



Special points of interest:

- Board Members
- Full schedule of events
- Driving Event Information

spring driving school

The first of our three annual driving schools will be held in March. It's great fun for everyone involved and provides a perfect opportunity to learn car control, which can have a profound affect on your ability to negotiate slippery Northwest winter roads.

For more details visit our website at www.iebmw.org and see the Calendar of Events section of this issue for schedule and other details. You will also find a Driving School Application and Tech Inspection Form on the website

Sun River Romp

Nothing is better for the soul than having a weekend getaway with a friend.

Alan and I have been best friends since our college days at WSU. We share a love of cars, driving and exploration. Back in those days there were few choices in cars. Maybe a Porsche (a 2002 if you were in the know), but the Datsun 240Z was the new kid, A car of choice for the budget-minded (all of which was just wishful thinking for two collegiate, road-hungry boys with little resources).

Thirty years later With many bumpy miles of life behind each of us we still make room each year for mowing down some pavement.

A loose plan is always the best plan when weekend road adventures are concerned.

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General Information

Please send address changes to the National Office or email them to bmwclub@aol.com.

Monthly Member Meeting

2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 pm. at Perkins Restaurant, 5903 N Division, Spokane, WA. Across from the Franklin Park Mall. Members are encouraged to attend. A short business meeting will also be conducted. Occasionally a meeting may be skipped. Please contact a board member before the meeting.

Inland Empire Chapter Website

www.iebmw.org
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Calendar of Events

High Performance Driving Schools

March 24-25, 2007
June 23-24, 2007

October 13-14, 2007

Spokane Raceway Park
Scott Adare
(509) 466-6731
sadare@aol.com

Autosports Northwest Autocross

<http://www.autosportsnorthwest.org/>



President's Corner

Greetings everyone!

Spring is here or at least close to here, as we still have over a foot of snow on the ground at our place! Our first driving school is just weeks away, March 24 & 25th. The 2007 driving school application is on our website. If you are looking for a bit of excitement in your life and also improving your driving skills, I recommend participating in one of our driving schools this year. If you aren't quite ready to participate as a student, but would like to see what the driving schools are all about, I encourage you to volunteer to help out as a corner worker. Our volunteer program has been very successful in providing a safe and funfilled environment for the students and instructors during our school week-ends. Feel free to contact me with questions or to volunteer one or both days during the upcoming March school. We also will be having schools in June and October. It's a great way to spend the week-end!!



Our annual membership banquet was held recently. The weather was a bit nasty and attendance was down, but those of us that made it, enjoyed a superb meal provided by Clinkerdaggers. Thanks to Nancy Adare for organizing the dinner!! The election of board members for the next years was completed and I want to

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EU Endorses Hydrogen as Technology of the Future

Munich/Brussels/Washington.

Ten European partners have completed the HyICE project – Optimization of the Hydrogen Internal Combustion Engine three years after the project first began. This initiative, which was promoted by the EU Commission, has resulted in a combustion engine fueled by hydrogen that offers clear advantages over other propulsion systems in terms of performance and costs. The project team consists of companies from the automotive industry, their supplier companies and two Universities. This project, which was coordinated by BMW Group Research and Technology, developed two concepts of mixture formation, which were approved on engines for passenger cars as well as for citybuses. The necessary key components were also developed. In addition, relevant simulation tools have been adopted to Hydrogen combustion to support the development process of future production engines.

With a distinct performance of 100 kW per liter cubic capacity (displacement), the experts of HyICE have demonstrated that the hydrogen engine is a technology for the future which matches performance-wise with conventional engines. This was the first time researchers were able to concentrate exclusively on the hydrogen combustion engine and were thus able to fully utilize the specific properties of hydrogen. Up until now, hydrogen combustion engines were designed for both, gasoline and hydrogen usage due to missing hydrogen infrastructure. With this new technology hydrogen usage can be optimized.

Together with BMW Group Research and Technology, the Swedish company Mecel Engine Systems developed an ignition system which is accurately tailored to the far-reaching flammability limits of hydrogen. This has increased efficiency and reduced consumption. In order to make the properties of hydrogen more transparent for future series developments, the IFP (French Institut Francais du Petrole) and the German University of the Federal Armed Forces developed two simulation models for hydrogen combustion in the cylinder. Using the optical engine from the Graz University of Technology, the researchers succeeded in observing the combustion behavior of hydrogen and checking the computer-aided calculation models. These models were then incorporated into the commercial calculation tool Ansys CFX, developed by Ansys Germany.



One cylinder
hydrogen engine

Classified Ads

Preserve BMW CCA History

The Club Archive is looking for Oktoberfest or chapter event trophies, shirts, pins, posters, wineglasses, dash plaques, grill badges, programs or anything else. Anything from the club's past for the Archive/Museum. Do you have extra items you would consider donating? Contact Michael at (864) 250-0022 or mmitchell@roundel.org.

2001 540i/6 For Sale

With 65,xxx miles, Black/black, PDC, cold weather package, sport package, 6 cd changer in trunk, meticulously maintained, redline fluids, many receipts, many new parts, 3M clear bra, tastefully modded with Dinan, AC Schnitzer and M5 parts, always garaged. Pics available on request, email or call me, pra717@yahoo.com, 206-898-3540 (mobile). Paul

2001 525iT For Sale

With 77K miles Metallic Red with Tan leather. Standard package Moon Roof, CD, Power Driver Seat, Power Windows/Doors, Cruise Control. \$16,900

Businesses may place an ad in Auspuffanlage for a minimal charge. Club members may advertise free of charge.

- business card sized ad \$10.00 per issue, \$50.00 per year
- 1/4 page ad \$25.00 per issue, \$100.00 per year
- 1/2 page ad \$50.00 per issue, \$200.00 per year
- full page ad \$75.00 per issue, \$300.00 per year

Yearly ads must be paid in advance. Contact the newsletter editor to place an advertisement.



In conclusion, Prof. Raymond Freymann, Head of BMW Group Research and Technology says: "The combustion engine is one of the most highly developed industrial products. Over one hundred years have been invested in its development. It demonstrates high performance levels and variability with low costs and easy maintenance on a daily basis. With the use of hydrogen, it is already providing a well-developed technical solution for sustainable mobility. We are convinced that even in the future individual mobility using the hydrogen combustion engine will remain an attractive method of transportation."

(Continued from page 1) *Sun River Romp*

Alan chose from his stable of BMW's the Blue M Coupe (aka the "Clown Shoe") because of its appetite for twisting - turning roads. Loaded with Starbuck's finest, we strap in under cloudy skies and head south on I-90 toward the annual Sun River Exotic Car Show. After the usual squabbles over the stereo, some older tunes were settled upon as we found our path up Hwy 503. Into the mountains south of Mt St. Helens With Plenty of landscapes and crooked roads.

Stopping at the state park and an inept attempt at spelunking we trade a cave for car seats and returned to the pavement, heading generally southeast. Aside from dropping into a nasty surprise pothole at a very generous speed we found our way to Trout Lake for a well-earned lunch. As with the rules of the road, we made a point of sampling the local cuisine. that day would be home-style burgers.

After lunch and another seat-swap, we wound our way over the Columbia River, trading trees for rugged country terrain, skirting Mt. Hood to our right and high plains to the left.

Radar equipment in perfect working order, we became very efficient at clicking off miles in route. Grey skies gave way to blue ones as we approached Bend, Oregon just in time to enjoy rush hour traffic.

A quick visit to Carrera Motors (a co-sponsor of the Sun River car show) for a free shampoo and vacuuming which had the "M" looking good again.

After the hose-down, we traveled the last few miles to the Sun River Community. We found our accommodations amid the serpentine maze of homes, apartments and condos. A co-rented house for the weekend was more than adequate, and also proved to be walking distance to the plaza where the show cars gathered early the next morning.

Crisp morning air and hot coffee framed the gathering of Lambos, Ferraris, Porsches, rare English cars, and heavy-hitters from Germany and America. cars were Positioned around the brick courtyard, chrome and paint shimmered as spectators began to gather.

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(Continued from page 2) *President's Corner*

thank the board members for volunteering for another two years. Chris Brown is our new secretary and membership chairman. Chris also will be organizing another summer drive for members. Stay tuned for more details. Chris puts a lot of work into researching his drives and they have been a fun event over the past two years. Thanks Chris!!

Our club membership has held steady around 340-350 members. Chris Brown has some flyers available for anyone to pass out to potential members. We are always looking for members to organize an event for the club. If you have an idea, and are willing to organize the event, contact any board member for more information on how to proceed. Our board/membership meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of each month. The time and place may vary. Contact myself or any board member to confirm the place and time. We are looking for a suitable place to

meet each month on a regular basis. We will post the location on our website.

Our newsletter editor, Larry Simmons, needs articles and photos for the newsletter. Larry does an excellent job putting together our newsletter. Thanks Larry for agreeing to continue for another two years. Miki, our webmistress, can also use photos for our website. If you haven't checked out our website recently, please do! Thanks Miki for helping us put our best foot forward on the web.

Now I'm off to watch the snow melt, the grass appear, and the birds return to our part of the world. Enjoy the upcoming Spring, don't forget that daylight savings time starts earlier this year, and keep those cards and letters coming!

Ken Groves
President
Inland Empire Chapter BMW CCA

(Continued from page 4) *Sun River Romp*

Most of the owners were on hand to share stories and information about their autos. One of the crowd favorites was a 1955 baby blue Benz 2-door.

Sharing points of view, stand-out specimens, and being up close to great cars was only part of the weekend event.



An award ceremonies were held along with a delicious catered dinner at one of the many on-site restaurants. Awards followed and several topics were discussed as well as entertaining car banter.

On Sunday morning, many of the participants joined in a predetermined driving excursion. This year, we cruised through the picturesque town of Sisters and to the Dee Wright Observatory, situated in the middle of a breathtaking geological formation from the past. A view of former Lava beds as far as you can see give an eerie feeling, with winding roads that find their way in and out of this unworldly scenery.

From the lava field viewpoint we then headed down McKenzie Pass toward our lunch destination at the settlement of McKenzie Bridge, where all re-grouped the stellar collection of autos.

Dropping down McKenzie pass #242 proved to be a true driver's road. "Twisties" cannot begin to describe the rigorous 15-plus miles that lay between the Dee Wright observatory and McKenzie bridge. Like the grand slalom that tests Olympic skiers, this road was the test of a driver's savvy. With Alan at the helm of the Dinan-inhanced Coupe, we were able to break away from some slow vacationers and found the twisty trail largely to ourselves aside from one BMW M3 in close pursuit.

I in the co-pilots seat, white-knocked and happy, we passed under towering tree-tops while descending along the narrow road. We darted around mammoth boulders to drop another few hundred feet, dancing in and out of the daunting shadows cast by towering trees. Further and further downward to the base of the mountain we accelerated and braked and accelerated again. With hardly a lift and a lot of push, the pass was conquered.

After a simple and satisfying lunch, the annual Sun River show and drive was over. The many exotics pointed in new directions as did Alan and I.

We made the sad choice to find our way to I-5 and headed north through Oregon, through Portland, on the way to Olympia. Alan slept as I drove the most hideously boring leg of the weekend, We made our way to the front of each clump of cars on the interstate. Safe but tired in Olympia, carrying sore butts, we saved discussing next year's getaway for another day.



I met up with my wife and in a timely manner moved the Chrysler across Washington to Spokane in order to show my face on-time to work the next day. It had been a long day.

The fun choice would have been to drive the summer mountain roads back north from Oregon to explore new paths and sites but, With Monday's call from the daily grind and feeling our age and (slightly) worn out we choose function over form.

This drive, two old friends searched and found a piece of their souls along the highway, just around the apex of the next curve.

Thanks, Chris Brown

BMW Car Club of America,
Inland Empire Chapter

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My BMW

We want to continue our section where we feature one of our members and their BMW. We have a questionnaire to fill out asking numerous questions about your car. We will need a complete bio on the car, pictures, where you got it, how long you've had it, why is it special to you, favorite place to drive it, where you would like to drive it, things of that nature.

It will be fun and interesting to learn about some of the cars that are right here under our noses. I know there are some unique specimens near by.

So, if you would like to share your BMW with us, contact Larry Simmons at (208) 265-7888 or email me at:

editor@iebmw.org.

