



ALLEGHENY CHAPTER BMWCCA

Getting Out to Enjoy the BMW

- Eric Zagrocki

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As I sit and write this, Weather.com tells me its 52 degrees, which is exactly double the temperature of last Thursday evening when I volunteered to submit this article. The rapidly rising temperature means spring is around the corner and soon it will be time to bring the car out of winter storage, or if you are like me, simply wash off some of the salt and other grime.

If you are a member of this Club, chances are, you have an interest in your car that extends beyond its mere transportation capability. You probably joined the Club to meet like minded people who share the same interests, participate in club events, gain a tech tip or two, and otherwise have an outlet to enjoy your BMW.

Based upon recent articles in the newsletter, you may be under the impression that the Club is about to fold. However, having attended a recent membership meeting, I am happy to tell you that plans are well underway for the Club's involvement with 2006 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. If you enjoy cars, the week of the PVGP is best week of the year to live in Pittsburgh. The Allegheny Chapter has always been a strong participant in the PVGP and the week will provide something for everyone.

The festivities start July 8 and 9 with preliminary races at BeaveRun race track in nearby Beaver County. Plans are underway for another BMW-Porsche showdown which was a fabulously entertaining race last year. Several local BMW racers participated last year and are expected to return. There will likely be a designated BMW car corral at the event and the local chapter of the SCCA hosts its PVGP autocross as part of the weekend. According to last year's published results, including the MINI Cooper drivers, 16 of the weekend's participants drove BMW products. Who says local BMW drivers do not like to autocross? (If you ever wanted to try an autocross but were a bit timid about pushing your daily driver, I encourage you to give it a try. Both the North Hills Sports Car Club and the local chapter of the SCCA do a great job of introducing novices to the sport and the grin on your face after your first run will become a lifetime memory.)

PVGP week continues Monday with a car show on Walnut Street in Shadyside. Typically, several Club members are invited to display their cars. You can usually find a 2002, a classy old coupe and various "M" cars present. Tuesday will feature a 500 car cruise at the Waterfront in Homestead. This event is open to the public and presents an easy opportunity to throw the kids in the BMW and partake in a fun after work event for a modest donation. The nice thing about this cruise is that unlike most others in the Pittsburgh area, you will not feel out of place if your car gives off a four cylinder staccato rap rather than a throaty rumble. Wednesday will feature lunchtime car displays at various office buildings downtown. New this year is a Thursday car show and concert event at the Hard Rock Café at Station Square.

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2006 Calendar

- **May 11** Chapter Meeting at Roland's Seafood Grill
- **June 8** Chapter Meeting at Hoffstot's Cafe
- **July 13** Chapter Meeting... Location TBD
- **July 15-16** Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix
- **July 23-28** Oktoberfest--Grand Rapids, MI

Check www.alleghenybmwcca.org for more information & updates.

Chapter Information

Position	Name	Contact
President	Susan Robishaw	(724) 969-5048 Sracer318@netscape.net
Vice President	Kevin Murphy	(724) 933-1619 Kmurph91@comcast.net
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Allegheny Chapter members receive the Chapter Newsletter as part of their BMW CCA membership. Subscriptions are available for \$10 per year inside the U.S. and Canada. Please contact the editor for overseas rates.

Chapter Address:

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P.O. Box 1337
McMurray, PA 15317

The Fine Print

This newsletter is the sole property of the Allegheny Chapter BMW CCA Incorporated, a Pennsylvania corporation. It is published to inform and entertain the members of Allegheny Chapter BMW CCA and other recipients of the newsletter. The ideas, opinions, and suggestions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and no authentication is implied by the editor. Permission is granted for other BMW CCA chapters, members of the International Verband der BMW Clubs, and other clubs to copy or otherwise use any part of this publication provided that credit is given to the source.

Classified ad policies: Classified ads for BMW CCA members are free with a confirmed current membership number. Classified ads will run for 2 issues unless the editor is notified the item is no

Important announcements:

- Annual officer election material is enclosed on the last page of the newsletter, please mail out your ballot by **Monday May 8, 2006**, thank you
- BMW 2002 owners in the pittsburgh area. to get together for early morning 'wake up and ride' get together's. Get together like 8ish or so, drive til lunch time, stop for a bite, then get everyone back home by ~noon to 1ish. Interested? Email davidbentz@gmail.com for more info.
- If you are interested in submitting and sharing your articles in the Allegheny BMW CCA Newsletter, please contact Geoff Kao at meisterschaftmotor@yahoo.com for submission. The submission deadline for the June issue is May 26 and August 25th for the September issue.

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As usual, the annual signature event of the Allegheny Chapter is the Saturday car show and picnic in Schenley Park. I attended my first PVGP race back in 1986 and have only missed one race weekend since. One of the many highlights of the weekend has always been walking the golf course and looking at the hundreds of British and German cars. It is not unusual for 50 or more cars to be displayed in the BMW area and there are always interesting cars present. Last year, I recall everything from a 50 year old Isetta to a brand new e90 330i (this was just after the e90's were introduced). Anyone want to bring a new Z4 Coupe this year? If you are looking to add to your collection or are between cars, there are usually a few cars for sale as well.



Although there are always concours quality cars at the PVGP show, your car does not have to be a "show car" to be a part of the fun. I own a well used 1987 325is which now has over 236,000 miles on the clock and wears several different shades of touch up paint in addition to ever advancing shades of rust. The first time I participated in the event, I was a bit concerned by my car's rust and other ailments. I was immediately put at ease after talking with the owners of a spotless 2002 and an equally brilliant M5. I later got a kick out of a discussion I overheard on the other side of the park about the "nice condition of that other e30 with the car seats in the back."



The Club will once again be hosting a reception and providing a multi-course lunch. This is a great time to sit down and meet someone else that shares your interests. The Club will be back at the same location for Sunday's races. As an added bonus, the BMW display area is one of the two best places in the park to watch the races.

Registration for the Schenley Park shows will be handled through the PVGP. Contact the Club website for additional information regarding registration, the lunch and the various other events throughout the week. As always, additional volunteers are needed and welcome. The Club needs help throughout the week, but is particularly in need of help with the Schenley Park car show and picnic. The Club is looking for assistance with registration, parking, security, and generally welcoming and hosting guests.

Of course, I would be remiss not to mention that the proceeds generated by the PVGP go to two really worthy charities, the Allegheny Valley School and the Autism Society of Pittsburgh.

The week of the PVGP offers the perfect opportunity to get out and enjoy your BMW. I hope to see you there!

Dirt Under Your Nails

- David Bentz

As I sit on the plane reading my book, I stop to admire some of the dirt left under my fingernails from changing the tires on the car the night before. Call me silly, but leaving my wife & eight month old son with a car without its snow tires for five days wouldn't be a smart move. So, I took a day off work to finish packing and replace the tires. All in all, it went well and I left with peace of mind.

What's funny is that even though I had gloves on I still managed to get dirt under my fingernails. The more I think about it the more I realize - getting dirty is part of the fun. As most pre-teen/teen boys, I was into building and tinkering with bicycles. With the help of my father I actually had the chance to build my own bike. To this day, I can still hear my mother telling me not to get grease on this or that. My fondest memory is her telling me that I'd already brought grease into the house. The poor woman. I think I've taken 10 years off her life from making her worry so much. Truth be told, I did try my damndest scrubbing with gojo and a stiff bristle brush to get as much of the grease and dirt off before coming into the house. I even had my set of work clothes for when that unruly grease would be involved. But as much as I tried, grease would still make it into the house. And boy, did I hear about it.

When I finally had a house and a garage of my own, my mother was considerate enough to warn my wife about my penchant for playing with grease. She also made sure she completely understood how I managed to make grease migrate like the Ebola virus. Thank God Brenda is more of a grease ally. Ok, maybe not necessarily an ally, but certainly a neutral country. Well, maybe not neutral - you get the idea. I guess she realizes that sometimes no matter how hard you scrub, in the end the stuff just has to wear off. To this day, I still use heavy-duty cleaners and a brush to clean up, as well as having my work clothes and gloves. Sometimes I wonder, did the grease get weaker, or did the cleaners get stronger. Who knows? Maybe I just tricked the grease into staying with my parents.

Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix Preview

- Geoff Kao

What else is better to do on sunny July days than to come out with your bimmer to join your fellow car club members for a weekend long activity and feast at the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix! I had the pleasure of meeting many of you there last year, and I look forward to seeing you all again and other new faces! The Allegheny Chapter will once again have several tents set up during the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. As in the past, we will offer meals for both Saturday and Sunday. Food registration should be done through the Allegheny Chapter BMWCCA. Like last year, if you would like to bring your BMW down for the car show on Saturday, registration must be done through the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. Here are some pictures from last year, see how much fun you could have been having?



Please contact myself or Kevin Murphy if you have any questions, suggestions, or ideas to help make this year's event better. Our contact information can be found on the list of chapter contacts. This will be our second year chairing the event, and we look forward to seeing many of you out there! We are looking for volunteers to come join up in making this a great event, help needed include, but not limited to: on site registration, car show parking, meal service, greeters, and nice friendly smiley faces facilitating other logistical needs.

Allegheny Chapter BMWCCA Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: January 12, 2006

Began: 8:37 pm

Ended: 9:35 pm

Present: Susan Robishaw, Bob Briggs, Kevin Murphy, Geoff Kao, Jacob Rice, Tom Wettach, BJ Wettach, Ron Krueel, and Rudi.

* **News From National**

75,086 Total Members

2005-06 Membership Drive continues through July 15th 2006.

25th Annual Gateway Tech is March 23-26 in St. Louis.

BMWCCA Elections were held in January.

* **Treasure's Report (as of December 21/ 05)**

Foundation

Checking

* **Membership Report (as of December 21/05)**

Primary Members: 535

Associate Members: 72

Renewing Members: 23

Renewing Associate Members: 9

Non-renewing Members: 7

New Members:	Michael Baumgart	Craig Dennis	Rick Ennis
	Shawn Finn	Paul Frank	Jack Grupp
	Allen Hartman	Steve Lichtenstein	Richard McQuigg
	Cihat Ozhasoglu	Christine Parlett	William Permar
		Michael Wallace	

* **Newsletter/Website:**

More articles and contributors are needed to fill required content of the newsletter.

December issue submitted into archives.

Website updated through March 6th 2006.

* **New Meeting locations:**

February 9th – Warehouse Café in Bethel Park

March 9th – D'Imperios in Monroeville

* **New Business:**

Inviting the Nittany Lion Chapter for the 2006 PVGP was suggested.

Kevin Murphy and Geoff Kao to chair PVGP again.

Bob Spears to head PVGP Car Show.

Volunteers needed 2006 PVGP.

Fall Festival September 9 – 10 2006.

An e-mail message of January 10th from Tim Silbaugh indicated that BMW CCA Club Racing has put a race on the calendar for the event and the Allegheny Chapter has been suggested as the sponsoring chapter.

BeavRun is suggesting that the race be with the Porsche Club. BeavRun has also invited the chapter to participate in the other activities that are part of the Fall Festival. Susan said she would contact Tim about the possible race.

* **Other Business:**

Rudi gave a detailed report of the 2005 Fall Leaves Tour.

Susan Robishaw asked Geoff Kao to resign as Club Secretary as she felt he was not properly performing his duties.

Allegheny Chapter BMWCCA Monthly Meeting Minutes**Date:** February 9, 2006**Began:** 9:05 pm**Ended:** 9:53 pm**Present:** Susan Robishaw, Bob Briggs, Kevin Murphy, Jacob Rice, Andre Roche, John and Laura, T. Rudi Flavin.*** News From National**

75,136 Total Members

2005-06 Membership Drive continues through July 15th 2006.25th Annual Gateway Tech is March 23-26 in St. Louis.*** Treasure's Report (as of January 21/ 05)**

Foundation

Checking

*** Membership Report (as of January 21/05)**

Primary Members: 539

Associate Members: 69

Renewing Members: 20

Renewing Associate Members: 9

Non-renewing Members: 7

New Members: David Andrews	J Bookwalter	Eric Dobratz
Aaron Kojundic	Thomas McElhinny	Jan Mitchell
Michael Nicolella	Lee Plummer	

*** Newsletter/Website:**

More articles and contributors are needed to fill required content of the newsletter.

December issue submitted into archives.

*** New Meeting locations:**March 9th - D'Imperios in Monroeville**2005New Business:**

Fall Festival September 9 - 10 2006. (no BMWCCA club race).

Susan said she was going to put out the newsletter the week after the meeting..

Susan will attend the BeaveRun Fall Festival meeting 2/16.

Susan went to the Drive Events Conference.

Susan mentioned the ZF public service money that might work for the PVGP

2006Other Business:

Street Survival Car Clinic for Teens was suggested. (discussed in detail)

Venue needed. No cost to the Chapter.

Rudi mentioned Lange (WV Fall Leave Tour Barbeque Master) may

retire from cooking for the event. We'll need to make other

arrangements to be sure that there will be enough food for all attending.

Date: March 9, 2006**Location:** D'Imperio's Restaurant**Began:** 8:10 pm**Ended:** did not end

Date: March 23 (continuance meeting)

Location: Gene's Last Chance

Began: 9:00 pm

Ended: 12:22 am Gene 1st Rudi 2nd.

Present: Susan Robishaw, Bob Briggs, Kevin Murphy, Jacob Rice, T. Rudi Flavin, Gene Kern, Lee Plummer, Tom Wettach, Mark E. Tarantino, Geoff Kao, Eric Zagrocki, Bill Permar

- **News From National**

Total Members: 75,469

2005-06 Membership Drive continues through July 15th 2006

- **Treasure's Report**

Foundation

Checking

- **Membership Report**

Primary Members: 535

Associate Members: 67

Renewing Members: 32

Renewing Associate Members: 12

Non-renewing Members: 9

New Members: Michael Baumgart	Craig Dennis	Rick Ennis
Shawn Finn	Paul Frank	Jack Grupp
Allen Hartman	Steve Lichtenstein	Richard McQuigg
Cihat Ozhasoglu	Christine Parlett	William Permar
	Michael Wallace	

- **Newsletter**

Geoff is gathering information for the next newsletter.

Newsletter will go out after nominations are closed.

Volunteers needed for 2006 PVGP

Send associate members election ballots

- **Website**

Kevin has updated the website. Included are future meeting locations and information for the upcoming PVGP.

John Skinger requested a photo gallery page.

- **Committee Reports**

PVGP: Kevin attended 2 meetings.

Having a tent for items was mentioned.

Nittany Bimmers would like to participate (Kevin contacted them).

Insurance Certificate (Kevin will check with National).

Food, ropes, door prizes (present to win), etc. were discussed.

PVGP corral at BeaveRun

A cost to the chapter of \$4000 for the event. Approved by members present.

Driving Events: Rudi talked to BeaveRun about Fall Festival and a 2-day driving event.

By-Law Review: Rudi called for another committee discussion.

Further By-Law Review ideas to be printed in the newsletter.

- **Meetings**

April Sesame Inn (North Hills)

May Roland's (Strip District)

June Hoffstot's (Oakmont)

- **New Business**

The following 2005 monthly meeting minutes were read, amended and approved. **Feb.** Kevin 1st Geoff 2nd/ **March** Lee 1st Gene 2nd/ **April** Lee 1st Bob 2nd/ **May** Mark 1st Eric 2nd/ **June** Gene 1st Lee 2nd/ **July** Rudy 1st Gene 2nd/ **Aug.** Lee 1st Gene 2nd/ **Oct.** Rudi 1st Gene 2nd/ **Dec.** Eric 1st Kevin 2nd/

The following 2006 minutes were read, amended and approved. **Jan.** Bob 1st Kevin 2nd/ **Feb.** Tom 1st Bob 2nd.

Jeff Taylor suggested a club race w/ the Porsche Club @ BeaveRun.

Additional Information and budget amounts are needed for insurance and officials.

Susan G. Komen Drive: June 10th Bobby Rahal, June 12th P&W Motors

Bob volunteered to generate chapter participation statistics and requested meeting attendance records.

- **Unfinished Business**

Upcoming elections were discussed.

Nominations will be concluded at the April meeting.

From the Newsletter Editor

- Geoff Kao

Hi everyone, we are back again with your new issue of the newsletter. Thanks for the many of you who had contacted us and expressed concerns about the "health" of the chapter. Yes we are still here, and moving forward, there are interesting and exciting events coming up ahead! I want to reemphasize again that your participation, volunteerism, and enthusiasm are things that foster these events and our organizations, the Allegheny BMWCCA. The news flash was sent out to the members following updating the interim chapter business in between the official mailing of newsletters. That seemed to work out well to get information out to you timely, and we will use this format to keep you up to date in between scheduled newsletters. In this issue we have the election ballots in the end of the newsletter for the upcoming officers elections. Please mark your ballots and mail back that portion of the newsletter containing the ballot. I also want to give you all a quick preview and recap of the annual Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix event coming up in July, we had a great time last year and I hope to see you there again! Also included in the newsletter is a summary of recent chapter meeting minutes to inform the members who weren't present to discuss the chapter business. Thank you to our newsletter article contributors, there are several automotive related quality reading materials for your enjoyment. See you at the Vintage Grand Prix!

A few more pics from the 2005 Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix



Some nicely prepared BMWs at BeaveRun



2006 Allegheny Chapter Ballot

President:

- Bob Briggs
- Susan Robishaw

Vice President:

- Kevin Murphy

Secretary:

- Jacob Rice

Treasurer:

- Gene Kern
- Lee Plummer
- Tom Wettach

Member at Large:

- Rudi Flavin

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Place
stamp
here

**Allegheny Chapter, BMW CCA
P. O. Box 1337
McMurray, PA 15317**

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What events would you like to see in the future?

How would you like to volunteer to help the chapter?

Seal Here

Allegheny Chapter BMW CCA
P.O. Box 1337
McMurray, PA 15317
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



ELECTION BALLOT ENCLOSED

Prompt Reply Necessary