



Blue Ridge BMW CCA Chapter Members & Friends

August 2022 Edition

Be sure to check out our Newly Improved Website, Facebook Page, & Instagram site using the links at the below.

Please welcome the Chapter's Newest Members who joined in the past month!

- Beth Smith – Churchville, VA
- Carol Sawyer – Richmond, VA
- Charlene Christie – Manakin Sabot, VA

The Blue Ridge Chapter of BMW CCA would like to express our gratitude for you joining us. Our goal is to maximize the smiles per mile that your BMW can provide to you. We look forward to meeting you soon.

Upcoming Chapter Events:

See detailed event information on our site at <https://blueridgebmwcca.org/calendar/>

August 5th – 7th

Annual Back of the Dragon Drive – Tazewell VA

For additional details, please see our events page on [Blue Ridge Chapter Web Site](#)

Event registration is open & is limited to 15 cars, please register by **July 25, 2022** here [1st Annual Back of the Dragon Drive](#)

There are still 6 slots remaining open, so register early to secure your spot!

Please contact the event coordinator [Bruce Bigham](#) with any questions or concerns

POSTPONED

VA Rt 5 Drive – Rockets Landing & Upper Shirley Vineyards – Richmond VA

Event has been postponed until November 2022; stay tuned as plans will be announced very soon.

September 24, 2022

Summer Smoker Evening Cookout – Midlothian, VA

This is the Chapter's Annual Summer Cookout & will be held in Midlothian, VA.

You can register for the event here [Summer Cookout](#) & is capped at the 40 individuals. Please register by **September 12, 2022**.

Please contact [William Kavanaugh](#) with any questions or concerns.

CANCELLED

1st Annual October Fest Charity Event – 50th Anniversary of BMW M

Due to unforeseen logistical obstacles we had to cancel this event for 2022. Event will be planned for 2023.

Keep reading though for a **PLAN B** event!

October 22, 2022

Devils Backbone Drive & Gathering – Roseland, VA

The Chapter will be gathering at the Devils Backbone Basecamp location for an afternoon of socializing & dinner.

Driving routes will be planned from the Richmond & Roanoke Valley areas.

If you'd like to lead a group from another area, please contact the event coordinator.

Registration is open until **October 1, 2022** at [Devils Backbone Drive](#)

Contact event coordinator [Bruce Bigham](#) with any questions or if you'd like to lead a group from your area.

Letter from Your Chapter President:

I hope everyone is enjoying the great outdoors this summer!

Things usually slowdown during the summer months but not so with the Blue Ridge BMW CCA board. Our newest board members - Andrew, Bruce, Corey, and James are busy in the planning stages of monthly meetups and driving events.

So instead of your President taking a shortcut during the summer slowdown I would like to encourage you all to read the upcoming Fall/Winter edition of Bimmer Life.

My submission is titled "My trip to Mecca". It chronicled the weekend spent in Greer, South Carolina attending the MX1 Days and touring the BMW Zentrum Museum. It was thoroughly enjoyable and educational to say the very least. I met many people whose names I recognized but have never met.

The most impactful meeting of all those who I met was Jan and Steve Hermansen, members of the Blue Ridge Chapter. They spoke at length about how the chapter can be and needs to be improved. From that conversation, I was able to tap into all of the many resources that were available and not being utilized. I will always remember what Steve said, "All of the good driving in the Blue Ridge Chapter is in the Blue Ridge!"

It has been my NUMBER ONE priority to connect our distant geography and become a more cohesive chapter.

When you read "My trip to Mecca" I would like to ask each of you to think about how you can make a contribution. There are so many ways to do so - just ask one of the board members. The easiest and most effective way is to participate in the monthly meetups in each of your localities.

I cannot emphasize how important these meetings are to generating fellowship, communicating ideas, and taking action.

Be sure to check in on our Facebook page and website for all of the comings and goings. Please be sure to RSVP if you plan to attend.

I hope to be seeing you and hearing from you.

William Kavanagh - President
Blue Ridge BMW CCA Chapter
804-475-0941
Williamkavanagh97@gmail.com

Note from the Editor:

Hello fellow Blue Ridge Chapter members, I hope everyone had a safe & happy July 4th Holiday!

As I'm writing this & dealing with the bipolar Virginia weather out here in the Roanoke Valley & complaining every step of the way, I also realize that the weather is not my only complaint. Where in the world has the 1st half of 2022 gone? We are already over half done with the year. They say that time flies when you're having fun & as long as you don't take things too seriously, that is correct.

Personally, I've probably been having way more fun than I should. In the past couple of months, I've purchased a new 430i Coupe, driven Back of the Dragon, gotten a full access pass to the Bimmerworld facility, & spent a day at the M Performance Driving School in Greer. Nothing like getting turned loose with somewhere close to \$800k worth of cars on their courses! I have also been elbow deep in the restoration of my beloved E34 540i/6. What could possibly be better than spending quality time with the thing that made you fall in love with the Roundel to begin with. Hard to believe that I only met this car 2 years ago but it has afforded me a lifetime's worth of fun & amazement (except for the fact that after 27 years & 214k miles, she still isn't house broken & gets off on peeing fluids on the garage floor!). I'd love to hear about everyone else's story with the Roundel.

All of this has led me to the satisfaction that I now get from being in a leadership role with the Blue Ridge Chapter & serving its members! While it has required a LOT of time in the past couple of months, it has been a great experience. There have been a lot of changes in the Chapter & I hope that everyone is seeing the hard work being done by the current leadership team. We all know that our jobs are nowhere near being done & we are committed to the Chapter Membership to continue to make changes that will make the Chapter great! Make sure that you're visiting our website, Facebook, & Instagram page often. There is a lot of new & great content.

I'd be remiss though if I didn't caveat the above with a plug of "*the Chapter & Leadership can only do so much without member participation & volunteerism*". We can have the best laid plans, but if membership doesn't volunteer & support the team & chapter, then it's impossible to maintain sustainable changes. So please *volunteer* &, if possible, *volunteer often*.

Please reach out to me any time about anything. My goal is to serve the membership in the best way that I can. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Bruce Bigham, Secretary
Blue Ridge Chapter BMW CCA

Monthly Meetups:

- **Richmond Meetup** – Wed August 3rd @ 5:00pm at Wood & Iron in Midlothian. Come out & enjoy all of their half off food & drink specials. Please RSVP text William Kavanaugh at 804-475-0941 if you plan to attend.
- **Lynchburg Meetup** – 1st Tuesday every month at The Neighbors Place in Wyndhurst. Please RSVP to [Scott Fogleman](#) if you plan to attend.
- **Roanoke Valley Meetup** – 4th Friday every month. The venue is in different locations, so please contact & RSVP to [Bruce Bigham](#) if you plan to attend. **(July's meetup will be July 26th at 6:30 & will be meeting at Twin Creeks Brewpub at Explorer Park)**

Other Events:

- **2022 Michelin GT Challenge at VIR** – Friday August 26th to Sunday August 28th at Virginia International Raceway. You can find event details at [2022-michelin-gt-challenge-at-vir](#).

*****Important Note from the Event Coordinators*****

The event coordinators would like to request that if there are other Chapter members who are willing and/or able to help with any event planning or event suggestions, please reach out to the Chapter's Autocross/Motorsport Coordinator Corey Hoover, the Chapter's Social Communications Director James Gillespie or to the Chapter's Secretary Bruce Bigham. We will get you in contact with the appropriate persons. Remember, this chapter is only as great as the amount of member participation!!

Thank you from the Event Coordinators.

