



## Summer Fun Autocross

August 30, 2015



**A smokin' hot time was had by all!**

Photo: Ben Carufel

## Octoberfest Autocross

October 10, 2015



Photo: Ben Carufel

## Coronado Speed Festival September 19-20, 2015



Photo: Lisa Goehring

### INSIDE

President's Column.....	3
Calendar of Events.....	4
New Members.....	4
Foothills to Mountains Cruise .....	6
Holiday Party .....	7
San Diego Chapter Photo Shoot .....	8
Board of Directors Election.....	9-11
Coronado Speedfest.....	12-13
Summer Fun Autocross .....	14-15
BMW Performance Center Event.....	16-21
Octoberfest Autocross.....	22-23
Ultimate Autocross.....	24-25



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# Fahren Affairs

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Jim Patterson ..... sd-president@sdbmwcca.com

### Vice President:

Brett Litoff ..... sd-vicepresident@sdbmwcca.com

### Secretary:

Paul Silver ..... sd-secretary@sdbmwcca.com

### Treasurer:

Don Duncan ..... sd-treasurer@sdbmwcca.com

### Director/Autocross:

Kim Schwarz ..... sd-autocross@sdbmwcca.com

### Director/Driving School:

Anne Littrell ..... sd-drivingschool@sdbmwcca.com

### Director/Equipmentmeister

Satakal Khalfa ..sd-equipmentmeister@sdbmwcca.com

### Director/Newsletter Editor:

Vacant ..... sd-newsletter@sdbmwcca.com

### Director/Social Coordinator:

Ryan Moore ..... sd-events@sdbmwcca.com

### Director/Wachmeister:

Dennis Damon .....sd-wachmeister@sdbmwcca.com  
760-598-8770

### Director/Webmeister:

Thejusvi Ganesh .....sd-webmeister@sdbmwcca.com

### Directors-at-Large:

Jim Lloyd .....jim.lloyd@sdbmwcca.com

Lisa Goehring .....advertising@sdbmwcca.com

Jonathan King ..... info@sdbmwcca.com

Brandon Watson ..... southpawE46@yahoo.com

### Commercial Advertising Manager

Lisa Goehring .....advertising@sdbmwcca.com

## REGIONAL SERVICES

### Regional Vice President:

Nick Owen ..... pacificrvp@bmwcca.org

### Regional Tech Services Advisor:

Carl Nelson .....858-488-1555

### BMW CCA National Office: [bmwcca.org](http://bmwcca.org)

Membership (only) ..... 800-878-9292

FAX .....864-250-0038

General Info .....864-250-0022

### Misc. Car Club Info

San Diego SCCA Auto-X ..... www.sdr-scca.com/solo2

SCCA Club Racing ..... sdr-scca.com/rr

SCCA Cal Club (L.A. region)..... www.solo2.com

[www.sdbmwcca.com](http://www.sdbmwcca.com)

## The President's Column

For my final Presidents column of 2015 I'd like to recap the events of the year and thank some of the volunteers that make it happen. We have Kim Schwarz and the Autocross team to thank for a very successful Autocross program with 9 events and countless smiling drivers. We held our annual HPDE/Club Race at Chuckwalla and Anne Littrell once again did a fabulous job of organizing the chaos of a driving school. Jim Lloyd once again organized some very fun cruises around the county. Dennis Damon, as usual, put on our yearly Car Show, Clean Car Contest and Charity Auction™ and is working on our annual Holiday Party. Throughout the year we had several tech sessions, a car corral at SpeedFest and of course our monthly social/board meetings. We had a few new events this year. Dan Tackett setup our first event at the newly opened BMW Performance Center at the Thermal club. The event was so popular that we had to add a second day. Andre Pantic and Jonathan King setup our first photo shoot, which was very successful, and will definitely be repeated. We had another successful year due to the efforts of our volunteers dedicating their time to make the club and events successful. I can't end 2015 without remembering Rich Gehring who unexpectedly died during the year. Rich represented the best about the club – he always had a smile while doing the work of three people. We will always miss you, Rich.

Our December board meeting is also our annual election meeting. We elect all the 15 board of directors positions at the meeting. I want to encourage all chapter members to come to the meeting and vote on the board members that will run the club for 2016. We start out with pizza and soft drinks, have a short board meeting and then proceed to the election. Please remember to bring your club membership card, or you won't be able to vote.

Our board meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at Giovanni's, 9353 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. We welcome visitors, so come by and see what we are planning. The formal meeting starts at 6:30, but get there at 5:45 for pizza, soda and conversation with fellow BMW fans. All members and prospective members are welcome. Hope to see you there.

*Jim Patterson*



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### SUBMITTING INFORMATION TO THE EDITOR

Please send us your stories, tech. tips, photos, etc. We welcome and encourage any material you think would be informative or interesting to other members. All information should be submitted to the editor directly by e-mail to [sd-newsletter@sdbmwcca.com](mailto:sd-newsletter@sdbmwcca.com). The deadline for submitting information to the editor is the 15th of even months.

# 2015 Calendar of Events

**November 22**

San Diego Chapter – Foothills to Mountains Cruise  
See page 6 for information.

**December 6**

San Diego Chapter – Holiday Party at the San Diego Automotive Museum  
See page 7 for more details.

**December 8**

San Diego Chapter – Board Meeting and Annual Election

**December 12**

San Diego Chapter – Autocross at Qualcomm, West Lot  
See pages 24-25 for full description.



## New Club Members Welcome!

Paul Behnke  
Michael Bolton  
Evan Borchardt  
David Bosteter  
Shandon Campbell  
David Caudillo  
Rodrigo Cavalle  
Justin Cheng  
Dan Chrisman  
Jake Collins  
Kathleen Constable  
Zachary Craft  
Julius Diehr  
Steven Drooz  
Chris Duke  
Daniel Eidelson  
Erica Episcopo  
Jae Gan  
Sean Glancy  
Jordan Gochenour  
Mark Goldsworthy  
Parker Grubensky  
Linda Haneline  
Bill Haneline

Paul Harrington  
Dana Harris  
Scott Harrison  
Gregory Heath  
Patrick Hecox  
Jose Hernandez  
Sebastian Hickey  
Gary Klein  
Lina Koseki  
Brian Le  
Ted Liefeld  
Gerald Little  
Faraz Louie  
Michael Marquez  
Chris McCrea  
Craig McLaughlin  
Zubin Mody  
Griffin Moos  
Christian Moyer  
Andrew Mustain  
Anthony Orth  
Chris Osuna  
Benjamin Phenis  
Matthew Pins  
David Robertson

Tess Rodriguez  
Janet Roemer  
Cole Roussos  
Alberto Ruvalcaba  
Jack Sachrison  
Eric Sarnoff  
Larry Scattaglia  
Adam Seaman  
Gerry Siem  
Michael Sorensen  
Elizabeth Sorensen  
Matthew Sparks  
Mark Squire  
Travis Sterne  
Cory Stewart  
Brooke Sullivan  
Kent Thompson  
Einnar Tuazon  
Nolan Valerio  
Kyle Van Riper  
Marisa Walker  
Timothy Webster  
Johannah Whitelock  
Alisha Wray



**January 12, 2016**

San Diego Chapter – Board Meeting and Annual Election

**January 30, 2016**

San Diego Chapter – BMW Performance Center Event, Thermal Club, CA

**San Diego Chapter  
Monthly Board Meeting**  
**2nd Tuesday of each month**  
Giovanni's Italian Restaurant,  
9353 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.  
5:45 P.M. – Pizza & soft drinks  
6:30 P.M. – Board Meeting

Be sure to check the website for all the latest news and event announcements!  
[www.sdbmwcca.com](http://www.sdbmwcca.com)



**Are you moving?**  
Update your address with the **National office** at [bmwcca.org](http://bmwcca.org) or call 1.800.878.9292

# WANTED: Newsletter Editor

One of the most important ways the Club communicates with our members is through the bi-monthly newsletter. Once again, we have an urgent need to recruit a new newsletter editor.

What do you need to do as the newsletter editor? The editor needs to produce 6 newsletters per year. This means that you need to make sure that event coordinators are turning in event descriptions on time, solicit articles from members, find interesting material from other newsletters, work with our graphic designer and printer to get the newsletter published on time.

The Newsletter Editor board position comes with all the perks of Board membership: monthly free pizza dinners at the board meeting, the opportunity to participate and vote on club issues, a nifty name badge and an exclusive board member shirt.

If you are interested in the position, please contact me for more information. The best thing to do is come to our next board meeting and see how the club works.

*Jim Patterson*

## Show Your Membership Card and Save!

*The following advertisers offer a discount to BMW CCA members. You must show your membership card at the time of purchase.*

**BMW of Escondido:** 15% – parts & service

**BMW of El Cajon:** 15% – parts & labor

**Charlie's Foreign Car Service:** 10%

**Dieter's:** 10% off Parts and Labor

**5 Point Auto Detail:** 10% discount

**La Jolla Independent BMW Service:** 10%

**Mastercare:** 10% discount

**Oceanside Motor Sports:** Complimentary Detail Upgrade

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# Foothills to the Mountains Run

**Sunday, November 22, 2015**

Meet at 9:30 a.m., leaving around 10:15 a.m.  
Target Store lot, in the Rancho San Diego Shopping Center  
2911 Jamacha Road, El Cajon  
Highway 94 and Jamacha Road (Highway 54)

Our Chapter's final cruise of the year will be on Sunday, November 22nd. We are going to experience some beautiful natural inland scenery as we travel through the back roads of San Diego county. So prepare to warm up your Bavarian iron for this interesting Sunday drive through the foothills and up into the mountains that border the Anza-Borrego desert. We will be starting at an elevation of a few hundred feet and climbing to over 5000 feet. The tour will take us through the small communities of Jamul, Potrero, Campo, Lake Morena, Mount Laguna, and on to Julian, where we will have lunch.

*Jim Lloyd*

*Photo: Paul Silver*



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## CHRIS KEEFER

Formerly of La Jolla Independent BMW Service, Chris has been a leading technician in the San Diego BMW community for the last 13 years. Chris started Independent Motorcars in order to continue to deliver a high level of service to his customers and expand those services to the other makes and models his customers have in their garage.



## KATE CONSTABLE

Kate is a huge car nut which makes her the perfect fit as the Customer Relations Director at Independent Motorcars. Her daily computer feed is jammed with everything from the latest offerings from European auto manufacturers to the latest news and cars from sites like Jalopnik and Bring a Trailer.



## JAY PRZEPADLO

Formerly of La Jolla Independent BMW and Herman Cook VW, Jay has an extensive knowledge of BMW cars and has been factory trained in VW and Audi automobiles during his 15-year career. His main focus is to maintain customer vehicles to a higher-than-factory standard.



## ERIK STORER

Formerly of La Jolla Independent BMW, Erik is our resident customer service advocate, in-shop assistant, code enforcer, neat freak and comedian. Erik is the support system of Independent Motorcars in all facets of what we do. Chances are he has picked you up or driven you home without the use of navigation or Google Maps.



# 2015 Holiday Party

## San Diego Automotive Museum

Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>

5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

### San Diego Automotive Museum

Balboa Park, San Diego

Come celebrate the holidays with your fellow club members at the Auto Museum. We have privately reserved the entire facility so we can enjoy the cars too!! Spouses and families are welcome of course.

This year's party will be catered featuring a variety of holiday dishes and desserts. Please bring your own adult beverage.

We are limited to a total of 130 Members & their guests

**Please RSVP QUICKLY!!**

**RSVP DEADLINE is December 1**

Send your check for ***\$10.00 per person*** (children under 12 are free)

**payable to SDBMWCCA**

to: Diane Damon, 1211 Countrywood Lane, Vista, CA 92081

**CHECKS WILL NOT BE RETURNED THIS YEAR**

Need more info? Contact Dennis or Diane Damon, 760-598-8770 or [ddnomad@msn.com](mailto:ddnomad@msn.com)

\*\*\* Gift Exchange \*\*\*

As always, for those who want to participate, we will have an automotive gift exchange with theft privileges. Gag gifts are fun, but not the idea here. Naturally, the \$10 – \$15 gifts should be wrapped.

# Photo Shoot on Shelter Island

Sunday, October 11

The next time someone suggests to me to be a photographer's assistant, I am going to think twice! I am just kidding. On Sunday, October 11th, I had the opportunity to do just that when our club hosted a Photo Shoot down at Shelter Island. It wasn't really that bad. First of all the photographer, Gary Flannigan, is a great friend of mine. But, man, if it wasn't an hour of moving lighting and ladders, bags and garbage cans before everyone showed up. We must have moved Gary's 4Runner six times and taken at least fifty shots of it from twelve different angles. The guys cooking food and feeding pigeons next to their van must have thought we were a little weird! I now have a new-found appreciation of what it takes to make cool-looking photos! But in the end it was all worth it. While my



wife Ines took care of registering everyone in and hosting snacks and drinks, Gary and I guided our club members cars into perfect position one by one. It was a race against the setting sun and we made it by the skin of our teeth as the last of 23 cars was taken almost in the dark!

It was a really nice group of people to host and it seemed

like everyone enjoyed watching other people's cars get photographed, even after they were finished. It turned out to be somewhat of a meet and greet as several participants were at their first club event. Most everyone hung out and enjoyed each others' cars, company, and beautiful scenery.

From the photos I have seen, it looks like everyone's car could have been in Roundel Magazine! The backdrop could not have been better, with downtown San Diego stretching across each photo and lots of sailboats drifting past. We even had a huge

Disney cruise ship glide past us!

So cheers to a fun event and I hope to see you at another one we will plan on soon. Let me know if you have any ideas for a location!

*Andre Pantic*



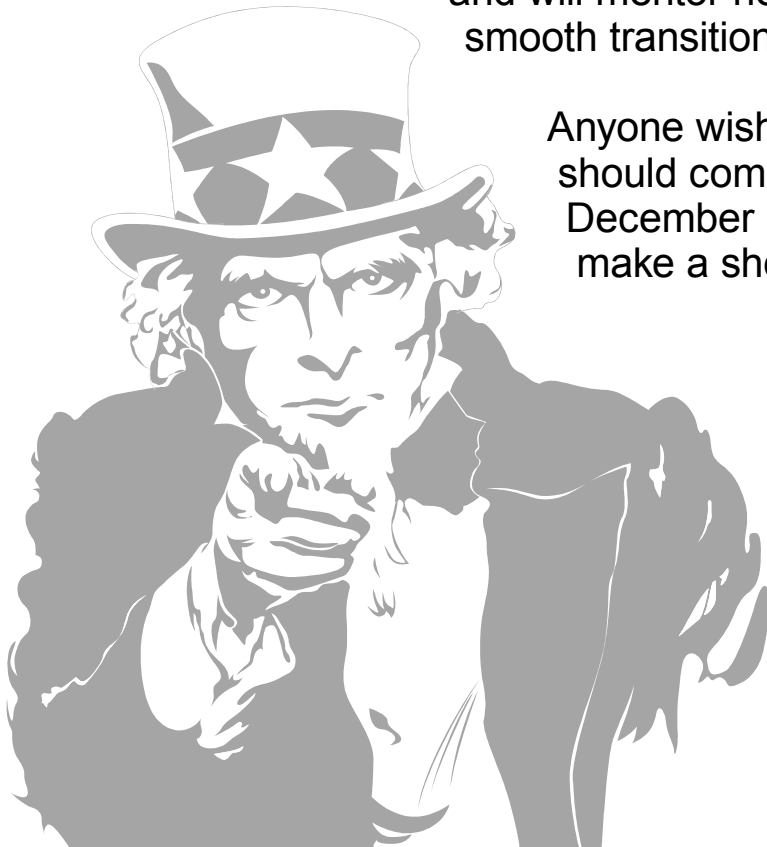


## YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU!

We're looking for a few good men and women to help our Chapter. That's right, annual elections for the San Diego Chapter's Board of Directors are just around the corner on December 8<sup>th</sup>. All of the Chapter's events are planned and organized by your all-volunteer Board of Directors. The Chapter is looking for folks who are interested in getting involved on a regular basis to become new board members. All members are encouraged to run for office. If you already come to the board meetings, you're halfway there. As a board member, you get to vote to make changes and be heard on issues that are important to you.

In addition to job-specific roles, all board members commit to attending the monthly board meeting on the second Tuesday of the month for one calendar year. Outgoing board members are dedicated to the success of our Chapter and will mentor new officers to ensure a smooth transition to the new Board.

Anyone wishing to run for office should come to the meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> and be prepared to make a short verbal statement.



# Board of Directors Position Descriptions

## **PRESIDENT**

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- Conduct the monthly board meeting.
- Represent the chapter at club and non-club functions.
- Respond to email and telephone inquiries regarding the chapter.
- Oversee the activities of the board directors.
- Review financial reports and ensuring that the chapter is in good financial condition.
- Check the chapter website at least once per month to ensure it is up to date.
- Write the monthly president's column for the newsletter.
- Schedule the yearly election meeting in December. If not running for reelection, conduct the meeting. If running for reelection, arrange for someone to conduct the meeting to avoid a conflict of interest.
- Coordinate with other chapter presidents and the BMW CCA regional vice president on regional issues.
- Within two weeks of the chapter election, submit the Chapter Officer Questionnaire form to national.
- Provide positive motivation to all board members and chapter members.

## **VICE PRESIDENT**

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- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Support the chapter president as required.
- Conduct board meetings in the absence of the chapter president.
- Act as Membership Chair by sending welcome letters to all new members.
- Answer numerous email inquiries concerning membership.

## **TREASURER**

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- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Reconcile accounts payable and receivable on a monthly basis.
- Present chapter financial status at monthly board meetings.
- Perform financial analysis for cash flow, income, and expenses.
- Verify expenses and write reimbursement checks.
- Oversee the preparation of the annual tax return for the IRS.
- Prepare the Chapter Financial Report to national by March 31st of each calendar year.

## **SECRETARY**

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- Keep accurate minutes of each Board Meeting.

- Present the previous month's minutes to the Board for approval.
- Submit monthly minutes for publication in the newsletter and website.

## **DIRECTOR/AUTOCROSS**

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- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Negotiate stadium dates with the stadium officials and other car clubs.
- Arranging liability insurance for the events by submitting the insurance certificate request.
- Ensure that payment and insurance certificates are delivered to the stadium office.
- Arrange lunch, drink, and comfort facilities for the event.
- Coordinate volunteers for course design, set-up, tech inspection, timing, registration, lunch, and clean-up.
- Coordinate with the Chief Instructor to ensure there are enough instructors for the event.
- Ensure the event is on schedule and supervise throughout the event.
- Coordinate procurement of trophies before the event and present them at the end of the event.
- Provide event information to newsletter editor and webmaster for publication.
- Manage email contact list and communicate with members about upcoming events to maximize attendance.
- Manage online registration, including timely updates to the registration website and generating reports of paid attendees.
- Report to the Board of Directors on the financial results and needs of the autocross program.

## **DIRECTOR/DRIVING SCHOOL**

---

- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Plan all aspects of the driving school.
- Coordinate the volunteer staff for the annual driving school.
- Arrange liability insurance for the school by submitting the insurance certificate request.
- Coordinate with the motel to ensure rooms are reserved for instructors and students.
- Coordinate with the Chief Instructor to ensure there are enough instructors for the school.
- Coordinate with the Chief Steward for track supervision.
- Coordinate with the track officials for dates, track rental fees, corner workers, emergency medical

vehicle, and all necessary equipment.

- Oversee logistics for the chapter's equipment transport.
- Submit the Driving Events Reporting Form within 30 days of the driving school.

### **DIRECTOR/EQUIPMENT MEISTER**

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- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Maintain all aspects of Club truck, including arranging service/maintenance, insurance, registration, service records, storage location, washing, exercising and fueling.
- Maintain Club trailer, lights, brakes, tires, hitch, and cover in good working order.
- Arrange suitable, secure trailer storage location.
- Maintain current inventory and value of trailer equipment, contents, and supplies.
- Maintain electronic equipment batteries, generator, PA system, radios, timing display, fire extinguishers, helmets, canopies, flags, vests, and other related autocross equipment.
- Maintain supply of wrist bands and insurance waiver forms.
- Organize trailer equipment and loading plan.
- Transport club truck and trailer to and from each autocross event.
- Assist with set-up and teardown of equipment, helmet rentals/returns, packing/unpacking trailer at autocross events.
- Coordinate use of truck and trailer with Driving School Director for annual driving school.
- Transfer items not currently in use from trailer to club storage unit to open up space in trailer.

### **DIRECTOR/NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

---

- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Write/edit material for newsletter.
- Provide photos for the newsletter.
- Lay out submitted articles, ads, photos, etc for each issue as required.
- Coordinate with the printer to ensure the newsletter is published eleven times per year.
- Provide updated mailing lists to the printer.
- Provide newsletter in PDF format to chapter Webmeister and National BMW CCA website.

### **DIRECTOR/SOCIAL EVENTS**

---

- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Research local events.
- Present information on events to the board for consideration.
- Procure tickets.
- Provide event information to the newsletter editor

and the web master for publication.

- Keep the board advised of how the sales for events are going and, if necessary, seeking others' participation to sell out the event planned.
- Collect fees, deposit funds into the chapter's account and coordinate the distribution of tickets for events.

### **DIRECTOR/WACHSMEISTER**

---

- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Responsible for the annual clean car event & charity auction.
- Negotiate with the city to the schedule and date of the annual clean car contest.
- Coordinate with BMW dealers and sponsors to obtain support and auction items for the clean car contest and charity auction.
- Coordinate volunteers needed to support the annual clean car contest including all judges.
- Procure event awards.
- Obtain event insurance.
- Arrange for catered lunch for the event.
- Supervise set-up and clean-up of the clean car event.
- Run the charity auction portion of event.
- Provide event information to newsletter editor and web master (LA & SD chapters) for publication.
- Provide event information to other chapters, local dealerships, and the general public.
- Submit the insurance rebate form to national.
- Submit the event report to the board.

### **DIRECTOR/WEBMEISTER**

---

- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Maintain the chapter's website including adding/removing events, posting announcements, posting autocross and other event results, posting Fahren Affairs, photos, and managing the Classifieds.
- Administer and maintain the Chapter's e-mail list and e-mail service.
- Administer and maintain the Chapter's domain names and GoDaddy account, Google Apps, and Picasaweb accounts.
- Administer and maintain the Chapter's Facebook account and add events and updates as necessary.
- Manage the chapter's account with web hosting service.

### **DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (four positions)**

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- Attend board meetings and vote on issues as required.
- Bring new ideas to the chapter.
- Plan and run technical and/or social events.
- Assist other directors in running their events.

# Coronado Speed Festival Hot Laps and Huge Smiles

by Dan Tackett



The Coronado Speed Festival has become an institution in San Diego after 18 years. As part of Fleet Week, this is the only military base in the Western US opened to the public, and the only military runway turned into a temporary race track.

For several years, the BMW Dealer Association of San Diego has been a major sponsor of the Speed Festival, getting a lot of exposure by offering a Ride and Drive event with current BMW models, displaying the latest salivary stimulants from Bavaria (i8 and brand new 7-series among them), and giving the public \$1000 certificates toward a BMW purchase. The Association also arranged to bring the BMW USA Classic race car collection to Coronado, displaying the iconic CSL that launched BMW of North America, the ultra-rare E46 M3 GTR with its P60 V8 that was so fast it was later banned, and two E92 M3 GT2s that were champions in ALMS racing.

To entertain Military personnel, VIPs, and a few Club members with Hot Laps on track, the Association ordered a fleet of five M cars, all 4-door models by request: one M6 Gran Coupe, two M5s and two M3s. All had carbon ceramic brakes, and one had an MSRP of \$149K! They also provided an M6 Gran Coupe for Pace Car duty and an X5M for shuttling dignitaries. The five track cars were delivered to the Team of BMW CCA Hot Lap drivers more than two weeks in advance, to accumulate 1200 miles and have break in service performed. In past years, cars were either shipped to Coronado (and went on track with virtually zero miles) or delivered just a few days ahead so the Hot Lap drivers could put on a few hundred miles. We felt better about hammering M cars with some miles and fresh motor oil.



With a new sanctioning body this year, we were uncertain of when we might be able to take passengers on track. The schedule showed few openings. But course control was the same team that knew us from past years, and they squeezed



us on track between sessions whenever they could. That led to some last-minute riding opportunities and some unfortunate last-minute cancellations, but it was out of our hands. Some fighter pilot passengers thought their rides were as much fun as flying their F/A 18s! I'd trade them for a ride-along. The cars were amazingly quick and agile, with the 575 hp M5s showing slightly more acceleration, the lighter M3s being more tossable, and the M6 noticeably missing the Competition Package suspension. Our seven drivers rotated through all five cars, so we all got to sample the differences. Early Sunday morning, we had new front tires mounted, and since the same brand wasn't available, we also noticed some grip differences after the swap.



A special treat, as last year, was the M3 GT2s that joined us on track, with the passenger seat reserved for very special VIPs. BMW's Director of Corporate Communications,

Tom Plucinsky, piloted an M3 all three days. BMW racing legend Bill Auberlen flew in right after his United Sports Car win in Austin to take the second M3 on track Sunday. Their flat-crank V8s sounded amazing, pleasing the crowd and putting indelible smiles on their lucky riders. Observers might have thought it strange that the stock M cars appeared to be keeping up with the race cars, at least



for a while. True enough, when each of us drove the lead car, we sometimes had to lift slightly before Turn 1 when we were sent out together. Is an M6 quicker than a full-race M3 GT2? Uh, no. These M3s are now part of BMW USA Classic's race car collection, which has the mission to "Present, Preserve and Protect" BMW's racing heritage. As such, the M3s had their power turned down and redlines lowered, ran on hard tires, and they used tall gearing that prevented the hole shot that launched the street cars like a carrier catapult. Our passengers loved feeling like we were matching the race cars' speed, but we drivers knew better.

The BMW Hot Laps will hopefully return next year, but that is not certain yet. The new SVRA sanctioning body has a national sponsorship arrangement with Jaguar, and indeed there was a nice Jaguar display, a public autocross course, and some F-Types on track Friday. They may step up and add the Hot Lap role next year, but we hope the BMW Dealer Association of San Diego continues to keep BMW front and center at the Coronado Speed Festival. Seven drivers are definitely ready to come back.

All photos: Lisa Goehring



Sunday August 30

# SUMMER FUN AUTOCROSS

## BMW of El Cajon

The Ultimate Customer Experience

**Our sincerest thanks to BMW of El Cajon for their continued support of our Autocross Program!**

All photos: Theju Ganesh

### RESULTS

#### G – Gold Class

Emilio C.	1992	Miata	70.834
Brian G.	2016	Miata	71.602
Satakal K.	2012	Cayman R	74.466
Peter E.	2013	M3	75.217
Mark F.	1998	M3	75.616
Sean T.	2007	MX-5	75.701
Ryan P.	2007	MX-5	75.793
Owen N.	1994	Mx5	75.982

#### LC – Legacy

Nicolas B.	1986	325e	76.552
Chris M.	1969	2002	78.92
Ben T.	1985	325e	81.212
Chris K.	1993	318is	83.836
Sean P.	1998	318ti	83.945

#### NAM – Naturally Aspirated Modified

Ryan W.	1989	327is	80.476
Tom W.	2001	325i	80.901
Brandon C.	2001	325ci	86.724
Kathryn S.	2001	325i	90.284

#### NAS – Naturally Aspirated Stock

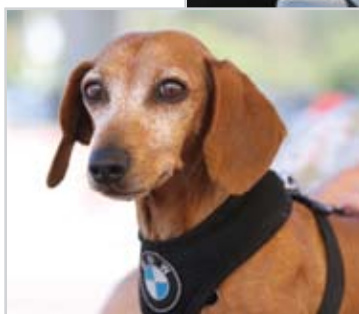
Hans V.	2009	328	80.61
Marc H.	2005	Z4 3.0i	82.698
Jason W.	1999	328i	83.162
Peter O.	2000	Z3	83.572
Heather H.	2005	Z4 3.0i	89.45
Alexander K.	2011	E92 328xi	94.941

#### MS – M Car Stock

Jack R.	1999	M3 Coupe	77.006
Arman C.	2005	M3 ZCP	78.171
Shawn F.	2011	1M	80.221
Henry L.	2004	M3	83.002
Daniel P.	1998	M3	83.827

#### MM – M Car Modified

Mauricio M.	1999	M3	75.028
Jonathan K.	1998	M3	76.216
Jason B.	2006	M3	76.731
Sean G.	2001	M3	78.066
Rich G.	2001	M3	78.13
Lisa G.	1995	M3	80.047
Evan F.	1998	M3	80.618
Ryan M.	2002	M3	81.636
Dana F.	1998	M3	92.804



Fastest BMW!



#### MPM – M Modified Over 400 Stock HP

Rob J.	2013	M3	80.1
--------	------	----	------

#### MPS – M MStock Over 400 Stock HP

Stephen H.	2011	M3	78.832
Ken H.	2011	M3	79.209
Chris O.	2011	M3	81.832
Jodie S.	2015	M4	81.865
Ken S.	2015	M4	84.071
Ashley A.	2008	M3	86.614

#### MC – Mini Cooper

Bryant S.	2004	Cooper	79.148
Karl L.	2006	Cooper S	79.191
Ron E.	2005	Cooper S cabrio	81.363

#### TM – 6/8/12 Turbo Modified

Rachel M.	2015	M235i	81.269
Sean N.	2013	335is	85.572

#### TS – 6/8/12 Cylinder Turbo-Stock

Tiffany A.	2015	M235i	81.965
Richard L.	2015	M235i	82.359
Kardon A.	2011	535i	82.772
John A.	2011	535i	84.972
Roberto R.	2012	335is	84.993
Jesse S.	2015	M235i	88.331



**X - Non-BMW**

Mathieu H.	2000	Miata	0	
Robert J.	2012	MX-5	73.551	
Sebastian R.	2006	MX-5	74.319	
Carl L.	2006	Miata	74.977	
Luis R.	2006	Exige	75.222	
Shauna R.	2006	MX-5	75.383	Fastest Woman!
Gregory P.	1992	Miata	75.478	
Paul C.	1999	civic	76.063	
Richard P.	2014	FR-S	76.072	
Nicholas R.	2014	STI	76.277	
Marc L.	2015	C7 Stingray	76.525	
Diane H.	2015	GT3	77.468	
Jason S.	1990	Miata	77.612	
Mike D.	2013	FR-S	77.637	
Shandon C.	1990	Miata MX-5	77.842	Novice 1st
Justin C.	2012	Civic Si	78.423	Novice 2nd
Hi L.	2011	Miata	78.783	
Jim A.	2013	FRS	78.81	
Jason L.	2014	Fiesta ST	79.018	
Ken S.	1972	240z	79.108	
Randy S.	2010	987 Cayman S	79.451	
Chris B.	2009	370z	79.541	
Alberto R.	2000	Miata MX-5	79.688	
Josh A.	2005	Miata	80.161	
James S.	1990	Miata	80.83	
Brian B.	1993	Miata	80.991	
Zubin M.	2010	GTI	81.835	
Admon D.	2015	500c Abarth	82.205	
Calvin F.	1995	Miata	83.353	
Mark B.	2007	RX-8	83.554	
Marianne Ace G.	2013	frs	84.72	
Michael K.	2014	focus st	86.272	
Julio V.	2015	FR-S	87.997	
Lori S.	1991	Miata	88.26	
Karen C.	2007	RX-8	90.71	
Patrick H.	1990	Miata	94.277	



Photo: Nate Risch

## The Road to the Performance Center: How it All Happened

by Dan Tackett

Our Chapter's recent two events at the BMW Performance Center were a huge success: both sold out quickly, and everyone had a great time experiencing BMW's latest Driving Machines. The BMW Performance Center West (PCW) was announced at the Thermal Club in October 2014, and several of us immediately began wondering how our Chapter could take advantage of having such a world-class facility so close to home. Some members visited as part of a press or *Roundel* event. But how about the rest of us?

Back in May, Chapter member (and good friend) Greg Uhler and his wife took a weekend getaway in Palm Springs, and while there, decided to see if they could visit the PCW. A facility tour was hastily arranged, including a walk-through in the

model homes for Thermal members. After mentioning their Club affiliation, their host offered to let them know of any openings in a future invitation-only sample driving event. Sure enough, the PCW had 4 spots a couple of weeks later, and Greg invited Lisa Goehring and me to join in





with just a few hour's notice to commit to a Sunday event. Sometimes, you have to know when to say yes! The four of us had a great time, and while still there, we began to explore how our Chapter could have an event open to all members. We learned of the menu of activities, planning details, potential dates, and got a price list. After a flurry of emails and phone calls, I was ready to propose the idea at our Board meeting just 2 days later. Many members were interested; some worried that we shouldn't commit to 100 participants we would have to pay for a month in advance. After some debate, we voted to pursue it. Quietly, I got commitments from Board members after the meeting to attend an upcoming invitation-only event; I had to give them a firm head count in a phone call after the meeting before the invitations might be offered to others.

After choosing September 27th for our event, we had a *Fahren Affairs* deadline coming up to get the word out. I had to scramble to get specific details together for a write-up, we decided how to handle payments (Jim Patterson will never volunteer to wrangle checks again!), and Connie Patterson quickly created the eye-catching graphic layout. The gestation from first speaking with the PCW to having an approved event ready for publication took just over one week. Whew!

There was an agonizing wait from the flurry of effort to create the event until *Fahren Affairs* would be in everyone's mailboxes. We put some hints out on Facebook, then decided to make an official announcement in an email blast timed with creating a Facebook event. Some of you may know that the September 27th event fully booked in just 3 days (including 14 people on a waiting list), with a few people hand-delivering checks to Jim's front door! Now we had a different problem: the event was sold out before most members would even learn about it in *Fahren Affairs*. After some discussion with Jim, I made some late-night calls to our PCW contact, checked their schedule and ours, and we added a second date for another 100 people on October 4th. After members saw the newsletter, the "overflow" event sold out in about 2 weeks. I think we're onto something here!

We have already scheduled future PCW events on January 30th, 2016 and January 28th, 2017 (both Saturdays). This is the weekend between the NFL playoffs and Super Bowl, a quiet weekend and ideal weather in the Coachella Valley. The format will evolve, and of course, BMW will have different cars for us to sample in future years. We will develop our registration process well in advance and announce it in *Fahren Affairs*. And no one will need to mail checks to Jim Patterson.



Photo: Lisa Goehring

## BMW Performance Center West Event: A Participant's View *by Chris Keefer*

On a warm day in late September, 100 of our club members arrived at the BMW Performance Center West in Thermal, CA, a desert city nestled in the Coachella Valley. Dan Tackett and Jim Patterson organized the event at the newly opened facility which has become a fixture on the grounds of The Thermal Club - a private country club for racing enthusiasts with deep pockets. A visit to The BMW Performance Center is basically code for 'come out and beat up on brand new M cars.' We all met up at 9am, in 100 degree heat, to do just that.

After a brief meeting led by one of 12 driving instructors (including our own Brandon Watson), we were led out to the playground to enjoy five different driving events with a catered group lunch in between. The events consisted of a team rally race that resembled a mini gymkhana, a flat out drag race to a halting stop, a test of nerves and skill on a soaking wet skid pad, an Autocross, and a Lead/Follow exercise on the South Palm track at the club.

We started our day with a bit of competition. Two teams of ten navigated the relay event behind the wheel of the new M4. The relay involved speeding around a



section of the brand new autocross course, exiting the powerhouse and tagging off to the next team member. If you weren't clean in your driving or the hand-off to the next team member, you were heavily penalized. While our team was loaded with autocross veterans impressively pushing a Yas Marina M4 on course, our sloppy hand-offs would not net us a spot on the podium.





Next up was the drag strip which was loaded with an M5, M6, and M4. Our instructor had us line up in what felt like an illegal street drag from the 70s, but we weren't racing for pink slips, and the cops never showed. The end of the strip provided a unique challenge of getting the vehicle to stop in a designated 'stop box' which was slightly larger than the car itself. Fail to stop in the box came with a penalty. The brakes were impressive, as was the timing of the DCT transmissions that the cars were fitted with. Switching to manual mode typically netted you a second place finish, which illustrated how finely tuned these BMW M cars are.

Following our lead foot session we headed toward the skid pad, nicknamed "The Thunderdome." This was the skill challenge of the day as two 335i's squared off in a 'rat race' trying to catch each other's tail on the oval. The skid pad is like driving on ice as the polished concrete is continually soaked by an impressive sprinkler system. First time out, I spun the

335i about 720 degrees before I knew it. Second time out I impressed myself by not only winning the rat race round, but doing so mostly in full drift around the oval. Pure fun and a lesson in throttle modulation.

During lunch I'm absorbing the fact that I've driven almost every new M-car in BMW's lineup this hard without getting arrested. The moment I finish eating we're called to the timed Autocross course. The tight corners and short straights are a departure from our local club events with fast times coming in at under 30 seconds. Lucky for me, the cones are small and the judges didn't seem to be counting as I gave my best attempt to utilize the performance of the new F80 M3. The stop box was again in play, and managed to stay in it after a 28 second performance. My cheeks were starting to cramp from smiling, but the best was still to come.

I wasn't quite sure what to expect from the Lead/Follow exercise but I strap on my helmet and hop into a new M4. The instructor leads us on to the South Palm Track and talks us through the course via radio at a light pace, drawing the lines to take and what to expect from each turn. We approach the start after the warm up lap and things turn radically different. There is no feeling quite



All photos: Lisa Goehring



like taking an M4 130mph down the straight, getting hard on the carbon ceramic brakes and having 400ft/lbs of torque pull you through the apex. I was hooked. Lead/Follow, by far, was the highlight of the day for me. This alone was worth every penny of the modest price of admission to an incredible event hosted by our club.

Should you attempt such a request, you'll probably be escorted off the lot and asked not to return. Yet, if you head to the BMW Performance Center West at Thermal, you'll be welcomed with open arms, encouraged to push your limits, and asked to return again and again for what is truly a unique and exhilarating experience.

In short, our trip to the BMW Performance Center West was amazing. Imagine going into BMW Dealership armed with nothing but a few hundred bucks and your BMWCCA membership card and asking a sales associate for the keys to 5 different M cars to beat on for the day.



All photo: Lisa Goehring



## More Fun at the BMW Performance Center

*Driving fun using THEIR cars, THEIR tires, THEIR gas!*

We have scheduled our next event at the BMW Performance Center West for Saturday, January 30th, 2016. We will use a similar format as before, with five activities at the center:

- Hot laps in M cars around one of the Thermal circuits
- Fun on the skid pad
- M3 Autocross competition
- M car drag race
- Surprise exercise – we are working with the center on a fun exercise

Since we'll be starting at lunch time on Saturday, the drive up won't require getting up before dawn. We'll organize a cruise, details to be posted and emailed to the attendees when we get closer to the event.

Registration will be done online through Motorsportreg, <http://sdbmwcca.motorsportreg.com>, starting at midnight on November 1, or Monday November 2 for normal people. If you don't have an account, it's easy to sign up and register. We have not determined the final cost, but it should be between \$215 and \$225, which includes all the exercises and catered lunch. The last two events filled up very quickly, don't delay signing up.

*Jim Patterson*

# OctoberFast Autocross

Saturday  
October 10

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support of our  
Autocross Program!**



All photos: Ben Carufel

## RESULTS

### G – Gold Class

William W.	2004	Miata	73.141
Andrew S.	2003	S2000	74.904
Mark F.	1998	M3	74.957
Nick O.	1994	Miata	75.617
Satakal K.	2000	MX5	75.656
Greg D.	1996	328i	76.877

### LC – Legacy

Nicolas B.	1986	325	77.771
Daryl L.	1979	320iS	78.702
Chris K.	1993	318is	83.148
Rachel M.	1993	318is	84.608
Manny P.	1986	325e	87.758
JP H.	1986	325e	90.026

### NAM – Naturally Aspirated Modified

Alpesh K.	2005	330ci	77.017
Marques P.	1999	323i	83.687
Brandon C.	2001	325ci	84.159

### NAS – Naturally Aspirated Stock

Jason W.	1999	328is	82.113
Travis R.	2009	650i	82.858
Ramze B.	1990	325is	84.639

### MPM – M Modified Over 400 Stock HP

Rob J.	2013	M3	78.539
Ashley A.	2008	M3	84.644

### MPS – M MStock Over 400 Stock HP

Stephen H.	2011	M3	78.65
Chris O.	2011	M3	79.282
Vinh L.	2015	M3	81.234
Jan G.	2015	M3	83.195
Gilda S.	2013	M3	88.693
Hannah C.	2015	M3	91.613

### MC – Mini Cooper

Michael O.	0	Cooper S	75.463
Bryant S.	2004	Cooper	79.005

### TM – 6/8/12 Turbo Modified

Rob W.	2014	M235i	74.567	Fastest BMW!
Sean N.	2013	335	83.44	
Blake J.	2015	M235i	83.502	

### TS – 6/8/12 Cylinder Turbo-Stock

Andreas H.	2011	Z4	78.347
Tiffany A.	2015	m235i	80.782
Matthew G.	2014	328i	87.868
Chiyin C.	2015	M235i	89.169





**MS – M Car Stock**

Jack R.	1999	M3	77.364
Shawn F.	2011	1M	77.606
Arman C.	2005	M3 ZCP	77.692
Paul H.	2004	M3	81.054
Scott W.	2003	m3	88.191

**MM – M Car Modified**

Bryant N.	1988	M3	76.473
AJ Y.	1999	m3	77.554
David R.	1995	M3	78.264
Evan F.	1998	M3	78.612
Lisa G.	1995	M3	78.988

Fastest Woman!



**X - Non-BMW**

Robert J.	2012	MX-5	72.741
Carl L.	2006	Miata	73.745
Marc L.	2015	C7 Stingray	74.06
Chris M.	2014	Corvette	74.427
Gregory P.	1992	Miata	74.65
Erik D.	2010	Atom 3	74.662
Robert D.	2009	Corvette	75.285
Scott S.	2003	S2000	75.929
Mathieu H.	2000	Miata	76.175
Luis R.	2006	Exige	76.832
Fred C.	1994	Miata	76.956
Craig C.	2006	Corvette	77.168
James F.	1993	300zx	77.835
Jim A.	2013	FRS	78.125
Alan L.	2007	RX-8	78.456
Daniel R.	2007	RX-8	80.15
Jason L.	2014	Fiesta	80.38
Brian J.	2013	370z	80.711
Paul H.	1996	Miata	81.723
Zhen Z.	2016	Corvette	82.518
Daniel J.	1992	300ZX	82.657
Mark B.	2007	RX-8	82.83
Andreas K.	2006	Exige	83.003
Randy S.	1987	924S	83.19
Patrick R.	1999	Miata	83.74
Kevin J.	2013	FRS	84.201
Ken S.	1999	95	84.63
Jacob D.	2005	Altima 3.5SE	86.126
Kevin D.	2011	Mustang	88.225

Novice 1st  
Novice 2nd



# ULTIMATE AUTOCROSS

**Saturday, December 12th**



Photo: Ben Carufel

## Online Registration will open on November 2nd

Register Online at <http://sdbmwcca.motorsportreg.com>



Scan and register now!

We are down to our final autocross of 2015! Show off everything that you've learned this year by joining us in the West Lot of Qualcomm for tons of holiday fun! We'll have our 3rd Annual Instructor Runoff and our Instructor/Staff appreciation awards. We are also planning to collect for Toys for Tots at this event, so bring your new, unwrapped toys and spread some holiday happiness!

### Instructor and Staff Appreciation Day!

- Your volunteer instructors work tirelessly at our events – jumping in and out of cars for hours at a time. Imagine how hot and exhausted you are after a few laps in 80°F heat. Now imagine several hours of that! So let's show these hard-working folks our appreciation with our Annual Instructor Runoff and Instructor of the Year Award!
- Our "Staff" members are actually all volunteers. They spend most of their day working to bring you the best event possible. We try to make sure that they, too, drive in the event, but many of our volunteers attend the event solely to work. That deserves a huge THANKS! Let them know you appreciate them with our Staff Volunteer of the Year Award!

*Since we'll be back on Standard Time, we are limited to 80 participants, so register early!*

YOU HAVE MORE TIME TO FIND YOUR SNELL 2015 HELMET! There was some confusion within our camp as to when the grace period ends for Snell 2005 helmets. After some clarification, our understanding is that, for all BMW CCA sanctioned events, the grace period for 2005 Snell helmets will end 12/31/2016. Snell 2015 helmets should start hitting the market in less than one month, so maybe you can ask Santa for a new helmet for Christmas! And if Santa falls through, you'll still have all of 2016 to

find your perfect Snell 2015 helmet.

Please note: We have new car classifications as shown at right. Please update Motorsport Reg with your new car class and if you have questions, feel free to email us at [autocross-director@sdbmwcca.com](mailto:autocross-director@sdbmwcca.com).

Remember the sound limit at Qualcomm: **all cars must be under a 92db noise level – we'll be checking!**

***Our sincerest thanks to BMW of El Cajon for their continued support of our Autocross Program!***

Newcomers: We've all had a first time and we're all still learning, so relax, have fun, and enjoy your time with us. You will have an instructor take you around the course for one lap in your car showing you turn-in points, braking zones and so on. Your instructor will then ride with you for your next three laps helping you learn the course. In your next session, and the timed runs, you can have an instructor with you as much or as little as you want – whatever makes you comfortable. These events are what you make them; you can push for good lap times and enjoy the friendly competition or you can have more of a social event where running laps is just another part of a fun-filled day.

See the **Autocross Information Page** at <http://www.sdbmwcca.com/autocross> to get a better idea of how to prepare for this wonderfully addictive sport for your first time.

Note: We do run if it's raining – you'll learn more and your tires will wear less – so if you see some unusual drops of water falling from the sky, grab your raingear and head to the Q! **Also, the helmet standard has changed to require Snell 2005 or 2010 ratings. Check yours now to be sure it's up to date – rentals are limited.**

The entry fee is \$65, including breakfast items, lunch, and



beverages. You can pay online if you register in advance at <http://sdbmwcca.motorsportreg.com>, or with cash or check if you wait to register onsite. You must be a BMW CCA member to participate, and you can join online at [www.bmwcca.org](http://www.bmwcca.org) in advance. Please **print and bring your membership confirmation** if you have not yet received your BMW CCA membership card. We check membership of all participants at the gate.

**REMEMBER: IF REGISTERED ONLINE, BRING PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP AND ARRIVE BY 7:30AM (BEFORE ON-SITE CUT-OFF) TO KEEP YOUR RESERVED SPOT**

Gates will open at 6:30am; tech and registration will open at 7:00am. Tech will close at 8:20am and no cars will be inspected or allowed to run after this time. There is a **mandatory drivers meeting at 8:30am** and the course opens for runs at 9:00am.

#### When you arrive:

1. If you registered online, stop at the gate to sign the waiver and notify the Gate Greeter. Your name will be checked off the pre-registration list. All participants must show their BMW CCA membership card. Those who did not register online will receive a numbered card at the gate in their order of arrival; take it to the Registration table.

**There is no guarantee that spots will be available for those who wait to register the day of the event.**

2. Empty all loose items from your car, then go through the Tech Line and have your car inspected. Bring your Tech card and you will receive Tech and helmet stickers.

3. Take Gate card and Tech card to Registration to get checked off for pre-registration or pay your \$65 entry fee. You will receive car numbers to place on your side windows.

4. If you don't have a helmet, you can rent one from the club for \$10.

5. Your entry fee of \$65.00 includes one lunch and unlimited beverages. Additional lunches can be purchased at Registration for \$7 each.

Women drivers and Novices are classified based upon the car they are driving. We award a Women's Class trophy to the woman with the fastest time, and two Novice trophies to the two fastest novices. This means women and novices will be eligible for multiple trophies. You are only a novice for the first and second time you autocross, and if you win a novice or class trophy you are no longer a novice.

QUESTIONS? Contact Jim Patterson at: [sd-autocross@sdbmwcca.com](mailto:sd-autocross@sdbmwcca.com).

See you at the Q!



# Please note new car classes:

## CAR CLASSIFICATIONS:

<b>LC</b>	ALL BMWs through Model Year 1988; E30s through Model Year 1986; all naturally aspirated 4-cylinder models – Stock or Modified
<b>NAS</b>	ALL naturally aspirated, non-M BMWs not in Legacy Class – Stock
<b>NAM</b>	ALL naturally aspirated, non-M BMWs not in Legacy Class – Modified
<b>TS</b>	ALL turbocharged BMWs (4-6-8-12 cyl, gas or diesel) – Stock
<b>TM</b>	ALL turbocharged BMWs (4-6-8-12 cyl, gas or diesel) – Modified
<b>MS</b>	ALL M cars under 400 factory hp – Stock
<b>MM</b>	ALL M cars under 400 factory hp – Modified
<b>MPS</b>	ALL M cars over 400 factory hp – Stock
<b>MPM</b>	ALL M cars over 400 factory hp – Modified
<b>MC</b>	ALL R-class MINI Cooper models (Stock or Modified)
<b>X</b>	ALL non-BMW, or Austin MINI models
<b>G</b>	ALL Instructors OR experienced drivers who choose Gold Class <i>and</i> drivers running non-DOT tires (i.e. slicks)

*\*Classification for specific cars is at the discretion of the Autocross Director*

## ONLY Alterations Permitted in Stock Classes:

- ANY size wheel and tires. Tires must have DOT treadwear rating of 140 or higher
- ANY shock absorber using stock mounting and ANY suspension bushing material
- ANY air filter or air intake AHEAD OF mass airflow meter
- Non-stock software/firmware is permitted on naturally-aspirated engines only
- ANY brake pad material is allowed with Stock-size brake components
- Catalyst-back exhaust systems and strut tower braces are permitted

## ANY other alterations move to Modified Classes, including:

- Tires with DOT treadwear rating under 140
- Non-stock springs, coilover suspensions, non-stock anti-roll bars
- Software/firmware alterations to turbocharged/supercharged engines
- Non-stock mass airflow meters, camshafts, downpipes, removed catalytic converter
- Non-stock-size brake rotors or calipers (stock-size replacements OK in Stock)

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website and Facebook page for  
upcoming events.

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### **Want to show off your car?**

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*Photo: Ben Carufel*



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