



# The Rio Grande Redline



BMW CCA New Mexico Chapter

[www.nmbmwcca.org](http://www.nmbmwcca.org)

## Upcoming Events

### January Event

#### *Member Meeting and Dinner*

January 24, 6:00 pm

Join us for a Member Meeting and Dinner at Cafe Delicias! Check your email for details.

### February Event

#### *Member Meeting and Tech Session*

February, 2018

Join us for a Member Meeting and Possible Tech Session. Board Elections are on as well. Check email...

### March Event

#### *Tech Session*

March, 6:00 pm

Join us for a Member Meeting and Tech Session

#### **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*

Winter is here and has truly announced its arrival. The forecasters are predicting an El Nino winter, so we may get more than average precipitation for the rest of this season. I hear the call of BMW X-Drive in the distance. So far, the winter seems to be colder than normal and it has also brought more snow than previous years.

This past quarter we had two membership meetings and a holiday dinner.

The Fall Tour last Quarter was in Las Vegas, New Mexico due to scheduled events. I think everyone who attended had a good time. On October 18 and November 15 we had member meetings.

We also started a new event, which we have dubbed "Breakfast at Mimi's". This is simply a group breakfast on the first Saturday of every month, 8:30 am, at Mimi's Café. It is strictly a social event, and there is no formal agenda. The breakfast is intended to be early enough that it does not interfere with everyone's normal Saturday activities. This has been a Dutch Treat (Deutsch Treat?) event, where each person covers the cost of his/her own meal. We typically have an informal car show after breakfast (weather permitting...). The next breakfast will be Saturday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.

The holiday dinner was December 08, 2018, and was well attended. Thank you to everyone who came out to socialize, be festive, and talk about cars. Thank you to Mimi's Café for hosting this event, and giving us a private dining room. It is always nice to see a large group of German cars parked at a French restaurant.

For the first quarter of 2019, we have scheduled a limited number of events, due to changes in our chapter (please see discussion below).

The January event will be membership meeting and dinner. It will be on Thursday, January 24, at Café Delicias. This is just northwest of the intersection of San Mateo NE, and Osuna NE. Come for the food, but stay for the furniture...

We are tentatively scheduling a tech session and a general membership meeting in February 2019. Officer elections for the New México Chapter of the BMW CCA will be a part of the meeting. Please come and vote for (or against) your favorite candidate.

We are also tentatively planning a tech session for March 2019.

April 6<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) is planned to be our annual Spring Tour.

May (TBA), 2019 (Sunday) will be our annual Spring Fiesta at Sandía BMW. Start cleaning and polishing your car now. Watch your email for an announcement on the exact date.

As is our normal custom, food is included in most club events.

#### **Major change for New México Chapter:**

As a result of several recent disputes over policy between the National Office of the BMW CCA, and the New México Chapter Board of Directors (chapter officers and members-at-large), most of the NM chapter officers and members-at-large have resigned. This is very unfortunate, but understandable due to the seriousness of the disagreements.

We are soliciting new officers and members-at-large immediately to replace those who have resigned. David Penasa (Treasurer) and I will remain in our respective offices, if needed for now, to help with any transition.

The new board will need to plan/schedule monthly events, prepare quarterly newsletters, and complete the task of incorporating the Chapter. If you are interested, please contact me for details at [jvanarsdel@aol.com](mailto:jvanarsdel@aol.com) or [president@nmbmwcca.org](mailto:president@nmbmwcca.org).

We plan to hold officer elections in February 2019, on a date to be announced. If we are unable to generate sufficient interest for a new Board of Directors, the New México Chapter may be abandoned, and any remaining assets may be handed to the BMW CCA National Office.

All of us deeply regret this turn of events.

Yours Truly,

Jon van Arsdel

el Presidente

BMW CCA of NM



**The Chapter Needs Your Help**

**James Irick**

There is a great need for you the members of the NM Chapter to step forward and carry the Chapter into the new year. Due to the events from last year the majority of your Board of Directors resigned at the end of December. I also resigned as Vice President and Editor and am not renewing my expiring CCA membership at the end of this month.

Suffice it to say the main reason of the resignations was related to a lack of respect and dignity displayed by the executive leadership of the National Office of the CCA. Their request that the NM Chapter should incorporate was on track through July of last year and then several requests from our Board for clarification were met with disdain and outright offensive language that was definitely unbecoming of personnel who are paid out of our dues to help us maintain a volunteer organization. Over several months we were left wanting in information and were finally made aware that National had held our Chapter reimbursements from August due to a decision from the executive office that was not in line with our published CCA Bylaws. Eventually the oversight was corrected in November but the damage had been done by then and we felt we could not continue to work effectively with the leadership in place in National. Personally I felt I could not associate with a group that allowed these events to even take place much less progress on for months. Ultimately I decided I couldn't renew my membership even though I have devoted a lot of time and effort to make this Chapter beneficial to all of us.

Moving forward there will need to be volunteers within the Chapter to rise to the challenge and take an active role in the leadership of the NM Chapter. The VP, Secretary and Members-at-Large are all vacant and we cannot make any decisions legally within our Chapter Bylaws as published. A Member meeting will need to be called to sort out the new leadership and plans to incorporate the Chapter in NM. It will be up to you to decide how the Chapter progresses from here.

I wish all of you the best of luck in this endeavor and hope you can continue to make the experience of BMW ownership beneficial to all.

James Irick

**Chapter Officers and Contacts**

President	Jon van Arsdel	<a href="mailto:president@nmbmwcca.org">president@nmbmwcca.org</a> 505.867.4135
Vice President		<a href="mailto:vicepresident@nmbmwcca.org">vicepresident@nmbmwcca.org</a>
Treasurer	David Penasa	<a href="mailto:treasurer@nmbmwcca.org">treasurer@nmbmwcca.org</a> 505.275.2480
Secretary		<a href="mailto:secretary@nmbmwcca.org">secretary@nmbmwcca.org</a>
Editor		<a href="mailto:editor@nmbmwcca.org">editor@nmbmwcca.org</a>
Webmaster	Jack Lovell	<a href="mailto:webmaster@nmbmwcca.org">webmaster@nmbmwcca.org</a>
Driving Events Coordinator		<a href="mailto:dec@nmbmwcca.org">dec@nmbmwcca.org</a>
Tech Advisor		
Chapter Contact	Jon van Arsdel	<a href="mailto:president@nmbmwcca.org">president@nmbmwcca.org</a> 505.867.4135
South Central VP	Jeff Gomon	<a href="mailto:southcentralrvp@bmwcca.org">southcentralrvp@bmwcca.org</a>

### Tech Tips for Winter James Irick

With winter here it is a good time to check the coolant level in your BMW. The coolant has an important job in the winter keeping everything working in the cold just as it does when it's hot outside. Open your hood and have a peek at the coolant level when the engine is cold...if you open the lid when it's hot bad things can happen.

The coolant is usually measured on BMWs with the lid off. There is a dipstick inside the tank that floats to the level of the coolant in the tank. Luckily the dipstick has marks to show where the level should be. I have had to add coolant to both the E92 and E84 as well as the E36 over time although the E36 level check is easier. On older BMWs you can see the level of the coolant just by looking at the reservoir tank on the side of the radiator. It's translucent so you can see the level with marks embedded in the plastic to see where it needs to be.

You should also remember that you need to change the coolant at regular intervals to keep the internal workings of the cooling system operating at peak performance. Most newer BMWs have an electric water pump that is not part of the engine assembly and only needs to be changed when it fails...the same cannot be said of older BMWs. They have the tried and true method of using a belt to spin a water pump imbedded inside the engine block. Most engines built in the world have this technology so when the pump decides it has had enough you have to replace it. That would also be an ideal time to replace the coolant as you are starting with a new pump.

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](http://www.nmbmwcca.org)

