

# Blue Ridge Chapter - BMW Car Club of America



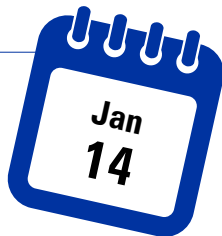
# auf bergstrassen

Vol. XXXV Issue 4

Winter 2016

## Indoor Go-Karting at Thunderbolt in January!

by Peter Larsen



We are bringing back racing in the middle of winter! Join us for a fun day of FAST and FUN indoor go-kart racing at Thunderbolt Saturday January 14th!

We had about 25 people last time for this FREE event.

Open to everyone who loves BMW; you don't have to be a member of the chapter.

You get 3 heats for free and FREE LUNCH sandwiches catered. Starts at 11am so get there a little early. We'll go until around 2pm. Clean and fun indoor electric go-kart racing.

Register early on our Facebook invite, or email Peter at [larsp2e@gmail.com](mailto:larsp2e@gmail.com).



**MARCH 12 | SPRING CREEK GOLF CLUB**  
109 Clubhouse Way • Zion Crossroads, VA 22942 • (540) 832-0744

by Peter Larsen

Join us for our Annual Brunch at the Spring Creek Golf Club near Charlottesville on Sunday, March 12 at 11:00am. Registration is \$25 per person, and that covers outstanding food from the culinary experts at Spring Creek. Cash bar.

The Annual Brunch is a casual time of fellowship, and reconnecting with

everyone after a winter break. We will have a raffle and free BMW-related giveaways. A fun and relaxed time to gather and share a meal together. Expecting over 70 people for this flagship chapter event.

We usually conclude at around 2 or 3pm. Registration will be opening in February on MotorsportReg or send in the form below.

### Blue Ridge Chapter Annual Brunch Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_  
Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25      Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Blue Ridge Chapter, BMWCCA and mail to:  
P.O. Box 4381, Charlottesville, VA 22905  
**MUST BE RECEIVED by March 9!**

**STAY INFORMED ONLINE:**

[www.blueridgebmwcca.org](http://www.blueridgebmwcca.org) ■ [www.facebook.com/BlueRidgeBMWCCA](https://www.facebook.com/BlueRidgeBMWCCA)

# *My Experience Attending the* **Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance Event**

by *Dave Saunders*

I bought a serigraph print of a BMW 3.0 CSL racecar while at the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival a couple of years ago. It's signed by Brian Redman, who drove it at the 1975 12 Hours of Sebring and helped put BMW on the map. One of these days I'll get it framed; it's still rolled up in a mailing tube in my den. However, I wish I had it with me now because Mr. Redman, Sam Posey, and Hans-Joachim Stuck - three of the four drivers that drove the CSL to an overall win at Sebring - are sitting on a stage behind that very car in the Talbot Ballroom at the Ritz-Carlton on Amelia Island, Florida.

This is not the kind of place I'd normally be on a Saturday morning (or any morning), but this is no ordinary Saturday. Parked next to the 3.0 CSL is a BMW M3 GTR and also on the stage are five other BMW racing greats - Bill Auberlen, David Cowart, John Fitzpatrick, David Hobbs, and Boris Said. I'm attending a panel discussion, BMW Drivers of the Ultimate Driving Machine Seminar, and there is so much racing history in the room I think my head will explode. But my print is 650 miles away and will not be signed by Mr. Posey and Herr Stuck after the discussion. I go with Plan B - never as good as Plan A - and drop \$20 for a poster for them to sign. One of these days I'll have to get it framed as well.

That was Day 2 of the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance. Day 1 - Friday - was spent up the street at the Omni Hotel for the Gooding &

Company auction. I wasn't bidding so I didn't worry too much about which one of Jerry Seinfeld's Porsches I'd like to take home, but the 917/30 Can-Am Spyder would be a good choice if you like vintage racing and scaring yourself with 1200 horsepower. At only \$3 million it did not come close to the \$5 - 7 million estimate. At the end of the spectrum for the bargain hunter who wanted a celebrity car, Jerry's 1964 VW Camper crossed the block at "only" \$99,000. You'll scare yourself with the lack of power.

On Sunday the only place to be was on the golf course back at the Ritz-Carlton. The gates opened early because of the threat of rain and I spent a fair amount of time looking at dozens of historic racecars and taking so many pictures my right index finger started to ache. I blew right past the Rare Porsche 356s, including two 1949 Gmund models and Janis Joplin's,

Mercedes Benzes, and a lot of other interesting cars to see the 100 Years of BMW and The Racing Cars of Hans Stuck display, which has its fair share of BMWs. The BMW class included a wide array of cars that traced the company's automotive history from the 1930 3/15 "Dixi" through the 328, 503, 507, and Isetta 300 to the 2002 Turbo and M1. They all were perfect and took you back in time. Here in the present, BMW brought the new M2 to display. If you thought you wanted one after reading about it and seeing it in pictures, wait until you see it up close and personal. Instant lust. Herr Stuck drove a lot of BMWs and several were displayed, including two CSLs, a 700RS, an M1, and the twin-turbo V12 powered X5 that he broke 8 minutes at the Nurburgring, the first for an SUV. Or, if you insist, an SAV.

The rain held off for the rest of the afternoon so I was able to go back and see some of what I skipped the first time. There are so many cars it's not easy to see everything so you have to zero in on what you really like, even if that happens to be 16 cylinder Cadillacs. No matter what your automotive tastes, you will find something you love at Amelia and will probably fall in love with something new. I've been going to Amelia for the past several years and that love has grown to include Chrysler Town and Country and Buick Roadmaster convertibles. Maybe I like looking at them so much because I know what they would be like to drive. As a friend of mine has said, "better to admire than acquire." It doesn't matter - automotive art takes many shapes.



# A Message from the President

by Peter Larsen



Hello Blue Ridge BMW members and friends! Ah, winter. It's a time of year for reflection.... and new goals for a new year. It's a time of closing some doors, and opening

up whole new ones. I find it a time to be thankful; thankful for the year that has been, and appreciative for the many blessings I enjoy. And a time to empower ourselves with hope; hope that the next year will be even better in all the areas of life that really matter.

In January 2017, we'll be having some fun inside at Thunderbolt Go Karting, in Chesterfield County. We've done this event almost annually, and it's a ton of fun! The cars are electric, so you don't get the noise and exhaust smell of gas-powered racers. But the speed is there! In an effort to show appreciation for our members, and INVITE NEW PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS, the event will be free. Each racer will get 3 heats no charge, and lunch is provided by the chapter. So invite people! 11am start time and end around 2pm.

Also, we have our monthly socials in the locations of Richmond, Charlottesville, and Lynchburg. These are great fun and an easy event to bring guests to.

The BIG EVENT of this season is the Annual Banquet. We will be having it at The Spring Creek Golf Club in Zion's Crossroads just east of Charlottesville.

Sunday March 12th starting at 11am. We usually have around 70+ people attend this relaxed time of good food, free giveaways, and camaraderie. It's \$25 a person and registrations will be coming out this Winter.

Fall is a great time to RENEW your BMW CCA membership if it's due. It's only \$48 a year. And the benefit of Roundel magazine every month, invites to Chapter events, and discounts at the dealer make is so worth it. Thank you to every one of you – around 800 members – who have renewed each year.

We continue to make a strong effort to sponsor new and FREE chapter events. Our financial statement from 2016 shows that we spent significant chapter funds to host free tech sessions, go-karting and cook outs! This was an intentional effort on our part, and we will continue this in 2017. We encourage everyone to INVITE someone who is not a member to join these free events.

Our Chapter Facebook page continues to grow. We has crossed OVER 600 followers and growing each year. Have you LIKED our Facebook page? It's "Blue Ridge BMW CCA". Please LIKE it.

Twitter is active too. Follow us at "BlueRidgeBMWTwi". Thanks!

I'm always aware of the responsibility, and honor, it is to lead this chapter. If you have suggestions about how to improve the chapter, please let me know. Larsp2e@gmail.com or call me at 804-405-2322.

Remain thankful and hopeful in 2017, Peter

# Who's who in Blue Ridge

## Officers

President: Peter Larsen  
804/ 405-2322    larsp2e@gmail.com

Vice President: Nick Frye  
434/ 229-9369    fryebaby161@gmail.com

Secretary: Dennis Topper  
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Chapter Adviser: Tom Millhiser  
millhisert@aol.com

## Member Services

Membership Coordinator: Mike Hogan  
804/ 503-0811    mike@rvarealtor.com

Membership Committee Members:  
Ed Hellerman, William Kavanaugh

Tool Steward: Paul Muskopf  
mooseheadm5@yahoo.com

Autocross Coordinator: John Harmon  
804/ 360-1947    jharmon128@gmail.com

Webmaster: Brad Day  
434/ 207-8008    ub3r02@gmail.com

## Newsletter submissions

Please submit all classifieds, photos, announcements, articles, etc. by March 9 to guarantee inclusion in the next newsletter issue. Unsolicited articles and photos are always welcome. Send to Peter Larsen at larsp2e@gmail.com.

Check out our website for current news and more  
[www.blueridgebmwcca.org](http://www.blueridgebmwcca.org)



by Peter Larsen

# Street Survival is Back!

assistance and training to Mel – making sure every detail was covered. Frank was previously the Street Survival Coordinator and without his guidance and attention to detail, the event would not have been the success it was. We always appreciate your hard work, Frank!

Rafael Garces from the National Capital Chapter again volunteered his time (and patience) as Lead Classroom Instructor. The students were divided into separate groups. One group is in classroom instruction while the other group is outside learning the basics of car control and emergency braking from our 15 volunteer instructors.

The Tire Rack Street Survival returned this year to an enthusiastic crowd of students, parents, and volunteers. This flagship event was held on Saturday November 19th at Richmond International Raceway.

Also many thanks to Steven Rivera. Steven coordinated the breakfast and lunch meals, utilizing his business relationship with Libbie Market in Richmond. Many people said the breakfast and lunch were the BEST EVER at Street Survival. We had plenty of food, and everyone was satisfied. Well done Steven!

Audie Chenery with the Virginia Motor Sports Club (VMSC) was once again our Instructor Coordinator. Audie was not able to make it due to the fact that she was recovering from surgery, so she sent her husband Jeff! Jeff knew exactly what to do. He did a fabulous job training the 20-30 instructors, and managing every process of the day. Thank Jeff, Audie and VMSC! Without VMSC's help we absolutely would not be able to pull off this event and it is as much their event as ours.

The event could more accurately be called "Teen Age Driver Improvement School". The whole purpose is to improve the teenage driving experience by teaching students safe and responsible driving through car control. Students learn much more about their cars and driving skills than what student driver education teaches...and they get to screech the tires a lot too! Can you see why this event sells out so quickly?

This year we had 30 students and nearly 50 volunteers. Most students come with their parent(s). Students and parents first arrived at 7:30am, welcomed by sunny skies, 50 degree temperatures and almost no wind. A perfect day for late November in Virginia! The first thing students experience is a tech inspection with their vehicle. We had 10+ volunteers in the vehicle inspection area, led by Brad Day and Paul Muskoff. Ensuring the safety of the vehicles is paramount and Brad and Paul's volunteers did a great job. Students were shown how to check tire pressure and lug nut torque and where they can find the factory tire pressure settings for their vehicle (it's on the driver side door frame, in case you need to check your tires after you read this.)

The Tire Rack Street Survival has always been a huge success. This year, thanks to the leadership team, sunny and 70 degree temperatures, and many volunteers, it once again came off without a hitch. Our goal as a BMW Chapter is to be successful in educating teenagers how to be more mindful, more aware, and safer as they take to the roads. Thank you to all our students and parents who participated and to each and every volunteer and instructor, we can't do it without you! We look forward to November 2017 for the next one!

A huge thank you goes to Mel Diaz, long-time Blue Ridge BMW CCA member, who stepped up to be the Street Survival Coordinator. Mel organized the event, worked with parents and students to ensure smooth registration and led the volunteer efforts. Well done Mel!

Frank Gorse also deserves recognition. Frank was not able to make the event this year, but provided hours of



## The Fine Print

*Auf Bergstrassen* (On Mountain Roads) is the official publication of the Blue Ridge Chapter of the BMW CCA, Inc., (the Club) a not-for-profit organization in no manner connected with BMW or BMWNA. All information furnished herein is provided by and for the members of the Club and the Club assumes no responsibility for any of the ideas, opinions or suggestions contained herein. The contents of this newsletter remain the property of the Club. Persons wishing to communicate with the Club or submit articles for publication in the newsletter should address themselves to:

Blue Ridge BMW Chapter  
P.O. Box 4381  
Charlottesville, VA 22905

Display advertising space is limited and preference is given to businesses within the region that Blue Ridge Chapter serves. Inquiries should be directed to the editor. Note: Blue Ridge Chapter does not endorse the products and/or services offered by the businesses advertising in this publication.

**Please send address changes directly to:**

BMW CCA, Inc  
640 South Main Street, Suite 201  
Greenville, SC 29601  
or call: 1.800.878.9292

Also visit [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) and log in to change address, phone, email, car models. Log in instructions are provided after clicking the login button at the top of the home page.



Interested in being on the Blue Ridge BMW Board? We currently are accepting nominations. For more info, contact Peter Larsen at [larsp2e@gmail.com](mailto:larsp2e@gmail.com).

**Time To**  
**VOTE**

## OFFICIAL BALLOT

### Blue Ridge BMW Chapter Officers for 2017

Member number \_\_\_\_\_

Write in a name below.

Mail your ballot by March 12 to:

Blue Ridge BMW Chapter

P.O. Box 4381

Charlottesville, VA 22905

*OR bring your ballot to the*

*Annual Chapter Brunch on March 12*

**WE NEED AT LEAST 1% OF MEMBERSHIP TO VOTE FOR A VALID ELECTION, SO PLEASE VOTE!**

President: Peter Larsen

Vice President: Nick Frye

Treasurer: Brad Day

Secretary: Dennis Topper

Write In name and position:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Tech Tip: Pressure Brake Bleeder

from Bavarian Autosport

### PART NUMBER: PB03

*NOTE: These instructions assume that the technician performing this task is familiar with the general procedures for bleeding BMW brake hydraulic systems OR has access to the applicable service manuals and an appropriate level of experience to perform this task. Service manuals for many BMWs are available from Bavarian Autosport.*

### PROCEDURE:

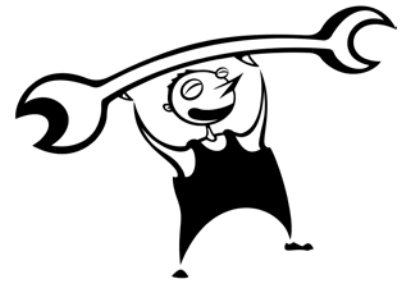
For best results, please read these instructions step by step before starting installation.

1. Safely raise and support the vehicle so that the wheels can be removed. You can raise the whole vehicle or just one end at a time or one corner at a time. If you are not raising the whole vehicle, keep in mind that the bleeding sequence will be; right-rear, left-rear, right-front and then left-front.
2. Remove the wheel(s).
3. Use a vacuum pump or “turkey baster” to remove the old fluid from the fluid reservoir. Fill the reservoir with fresh DOT-4 fluid.
4. Remove the brake fluid reservoir cap and screw the Pressure Bleeder cap adapter to the fluid reservoir (disconnect the cap adapter from the Bleeder’s pressure hose). Fill the Pressure Bleeder bottle with 1 liter of fresh DOT-4 fluid. Pump the Pressure Bleeder to about 1.4kpa (20psi).
5. Remove the rubber dust cap from the bleeder valve on the caliper (start with the right-rear, then left-rear, right-front and left-front). Fit your box-end or flare-nut wrench over the bleeder valve and attach a length of hose to the nipple and then into a suitable receiver for the fluid. The Bavarian Autosport Brake

- Bleeder Catch Bottle works great for this. Simply, attach the bottle’s hose to the bleeder valve and use the bottle’s magnet or hanger cable to secure the bottle.
6. Open the bleeder valve with your wrench. Fluid should start flowing through the bleeder and hose, into the Bleeder Catch Bottle. Keep an eye on the fluid in the reservoir and in the Pressure Bleeder, as well as the pressure in the Pressure Bleeder.
  7. When you see fresh fluid in the hose from the bleeder valve, close the valve. Replace the rubber dust cap.
  8. Double check the fluid and pressure in the Pressure Bleeder and the fluid in the reservoir (add fluid or pressure as required) and proceed to the next caliper. *NOTE: If the vehicle has a manual transmission, don’t forget to bleed the clutch slave cylinder. See the Bavarian Autosport Clutch Slave Cylinder Bleeding Tool, for assisting in bleeding the clutch hydraulic fluid, #CBT TOOL where applicable.*
  9. Once all the calipers are done, slowly release the Pressure Bleeder’s pump pressure using the spring loaded pressure release valve at the base of the pump unit. Disconnect the adapter cap from the pressure hose and remove the adapter cap from the vehicle fluid reservoir. Adjust the fluid level in the reservoir as required, replace the cap and then all that’s left is to replace the wheels and lower the car.

### FINAL NOTES:

*If you are missing any rubber bleeder dust caps, we recommend that you purchase replacements (just give us a call). This is important in keeping dirt and moisture out of the bleeder valves. If any of the bleeder valves are in poor shape (rusty, rounded hex for the wrench, etc.) we can order replacements for you. This will help prevent problems for the next flushing.*



## The Tool Box

Paul Muskopf, tool steward  
[mooseheadm5@yahoo.com](mailto:mooseheadm5@yahoo.com)

If you’d like to borrow a tool, contact Paul and he’ll make arrangements to get the tool to you.

### The tools:

- Electronic troubleshooting manuals on CD for e23, e24, e28, e30, e31, e32, e34, and e36 models. Easily navigated wiring schematics (in English) showing colors and sequence of wires and connectors.
- Hub and rear wheel bearing R&R kit
- Master bushing kit for subframe bushings
- 16 1 050 - fuel line disconnect tool
- LT-940 - fuel pump retaining ring removal tool
- Tool for removing cooling fan from older models
- Reset tool/code readers for service indicator lights for models through 2007
- Windshield lock trim tool
- Anti-theft radio screwdriver
- Clutch alignment tools for various models
- Bentley manual for the e30 (3-series 84-90)
- Bentley manual for the e34 (5-series 89-95)
- Bentley manual for the e36 (3-series 92-98)
- Bentley manual for the e39 (5-series 95-03)
- Bentley manual for the e46 (3-series 99-05)
- Parts CD BMW Mobile Tradition: includes e12, e21, e30, motorcycles to ‘69.
- G-Tech accelerometer
- Pressure brake bleeder by Motive Products
- Tie rod end puller
- Complete set of hex wrench sockets



# Tons of Fun on the Brew Tour

*by Brad Day*

Thank you to everyone who made it out to our Bimmer Brake and Brew #5 Brew Tour! We were once again in the favor of the weather gods who provided us with a beautiful Sunday afternoon in November to enjoy the back roads of Central Virginia as we rolled through twisting roads north of Charlottesville.

For those of you who missed out, you will have to find time to make a trip out to the Greenwood Gourmet on a Sunday afternoon to check out the Potter's Craft Cider converted Airstream trailer mobile tasting room! We arrived early and received the royal treatment inside the Ciderstream! You can stroll up

the outdoor bar or have a seat in the RV and enjoy a tasty beverage.

A lovely cruise over Afton Mountain turned into a brief meeting of the bimmers as we drove past a few groups of BMWs who were out for a run on Skyline Drive. But, we had a beautiful destination in mind and made our way to Stable Craft Brewing just north of Waynesboro.

Stable Craft hosted us at their outdoor seating surrounded by horse pastures with a lovely view of the mountains. Stable Craft is situated on the site of a working horse farm and the pastures are often full of their equine inhabitants.

The last intrepid few brew tourers found their way back into Charlottesville to finish the day at Three Notch'd Brewery on Preston Ave. in the midtown brewing corridor (home to 2 breweries, a German style beer hall and a distillery.) Three Notch'd was kind enough to have left a lovely patio seating area open for us and much BMW discussion was had.

Thank you to all who made it out!

## New Address Reminder

If your mailing address has changed, please contact the National office to update their records. National supplies the mailing labels both for the Roundel and our chapter newsletter. We are unable to make changes at the local level.

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BMW Car Club of America  
P.O. Box 4381  
Charlottesville, VA 22905

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

BMW Car Club  
of America  
Blue Ridge Chapter



## On the Horizon

Here are some upcoming Blue Ridge BMW CCA events that you will want to attend in 2017:

### January

- 4 - Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm
- 4 - Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm
- 14 - Go Karting at Thunderbolt Go-Kart in Chesterfield county. Join us for a FUN time (and it's our President Peter Larsen's birthday!) of racing around in electric go karts. No exhaust smell, and quieter than the old go-karts. FREE event! 3 heats paid for, and LUNCH is provided by Blue Ridge BMW CCA Chapter.
- 17 - Charlottesville Meet Up at new location. Look for email details and check our Facebook page for more info. 6:00 pm.

### February

- 1 - Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm.
- 1 - Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm
- 21 - Charlottesville Meet Up at new location. Look for email details and check our Facebook page for more info. 6:00 pm.

### March

- 1 - Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm.
- 1 - Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm
- 12 - Annual Brunch. Spring Creek Golf Club. 11am - 2pm. \$25 for all Blue Ridge BMW CCA members. Look for sign up instructions.
- 21 - Charlottesville Meet Up at new location. Look for email details and check our Facebook page for more info. 6:00 pm.

For up-to-date event info, see our website: [www.blueridgebmwcca.org](http://www.blueridgebmwcca.org)

## Scan codes to jump to website or Facebook

Use a QR scanner on your smartphone to jump to our website (left) or Facebook (right) for the latest!



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