

Die Zugspitze

New York Chapter Newsletter | Summer 2019

www.nybmwcca.org



**Ready
to rumble?**



BMW CCA New York Chapter Presents

The 9th Annual Dine & Shine

Back to the Beach! Sunday July 14, 2019



This year we will be returning to where it all started, Orient Beach State Park, on the eastern end of Long Island's beautiful North Fork. We will have our popular Show & Shine People's Choice clean car competition, followed up by a drive back to Southold to Alure Restaurant for award presentations on the deck overlooking Peconic Bay and Shelter Island. Lunch is optional, with members receiving a 10% discount provided by Alure.

On our trip back to the restaurant, members are invited to participate in our Famous Fun Rally. Members can request a copy of route instructions with questions to answer along the way from the park in Orient to Alure Restaurant in Southold.

Winners of the Show & Shine will receive their choice of wines from a selection of the best vineyards on the North Fork. Also, winners of the Famous Fun Rally will be awarded fabulous prizes in several categories, provided by the chapter and myself.

Event times:

Arrive Orient Beach Park between 10 and 11:00 AM
Leave Orient Beach Park approx. 1:00 PM
Arrive ALure Restaurant in Southold 1:30 PM
Leave ALure Restaurant approx. 3:30 PM

All members MUST PRE-REGISTER ON-LINE
at www.nybmwcca.org/shine

Pre-registration does not commit you to attend, but creates a framework for meaningful classes in the Show & Shine competition.

There is no registration fee for this event.

Lunch is optional, but all members will receive a 10% discount.

CHECK ALURE WEBSITE FOR LUNCH MENU

For more information, contact Event Chairperson
Steve Geraci: sgeraci@reflexphoto.com

Orient Beach State Park

40000 Main Rd. (Rt. 25) Orient, NY 11957
631 323 2440

<https://parks.ny.gov/parks/106/details.aspx>

There is a \$10.00 per car parking fee to enter the State Park in Orient.

ALure Chowder House & Oysteria

62300 Main Road (Route 25)
Southold, NY 11971

(631) 876-5300

email: events@alurenorthfork.com

<http://www.alurenorthfork.com>

Allow extra time for traffic!

Please note: Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Dine & Shine will be the ONLY event on the North Fork this year.



IF WEATHER IS QUESTIONABLE, CHECK THE CHAPTER WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION

New York Chapter 2019 Events Calendar

March	16	26th Annual Beach Party
April	12	Driving School: NJ Motorsport Park
May	11	Autocross* (The Mike Patterson Memorial Season Opener)
June	30	Autocross
July	14	Dine & Shine – NEW DATE
	20	Autocross
	21	Teen Street Survival
	28	Autocross
August	11	Autocross
	25	Autocross
September	14	Autocross
	15	Old Westbury Concours d'Elegance
	29	<i>Old Westbury Concours rain date</i>
October	12	Autocross

(* All autocross events will be held at Nassau Coliseum, Lot 2, East Meadow, NY

For more information, go to www.nybmwcca.org or see the Chapter's Facebook page


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On the Cover : AX 2019 season opener at Nassau Coliseum Sunday May 11
~ *Photo by Steed Wells*

To join the BMW Car Club of America, call 1-800-878-9292 or visit www.bmwcca.org. BMW CCA national dues are \$48 per year, \$15 of which is for Roundel.

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New York Chapter BMW CCA Presents

Admission Fees for Spectators

Members of OWG	FREE
General Admission	\$10
Adults over 62	\$8
Youth (7-12)	\$5
(Payable at the gate.)	

Judging Classifications

Concours: Judged on interior, exterior, engine compartment, trunk (No undercarriage, tops up on convertibles)

Street: Judged on exterior only (No undercarriage; tops up on convertibles)

Tuner/Stance: Judged on interior, exterior, engine compartment and trunk (No undercarriage, tops up on convertibles), with a focus on creativity and uniqueness.

MINI Corral: Single class "Best of Show". Mini's only. Judged on interior, exterior, engine compartment and trunk (No undercarriage, tops up on convertibles)

Location

Old Westbury Gardens
71 Old Westbury Road
Old Westbury, NY 11568

Directions To Old Westbury Gardens

www.oldwestburygardens.org
For additional directions
call (516) 333-0048

Registration

Opens: August 1, 2019
Closes: September 10, 2019
Online Registration at
www.motorsportreg.com

For additional information

Go to www.nybmwcca.org or
contact Gordon DeShong with
subject line CONCOURS2019 at
srde28@hotmail.com

Concours d'Elegance

"Great Marques of Long Island"

on the beautiful grounds of
Old Westbury Gardens

Sponsored by:

RALLYE BMW

Sunday September 15, 2019

(Rain Date Sunday September 29, 2019)

Gates open at 8:00 AM for entrants, 10:00 AM for general public
Judging will begin at 11:00 AM (Polishing cloths down!!!)

Entrants Fees: (includes Gardens' admission fee for driver)

Pre-registration BMWs, \$40.00 (payment must be made
by September 10th); Registration, day of event BMWs – \$50.00,
space available basis

Pre-registration MINIs – \$20.00 (payment must be made by
September 10th); Registration, day of event MINIs – \$30.00,
space available basis

Display corral (not judged) for BMWs and MINIs only – \$15.00;
Registration, day of event – \$20.00

Please make plans to attend this great event. Bring your family
out to enjoy a gorgeous Sunday on the Great Lawns of
Old Westbury Gardens.

President's Page | Mike Allen



I'm not sure if it's me but the year seems to be moving along at a blistering pace and we're already knocking on the door of Summer.

As they say, "time waits for no one" and as such, the New York Chapter has had a busy 2019. We started out the year with our 26th Annual Beach Party in March at EuroMeccanica in Mount Vernon. This was soon followed by our HPDE and Instructor Training

School in April at NJMP Thunderbolt. Just to keep everyone on their toes we started our Autocross season on May 11th. Do you see a trend here? It's not your imagination, we are doing our best to have Chapter events every month throughout the Summer into the Fall. The next few months will be equally hectic with Autocross in June, followed by an event-packed July, with our Dine & Shine at Orient Beach State Park and lunch at Alure Restaurant in Southold; Street Survival Teen Driving Program and two Autocross events. Yes, July is going to be a very busy month for the Chapter Board Members, Event Chairs and active Chapter members.

That being said, we do acknowledge that there's life outside of the Club, and with nice weather finally here it's the time that we generally all load up our cars and hit the road for family vacations. Quite often the focus on these excursions revolves around getting the car washed, polished and vacuumed. It's important that we don't forget the activities that are crucial to help make these trips safe for your loved ones – simple weekly routine checks include tire pressures, coolant levels, oil level, brake fluid and windshield washer fluid. Many of the newer vehicles take some of these checks out of your hand and proactively monitor "the health of your car" for you. This is all well and good as long as you know what the red and amber lights that suddenly appear on your instrument panel actually mean. They are in fact "your friends" and designed to keep your driving experience a pleasurable one. Please don't ignore them; being stranded in the middle of nowhere/anywhere really isn't fun and will put a damper on your trip.

As we all embark on yet another highway cruising season, let's focus on safety folks.

Contributors wanted! Remember your first 2002? Have a BMW that's been in the family for generations? Want to share a funny anecdote about teaching someone to drive a stick, or a project car that just never seems to get finished?

Send us your stories and photos and we may publish them in the Chapter newsletter. Send submissions to newsletter@nybmwcca.org

**BMW Car Club
of America
New York Chapter**



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Newsletter Design by Industrial Success

Jeanette Haglich,
agent@industrialsuccess.com

Welcome to our New Members!

Matthew Aaronson	Gregory Charette	Antonio Garcia	Dany Karp	Baris Oncel	Beverly Sinkin
Mohammed Ahmad	Louisius Charlenor	Alan Geller	Zubair Kazi	Denny Osiashvili	Keith Smith
Satak Alamarie	Ka Yee Cheng	Howard Ginsberg	Adam Kohler	Joseph Paige	Lawrence Smith
Stephanie Alicea	Steven Cherkasov	James Godfrey	Gregg Kotkin	Ben Peleg	Matt Strati
Elias Anagnostou	Sergey Chernyavsky	Marco Gokey	Josef Kuepker	Jonathan Pereira	Jia Su
Theoni Anagnostou	Ellada Chernyuk	Keith Goldsmith	Mario Lacerra	Ella Petlyarskaya	Steven Sullivan
Marko Andjelkovic	Charles Collins	Adam Grant	Munishwar Lall	Serkan Piantino	Karol Szaro
Simon Andrew	Anthony Conte	Peter Greene	Chinchen Lee	Irina Piastru	Deborah Taratunio
Shamsul Arefin	Michael Corbin	Adam Gross	Matthew Lee	Thomas Piccoli	Daniel Thalblum
Benjamin Argyle	Mark Czarra	Chao Wei Guan	Orlando Lee	Yakov Podlipsky	Sam Thomas
Lionel Aristy	Arthur Czurgiel	Mark Guzman	Evan Lerner	Stella Pyatetskaya	Shaun Thomas
Erdal Atasever	Gerry Davis	Harry Hinteman	Oren Levi	Rafael Rahamin	Joseph Todaro
Purna Atluri	Derrick De La Cruz	Jeremy Hirsch	Jeremy Lieberman	Rone Rahmani	Seth Townsend
Zach Auclair	Michael De Vito	Linh Ho	Stephen Limazopoulos	Zaur Rakhimimov	Aleksandr Trosman
Haim Aviv	Don Delaune	Patrick Hodge	Tiffany Lotko	Charlie Randazzo	Robert Trznadel
Shirine Azeez	Bob Delbello	Chris Hogan	Howard Lowe	Andrew Rea	Geimser Uyami
Gary Bader	Katty Denninger	Mary Holler	Bob Magee	Domenick Regina	Vlad Vakser
James Barry	Mariel Deutsch	Yang Huang	Mohsin Mahdi	Lana Reimer Vogel	Carmelo Vendra
Peter Barry	Andrea Dickstein	Cynthia Husain	Ahmad Maklounf	Marina Revnyaga	Laurian Veres
Jonathan Bedrick	Matthew Dienstag	Emeka Ibekweh	Kourosh Malekan	Anthony Rizzo	Angelo Verga
Bryan Belanger	Mark Dimaggio	Sandi Ingber	Ken Manfre	Gregory Rizzo	Angel Volquez
Mickey Bennett	Cristhian Duque	Harry Ioannou	Rita Mastrangioli	Joshua Rogers	Neal Waryam
S Bershadskiy	Bethany Durkin	Nauman Iqbal	Adam Meyers	Christine Ronan	Shaker Wasiq
Scott Bip	David Eandler	Denis Izyaguyev	John Militano	Alex Rudner	Franklin Wetzel
Henrik Bom	Jordan Eandler	Hamam Jaser	Albert Moffitt	Mikhail Rudnin	Gary Wexler
Lauren Boyer	Valeri Eylenkrig	Florence Jean-Baptiste	Gregory Moore	Avery Ryou	Shavon Whyte
Paul Braude	Richard Faraci	John Johnson	Rolando Morales	Maksim Sakau	Justin Wiesel
Harold Butler	Christopher Fargo	Wayne Joseph	Brian Mulley	Muhammad Sardar	Thomas Williams
Brian Cantrell	Randy Feifel	Aaron Kalicharan	Denis Nankervis	Roger Scotland	Thomas Williams
Antonino Carollo	Jasmin Feratovic	Sergey Kalinskiy	Nan Ni	Yan Shvartz	Yiu Wong
Michael Cassels	John Franco	Vitaliy Kan	Aleksandr Novikov	Yama Sidiqi	David Worthley
Mark Chait	Tascha Fuchs	Todd Kaplan	Benjamin Obletz	Michelle Sigelakis	Arshaad Yar
	Fei Gao			C.J. Silva	Frank Yu
					Wai Man Yue
					Mingyang Zhu
					Jason Zimmerman

And a salute to our long standing members!

Anniversary milestones for members who joined between January and March

5th Anniversary	Lucas Traber	Leo Flaherty	Marc Katz	Philip Schlesinger	Matthew Meng
Ricardo Alexander	Jessica Tu	Stephen Flaxman	Robert Laken	Alan Sherman	Michael Raffia
William Brady	Carolyn Turrisi	Howard Fluhr	David Leonoff	30th Anniversary	Gerald Stoller
Jose Figuereo	Jessica Veeramachaneni	Jerome Goldstein	Christopher Mangi	Peggy Heller	Curtis Vanvalkenburgh
Ed Hanford	Abe Wachsman	Anthony lessi	Joseph Noll	Bruce Howe	Donald White
Max Jackowitz	10th Anniversary	Carole Johnson	James Serafino	Roger Werner	Jim Wiggins
Michael Kaminsky	Mark Alleman	Kris Jones	Geir Skjelseth	35th Anniversary	Over 45 Years!!
John Keane	Vincent Brasesco	Caleb Koepfel	Marc Tract	Tom Loreto	Peter Alp
Gregory Kern	Heather Chao	Walter Mettal	Stefanos Tsevdos	Over 40 Years!	Neal Feldman
Danial Kessler	Alan Fishman	Susan Metz	Bill Wagner	Kevin Bange	Burton Fleming
Nancy Key	William Guarniere	Beth Miller	Chun Yu	Steven Cappel	Steve Geraci
Arturo Mazzeo	Alain Jean-Noel	Rochelle Noel	Matthew Zekauskas	Stephen Carney	Bill Hedberg
Terry Moccia	Mike Lee	Jerome Siegel	25th Anniversary	Steven Coren	Christopher McGuinness
Carolyn Orofino	Luke Lindau	Trevor Stone	Sergio Brasesco	Gary Deane	John Ganey
Joseph Orofino	Brian Mack	Greg Strassberg	Michael Buckine	John Ganey	Charles Greenel
Dennis Phillips	15th Anniversary	20th Anniversary	Robert Jackowitz	Charles Greenel	Neal Gronich
Aarti Ravikumar	Diane Amato	Joseph Canterino	Chetan Marfatia	Norman Jones	John Schroeder
Vikram Ravikumar	Stuart Feldman	Alkelee Daughtry	William McEvoy		Karl Topp
Louis Schemitz		Michael Kaplan			



Autocross Corner by Darby Moses

with Photos by Steed Wells and Mike Allen

Autocross is back! This long-awaited season brings the renewed competition and rivalries many, including myself, have craved. We saw smiles from old friends. We told very tall tales of wins so close only a grain of sand would separate the winner from the loser.

We admired the off-season upgrades from suspensions to tires and, for some, going all the way to entirely new cars.

Speaking of new, your autocross staff brought some upgrades of our own to the program. New wireless timing equipment added some flexibility to course design (a la Tony Howell). We saw more than one hot shoe pull up to the starting line only to realize looking ahead isn't an option, it's a must! Hit that cone and you may have just given away your very best run.

I can't go much further without recognizing Mike Patterson, for which the first autocross was dedicated. I think we all agreed he looked over us by providing perfect weather for this event. Families of all types are created through competition and friendship, Mike was family.

Even as we lose a part of our family a new BMW CCA family is created. Several years ago, our very own Marusia Popovich and Mike Petrogila met at our autocross. Over the following years the competition between these two BMW 135 drivers gave us plenty of laughs. Now they are forming a family of their own and I couldn't be happier. So please join me in saying congratulations and wishing them the very best.

As I said earlier your staff is always looking for ways to keep the experience top notch and there isn't much better than our newest sponsor BimmerWorld. They have surprised us with agreeing to sponsor the program and provide prizes for season champions. So... yeah this is officially a points season!!! –Darby and Your Autocross Staff





NJMP Thunderbolt 2019 Recap

Story and photos by Mike Allen

When three, focused chapters come together to run a joint event, good things are sure to happen and this year's tri-chapter HPDE at NJMP Thunderbolt was no exception.

Yet again the New Jersey, New York and Del Val Chapters worked hand-in-hand to hold our annual Instructor Training School and HPDE from Friday April 12th to Sunday April 14th.

Friday was dedicated to ITS and fully vetted Open Track drivers, while Saturday and Sunday had the normal HPDE format with run-groups based on student's driving experience on the track, from Novice through Advanced. Attendance this year was pretty much the same as last year, as we had 165 attendees across the three days. One major highlight for 2019 was the banner number of ITS graduates: This year we had ten ITS students who graduated! Kudos to them all and a special "well done" goes out to the NY Chapter's own Matt Brod, who is



now a fully sanctioned BMW CCA HPDE Instructor.

One thing that never fails to amaze me is the diversity of cars that show up at our HPDE events and this year was no exception.

Pretty much every marque was represented with the majority being BMW. Models on track ranged from a full-bore, race-prepped M2 to street driven E30's and 2002's. Intermingled were some very well prepared F80 M3's and the customary slew of track prepared E30's and E36's. Other marques present included the obligatory Porsches (primarily GT3's and GT4's),

Chevrolet (Corvettes), Ford (Mustang), Subaru, MINI and Lotus. There was also an immaculately clean Ferrari 458 Italia.

What do all these cars have in common? They are all driven by enthusiastic drivers who truly enjoy the sport and share a common appreciation and respect for each other when on track.

This breeds safety and courtesy when on the public road.



All Things Aftermarket

///Mmmm Good Stuff for BMW S55 Powered M3 & M4 Cars!

by Mitchell Frischer with photos by Kris Zuber

It's no secret that the S55-powered F80, F82, and F83 platform BMW M3 and M4 Series are seriously well-engineered machines straight from the factory. With their 3.0L twin-turbo six-cylinder engines and choice of 6-speed manual or super-fast Dual Clutch transmissions they are formidable foes to many higher-priced exotics and supercars when equipped with some rather simple modifications.

I have a long history with BMW ///M cars, from ownership and racing to modifying and tuning them. I've also enjoyed long-term relationships with many of the aftermarket industry's top manufacturers having modified many BMW cars and trucks for more than eighteen years. From H&R, KW, and Bilstein's lowering springs, full coil-over suspensions, and hub-centric wheel spacers, to Burger Tuning with JB4 performance modules, intakes and more; my own custom ECU tuning; Evolution Racewerks with their incredibly well-engineered exhausts, intercoolers, and other components; Meisterschaft exhaust systems; Active Autowerke with their full battalion of products; VRSF, BBS Wheels, StopTech, Brembo, GiroDisc, CSF Imports, Pure Turbos and so many others – there's no shortage of manufacturers who make incredible products for BMWs, especially the ///M Series!

Just recently I had the pleasure of working on a number of new F80/F82/F83 M3 and M4 cars within a very short timeframe. Each car received a series of different upgrades in accordance to the owners desires and budgets, and they all turned out incredibly well.

First was a beautiful 2018 BMW M3 in Yaz Marina Blue. This car got equipped with VRSF downpipes, a custom ECU tune by Velocity Factor along with H&R lowering springs and wheel spacers. With that, a set of 20-inch staggered BBS CI-R wheels in platinum silver were outfitted to this M3 with the very best in Michelin Pilot Sport 4S tires. The H&R hub-centric wheel spacers gave the car an even more aggressive look while maintaining perfect balance. The finishing touch, custom BBS center caps in blue, completed the look of this awesome machine!



▲ Beautiful Yaz Marina Blue F80 M3 on 20" BBS CI-R wheels with Michelin Pilot Sport 4S tires

◀ Detail of 20-inch BBS CI-R wheel with blue BBS center cap that adds a subtle, yet nice contrast against the Yaz Marina Blue

Next up, was another F80 M3 finished in Mineral Gray Metallic shown here. This particular vehicle was equipped with Meisterschaft 90mm performance downpipes protected with titanium heat wrap, H&R Sport Lowering Springs, H&R hub-centric wheel spacers, and a custom ECU Tune from Velocity Factor. The owner noticed the car had some serious hard-water staining in the paint and asked for help, which came by way of a full vehicle paint correction with two stages of the finest ceramic coating to bring back its visual luster and shinewith the utmost in protection. To say the car ended up looking and performing far better than it ever did would be a huge understatement. Lastly, a Meisterschaft GTC Valve Controlled exhaust system with wireless, one-touch remote controls was installed and made this M3 sound as good as it performed!



◀ F80 M3 in Mineral Gray Metallic with H&R Sport Lowering Springs and hub-centric wheel spacers

Rounding things up, a customer brought back his 2016 BMW M4, also finished in Yaz Marina Blue. Previously this vehicle was equipped with an AWE Tuning S-Flo Carbon Fiber Intake,

AWE Tuning Heat Exchanger and Burger Tuning JB4 Performance module. Now the owner was ready to step up the power game and certainly did so, with a set of Evolution Racewerks Competition Series Downpipes that enabled him to advance the map on his JB4. What a difference it made, with the additional boost in horsepower and torque alike! With the intense summer heat imminent, a CSF Intercooler finished in black powder-coat was added to keep the Intake Air Temperatures down at all times. This simple upgrade makes the added power always widely available, with a huge visual upgrade in the engine bay as well! After seeing both of the M3's with H&R hub-centric Wheel Spacers, this M4 owner quickly decided to go for the more aggressive look and stance by having them installed on his car too. I think you'll agree that his car came out beautifully. His next step will be bigger turbos, custom ECU tuning, and some beautiful, lightweight, and strong custom-forged aluminum wheels.

In essence, there's an endless array of things to be done to these, and pretty much any car on the road today. It just so happens that the aftermarket is particularly strong with BMW's ///M cars as the demand for upgrades is huge. We live in a golden age for modifying cars, where parts are easily accessible and the choices so vast. If you've ever considered owning one of the S55-powered M3 or M4 cars I highly recommend them. With just the right upgrades, you too can have a BMW that, when properly equipped, can outrun many of today's exotics and supercars alike for a fraction of the cost.



▲ The CSF Intercooler upgrade with the AWE Tuning S-Flo Carbon Fiber intake & AWE Tuning heat exchanger (not shown)



▲ Yaz Marina Blue BMW M4 sitting nicely with H&R hub-centric wheel spacers front and rear

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- Mechanical and electrical repairs on most European cars
- Electrical and electronic diagnosis on Mercedes, BMW, Audi, Land Rover and others
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- Reviving cars that have been in storage
- Engine rebuilding
- Component rebuilding, such as manual transmissions, steering gear
- Maintenance and repair
- Partial and complete restorations, overseeing work which is not done in-house, such as painting, upholstery and rechromin

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
- 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



Ramblings of a **MINI**ac

by Peter Burke

As I begin to write this article, the latest news, unfortunately, is that sales numbers for the MINI brand in the USA continue a downward spiral. April sales figures reveal that MINI

sold 2,621 vehicles in the United States. That is down 29.8 percent from April of 2018. Although in general the sedan/passenger car category has been down the last few years, it was only down 7.9 percent in the US market this past April, compared to MINI's 29.8 percent. It is interesting to note that in the past Countryman sales, which were always higher, were down 36.3 percent when compared to one year ago.

On May 3, 2019 BMW of North America announced that Michael Peyton, currently the vice president of BMW Motorrad of the Americas, will become vice president of MINI of the Americas, responsible for the business operations of the MINI brand in North and South America. Peyton is replacing Thomas Felbermair, who will return to Munich and assume a new role as vice president sales and marketing BMW M GmbH. Peyton has an automotive career that spans over 17 years, working in the Ford Lincoln and Mercury division in several sales and marketing roles.



Some good news, some MINI GP test mules have been spotted at the Nurburgring recently. While they were wearing camouflage and may not be what the final product looks like, rumors have been circulating that the production GP will have carbon-fiber boxed fenders. Also it is a strong bet that the GP will be front wheel drive. The GP will be powered by the B48A20T1 which powers the X2 M35i. Since this engine puts out over 302 hp, to smoothly transfer this much power, the only transmission being offered will be the same 8-speed automatic found in the Countryman and Clubman. A new and improved launch control will also likely be included. Production for the new GP is to be limited to around 3,000 examples. The second generation GP was limited to 2,000. Production is scheduled to begin Spring 2020, official unveiling to take place at the 2019 IAA in Frankfurt (aka Frankfurt Auto Show) in September 2019.

One MINI that does not seem to be destined for our shores in North America is the special "MINI Cooper S 60 Years Edition". Only 500 examples are to be produced and these will be shared by the UK and Ireland. The only body styles available with this package will be the three- or five-door version. All 500s will be available either in a new version of British Racing Green or four other colors and can be specced with a black or white top. Interestingly enough this model is only available with an automatic transmission.

In closing, I hope everyone has a great summer. Keep your eyes on the BMW CCA NY Chapter website for any upcoming activities. Safe travels to all!



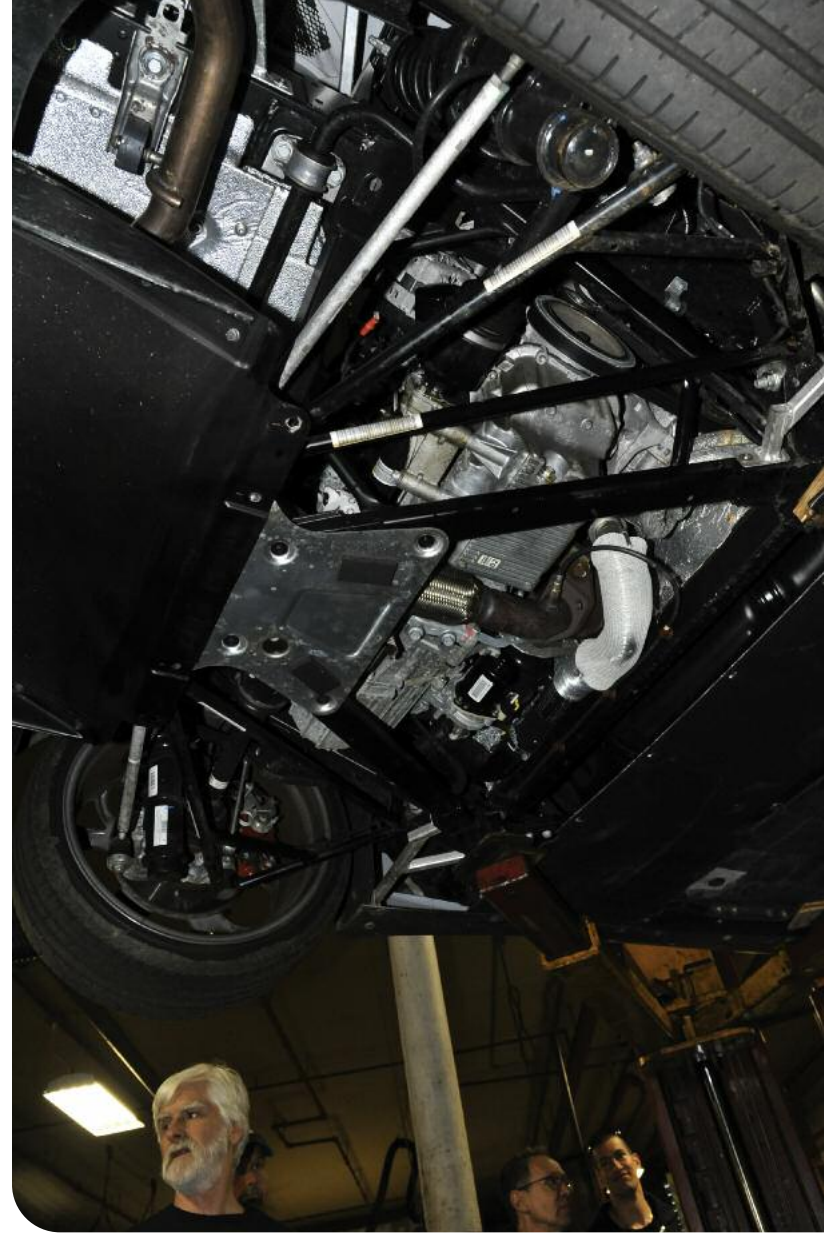
NY BMW CCA 26th Annual Beach Party at EuroMeccanica

Rich Rausser with photos by Mike Allen

March 16, 2019—Our 26th Annual Beach Party was held at EuroMeccanica, in Mount Vernon, New York. Mike Shiffer and EuroMeccanica have hosted this event for the past 26 years! This year's event was a huge success due to the presentations by our esteemed speakers and the fact that the weather also cooperated. Our chapter President, Mike Allen, kicked things off and introduced Casey Raskob, our chapter's Traffic Ticket Advisor, who was the first of three speakers. Casey has been fighting traffic tickets in New York for many years, and he truly has a great command of the vagaries of each traffic court throughout New York state. Casey's advice is that if you receive a speeding ticket in New York, don't plead guilty, since pleading guilty, or a bad plea bargain, can affect your auto insurance and your driving record for years to come. The takeaway here was, if you get a traffic ticket, give Casey a call for a free consultation.

Next up was Mike Shiffer, of EuroMeccanica. Mike is a pro who has seen nearly everything in terms of what can go wrong with cars and he is a master at getting things right. He also writes a column in this magazine and is our chapter's tech advisor. Mike again brought us up-front and close to some of his more recent automotive problems. It is always exciting to get an insider's view of what really goes wrong with cars, and how simple some of the fixes can be if you know what you are doing. Mike started EuroMeccanica in 1991 and it is a well-known and highly respected shop. They have overseen the partial and total restoration of BMW, Mercedes, Jaguar, Rolls Royce, Bentley, Alfa Romeo, Lancia, Daimler and other cars. They have also prepared track cars for competition, driving schools and vintage racing. Repairs and maintenance are also performed on modern European cars.

Last on this year's agenda was a presentation from the good folks from Precision Auto Detailing of New York (Padny). Luke and his partner showed us many of the car care paint



protection products and services offered in the marketplace, as well as other services such as paint enhancement detailing, paint correction, ceramic coatings, paintless dent removal and concours preparation. Padny was started with one goal in mind – keeping your automotive investments as clean and protected as possible. Luke shared Padny's passion for automobiles and we were impressed with their level of detail and care in providing the best possible services for car lovers.

Somewhere in between all of this car talk excitement we had a big lunch spread and the opportunity to talk with a friendly group of car enthusiasts. This year's beach party was a resounding success due to a combination of the near record attendance, along with the contributions of our speakers, our host and the great lunch buffet. Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's event. I look forward to seeing everyone at all of the chapter's events throughout the year.





TechTalk with Mike Shiffer

You would think that by now, after 42 years in the car business and 28 years in my own shop, I'd own every tool I will ever need. Nope.

I went on a tool-buying jag. It started last fall and has only recently slowed down. The reasons I did this are various: the pathetic attempt to relieve boredom and stress and make myself feel temporarily better by buying shiny new things is too banal to analyze, so I'll go straight to the sensible, defensible, non-embarrassing rationalizations.

First is the need to replace lost, worn out and broken tools. Along with busted drill bits, worn out ratchets and rounded Torx tips, I replaced a crunched inspection mirror, a couple of inadvertently truncated (violently snapped off) pick tools and a magnetic retrieval wand that may have hitched a ride on somebody's car, or is stuck to the underside of a tool cart in the shop. (Magnetic devices have to be carefully watched. They have a way of clinging, unbidden, to any steel they can find. They have the disconcerting habit of gathering unto themselves any loose hardware within reach. I cannot count the times I have installed a speaker in a door panel and been unable to find the fourth screw, because it is stuck to the back of that same speaker I just finished screwing into the door panel with the three screws that somehow escaped its magnetic pull. Likewise, hardware placed in a magnetic tray will mysteriously creep around to the underside of the tray and hide there, laughing at me as I search in vain and curse their disappearance.)

Replacement tools don't get the blood racing. The ones that make my heart pound are high-tech versions of the tools I use every day. The classic example of this is Gearwrench, a brilliant redesign of the combination wrench. The lowly combo wrench, open-end on one side, box-end on the other, is a staple in every mechanic's kit. Gearwrench replaced the box-end with a ratcheting box not much larger than the solid one, and I replaced my trusty combos with Gearwrenches. That was many years ago. Last winter, I bought three 12v battery-powered drivers. Batteries are now small, light and powerful enough to run tools that outperform plug-in and air-powered tools. So I put down some serious dough to replace my 3/8" air wrench, 1/4" air ratchet and screwdriver. Now I don't need to drag an air hose or power cord over the fender. Consequently I use power tools more often, which makes me faster and less tired.

Less tired.

This is getting to be an issue as I mellow into my mid 60s. Getting old and creaky means less upper body strength (and more caution in how I use it), less acute vision, and a bunch of

other woes I won't burden you with. To address the former I got two fine long-ratchet handles, 1/4" & 3/8" drive. Just like the conventional ratchets, but nearly twice as long. I love leverage, and need it more than ever. To give my vision a boost, I bought a bouquet of LED work lights in various configurations: some that hang from hoods, others that have hooks, magnets or both. (A limitation of magnets is BMW's extensive use of plastic and aluminum under hoods, as well as the hoods themselves.) LEDs are wonderful. Back in the old days, drop lights were incandescent bulbs in metal cages on handles. Hot as blazes, they were a menace to bare fingers and forearms, and a serious threat to life if shattered near gasoline fumes. Fluorescent drop lights largely replaced them in the 1980s. They didn't get hot, but they were still bulky and had to be plugged in. LEDs have been with us for a while now, but only recently have there been battery powered ones that get the shape and size right for my purposes. The batteries last a long time and charge quickly. The casings are durable, protective and easy to hold. My favorite one has a powerful magnet in its base. It is strong enough to make getting it free of the metal bench where it sits when charging something of a struggle. It has also been known to pull a wrench out of my fingers when I got too close to its sphere of influence. On the good side, I once dropped a bolt in an engine compartment, then heard the distinctive click of the light's magnet grabbing the bolt on its way to the floor. Serendipity, how light thy name!

I was born before they discovered OCD, so I was never labeled as such. Today I might be. Tools in sets turn me on. I just bought a neat and complete box of Torx and Torx+ sockets, male & female. I will never use most of them, but I don't know which ones I'll never need, so... Also, complete sets of BMW and VW/Audi wheel lock keys wiggled their way onto my overcrowded shelf, purchased so I wouldn't have to rifle through trunks, consoles and gloveboxes looking for the customer's key. Having my own keys also means nobody will drive off with their key still sitting on my tool cart. But I'll be honest. There is something about rows of chrome doodads, each larger than the last, each nestled snugly in its own pocket in a form-fitted blow-molded case that soothes my need for order. Conversely, when my Hazet T20 Torx screwdriver disappeared, leaving a gap on my cart between T15 and T25, I was bereft. After a surprisingly long and frustrating search, I found one that matched my now outmoded handle pattern. In eastern Europe. Against my better judgement, I paid my money and waited. And waited. Its arrival, long after I had given up, made me feel so good. Slipping it home between its mates was a deeply satisfying experience.

One of the things I'll miss when I retire will be the thrill of new toys, uh, tools arriving in my shop, all shiny and ready to be used, just resting in their beds, waiting. 🚗

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Make a difference!

The New York Chapter wants you, if you

- have professional or other experience in any area listed below
- would like to work with fellow BMW enthusiasts
- want to help guide the Chapter

Since the 1970's, the NY Chapter BMW CCA has been providing a wide range of tangible benefits to its members. The list includes social gatherings, technical information, a wide variety of driving/social events, high speed driving schools, Street Survival Program, and an award-winning newsletter, Die Zugspitze, just to name a few.

At this time, we are seeking volunteers and chairpersons to coordinate new and existing programs to help continue to provide these services to our members and to help build the Chapter.

If you have skills and/or are interested in assisting in any of the following categories, please contact the Chapter at: board.nybmwcca.org.

Marketing
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come together to run a joint event,
good things are sure to happen..."**