

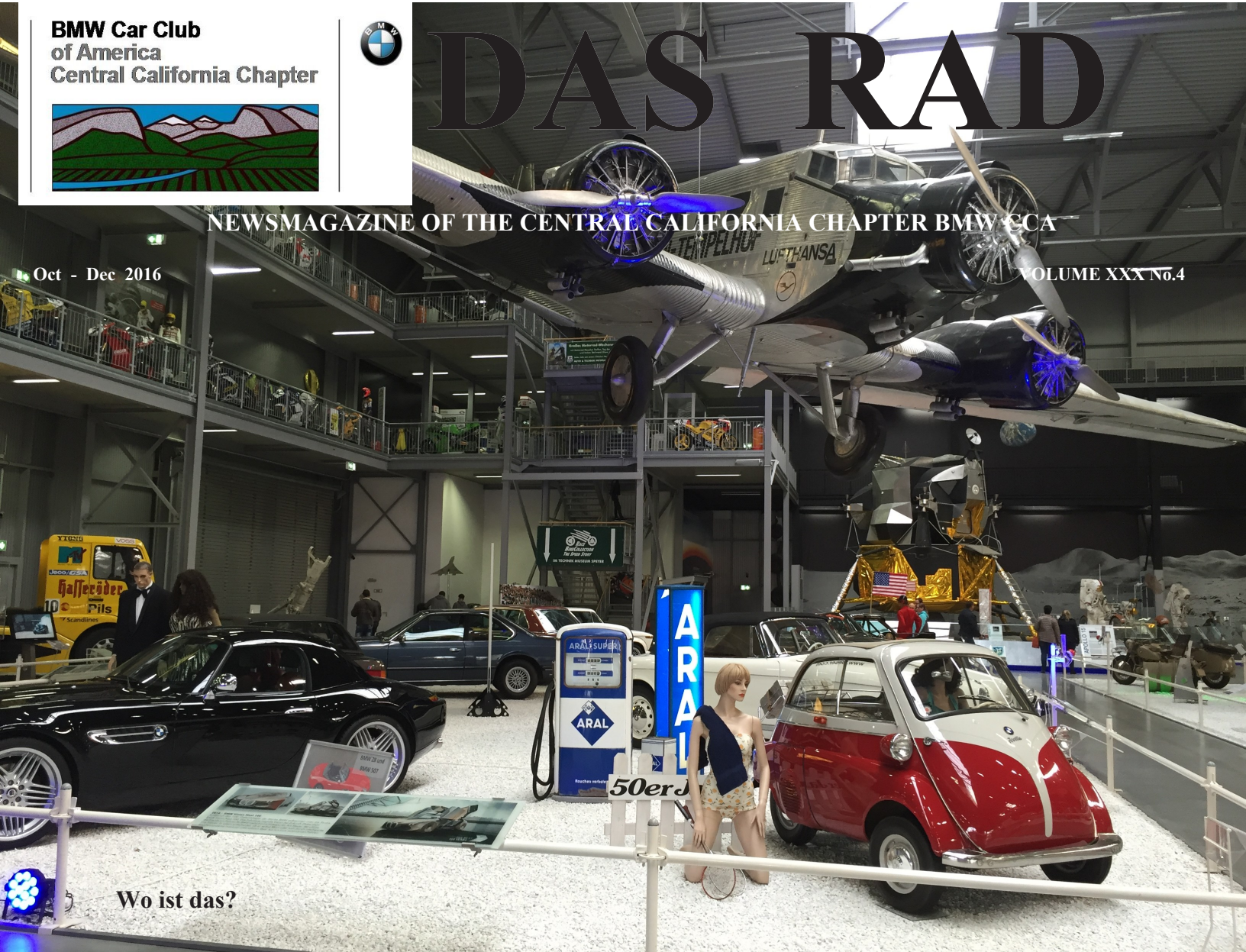


DAS RAD

NEWSMAGAZINE OF THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA CHAPTER BMW CCA

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Wo ist das?



Inside...

Buttonwillow HPDE
Awards Banquet
Fun stuff...



CHAPTER INFORMATION /// Website: www.cencalbmwcca.org /// National Website: www.bmwcca.org

Mailing Address: Central California Chapter BMW CCA , P O Box 2587, Visalia, CA 93279

Chapter Officers

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.

President:
Wayne Wundram bmwayne@aol.com 559 280 8336

Vice President:
George Aguilar georgeag@omcast.net 559 284 8818

Secretary:
Richard Nielsen rchniel@comcast.net 559 259 3287

Treasurer:
Richard Koch rjkoch65@yahoo.com 559 469 6791

Board of Directors:

Greg Belemjian	beemian@icloud.com	559 301 6557
Christian Chavez-Mejia	christianchavez333@yahoo.com	
Terry Eidson	wteidson@comcast.net	559 940 0551
Eddy Funahashi	funa@sbcglobal.net	559 707 0521
Roger Gong	bmwhigh@aol.com	
Frank Reed	frank.reed@comcast.net	559 635 9449
Ken Robertson	raketer@olypen.com	
Jeff Willers	sailbmw@sbcglobal.net	559 731 7668
Marilyn Willers	moremsw@sbcglobal.net	559 731 0018

Past President:
Frank Vasquez frank@achillesmotorsports.com 559 970 2507

Newsletter Editor:
Wayne Wundram bmwayne@aol.com 559 734 3298

Web Masters

Frank Vasquez/ Frank Reed

Associate Editor:
Richard Koch rkoch65@yahoo.com 559 469 6791

Chapter Technician:
Larry Huber larlar635@netzero.net 559 222 1031

Statement of Purpose

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Presidents message:

Hello everyone! Its been quite a year... one for the ages. Many exciting things to reflect upon as we wrap up 2016. I think our lives were distracted (or consumed) by the BMW 100 year event(s) that many of us participated in. The Monterey weekend was certainly memorable and a number of club members across the country went to Germany to pick up their M2's and have them back in the USA in time for Monterey.

I, for one, (really two, including mi esposa) were able to take a two week vacation to Germany via a Rhine River cruise and an extended stay in Munich. We were able to get a 'taste' of the 100 year festivities during a day-long tour of the BMW Welt, the Museum and the new BMW Classic Center. An unforgettable trip!

We returned home just in time for THAT election and aren't we all glad THAT's over!

Speaking of elections, the Central Calif. Chapter Board of Directors have voted to keep the current slate of officers and board members for another term. All currently seated officers and board members were contacted in October and agreed to stay on through the end of 2017. As there were no nominations received by the announced deadline, November 2, it was the decision of the board to forgo a formal election. Accordingly, the board, by acclamation, seated all the current board members and officers for a second term.

So, now we move onward to 2017. The club needs your participation. Although not scheduled yet, the chapter intends to host autocrosses, perhaps another co-hosted HPDE and social events throughout the coming year. We are all busy with our REAL lives and I know its hard to include BMW stuff, but please support the chapter's efforts when you can.

C U on the road (or off...) Have a Happy Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year!

Calendar of Events (tentatively speaking!)

Dec. 7 **Monthly Meeting**
Mother Mary's Italian Kitchen, Clovis
Dinner 5 PM Meeting/Social time 6 PM

Dec. 25 **Merry Christmas**

Jan. **Happy New Year!**
NO MONTHLY MEETING!
Come to the Party! RSVP on next page

Jan. 7 **2017 Awards Banquet**

Jan. 28 **Street Survival School**
Fresno Fairgrounds
www.streetsurvival.org for info.

Feb. 1 **Monthly Meeting**
Mother Mary's Italian Kitchen, Clovis

Feb 12 **Sweetheart's Brunch**
(Location / Activity TBA)

Come to the meetings!
Add to the fun!

Wo ist das...?

On the cover

During the trip my wife Kathy and I took in October I quite by accident discovered the Transportation Technical Museum in Speyer, Germany via a brochure. One of the activities included on the Rhine cruise was a tour of a cathedral also located in Speyer. And it just so happened that the bus stop for the cathedral tour was about 200 meters from the front gate of the Speyer Transportation. Having had my fill of castles and cathedrals I opted to visit the museum. From my perspective, a great choice!

To my delight the Speyer Museum also had an impressive BMW 100th birthday display part of which is seen in the cover photo. Included in the BMW display were examples of BMW models from the Dixi to the Z8 and Isetta to 2002 turbo as well as motorcycles. Oh and yes, the tri-motor is also a Junkers aircraft powered by BMW made radial engines.

This sprawling museum sits on a multi-acre site with several large (very large) hanger type buildings loaded with every form of transport (things that move) imaginable. I only had time to very quickly rush through two of them. There is a section dedicate to trains, BIG trains, air and space (a full size Apollo moonlander and various 'for real' Russian Soyoz spacecraft, scale models of the International space station and outside on 100 ft high stilts is perched a full size 747 which you can climb up to and then jump out the emergency exits on a covered slide circling 'back to Earth'

There are examples of Blue Angels jets, Russian MIGs and another building and area dedicated to Nautical stuff. Not enough time to see it all.

If that weren't enough, a sister museum located in Sinsheim boast full sized actual examples of the Concord SST and its Russian counterpart a Tupolev TU144 as well as dozens more Formula 1 racers and other cars.

If you are ever in that area in Germany, please visit this place. Give yourself a day... you will need it!



Street Survival School Rescheduled!

New Date - January 28, 2017

Fresno Fairgrounds

Additional information can be found at www.sreetsurvival.org

Coaches and volunteers are needed!

We DO need you help

Please contact Terry Eidson at terryeidson@comcast.net

Brands you trust.



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Theme 'set' for January Banquet

We know you all have been waiting for this... so here goes... to carry forward the popularity of last year's Western-style theme, it has been decided that this year's theme will be (are you ready...?).....BMW!!!!

Yes, its true! Come dressed in your BMW attire... shirts, jackets, coats (it should be cold...) jewelry, hats, accessories, watches, pajamas, etc. (we won't ask to show off your lingerie items, we'll take your word for it...)

We all have various items likely stuffed in our closets so here is your chance to show it all off. Old or new we don't care, just bring it. BUT it must be worn!

We will award a prize to the person exhibiting the most ^{Ideas}prolific use of BMW accessories as described above. Wear your finest! Have fun!



2017 Officer Installation / Awards Dinner Saturday, January 7, 2017
RSVP deadline December 31, 2016 !!!

Attire...Show off your best BMW attire! Shirts, coats, hats, accessories, jewelry etc. Anything BMW will be acceptable. Have some fun while celebrating all things BMW! Prize will be awarded to the person wearing the best display of BMW haute couture. Can't wait!

Location	: The Brian Blain Estate - 3008 S. Burke St, Visalia, CA
Time	: Cocktail Hour 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM (Wine / Beer Tasting only!) - Dinner 6:00 PM Activities, Guest Speaker, Awards to follow dinner. Door prizes!!
Price	: \$40.00 per COUPLE! Buffet style dinner will be served.

Time again to celebrate with everyone as we recap 2016 and welcome 2017. The Blains are welcoming us back for an evening of light hearted automotive frivolity, a tour of the Blain collection, great food (catered by Chef Paul Pearson of Fresno), camaraderie, wine tasting, and a raffle!

DATE AND TIME: SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2017- Social hour 5-6 pm - Buffet Dinner 6pm
PLACE: BLAIN RANCH in VISALIA. Cost: \$40.00 per couple / \$20.00 per person.

Installation / Awards Dinner RSVP - Must be received by December 31, 2016

Yes! I, (We) plan on attending the January 7, 2017 Officer Installation Awards Dinner.

Name (s) _____

Amount included (\$40.00 per couple/\$20 per single checks only, please) \$ _____
(Make check payable to: **Central California Chapter BMW CCA**)

Please mail this RSVP to: Terry Eidson
2302 E Warwick
Fresno, CA 93720

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Newsletter for Central California Chapter
BMW Car Club of America

Central Calif. Chapter
BMW Car Club of America
PO Box 2587
Visalia, CA 93279



A Great Weekend at Buttonwillow

The Central California and San Diego Chapter co-hosted a two day HPDE school last month. The 'Weather gods' threw us a variety of ever changing conditions, but as seen above some spectacular scenes unfolded before us. The co-hosted event was well organized and there are considerations to host a similar event next Spring. We'll let all y'all know when that will happen. Stay tuned. (photo by Sergio Keusayan)

Rick's Ramblings... by Rick Kapheim

Is it me or has the world gone mad (No, I am not talking about the election!). As more and more people are lulled asleep in their cars by their electronic devices the auto world is helping to feed their addiction by making it easier to "drive" without reallydriving! The car companies are putting zillions of dollars into hopeful products that result in self-driving machines that propel us about our business without us putting much (or any) input into the process. In the meantime we are not putting back into our road infrastructure even as more and more vehicles are on the road. This state, in complicity with the Feds are betting a lot of money into a train that goes nowhereuh ok....Shafter instead of fixing highway 99 and 5 in a timely manner. Even self driven auto-pods will get bent rims from neglected roads. Just a thought. Ok: Rick's list of things I do not want to see on cars! No, I am not getting grumpy! Now get off my lawn!

1. Spoilers, scoops, and/or vents that do not add to the driving of the car.
2. Fake engine noise electronically coming into the interior of the car. (You have what you have, live with it).
3. Front plastic (or any material) bumper bits that do not allow you do get out of your driveway because they are to low.
4. More than 20 buttons on a steering wheel.
5. Radios that take five steps to tune a station.

I probably have many more.....but that is enough for this session.

Oh....and one more thing...

I really like the fact that Ford and Volkswagen is putting resources into cool cars like the Focus ST and the Volkswagen GTI as well as their variants. Why....because this gives younger people a start on cool cars. They are a cost effective way into getting into our car culture and I am glad that this effort exist. While I am thinking of it, put the Mazda MX5 (Miata) on that list as well. We all had to start somewhere. I started with V-8 Mustangs. You probably have your own story. Let us keep priming the pump with cool cars and cool people who drive them.

Drive Safe, but for heavens sake.....drive!