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2010 NEW YO

April

10th Autocross Test and Tune 25th Autocross Event #1

Nassau Coliseum Parking Lot #8

May

AAA Driver Improvement Program 1st

at AAA Headquarters, Garden City

New York Chapter Driving School at Pocono Raceway 7th

16th Second Annual Dine And Shine

From The Red Rooster Bistro to Pepi's Ristorante

Rain Date Sunday, June 6th

June

14th-15th New York / Patroon Chapters Driving School

at Watkins Glen Raceway

July

25th Annual Family BBQ

August

23rd - 29th 41st Annual BMW CCA Oktoberfest

Elkhart Lake, WI

30th New York / Patroon Chapters Driving School

at Monticello Motor Club

September

26th Fourth Annual Wine & Shine (rain date TBD)

Martha Clara Vineyard

December 4th

Holiday Party and President's Dinner



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On The Cover:

Joseph Fuchs carving the cones with his 1995 Avus Blue E36 M3 at O'Fest, a continually evolving autocross/track toy.

Photo by Mike Allen.







PRESIDENT'S PAGE

André Noël

Greetings BMW Fans,

Spring is here. Spring is here. Hip hip hurray, Spring is here! After the way February ended and the way March came in this year I am glad spring is finally here. Now it is time pull the covers off the sleeping toys and bring them out to play. Pull out the pre-drive check list. Make sure all systems are go, fire up the laptop, Google a place you would like drive to and go for it.

The latest news from BMW is quite interesting. If you look at their advertisements on TV and in the Roundel they are heading in a different direction. Looks like V8 engines are going to be a thing of the past and turbo charged engines are the new wave. This move gives BMW better fuel economy combined with the power of a V8. BMW is trying to make their car as efficient as possible. Expect to see even more new technology in the near future. What will BMW bring to the States in the near future? Only time will tell. So, happy motoring everybody! Enjoy the rest of Spring and come on out to chapter events.

Regards, André Noël

AAA Driver Improvement Program



Refresh your defensive driving techniques and learn preventative collision avoidance techniques. Save 10% off your collision and liability insurance. Reduce points on your license up to a total of 4. This six-hour course is approved by the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles. Bring your NewYork State drivers license and a pen on the day of the class. Please register early, as there is of maximum of 40 people. There is free parking directly across the street from the building. Be sure to read the signs carefully because there are some parking spaces that have a 2-hour parking limit.



Date: Saturday, May 1st, 2010 **Time:** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Cost: \$30 members, \$35 non-members

Place: AAA Office located at

229 7th Street (lower level)

Garden City, NY (between Franklin & Stewart Ave)

Please R.S.V.P. no later than 4/19/2010 on www.nybmwcca.org

AND send your payment to: BMW CCA NY Chapter, PO Box 920576, Arverne, NY 11692 Make checks payable to "BMW CCA NewYork Chapter."

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Safety Gear Advisor

Victor Gagliano - VAS Office 516-908-2180

THE NY CHAPTER Presents

The Second Annual Dine & Shine on the North Fork of Long Island

Sunday May 16th 12 noon to 3:30 PM (Rain Date: Sunday, June 6th)

Come spend a relaxing afternoon with your BMW friends on the Peconic Bay on Long Island's North Fork. Hosted by BMW owners Pepi and Nick, this year's event will feature two restaurants we will visit the same day. The first stop will be the Red Rooster Bistro on Depot Lane in Cutchogue. From there we will hold a quick fun rally (participation is optional) to our second venue, Pepi's Ristorante, on the water on Old Main Rd. in Southold.

After meeting at the Red Rooster Bistro promptly at noon for a drink (wine, beer or soft drink), we will proceed east to Pepi's Ristorante in Southold for a full buffet lunch overlooking views of Shelter Island and the Peconic Bay. At the Red Rooster, you can choose to enter a short fun rally with instructions provided at the Bistro to all who wish to participate. You will need to answer questions along the route, with prizes awarded at Pepi's Restaurant for the most correct answers. At Pepi's Ristorante, we will again hold our popular People's Choice Clean Car Show, with winners receiving choice bottles of local North Fork Wines.



PLACE:

A. Red Rooster Bistro. 4805 Depot Lane, Cutchogue, NY 11935 (631)734-8267

B. Pepi's Ristorante, 400 Old Main Rd., Southold, NY 11971 (631) 765-6373. www.pepisristorante.com

START TIME:

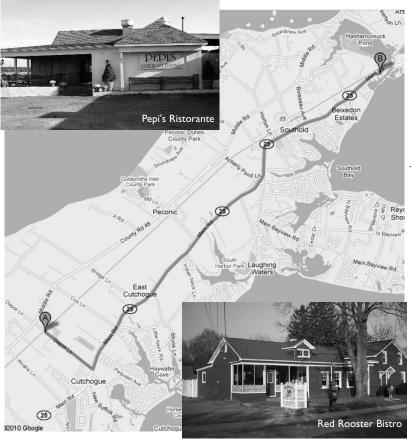
Arrive promptly at the Red Rooster Bistro 12:00 noon

PRICE:

\$35.00/person (adults and children) for Red Rooster Bistro (beverage) & Pepi's Ristorante (buffet lunch). Cash bar at Pepi's Ristorante.

> For more information contact Steve Geraci: stevegeraci@reflexphoto.com

ALL WHO WISH TO ATTEND MUST REGISTER BY E-MAIL WITH STEVEGERACI@REFLEXPHOTO.COM TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS SPECIAL PRICING





Bodyshop Basics, Part 1

by Matt Zakarian

Whether your cars' door has been keyed in a parking lot, you've been involved in an accident or you're restoring a classic car, having a good body shop on your side is like having a good lawyer. Hopefully you won't need one, but if you do, you want someone exceptionally competent. Although there still exists an aura of mystery surrounding the topic, the definition of good body work is very simple: after it is completed, no one can tell. In other words, if someone tells you they like the repaint of your bumper, the fact that they noticed it is bad. Along with aesthetics, the structural integrity has to be maintained to the factory specifications. In a series of articles, we're going to cover the whole gamut of the body shop field ranging from understanding your rights as the insured to choosing a top notch shop to developing competence in how to distinguish good work from bad.

In this month's article, we discuss the scenario of you being involved in an accident or your car being damaged while parked - it is important to know your rights under the NYS law. Let's start with what you must do immediately if you have been involved in an accident. This is usually a very traumatic and emotional time, but you have to keep a level head. What you do at that moment will have a direct impact on your settlement with the insurance companies. Here is a checklist of what to do and what not to do:

- Buy your parts from **BavAuto and save:**
- Free shipping on most orders over \$150. Exceptions apply to heavy/oversized items and shipments to AK, HI, PR, APOs, etc.
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- Make sure everyone is unharmed. Your personal safety is entirely more important than your car. If there's even a chance that someone is injured, call 911. If possible, move everyone to a safe area away from traffic.
- Call the police in order to file a police report. In some instances the other driver will ask you not to and tell you something like "Let's not get the cops involved. We'll just keep it between us and I'll pay you cash for the damages to your car." I strongly advise you to call the police for a couple reasons. The first reason is to document every thing from a legal standpoint to protect yourself. The second reason is that with a police report, you are more likely to collect full payment for all damages, including hidden damage. Ask me how I know this.
- Do not argue with the other party or admit guilt... and put away that brick you were going to crack over the other driver's head. Just exchange pertinent information.
- · Take pictures from different angles of the accident with your phone/digital camera. If you're "old school", keep a disposable cam era in your glove compartment. Do not share these pictures with the other party.
- Contact a towing service of your choice to transport your car to the body shop of your choice or to your home. It is a good idea to keep the contact information of a towing company in your car's glove compartment. Most quality body shops have their own tow trucks, so if you already have a shop you know you can call them directly. They usually have 24-hour emergency service for towing. If you're on the highway and are required to use an officially designated towing service, again, have them transport your car to the body shop of your choosing or to your home. Do not let them "steer" you to their rec ommended shop – more often than not, they receive a kick-back for every referral.
- Insist that the towing company only uses the factory supplied towing hook to winch the car - it is in your BMW's factory tool kit. The hook screws into the front bumper or, on newer models, behind

— continued on p18



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Registration

Price For Two Days

\$395

Open Track Add

\$55

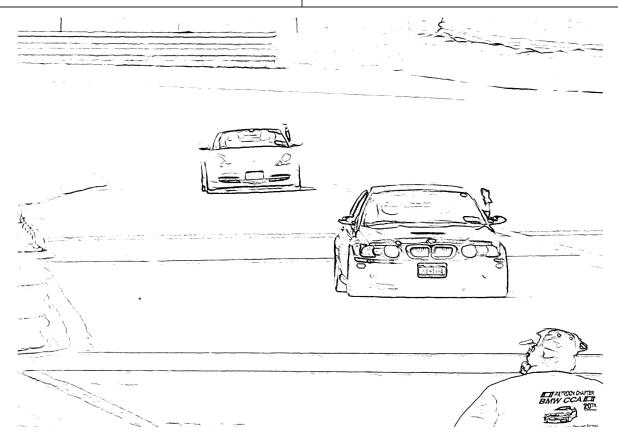
• Price for one day (Mon Only) \$275

. Registration closes on May26th. No-Refund After6/06/10

Mail completed application with self-addressed stamp envelope, copy of BMW CCA membership card or online Driving event registration At MOTORSPORTREG.COM (or mailing label from Roundel)

Make check payable to "BMW CCA New York Chapter"

BMW CCA Driving School C/O Michael Allen 1299 Birch Street Uniondale, NY 11553



Terms/Conditions: This is not a racing school but rather a high performance driving school on a race circuit under close supervision by instructors. You will be taught the fine art of car control and fundamentals of vehicle dynamics. You will be able to learn the capabilities of your car and improve your driving skills at speeds that are not permitted on public roads. All drivers will be instructed on safety regulations, and general etiquette on the track. In addition to the "Pre-Event Safety Inspection" which the driver is required to have performed, an "On-Site Safety Inspection" will be performed prior to the event. A confirmation notice that explains the Safety Inspection requirements will be sent to you approximately 3 – 4 weeks before the event and after registration and payment are received and accepted. Please ensure that you provide an accurate E-Mail address.

Questions:

• Student/Instructor Registrar: Mike Allen (516) 486-2790 (8:30P –10P) or **JBMIKE@AOL.COM**

REGISTRATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY May 26TH 2010

Online Driving registration at: MOTORSPORTREG.COM



Gears Garage: Wheel and Tire Decisions

By Nik Veler, NY BMW CCA Member

When it comes to wheel and tire diameter, it is very funny how often some people think bigger is better... Now come back from that place and focus on the text. The bigger the rim, for the most part, is only for the better fitment of bigger brakes. There are cases where changing overall gear ratio via tire/wheel size makes sense, but this would almost never have an application in the real (i.e. not racing) world.

When you see large wheels on most newer "sports" cars, one would think this also means larger is better. But the ugly little secret is it is mostly for the look that it sells. Most people dislike the way these cars ride and a lot of tuning has taken place to fix the ride. The next big issue is tire wear, since it is much harder to get and keep the perfect alignment when dealing with very short sidewalls. The tread on the very



edge is doing all the flexing and it tends to tear/wear much faster. Some will say they handle better and to some point this is true, but – and I do mean a big but - this is only true to a point.

Next if you live in an area that has four seasons combined with a bad economy, you have potholes – or tank traps as we call them – here a 45 aspect ratio sidewall will absorb the energy of the hit much better and many times not damage the rim. This is a very big can of worms to open, but you should do a lot of homework before dropping many benjamins on those 18, 19, or 20-inch rims. At least get informed about all or least most of the downsides to those cool big wheels and low-profile tires. If you think I just do not like them or the way they look, take a close look at most if not all motorsports, e.g. F1, Indy, NASCAR, ALMS and so on. Those that are in the industry know bet-

Enjoy the fun season of driving coming up.

The Gear Nut. ❖



Next if you live in an area that has four seasons combined with a bad economy, you have potholes - or tank traps as we call them...

BMW Press Release:

Pricing Announced for New BMW 5 Series Sedan (excerpt reprinted with permission from BMW NA)

Woodcliff Lake, NJ - March 25, 2010... BMW has announced pricing for the all-new 2011 BMW 535i and 550i Sedans. The new 535i Sedan will start at \$50,475, and the V-8 powered 550i will start at \$60,575, including \$875 Destination & Handling. The 535i receives BMW's newest 3.0-liter twin-scroll turbocharged inline, while the 550i will be powered by BMW's reverse-flow 4.4-liter Twin Power turbo V8. Both will feature the new 8-speed automatic transmission. Even with these enhancements, the base-prices for both models are lower than their 2010 predecessors – \$1,650 in the case of the 535i and \$900 lower for the 550i. The 535i and 550i continue a tradition that is the hallmark of the ultimate driving machine – the option of a 6-speed manual transmission at no cost. The choice of a manual transmission has been a 5 Series tradition through all six generations since its introduction to the US 35 years ago. 🌣

A Day At The Beach The 17th Annual Beach Party at

EuroMeccanica

by James Siegel

The 17th year for the Beach Party – it's hard to believe. This year's theme was how to deal with traffic violations. Our main speaker for the event was Casey Raskob, Esq. who has over 15 years experience handling traffic violations cases in the New York area. Casey is very experienced to the point where he can explain the differences in each town's court proceedings as well as the individual quirks of each judge, which provided us with several laughs.

What was great about Casey's talk is that he wasn't just selling himself. He freely answered questions providing as much information as possible which is all he needed to do to sell me on his services. It's clear the guy knows what he's doing and after hearing him speak I know he's my first stop the next time I need a traffic court attorney. If you need a good traffic attorney give Casey a call at 914-271-5383 or go to his website at www.speedlaw.net. Be sure to tell him you were referred by NY Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America.

Next our Master of Ceremonies, Event Organizer, and former Chapter President Tony Howell raffled off the usual array of door prizes while we ate the delicious lunch organized by our old friend Mark Hohenstein. This year's top door prizes included a racing jack, a torque wrench, and a low profile creeper for getting under your car. Overall there were enough prizes that almost everyone went home with some-

Last our event host and owner of EuroMeccanica, Mike Shiffer, gave his usual interesting talk about all things mechanical. This year he started by using a 10 speed bicycle as a prop to explain the dynamics of acceleration, braking, suspension, and turning. Then he took the concepts of what he showed us on the bicycle and compared them to the same dynamics on a nicely modified E39 540i Sport that was up on the lift. The moral of the story – physics works no matter what the mode of transportation is, and cool BMW's are fun to look at especially from underneath.

This year's event was once again a huge success. Great speakers, great food, and great prizes! And thanks to you – enthusiastic members and their guests! �







Mike Shiffer Talks Technology to the Crowd



Attorney Casey Raskob, III Addresses the Members







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Race car preparation:

- · Installation of roll bars, harnesses, racing seats, fire systems and other safety devices
- · Suspension modification, such as coil-over conversions, larger sway bars and urethane bushings
- · Chassis stiffening and reinforcement Bolt-on engine modifications, such as cams, cold-air boxes, exhaust systems and larger radiators
- · Fuel cell installation
- ·Two-way radio installation

EuroMeccanica, Inc. was started by Michael Shiffer in 1991. Michael is a tech advisor for NYBMWCCA and EuroMeccanica hosts their annual Beach Party, where dozens of BMW owners and enthusiasts converge to learn more about their cars. The shop's atmosphere is warm and open. Questions and input from our customers are welcome, and we make every effort to explain what we are doing to your car, and why.

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We are the 1st building on the right. #16 Stop in and visit us or give us a call.

BMW-PORSCHE-AUDI-VOLKSWAGEN-VOLVO-SAAB



New Members

We welcome the following new members to our chapter and hope to see them come out to an upcoming chapter event!

Member	Name	Member's Ride	Referred By	Member	Name	Member's Ride	Refer
Aaron	Vail	2002 330xi		John	Leong		
Jaqueline	Batton			Reginald	Barrett	1991 850i	
	Bellis	2008 328xi				2010 335i xdrive	ŀ
Arnold Camilo	Maravilla	2008 328xi 2000 323i		Steven	Jacowitz Chau	2010 3351 xdrive 2000 540i	ľ
		2000 3231		•			ı
Jane	Maravilla	2007 220 :		Guillermo	Larregui	2001 325i	ı
Charles	Jenkins	2006 330xi		Dan	Beer		ı
Nely	Erenfrid	2007 520 :		Tom	Cantone	2007.74	ı
Mark	McNamara -	2007 530xi		Arthur	Crowe	2006 Z4	ı
Arnold	Tanowitz	2009 X5		Jason	Aingorn		
Esther	Tanowitz			Robert	Shapiro	2008 X5 3.0si	
1ark	Fialk			lhor	Wowtschuk	2008 328i	
yan	Adan	2004 325Ci		Jerry	Tessler	2008 535i	
Glen	Sansone	2010 335xi		Stephen	Grant	2010 535ix	
Gordon	Tunison	2009 528xi		Stephen	Wright	2000 528i	
lobert	Kim	2009 Lotus Exige S 240	Petros Michalis	Robert	Bianchi		
iuseppe	Zeppieri	1987 E30 M3	Lawrence Charlemagne	Craig	Lambright		
Andrew	Wilson	1995 525i	Paul A. Wilson	Michele	Lambright		
Orin	Kurtz			Fabio	Racine	1987 325iC	
emetrios	Mirissis	1995 M3		Frank	Marchiano		
ole	Rosson	1997 328i		Lorianne	Marchiano		
cques	Debrot	1988 M5		Michael	Gelblat	2008 535xi	
chael	Pomerantz	2008 650i		Mike	Bruno	2002 E46 M3 Cabrio	
rry	Goldberg			Michael	Pettingill	2009 M3	
eorge	Gaiser	2010 335i Coupe		Robert	Porr		
drew	Wels	2008 328xi	Dave Gilbert	Phil	Altman	2007 530	
ın	Finnerty	2010 X5	Calton Chan	Jaspreet	Singh	2008 X5	
xter	Wallace	1992 325		Alex	Ferraris	2006 M Roadster	
chael	Broich	1976 2002A		Ruby	Huang	2002 X5	
slan	Chowdhury			Michael	Schwartz	2008 X5	
hn	Schmid	2010 328i		Bernard	Ascher		
arc	Morse			Sara	Moore		
ric	Johnston	2002 E46 M3		Lawrence	Rosedale	2010 328xi	
ose	Vargas	2010 335xi		John	McCarthy	2008 M3	
Richard	Pfirrmann	2010 335i		Jillian	McCarthy		
Tony	Wu			Jay	Laau	1991 5351	
ordan	Henderson	1994 318is		Jeff	Antonoff	2005 Bentley GT	
eter	Baker	1995 525iT		Robert	Rodriguez	2003 X5	
orivoj	Cvejic	2009 VW GLI		Charles	Vick	2004 X5 4.8is	
ranislav	Popovic			Ethan	Forchette	2010 135i	
1ichael	Casimir			Anna	Bentsianov		
Douglas	Casimir			Christo-	Pizzolorusso	2008 528i	
Rangasamy	Anbalagan		Dominick Dechiara	Adrianna	Pizzolorusso		
Stephen	Lee			Michael	Odonnell	2008 M3	
Philip	Wilken						
			I				



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6 Months	\$1,100	\$ 675		
9 Months	\$1,500	\$ 975		
12 Months	\$2,100	\$1,200		

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- 24 hour notice is required for access to vehicle and access will be limited or not available on specific holidays.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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2010 NY BMW CCA Autocross Schedule

by André Noël

All events will be held at Nassau Coliseum in Parking Lot 8

April 10th: Test and Tune

April 25th

May 15th

May 22nd

June 5th

July 31st: Possible Street Survival Date - TBD

August 8th: Possible Street Survival Date - TBD

September 5th

October 16th

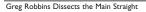
October 24th: Possible Adult Safety School - TBD

October 30th





Matt Murray Chops Up the Course





James David Slashes Cones on the Turn







Jim Siegel Dicing Cones Down the Stretch

The New York Chapter's Mystery Driver Chops Up the Autocross Course



An E46 Cleaves Through the Course



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Bodyshop Basics, Part 1

— continued from p6

the rear license plate. I've seen instances of cars having their suspension components bent from improper towing. And always have your car transported on a flatbed - a kneeling flatbed is best. This must be agreed to on the phone before the tow truck arrives, if your car is lowered or has spoilers installed, let the towing company know this ahead of time.

If you have been in an accident, there are some special considerations to be ironed out with your insurance company so that your car is still safe, your investment in the automobile is maintained and you are satisfied with the results of the bodywork:

- Do not ever go to drive-in claims center. Although they are marketed as convenient and hassle-free, in many instances it will cost you more money in the end – and that's very inconvenient.
- You may legally designate your repair shop to negotiate a fair claim settlement with your insurance company. This is where you want someone who has your best interests at heart. Just think of it as having a lawyer represent you. We recently repaired a Porsche 997 Turbo where the initial estimate was written at a body shop suggested by an insurance company. After we towed the car to our shop and got done fighting with the insurance company, the car owner received a supplemental check for an additional \$5K, which is what it took to repair the car correctly.
- An insurance company *cannot* tell you to go to its designated shop to get your damaged car inspected. If additional damage is found after dismantling, the insurance company has two business days to re-inspect after proper notification.
- The insurance company must negotiate in good faith. You are entitled to a prompt and fair settlement to repair your car to its preaccident condition. This includes parts of like, kind and quality equal to original equipment.
- You are *not* required to get more than one estimate.
- Don't let the insurance company steer you to one of their "approved" or "in network" shops – it is illegal for them to do so. These shops are part of their Direct Repair Program, but also creatively marketed as a "Concierge Service" or "Xpress Service". Under Section 167C of the New York State Law, you have the right to have your car repaired at a registered shop of your choice. Your insurance company cannot direct you otherwise. If your insurer insists that you need to get your car inspected or repaired at a particular place, do not get into an argument but rather contact the New York State Department of Insurance at (800) 342-3736.

- Except for window glass repair, an insurance company cannot recommend a particular shop unless you ask for a recommendation.
- If the damages to your car are over \$1,000.00, you must fill out a D.M.V. Form 104.
- An insurance company cannot tell you that you have to repair your vehicle in order to get paid. If you have damage, the insurer must pay the cost of repairing that damage, whether or not you choose to repair the vehicle. These New York state restrictions apply when a consumer files a claim with his or her own auto insurance company under his or her own policy. Claims filed with a third-party insurance company (the insurance company covering a person who hit you), even if that company is the same as yours, are subject to different restrictions. A third-party company is allowed to recommend a particular repair shop, but still cannot require its use. As a matter of fact, the NYS Department of Insurance recently conducted an investigation into this practice. They found that certain insurance companies were making claims that "the work of independent shops might not be guaranteed or fully covered, or overpriced or that the work will be unduly delayed." Do not fall for these scare tactics. Remember you are the customer who pays them and you are protected by the laws in New York State to control how your car is repaired.
- The only parts which should be used to repair your car are those equal to the OEM or those originally on your vehicle. The use of imitation parts could void a portion of your warranty and will devalue your vehicle. Always inquire which parts will be used during repairs.

If you have any questions of comments, please feel free to contact me at Detailing Dynamics. Until next time, may the wind be always at your back! *

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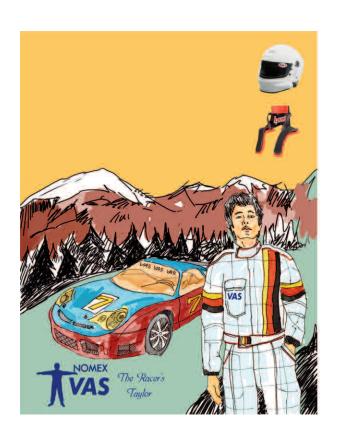
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by Baron Selman

I always had a fascination with BMWs – from the first one in my family, a 528e, through two 325Ci convertibles, a 535xi, and now an E70 X5 4.8i. Once I received the X5 in the summer of 2007, I immediately began to peruse the forums and clubs. Currently, I am a member of two online forums, one for BMWs in general and the other for X owners specifically. Of course, I am also a member of BMW Car Club of America nationally including the NY and NJ chapters. I can't get enough of BMW!

After going to a forum meetup in the summer of 2008, I caught the "modification bug". That began the arduous task of saving money, and determining the phases for each upgrade.

Once the mods began, so did my picture taking ability. I started to take photos of my BMW everywhere. Then came the crazy idea of taking pictures at night, with no flash to capture the real colors. I thought – Manhattan would be awesome, and more specifically – Times Square. Unfortunately, the friendly peace officers would not let me park in the middle of Times Square for more than 2 seconds, so that option was out. I drove around at 3am, looking for interesting spots throughout the city. I found many of them, but three of them stood out. One was directly underneath a lamppost showing the real curves of the SAV; another was on a deserted city street; and the last one – the best one – was in front of BMW of Manhattan. That picture has turned so many heads of my friends that they believe it should be on the cover of a brochure. While they're being nice since they're my friends, I do have this shot blown up on my office wall, as well as being the background picture on my laptop. I wanted to share with everyone else the beauty of this X.

