo. Again, these cables are available only for certain vehicles, but more are being added all the time.

Speaker-level inputs **Speaker**—level inputs are a great feature of many amplifiers and amplified subwoofers. They let you use your factory wiring to add the power of an amp or the bass of a subwoofer to your system. They're ideal for factory systems since they mean you won't need an RCA patch cable or a receiver with preamp outputs for your up-graded sound. Amplifiers and amplified subs have wires for power and ground. For signal, you'll splice into your factory speaker wire (the easiest place is in the trunk when wire leads to rear deck speakers). The power of an amplifier can make a dramatic improvement in any system — and an amplifier/subwoofer combo can help you hear low tones (and feel an impact) that your regular speakers can't deliver.

STILL HOT: TechFest is the 2007 gathering of BMW CCA fans for a technical and social weekend. This year it's in Tacoma, Wash., March 22-25, 2007.



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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

- 1995 M3—Alpine white/black leather, 65k miles, 5 speed, 6 cd, heated seats, factory wing, new Hamann HM3 wheels, original motorsport wheels, precise maintenance, driven on weekends. \$14,000. Doug 915-525-4715 dssr47@aol.com



1999 BMW 540i sport : This car has the sport pkg., premium pkg., and the cold weather pkg. It is titanium silver with black interior. The 4.4L V-8 engine is awesome. It has a 6 speed manual transmission, Dinan free flow exhaust (dealer installed.)

e-mail: rudys325@msn.com

1997 M3 Sedan—84,000 miles, former CPO car, manual transmission, arctic silver with grey leather, folding rear seat, heated front seats, OBC, sunroof, Harmon Kardon premium sound with 6 disk changer, forged BMW alloys, Remus exhaust and stock exhaust. Recent maintenance includes water pump, alignment, new Konis with double adjustable rears, Kumho ECSTA ASX tires, new climate control module (not reconditioned), regular synthetic oil changes. Beautiful car in excellent condition, drives and runs great. Set of double 10 spoke track wheels with new Avon Tech Ra tires available separately. \$15,000 OBO. Call Chuck at (505) 235-7947 (NM) or email chanson60@comcast.net.

PARTS FOR SALE

- Michelin, Blizzard, fits 5 series, used 2 seasons and very little wear. Still have 75% tread remaining. \$200, 256-0815, rothmanma@msn.com
- Wheels 4 Sale - 7 J x 15 H2 Alloy Wheels [4] with lug nuts, hub caps with BMW emblems, and 2 hub wrenches. Fair appearance, no damage to wheels or rims. \$85.00 each or 4 for \$320.00. Paul Hendel @ 505-883-3084
- Garage Sale - Factory 6-CD changer perfect working order \$150. Factory Stereo Harmon Kardon Head Unit \$75. Billet aluminum ///M3 Oil Cap \$15. Good condition ///M lighted shift knob \$50. Amber corners for E36—\$10. Euro elliptical headlights \$150, some minor issues with the A_Es. Contact Todd @ (505) 803-4676 or email TABB4464@msn.com.
- Assorted, Used BMW Tires - \$25 each All the proceeds from the sale of these tires will go to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Contact Brandon 379-2133 or tilux@aol.com

***** Please email me any items you would like to place in the classified section, I need them at least 10 days prior to the quarterly closeout, the next deadline is 21 Mar 07, THANKS*****

WEB LINKS FOR THIS ISSUE

www.bavariansoundwerks.com

www.mesaradio-nm.co

bearnutupholstery.com

www.leatherique.com

www.m3forum.com

www.grandprix.com

www.autoweek.com

www.bmwusa.com

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