



The Rio Grande Redline



BMW CCA New Mexico Chapter

www.nmbmwcca.org

Upcoming Events

July Event

Trivia Tour

July 14, 11:30 am

Join us for a Trivia Tour through Santa Fe to the Scottish Rite Temple!

August Event

Unser Racing Museum

August 11, 10:30 am

Join us for a Museum Tour at Unser Racing Museum in ABQ! Lunch to follow

September Event

Picnic in the Park

September 8, 11:30 am

Join us for a Picnic at a local area Park!

Email details to follow

First Saturday of Each Month

Mimi's Cafe ABQ, 8:30 am

Breakfast at Mimi's Cafe in ABQ!

Dutch Treat



Musings from our President

Jon van Arsdel, President NM Chapter

Summer has arrived in New México. It has been a warm to hot spring. The high daytime temperatures have been enough to challenge any air conditioning system, automotive or otherwise.

On April 7th, 2018, we had our annual Spring Tour. Tourmeisters James Irick and Jon van Arsdel put together a nice destination tour. The event was centrally located, and went to the Very Large Array (VLA), near Magdalena, New México. It attracted members from all parts of the region; both north and south. We were fortunate to have a guided tour of the VLA. This is an excellent and fascinating research facility. We concluded with a group lunch in Socorro, at the El Sombrero Restaurante.

On May 6th, (Sunday), Sandía BMW hosted the annual BMW Spring Fiesta. The event was open to all BMW, Mini, and BMW Motorcycle enthusiasts. Sandía Service Director Jeff Reece was the coordinator. Shop Foreman Marcos Noriega helped set up the event. Jeff was also the master chef, and singlehandedly cooked enough food to feed the entire group of people. We had a good number of people attend this very fine event, especially BMW owners. The barbecue (contributed by Sandía BMW) was excellent. Mother Nature provided a beautiful and sunny day. There were new people at the event, and we hope they want to attend future events. Thank you to the fabulous expert volunteers who did the judging.

June 28th was a tech session at the brand new facility for Loid's Collision Center. Owner Chris Loidolt gave us a tour of the new facility. He discussed the importance of separate facilities for steel versus aluminum repair (galvanic corrosion, and other problems). He also talked about dealing with insurance settlements. Then, he gave us a dent-removal demonstration on a used BMW X3 door.

The New México Chapter Board of Directors decided to start having a regular breakfast meeting every month. We will meet the first Saturday on July 7, August 4, and September 1, at 8:30 a.m., at Mimi's Café, in Albuquerque. Please see the dates posted in this newsletter, or on our website. This will be an informal social meeting, and will be "Dutch Treat" (Deutsch Treat?). Additionally, we will be able to park a bunch of German cars in front of a French restaurant.

July 14 will be a Trivia Drive and Picnic. This will be a new event, ending in Santa Fé. James Irick will be the Eventmeister. August 11 will be a Museum Tour. We will have a group lunch to follow that. More details will be on our website, closer to the date.

The Drive 4-Corners BMW Meet will be August 24-27th, 2018, in Durango, Colorado (Purgatory). For more details on this event, go to <http://drive4corners.com>. This is a non-BMW CCA event.

On September 08, we are planning a local area picnic and social event.

Sandía Speedway will be conducting driving schools July 28-29, and August 12-13. BMW CCA members will get a \$200 discount. Contact Charlie Fegan at 505-400-0611 for more details. This is not a BMW CCA event.

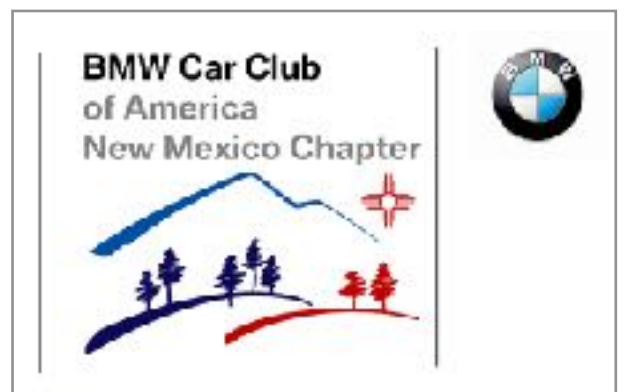
The Fall Tour is tentatively planned for Sunday, October 14, 2018. Len and Meg Heinz, along with Jon van Arsdel, will be the Tourmeisters for this event. Due to the way the calendar falls, the Fall Tour will not be on Columbus Day weekend this year.

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
el Presidente
BMW CCA of NM



Tech Tips: Refrigerants

Jon van Arsdel

What keeps your BMW interior cool? R134a replaced R12 as a refrigerant gas/liquid in most automotive air conditioning systems, starting around 1994-1995. Although the thermodynamic properties of R134a (Tetrafluoroethane) are considered to be inferior to the old R12 (Dichlorodifluoromethane), most automotive manufacturers, repair facilities, and consumers, have adapted to the newer refrigerant. Compressors, condensers, evaporators, valves, and lubricants, all had to be changed to accommodate the new refrigerant. Research by the refrigerant industry, determined that R12 was potentially harmful to the Earth’s ozone layer. Therefore R12 is now severely restricted in many countries, including the USA.

Now, R134a is being replaced by a newer refrigerant R1234yf. Again, research by the refrigerant industry, concluded that the new R1234yf (Tetrafluoropropene) is safer for the atmosphere. R1234yf is about 5% less efficient than R134a. According to multiple sources, R1234yf is also slightly flammable, so additional precautions are needed to prevent leaks. This includes new compressors, condensers, evaporators, valves, and lubricants. R1234yf is also significantly more expensive; current wholesale price is about \$70 per pound (R134a sells for about \$5 per pound). BMW is phasing-in the new refrigerant in many of its models this year. R134a will continue to be available for the foreseeable future, to repair cars with older air conditioning systems.

Does your BMW have the new refrigerant? If so, there will be a “R1234yf” label under the hood. Also, the low-side and high-side service ports are different from the R134a service ports.

If you are interested in knowing more about R1234yf, there is now a lot of information on-line. Here is a link to an article that is a fairly understandable discussion on the topic:
<https://www.aalcar.com/library/hfo-1234yf.htm>

For Sale: 2004 BMW X3. Very rare 6-speed manual transmission. X-Drive (AWD) with 2.5 liter engine (M54). White exterior, beige interior, sunroof delete. Meticulously over-maintained, no accidents, never smoked in. This is one of the nicest X3 vehicles of the E83 series; you will not be disappointed. It has always lived in New México, and is rust-free. 104k miles. \$8000. For sale only to another BMW enthusiast. Please contact Jonathan van Arsdel at jvanarsdel@aol.com, or 505-867-4135 (home).

Chapter Officers and Contacts

President	Jon van Arsdel	president@nmbmwcca.org 505.867.4135
Vice President	James Irick	vicepresident@nmbmwcca.org 505.792.9073
Treasurer	David Penasa	treasurer@nmbmwcca.org 505.275.2480
Secretary	Len Heinz	secretary@nmbmwcca.org
Editor	James Irick	editor@nmbmwcca.org
Webmaster	Jack Lovell	webmaster@nmbmwcca.org
Driving Events Coordinator	Boyd Kleefisch	dec@nmbmwcca.org
Tech Advisor		
Chapter Contact	Jon van Arsdel	president@nmbmwcca.org 505.867.4135
SCCA Liaison	Steve Nelson	revenelson@comcast.net
South Central VP	Jeff Gomon	southcentralvp@bmwcca.org

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 BMW 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 author and the editors or publishers, who assume no liability for information contained herein, imply no authentication or approval. Articles submitted are subjected to editing.

PO Box 14430, Albuquerque, NM 87191-4430 / www.nmbmwcca.org

