



ALLEGHENY CHAPTER BMWCCA

2006 Fall Leaves Tour & Picnic

- Rudi Flavin

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If everything were as easy to predict as the turning of the leaves, we could guarantee a day like this crisp, clear, sunny fall afternoon: perfect picnic weather. This day was as if made for the 25th ANNUAL FALL LEAVE-STOUR & PICNIC.



Conceived by a far-sighted group of BMW-no space-CCA members in West Virginia, the 1981 event, with the exception of a certain nefarious package of bratwurst, was such an immense success that the Mountain State Chapter decided to reach out to the fledgling Allegheny Chapter and invited us to share the fun and "madness" at the second annual FLT&P. When Allegheny accepted the extended hospitality, the combined chapters picnic was realized in year two, which makes this our Twenty-fourth Annual Allegheny and Mountain State Chapters' Joint Celebration of FLT&P.

The Rudi family began making the annual sojourn in year three and have been on hand every year since then. We have T&P'ed in sunshine, rain and snow, yes, snow. From '83 on, in '87 when Kate was pregnant and '88 with Young Tom as a 10 month old infant, right through to '06 we have always made it to FLT&P. Although Tom did have to miss one picnic to take his SAT's, he's back on board now as a college student helping to continue the tradition of excellence started a quarter of a century ago.

Upcoming Events

- **December 14** Chapter Meeting at D'Imperios
- **January 11** Chapter Meeting at Ibiza
- **February 8** Annual Meeting at Roland's
- **March 8** Chapter Meeting...Location TBD
- **April 12** Chapter Meeting...Location TBD

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



Allegheny Chapter's Leaves Tour Caravan gathered up as usual in the parking lot at Great Southern Shopping Center, this year proceeding under the tutelage of neophyte chapter treasurer Lee Plummer. In smart time they saw Little Washington, the West Virginia state line, Morgantown, Fairmont, Clarksburg, and the "FBI Center" in their rear view mirrors. Along the route, fantastic colors of fall foliage provided plenty of eye candy.

-continued on page 4

Chapter Information

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|----------------------------|--------------------|---|
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|--------------|--------------|---|
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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:

Allegheny Chapter, BMW CCA
P.O. Box 552

The Fine Print

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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

Calendar

| 2006 | |
|-------------|--|
| December 14 | Chapter Meeting at D'Imperio's Restaurant 3412 William Penn Highway Monroeville, PA 15235 (412) 429-7272 Dinner: 7:00pm Meeting: 8:00pm |
| 2007 | |
| January 11 | Chapter Meeting at IbizaTapas & Wine Bar 2224 East Carson Street Pittsburgh, PA 15203 (412) 325-2227 Dinner: 7:00pm Meeting: 8:00pm |
| February 8 | Annual Meeting at Roland's Seafood Grill 2533 Penn Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (412) 261-3401 Dinner: 7:00pm Meeting: 8:00pm |
| March 8 | Chapter Meeting Location TBD Dinner: 7:00pm Meeting: 8:00pm |
| April 12 | Chapter Meeting. Location TBD Dinner: 7:00pm Meeting: 8:00pm |
| April 15 | Fun Rally, "Le Tour De June" Lodge of North Park 9:00am |
| July 14-15 | Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix Schenley Park Pittsburgh, PA |

From the Newsletter Editor

- Geoff Kao

Hello again. Time flies when we are having fun doesn't it? We all just had our Thanksgiving feast and Christmas is just around the corner again. We are wrapping up a fun year and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for coming out and participating in the events that we put together this year. I am glad to report to the general membership that we have gotten the chapter back in shape and we're moving toward the right direction with many renewed interests of participating members and leadership. We are continuing to strive for improvements for upcoming events and I encourage those of you who haven't had the chance to come join us to do so. Once again, Rudi did a wonderful job in planning and leading the Fall Leaves Tour. I want to thank him for his effort on behalf of the chapter; take a look at the pictures from this year's tour and a write up from Rudi.

In the November monthly meeting, we proposed a "fun rally" event to be held here in Pittsburgh. Detailed information submitted by Jeff and Barb Taylor is enclosed in this newsletter. We look forward to a great turn out

In order to move forward with the chapter business, Bob Briggs was voted in by the board to serve as the interim President and Lee Plummer is serving as the interim treasure for the remainder of the current term. The 2007 chapter officer election is to be held in December and important nomination information is enclosed in this newsletter. Please take a moment to review the material and submit the nomination back to us by December 22.



At Lost Creek the group slowed to a crawl and enjoyed one of the top ten best small towns in America. A single stop sign and then seven miles of beautifully twisty two-lane provided motoring entertainment right into the park. The tourists were greeted warmly by our wild and wonderful hosts and the Rudi family, who had raced ahead to provide for the victuals. All gathered together again to celebrate the heartwarming traditions of "meisters who trinkspruch the jager" and "keepers of the wurst."

The Fall Leaves Tour and Picnic on Saturday 21 October 2006 was predictably a fantastic success, providing for a marvelous journey and a sumptuous meal in the comfort and environs of the Activities Lodge at Watters Smith Memorial State Park, West Virginia. Fortunately, the Chapter has enjoyed a splendid run of stellar FLT&P's and this 'Annual' pulled its weight. Our band of gypsies grew as the non-caravan inclined, the West Virginia travelers, and a number of local members rolled up. Soon a plethora of Bimmers lined the parking lots and as never fails to happen, hoods were popped.

Drivers and philosophers find "meaning in the journey" and when pleasant company and a good meal come together there is joy at the destination as well. So it was as we 'burghers and our compadres from the south, Mountain State Chapter's members, commingle conversation and sampling the amalgamation of creative pot luck contributions brought to complement the "main course," prepared and served with marvelous efficiency, for the first time ever, by Kate Flavin, who graciously donated her services to procure and prepare the principal part of our meal. Chef's specials for this meal would be Shrimp Scampi followed by the best Pulled Pork Sandwiches in the Northern Hemisphere.

Langston's "special love and care" Barbecue Sauce once again flavored the pulled pork, but T. L. Palmer has passed the mantle of "Chef Extradonare" on to Kate. Lang is a "Shining Star" in the kitchen, one who has brought art and imagination to a palette of ingredients to create and become the entrepreneurial force behind Langston's Barbecue Sauce, he's a strategic thinker and magnificent conversationalist with broad interests including music, travel, computers, food and cars, and it's good to have a friend like him. His twenty-four straight years of preparing our main course has got to be some kind of record. It was time to lift the burden from his shoulders; if only others would follow the example of his benefaction we would have a chapter teeming with actively participating members. Even before the caravan arrived, a cozy fire graced the hearth and the kitchen bustled as Kate was well along in coaxing hugeshrimp into Scampi which would post haste be tabled with thegrün salat, four bean salad, fruitsalad, salsa, chips, soups, vegetables, casseroles, whole wheat and white sandwich buns and cashews, "soup to nuts," as my grandmother used to say. Jim Ruche's corn salsa was as good as his black bean soup always has been. Desserts included Lang's "Joy of Cooking" powdered-sugar-dusted brownies and German chocolate brownies and a blueberry pie courtesy of Ron Krill. The pork was tender, juicy and imbued with a marvelous flavor.

Judging by the banquet tables, one knows immediately that the sport of eating is much enjoyed by BMW CCA people from both north and south of the old Mason-Dixon Line. Lest you think, however, that essen und trinken are

the sole provenance of these picnickers, rest assured that meeting and greeting, conversation, and warm feelings are as much, if not even more, definitive of the afternoon.



Youngsters, oldsters and even the dogs have plenty of open space to romp about as well as woods to explore. Some enjoy an after dinner promenade along the trails through the "representative farm" and historic surroundings of this land, settled by Watters Smith circa 1760, while others renew old friendships or cultivate new ones. From the hoods-up "I'll show you mine" fanatics to the table talkers to the scenic woods walkers: diversions, revelations, old and new relations dominated the aura of this annual ceremony of reunion.

Solos, couples, family units and pets, heck, Ron even brought his Porsche – as a low key, but focused, car club event it is as easy as it seems for anyone to come on out and enjoy a benefit of Allegheny Chapter membership with no investment but time and gas money. For those who have never been to one of our events, this is an ideal way to "test the water" with no previous or further commitment required; we think you will like what you see enough to get at least a little more Allegheny Chapter into your schedule. An FLT&P always provides the opportunity to meet new people and is one of the most propitious venues for catching up on the news with old friends. All one needed to do was make the slightest effort to be friendly; any overture to conversation was met with genuine warmth.



Friends and friendly folks highlight the day for me. Lang, who has never missed a Fall Leaves, finally didn't have to spend the day in the kitchen or hovering over his trusty Weber, as he has done in years past. Jim Roueche was there at the first picnic and always helps Rudi to connect with Mountain State in the planning phase of the picnic. I first "caught up" with "Racing" Dave Chenoweth, Mountain State's current chapter president, on the highway while driving to FLT&P '83, my very first BMW CCA event. We missed his wife, Carol, this year, but wish her well in recovering from surgery. Hey, Lee, how'd that deal with the brake fluid work out? Plenty of genial people showed up at the park throughout the day, the Wrights even made it in spite of the caravan passing them by. A whole host of happy picnickers availed themselves of this beautiful day in the great outdoors.

As an unbiased eater I will say that the meal was brilliant. The desserts, covered dishes and soup not only prove that we pitch in for one another; they reveal that the car club harbors a fair number of fine cooks. The Shrimp Scampi and Pork Roast, both prepared to perfection by Kate Flavin, received near universal acclaim as confirmed by their speedy extinction.

We have long been grateful for the energy Jim, as my liaison with Mountain State, Dave, current chapter president, and Lang bring to the table, without which the picnic as we know it would not happen. Kate also did yeoman service in assembling picnic essentials, drinks, and our favorite tablecloth map of Deutschland! Kate and Young Tom and an extemporaneous crew of helpers also made the cleanup burden light for Rudi. Danke schön one and all!



After dinner the Wurstmeisters, our tenured picnic "elders," convoke to recite the FLT&Picnicker's Cannon: "Ah'm gonna behere nexcheer!" and share their valuable advice, "Schutz der Jager" (Protect the Hunter). That prosit feeling of an after dinner warm glow spread throughout the congregation, engendering for almost everyone a happy-family-in-the-park feeling. With a little prodding, we coax everyone together for the "group photo op." As the last official act of the day, David Chenoweth, stalwart of the Mountain State, who at times has been the only gluon to hold the sometimes quarkish chapter together, was given the dubious honor of being awarded the ceremonial "rat," the "wurst" part of the picnic. He is commissioned to personally bring back said sausage, as well as a healthy Carol, to the 2007 Fall Leaves Tour & Picnic, else the satisfaction of the ancient Wurstmeisters shall be lost and worse than his wheels will fall off!

Virtually everyone got more than they bargained for, the turnout was splendid, and the automotive entertainment provided great visuals and stimulating conversation. No one got tagged, bagged or hurt, everybody had a good time, and though not in full blaze, Watters Smith's foliage supplied a modicum of flashy leaves for this year's Wild and Wonderful FLT&P!

A great Texan and music hero of mine, the late great Doug Sahm, was fond of saying, "Either you get it or you don't." On this enchanted Saturday we had it all going for us. A near ideal BMW CCA mélange: Alleghenies buy the meat, Mountain Staters bring the heat! Rudi invites y'all to come on back and don't forget to bring your family and your friends to the 2007 FLT&P. Just Come -- and Get It!



Fun Rally- "Le Tour de June"

- Jeff & Barb Taylor

Date: Sunday - April 15, 2007

Event: Le Tour de June – "A Completion Event"

The Allegheny Chapter invites you to join us for a fun rally of the famous Pittsburgh *Wayfinder* system. We will meet at 9:00am, at the Lodge of North Park for coffee and donuts (registration). Since this is a fun rally and the route will be known to you, departure times are elective. Once under way you will be ask to complete a questionnaire regarding your travels. Those who answer the most correct questions will be entered into a drawing for door prizes. We will meet back at the lodge following the "Completion" of the rally for some French und German beverages und fares.

For more information and registration go to www.alleghenybmwcca.org.

Nominations for Chapter Officers:

It is time for nominations for chapter officers, here's how it works:

Who may nominate and be nominated:

- Any chapter member in good standing may nominate or be nominated

What positions are open for nominations?

- All chapter officer positions:
President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Member-at-Large.

Where to make a nomination:

- From the safety and security of your home via e-mail or US mail
- In person at a chapter meeting

When to make a nomination:

- Now until the closing of nominations on **December 22, 2006.**

How to make a nomination:

- Paper:
Article 5, section of the By-Laws states: "Any member may nominate a member in good standing by submitting a petition, in writing, countersigned by the nominee."

This petition may be submitted in person at a chapter meeting or prior to the meeting via U.S. mail to the election secretary. If sending a nomination by mail, please allow sufficient time for delivery.

- Electronic:
The nominator submits a petition to the nominee and the election secretary.
The nominee replies to both the nominator and election secretary either accepting or declining the nomination.
The election secretary replies to the nominee and nominator acknowledging the nomination and acceptance or declination.

The Election Secretary and contact information:

Tom Wettach

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IMPORTANT ELECTION INFORMATION ENCLOSED