BMW Car Club of America Connecticut Valley

DZ is *Die Zeitung*, the newsletter of the Connecticut Valley Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America.

DZ

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OUT AND ABOUT

Around CT and Beyond

INSIDE

O'FEST
HUMPA PICNIC
SUMMER SIGHTINGS
HPDE UPDATES
AND MORE!

Photo By: Dante DiMauro

Photo By Dante DiMauro

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WELCOME EVERYONE! WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE!?

*Whether you have recently joined the **Connecticut Valley Chapter** or have been a member of our club for many years or even decades, you are part of a diverse group of individuals who share at least one thing in common – a passion for cars and one brand of car in particular.*

Our club engages in all sorts of fun events and activities each year. Most are, of course, car-related like high performance driver training at race tracks, road rallies, fun scenic drives, car shows, go kart competitions and tech sessions at automotive businesses. We also conduct our Street Survival program for teaching accident avoidance and car control to young drivers.
But importantly, there are many other occasions when we come together to socialize and enjoy the beautiful, bountiful region where we live. We'll meet for picnics, ice cream socials, dinners, drive-in movie nights, visits to museums, vineyards, marinas and more. For instance, this year we are working to offer even more opportunities to come together for activities like camping, a bicycle tour, excursions to Boston and/or New York and Block Island, a fishing trip, a golf outing, bowling and visits to micro-breweries as examples.

After all, we find joy not simply by doing the things we like to do, but joining with friends both old and new, to share those experiences.

So, while you may enjoy reading DZ, BimmerLife and the Roundel magazines to learn about what's going on in the world of BMWs and those who drive them, **the most value you can get for your membership in BMW CCA and the CT Valley Chapter is sharing experiences with fellow club members.** You are already a part of this enthusiastic community, why not make the most of what it has to offer?

This all happens because CVC members make it happen. **So how about sharing your ideas for places to go, things to do?** We welcome hearing from you!

Reach out at any time to any of our

Chapter's Board Members via our **Contacts Page.**

Here are some things you may consider:

- ***Offer an idea for an event for members to participate in whether it's automotive-related or not. Board members will happily help to get these going!***
- ***Volunteer to help out at events like Street Survival, High Performance Driving Schools or the Hospitality Compound at Lime Rock Park. We always welcome enthusiastic helpers – no experience necessary***
- ***Share on our social media sites: Facebook, Instagram. Take photos at an event? Tag it @ ctvalleybmwcca***
- ***Write an article for the DZ or one of the national magazines. We'll get you published!***
- ***Join a committee to work with board members on specific areas like advertising, sponsorship, publishing, event planning and more.***
- ***Let your interests and imagination be your guide!***

It's Easy and Fun!!! Come be a part of it!

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Shortly after becoming President of the CT Valley Chapter, I asked a handful of board members who I should talk to about ordering my "company car." OK, I was already well aware that the Chapter President, as well as every other Officer and Member-at Large on the Board of Directors is an unpaid, volunteer position. There are no monetary compensation or perqs to be had. But hey, if I didn't ask…? So imagine my surprise and delight when, at a recent board meeting, I was presented with the number one car on my wish list – an M2 in Alpine White! You can see it pictured here now in the foreground of a couple of my other cars.

This M2 is special in several ways. It is Ultra Compact, with an overall length of 4.5 inches and an empty weight of 4 ounces. And forget gas, electric or hybrid propulsion systems, this baby has a carbon-neutral spring-powered drive. Just back it up and it takes off like a shot! Many thanks to Dave and Dale Ortoli for making this happen!

Nice as that all is, the real payback of my position on the board is seeing the smiles on the faces and the comradery amongst our members at the many driving events, experiences, get-togethers, parties, tech sessions, dinners and the like we have throughout the year. Whether it's a thumbs up as I'm waving drivers out of pit lane at Lime Rock or bottoms up while sipping adult beverages someplace with Club members, I am constantly amongst friendly, enthusiastic, like-minded friends. And I can't say enough about the superb group of individuals that come together as a supportive, energetic and capable team to organize and execute our Club's agenda.

Thanks to you for being a part of this club. Keep an eye on your in-box for announcements and reminders of upcoming events and be sure to sync your calendar with the ***CVC Events Calendar*** so you don't miss out on something that piques your interest.

—Paul

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DZ INFORMATION

Die Zeitung is published quarterly by the BMW CCA Connecticut Valley Chapter, P.O.Box 432, Hartford, CT 06141

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SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Membership in the BMW Car Club of America is $58.00 yearly and includes a one year subscription to Roundel, the national publication of the club and to Die Zeitung, the publication of the Connecticut Valley Chapter. Associate membership is available for $10.00 per year and does not receive publications.

Join Membership Now

Articles and other materials intended for inclusion in Die Zeitung should be sent to **DZ@CTValley.org**. Copyright information must be included with all items submitted for publication.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

InformationThe DZ is published in full color and distributed electronically to our members and the public. It reaches approximately 1,700 enthusiastic BMW Club members and receives views from all over the world. We provide URL links to our advertisers websites directly from the eZine.

ANNUAL RATES

Full page – $1,295
Half page – $795
Quarter page – $475
Business card – $285

Full color camera ready art should be emailed to Roger Chartier at ***RChartier@CTValley.org***

USE OF IMAGES STATEMENT

Chapter events may be photographed or recorded and subsequent images published in the Chapter newsletter or other BMW CCA publications. Attendance at Chapter events constitutes permission by all participants for public release of images from the event.

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WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

BMW Car Club
of America
Connecticut Valley

Betty Bondi
Stephen Cagliostro
Brad Cohen
Craig Conoscenti
Steve Croke
Cody Damato
Gregg Davis
Edward Davis
Tracy Donohue-Hunt
Robert Downing
Sarah Downing
Rosann Dreyer
Albert Falco
Larry Frankel
Rick Girouard
Pamela Gooch
Scott Hartman
Ethan Haynes
Andrew Helwig
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John Morgan
Andrew Moss
John Palitsch
Michael Patrell
Farhan Ranjha
Osvaldo Rodriguez
Sergio Rodriguez
Chris Rung
Jamieson Russell
Donald Salvino
Aisha Siddiqi
Joseph Thompson
Ken Twombly
Michael Ugolik
Randall Vardanian
Adam Wahler
Joseph Wargo
Joseph Wheeler
Anna Witkowski
Stephanie Woodman
George Yorgakaros

GOT AN IDEA FOR AN EVENT?

WE WANT TO HEAR ABOUT IT!

One of the most common criticisms voices by members of the BMW CCA is the lack of events for members, aside from active driving events. The CT Valley Chapter Board of Directors is always looking for new and interesting ideas for events to increase camaraderie amongst the club. If you have any ideas for an event that the club could sponsor in some way, feel free to reach out to any of the board members. These events can range from go-karting, skiing, ice skating, brewery tours, bowling or even just an informal get-together at a local restaurant or pub. **Contact** information can be found on the **CT Valley Chapter website**.

Contact any of our members at our website! Click here.

CT VALLEY CHAPTER'S SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE

We are very excited to now have an active presence in the Facebook / Instagram realm. Our ultimate goal is to utilize the FB / IG platforms as memory banks to help nurture our community through BMW-related posts of life events, not just CVC sanctioned events.

We invite your submissions for both CCA and non-CCA event-related photos - not limited to any particular culture. We request BMW themed subjects such as family photos (road trips, birthdays, camping trips, sports, picnics, rallyes, etc.), enthusiast builds, car care, photoshoot images and the like. The idea is for these shared photos to be posted periodically (as received), allowing our large community to coexist vicariously through them.

Please send anything you would like shared / posted to any of our Social Media Coordinators via e-mail, **Facebook Messenger** or **Instagram Chat.**

We wholeheartedly welcome your contributions so we may continue to grow our great online community, building stronger networking at our in-person events!

Our "handle" is: **@ctvalleybmwcca**

Our SMCs' e-mail address is:

CFoote@CTValley.org

New Country BMW

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WINE NOT?!

Paradise Hills Vineyard, Wallingford

BY DAVE ORTOLI PHOTOS BY DAVE ORTOLI AND BRENDA RUGGIERO

What's a great way to spend a lovely August evening? Meet with some old, and new, friends at a winery to sample some local products and nibble on snacks while kibbitzing on a variety of topics.

On an early-August night, about a dozen CVC members gathered at Paradise Hills Vineyard in Wallingford. This is a family-owned, boutique Tuscan styled winery which was started in 1997. About 30 years earlier, while making their family wine, two Italian brothers had a conversation about pursuing their passion, which ultimately led to finding a large plot of suitable land and starting the long process of planting and cultivating grapes. In 2011, the tasting room was opened so the public could come enjoy the wide variety of reds and whites on offer - including many medal winners - in the very heart of the vineyard.

Co-owner, Brenda Ruggiero stopped by to chat with us about the history of her family's accomplishment in establishing and growing (pun sort of intended) this lovely vineyard.

It was a most pleasant afternoon as we sipped our wine and shared snacks. Some of us opted for variety, purchasing a flight of two reds and two whites, while others shared a bottle of their favorite variety. There were even wine slushies available!

As was fitting for the beautiful weather, roadsters made up half of the cars present, including two from the 90's.

It was a fun and different CVC event, and we'll certainly be returning - hopefully with a couple more dozen Club members along for the ride and the flights! ■

BRIGNOLE VINEYARD

East Granby

BY PAUL FRICKENHAUS
PHOTOS BY DAVE MUCCIACCIARO

Tuesday, September 12, was a perfect late summer day and a perfect evening for some wine tasting and snacking at a lovely vineyard. What could be better? How about throwing in a free car show?!

Brignole Vineyards at 103 Hartford Ave., East Granby, CT was the meeting point for a dozen or so CVC members for a delightful impromptu get together. The selection of wines was about as varied as the cars in the parking lot. And in case you had not brought along some of your own nibbles to accompany the sips, there was a BBQ truck just nearby pumping out enticing smoke signals and delicious meaty treats.

Take a look at the photos of some of the cars on display that day – everything from Rat Rods to BMWs representing several decades - and keep a lookout for CVC email blasts about more events like this at vineyards, breweries and distilleries throughout our state. ■

Current and former CVC presidents present at the 2023 Humpa from left to right: Paul Frickenhaus, Scott Chamberlain, Bruce Zepke, Jack Jones, Willy Wiley, Sheila and Bob Morin

THE 50TH ANNIVERSAY HUMPA PICNIC

BY PAUL FRICKENHAUS PHOTOS BY PAUL FRICKENHAUS, DAVE MUCCIACCIARO AND JERRI WILEY

Two things you can count on in Connecticut, the weather throwing us a curve ball and that there will be a Humpa picnic every year. That was true on Sunday, September 10th when the longest continually running BMW CCA Chapter event was held once again at J.B. Williams Park in Glastonbury. Despite the prediction of periods of rain throughout the day, it was comfortable and sunny as most of the nearly 60 attendees arrived. This was as good a turnout as there has been since before Covid put a damper on the festivities three years ago. After the initial greetings, plenty of folks strolled through the parking area to admire each other's cars. After all, that's one interest we all have in common for sure.

The grills were fired up, and the wursts and burgers were just about done cooking when the showers caught up with us. So we gathered in the gazebo and enjoyed our lunch as the rain poured down. It was such a warm and friendly atmosphere under the cover of the sturdy roof, it mattered not how hard it poured – well as long as it wasn't necessary to run out to a car to close some open windows. We won't name names! ;-)

The Humpa always attracts long-time Club members and happily some newcomers joined us as well. Once again we are grateful that, Tony's Imported Auto Service provided the beer for the party. With everyone bringing a food contribution, it made for a delicious variety of choices and there were so many desserts, you could feel nearly guiltless if you tried only three of them!

On this occasion, seven current and former CT Valley Chapter presidents were on hand, so a group picture was in order. The Chapter's chosen charity is LBDA, the Lewy Body Dementia Association. Attendees this year generously contributed a total of $213 to this organization in memory of John W, Bisset, a former president of the club who was afflicted with LBD. Another Humpa tradition is the door prize drawing where every member gets something to take home with them besides a full tummy and the memory of good times spent with friends both old and new. ■

BMW CCA CONNECTICUT VALLEY CHAPTER 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday, November 11, 2023 - 6:00pm to 10:00pm

***La Notte* 17 Thompson Road, East Windsor, CT**

We are excited to have you join us for our 50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner.

- Cocktail hour 6:00-7:00.
- Door prize drawing will begin during the cocktail hour (must be present to win)
- Buffet will start at 7:00, followed by Chapter announcements and then the Guest Speakers

This year we are delighted to welcome a pair of extraordinary guest speakers to our gala event:

Bill Auberlen and Erik Wensberg

Bill Auberlen, it is believed, has driven BMW cars in more races than any other driver in the world and is the winningest driver in both BMW history and IMSA competition history. He has won six professional auto-racing championships, four with BMW power. He has competed in over 500 professional races to date, 339 in BMWs. His results include 91 race victories, 188 podium finishes, 56 pole positions, 83 fastest race laps and 110 records. Bill's career at the wheel of BMWs continues today.

Erik Wensberg was a Marketing Brand Manager at BMW of North America from 1985-1998. Later on, as the Company's first M Brand Manager, Erik worked a great deal on the transition of the E30 M3 to the E36 3 Series and in addition oversaw the development of dominant racing programs with the E36 M3 and Team PTG in the late 1990s. Along the way, Eric was responsible for starting BMW of North America's "Classic" collection that now includes a wide range of cars the company has raced in North America. Erik is a lifetime member of the BMW Car Club of America, and a Trustee of the **BMW CCA Foundation**.

Register right away as space is limited to 100 attendees! Price $50.00 per person.

There are two options to register:

1. Through this link: **MotorSportReg** (easiest and quickest method)
2. Send a check made payable to:

> "BMW CCA-CVC" to:
>
> *BMW CCA Connecticut Valley Chapter, Inc.*
> *P.O. Box 432*
> *Hartford, CT 06141*

IMPORTANT !

- Register *early* as attendance is limited to 100 persons.
- No walk-ins will be accepted.
- Final date to register by Mail is October 28 and via **MotorSportReg** is November 4th, 2023

O'FEST ∞ FOREVER 2023

September 27th - 30th - Rhode Island

BY BOB MORIN

Have we got a great opportunity for you!

O'Fest ∞ Forever in 2023 will be the *closest* O'Fest for our Chapter members, geographically, since Pittsburgh in 2018, when the event finally returns to New England from **Wednesday, September 27th to Saturday, September 30th.** This year is the 50th Anniversary of the Connecticut Valley Chapter and it will also be the fifth time that our Chapter will be involved in running an O'fest. Thanks to Pat Delany, Michael Menatian and our amazing team of HPDE volunteers, our Chapter will be organizing the Driver's School for this year's event. This is the first HPDE event at an O'Fest since that same Pittsburgh O'Fest in 2018 and the first time our Chapter will be hosting a school at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. If you are a track junkie or new to Driver's Schools, this is a chance to add Thompson to your resumé.

Additionally, Sheila and I have signed on to write the Fun Rally and a tour. There will also be an Autocross, organized by the Boston Chapter, a Car Control Clinic, several tours and lots of social activities, so the days will be packed with things to do, places to see, and people to meet!

As ones who have been to 35 of these events, Sheila and I have made so many life-long friends whom we would never even have met without these opportunities. But, we need to have a great turnout at this event to prove there is still a demand for such an activity. Without a healthy turnout, the future of large National meets like this is in jeopardy. Registration for the event opened May 30th and in less than 24 hours, more than 100 people had registered. That's very encouraging. I've heard all of the excuses why you can't attend, so I doubt you could come up with something new. This may be your last chance to see what it's like to attend an O'Fest, and certainly the shortest drive to attend for a long while. I urge you to consider registering for the event. It's not too late and you won't regret it. ■

You should have received emails for registering but if you missed them or just let it slip your mind, here is the link:

O'Fest

O'FEST 2023

RHODE ISLAND

BMW Car Club of America

BMW CCA

Join us and attend the **Ultimate BMW Event** this **Sept. 27-30** in historic **Warwick, Rhode Island**. The host hotel is the **Crowne Plaza Warwick**, with exciting satellite events at **Thompson Motor Speedway**, **Newport**, and **Fort Adams!**

BMW Car Club of America's member-exclusive **O'Fest 2023**, presented by Michelin, has events and experiences **for every BMW enthusiast!**

Highlights include:

Concours and Car Show

Join us Saturday morning in Newport as we showcase our beauties on the grassy grounds of **Rhode Island's historic Fort Adams**. In conjunction with **Audrain Motor Week**.

This curated event will bring enthusiasts, families and friends together all with a shared passion for automobiles. BMW Car Cub of America will host our annual **O'Fest Concours and Car Show** in a section of Audrain's popular Cars and Coffee.

BMW Driving Events

From a **High Performance Driving School** at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, to the **Michelin Autocross** at the Seekonk Raceway, to the **Lockton Car Control Clinic** at the Crowne Plaza, there are behind-the-wheel events for all enthusiasts.

Social Events

Enjoy group driving tours and experience the local flair, dine with fellow club members at breakfasts and banquets, gather in the parking lot for the Friday Beer Fest and enjoy group trivia and scavenger hunt contests!

Come for one event or stay for them all! Get all the details and register today at

OFEST.BMWCCA.ORG

BMW CCA DAYS IMSA

Lime Rock Park

BY BOB MORIN PHOTOS BY BOB MORIN AND DAVE ORTOLI

Once again this year, your Connecticut Valley Chapter hosted the popular BMW CCA Days Corral and Hospitality Tent at the July IMSA Race at Lime Rock Park. This regional event has even begun to draw BMW CCA members from outside of our region. We of course had members attend from all over New England, but also from Buffalo, NY; Ohio and Delaware, as well as NJ and PA. For several, it was their first ever visit to Lime Rock and they all praised the beautiful park-like atmosphere of the track that they had always wanted to see in person after enjoying it on TV for many years.

The Parade laps on Saturday were quite popular, especially for these "first-timers" and one member from Delaware was seen speaking with Patrick Delany about our HPDE program to see what it would take to return and drive the track again - as a Driver's School participant. Every guest each day left with a door prize, and the weather cooperated nicely this year, which has not necessarily been the case recently.

I want to acknowledge and thank some folks without whom we could not have done this. Our two main sponsors were:

- **BMW of North America**
- **New Country BMW of Hartford** (New Country also provided two display cars to add some impact to the décor outside the hospitality tent)

Additionally, our door prize donors were:

- **BMW Car Club of America**
- **BMW Car Club of America Foundation**
- **Connecticut Valley Chapter**
- **Detail Best**
- **Tim Healey**
- **Lime Rock Park**
- **Bob & Sheila Morin**
- **New Country BMW**

And last, but DEFINITELY not least, thanks to our dedicated volunteers, many of whom have been with us since the first time we held this corral. We really appreciate the help of the following:

- **Dave Boone**
- **Heather Centrella**
- **Anne Delany**
- **Patrick Delany**
  (who also brought his track car for our display which added some visual appeal)
- **Paul Frickenhaus**
- **Bob Maher**
- **Sheila Morin**
- **Dave Ortoli**

And now, for the bad news, it appears that Lime Rock has been excluded from the IMSA calendar for next year, but negotiations are reportedly already underway to get back on the schedule for 2025.

Fingers crossed! ■

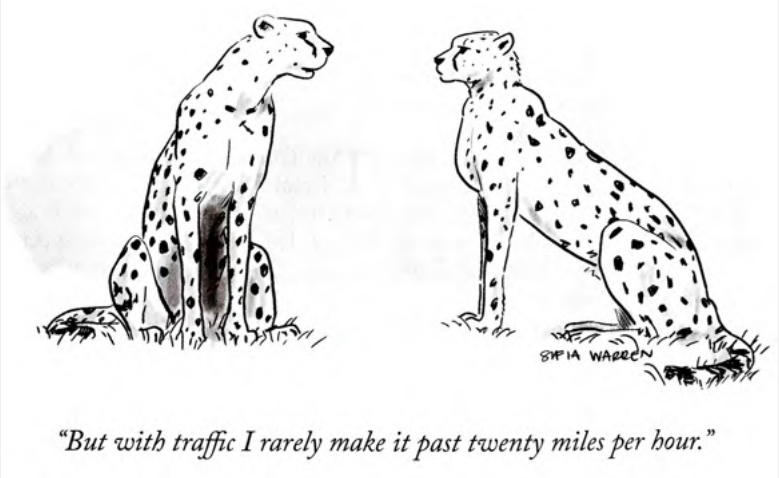
Editor's Note: A BIG shout out to Bob Morin who once again did the lion's share of planning, organizing and managing this popular, high profile event.

Stay updated on current events at our website! Click here.

Quick Quiz

Question: What do M drivers and cheetahs have in common?

Answer:



"But with traffic I rarely make it past twenty miles per hour."

Thanks to THE NEW YORKER

2023 HPDE DRIVER'S SCHOOL UPDATE

BY PATRICK J. DELANY, DRIVING EVENTS COORDINATOR

Whether you've never driven on a race track, or are a full blown track rat, we have schools to help make the driving year more accessible and rewarding for all. Following are the remaining events for 2023.

Dates & Locations:

Friday, September 29, 2023 – 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **BMW CCA O'Fest HPDE**

Full Road Course at Thompson Speedway Motor Park · Thompson, CT

Notes:

· This event is presented as part of O'Fest 2023 and run by the CT Valley Chapter

· This is a one-day school open to all drivers, regardless of prior track driving experience

Friday, October 20, 2023 – 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **BMW CVC Lime Rock Park HPDE**

Race Course at Lime Rock Park · Lakeville, CT

Notes:

· CVC-run event, traditional schedule, first track session starts at 10:00 a.m. start

· Alternating hours on track and in classroom

HPDE Description: This is a one-day school open to all drivers, regardless of prior track driving experience. The HPDE includes multiple classroom and track driving sessions with in-car instructors for coaching and technique advice. The day begins with a mandatory technical inspection of the vehicle followed by an on-site check-in.

An in-car instructor is mandatory for all students in the beginner and novice run groups, as well as for intermediate and advanced students who have not been approved by the Chief Driving Instructor to drive solo. The in-car instructor provides coaching and advice to the student during track exercises and a summary review at the end of each track session.

Requirements:

· A valid driver's license

· Be at least 18 years of age

· A valid BMW CCA membership through the date of the event

· A vehicle that is not a pick-up, cargo van, or minivan. Note: convertibles (soft top, partial roof removal, retracting hard top, and removable hard top) are limited to those which comply with BMW CCA's most current Driving Events Manual

· Pre-event technical inspection of the vehicle is to have been performed by an entity which is technically competent to perform the inspection and complete the Technical Inspection Form

· A helmet with a 2015 or 2020 SNELL EA, SA, or M rating. Note: CVC offers the free use of a loaner helmet to first time HPDE students – students must request this option in advance of the event.

· Long pants and long sleeve shirt while driving on track

CT Valley HPDE Sponsors:

bimmerworld

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Hello BMW CCA CVC members,

TrackDayTire.com is proud to show their support of our club by offering a Buy 3 get One FREE* deal on the new Continental Extreme Contact Force TW200 track/street tire.

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860-296-2639

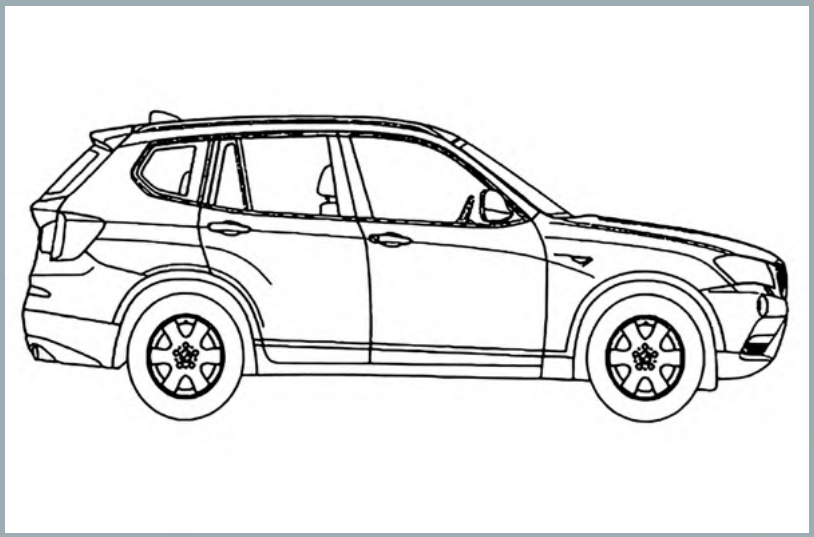
EVENTS CALENDAR

Check out our website for upcoming events and happenings organized by the CT Valley Chapter.

KIDS KOLORING KORNER

COURTESY OF NATE SARTWELL

<u>Instructions:</u> Print out a copy of the BMW X3 below or open in your favorite program. Color it however you'd like. Take a picture of your finished work and send it to any of our Social Media Coordinators via e-mail, Facebook Messenger or Instagram Chat. We won't tell if it's really the "kids" coloring or not.

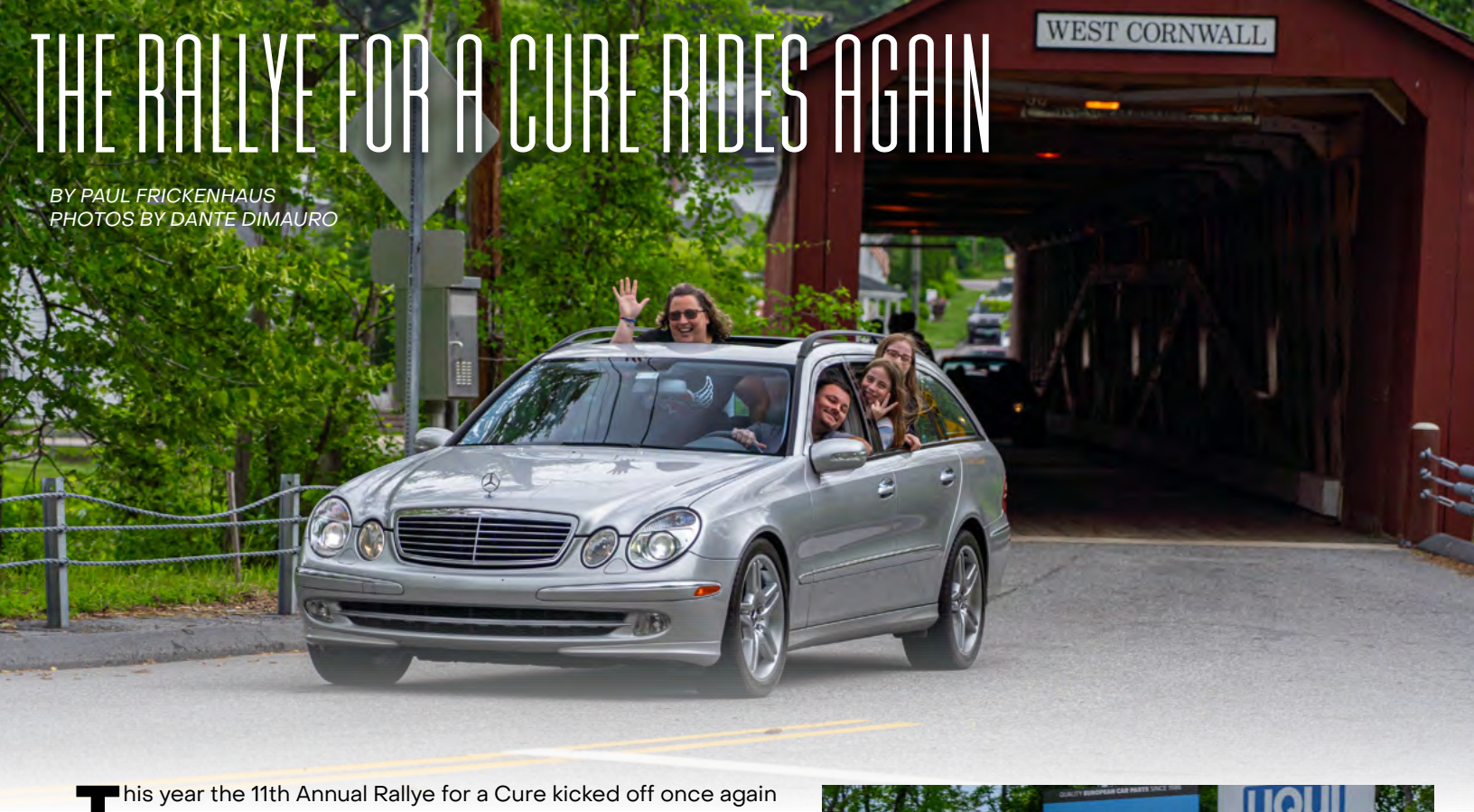


Our "handle" is: @ctvalleybmwcca
Our SMC e-mail address is:

CFoote@CTValley.org

THE RALLYE FOR A CURE RIDES AGAIN

BY PAUL FRICKENHAUS
PHOTOS BY DANTE DIMAURO



This year the 11th Annual Rallye for a Cure kicked off once again from New Country BMW in Hartford on June 17 with 131 teams headed for Lime Rock Park. As is always the case with this popular non-CVC event, many BMW CCA members from the CT Valley and other Chapters brought 26 BMWs to the event along with several friends of the Club in other vehicles and three Minis to boot! A case in point, CVC member Rainey Blanchette and his navigator, Kristen Dombkowski, with a carload of kids won the multi-generational category prize in their 2005 Mercedes-Benz E500 Wagon!

The weather predictions were less than ideal with showers expected throughout the day. Happily the reality was that after a few spotty showers early on, most of the day was dry and comfortable. As you may know by now, The Rallye for a Cure is a fundraiser with proceeds from entry fees benefiting JDRF, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. The Rally Masters, Bill and Linda Wright, and their family are the organizers of this "fun run" rally and can be counted on for a challenging yet delightful route from start to finish.

And of course, a highlight of this year's event was the opportunity to run some brisk "parade" laps around the historic Lime Rock track. You can see several of the participating teams cruising around the track in the photos here, but many more are available by exploring the **Rallye for a Cure Website**. While there, take a minute to sign up for their mailing list so you'll be among the first to know about the event next year. Then join the many of us who return year after year for this thoroughly enjoyable day out in our favorite cars. ■

STREET SURVIVAL 2023

BY DAVE ORTOLI PHOTOS BY HEATHER MUCCIACCIARO AND FRED ORTOLI

2023 saw the CVC sponsored Tire Rack Street Survival schools return to our full schedule. On June 10, we held a school for the first time at the iconic Lime Rock Park, with 23 students attending (there was also a waitlist of 15 more teens). The Park was very active that day, with the Boston CCA chapter running an event on the FCP Euro Proving Grounds, the track being used by Hooked on Driving and the Lime Rock Drivers Club, along with our event.

The Lime Rock management generously donated the use of B Paddock for us to run our school. Overall, due to the staff of dedicated and experienced volunteers, the day ran smoothly for the students and their families. After the school ended, with the traditional certificate and photo handouts, some students and families took the opportunity to go watch the cars on the track.

We had the normal far-flung group of students, including some from as far away as Maine and New Jersey. Special thanks go out to our classroom instructors Jim Redinger and Tim Healey, who had the challenge of trying to teach with the unmuffled cars blasting down the main straight. I also want to thank Pat Delany for his work to obtain an agreement with the Boston chapter to allow us to use the skid pad during their lunch break for our wet skid exercise.

Our second event will take place on September 23, at our long-time partner Consumer Reports' Auto Test Facility in Colchester, CT. All 36 available seats are already filled, with a growing waitlist. If you want to have a very fulfilling day helping teens to become safer drivers, sign up to help for the day. For questions about volunteering contact Dave Ortoli at **dortoli@ctvalley.org**. Besides watching smiles appearing on the students' faces, there will also be a smile growing on your face! ■

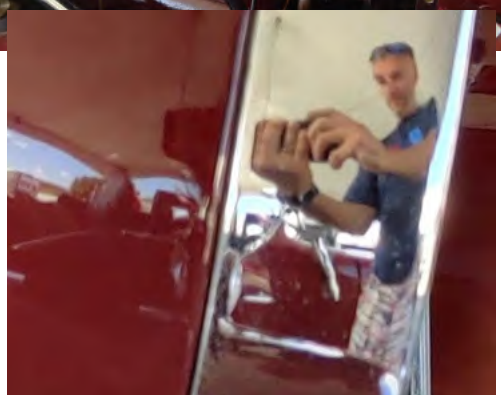
WHAT WE SAW ON OUR SUMMER VACATIONS

Members Out and About...

CVC Member, Cheryl Bastura, found herself at the 50th anniversary of the Brixen Classic Car Show in the quaint town of Bressanone, in South Tyrol, northern Italy and shares these photos of some classics with us.

Paul Frickenhaus traveled by both bus and tuk tuk (called three-wheelers) in Sri Lanka.

Dave Mucciacciaro captured shots of some oldies but goodies at the HISTORIC FESTIVAL 41 & SUNDAY IN THE PARK at Lime Rock Park. In the process, he managed to take a reflected selfie.



jerri and Willie Wiley encountered everything from restomods to rust buckets with a splash of dirt bikes mud bikes and airborne transportation during their months-long trek across the country.

IT'S LIKE MAGIC, BUT THIS TRICK IS REAL!

Donate a toy and enjoy a cup of coffee to have a dent disappear from your car while making a sick kid smile! It's that easy!

On December 2, 2023 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. at New Country BMW, 1 Weston Park Rd, Hartford, CT, come be a part of the Dents 4 Kids Toy Drive / Cars 'N Coffee.

New Country BMW in association with CT Dent Worx will offer to remove a small dent or crease in a panel of your car in exchange for donating a new, unwrapped toy for a patient at Connecticut Children's Hospital.

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TWO ESPRESSOS

AND A LARGE HELPING OF DELECTABLE AUTOMOBILES, PLEASE

BY PAUL FRICKENHAUS
PHOTOS BY DAVE MUCCIACCIARO AND KALIDAS SUKUMARAN – HARTFORD
PAUL FRICKENHAUS – NEW CANAAN

You know it is going to be a good day when the sun is shining, and there are two car shows to attend in two far- flung places and you've got a Z3 to cover that territory. That was Sunday, September 17th and my task was to open up the BMW corral of the Caffeine and Carburetors event in downtown New Canaan starting at 7 a.m. and then head on up to join more enthusiastic Bimmer fans for Cars & Coffee at New Country BMW in Hartford by late morning. ***Oh Well, if I must!***

If you've been reading DZ and keeping up with the CVC email blasts, you'll already know what eye-popping events these New Canaan ones are. Plenty of folks from New York head for the hills of Connecticut's Gold Coast for these events and for the country roads our area offers. This particular show - one of a series each year in the center of town - had no shortage of interesting, unusual and desirable cars. But don't be too sorry if you missed it because the show you MUST attend is the finale of the series to be held on Oct. 22, 2023 in New Canaan's Waveny Park. That one is automotive overload! Mark your calendar and get there early. The BMW corral can only hold about 150 cars and it always fills up. For now, enjoy these photos, and plan to take plenty of your own at the next one.

The Cars & Coffee event in Hartford was co-sponsored by New Country and MFEST in association with our CVC. There was a strong turnout with lots of BMWs of course but plenty of other makes were mixed in including Porsche, Mercedes-Benz, McLaren some JDM cars and many more. The Skyscraper Sandwiches truck was on hand, serving up NYC-style eats for those hungry for something more than shiny horsepower. CVC thanks Brandon Small, GM of New Country BMW and his crew, along with Alex Batory, the energy behind MFEST, for making it a delightful day for lots of avid car nuts. ■

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