

Blue Ridge Chapter - BMW Car Club of America



auf bergstrassen

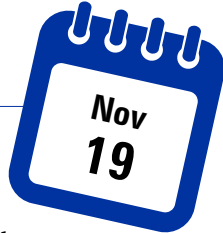
Vol. XXXV Issue 3

September 2016

Street Survival is Back!

Peter Larsen

The Tire Rack Street Survival is back after a year off. We are having this flagship event on November 19th at Richmond International Raceway.



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 will be point man for the event. Please email Mel to schedule your time slot to volunteer: melvind8@gmail.com.

We will have about 40 students and need nearly 60 volunteers. Most students come with their parent(s). Students and parents first arrive at 7:30am on this Saturday morning event. The event is more accurately called "Teen Age Driver Improvement School". The whole purpose is to improve the teenage driving experience. Its purpose is to teach students the joys of safe and responsible driving. Can you

STREET: Continued on page 2



by Brad Day

Though the sweltering heat lingering with us through September does a good job of hiding it, Fall will be upon us before we know it. That means amazing fall colors and crisp winds in our hair. Throw in some delicious craft brews and twisty roads you've got the makings for a perfect car club event!

It is time once again for our annual Bimmer, Brake and Brew tour. Our tour will be held on Sunday, November 6th starting at 10am. Our starting point will be the picnic shelter at Darden Towe Park in Charlottesville (the same place we host our annual picnic.) From there many twisty autumn roads await.

This year we will visit three central Virginia brewing locales. We'll start with a Virginia tradition that dates back to

colonial days, hard apple cider. We'll swing by Potter's Craft Cider for a tasting of 6 apple based brews. Next, newly opened Stable Craft Brewing in Fishersville will serve as our lunch stop. We will sample some of their 16 draft brew options and enjoy their amazing views and working horse farm! And finally we will head back to C-ville for a few end-of-the-day brews at Three Notch'd Brewing.

Online registration is now open. The entry fee is \$25 per person which covers the cost of tastings at each location. Please visit our Events page at www.blueridgebmwcca.org to sign up ASAP because space will be limited! Blue Ridge Chapter members are allowed to bring one non-member guest. If your guest isn't planning on doing the tastings they do not have to pay. Please contact Brad at ub3r02@gmail.com with any questions and we'll see you there!

STAY INFORMED ONLINE:

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

STREET: Continued

see why this event sells out so quickly?

We will again have a Tire Rack Instructor, and he is always world-class. The students were divided into separate groups first thing. One group is in classroom instruction, the other group is outside learning about what a “vehicle check” is from chapter experts. We need at least 10 volunteers for the “vehicle check” area!

Audie Chenery with VMSC is once again our Instructor Coordinator. Audie did a fabulous job training the 20-30 instructors last time, and she will be managing every process of the day.

Here’s what the courses looked like:

First a Stop and Go Test. Students take their cars and accelerate them. They have to then stop quickly and stay within the pylons.

Slalom Course. Here students are able to discover how their cars react to weight shift and tire skid.

Then there’s the famous Skid Path. Thanks to Holcombe Baird and Ricardo De Morales, for designing the skid path! A huge wet circle on pavement, filled with soap suds, is a bear to control as the students and instructors spin around the soap suds circle. This course enables students to understand a bit about drifting and a lot about controlling their vehicle in wet, slick road conditions.

The Tire Rack Teen Age Driver Improvement School (Street Survival) has always been a huge success. Successful in educating teenagers how to be more mindful, more aware, and safer as they take to the roads. We look forward to Saturday November 19th – bright and early!



Tech Day at The West Broad Street BMW Dealership Saturday, Oct. 1 from 10am-2pm

by Peter Larsen

Is there a strange noise your BMW is making and you can’t figure out what it is?

Have you looked underneath your BMW lately to look for fluid leaks?

Are you tired of driving your BMW around with that nagging feeling that something is just not quite right but you don’t know what to do?

Saturday October 1st is your day for answers!

We are having another BMW Tech Day at the West Broad dealership in Richmond!

Alan Bettley, Service Manager, has arranged some of his best Master Technicians to work the 10am to

2pm event. FREE ASSESSMENT of your BMW. Find out what that strange noise is.

Get a full report from the Master Technician of any fluid leaks. Have peace of mind while driving your BMW.

The Blue Ridge Chapter will provide delicious Chick-fil-a lunches to all attendees, and to all the service technicians who donate their time and talent.

Best of all, you are under no obligation to have the repairs done at the dealership. But you may want to, it’s up to you.

Email Peter the specific needs you would like addressed. Get there EARLY! First come, first served. Peter’s email is Larsp2e@gmail.com.



Annual Picnic at Darden Towe Park in Charlottesville

by Peter Larsen

Almost a RECORD CROWD of 95 BMW enthusiasts gathered just before noon on Sunday morning August 7, 2016 at Darden Towe Park in Charlottesville, VA for our Annual Picnic.

The Charlottesville dealership graciously donated a bunch of BMW-related clothing and accessories. Blue Ridge BMW CCA also purchased a whole lot of BMW swag, and gave it all away. Phil Marx, former President of BMW CCA, and Founding Member of Blue Ridge BMW CCA, came with a number of dealership personnel. Other dealership personnel brought new Z4 cars, a number of M3s, some M4s, modified BMWs, so many to see. The conversation was lively as we all admired each others' cars, no matter what condition.

The food was fabulous as always! Catered by a local catering firm, the

German-themed food choices were varied and delicious. Everyone enjoyed a full meal and beautiful sunny weather.

There were games to be played as well. Cornhole was there, and families brought their kids, who all seemed to have a great time.

Peter led the raffle giveaway, assisted by Steve Cunningham and William Kavanagh. We gave away close to 50 useful BMW-related goodies. The crowd was electric!

All in all, the day was just about perfect. Sunny and 86 degrees. Low humidity. Plenty of delicious food. Games to play for the whole family. And the chance to meet many fellow BMW enthusiasts, ask them about their BMW, talk about your BMW, and plan your next BMW purchase.

Plan for the same weekend next summer and join us!

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 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.

A Message from the President

by Peter Larsen



Hello Blue Ridge BMW members and friends! Fall is here and a perfect time to get out in your BMW and enjoy the weather!

We will have a few key activities and events this fall. First up is the Tech Day at Richmond BMW West Broad on Saturday October 1st 10am til 2pm. This is a chance to get a FREE ASSESSMENT of your BMW by a BMW Master Technician, not your buddy who might know a thing or two about BMWs. Free event and LUNCH provided for all who attend. Send me an email with what specific needs your car has, and I'll get that to the Master Technician in advance. That way they can prepare.

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 the Fall is the Brew Tour on Sunday November 6th 10am until 4pm or so. This is THE driving event for the fall. \$25 a person and that includes tastings, and lunch. Look for registration to open soon!

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 have made a strong effort in the last year to sponsor new and FREE chapter events. Our financial statement from 2015 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 to spend some chapter funds on some really fun and wonderful get togethers and try to draw some new members into our chapter.

Our Chapter Facebook page continues to grow. We have 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! Instagram is also a way to connect. Follow us at "Blue Ridge BMW". Lots of pictures are posted weekly.

Celebrating my 3rd year as your President, I am continually humbled and grateful for the support of the Board, as well as so many members. If you have suggestions about how to improve the chapter, please let me know. Larsp2e@gmail.com or call me at 804-405-2322.

Who's who in Blue Ridge

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Newsletter submissions

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

Picture Perfect

Check out all the fun we have!



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

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. Log into your account at bmwcca.org or call 1.800.878.9292 to make changes.

Performance Computer Chip Installation Instructions

From Bavarian Autosport

1. Control Unit Removal:

535i/is

- Open the glovebox and remove the pins which secure the limiting straps to the side of the glovebox and let the glovebox hang down freely.
- Remove the vinyl glovebox "roof" or "cover" by unhooking it from the rear edge of the glovebox. The rear edge of the cover has a long clip which slides over the top edge of the rear of the glovebox, just push it up and off. Pull the rear of the cover out and up over the top of the dashboard and secure it with a piece of tape.
- Remove the 10mm or phillips head screws which secure the ECU. Gently let the ECU drop downward. Remove the wiring harness from the ECU and pull the ECU from the car.

635csi

- Open the glovebox and remove the pins which secure the limiting straps to the side of the glovebox and let the glovebox hang down freely.
- Remove the fasteners securing the plastic glovebox roof panel. Pull down the panel and let it rest on the glovebox.
- Remove the 10mm bolts or phillips head screws which secure the ECU. Gently let the ECU drop downward. Remove the wiring harness from the ECU and pull the ECU from the car.

735i

- Remove the phillips head screws securing the passenger side front speaker panel and swing the panel out of the way.
- Remove the 10mm bolts or phillips head screws securing the ECU and gently let the ECU drop downward. Remove the wiring harness from the ECU and pull the ECU from the car. *CAUTION: The Bavarian Autosport Performance Chip and your BMW's ECU are sensitive to static electricity and can be damaged by the natural charge that builds up on your body and clothing. Prior to opening the ECU or handling the Performance Chip, you should discharge any static buildup by touching a metal cold water faucet or metal desk or workbench, be sure to touch a bare metal area.*

2. Turn the ECU over so that the Bosch label is facing downward. Use a screwdriver to pry up the metal tabs around the perimeter of the box. Pry the tabs until they are straight up and remove the cover from the base. Lay the cover aside. Remove the white plastic cover sheet.

3. (Place the ECU on the workbench with the base down on the bench. Notice the two pedestal standoffs, between the upper and lower boards, at the end opposite the multi-pin connector socket. Hold the ECU down in the area of the base mounting tabs and, using your thumbs, push up on the upper PC board where the pedestals attach to the board. The pedestal standoffs should unsnap and separate. Be careful not to push up on the corners of the PC board as this could break the board!

4. While holding the ECU down on the workbench, pull up on the rear of the upper PC board and pull the board away from the harness connector socket. As the board releases, pull the board back and out of the connector housing. Flip the upper board over, using the ribbon cable as a hinge, and lay it on the workbench so that both boards are face-up.

5. Locate the one chip that is mounted in a socket on the upper PC board. This chip will be elevated above the other chips on the board and may have a plastic "H" retaining clip over it.

6. To remove the "H" clip, insert a small screwdriver into the small slot on one of the sides of the clip. Pry the end of the screwdriver away from the chip to release the side of the clip. Repeat for the other side of the clip, and remove it.

Retaining Clip Cut-out
Removing "H" Shaped Retaining Clip
Small Screwdriver
Original Chip underneath Clip
Pry Slots
Pry this way until side of Clip pops up
PC Board

7. Observe that the chip has a small cut-out on one end and that the socket has a corresponding cut-out. The new Performance Chip must be installed in this same position*. Remove the chip from the socket by gently inserting a small screwdriver under the chip from one end (be sure you insert between the chip and the socket, not under the socket!) and care fully rock the screwdriver from side to side then lift up. Work from both ends of the chip to lift it evenly from the socket. In removing the chip from the socket hold the chip at the ends, not over the pins. Set the chip on the metal ECU cover to protect it from damage due to static electricity. *CAUTION: In rare instances, the referencing slot on the original chip will not be at the same end as the referencing slot in the socket. In these cases, the new performance chip should be installed with the referencing slot in the same position as the original chip.

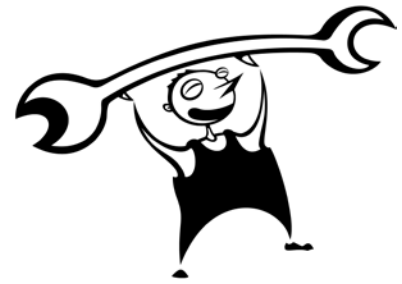
8. Remove the Performance Chip from the antistatic box, holding the chip by the ends. Observe the small cut-out on one end of the chip. This cut-out corresponds to the cut-out in the one end of the socket (the chip must be installed with the cut-outs lined up). Notice that the two rows of pins are slightly wider than the two rows of contacts in the socket (the number of pins on the chip should match the number of contacts on the socket). Gently press the outer side of each row of pins against the benchtop in order to bring the rows closer together until the chip will fit properly into the socket. Carefully insert the chip into the socket taking care to line the pins up with the socket contacts. Apply even pressure on both ends of the chip and push it into the socket until it is fully seated (support the underside of the PC board with your other hand while pushing on the chip). Use the box from the Performance Chip to store your original chip.

9. Reinstall the "H" retaining clip by snapping it over the Performance Chip and socket until both sides "click" and are seated.

10. Reinstall the upper PC board by folding it back over and inserting the end of the board into the connector socket. Be sure to fully seat the board in the socket. Gently push the board down over the rear support pedestals being sure that they snap securely.

11. Lay the white plastic cover sheet over the PC board and reinstall the ECU cover and gently bend the locking tabs back down against the base (if any of the tabs break off, don't worry about it. Just be sure the broken tab does not go inside the ECU.). Reinstall the ECU in the car.

Call Toll Free: 1.800.535.2002 to Bavarian Autosport for more details.



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

Virginia is for ^{driving} Lovers

by Brad Day

I've lived in Ol' Virginny for almost 14 years now. It is second only to my midwestern home state as the geographic area where I've spent the most time. And while I learned to drive amongst the cornfields I learned HOW to drive in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and the winding back roads of The Old Dominion. Here are 5 of my favorite roads in VA... in no particular order.

1. Highway 231

VA 231 runs between Cismont and Sperryville. The run from Madison to Sperryville is one of my favorites and the view is Blue Ridge Mountains all the way. But if you start at Cismont (hit the Cismont Market for road snacks) you'll be treated to some lovely twisties and tiny rustic villages like the burgs of Uno and Rochelle before you cross US 29 on your way through Madison.



2002 drive from 2004. Uno, VA

2. Highway 16

No surprise that the road nicked named the Back of the Dragon is one of the best in the state. I've never driven the famous Tail of the Dragon (US 129 in Deals Gap, NC) but I'm not sure I need



2002s at Goshen Pass

to. Highway 16 between Marion and Tazewell is almost 3 times longer than the Tail of the Dragon and is absolutely spectacular...and requires absolute concentration. This is a twisty, tight road with amazing switch backs, sheer rock walls and mountain top views. This might be THE driver's road of Virginia.

3. Highway 39

I've lost count of how many times we've zoomed along this amazing road either by ourselves or in a group of 2002s buzzing the pass like a swarm of Bavarian hornets. Run this route from Warm Springs to just north of Lexington. It's also known as Maury River Road and one of the things that makes a good driving road is immediate proximity to a winding, babbling Virginia river. Be sure to look for the paved parking area bordered by a low stone wall on the northbound side of the road just north of Wilson Springs. That is the best

place to get a great view of Goshen Pass as the river carves through the valley and cascades down an impossibly beautiful array of rocks.

4. Highway 18

This is a great morning drive. Drop down out of Covington and head south on highway 18 all the way to the tiny crossroad of Paint Bank. Have breakfast at The Swinging Bridge Restaurant and General Store. Ask the folks at the general store where to go to see the buffalo farm.

5. Highway 21

This road isn't the twistiest or the most difficult but it's got a little bit of everything. Short passes through the mountains open into beautiful valley views. Leave Wytheville and head south to Independence. Maybe you'll get lucky and catch the Grand Privy Races.

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Chapter Website:
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 2016:

October

- 1 - Tech Day at Richmond BMW West Broad. 10am-2pm. Email Peter IN ADVANCE of any issues with your BMW you would like the Master Technicians to prepare for. Free event and free box lunch for all!
- 5 - Richmond Monthly Gathering. 5:30pm at Capital Ale House Innsbrook.
- 5 - Lynchburg Monthly get together at 5:30pm at West Side Deli.
- 18 - Charlottesville Monthly Gathering. 5:30pm at South Street Brewery.

November

- 2 - Richmond Monthly Gathering. 5:30pm at Capital Ale House Innsbrook.
- 2 - Lynchburg Monthly get together at 5:30pm at West Side Deli.
- 6 - Annual Bimmer Brake and Brew driving event. Open to all Blue Ridge BMW CCA members and guests. Look for registration to open in October.
- 15 - Charlottesville Monthly Gathering. 5:30pm at South Street Brewery.
- 19 - Street Survival Driving School at Richmond International Raceway. Open to student drivers and parents. Registration is already full, waiting list for students. Starts 8am - ends around 3pm. We need MANY volunteers! Please email Mel Diaz, Coordinator, at melvind8@gmail.com.

December

- 7 - Richmond Monthly Gathering. 5:30pm at Capital Ale House Innsbrook.
- 7 - Lynchburg Monthly get together at 5:30pm at West Side Deli.
- 20 - Charlottesville Monthly Gathering. 5:30pm at South Street Brewery.

For up-to-date event info, see our website: www.blueridgebmwcca.org

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