

TARHEEL CHAPTER BMW CCA

# FOOTNOTES

Volume LI No. 3

June 2025



Photo by Richard Daugherty

## TARHEEL CHAPTER BMW CCA

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### FINE PRINT

**WRITTEN & PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTRIBUTIONS** to the **FOOTNOTES** are welcome and encouraged. Please send an email or a letter with a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like your thumb drive or photographs returned. Articles must be emailed, or mailed to the Editor's attention.

**EDITORIAL DEADLINE** is the 1st day of the month prior to the publication month, i.e. January 1 for the February issue. The Editor reserves the right to edit for length and appropriateness.

#### Advertising:

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The **Tarheel BMW List** provides a casual, online forum for chapter members to discuss BMWs and BMW CCA events and related topics of interest to local members. To begin getting the Tarheel BMW List, e-mail [tarheelbmwsubscribe@topica.com](mailto:tarheelbmwsubscribe@topica.com) (make sure you send the email from the email address that you want to receive the list messages),.

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## ON THE COVER:

### Beach Bimmering, 2025 Edition



Our annual trip to Atlantic Beach has become something of a pilgrimage with the Roundel faithful gathering in the Southern Outer Banks to celebrate the impending arrival of summer and the concurrent tourist season. By scheduling our return in a window between the Mother's Day and Memorial Day holidays we get the best of all possible worlds: good weather, easy access to top restaurants, no traffic.

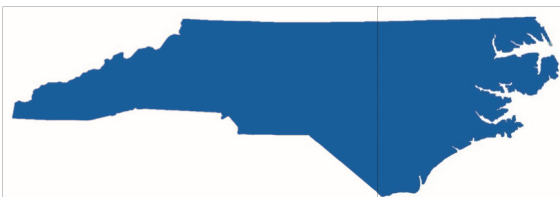
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## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

This month, we'd like to give a warm Tarheel welcome to 85 new members and associate members in December and January. We had a nice gain in total chapter membership to **2830!** Our membership is the life blood of the Club. Without your participation, there would be no Club. We offer a wide variety

of activities and welcome the opportunity to get to know you better at some of these events. We encourage you to contact your Area Coordinator to find out about local dinner meetings and other ways to get involved in YOUR club. Come join us, you'll have a great time!

## BMW Car Club of America Tarheel Chapter



## ON THE COVER:

In a few short weeks all those families in soccer mom vans and ever larger SUVs will attempt to swamp the island. Blessedly, we will be home by then.

We had 23 hearty souls fire up an array of BMWs and head for one of the nicest places on earth, the Atlantis Lodge. Owned by the same family since 1959, they graciously welcome us each year for a chance to walk on the beach, bask in the sun, and glow in the shared warmth of the fire pit. It's magic.

We came from all across the Old North State with some of our number joining from as far away as Charlotte and Hickory. Old friends meeting new ones while experiencing the glories of fresh seafood and Caribbean salsa, mixed in with local favorites like Hush Puppies and BBQ. Always best to start with an overwhelming culinary experience at the Crab's Claw which is only a mollusk toss from the surf.



The Bimmers covered a wide array of the products from Munich, including an array of X3's and X5's, a collection of 3-series sedans, a Z4M convertible, and a Clown Shoe (Z3M Coupe) which always draws a crowd. The owner of the Atlantis Lodge, who owns an X3M40 himself, sought us out after we landed to

welcome us for our annual retreat from the rush of suburban life and back into the restive gaze of the local pelicans and sea gulls.

Once we checked in, we had the chance to dig toes into the sand, explore the property again, and start planning our next meal. In a world that sometimes seems to be moving too fast, this is the perfect place to downshift hard and sample some of life's simple pleasures. Salt air. The sound of rolling surf. The pleasant embrace of an expensive Cabernet. OK, clearly some things should never be left to chance.

The first evening took advantage of the "Community Room", a large meeting space graced with tables for four, a small kitchen, a pool table and ping pong. Also, a large TV, which we used to stream a fireplace video in HD. Perfect way to enjoy some snacks, story swapping, and detail plans for the next day's adventures.



For these trips we create an array of local sites to visit as the preferences of each driver / navigator team. Rather than going as a group, everyone gets to organize their own days with specific points where we reconnect as a group to kick tires and tell stories. There are local historic sites to see, including Fort Macon, a pre-Civil War construction designed to keep the Royal Navy at bay. There are multiple microbreweries and distilleries to be sampled.



There's shopping to be enjoyed, and cruises on the Core and Back Sounds to see both wildlife and the wonders of the North Carolina Outer Banks.

A number of the BMW faithful set sail for Shackleford Bank, a spot which includes an amazing herd of wild horses. These beautiful equine examples have enjoyed living in the wild for centuries. As the locals report it, free-roaming horses have lived and died on the 60-odd miles of North Carolina islands that now constitute Cape Lookout National Seashore since the time of Spanish and English colonists arriving in the area. Now they remain only on 3,000-acre Shackleford Banks.



Cape Lookout itself is also a favorite place to visit, with the calm backwaters of the sound on one side, and the raging fury of the Atlantic Ocean only a short distance away. The contrast is mesmerizing.

One evening we headed into the town of Beaufort to be wined and dined at one of our favorite culinary sites, Moonraker's. Having close to two dozen people show up all at once put a bit of stress on the local staff, but they did a great job of getting us settled and well fed. Always a delightful experience.

With the Bimmer teams scurrying around the islands, we used a variety of tools for staying in touch and directing our collective plans for reconvening. As an example, our update on Saturday night was a perfect

example of the camaraderie and fun we had as a group.



The email in question is included here and was entitled "Shrimp on the Run".

With apologies to Paul McCartney and Wings, here's the afternoon update from the Crow's Nest at the Atlantis Lodge. The weather has held up perfectly this afternoon and the tide is now heading out making for a wide expanse of beach to stroll on. Low tide at 4:54, next high one around 11pm.



Between the tidal markings, we have plans for dinner in the Game (Community) Room. A few logistical items:

1. We have it reserved from 6-8pm, but plan to start setting up around 5:30 or so. Early bird gets the worm.
2. At 5:30 we will collect the barbie tools from the front office and light them off. We'll get them good and hot and clean in time for what comes next.
3. We have plenty of shrimp ... and cocktail sauce ... and horseradish ... because you can NEVER have too much horseradish.
4. Scott has a London Broil which he will cook Pittsburgh Style in honor of Debbie and Kim, our resident Steelers fans.
5. Dan and Barbara have dessert. It must be someone's birthday. We'll see who the lucky victim is shortly.
6. Travis and Kathy promise two types of pesto. Bet you can't eat just one ...
7. Jim and Donna have secured paper plates and plastic cutlery. We have spared every expense for tonight's culinary extravaganza.
8. Dave is working on wine pairings that go with everything. He indicated that Blue Nun was never a good option with seafood. Or anything else known to humankind.
9. Richard reported that the cannon firing at Fort Macon will be around 4pm. And by around, I mean exactly at the stroke of four. The USCG runs a tight ship.
10. Travis, Rocco, and Susan are headed to a microbrewery in Beaufort at 4pm, presumably to escape from the cannon. It is the Mill Whistle Brewing Company. At 4:45 they apparently are going to blow the shift change whistle, which should finish off the hearing of anyone who chooses to do both the Fort and the Brewery.
11. Vicki and Ted went to Harker's Island to check out the decoy museum, which is very cool. They are not bringing ducks to dinner.
12. Susan, Scott, Karen, and I are hanging out on the beach. Look to the left at the top of the stairs if you want to come kick sand and tell lies.

The resulting evening festivities were brilliant, with lots of story-swapping around our latest adventures on the Southern Outer Banks. Along the way, Scott Morford grabbed his guitar and serenaded our group with a song book ripped straight out of the 1960's. Ironically, the one we all knew the words to was "Puff the Magic Dragon".



The sights, the sounds, the food, the sun, were all wonderful. As a group we each had a different experience and enjoyed sharing our encounters with things both new and familiar. One of the subjects that produced near universal agreement was that we should plan on doing it all again. The good news is that Atlantis allows guests to rebook their rooms 12 months in advance. We were able to do just that as we checked out, so plans are already in motion for a return to the scene of so much joy on May 14, 2026. It is quite an accomplishment when we can publish the flyer and registration link for our next event before the current one is even finished! But that's how we roll in North Carolina. There's always another apex to be carved, a new town to be explored, and a menu to be savored. The dining club with a driving problem is ALWAYS ready for new adventures. Atlantic Beach Bimmers are ready to roll.

*~ By Robert McIsaac*

## Spring HPDE and Annual Banquet

The Tarheel Chapter's Spring High Performance Driver Education at Virginia International Raceway was held April 18-20. The chapter's annual banquet was also held at VIR, Saturday evening in the Gallery event center.

I was not entered in the HPDE this year but went up Saturday to cheer on friends and attend the Banquet. For those not familiar with the HPDE format, students are divided into run groups A through D, plus instructor groups. There were 139 students and 91 instructors, a very full event!



All the run groups ran Saturday morning and afternoon, each in multiple 25-minute sessions. There were exercises too, so that students can get used to side by side running on the track. At the end of the afternoon, I freshened up a bit and it was time for the banquet. The cash bar started promptly at 6pm and was appreciated by many. Water and iced tea were provided for free. The buffet dinner started at 6:45. BBQ chicken, mashed potatoes, and mixed vegetables were on the menu with a salad accompaniment and a small desert.

Then it was time for business. First on the agenda, April Curtis announced our special guest speaker, Connie Nyholm. She is the majority owner and CEO of Virginia International Raceway. The format was a Q&A with questions being fed by Phil Antoine. Topics ranged from women in motorsports to the plans and upcoming enhancements for VIR. Connie, highly respected in the

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motorsport world, is actively involved with IMSA and other organizations to ensure the success of future motorsport events at VIR. She is also committed to working with the BMW CCA to ensure the success of our driver education events and club racing.



Next up, Paul Dunlevy gave a brief discussion of club business and recognized all the board members. It takes a good many people to run our chapter. Each person got nice applause for their contributions. Tom Tice then gave a presentation on the Driving Events Committee. The Tarheel chapter is recognized nationally for our excellent HPDE events and club racing schools. Many events were held in 2024 and just as many planned for 2025. It takes an army to plan and run them. Many sponsors were then recognized for their contributions to the success of these events.

Mike Hinkley, Jonathan Strine, and Maria Strine then gave brief talks on club racing, our growing membership numbers, and board election results, respectively. Lastly, thanks to our sponsors, many door prizes were handed out, from tee shirts to gift certificates. It was then time to say thanks and good-byes to all our friends and fellow members, so that those on track the next day could get plenty of rest.

*~ By Richard Daugherty*

<http://www.tarheelbmwcca.org>



# Tar Heel & Toe High Performance Driving School, April 19-20, 2025

## VIR – Full Course

I have been fond of (addicted to ?) fast car for a long time and have previously participated in 28 HPDS at VIR. At VIR I have driven 12 different cars including 3 Audis, 3 BMWs and 5 Corvettes. This event was the first time for my 2024 BMW M3 Competition xDrive (bone stock). VIR with its combination of long and short straights, elevation changes, and left and right corners of varying tightness is regarded as one of the top 5 tracks in America. I appreciate the corporate sponsors (Tuttle Motorsports, HMS Motorsports, Korman, Bimmerworld, Quantum Speed Works, EuroEnvy, Hagerty, Bimmer Performance Center, German Motors, and Vac Motorsports) that made the event more affordable for more enthusiasts. Thankfully, we had a dry weekend. Ambient temperatures ranged from low 60s upon arrival to near 80 on both days.



In my last HPDE school, I drove a 2023 C8 Corvette Z51. The Corvette with its mid-engine 6.2 L V-8 (495 hp) paired with an 8-speed automatic was quite fast (0-60 mph in 2.8-2.9 seconds). The M3 is obviously heavier (3929 lbs) than the Corvette but also has more power (503 hp @ 6250 rpm per BMW; BMW online forums say about 528 hp). BMW quotes a 0-60 mph time of 3.4 seconds; however, Car & Driver say they were able to do the trick in 2.8 seconds, so the car is basically as fast as the Corvette. The AWD running

through a shiftable 8-speed automatic gives the M3 an advantage adding throttle exiting corners.



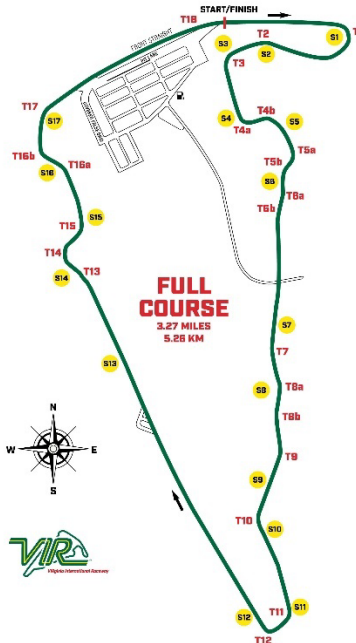
As in any HPDE school, passing is always by “invitation” from the car being passed. BMW uses hand signals out the driver’s open window to point by on the left or right side depending upon the place on track. In addition to the 3 basic and longer passing zones (6a to 7 - bridge straight, 12 to 13 - back straight, and 17a to 1 - front straight), passing was also allowed in 5 shorter straights for the B Group and higher. The car or cars doing the passing will go off-line, and the car being passed should attenuate its acceleration to enable a safe pass before the next turn. Most drivers seemed to be cooperating; however, there was an occasion where I gave 2 cars permission to pass and 2 more cars blew by before the left turn entering the climbing esses (Turn 7). This unsafe practice was firmly addressed in the all drivers meeting Sunday morning. BMW CCA is very safety conscious.

On Saturday I ran in Group B (Advanced Intermediate) and although I passed a few cars, I gave way more passing invitations than I took. The 3.27-mile course has 21 turns numbered 1 to 17 with 4 of them having 2 numbers such as 5 and 5a, etc. Although I could maintain some acceleration when being passed by a fast car, I had to just maintain speed to let less powerful cars get by safely. The downside of this courtesy was that cars further back would then close in and also need to pass creating a vicious cycle negatively affecting my pace and consistency. On Sunday I was transferred to the C Group (Lower Advanced). My instructor said that I had demonstrated the correct handling of every turn on



the track. However, he also said I had not executed this correct handling on every turn consistently. I think my inconsistency was largely because of giving so many passes. My self-diagnosis is that my biggest problem was not consistently using threshold braking thereby allowing slower cars to catch up. So, after 18 HPDS at VIR, I am still learning and still having fun. The M3 wants to go again. My records for fuel milage indicated about 28 mpg to/from VIR and 8.3-8.5 mpg on track.

~ By Roy A. Swaringen, Jr.



## Wonderful Wilmington - 2025

### Our Favorite Port City Beckons



- What: An adventure filled ride to a crown jewel on the North Carolina coast, the Port City of Wilmington. This is a family friendly event that the inner child in all of us can enjoy!!! A great time to walk about the old city, enjoy some great food, and see some fascinating museums. The battleship North Carolina is an ever-present spirit in the city too.
- When: Saturday, **November 15, 2025 at 10am**. Coffee and tire kicking at 9am.
- Where: Departure from the Starbucks parking lot at the White Oak Shopping Center in Garner. Feel free to come any time after 9 for tire kickin', story tellin' and coffee. Address for Starbucks is 180 Cabela Drive Garner, NC 27529
- Who: Rob McIsaac is organizing the event from The Triangle.
- Objective: A great lunch at Prost, a German restaurant on the. From there, many attractions await including the USS North Carolina, the Seaboard Railroad Museum, the Bellamy mansion and a water taxi tour of the area.
- Duration: Figure 2 hours of driving each way. If we roll at 10, expect to be home between 6 and 7pm.
- Contact Information: For details, connect with Rob McIsaac at Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com or 919-880-8012.

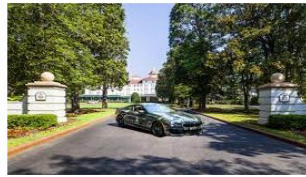


# Bimmers Puttering To Pinehurst

## Scrambling Through The Sandhills in Summer



- What: A chance to get out and stretch the BMWs legs on an adventure to the bucolic town of Pinehurst. Famous for shopping, golfing and great walk-about, it also home to some fine dining and cool microbreweries. Saddling up the Bimmers is a great way to roll toward winter.
- When: Depart on Saturday, **December 6, 2025** at 10:00am. Come early for coffee and breakfast.
- Where: Departure from the Starbucks at 180 Cabela Drive, Garner, NC 27529.
- Objective: Terrific downtown tour of the iconic golf resort and cute town central to the Sandhills Region. Terrific opportunity to grab some grub and a cold 'n frost one at the Pinehurst Brewing Company ... <https://www.pinehurstbrewing.com/kitchen-1>
- Duration: Figure 6+ hours including driving.
- Contact Information: For details, connect with Rob McIsaac at [Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com](mailto:Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com) or 919-880-8012.

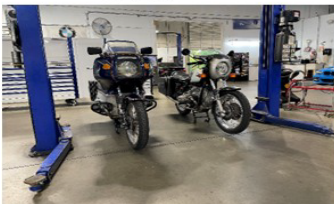


# Vintage BMW's Together Again

## Open House: Beemers and Bimmers Keep Rolling 2026



- What: A gathering of the BMW faithful to share technical insights, support methods, work arounds, parts sources, and comradery. Airhead Beemers and Vintage Bimmers share much more than just the roundel!
- How: The **BPC** in Raleigh, NC, is an incredibly valuable resource to many of us and now has a new home. Event hosted by the shop owner, Dan Connor.
- When: **Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. Doors open at 9am for an open house. Onsite camping **will be** available and several affordable hotel options are close to the shop. [Harmon's German Kitchen Food Truck](#) will be onsite. **No cost for the event**. Food can be purchased, there's plenty of parking.
- Bonus Round: We will also be having a parts swap meet!
- Where: Bimmer Performance Center, **5014 Departure Drive, Raleigh, NC 27616**
- Contact Information: Rob McIsaac at [Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com](mailto:Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com).
- Registration: <https://ews.bmwcca.org/sign/01jvsme32vy26g8rmbkr346tpg/waiver-select>





# TARHEEL CHAPTER 2025

Jun 14	Bimmers and Baseball Durham, NC	Robert Mcisaac	919-880-8012.	Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com
Jun 20-22	Tarheel Summer HPDS VIR Alton, VA	Phil Antoine		booflick@yahoo.com
July 19	Pizza Night at Lynch Creek Farm Kittrell, NC	Robert Mcisaac	919-880-8012.	Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com
Aug 22-24	Corral at IMSA Michelin GT Race VIR Alton, VA			
Sept 20,21	Tour to Tanglewood Clemmons, NC	Tom Tice	336-207-4127	teticem3@gmail.com
Sept 27	Botanist and Barrell Hillsborough, NC	Robert Mcisaac	919-880-8012.	Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com
Oct 3-5	Tarheel Fall HPDS VIR Alton, VA	Phil Antoine		booflick@yahoo.com
Nov 1-2	Fall ///M Club Day Greer, SC	Robert Mcisaac	919-880-8012.	Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com
Nov 15	Wonderful Wilmington! Wilmington, NC	Robert Mcisaac	919-880-8012.	Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com
Nov 21	Charity Laps VIR Alton, VA			
Dec 6	Puttering to Pinehurst Pinehurst, NC	Robert Mcisaac	919-880-8012.	Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com
Dec 12-13	BimmerWorld CCA Club Race School	Roebing Road	Mike Hinkley	Register on
	MotorsportReg.com			
Dec 12-14	BMW CCA Club Race Roebing Road	Mike Hinkley		Register on MotorsportReg.com

**BMW CCA Car Corral and Hospitality Tent**  
**Michelin GT Challenge at VIR**  
**August 22-24, 2025**

BMW Car Club of America National Capital Chapter

BMW Car Club of America Tarheel Chapter

BMW Performance Driving School

MICHELIN GT CHALLENGE VIR

**Take Some Hot Laps at VIR and Get A Chance to Win A One-Day Track Event!**

The gang from the BMW Performance Center will be wowing the crowd and blowing passengers' minds in the latest ///M cars from BMW - don't miss your chance to win a Hot Lap! They will also be giving away a One-Day Track Event to one lucky winner!

**Piles of Partner Prizes, Plus Two Chances to Win An HPDE!**

The BMW CCA Corral has the best prizes in our daily lunchtime raffle, with two of the top prizes being a gift certificate to an HPDE Weekend with the Tarheel Chapter or the National Capital Chapter (\$450+ value each).

**Reserved Infield Parking - Trackside Spectating**  
**Catered Lunch and Refreshments - Closed-Circuit TV Race Feed - Q&A Sessions With Teams - Parade Laps**

**Don't Miss Out - Buy Your BMW Corral Tickets Today at <https://virnow.com/events/>**

# Beach Bimmers 2026!

Cruising the Southern OBX: Lighthouses, Wild Horses and More



- What: A three-day tour of North Carolina's amazing Southern Outer Banks (SOBX) to explore Beaufort, The Shackleford Banks, Cape Lookout, Fort Macon and the delights of Bogue Banks. Salt air, seafood, historic sites and sand between our toes!
- When: Departure on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Return on Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>. Departing from the Harris Teeter, 67 Flowers Xrds Wy, Clayton, NC 27527 **at 10am. Coffee at 9:30pm.**
- Hotel this time will provide a base of operations from which we'll travel the area. The targeted hotel is the Atlantis Lodge, 123 Salter Path Road, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512. **Call (252-726-5168) to make your own reservations!** Rooms may be scarce, so the backup is the Alice Hotel, across the street at 118 Salter Path Rd, Pine Knoll Shores, NC (252-247-5118)
- Objective: Great drives, awesome sightseeing and some terrific seafood! Boat cruises around Beaufort, a visit to Cape Lookout and time with NC's famous wild horses!
- Contact Information: For details, connect with Rob McIsaac at Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com or 919-880-8012.
- Drive Registration: <https://ews.bmwcca.org/sign/01jvcbz6kwv6qfarz5cyfavdr2/waiver-select>

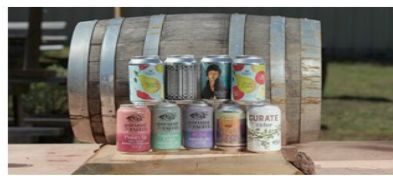


## Bimmers to Cedar Grove!

An Adventure to the Botanist & Barrel Wine Garden



- What: A chance to see something completely new! Botanist & Barrel is the South's only natural cidery — and first producer of Petillant Natural ciders — in the Southeastern United States, focused on spontaneous and wild cultures. Botanist & Barrel crafts real Southern ciders, fruited sours, and wines, by way of light-handed winemaking that intertwines old-world methods with modern sensibilities. Ciders are crafted with local, sustainable, and organic fruits, including blueberries, traditional Southern heirloom cider apples, and more, from their organic estate farm.
- When: Depart on Saturday, **September 27, 2025** at 10:00am. Come early for coffee and breakfast.
- Where: Departure from Leith BMW, 5603 Capital Blvd, Raleigh, NC 27616
- Objective: Terrific country drive to visit another gem hiding in plain sight. A lovely time touring to Orange Country. They offer local cheese and charcuterie boards, tinned fish, and other local snacks. Outside food is allowed, so pack a picnic or grab takeout and come hang out. More details can be found here: <https://www.botanistandbarrel.com/>
- Duration: Figure 6+ hours including driving.
- Contact Information: For details, connect with Rob McIsaac at Raleigh.BMWCCA.Activities@gmail.com or 919-880-8012.





## Flamingo Road

Spring is now running at full throttle in Central North Carolina, which made April 12 the perfect day to get out into the countryside to carve some apexes with Bimmers looking forward to their getting oil stirred. Vigorously. We managed to time this event perfectly too, since early spring in The Old North State is punctuated by a fine green haze which is injected into the air by the pine trees that grace the place as they get down to the serious business of enjoying the growing season. The haze, which is large format pollen, can waft across roads much like the snow drifts enjoyed in other locales. It isn't slippery, but it sure does get into everything! Pretty much what you'd expect to happen if you put a bar of Irish Spring soap into a food processor without a lid and hit puree. By today, helped along by recent rains, the air was clear.

And, although the sky was a steely gray that seemed to threaten precipitation, none ever came. That made the day even better since it was perfect for some serious nature photography.



Before we got to that, however, we had to meet up at the Farmhouse Café in Wendell for a great round of coffee and breakfast snacks. Then, promptly at 9am, we spun the Roundels into action to begin the journey to Scotland Neck, home of the Sylvan Heights Bird Sanctuary. By the time we were assembled, there were 15 BMW's and 30 willing participants.

### TARHEEL CHAPTER FOOTNOTES

Meeting us at the venue were six more people in four additional Bimmers, which brought the final count to 19 cars and 36 hungry participants. We only undershot our estimate for the restaurant by 50%, but more on that later.

The drive took us east on the Interstate toward the town of Nashville, then exited us into some stunningly pretty farm country which graces this part of the world. Lovely ribbons of black asphalt with almost no discernable traffic bisecting acres of fields that are also waking up to the next opportunity to support the local agricultural plans. In this area the cash crops include wheat, peanuts, cotton, beans, and corn. The only obvious fields at the moment are the wheat, which are rocketing skyward now in the warm sun and lengthening days. The Bimmer stream threaded beautifully through the scene, no doubt entertaining the locals as we temporarily slowed our progress to scoot through some towns, then back to cruising speed as quickly as possible on the other side, without bothering the local constabulary.

Finally, we arrived in the small town of Scotland Neck, population 2,059 according to Wikipedia. The town was first settled in 1722 by a colony of Scots Highlanders led by Lord Nairn. The name Scotland Neck first described the small communities that clustered around this original settlement. According to the UNC archives, Scotland Neck is the only town in North Carolina with parking in the middle of Main Street which we immediately stumbled on. Curious, indeed.



<http://www.tarheelbmwcca.org>

Finally, we found the bird sanctuary on the north side of town. The staff were waiting for us, offering an overview of the property and the chance to see a movie describing the facilities, before we headed out to scope out the aviaries. It was, in a word, brilliant. More than 300 species of bird grace the facility, from small and perky parakeets ... to gigantic and majestic African Eagles. In keeping with their personality profiles, the former swooped around us, landed on our heads, and ate food out of our hands. The latter sat sternly on their perches, wing to wing, keeping track of their kingdom. Not much question about their ability to dispatch corrective action in a hurry if circumstances should warrant it!



After several hours exploring the sanctuary and feeding the residents, it was time for us to head our own lunch event. In such a small town, we weren't necessarily expecting a top shelf experience. We were clearly wrong, however. For reasons no one could explain, there is a fine dining Italian restaurant on the Main Street in the area where one parks in the middle of the street. The sight of all those Bimmers arrayed in a row was majestic, to be sure. Inside the La Casetta, the environment was warm and inviting. They made their "event space" available to us, which allowed us to get all 36 of us into a single spot. The din from old friends, and new ones, sharing stories of adventures and experiences was delightful. The food was simply amazing. The service was excellent, despite our inability to provide a good estimate of participants!



All too soon, it was time to point the Roundels toward home. With no time pressure, we were able to cruise all the way back to the "barn" on delightful back roads which invited periodic use of the loud pedal. The mighty B58 under the bonnet of the X3M40 made quick work of the trip, which was itself delicious. The perfect end to a wonderful day. A great way for the dining club with the driving problem to experience a weekend date. Many more adventures to come!

*~ By Robert McIsaac*



## Bimmers Paying it Forward

It was a lovely day in North Carolina's Research Triangle Park region on April 19, which would have been an ideal time for a country drive to visit a unique place hiding in plain sight. Instead, however, we did something far more important, given that we had a chance to contribute time and talent to the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. This was the third time that we have had the good fortune of making this type of charitable contribution and once again it was a terrific opportunity to pay it forward in our own community. A special thanks to Kellie Bradley for organizing these efforts.

On this day, the Food Bank organized a bit of a competition with invitations going out to both the local BMW and Mercedes-Benz chapters, with the idea being we would see who could prepare more food to be shipped out to the needy members of communities across the eastern and central counties of the Old North State. The food we packed would be in distribution centers in 48 hours, helping address a significant challenge around "food security" that is a very real reality today.



The final count of car club participants was 21, with 16 representing the Roundel and the balance the Silver Star. It was all in good fun with the Merc folks

sharing their donuts with the BMW crowd, and we shared German car stories in return for our meal.

For today's adventure, we were packing sweet potatoes into 10-pound bags which make for easy use when they get to the homes across 34 of NC's counties. Our job was to sort out any defective spuds so that they could become recycled as compost, and the good ones sent for delivery. The work was a bit tedious, but we had great fun improving our workflows and finding ways to accelerate the broader effort. It was all a rousing success, with our combined efforts for everyone on the morning shift producing 20,000 pounds of the orange tuberous roots to ship. That translates to roughly 17k meals. Good work for a morning effort! The BMW crew accounted for some 3,800 pounds of the total, with the Merc team adding another 1,200. As much fun as it all was, there was also a somber element to the effort. The annual budget for the Food Bank in this part of the world is \$27m. Of that, \$6m was recently cut by the Federal Government. This money was used to pay local farmers to supply food to the bank. Without these funds, it has created real uncertainty for both the farmers and the people in need of food supplies.

After packaging the food, we had a chance to head over to a local microbrewery where they had conveniently arranged a Mexican themed food truck. After a full morning of work, the chance to enjoy a cold brew and some great chow. Not a sweet potato in sight of course, but the tacos, burritos, and other offerings were simply fantastic.

Our work completed, it was time to fire up the Bimmers and head for home. At least on this part of the adventure we really did have a chance to carve a few apexes. Many thanks to all for a job well done! Even better is the news that Kellie is already working on our next chance to contribute time to the Food Bank in Q3-25. The dining club with a driving problem has a good heart too ...

*~ By Robert McIsaac*

## Classic Culinary Experience in Raleigh

Once again, our quarterly gathering of the BMW faithful at the Farina Neighborhood Italian restaurant on May 20<sup>th</sup> was a brilliant affair. Two dozen of us gathered to enjoy kicking tires, telling stories, and enjoying some fine dining. The staff at Farina always does a great job and the newish owners have been particularly accommodating to our needs as a group. It is nice to have a place like this that we can call “home”. We moved these affairs to quarterly to give us a better chance to manage the logistics, and to open up some time for the “Dining Club with a Driving Problem” to be able to do charity work with the local food bank. All of this has worked out well and we plan to continue this model for scheduling into the future.



Of course, we need to give the nice staff at Farina a count on our planned participation each time we do this, and up to this point we have managed that via email. That isn't a particularly effective way of doing this now and so we've decided to move to using the BMWCCA scheduling tool that we also use for our driving waivers. Basically, this means that we will have a single method for signing up for all events in the future. A nice benefit of this is that the system provides a good audit trail of who has signed up in case someone forgets!

### TARHEEL CHAPTER FOOTNOTES

Beyond that, we also had a chance to talk about a series of upcoming events for the club. Fresh off our long weekend to visit the Southern Outer Banks, the big news is that we're going to do it again in 2026! The same weekend, in the same location. The registration for this is already set up and [can be accessed here](#).



In a similar vein, we had a terrific Vintage Bimmer / Beemer event earlier in May at the Bimmer Performance Center in Raleigh. We also plan to do this again in 2026 but are moving it to September to avoid conflicts with other events that generally crop up May. Next up for our club will be our annual visit to Durham for a Bulls baseball game! Once again, Jim Heavey has taken care of all the logistics, and we have great seats to watch both the magic on the diamond and the subsequent fireworks show. A wonderful way to enjoy Father's Day weekend. All too soon, it was time to wrap things up. It is always a little sad when the dinner is done, but a great consolation is that the trip home is another opportunity to stretch the legs on the F87 M2. Some things never get old and the loud pedal provides for miles of smiles, no matter how long or short the drive.

*~ By Robert McIsaac*





### Calling all BMW Club Cyclists.

Join us for a fun Bike ride this fall to benefit a great charity, the National MS Society.

The Tarheel Chapter is sponsoring a cycling team for the **Tour to Tanglewood**, 2 day bike ride this September. The ride will be on Saturday and Sunday September 20 and 21, 2025.

We guarantee you will have a great time with some BMW friends and will also feel great helping out a very worthy cause, the MS Society.

Use the following link to join the Tarheel Chapter Team or to make a donation:

<https://events.nationalmssociety.org/teams/TarheelBMW>

For more information and a discount code  
for registration contact:

Tom Tice

([teticem3@gmail.com](mailto:teticem3@gmail.com))

Fraser Dick

([fraserdick14@gmail.com](mailto:fraserdick14@gmail.com))



## Grabber Blau ist Wunderbar

After a Friday night that was punctuated by thunderstorms and epic amounts of rain, miraculously, May 3<sup>rd</sup> dawned as a warm and sunny affair in Central North Carolina. After almost a year of planning, the one thing we couldn't control was the weather, but Mother Nature chose to smile upon us as we set up for our second annual Vintage Bimmer and Beemer event in Raleigh.

By 7:30am the pit crew was onsite at the [Bimmer Performance Center](#), opening the shop and getting our gear set up. Dan Connor, owner of the BPC, has been a huge supporter of the BMWCCA over the years, and was gracious in supporting us having a joint event at the shop. It turns out that this was the last big event to be held at the old shop; by July they will be in new digs which are stunning. No confusion that the new place is anything other than a home for BMW's. The architect managed to incorporate a [Hofmeister kink](#) into the design which is stunning.



The shop was set up ahead of the event to feature a series of racing machines built by Dan and his able-bodied team. This included an E30 that has seen the engine bay filled with a 4.4-liter BMW V8, an E46

spec racer, and other beautiful Bimmers that were all ready to do battle on the twists and curves of our favorite local track, Virginia International Raceway.

Of course, a surprising number of the Bimmer faithful are fans of Beemers as well, and as if to demonstrate the theme commitment, one of the BMW Airheads club members had put their R100S on show, which also featured the shop's standard motif of Grabber Blue.

Why is this Dan's favorite color? It turns out that his father had a Mustang Mach 1 429CJ in this shade when he himself was ushered into this world and keeping the color alive is both close to what is on the state flag from Bavaria, and a link to his father. There's also something about this event which links to my dad, which I really appreciate. My connection to Bimmers happened when he brought home a lovely 2002 in 1971. Four years later, our first Beemer, an R90/6 made an appearance, and my own interest in gear wearing the roundel from Munich was cemented.

We arranged the day to allow for a co-mingling of the two and four-wheeled faithful when appropriate, but also to have separate tracks to run on where we could share information and insights specific to their favorite rides. Thanks to the efforts of the assembled team, the choreography came off brilliantly. A good thing too since we had 105 people register to take part throughout the day.

One of the shared experiences was a German food truck which was appropriately named [Harmon's Deutsche Kuchen](#). They were exceptional, delivering such delights as schnitzel and bratwurst and other culinary wonders from Deutschland. The biggest challenge turned out to be how to get over to the truck and not miss the other things that were happening on the property.

The local contingent of M-car owners was sharing experiences around things like a Z4M Coupe, some fantastic M5's, and a selection of M3's from across the generations. E46's are always a personal favorite, but the V8 powered E92's are fearsome to listen to. An event like this wouldn't be complete of course without an F87 M2 and a lovely example in Long Beach blue made an appearance. So many blues, so little time, it seemed.



Meanwhile, the Airheads group had appeared with their signature tent and sofas, allowing for the Beemer faithful to relax in an appropriate form of repose, with cool beverages and hot coffee making the best lubrication of all for detailed discussions on BMW's that left the factory in (West) Berlin as many as 55 years ago. The 1970 R75/5 was an amazing machine when it arrived to dramatically change the view of BMW's as stodgy machines that were reliable and reliably slow. Much like the 2002's of that same era, the old quote from [David E. Davis](#) applied here as well ... these were machines where the top speeds doubled as their cruising speeds. They could roll along flat out until the petrol tank ran dry.

As we moved from coffee and donuts, the first tech session was hosted by Dan Connor focused on

Bimmers. Great discussion on the work the shop does to support local racing efforts, the pivot they have made over the years to do more work on current Bimmers, and the effort they put forward to make sure they can support the vintage community. That includes everything from 1602/2002 machines, E21's, E30's, E34's ... pretty much an alphabet soup of the machines that have come from Bavaria over the years. In fact, they recently had someone bring a 1957 Isetta for some work. This led to a great discussion about how BMW built a series of cars in that era which clearly had four wheels but used the same air-cooled engines that graced Beemers. For a company whose survival was in question in the late 50's, every bit of extra revenue and margin was critical.



Dan fielded an array of questions on proper maintenance for Bimmers, including the crucial notion of changing oil in modern machines more frequently than the owner's manual might suggest. The combination of higher operating temperatures and greater internal pressures, with engines that have ever tighter tolerances, making the oil an absolutely critical maintenance element for longevity. I know that we follow this advice carefully, changing the engine lubricant every 5k miles on our 2023 X3M40.



Next up we flipped into a terrific presentation from Mike McChargue on the proper care and maintenance for the finishes of Bimmers and Beemers alike. Paint is something that, without proper care, will naturally deteriorate from all the elements that Mother Nature throws at it. The cleaning and “feeding” of the paint is crucial to keeping the BMW’s looking their best, irrespective of paint generation. Mike demonstrated the tools he uses but also shared insights on the various potions he has landed on as being best for both the exterior and the interior. Of course, on Beemers, there’s no such thing as an “interior” per se, but the tools of the craft remain the same. Mike showcased our R100RS, which has plenty of patina after 46 years on the road, as something where his talent has yielded amazing results. The proof is in the pictures.



After a break for some more schnitzel, we swung over to the Beemer world. Tony Bohannon and Ted Holtaway led a spirited discussion on all things airhead. While BMW’s auto division was on solid footing by the end of the 1960’s, the same was not true for the motorbikes. The company made a significant investment to start the new decade, and the West German government gave them a substantial tax incentive to build a new factory in West Berlin.

When these airheads hit the market, they were enough to save the division for another day. By 1974, the first of the [Hans Muth](#) designed machines had hit the market and catapulted BMW to a healthy position as a company. His machines, heavily modified for racing, went on to win the 1976 AMA Superbike Series, and the divisions future was secured.

The discussion again focused on an array of maintenance items, including the criticality of staying on top of steering head bearings, focusing on proper routine maintenance, and grappling with the anomalies of equipment that has been on the road for half a century. Both of our guest speakers focused on the value of doing maintenance work both right, and completely, and as Tony noted ... “we are using them now, but also caretaking them for another generation to use”. What a great perspective on vintage BMW’s, irrespective of how many wheels they are turning at any given moment in time.

The day was one that was in the making for almost a year. Once it arrived, it flew past faster than an M1 or R90S at full chat on the back straight at Nürburgring. It was a great experience for all who had a chance to be there, and we’re already looking forward to a three-peat in 2026. We hope to have plenty of Beemers and Bimmers, and absolutely no Bummers, on hand. Oddly enough, the ride to the shop on my trusty RS was a cool 30 miles. The ride home was three times that long. The ultimate driving and riding machines are just that. They were built to be used and will happily do so for as long as we are willing to properly care for them. Which was the point of the event in the first place!

Long may they run ...

*~ By Robert McIsaac*



# LOCAL SCENE

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## ASHEVILLE AREA DINNER

Date: Last Tuesday each month Time: 6:30pm

Where: Different Location Each Month

All BMW marques are welcome (cars, motorcycles, Mini, Rolls, etc.).

For more information, contact Chris Joyner at [ashevilletarheelbmwcca@fastmail.com](mailto:ashevilletarheelbmwcca@fastmail.com).

## CAPE FEAR AREA

NONE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME

## CHARLOTTE AREA I DINNER

Date: 3rd Thursday each month Time: 7 p.m.

Where: Waldhorn Restaurant

12101 Lancaster Hwy (Old Hwy 521)

Pineville, NC (Near Carolina Place Mall)

(704) 540-7047

We're still hanging out at Waldhorn Restaurant on the third Thursday of each month. Contact Chris Webber at (704) 906-8876 or e-mail at [christopher.b.webber@gmail.com](mailto:christopher.b.webber@gmail.com) to RSVP. Please join us (great German food and beer). See you there!

## CHARLOTTE AREA II DINNER

Date: 1st Thursday each month

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Changes each month

Please email Kyle Lombardi at [clt2thbmwcca@gmail.com](mailto:clt2thbmwcca@gmail.com) or Taylor Ward at [tward430@yahoo.com](mailto:tward430@yahoo.com) for more information.

## DOWNEAST AREA DINNER

NONE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME

## HURRICANE AREA DINNER

NONE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME

## NORTHERN MOUNTAIN AREA DINNER

Date: 2nd Wednesday each month Time: 6:30 p.m.

Where: Basil's Restaurant. (828) 386-4066

246 Wilson Dr Boone, NC 28607

Cost: Only what you eat and drink. Contact John Cochrane ([jgcochrane1968@gmail.com](mailto:jgcochrane1968@gmail.com)) or Mike Langley ([michaelrlangley@aol.com](mailto:michaelrlangley@aol.com)) A fun gathering of BMW friends for discussion of all things car related.

## ROANOKE AREA DINNER

Date: 2nd Tuesday each month Time: 6:00p.m.

Where: To be announced each month by email.

For more information, contact Scott Donaldson at [roanoke.tarheel.bmwcca@gmail.com](mailto:roanoke.tarheel.bmwcca@gmail.com).

## SANDHILLS AREA DINNER

NONE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME

## TRIAD AREA WEST DINNER (Winston-Salem)

Date: 2nd Tuesday each month

Time: 6:00 p.m. Drinks, 7:00 p.m. Dinner

Where: Sixty Six Grill and Taphouse

3440 Frontis Street Winston-Salem 27103

Please contact Marc Schatell for more information at [marc@tarheelbmwcca.org](mailto:marc@tarheelbmwcca.org)

## TRIAD AREA EAST DINNER (Greensboro)

Date: 1st Tuesday each month

Time: 6:30 p.m. Drinks, Dinner

Where: Elizabeth's Pizza (the covered patio)

3927 battleground Avenue Greensboro, NC 27410

Please contact Fraser Dick for more information at [fraserdick14@gmail.com](mailto:fraserdick14@gmail.com)

## TRIANGLE AREA DINNER (RALEIGH)

Date: 3rd Tuesday of middle month of each quarter (Feb, May, Aug, Nov)

Time: The fun starts at 6:00 p.m.

Where: Driftwood Cantina

Please contact Robert McIsaac for more information at [triangle.bmwcca.activities@gmail.com](mailto:triangle.bmwcca.activities@gmail.com)

## TRIANGLE AREA DINNER (CHAPEL HILL)

NONE SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME

# Footnotes classifieds...

Ads are free to members in good standing of the BMW CCA. Non-members can also place advertisements here for \$5.00 per month. Please enclose all necessary information with your advertisement.

Unless you tell us otherwise, your ad will appear here for three (3) consecutive issues.

**Classified advertisements can be emailed to the Editor's attention  
at: [newsletter@tarheelbmwcca.org](mailto:newsletter@tarheelbmwcca.org)**

**2022 M240i.** Factory warranty/roadside protection until Nov 2025. 409 HP, 0-60 in 3.6 secs. Perfect condition. Never tracked. Premium options. Always covered in storage. No dents, scrapes, scratches, and lightly driven. I will send a copy of window sticker, additional details and pictures upon request. Location Saluda, NC, \$47.9K Steve Garrett, [s.garrett@comcast.net](mailto:s.garrett@comcast.net), 772-214-6785

## MISCELLANEOUS:

### Tarheel Chapter BMW CCA Forum

Join us online: Some time ago, the listserv was replaced by a bulletin board forum. You can view it here:

<https://www.bmwcca.org/forum/index.php>

## WANTED:

### Your photos and stories.

Got a tale to tell about your Bimmer, photos you want to share with your fellow

**Footnotes** readers, or just a suggestion?

Email your submissions to

[newsletter@tarheelbmwcca.org](mailto:newsletter@tarheelbmwcca.org).

Come on, you can do it... We would love to hear from you!

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS:

### The 02 Group

A special interest group for 2002 owners in NC. For more information about the group and how to join, check out our website: [www.the02group.org](http://www.the02group.org)

### The Z-Series Car Club of America (ZSCCA)

A national special interest group of BMWCCA dedicated to the enjoyment of all Z-Series BMW's. Several local groups are active in VA and NC. Find us on Facebook, or at [zscca.org](http://zscca.org)

# END GAME

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Photo by Richard Daugherty



*Preparing the Fort Macon cannons for firing!*



TARHEEL CHAPTER  
BMW CCA, Inc.  
www.tarheelbmwcca.org  
1 Floretta Place  
PO Box 90201  
Raleigh, NC 27675

## 2025 HPDS Schedule

Here's the (TENTATIVE) 2025 Tarheel BMW CCA HPDS Schedule:  
(Contracts not yet signed, but we think these dates are solid.)

**April 18-20 VIR Full Course**  
**June 20-22 VIR North Course**  
**October 3-5 VIR Full Course**

Registration will open on a Monday evening @8pm, about 9-10 weeks prior to each event.

Feb 10 Registration open for April event.  
April 21 Registration open for June event.  
July 28 Registration open for October event.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW. THE PRE-REG ANNOUNCEMENT MIGHT GO TO SPAM...**