



DAS RAD

NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHAPTER BMW CCA

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Hi Steve! (all photos this page by Roger Gong)



Tom Nyznyk and Frank Vasquez in Wayne's 600 Limo... rare photo opp!



Richard Koch accepts the award for the most valuable chapter member for 2014.

CCC 2015 Officer Installation

The Blain Ranch and its superb collection of classic cars in Visalia served as the venue of the 2015 CCC officer and board installation dinner. The unusually pleasant December weather and no-host bar provided an opportunity for club members to mingle and catch up on old stories, new stories and just socialize with friends. It was a relaxed environment that everyone appeared to enjoy so much that several requests were needed to attract people to the buffet line.

In attendance at the dinner were Frank Patak II, Executive Director of BMW Car Club of America; Chris Henneey, Marketing/Communications; and Steve Johnson, Executive Board Vice President. Frank spoke briefly about exciting new BMWCCA developments considered for the West Coast including a high performance driving facility and BMW's participation in a future Motor Sports Reunion event at Laguna Seca. Frank expressed appreciation to our club as the "Little Club that Can" and our growing success with Legends of the Autobahn. He also expressed how comfortable and relaxed they are when visiting Central California Chapter activities.

Again, as always, raffle items continued to roll in during the early evening. These items included the requisite tools and assists for the dirty fingernail crowd to the stylish fashion statements of the Ferrari hand bag and the bold Charles Hubert/Paris men's wrist watch. BMWCCA national donated 45-year anniversary grill badges and carry bags for the drawings. A professional custom photo shoot was provided by Madlyen Serpa of Country Roads Studios and several vintage Ferrari posters were supplied by the Warners. The next to last drawing of the evening was the BMW M3 Motorsport peddle car donated by Visalia BMW. A lot of tickets went into that box! But the big prize, for the performance freaks, was donated by Billy Bautista of Borla Exhaust. Ron Pondorf walked off with a \$500 gift certificate for a Borla Exhaust! The club thanks all who donated to make the raffle a smashing success.

The Blain Ranch has undergone some changes since our visit a year ago. Not only are there new toys in the garage, but the non-profit Blain Motorsports Foundation has been established with the complete collection of vintage and racing vehicles being placed into that foundation. The foundation accepts tax-deductible donations and donations of automobiles and automobilia. (www.BlainFoundation.org).

Election Results:

President - Frank Vasquez
Vice President - George Aguilar
Secretary - Richard Nielson
Treasurer - Richard Koch

Board:

Greg Belemijian	Christian Chavez-Mejia	Aaron Chong
Terry Eidson	Eddy Funahashi	Rick Kapheim
Frank Reed	Jeff Willers	Marilyn Willers
Wayne Wundram	Deb Warner (Past President)	

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Unless there is an emergency, please contact chapter personnel only between the hours of 6 to 9 PM. You may send emails at any time. Thank you.

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Statement of Purpose

The CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHAPTER of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc., is an independent group of BMW owners and is not associated with the manufacture, importer, or dealers of BMW automobiles. Open Board meetings are held as announced in this publication. DAS RAD and DAS KAMMRAD are publications of the Central California Chapter and are provided only for the members of the Central California Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America, Inc. The ideas, opinions and suggestions expressed in these publications are those of the several authors, and no authentication is implied or expressed by the editors or publishers. Any suggested modifications to BMW automobiles within the warranty period may void the warranty. Articles submitted are subject to editing. Contents may not be reproduced without expressed written permission except by the BMW CCA and its chapters.

Come to the meetings!
Add to the fun!

President's message...

"Well, last year certainly did fly by didn't it? Thanks to our awesome board members and wonderful volunteers we truly had a great year! Congratulations to all of our 2015 board members and a warm heartfelt thank you to those outgoing members who served our chapter so well!

The gears are already spinning full speed to make sure 2015 will be equally as spectacular as last year. We look forward to seeing you at our monthly Meet-N-Greets or at some of our world class events. I hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year, now back to our regularly scheduled car programming. Regards,

Frank Vasquez

President, Central Calif. Chapter, BMW CCA

2015 Calendar of Events

Jan. 7 Monthly Chapter Meeting
Happy New Year!
Sequoia Brewing Co
1188 E Champlain
Dinner/etc 5:30 Meeting @ 6:30
Board Meeting

Feb. 4 Monthly Meeting

Feb. ? Sweethearts Brunch
TBA

Mar. 4 Monthly Meeting

Come to the meetings!

Support the chapter!

Volunteer when/ where you can!

BMW Engine Makes Top 10 List!

When comparing an automobile to the human body, the engine is undoubtedly the equivalent of the heart. The engine is an integral and complicated contraption, and if it deteriorates, it can bring the rest of the car with it. A strong, efficient engine is similar to an athlete's heart; it does more with less, can outlast the competition, and is honed to serve a particular purpose well.

Every year, *Ward's Auto* releases a list of the 10 best engines, and its list for 2014 has been released. This year's rankings mark the 20th anniversary of *Ward's* annual list, "A competition created to recognize outstanding powertrain achievement, world-class technologies and those rare engines or electric propulsion systems that are so compelling they help sell the vehicle."

The ten were chosen from 44 different powertrains that the judges examined; to be qualified, "A new or significantly improved engine or propulsion system must be on sale in a production vehicle during the first quarter of 2014." The base price for the vehicle has been capped at \$60,000, up from \$55,000 last year. Here are the winning engines for 2014.

1. Audi 3.0 liter TFSI Supercharged V6
2. BMW's 3.0 liter Turbodiesel Inline Six (535d)
3. Ram's 3.0 liter Turbodiesel V6
4. Fiat's 83kW Electric Motor (500e)
5. Ford's 1.0 liter EcoBoost InLine 3 (Fiesta)
6. Chevy 2.0L Turbodiesel
7. Chevy 6.2 Litre V8 (Corvette) (yeah...baby!)
8. Honda's 3.5 L V6 (Accord)
9. Porsche's 2.7 Flat 6 Boxer (Cayman)
10. VW's 1.8 Liter Turbo Inline 4 (Jetta)



BMW has made an astounding 30 appearances at the 10 Best Engines club over the past 20 years, and continues its streak with its new a single variable-geometry turbocharged 3.0 liter diesel, with a promising 413 pound-feet of torque and 35 miles per gallon on the highway (31 when placed in BMW's X5 SUV).

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Old guys still playing with cars...

Chapter members Richard Koch and George Aguilar have recently acquired new (old) car projects... Here's their respective stories and some pics...(ed.)

My new old car ... (by Richard Koch)

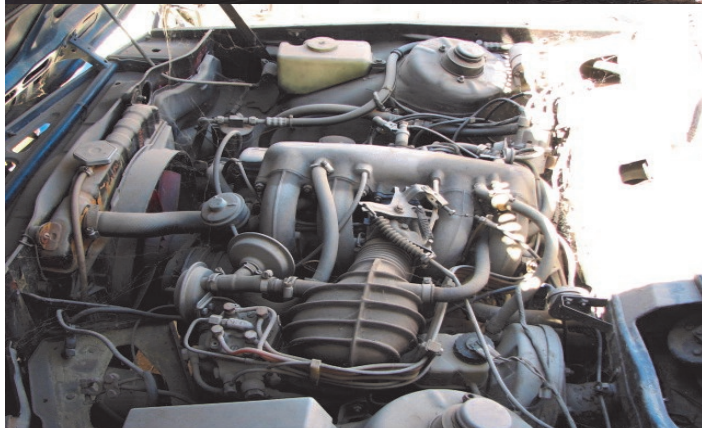
Last year I stopped at a co-workers house to drop off some equipment for him, and noted in the side yard a covered BMW, a small one but of unknown vintage or model. Richard, the home owner, said he put it there 13 years ago to help a friend with some repairs to her car. Although he did get it running at the time, she never came to pick it up, so it just sat there. Fortunately, our relatively dry weather can keep even an unused car pretty rust free, but it sure was dirty.

I finally talked to the owner during our pack season, since she is working at the plant only during the summer season, and after nagging her to sell it to me, I did finally get a bill of sale, but no key. As luck would have it, the car was not locked so we could at least open the doors. Richard had placed the front wheels on a set of casters, allowing us to steer it out of the side yard and into George's trailer. Of course, getting the trailer to Lemoore is another tale to be told.

We did finally get it into my garage, and I have since purchased another set of dollies for the rear wheels, since I still have not been able to start the engine. The best I have been able to do is get it running for about 10 seconds by putting a little gas into the intake manifold. At least I know it will run once I figure out the problem with fuel delivery. Anyone want to know what the inside of a Jet-tronic fuel distributor looks like? I can tell you.

So far I have replaced the fuel filter, fuel hoses, stripped the body of the bumpers and side moldings, getting set for paint work. The body is rust free and very straight, so minimum body work should be needed. Future plans are to check the fuel line from the tank to the pump, and from the fuel distributor to the injectors. The latter will require removal of the intake manifold, and about 100 hoses; man is the early attempts to meet EPA requirements a nightmare of hoses!

So, if any one has any free time, please feel free to contact me. You will learn more than you thought you could know about the early days of BMW design.



The car is a 1971 1602 with a slightly warmed over 2 liter engine that looks exactly like the original 1600 cc engine it came with. The car was purchased new at the old Weber Motors dealership on Abby Ave in Fresno in 1971. The lady who first owned it drove it for 10 years here in Fresno and then sold it to the man I purchased it from. He also drove it here in Fresno until 1995 and then parked it in his carport where it languished for the next 20 years until I found it. The tires were all flat and cracked and it was covered with dust and spider webs with live black widow spiders. It has since been steam cleaned (which did away with the spiders).

As it turned out, after replacing all the brakes which were rusted and stuck, replaced the radiator and alternator and spark plugs and changed all the fluids, the great day arrived when we were to fire it up. IT STARTED RIGHT UP and after rebuilding the carburetor, it now purrs like a kitten. Amazingly, the engine does not need rebuilding. After replacing some steering parts, it now drives very nice and brings back many memories of when I purchased my new 1970 2002 IN 1970.

The paint is original, and after having it professionally cut and polished, it shines like a new one. I also replaced several bright strips that adorn the exterior of the car and I removed and polished the original grill which is in perfect condition. Lately, as I wait for upholstery and rubber to arrive, I have been "restoring" engine compartment parts. This means removing it, and either painting it or polishing or, in some cases, replacing it and then re-installing it. This is a fun process because you can see the engine compartment be transformed before your eyes.

I will soon be replacing the carpet with the original German wool and installing new front seat upholstery, as soon as they arrive, and new door panels which I already have. The rear seat is in perfect condition and so is the headliner and so these won't have to be replaced. I have gathered (after a bit of effort which included about a million telephone calls to various vendors nation-wide) all the rubber seals for the windows and doors which are now resting on my work bench in many plastic bags. All this will be installed at the same time that the upholstery is being installed over the course of the next month or so.

I am shooting to have the car ready to show at the 2015 Legends...maybe and hopefully.

In the meantime, I am having the time of my life with this project and I am already planning the next one. (George Aguilar)



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DAS RAD

Newsletter for Central California Chapter
BMW Car Club of America

Central Calif. Chapter
BMW Car Club of America
PO Box 2587
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Rick's Ramblings.....Rick Kapheim

I just saw the movie Exodus: Gods and Kings the other day and I was entranced at the chariots that were depicted. These vehicles were indeed the sports cars of the era. The chariots in the movie were a two stand-up model: one person was the driver (always the fun part) and the second person used weapons on the people that he wanted to suppress. Unfortunately for the people serving under Ramses 2 the people that did not want to be suppressed were lead by a guy named Moses anduhGod (Big G, little o). Anyway....the chariots looked like fun! These vehicles had very good straight line performance, no traction control, and were very good at drifting. Frank Reed or one of our other hot -shoes would tear up the track in one of these! I was thinking about a Sport package for the 1275 BC model chariot. It would be faster with turbo horses. I would make the wheels a little wider and lower. I might add the Ben-Hur spike option (can't be to careful). And last but not least, I might be tempted to put in an actual seat. But as we all know, the best chariot in the known world, even one driven by the best trained driver (graduate of the Thebes School of High Performance Chariot Driving) doesn't help when the big guy (or little guy as depicted in this movie) wants to let the Red Sea come back to its natural place. As much as I like sports cars (or sports chariots), sometimes it is better to be on a camel! See you at the monthly meetings and/or events. Drive safe, but drive.

BMW Unveils the ConnectedDrive Store, Allowing U.S. Customers to Purchase Services through BMW Vehicles.

BMW is the First Auto Manufacturer to Offer an In-Vehicle Store.

Woodcliff Lake, NJ – December 18, 2014... Today, BMW announced plans to allow customers in the U.S. to use an all-new ConnectedDrive Store while inside their BMW vehicle to purchase select ConnectedDrive services, intelligent services and apps that provide drivers with information and entertainment during a drive. BMW is the first auto manufacturer to offer this convenience through the car in addition to sales channels at a dealership or via its BMW Assist™ call center.

At launch, services in the BMW ConnectedDrive Store available for purchase include Concierge, which provides practical information and advice to make every journey more comfortable. A live representative can, for example, help to find the locations of a theater, a restaurant or a hotel. The address can then be sent directly to the BMW's navigation system. Also included is emergency calling, which allows Concierge to place a phone call on the driver's behalf if one does not have access to a cell phone. Additional options available for subscription at the time of the launch are Navigation Map Updates as well as Internet service, which drivers can access safely and conveniently by iDrive Controller and the integrated high-resolution Control Display.

When drivers log in to the BMW ConnectedDrive Store, they are presented with an overview of the services and apps that are available for purchase or have already been booked for their BMW. Drivers can also see remaining running periods for booked services as well as costs to purchase extensions or new services. Once selected and paid for, a service or app can be used within minutes.

In advance of the expected Spring 2015 launch of the ConnectedDrive Store, this new development will be on display at the BMW pavilion in the South Plaza, outside the Las Vegas Convention Center's South Hall during the **Consumer Electronics Show** in Las Vegas, January 6-9, 2015.

You all are going to this, right....?