

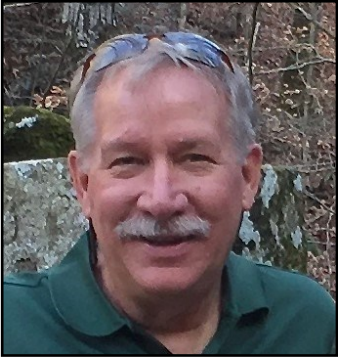
Volume 25 Issue 1

Spring 2019

THE ROADSTER

The Official Newsletter of the Sandlapper Chapter of the
BMW Car Club of America





Generally, you think of the time after the holidays as one of rest, recoument, and laying low in the colder weather. Well, that was not really the case this time around. The end of December had the AutoX at the Performance Center. January was party time for all regions with their holiday parties, including the ending celebration of the Foundation's ICON exhibit. There was also a Skid Pad event at Michelin Proving Grounds in Laurens. February saw our first Street Survival of 2019. Throw in the 24 Hours of Daytona, 12 Hours of Sebring, monthly meetings, and Cars & Coffee and it's been a fairly active winter. All of that is good stuff and hopefully we have provided something of interest for all members.

By the time you read this we will have had our Board meeting on March 31. We will have confirmed another two year term for me as President and Paula Watt as Treasurer. There were no other members running for those offices. I did have a couple of people express an interest in the Treasurer position, but keep in mind you must submit a written letter of intent if you wish to pursue this interest. I encourage members to run for formal elective positions; President and Treasurer (odd years) and Vice President and Secretary (even years). You must have been a Board member or in an active management position for 1 year to run for President. So, if you are interested in that position let me, a Board member, or Regional VP know so that we can provide you with the background to qualify. I'm not making President a career for myself so do not feel I will be insulted if you want the position. There are also many non-elected positions in the Chapter; Regional VP, Membership Coordinator, Newsletter Editor, Motorsports Director, IT Support, and we can even create one if you have an interest and ability. If you want to have an active influence on the chapter operation and direction, we can help you make that happen.

Also, by the time you read this we will have completed a second Street Survival program. Street Survival is a key activity of the CCA Foundation and the Chapter. I guess you could consider this our "give back to the community" activity. I can't think of many endeavors where you can directly contribute to saving the lives of teen drivers than this. The number of teens we can enroll in each event is limited by the number of coaches we have. It's easy to become a coach, the link is in the bottom left corner of the streetsurvival.org website. Remember, we are not teaching how to be fast, apex corner, late braking, etc. We are teaching common sense heads up driving and giving the students an opportunity, in a safe environment, to understand how they and the vehicle react in stressful situations. So, what are you waiting for? We will have another one or two courses in the fall. Now is the time to prepare.

So, the key take aways are:

- Get involved – take up a management or Board position.
- Get involved – become a Street Survival Coach.

Tom Lappin

March Sandlapper Upstate Meeting: Mr. Knudt Flor Speaks on the Future of BMW

By Mary Holcombe

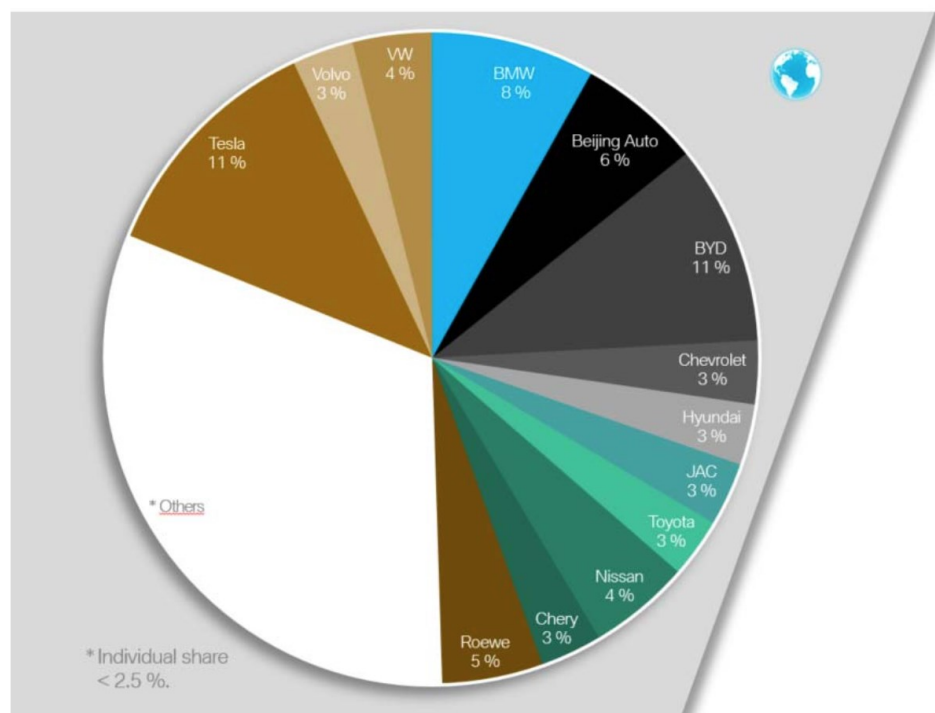
At our March Upstate Meeting, we were fortunate enough to have Mr. Knudt Flor, the President and CEO of BMW Manufacturing, as our guest speaker. The event took place in the gorgeous showroom of Century BMW in Greenville, and a fantastic meal with open bar was provided by Bee Bee's Catering. After an hour or so of mingling and catching up with old friends, we all took our seats and the presentation began.

Mr. Knudt covered a lot in the hour and a half that he spoke, and there was never a dull moment. Below is a summary of some of the high points:

Electric Vehicles. The worldwide market, most notably China, is driving a major expansion of the electric vehicle market. BMW already enjoys a healthy market share in this segment (see graph, statistics as of May 2018) and there are plans in place to help expand it. As the automotive industry moves into the future, a strong offering of hybrid and electric vehicles will provide corporate sustainability for manufacturers who can lead the pack. BMW already offers the i3 and i8 models, and looks to broaden the lineup with new models in the not too distant future.

Autonomous Vehicles. I think it is safe to say that one of the reasons most of us BMW enthusiasts are devoted to this brand is the sheer enjoyment we experience while driving these well designed machines. So, autonomous vehicles may not be at the top of all of our wish lists. However, similar to the trends we are seeing with electric vehicles, the demand for autonomous vehicles is on the rise. BMW has created a timeline of autonomous vehicle development with 5 different stages, each representing the next level of autonomy. Stage 1, which includes partial autonomy of temporary hands off technology, but that still requires driver involvement, will be here as soon as 2021-2025. By the time BMW reaches Stage 5, the vehicles being produced will be fully autonomous and able to drive themselves while the driver/passengers completely disengage. Fully autonomous vehicles are expected to dramatically lower the rate of accidents, and have the appeal of offering the driver more time to get other things done while in transit. For me, the most appealing part of all was the "normal mode" button that Mr. Flor mentioned. This button will be present just for the driver who wishes to still drive his or her car, perhaps out of necessity, or perhaps just for fun.
(Continued on next page.)

ELECTROMOBILITY GLOBALLY. SHARE IN NEW REGISTRATIONS BY BRAND.



Source: BMW/IHS Markit

Combustion Engines. But, what about all of us who simply love the sound, feel, and experience of our good old fashioned combustion engines? There is no need for immediate worry. Thankfully we are still many years away from combustion engines no longer being a viable option, but Mr. Flor brought up an interesting perspective on the longevity of this option that I had never considered before. Looking towards the future, the main issue with continuing to produce combustion engines lies in the fuel resources we have available to us. The gasoline products that are currently in use will eventually not be sustainable anymore for many reasons, so the push for discovering new fuel sources has been on the agenda for some time now. The struggle lies in finding the right resource that combustion engines can use to operate, that is at the same time not too dangerous to transport, while also being cost effective. So, this is an open call to all of you engineers and scientists out there - let's get to work finding that alternative fuel source that will keep our combustion engines going for generations to come!

The Future As A Whole. When one thinks of BMW as a brand, many things come to mind. As the company looks toward the future though, there are 3 core values that will fuel the continued expansion of the brand in the worldwide marketplace. Design, Innovation, and Quality. These are exceptional cornerstones for a manufacturer of BMW's caliber, and the passion with which Mr. Flor described the meaning of each of them was more than inspiring for what the next generation holds.

Sandlapper Motorsports

By Jack Sugameli

This month we have to first thank the Volunteers that helped out at the December AutoX at the Performance Center. Thanks to Head Instructor Chris Thompson, Instructors Dana, Nitin and Mike. Also thanks to Dave and Jordan Nichols, who came down from Charlotte, and our right hand men Neal Munn and Frankie Sugameli, for doing whatever was needed. It was a great event and every participant put on an impressive performance.



Now for the review of our National DEC meeting held in December in Dallas. There was a lot of information shared, and many hours of discussion. I will try to bullet point the topics covered.

- Event insurance, and liability protections

Any event that we meet at a location and travel as a group, or any event where we meet as a group for a driving event (Mountain drives, AutoX, HPDE etc.) requires we have all participants and any spectators sign one of our liability waivers. These waivers have to be collected and turned in to me for storage for 7 years.

A great way to make sure we have everyone sign that should be the issuance of wrist bands after the waiver is signed. This makes it easy for the organizer to look around and see if someone has not signed. Wrist bands are cheap and available on Amazon.

They have changed the requirements where you need a hard copy certificate. If you are unsure, contact me, or your RVP. (Continued on next page.)

- Convertibles and HPDE's

The National Committee would not even discuss the issue with the Chapter reps. I don't know why, as they wouldn't talk about it. So, as it stands, no convertible (hard or soft top) is allowed to participate in an HPDE unless it has an aftermarket roll bar or cage that meets racing requirements.

- Autocross Events

The Houston Chapter has a very active AutoX program and has developed car classes for competition. They are sharing this with all chapters, and would like to work on having AutoX events that cross chapter boundaries and hopefully grow AutoX in the CCA.

- Other Driving Events

We can run time trial events in conjunction with HPDE's or stand alone. This gives our advanced drivers some thing more to do than just turn laps. We are looking at this as something we may be able to do. More info to come.

More News

As O'Fest will be here in Greenville this year, we have been asked to run the AutoX event at the Michelin Proving Grounds on October 18. Right now we are in the organizing stage, and if you would like to be involved in the Administration end of this, please contact me ASAP. If you would like to volunteer to help at the event, let me know as well.

Registration for our HPDE October 25- 27 is open. After reviewing the suggestions from last year's event, we are going to cut down to 3 run groups, thus accepting fewer students. As we already have about a third of what we will accept, I urge you to register sooner rather than later.

Our Club Race Event has been designated a "Premium" event after the great success we had last year. This means 2 of the races will award 150% points. This designation draws many more racers that are competing for National standing, and should provide us with some great races all weekend.

Spring is here, make sure you get out and enjoy your BMW or Mini!



January 2019 Review

Story & Photos by Tom Lappin

Holiday Parties – All regions held Holiday parties to celebrate the new year and the end of another crazy, wonderful Thanksgiving – New Years season. Maria and I attended the Upstate party held at the Spaulding Farms clubhouse thanks to Dwayne. There was great attendance, food from Hans & Franz, and presentation of the Sandlapper participation awards. I believe a good time was had by all.



We also attended John's Charleston region party at his home in Mt. Pleasant. John and Betty are the perfect hosts, it was a really great event. Plus they have a very nice house attached to a great garage! For those of us that traveled in, we had a wonderful brunch on Shem Creek. Thanks John!

The title for Party Animals has to go to Larry & Marie Gilbertson. Within a week they attended the Columbia, Upstate, and Charleston parties. Way to go!

Performance Center AutoX - Not quite 2019, but at the end of December we had an AutoX at the Performance Center. It started out raining, but not seriously cold. Everyone drove very well and we had no serious offs. The afternoon saw a



drying track and plenty of runs for all. In fact we time at the end for some play on the skid pad, thanks Mike. Jack's team did a great job running the event. Mike ran through at least one set of tires giving Hot Laps to people waiting in line. Everyone that I talked to enjoyed the driving and we had lots of spectators.

Above and left: Upstate Holiday Party.

ICON – Never know who you will see - I received my Roundel yesterday which contained a great article on the ICON closing celebration. If you have not attended the exhibits the Foundation has put on the last couple of years you are truly missing out on something special. For those quick enough to sign up there was the driving event at the PC, a factory tour, and then the Gala event Saturday night. Be sure to read the Roundel article for all the details.

A surprise appearance by The Stig, Ben Collins, in town for a ScanSource event, got lots of attention at the PC for the track running of many of the classic 2002 race prepared cars. Also on hand was Andy Bovensipen, Mr Alpina.

Also on Saturday we conducted a Skid Pad Car Handling event at the ½ mile track at Michelin Laurens. This is always a fun, educational event. Some special attendees this time were Andy Bovensipen, Tom Plucinsky of BMW NA, and racer Randy Pobst. Randy was there coaching a young driver from Atlanta.



Tom and Andy at the PC.



Mike introducing The Stig (blue shirt on the right).



Another winter has passed. I feel pretty good about the amount of maintenance that was performed on my E90 M3, and with just a few more small items that need to be crossed off my list, she is just about ready for another memorable season of driving. I made an executive decision over the winter, one that was a little unexpected. I decided to retire my M3 from the track. With 120,000 miles on the clock, I feel the S65, along with all other elements of the car, deserve nothing less than OCD levels of maintenance and a cushy life of mild daily driving duties paired with spirited mountain drives. Don't worry, I will still find time to redline the glorious engine that is the soul of my most favorite possession, just at a lesser degree than it was experiencing at the track. And, I have started looking for a candidate for a SpecE46 racecar. After much research that seems to be a very exciting class to compete in, and I have always loved the E46 generation, so I think it will be a good match for me. I have been perusing the E46 330ci listings with plans to pick up my project car sometime in early summer. In the meantime, I have been going over the E90 M3 with a fine toothed comb, correcting all of the minor bits of exterior wear and tear she picked up from the 25 track days of the last 2 years. With all the nice weather we have had, I have also been enjoying (a little too much perhaps) the sound of my new Borla ATAK muffler, simply paired with the stock x pipe, as I drive around the city and neighboring country roads. Throttle inputs and downshifting create the most heavenly symphony on earth, and the smile never leaves my face. Soon my beloved E90 will have an E46 friend, the more the merrier right?

A picture of my baby on the first day of spring here in Greenville.



13th Annual BMW & Porsche Swap Meet

**Sponsored by
Sandlapper & Tarheel Chapters BMW CCA
and
Carolinas Region PCA**



**Hosted by
Touring Car Inc.
300-340 Seaboard Drive
Matthews, NC 28104**

Date: Saturday, April 27, 2019

**Time: Vendor setup from 8 am to 9 am
Swap Meet Shoppers from 9 am to 1 pm**

Cost: No charges for Vendors or Shoppers

Contact: John Meek / jmeek911@aol.com / 803-324-4994

- From I-485 take exit 51 onto US 74 East
- Take US 74 (Independence Blvd.) East (toward Monroe (not toward Matthews))
- Turn Right at traffic signal 1.4 miles onto Stallings Rd
- Pass over RR track and turn right onto Industrial Dr.
- Turn Right onto Seaboard Dr.- Touring Cars Inc. is on the left
- Swap Meet is in the back lot between the shops

New Members

We welcome our new members and invite them to attend a monthly club meeting. Please see the last page of this newsletter for the meeting location that works best for you.

Ben Albright - Simpsonville, SC	Ralph Gunst - Columbia, SC	Stefanie Pfaff - Akron, OH
John Alexiou - Simpsonville, SC	Yoram Guy - Simpsonville, SC	Barry Pike - Greenville, SC
Brian Avinger - Orangeburg, SC	Victor Hammond - Trenton, SC	Chloe Pironneau - Greer, SC
Christopher Ballou - Columbia, SC	Austin Helmer - Simpsonville, SC	Paul Pironneau - Greer, SC
Alec Batt - Simpsonville, SC	Robbie Heyde - Simpsonville, SC	Abigail Race - Simpsonville, SC
Lee Berlinsky - Charleston, SC	Dan Hicks - Easley, SC	Sandeep Reddy - Greer, SC
Nick Botzo - Simpsonville, SC	Turek Hill - Rock Hill, SC	William Rhangos - Hardeeville, SC
Laurie Boussem - Simpsonville, SC	A. Todd Honeycutt - Greenville, SC	Kathlene Richardson - Columbia, SC
John Brisini - Charleston, SC	Chris Hood - Walterboro, SC	Andrew Richter - Greenville, SC
Christopher Brower - Isle of Palms, SC	Almeithius Isom - Rock Hill, SC	Scott Sanders - Spartanburg, SC
Augustine Brown - Laurens, SC	Stephen Jo - Raleigh, NC	Justin Schaub - Greenville, SC
Dean Brown - Summerville, SC	Anna Johnson - Greenville, SC	Morgan Schreiner - Greer, SC
Donald Burke - Simpsonville, SC	Elle Joye - Greenville, SC	Gary Schweikert Chermide West, QLD
Emma Caldwell - Gray Court, SC	Paul Kadanec - Gaffney, SC	Donald Scott - Greenwood, SC
Mary Christenbury - Greenville, SC	Chris Keretsis - Florence, SC	Bob Smith - Hilton Head Island, SC
Michael Cipolla - Charleston, SC	Donna King - Mount Pleasant, SC	Dustin Smith - Daniel Island, SC
Michael Cole - Mount Pleasant, SC	Bill Kufner - Charleston, SC	Frank Starcher - Aiken, SC
Bill Cone - Spartanburg, SC	Jim LaBrec - York, SC	Rebecca Stone - Travelers Rest, SC
Valentina Cowart - Anderson, SC	Bradley Langford - Fort Mill, SC	Chris Talerico - Fort Mill, SC
Philip Dalpiaz - Mount Pleasant, SC	Robert Lant - Charleston, SC	John Thomasson - Aiken, SC
Carly Driver Greer, SC	William Link - Greenville, SC	Sam Tisdale - Simpsonville, SC
John Duda - York, SC	Andrew Liu - Greer, SC	Austin Tooley - Greer, SC
Matt Fain - Inman, SC	Michael Long - Hilton Head, SC	Carol-Ann Valentine - Greer, SC
Steven Frank - Daniel Island, SC	Kimberly - Makrai Greer, SC	Keilah Walker - Greer, SC
Brian Gallagher - Simpsonville, SC	Richard Mamrick - Greer, SC	Sarah Ware - Simpsonville, SC
Robert Goethe - Greenville, SC	Dale McCoin - Prosperity, SC	Michael Waters - Hilton Head Island, SC
Jeff Goodman - Greenville, SC	Kent McCoin - Prosperity, SC	Cheryl Werner - Simpsonville, SC
Shawn Gray - Isle of Palms, SC	Ross Michels - Greenville, SC	Matthew West - Simpsonville, SC
Wallace Gregory - Spartanburg, SC	Emily Milazzo - Greenville, SC	Gary Whiteside - Travelers Rest, SC
	Donald Noel - Okatie, SC	Nathan Woodward - Concord, NC
	Kevin O'Connell - Rock Hill, SC	Bill Wright - Daniel Island, SC
	Serge Papatakis - Mount Pleasant, SC	Renee Wright - Daniel Island, SC
	Julian Parry - Fountain Inn, SC	Ronald Youmans - Myrtle Beach, SC
	Sofia Pereda - Greenville, SC	

Anniversaries

Congrats to all of you, cheers!

5 Years

- Todd Johnson
- Michelle Jones
- Carl Kurtz
- Alejandro Kurtz
- Jan Lindahl
- Leticia Lopez de Kurtz
- Gabriel Lori
- Gary Richardson
- Peter Scott
- Mayan Shah
- Elizabeth Shah
- Sachin Shah
- Skip Solis
- Chad Thomas

10 Years

- Michael Becker
- Heinz Brunner
- James Kearney
- Tom Lappin
- Marisa Lappin
- Maria Lappin
- Angela Radawicz
- Dick Radawicz
- Jeffrey Schurr
- John Simpson
- Eric Wickstrom

15 Years

- Kenneth Carroll
- Stephanie Carroll
- George Doig
- Ralph Erber
- David Gilbertson
- Paul Heathman
- Christopher Joos
- Myron Kempfer
- Thomas Waltz

20 Years

- Brett Baker
- William Collins
- Phil Dalpiaz
- Sally Heidebrecht
- Gary Heidebrecht
- Jonathan Mueller
- Anita Mueller
- Dale Ritchie
- Bob Shalvoy
- Werner Sicvol

25 Years

- Isaac Dingle
- Brian Sartori
- Gregory Szymik
- Bonnie Szymik
- W. Wetmore



Sandlapper Member Vehicle Spotlight

A huge thank you to member Kenneth Bedenbaugh, Jr. for sending me this awesome picture of the personalized plates on their Z4s! I must say, they have fantastic taste in vehicles, and something tells me they enjoy every minute in each of these beautiful machines.

Directly below the picture is a short description of the vehicles provided by Kenneth. This was my first reader submission of a car picture since I sent out the request in our last issue, and when I received it - well, it absolutely made my day. I hope we can turn this into a regular part of our newsletter, as I am sure we all have at least one special bimmer that is just begging to be shared with the world.

If you would like to see your favorite BMW (or BMWs) in an upcoming issue, please feel free to shoot me an email. My email address can be found on the back page.



Here is a photo of the license plates of our BMW Z4s. We bought the M in October of '17 and the 3.0i in December of '17. The cars were in Cruzin' News last October. The M, of course, is manual and the 3.0i is Steptronic, which is a nice option for around town driving. - Kenneth

Editor's Note: I love the fact that the M is, of course, a manual.

Chapter Officers

President: Tom Lappin

lappint@bellsouth.net

Vice President: John Howard

johnroberthoward@gmail.com

Treasurer: Paula Watt

treasurer@sandlapperbmw.org

Secretary: Mike Radecki

mike.radecki@charter.net

Motorsports Director: Jack Sugameli

jack@bdmlc.com

Webmaster: Tim Dennison

webmaster@sandlapperbmw.org

Membership Coordinator: Michael Mitchell

michael.mitchell@bmwccafoundation.org

Events Coordinator: Neil Baer

sozialevents@sandlapperbmw.org

Member at Large: Tim Dennison

webmaster@sandlapperbmw.org

Newsletter Editor: Mary Holcombe

maryholcombe1118@gmail.com

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Upstate/Greenville:

Neil Baer

vpustate@sandlapperbmw.org

Midlands/Columbia:

Larry Gilbertson

lgilbertson@sc.rr.com

Lowlands/Charleston:

John Howard

johnroberthoward@gmail.com

Piedmont/Rock Hill:

John Meek

jmeek911@gmail.com

Jack Sugameli

jack@bdmlc.com

Coastal/Myrtle Beach:

Currently Open

Hilton Head:

Wally Higginbotham

whigginbotham@hiltonheadbmw.com

Legal Notice

All of the contents of this newsletter are printed under license to the club and their rightful owners. All information herein is provided by and for BMW CCA members and BMW enthusiasts. The club is not associated with the importer or any agent of the factory. Suggestions, ideas, and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors, and no authentication is implied by the editors or publishers. The club assumes no liability for any of the information contained herein.

Note: Modifications to vehicles within the warranty period may void the warranty.

© 2019 Sandlapper Chapter BMW CCA

The Sandlapper Chapter Newsletter is the publication of the BMW Car Club of America and is emailed to all Sandlapper Chapter members in good standing.

www.sandlapperbmw.org



Facebook Discussion Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SandlapperBMW/>

General Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/sandlapperbmw>



[@SandlapperCCA](https://twitter.com/SandlapperCCA)

Monthly Meetings:

Upstate: 3rd Monday of each month
[Quaker Steak & Lube, Greenville, SC](#)

Lowcountry: 2nd Thursday of each month
[West Ashley Crab Shack, Charleston, SC](#)

Midlands: 1st Tuesday of each month
[Greecian Gardens, West Columbia, SC](#)

Piedmont: 2nd Thursday of each month
[Fish Market, Baxter Village, Fort Mill, SC](#)

Sandlapper Chapter BMW CCA

PO Box 26418
Greenville, SC 29616