

Summer 2010

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DIE ZUGSPITZE

NEW YORK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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2010 NEW YORK CHAPTER EVENTS CALENDAR

June 14th-15th	New York / Carbon Chapter Driving School at Watkins Glen Raceway <i>Canceled Due to track repair</i>
July 25th	Annual Family BBQ at Aviator Sports and Events Center, Brooklyn
31st	Street Survival (Nassau Coliseum Parking Lot 8)
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 October 3rd) Martha Clara Vineyard
December 4th	Holiday Party and President's Dinner

How To Join:

To Join the BMW Car Club of America, call 800-878-9292 or visit www.bmwcca.org. BMW CCA national dues are \$48 per year, of which \$15 is for Roundel.



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On The Cover:

The Beautiful Alpina B7.
Is there a hidden message in this image?
Photo by Bill Howard.





PRESIDENT'S PAGE

André Noël

Greetings BMW Fans,

Oh no, here we go again! The price of gas is on the rise again. In early February I noticed a penny or two increase per week in the price of gas. However, when the oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico blew up and sank killing several workers on the rig, the price of gas went up almost ten cents. Add to that the fact that millions of gallons of oil continue to leak into the ocean. Gas is up almost up thirty cents in three short months! And to make matters worse the oil company, BP, can't seem to find a way to stop the oil from leaking out from the pipeline on the ocean floor. Hopefully they can find a way to stop the leak. The breadth of damage that is being caused by the spill is said to be more than double the one in Alaska many years ago. Hopefully gas prices will not go up any higher and the damage will be repaired.

On a lighter note, the New York Chapter's Seventh Annual Family BBQ is coming up in July. We are moving to an exciting new and centrally-located venue in Brooklyn! Come on out and enjoy the food and meet other chapter members at the Aviator Sports and Events Center at Floyd Bennett Field. Aside from a great summertime menu, we will have many new activities for the whole family, and traditionally, many BMWs. Also, the Autocross season is in full swing. I'm glad to see some chapter members new to Autocross coming out and trying their skills driving around the cones. Our much anticipated driving school at Watkins Glen has been canceled due to an emergency track repair. Therefore, in order to maintain continuity in our annual driving events, in August, the Chapter will visit Monticello Motor Club for a new driving school. This is a track that recently opened and is getting a lot of positive reviews. So sign up for some of the events and come on out and have some fun. Have a Great Summer and I hope to see everybody at one of the events at least!

Regards,
André Noël

BMW CCA New York Chapter Custom Plates Update



From the DMV: "Due to recent legislation, beginning April 1, 2010, the initial cost for all new vehicle plates, including custom plates and personalized custom plates will be increased by \$10 for passenger and commercial vehicles and \$5 for motorcycle plates. Please note only the initial plate fee has changed; renewal fees remain the same. The new fees will be noted on our Web

site at: <http://www.nysdmv.com/cplates.htm>. Custom plate order forms, with the correct new fees, can be found and printed directly from our Web site at <http://www.nysdmv.com/forms.htm>."

If you have any concerns or would like to order your plates over the phone, feel free to contact the DMV Custom Plate Division at: +1.518.402.4838. You can reach Kate Georges, Director of Marketing and Custom Plate Development, and Pamela Hamer, Marketing & Custom Plates Development Specialist at the Department of Motor Vehicles, 6 Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY 12228.

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7th Annual BMW Family Barbecue

Sunday, July 25, 2010

Aviator Sports and Events Center



*Hangar 5, Floyd Bennett Field
Brooklyn, NY 11234*

BBQ starts at 12:00 Noon

The New York Chapter will sponsor the following summertime activities at this event:

Swimming Pool, Bounce House
Sack Race, Egg & Spoon Race
Target Toss Game, Tug of War
Basketball, Beach Volley Ball (real sand!)
Bring your remote control cars if you have them as we plan to hold an R/C autocross competition. There will be door prizes

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Pocono Primacy

by Joe Fuchs

Some of us in the New York Chapter have come to find that enrolling in a high performance driving event (HPDE) offers the opportunity to refine our car handling abilities while letting our favorite BMW stretch its legs and remind us of their motorsports legacy. The New York Chapter has traditionally hosted 2 HPDE events per year, Pocono in the spring and Watkins Glen in early summer.

On May 7th we visited the North course at Pocono International Raceway, a bit later in the season than usual but the resulting weather could not be denied. The day started in the 60s and stayed under 80 with sunny skies and a light breeze – made-to-order weather for a driving event. For those not familiar with the HPDE format, drivers are grouped by experience and sent on track for four 20 minute sessions of track driving. Those with less seat time are assigned an instructor, who espouses their otherworldly track driving knowledge – yeah, I instruct

– to encourage the participant to reach their personal driving limits in a safe and fun manner. But before a key is turned, participants also are instructed in the classroom by a seasoned instructor about on-track safety basics and the other important points such as the “school line” and the “early apex”. Although the New York Chapter is the host, participants do not need a BMW. The often used saying “run what ya brung” is applicable here, as long as it passes the litmus test of the pre-event technical inspection. Walking the paddock at Pocono I saw a few



Photo by Anthony Howell

Liz Papadatos Following an E36 in the Novice Group.



Photo by Anthony Howell

El Presidente Contemplating How He Ever Might Pass Madame Treasurer.

Porsches, a Corvette, 2 Subaru STIs and even a Nextel Cup stock car. I found that when I talked to any of the owners of these cars they share our passion for all things car related and were psyched to get out on track.



I had the unique opportunity to instruct a good friend in his new E90 M3. This being his first event with his own car – he scammed 2 HPDE co-drives out of me in my car last year – he was anxious to get out there to see what his new toy could offer. After attending the mandatory drivers’ meeting, I went to my first session on track, and my friend went to his classroom session. We huddled back at his car about an hour later, checking tire pressure and double checking lug nut tightness in preparation for his first track session. I had the pleasure of

driving 3 reconnaissance laps in his car to familiarize him with the track line and flag stations ... I wanted to stay out for the entire session but he wouldn't agree. I pitted so we could switch seats. In his first session, he developed a simple approach to the school line while, under my advice, leaving plenty of speed on the table for future sessions. By the end of the second session, the entire group of drivers seemed to be falling into a good pattern of clean driving with higher corner speeds. I have to mention the spectrum of BMWs we were sharing the track with: an E30 M3, newly acquired by a track experienced club member was just unbelievably quick on track, embarrassing quite a few “faster” cars. Another interesting car was hard to spot, as it offered no indication of its uniqueness other than the addition of a “d” after the 335 on its trunk lid. It was a late model 3 series diesel, its owner enjoying his first on-track experience in a car that belies its efficiency with some serious power, especially out of turns.

Between sessions, as the adrenaline high wore off, there was great
— *continued on p18*

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Dine & Shine 2010: Fun in the Sun.....Again

by **Steve Geraci**

Once again, warm and sunny weather prevailed for our Second Dine & Shine restaurant tour to the Town of Southold on the North Fork of Long Island on Sunday, May 16th. Starting at the Red Rooster Bistro in Cutchogue, a new restaurant recently opened by Nick the proprietor of Pepi's Ristorante in Southold, members gathered for a complimentary beverage while enjoying a warm spring day. After about an hour, I distributed an 18 question Fun Rallye, Jeopardy style (participants phrase their answers in the form of a question) for the drive from the Red Rooster to Pepi's Ristorante in Southold, our second destination. Once there, I collected participants' answers while Andrew Geraci and Jerry Goldstein circulated People's Choice Ballots for our Clean Car Show.



Photo by Anthony Cracchiolo

Alpina!

Pepi's Ristorante served us a buffet style gourmet lunch while chapter members enjoyed views overlooking the Peconic Bay and sunny Shelter Island. After lunch, I awarded a \$50.00 gift Certificate provided by Chris Pizzolorusso of Hassel BMW in Freeport to the first place winners of the Sun & Fun Jeopardy Rallye. The team of Shawn and Susan Abitz won for correctly answering 12 of 18 questions found along the route between the two restaurants. All participants in the rallye also received a complimentary microfiber towel for their efforts. Andrew and I announced the winners in 10 Clean Car Show categories with a selection of Pindar's best red or white wines provided by the chapter. This event is rapidly becoming a favorite, as everyone who made the trip – some from quite far away – gave us the thumbs up and said they would be back again next year. Don't miss it. I've already booked the 3rd Annual Dine & Shine on a sunny day!



Photo by Steve Geraci

Under the great tent for great food at Pepi's.

More pictures on the back cover

2010 Dine & Shine Clean Car Show Results

Best In Show	Craig Lambright	2009 X5
Best M3	Nick (owner of Red Rooster Bistro & Pepi's Ristorante)	2003 M3
Best Z Car	George Landauer	2008 Z4 M
Best 3 Series	Shawn Abitz	1997 328iC
Best 5 Series	Anthony Cracchiolo	2003 530i
Best X Car	Craig Lambright	2009 X5
Best M Car	George Landauer	2008 Z4 M
Best Coupe	Gil Turpin	2007 328
Best Wheels	Phil Divenere	2002 530i
Best Convertible	Shawn Abitz	1997 328iC



Dine & Shine 2010: Fun in the Sun.....Again

2010 Dine & Shine Sun & Fun Jeopardy Rallye

First Place
Team Abitz
12 of 18 correct

Second Place
Team Gallardo
11 of 18 correct

Third Place
Team Divenere
10 of 18 correct



Photo by Mike Allen

Lining up for the People's Choice Judging.



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Auto Show Addiction

by Kevin Ng

To me, the NY International Auto Show has always been an event that brings car enthusiasts from the NY region out of hibernation. It is the first major post-winter event for any car guy or gal. As a new member of BMW CCA, I had something special to look forward to this year. The annual special presentation by BMW of North America for BMW CCA members and friends is a must see for any BMW enthusiast.

My wife and I showed up at exactly 8:10 am, with pre-purchased tickets in hand. By around 8:30 am, most members had arrived and were anxious to get in. When the gates finally opened at 9 am, members were reminded not to wander around and go straight to the BMW booth. The rest of the show was not open to the general public until 10am. None of us wandered off to the nearby Mercedes or Audi booths, as I had expected.

I immediately located the brand new 335is and stood right in front of it. As an E92 M driver, I had to find out everything about this car since its performance is so close to M level. Just in case a character from a Vin Diesel movie pulls up next to me in one of these, I would know what I am up against. It is one of those duels that we enthusiasts love to dream up. In reality, a family man like me is living life a mortgage payment at a time instead of a quarter mile at a time.

Larry Koch from BMW greeted the club members and introduced his presentation team to us. Of all the presenters, I was most interested in hearing from Martin Birkmann, Head of BMW NA Product Planning and Strategy. From listening to his previous interviews, I knew that he was an enthusiast himself. He drives a manual shift M coupe and hangs out at the Nordschleife whenever he gets a chance. Martin presented the North America-only 335is. He introduced the car as a track friendly vehicle with a tuned

up 335i engine (N54) and plenty of M sport bodywork. When you look at the vehicle from the front, the easiest way to differentiate it from the M3 is probably the absence of a bulging front hood. Power is now 320 hp with 332 lb-ft of torque and an overboost function that produces up 370 lb-ft of torque, for about 7 seconds. There was a little bit of commotion in the audience upon hearing the 370 lb-ft figure. And all I could think of was calling Mr. Schnitzer for some much needed performance parts.

The presentation team also presented the facelifted X5, the very special Alpina B7 and the brand new F10 5 series. I did not pay much attention to the presentation of the X5 and the Alpina since I never considered owning them. SAV was never my cup of tea. The Alpina B7 is a great car but way above my budget with a MSRP of \$122,875. The F10 5 series, on the other hand, fits my budget just right. It looks less flamboyant than the previous



Front fascia of the 335is, note the M3 like air intakes on the bottom.

The massive 21-inch wheels of the Alpina B7.





Photo by Kevin Ng

generation and more cohesive and sophisticated. The self parking feature is great since I never thought of parallel parking in the city as the fun part of driving [ed. you'll never find a spot big enough in Manhattan]. A lightly optioned 535i would fit my family perfectly.

After the presentation came the more interesting segment, the Q&A session. Lots of good questions were asked and answered. Below is my "approximate" recall of some interesting ones:

Q. Now that you have introduced the 535i and the 550i, how about the most important one for us enthusiasts, the F10 M5?

A. Martin: It is coming. I have driven the car a couple of weeks ago and it felt great. It has a great engine. That's all I can tell you for now.

Q. Will there be a M1 or 1M for the US market?

A. Larry: BMW is working on it. We are looking at the potential market demand. Not sure at this point.

Q. Is it true that after the E90 M3, there will be no M3 sedan for the next generation of 3 series?

A. Larry: Don't worry, there will be a sedan version.

Q. Will there be diesel engine on small car, like the X3?

A. Martin: BMW is already offering diesel on the 3 series, but it is not selling. The diesel X5 is flying off the lot... so, looking at the demand now, it is unlikely.

After the Q&A session, BMW unlocked all the cars and allowed us to have a look on the inside. I quickly made my way into the cockpit of the 550i. The interior trim caught my attention immediately. The Fineline Anthracite wood trim with Oyster Dakota leather looked fantastic. Elegant and contemporary, the interior made me feel like I was sitting in a chic, upscale SoHo restaurant. After checking out the new 5, I made my way into the Alpina B7. The interior was plush, comfortable and quiet. One thing I noticed was the push button shift mechanism behind the steering wheel. I guess push/pull pedals would be too regular for an Alpina.

Martin Birkmann with the new 335is, 535i and 550i behind him.



Photo by Kevin Ng

The one hour presentation by BMW was really fun. All the presenters were speaking with specific, technical terms because most people in the audience were enthusiasts. They knew we were not there just to listen to some marketing talk about the "Joy of Driving". Hopefully, BMW will bring over some special cars like the Z4 GT3 or the M3 GTS next year. It is something I look forward to. ❖

The Speakers from BMW

by Dan McLaughlin

On Saturday, April 3rd, about 100 members of the New York and New Jersey chapters of the BMW Car Club of America met at the Jacob Javits Convention Center for the 2010 International Auto Show. Once again, we were welcomed by representatives from BMW North America for a club member only presentation. At 9 AM we were led to the BMW display area and welcomed by Larry Koch, BMW North America M brand manager and Martin Birkmann of BMW Product Planning.

First up was Brian Carey of the Z4 group who talked about the recent changes to the Z4 for the 2011 model year. The new version of the Z4 will include the 3.5is with more performance and sport equipment with an inline 6-cylinder 3-liter Twin Turbo engine rated at 335 hp and 332 ft/lbs of torque with an over boost available adding an additional 37 ft/lbs of torque to reach a total of 369 ft/lbs. An M Sport Package option is also available that comes in one color, a striking Melbourne Red, three levels of performance settings labeled Normal, Sport and Sport Plus, and an available 7 speed DCT automatic transmission as well as the 6 speed manual. 0-60 times are measured at a swift 4.8 seconds.

Next up to speak was Don Smith who introduced the third generation of the Alpina B7. It is produced in only one color, a soft, almost powder blue, has stunning 20 inch wheels and a conservatively rated 500 hp 4.4 liter V8 and 6 speed Sport Automatic transmission. The B7 is available in both the short and long wheelbase and either rear wheel drive or Xdrive.

We were then introduced to the next speaker, Ulrich Hirschle of BMW GmbH. His presentation was a last minute addition as he was on vacation and dropped in to see the Auto Show. Ulrich presented the latest X5 with the current Life Cycle Impulse (LCI), BMW-speak for their yearly facelift. Besides cosmetic changes, the 2011 X5 will be available with the 3.0 I6 Twin Turbo, 3.0 liter Twin Turbo diesel and the 4.4 Twin Turbo V8. The gasoline engines come with an 8 speed automatic transmission and the diesel with the 6 speed Sport automatic.

Joe Weirda of BMW NA Product Planning then gave us the 2011 introduction of the model year 2011 LCI of the 3 series. The 335is, previously known as the ZHP, comes with more performance, but still shy of the M3. Distinctive with its black trim, the 335is comes with the same boostable 3.0 liter I6 rated at 320 hp and 330 ft/lbs of torque that is boostable to 370 ft/lbs and additional cooling. Available transmissions are the 6 speed manual or the 7 speed DCT automatic.

— continued on p12



The Speakers from BMW

— continued from p11

Brian Carey then spoke again to debut the 6th generation of the 5 series. The 2011 535i and 550i come in slightly larger in all dimensions and gaining 3 inches in wheelbase. The front end sees changes as the nose comes up over the front so the hood is shortened and LED eyebrows are added. A new park assist system is added that will parallel park the vehicle with no driver input. It will even judge if the parking spot is large enough, needing only 4 feet more length than the car. My wife would love this where as I frown upon gadgets like this where I am perfectly capable of parallel parking my car. Also a new active steering system that provides better feedback as many of the complaints about the old system hinged around indirect feel and numbness in the steering. The new system will also turn the rear wheels in response to steering input depending on vehicle speed. At speeds under 40 mph the rear wheels will turn up to 4 degrees in the opposite direction creating a tighter turning radius. At speeds above 50 mph, the rear wheels will turn slightly in the same direction as the front wheels controlling rear slip. Six-speed manual transmissions will still be available besides 8 speed automatic transmissions. Brian was thrilled that were so many people that still wanted manual transmission in their BMWs... "Love you guys!"

At this point, the floor was opened up for a Q & A session. Many questions were floated to our hosts concerning Efficient Dynamics, diesels, and the I6 versus V6 engine debate – BMW will keep the I6. Also concern was expressed about the lack of an M3 sedan – maybe in the future, if they can produce one that maintains the M uniqueness, edge of rawness and performance of the M brand. Also there were questions about future models and use of electric drive motors. Hybrid drive will be seen later this year and Project i – full electric drive – later this decade. The production of a 1 series M in the future is unknown and the dropping of the 5 series Touring is due to lack of sales. Only 800 5 series Tourings were sold in the U.S. in 2009. Guess I'll have to go find a used E61.

We were then allowed to wander around the show before the general public was let in, giving us a chance to view the displays without the crowds. We had some time to visit the other car companies and their offerings. Everyone had a great time. It was great getting to talk to some of the BMW NA managers and see what's in store in the BMW world. Many thanks to André Noël, president of the NY Chapter BMW CCA, Larry Engel, president of the NJ Chapter BMW CCA, and Larry Koch and BMW NA for hosting this event again.❖

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New York Chapter BMW Car Club of America Logo Contest Guidelines

by Garageboy

You can win \$500!

Working closely with the International Council of BMW Clubs, BMW AG has created new guidelines for how the BMW roundel may be used in club logos throughout the world. In order to comply with these guidelines, the New York Chapter logo to which we have all become so accustomed has to be changed in all of our media and merchandise by the end of 2010.

Following the lead of so many chapters in the BMW CCA, the New York Chapter Board has decided to sponsor a fun and friendly competition amongst our talented membership to create a new logo for our Chapter. And in order to inspire the membership to submit entries and display their artistic talents, we are offering a single Grand Prize of \$500, in the form of a Tire Rack Gift Certificate!

The guidelines for the logo are now available on the New York Chapter BMW CCA website at www.nybmwcca.org/Design_Guidelines.pdf

Here's the way it works. Because so many chapter members have a sentimental attachment to our existing logo, we created a provisionally compliant logo that was merely a modification of the current design. It is pictured in color on the back cover. If one of our chapter members creates a new logo that is superior design, we will award them the \$500 Grand Prize and use that logo for our chapter starting in 2011!

The Board will vote on all designs submitted for consideration at the November 10th 2010 Board Meeting. As such, all Board members are ineligible from entering a logo design in this contest. The Board is not obligated to select a design if the provisional logo is preferred. At the

Annual Holiday Party and President's Dinner, we will announce the winner and award the Grand Prize.

In order to be eligible for consideration, the following criteria must be met:

- The entry must be submitted by a New York Chapter member or associate member in good standing for the rest of 2010.
- The deadline for submitted entries is 31 October 2010. Entries are accepted electronically by email to editor@nybmwcca.org
- The design must follow the guidelines from BMW AG posted on our website. Final art to meet the type and sizing standards will be completed by the Chapter.
- The entry must be able to be formatted to meet BMW standards. It also must be acceptable for print media, the nybmwcca.org website, stationery, license plates, clothing and other merchandise.
- The artwork must be relevant and appropriate to represent the New York Chapter.
- The logo should be able to be reproduced in one color and still be recognizable, but the entry can have a maximum of 3 colors plus black.
- All entries will be designated the property of the New York Chapter of the BMW CCA and will not be returned.



Old logo



Provisional new logo





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Take a leisurely drive east to Long Island's Wine Country and join us at another of the North Fork's highly rated wineries – Martha Clara Vineyards – for an afternoon in the fall sun. Bring a picnic lunch and relax under the tent overlooking spectacular views. Sample some of Martha Clara's award winning vintage wines in their beautiful tasting room and tour the vineyard.

All members attending will be eligible to enter their BMW in our popular clean car "Show & Shine" on the grounds of the vineyard in our dedicated parking area. Winners will receive bottles of select Martha Clara wines.

While on the North Fork, visit Briemere's Farm for home baked pies, The Jamesport Country Store on the Main Rd. (Rt. 25), The Red Rooster Bistro on Depot Lane in Cutchogue, or check out the many antique stores and farm stands along the way.

**Additional LI North Fork information
and maps at: www.liwines.net
and www.peconiclandtrust.org**

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Pocono Primacy

— continued from p6

camaraderie in the paddock as everyone compared notes and offered pointers to each other while asking “when is the next event?” This hobby can become all-consuming. I believe I speak from experience. If you want to improve your driving competency while having a great time with like minded people, be sure to sign up for an HPDE event. The New York Chapter is considering hosting events at other venues. The New York Chapter is considering hosting events at other venues. As much fun as Pocono can be, we are interested in sampling some of the newer tracks local to us, such as New Jersey Motorsports Park (2



Photo by Anthony Howell

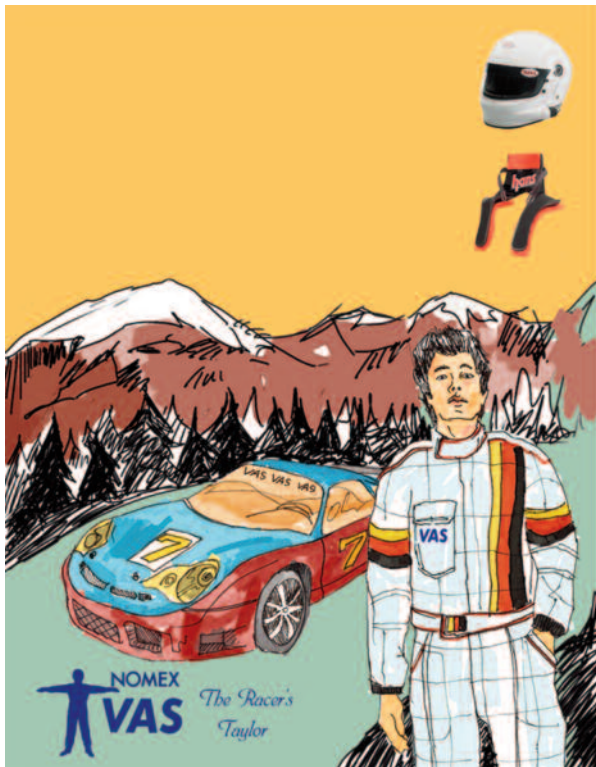
New BMW Tested to the Limit.



Photo by Anthony Howell

How many E30 M3's are there?

tracks), the freshly re-paved classic Lime Rock and Monticello Motor Club in upstate New York. The Chapter co-hosts a two day event at Watkins Glen on June 14th and 15th. This is the premier event for the club. The Glen is a great venue and offers challenges that not many tracks can. Following this event, on August 30th there will be an HPDE offered at the new 4.1 mile track in Monticello, New York. An easy 2 hour drive from New York City, this track offers similar elevation changes and long straights like the Glen, without the long haul drive to the track. Check www.motorsportreg.com for details on this event. Based on feedback at Pocono, it will definitely be well attended based. ❖



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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.



Race car preparation:

- Installation of roll bars, harnesses, racing seats, fire systems and other safety devices
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Do you want this
 to be our new
 logo? Enter the
 Logo Contest and
 win \$500 and the

distinction of having designed the Chapter's
 new logo mandated by BMW AG.
 Contest Guidelines on page 14.

Dine & Shine 2010

Article on Page 8



Photo by Jerry Goldstein

The Successful Team of Shawn and Susan Abitz
 with Organizer Steve Geraci



Photo by Mike Allen

Enjoying a beautiful spring day at The Red Rooster.



Photo by Mike Allen

Members arrive at The Red Rooster Bistro.



Photo by Steve Geraci

Inside the Red Rooster.