

Blue Ridge Chapter - BMW Car Club of America



auf bergstrassen

Vol. XXXVI Issue 1

Spring 2017

The Vintage 2017 will be the biggest yet

by Brad Day

By now you should know that the biggest vintage BMW car show in the country is just a few short hours away in our neighbor state, North Carolina. Last year we managed to squeeze in over 400 cars onto the lawn at Hot Springs Resort just north of Asheville and 2017 promises to be even larger. As of March we have over 400 people registered and the show isn't until May 20th!



This year we're expecting a wide array of vintage BMWs to join us with some special surprises yet to be revealed. But The Vintage isn't just about the car show on Saturday. The event kicks off on Friday with a visit to the BMW CCA Foundation in Greer, South Carolina. This alone is enough reason to make the drive. The Foundation's museum

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BLUE RIDGE WINE TOUR



by William Kavanagh and Ed Hellermann

Blue Ridge Spring Wine Tour is coming up on April 22. While details are still in the planning, we are going to 2 wineries around the foothills of the Blue Ridge and eating lunch at The Glass House. This is our first driving event of the spring, so dust off those cobwebs, clean up your Bimmer and plan to attend. More info, registration, and details to follow on our club website as well as on social media outlets and email.

Save the Date!

When
April 22, 2017

Where
Foothills of the Blue Ridge

Price
\$30 per person

STAY INFORMED ONLINE:

www.blueridgebmwcca.org ■ www.facebook.com/BlueRidgeBMWCCA



VINTAGE: Continued

to all things BMW and BMW CCA is an amazing sight and is filled with historic BMWs, many donated by club members. The newest highlight of the collection, for me at least, is the recently acquired '74 2002tii which belonged to former Roundel editor, the late, great Yale Rachlin. For those not attending the Foundation event a rally to Lake Lure and a local winery will help stretch those vintage BMW legs. Saturday will be spent in Hot Springs, NC where hundreds of vintage BMWs will descend upon the sleepy town and

rest in the green lawn of Hot Springs Resort and Spa. Sunday will be a DIY day for exploring Asheville. But let's not forget that every night at the host hotel in Asheville the parking lot will be transformed into another BMW car show! Don't have a vintage BMW to show, come anyway and check out all the fun. Spectators are welcome to attend for free!

I know I say this every year but if you love vintage BMWs and haven't been to The Vintage THIS IS THE YEAR TO GO! The host hotel, Clarion Inn - Asheville Airport, has been booked solid for months but there are still many lodging options all around Asheville. Oh, and did I mention



Asheville has more breweries per capita than any other American city? How about the Biltmore mansion? Really there is no reason NOT to join us! For more information visit www.AtTheVintage.com.

What does the Blue Ridge BMW Car Club of America mean to me?

by William J. Kavanagh

In 2001, I was in the market for a new vehicle that was not an SUV. Without any purposeful planning or intent, I somehow found myself walking the Fairfax BMW dealership parking lot and saw a brand new blue station wagon.

Fast forward seven years later in 2008, I met Peter and we began our scorched earth campaign of business networking events in Richmond that has continued to this day. Fast forward another seven years later in 2015 and I learned

that not only was he a BMW owner/enthusiast, but also the President of the Blue Ridge Chapter.

My immediate reaction was not one of interest, but because of his persistence and positive energy, I decided to show up at a first Wednesday meeting and then another and another. Suddenly I was fully engaged in all the chapter's activities and the like.

During last year's wine tour some of you may recall the father and son who sat at our table during lunch and told us cars are not to be

thought of as steel, wood, leather and petroleum products. Instead, cars are time machines that can transport us back into our pasts and remind us of wonderful memories and special moments.

The Blue Ridge BMW Car Club also taught me that I did not buy just any blue station wagon. Unknowingly, what I bought was a somewhat rare and beautiful gunmetal metallic blue E39 Tourer designed by Joji Nagashima.

Leben stark und fahren sicher!

A Message from the President

by Peter Larsen



Hey everybody!
Well, looks like we are just about done with a long winter and

SPRING is just around the corner! Not a lot of snow in Virginia this year, which was probably a good thing.

Springtime means we can awaken our BMWs from their winter slumber. Time to change fluids, check batteries, and head to the car wash. It's a time of renewal and re-awakening. And if you're fortunate enough to have a BMW Convertible, you KNOW this is your favorite time of year.

When you think of springtime and the Blue Ridge BMW CCA, you probably think of the Spring Wine Tour. We have it in April each year, and details will be coming. We will be touring around the Charlottesville area again, visiting wineries, and enjoying each other's company.

Over 50 people came to the Go Karting event we had on January 14th at Thunderbolt Go Karting in Richmond. Lots of fun and many new potential club members attended. We'll have that again next winter.

Our social media presence continues to grow! In just 3 years we have grown from 300 Facebook Page members to now over 624 members of our Facebook page. Our Twitter and Instagram channels are doing well also.

Spring will be a good opportunity for all of us to get out and visit fellow BMW CCA members. I encourage you to shine up your BMW, and enjoy this wonderful season we now all enter!

Let me know how I can help you!

Yours,
Peter Larsen
804-405-2322 cell

Who's who in Blue Ridge

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Newsletter submissions

Please submit all classifieds, photos, announcements, articles, etc. by June 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**

READY TO RACE?

Go-Karting in January!

by Peter Larsen

On January 14th (our President Peter's birthday!) over 50 people came to Thunderbolt Go--Karting in Richmond for a day of racing and fun.

It's indoor go--karting with electric cars and they are fast! It was a cold winter day, and perfect for indoor go--karting.

The Chapter provided sandwiches, cookies, soft drinks, water, and chips for everyone! You didn't have to be a BMW CCA member to

attend. That word got out on Facebook and boy did the crowds come! We had 15 people there last year, this year OVER 50! So we were scrambling to make sure there was enough food but there was plenty.

The Chapter paid for 3 races for each person and everyone was in it to win it. A bunch of guys in their 20's came, helmets with them, and one of them won to grand prize for fastest time in level 4 racing. Lots of fun and hopefully we'll pick up a few new BMW CCA members. See you next winter for Round 2!



The Fine Print

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Blue Ridge BMW Chapter
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Charlottesville, VA 22905

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

Also visit 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.

Lynchburg Residents ...

A cattle call for all BMW enthusiasts

by Nick Frye

I was asked to write an article about the happenings in Lynchburg. We have had some luck with our Monthly gatherings, but sometimes they are a little light. Since this is the case, I decided to take this in an entirely different direction.

Consider this a cattle call for all BMW enthusiasts in Lynchburg. I am trying to come up with some ideas for great events we can have in and around town. With your help, we can put on some great events. We have some great driving roads, and since most of our events tend to start out of Charlottesville, a lot of our local area remains untapped.

We have had some great response from monthly gatherings. I would like to try to take that momentum and spin it into more chapter wide events that will showcase what the Lynchburg area has

to offer. We have had some success in the past with events, but we need buy in from those that live here to drive interest. When we plan events locally, we need Lynchburgian's (Lynchburger's just doesn't sound right) to attend. Also, if you see someone driving a BMW tell them about the club. There are some perks if you refer people, so hit the pavement and let's drive up membership!

Please, join us at West Side Deli on the first Wednesday of each month. Bring your ideas and passions, and let's put Lynchburg on the CCA's map.

Get creative. There are no bad ideas. Also, if you don't live in Lynchburg and there is something you would like to do in town, please let me know. If you happen to passing through town, and are looking for things to do, let me know! I will be happy to be an impromptu tour guide!

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.

A Serpent In My BMW/MINI?

from Bavarian Autosport

Most BMWs from the early '90s-on and all MINIs employ the now common, serpentine type accessory drive belt systems. In deference to the older (classic) multiple V-belt system, with each belt commonly used to drive a single engine accessory (alternator, water pump, power steering, air conditioning), the serpentine system uses a single long belt to drive multiple engine accessories.

As the serpentine drive system wears, it is not uncommon to begin to hear squeaking, squealing or other belt and/or pulley related sounds, indicating replacement time is near. It is far more preferable to preventatively replace the belt and pulleys prior to failure. A failed pulley or belt will, at a minimum, put the vehicle out of commission. However, as the belt derails from the pulleys, it may cause other damage as it wraps and entwines itself around the various accessories at the front of the engine. Not only is this a mess to take care of, but it may also cost more to repair due to the incidental damages from the flailing belt.

How Do I Prevent Belt Failure?

Our common recommended interval for preventative serpentine belt and pulley replacement is 80,000 to 100,000 miles. On the late model BMW "N" family 6-cylinder engines (N51, N52, N54, N55), we recommend 60,000 mile belt and pulley replacement, or sooner, if inspection shows ANY belt or pulley wear.

Here's why:

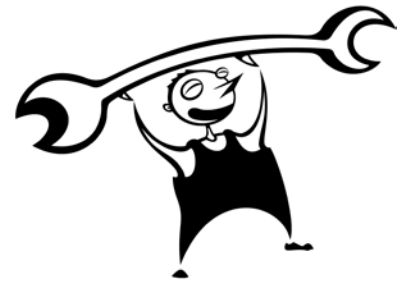
The N-series engines add a bit of urgency to the belt and pulley preventative replacement idea. Unlike other BMW engines, these engines do not have a balancer wheel between the crankshaft pulley (the serpentine belt drive pulley) and the engine's timing cover. This can allow an errant belt (one that has come apart or is being derailed by a failing pulley) to slip between the pulley and the timing cover, to the crankshaft hub and oil seal. At a minimum, the oil seal can be damaged. However, it is not uncommon for the belt to be "sucked" into the timing cover, past the oil seal, and into the timing chain. If this happens, the timing chain will derail and cause the camshafts to become "untimed", likely causing valve to piston contact and catastrophic engine damage.

Additionally:

When used in the E90/91/92/93 3-series chassis, the N-series engines can experience contact between the power steering pulley and the engine sub-frame. This can damage the pulley and/or the belt, resulting in the scenarios noted above.

Therefore, additional detail in belt and pulley inspection is called for on these models.

BavAuto prefers and recommends the CRP (Continental Rubber Products) replacement serpentine belts and belt/pulley replacement kits (everything you need in one box). The pulleys in the CRP replacement kits are manufactured by INA, the original BMW manufacturer.



The Tool Box

Paul Muskopf, tool steward
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

Classifieds



Beautiful 2006 530xi
Navy blue wagon with tan interior. 3.0L 6cyl, AWD, Premium pkg, Xenon (HID) Headlights, Panoramic moonroof and much more. Non smoker and VMR wheels. 110,000 miles. \$9,950.
JIM STEVENSON
804-512-8685



1987 BMW 535is WBADC
7407H0964082, silver/black 5 speed, 254,000 miles. Third owner - always Richmond, VA car. Meticulous maintenance, all service records since 63k. Halogen bulb headlights, BBS16" wheels with new Continental V rated tires, new high end audio with CD, red line MTL in trans. BMW wool pile seat covers on original sport seats. Complete tool kit, Bentley manual. Many new

parts (whatever needed). Strong (almost) daily driver and still looks good. \$6,000 OBO. Jon Friedman 804-782-1935. \$17,500. Contact Troy Booth. bavarianfanatic@outlook.com.



1992 BMW M5:
WBSHD931XNBK06415, Laguna Green, 178,000 Miles, 5-speed. Fully documented maintenance, original paint, performance rims, original m system wheels. Meticulously cared for by a BMW Club track instructor. Always Garaged. (610-247-1116)





Looking for a new home for your BMW?
Contact
Mike Hogan
BMW Enthusiast and REALTOR
Owner- The Hogan Group at Keller Williams
www.TheMikeHoganGroup.com
804-503-0811



**IT'S EITHER THIS
OR A USED COROLLA.
DON'T BE A PEASANT.**

In today's used car market, consumers tend to blindly select a once-economical Japanese tin can as their primary mode of transit. It looks good on paper, but not in any other context.

The problem is that once you've spent a few hundred on your old car, you're still stuck with it by cabin air wheels.

If you're going to spend money on maintaining a used car, wouldn't you rather end up with

13-speaker active noise control system, a 16-speaker DSP audio system, traction control, anti-lock brakes, power rear sunshades, and the best looking sedan in the world? Of course you would.

The best part is, when you check the on-board computer to see your fuel economy, because you know, you can do that in a BMW, you'll see that your two-ton sport sedan returns a present 26 MPG on the highway

all while making twice the power and half the noise of other models in its price range.

Now, hop on to your local Craigslist, search for 1999-2001 BMWs, and prepare to be amazed at what you can trade into for minimum wage these days.



ANY OLD 7-SERIES

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Chapter Website:
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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:

April

5 - Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm
5 - Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm
18 - Charlottesville Meet Up at new location. Look for email details and check our Facebook page for more info. 6:00 pm.
22 - Spring Wine Tour. Start in Charlottesville area and go to wineries throughout the area. Look to our Facebook page or the chapter website for more details. Organizers: Ed Hellermann and William Kavanagh.

May

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

June

7 - Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm.
7 - Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm
20 - 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

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



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