



www.alleghenybmwcca.org

ALLEGHENY CHAPTER BMWCCA

Covered Bridges Tour 2008

-Eric Zagrocki

Inside this issue:

Covered Bridges	1
Chapter Information	2
News/Upcoming Events	3
I'm Free	4
Tech Session – McB	6
President's Message	6

Have you ever wondered why most covered bridges are red? Did you know that at one point Pennsylvania had more covered bridges than any other state in the country? There are 28 covered bridges in nearby Washington County. We invite you to join us on Sunday, May 4th to explore some of these bridges and find answers to these questions.



Given the strong turnout for last year's Le Tour de Jeune and in response to the survey taken at the Vintage Grand Prix, we have planned another casual touring event this spring. Through the generosity of the good folks at Bobby Rahal BMW, we will meet at the dealership between 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. for a light breakfast. You will have a few minutes to check out the new M3 and 1 Series in a low pressure environment.

We will then set off to explore seven nearby bridges. The scenery promises to be first rate. The roads will be lightly traveled and entertaining without being taxing. Xs and Ms will be equally at home. As most of the bridges are off the main roads, we will provide detailed route maps, information about each bridge and a chase car to make sure no one gets lost.

Although this year's event will not be a scavenger hunt, we will add some interest by conducting a poker run. Each bridge will have a deck of playing cards. If you arrive at a bridge, you will receive a card. We will award prizes based upon the best poker hands. If you are not familiar with the game, someone will be around to help.

The drive will be about 70 miles and should be limited to about an hour and a half in the car. Afterwards, we will gather for a BMW themed lunch.

The cost of the event will be a nominal \$10.00 per car. The only limit to the number of people in your car is the number of seat belts. To get a head count, we ask that you RSVP online or by returning the card attached to this Newsletter by May 2nd. As always, check the club's website for the most updated information.

We hope to see you there!

Quick Look -Upcoming Events

- **April 6** McB Tech Session
- **April 10** Chapter Meeting at Azul
- **May 4** Covered Bridges Tour
- **May 8** Chapter Meeting at Peter's Place
- **June 12** Chapter Meeting at D'Imperio's
- **July 19-20** Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix at Schenley Park

Chapter Information

Position	Name	Contact
President	Brett Sutton	(724) 250-9893 info@alleghenybmwcca.org
Vice President	Kevin Murphy	(724) 933-1619 vicepres@alleghenybmwcca.org
Treasurer	Lee Plummer	(724) 969-5048 treasurer@alleghenybmwcca.org
Secretary	Bill Permar	(secretary@alleghenybmwcca.org
Member At Large	T 'Rudi' Flavin	(412) 851-0195 tlarge@alleghenybmwcca.org
Driver's Event Chair / Event Coordinator	Eric Zagrocki	(412) 566-1987 ejzagro@aol.com
Executive Director, BMWCCA	Frank Patek	Frank_Patek@bmwcca.org
President, BMWCCA	Bruce Hazard	President@bmwcca.org
VP, North Atlantic Region	John Sullivan, Jr.	northatlanticvp@bmwcca.org

Newsletter		
Editor	Kevin Murphy	(724) 933-1619 editor@alleghenybmwcca.org
Chapter News	-VACANT-	
Webmaster	Kevin Murphy	(724) 933-1619 webmaster@alleghenybmwcca.org

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 1283
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.

Advertising

For a schedule of advertising rates, please contact Brett Sutton (info@alleghenybmwcca.org) or Kevin Murphy (vicepres@alleghenybmwcca.org).

News and Upcoming Events

The Allegheny Chapter is here to provide you with the opportunity to enjoy your BMW with other like minded individuals. Please put the following events on your calendar. Check www.alleghenybmwcca.org for updated information.

Attend a Chapter Meeting – Upcoming chapter meetings take place on the following dates:

- **April 10**...Azul, 122 Broad Street, Leetsdale, PA, 15056 - Dinner: 6:30pm, Meeting: 8:00pm
- **May 8**...Peter's Place, 1199 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA, 15017 - Dinner: 6:30pm, Meeting: 8:00pm
- **June 12**...D'Imperio's, 3412 William Penn Hwy., Monroeville, PA 15235 - Dinner: 6:30pm, Meeting: 8:00pm
- **July 10**...Papa J's, 200 E. Main St., Carnegie, PA 15056, Leetsdale, PA, 15056 - Dinner: 6:30pm, Meeting: 8:00pm
- **May 8**...Peter's Place, 1199 Washington Pike, Bridgeville, PA, 15017 - Dinner: 6:30pm, Meeting: 8:00pm
- **August 16** ...Brett Sutton's House, 307 Christy Road, Eighty Four, PA 15330 - For the whole family. We plan to have a cookout and a car shine-off.

Tech Session at McB Autosport - April 6 McB's will open the hood or put cars on the lift to answer any questions or to look issues you may have with your BMW. The morning will start at 10:00 am and last approximately two hours. There is no charge for this event.

Driving Schools with ARPCA (Allegheny Region Porsche Club of America)

- **May 17-18**...Watkins Glen
- **July 2-3**...Mid-Ohio
- **August 23-24**...BeaveRun
- **September 27-28**...Mid-Ohio

Covered Bridges Tour - May 4 Watch the website and March Newsletter for more information on a local touring event similar to last year's Tour De Jaune. It looks like this year's event will involve a search for covered bridges in Washington County followed by a lunch.

Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix - July 6-20 Come to Pittsburgh's premier auto event. The Vintage Grand Prix starts off with a kick-off rally on July 6th and then rolls on with a string of events until the final weekend at Schenley Park. For more information, visit www.pvgp.org.

Vintage at Vineyards - May 23-25 Lewisville, NC. Quickly becoming the hottest BMW event on the east coast. Vintage BMWs displayed on the front lawn, live German compah band in the background, and the smell of German food in the air. The intimate setting of the winery is what makes this event something special.

Oktoberfest 2008 - September 23-28 The BMW Car Club of America will present its 39th Annual Oktoberfest in historic Watkins Glen, New York. It's the Club's first O'fest in the state of New York since 1988, when Rochester was the host city, and the driving events took place at Watkins Glen International Raceway. For more information, visit www.bmwccaofest.org.



At the opposite end of the spectrum, Tata Motors has introduced the world's cheapest car. Ratan Tata calls it the Peoples Car. Isn't he about 60 years too late for that name? Ratan must think that Adolf, Ferdinand, and Martin won't mind. Then they decided to give it a name and went with Nano. I'm sure he ok'd it with Steve first. If you have ever experienced or seen video of traffic in India, imagine it with half the motorbikes replaced with Nanos that are 5 to 10 times the size. Some of the Indian press says that it is too cheap for the target market. With Tata Motors the leader in the purchase of Jaguar from Ford I guess we can expect the XF to be followed by the world's cheapest Jag. I can't wait.



Some people just don't think about what they are writing. Amy from Bavarian Blylines writes "Nothing drives you battier than sitting in the passenger seat while being driven by someone who drives too fast, too slow, tailgates, doesn't use blinkers, shifts too soon or corners too late. You bite your tongue till it bleeds, reach for the imaginary brake peddle and white knuckle the door grip. We BMW drivers choose the cars we drive because we love to drive, and for the most part, we're darn good at it. Okay, perhaps a few of us drive a wee bit faster than we should... but we do it CAREFULLY! Speed limits were made for incompetent drivers." So Amy, how do you hold the door grip while you are driving, what happens when you reach for the imaginary brake pedal and find a real one, and does your tongue always bleed when you drive?

Closer to home it seems that someone from WV was following someone who "In Pittsburgh interstate traffic he is doing about 20 over the limit, darting in and out finding that clear road." I wonder if it is anyone we know? Probably some friend of Amy's.

Volkswagen has a new set of concept cars, the up!, space up! and space up! blue that started showing up at the 2007 auto shows. I didn't see it at the Pittsburgh Auto Show last year and I doubt I'll see it this year. That won't stop me from going to the auto show this year, April 17-21. We'll see if any of these city cars make it over here. If they make it into production and you were to go to the VW dealer and buy one, would they hand you the keys and say up! yours?



From the Motor Sport Report: "As a first time participant in the Ice Gymkhana, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. ...my instructor for one lap to give me some pointers. ... The skid pad was a lot of fun, and I managed somewhere around 8 or 9 miles an hour before I would do a 360, which felt more like a ballet move, rather than a violent maneuver of spinning your car around. It was so slow, it was enjoyable to just sit back and watch the scenery until the spinning stopped. It was a great experience and I learned a little more how to control my car on ice, but I think I would rather stick to the track." Scary thought going to the track for a violent maneuver of the car spinning around while you just sit back and watch the scenery. There is so much more to learn on a skidpad.

Driving into '08.

I have to agree with John Lessel who writes "Hello! My name is John and I am a track addict." My 2008 schedule has 7 events on it from March through October and I'm looking for number 8. I'm blowing off the March meeting because I'll be on my way to the track. I'm blowing off the annual curling club banquet because I'll be at the track. You just have to have your priorities straight. I hope to see some of you out there improving your driving. Now I have to get back to working on the two lectures I have to give at the Instructor Academy.

McB Autosport to Host Tech Session—April 6, 2008

-Eric Zagrocki

Have you ever wondered what a guibo is and if it needs to be replaced on your BMW? Or why anti-freeze and brake fluid need to be replaced at regular intervals? Or what front and rear suspension bushings look like? McB's Autosport has offered to host a tech session on April 6 at their new location at 395 Washington Avenue in Bridgeville. After many years in the old MG dealership on Baldwin Avenue, McB's recently relocated its facility to the old Burgander Dodge/Fleet Depot building on Washington Boulevard. In order to show off their new space, Mike and Mark Connelly have offered to buy coffee and donuts and conduct a tech session for our members. McB's will open the hood or put cars on the lift to answer any questions or to look issues you may have with your BMW. The morning will start at 10:00 am and last approximately two hours. There is no charge for this event.

So sufficient coffee can be brewed, we ask that you RSVP by Friday, April 4th by sending in the card enclosed in the newsletter or emailing Brett Sutton (info@allegHENYbmwcca.org) or Eric Zagrocki (ejzagro@aol.com). To make the program as interesting as possible, if you would like Mark to look at your car or put it on the lift, kindly describe any issues you would like to have addressed on your RSVP. If we have more topics than we can address in the available time period, we will pick the issues with the broadest appeal.

Note: We had this event listed in our December, 2007 Newsletter, and have not received any interest. If we do not get a sufficient amount of responses by Friday, April 4, we will have to cancel the event.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My name is Brett Sutton and I would like to thank you for electing me as the new club President. I would also like to thank Bob Briggs for time spent as the past President. I am excited to take on this position and to try to better our club.

After attending quite a few meetings, I am trying to get a feel on moving our club forward. The Board of Directors would like to try some new events this year. We are planning a few tech sessions at McB Motorsports and also a covered bridge tour in Washington County this May. We are always looking for different things to do.

As always, The Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix is right around the corner in July and volunteers are always appreciated. We are planning on having a club outing on both the Beaver Run weekend and the Schenley Park weekend.

Please let me know if you have any comments or gripes. I will get back to you. It might take a few days but I will return your email. Come on out to a chapter meeting and throw back a beer and talk about your beloved mark.

Brett Sutton
bsutton135i@comcast.net

**Allegheny Chapter BMW CCA
Covered Bridges Tour Registration
May 4, 2008**

Name:
Address:
City, State:
Zip Code:
Phone:
E-mail:
Year, Make & Model of Car:
Number of Participants:
Names:
Cost: \$10.00 per car

For Official use only	
Received:	Check #

Please send payment and Registration by
May 2nd to:

Allegheny Chapter, BMW CCA
P.O. Box 1285
McMurray, PA 15317



Allegheny Chapter BMW CCA
P.O. Box 1285
McMurray, PA 15317

