

Blue Ridge Chapter - BMW Car Club of America



auf bergstrassen

Vol. XXXVI Issue 3

Fall 2017

Street Survival: Volunteers Needed!

by Peter Larsen

The Tire Rack Street Survival is back after a successful event last year. We are having this flagship event on Saturday November 11, 2017 at Richmond International Raceway.

We need volunteers in the Vehicle Inspection area, the slalom course and other courses, and utility players who can just be available if there's a need.

A huge thank you goes to Steven Rivera, a very involved Blue Ridge BMW CCA member, who stepped up to be the Street Survival Coordinator. Steven will be point man for the event.

STREET: Continued on page 2

To volunteer, email
stevenrivera@allstate.com



by Peter Larsen

Bimmer, Brake & Brew Tour

The annual Bimmer, Brake & Brew Tour is moving a bit west this year so we can visit some new breweries and experience new roads. Nick Frye, Chapter VP, will be leading the event. It will be on Sunday October 22nd – starting at 10am at a designated location TBD. It will be near Lynchburg.

STAY INFORMED ONLINE:

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

STREET: Continued

We will have about 35 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 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. Prentiss Davis, long-time BMW member and Instructor, will be an Instructor again.

BREW: Continued



Look for the Blue Ridge BMW CCA Facebook page for details! We can get the word out to so many people utilizing Facebook. For those of you who don't use Facebook, please feel free to email Nick at fryebaby161@gmail.com.

The charge will be \$25 per person, which includes multiple tastings at multiple breweries, and nice lunch in the middle of the day.



A Message from the President

by Peter Larsen



Hi everybody!
It's been an eventful Summer and I hope everyone had a relaxing time with family, friends, and your BMW(s).

The main driving event for the fall will be our Annual Bimmer, Brake & Brew Tour in October, which Nick Frye is organizing. Look for some details in this newsletter on that, and check out our website, and Facebook page for more.

Our signature Tire Rack Street Survival event is back! We will be hosting this event at Richmond International Raceway on Saturday November 11, 2017. Same as last year, and a new Champion, Steven Rivera, has arisen to lead the event. Steven will need lots of volunteers. Prentiss has agreed already to be an Instructor again, and we have many members who have stepped up. We will have many more details in this newsletter.

Our Facebook Likes continue to grow. Now well over 600 likes, we are on our way toward my goal of 700 Likes by the end of 2017.

Facebook is a way to ENGAGE members, particularly our younger members. Like the page if you have not already.

The Twitter account is growing. We are: @blueridgebmwtwi. Follow us as we put up events information and cool pics.

Don't forget to attend the monthly meet-ups. We have one every month in Lynchburg, Charlottesville and Richmond. Richmond turnout averages 10-20 and lots of new members. Brad Day (Chapter Treasurer) leads the Charlottesville and Nick Frye (Chapter VP) leads the Lynchburg socials. These are casual, laid-back social times to sit around and talk about BMWs.

I have enjoyed being your President for the last 4 years, but it's time to let someone else step up starting in January (pending chapter member approval of course). Nick Frye, the VP of the chapter for as long as I can remember, will be your President.

Nick brings a wealth of experience, knowledge, social media savvy, and a great guy all around. I'm proud of Nick for stepping up to lead the chapter, and I've enjoyed serving you.

Who's who in Blue Ridge

Officers

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Charlottesville Rep: Phil Marx
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Webmaster: Brad Day
434/ 207-8008 ub3r02@gmail.com

Newsletter submissions

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

Picture Perfect

Check out all the fun we have!



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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.

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

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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.



Michelin GT Challenge at Virginia International Raceway

by Nick Frye

The last weekend of August is one of my favorite weekends of the year. Virginia International Raceway (VIR) has been hosting IMSA races for a number of years, and I have had the privilege of camping on site for a full weekend full of Motorsports goodness.

Aside from the WeatherTech Cars and Continental Sports Car Challenge entries, there is a plethora of other racing to take in. Formula 4 (feeder series for Formula 1) showed up this year, and I believe most of the drivers were about 14.

We also had the Lamborghini Trofeo Challenge and Porsche GT3 Cup races happening. There

are cars on track Friday-Sunday from about 8AM to 7PM. If you are ever interested in checking it out, I would be more than happy to give you some pointers. There is also usually a BMW car corral that provides some prime parking, a little bit of shelter from the heat, food, and other perks.

Bimmerworld, our local race team out of Dublin VA, took Second and Fifth in the Street Tuner Class of the CSCC race this year. The BMW Team RRL M6 took 4th in the GTLM Class during the WeatherTech Race, and The Tuner Motorsports M6 took 2nd in the GTD class.

All in all, it was a good weekend for BMW's!

Instrument Cluster Removal Instructions

from Bavarian Autosport

Procedures for 3 Series '84 thru '91:

1. Disconnect the negative battery cable from the vehicle battery.
2. Remove the steering wheel by first removing the center emblem. Use a punch or permanent marker to mark the position of the wheel on the shaft. Remove the nut securing the steering wheel to the steering shaft. Disconnect the horn wire. Pull the steering wheel off.

SAFETY NOTE: On vehicles equipped with SRS systems (air bags), it is highly recommended to have the Colored Gauge Face Kit installed by a qualified technician. Accidental deployment of the air bag can cause serious injury or death.

3 Series: 84 thru 98 Except 325e/es
5 Series: 89 thru 96
7 Series: 88 thru 94

PURPOSE:

This instruction sheet will give general guidance on removal of instrument clusters in preparation for Colored Gauge Face Kit installation.

NOTE: If vehicle is equipped with SRS air bags, it is recommended that a qualified technician perform this installation. The negative battery cable must be disconnected. Wait ten minutes. Disconnect the crash sensors located on the left and right sides of the engine compartment and the orange SRS plug at the steering column, behind the lower trim panel, before attempting to remove the steering wheel. Remove the SRS air bag from the steering wheel by removing the fasteners through the front side of the wheel. Be careful not to allow the SRS air bag unit to drop. Gently lift the unit from the steering wheel and disconnect the orange SRS wiring connector and horn wire if so equipped. Remove the steering wheel retaining nut from the steering shaft. Use a punch or permanent marker to mark the position of the wheel on the shaft. Pull the wheel from the shaft.

3. Remove the lower instrument panel trim by removing the three screws along the top

edge of the panel and the one screw below the steering column.

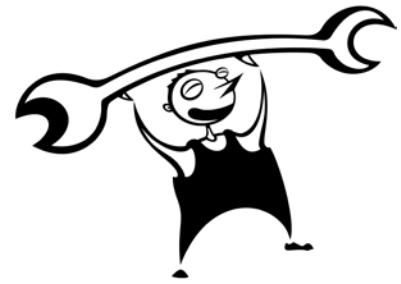
4. Remove the intermediate trim panel (between the cluster and the lower trim panel) by removing the two knurled nuts on the backside of the panel.
5. Remove the cluster trim bezel by removing the four screws along the bottom of the trim bezel and the two screws at the top of the trim bezel.
6. Remove the two screws at the topsides of the cluster. Pull the cluster out slightly. Disconnect the wiring connectors from the rear of the cluster. Gently pull the cluster out.

Procedures for 3 Series '92 thru '98, 5 Series '89 thru '96 & 7 Series '88 thru '94:

1. Disconnect the negative battery cable from the vehicle battery.

2. Remove the steering wheel. If vehicle is equipped with SRS air bags, it is recommended that a qualified technician perform the installation. The negative battery cable must be disconnected. Wait ten minutes. Disconnect the crash sensors located on he left and right sides of the engine compartment and the orange SRS plug at the steering column, behind the lower trim panel, before attempting to remove the steering wheel. Remove the SRS air bag from the steering wheel before removing the fasteners through the front side of the wheel. Be careful not to allow the SRS air bag unit to drop. Gently lift the unit from the steering wheel and disconnect the orange SRS wiring connector and horn wire if so equipped. Remove the steering wheel retaining nut from the steering shaft. Use a punch or permanent marker to mark the position of the wheel on the shaft. Pull the wheel from the shaft.

3. Remove the two instrument cluster retaining screws at the top of the cluster. Tilt the top of the cluster out of the dash. Unlock and remove the wiring harness connectors from the back of the cluster. Pull the cluster out of the dash.



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

Should Salespeople Drive a BMW?

by Mike Hogan

As a top producing real estate agent in Central Virginia, I put a lot of miles on my cars. So I choose to drive those miles as comfortably as possible. My transportation of choice over the past several years have been BMWs. I chose BMW for all the normal reasons- it's comfortable, it's a 'Driver's Car', and it looks so darned sexy.

But is driving an upscale car good for business? This is an argument that happens a lot, especially for people in sales roles. Some argue driving too nice of a car can alienate some less financially fortunate clients. But driving a beater can make you appear as if you are not successful enough

to afford the upscale car, and sense successful people like to work with successful people this could affect your ability to land that big contract.

Does it matter? I've always chosen to just be me. I realize I'm in a very image conscious profession but I choose to drive a BMW simply because I love BMWs. I've chosen not to worry about the image the car projects. I am cognizant of my clients opinions and I try to not be "flashy" - this by-the-way is the ONLY reason I don't own an I8. But I choose to be me.



Tweet me @rvarealtor to tell me what you think.

More Picture Fun!





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



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BMW Car Club
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Blue Ridge Chapter



On the Horizon

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

October

- 4 – Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm.
- 4 – Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm.
- 17 – Charlottesville Meet Up at Timberwood Tap House at 5th St. Station. 6pm.
- 22 – Bimmer, Brake & Brew Tour! Lynchburg area breweries this time. Nick Frye leading it. Meet at designated place 10am. Ends around 3-4pm.

November

- 1 – Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm.
- 1 – Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm.
- 11 – Street Survival event at Richmond International Raceway parking lot. 8am-4pm.
- 21 – Charlottesville Meet Up at Timberwood Tap House at 5th St. Station 6pm.

December

- 6 – Richmond Meet Up at Capital Ale House Innsbrook location. 5:30pm
- 6 – Lynchburg Meet Up at West Side Deli. 5:30pm.
- 19 – Charlottesville Meet Up at Timberwood Tap House at 5th St. Station 6pm.

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

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