

BMW Car Club
of America
Tejas Chapter



TEJAS TRAX

Newsletter for the Tejas Chapter, BMW CCA



2011 6-Series Convertible

Photo from BMW Press Club

February 2011

BMW Car Club
of America



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Visit the Tejas Chapter Web Site at <http://www.tejaschapter.org/tejas.html>

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From The President

On another year ahead

Here we are at the beginning of another year - one that I hope will be a great year for the Tejas Chapter.

We have already started the year with a bang with the Post-Holiday Party that you can read about in this issue. The attendance was excellent and the fun was unsurpassed for all who attended. Susan and Don Yule did a marvelous job in both the planning and the execution of this event. On top of that, Don was the greatest emcee ever and had me, for one, in stitches throughout the entire gift exchange part of the evening. Most people pay good money for that kind of entertainment and we got it for free. Thanks, Don!!!

In the next two months we will have a couple of events that are new and different for the Tejas Chapter. While we have had a tech event on numerous occasions at BMW of Austin, the event this month will be different. Members will not be

working on their own cars with the assistance of the technicians this year. Instead, the venue will be made up of Question & Answer sessions with the technicians, Car Care Clinics, a tour of the BMW of Austin facilities, and inspections of your BMW. The inspections that they will conduct will be a 60-point inspection like they give their Certified Pre-Owned (CPO) vehicles before certifying them. If you have your BMW inspected, the inspection will count toward the event in March.

Speaking of the event in March, this will be a first for the Tejas Chapter. We will have a Driver Education (DE) event at Harris Hill Road track in San Marcos. It is important to remember that this event is not a race, but an instruction experience. BMW CCA has very stringent rules for these events and we will adhere to all of them, including no convertibles. In this issue, you will see the first part of a 2-part article on how to prepare and be ready for the DE.

This sounds like a great start to what I trust will be another memorable year.

Until next time

Glenn McConnell

Welcome New Members

Austin

*Richard Faulk
Mark Gentzel
Thomas Mangold
Lance Ransom
Charles Roesscein
Janis Roesscein
Evan Sarantakes*

BMW Car Club
of America
Tejas Chapter



San Antonio

*Robert Bair
Chet Nastala*

Round Rock

*Brandi Murphy
Bryan Murphy
Shawn Murphy*

Killeen

Anthony Joseph

Boerne

Tom Marchisa

San Marcos

Marvin Merriweather

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(<http://www.bmwofaustin.com/>) today to learn about the latest BMW of
Austin special offers, schedule test-drive appointments, discuss details on any
vehicle/trade-in or to research the finance/lease options on your next BMW.

BMW of Austin Tech Session

Saturday, February 19,
2011

8:00am - 2:00pm

BMW of Austin will be hosting the 2011 Tech Session with fun for all. This year's event will be different from the ones that they have done in the past.

The day will start with vehicle inspections (similar to the inspection that they give to CPO cars), and throughout the day will feature Car-Care Clinics, dealership tours, and an overview of the latest Technologies BMW of Austin is using to keep your vehicle software up to date.

- Bring your family for a day of fun for everyone. There will be many activities for the children to enjoy as well.
- Lunch will be provided by BMW of Austin, and many prizes will be given away.
- This is a great opportunity to get to know the Technicians that work on the cars, the Service Managers, and all the professional staff at BMW of Austin that take pride in taking care of your BMW.
- Take this opportunity to view the new cars that BMW of Austin have in stock, or ask about their European delivery.



Vehicles for inspection will be limited, so sign up today to schedule one of these inspections. And if you plan on participating in March's Harris 2 Hill Track event, this inspection will be accepted as your pre-track required inspection.

Looking forward to seeing everyone out at this event to show our appreciation to BMW of Austin for the AWESOME job they are doing in Sales, Service, and Customer Service that they provide each and every one of us.

**RSVP by filling out the RSVP form on the website at
<http://www.tejaschapter.org/tejas.html>**



The Teen Street Survival Program is supported and organized by the BMWCCA to provide defensive driving techniques and actual experience for teenagers with a driving permit or license.

The Tejas Chapter would like to have its 1st event. A small team of Tejas Chapter members had been putting the plans together for a 2010 event, but have run into a roadblock, “the location.” The location has to be a large parking lot with minimal obstructions, such as light poles. Several locations have been contacted with no success. Due to this roadblock, the new target to hold an event will be in 2011.

Please let the Driving Events Coordinator, Linda Cavazos at racegirl330@yahoo.com, if you have a contact for a location in the Central Texas area.

Free BMW tech help.

Have a technical question about your BMW or MINI? Our free tech blog – **blog.BavAuto.com** – has a searchable database containing hundreds of tech Q&As, do-it-yourself articles and videos. Just one more way Bavarian Autosport saves you money.



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Check it out at blog.BavAuto.com...

Captivating from the outside, magnificent from the inside. The new BMW 6 Series Convertible

Excerpt from BMW Press Kit

Words such as “breathtaking”, “irresistible” and “flawless” pepper the history of BMW convertibles. And now the brand has added a new chapter to a tradition of open-top cars that stretches back decades. The new BMW 6 Series Convertible fulfills the wishes of discerning automotive aesthetes with its finely honed sense for sporty driving pleasure, groundbreaking luxury and sparkling looks. In the exclusive environs of the premium convertible market, the 2+2-seater makes a convincing case for itself with the most efficient engines, most advanced chassis technology and most innovative comfort, infotainment and safety features in its segment.

A sweeping bonnet, set-back passen-

ger compartment, long wheelbase and flat waistline embody the hallmark proportions of a BMW convertible. The new BMW 6 Series Convertible combines these features with a classic soft-top roof in customary “fin” design. Powerfully contoured surfaces and the surging dynamism of its lines promise assured driving properties. The luxurious ambience of the interior is highlighted by the driver-oriented cockpit set-up and wraps the front passenger and rear passengers in a feeling of exclusive security. Nowhere is the high-class functionality of the interior underlined more prominently than in the redesigned freestanding Control Display of the standard-fitted iDrive control system.

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible is available with two engine variants from launch. The eight-cylinder powerplant in the BMW 650i Convertible produces 300 kW/407 hp, while an exclusive variant of the six-cylinder in-

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BMW 6 Series Convertible

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line engine with BMW TwinPower Turbo, direct injection and VALVETRONIC –generating 235 kW/ 320 hp – has been developed for the BMW 640i Convertible. Both engines team up as standard with an eight-speed Sports automatic gearbox. Standard-fitted BMW EfficientDynamics features include the Auto Start-Stop function in the BMW 640i Convertible.

Chassis technology unmatched in its segment works in tandem with the cutting-edge engines to ensure even greater dynamic capability and a similarly discernible improvement in ride comfort compared to its predecessor. The new BMW 6 Series Convertible comes as standard with Drive Dynamic Control, which allows drivers to choose their own suspension settings, while the Adaptive Drive system is available as an option with electrically controlled dampers and roll stabilisation. In addition to the standard-fitted electro-mechanical power steering, another unique feature in this segment is the optional Integral Active Steering system.

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible also underlines its progressive character with numerous BMW ConnectedDrive features that none of its rivals can match. The selection of optional driver assistance systems includes a rear-view camera, Surround View, BMW Night Vision with pedestrian recognition and BMW Parking Assistant. The new BMW 6 Series Convertible is the only car in its segment to be available with a Head-Up Display. Making its debut in the new soft top, the latest generation of the system uses a broader palette of colours to create an even more detailed and sharper image.

The design: athletic elegance, natural sportiness and sparkling looks.

The luxurious yet dynamic driving experience of the new BMW 6 Series Convertible is reflected in the athletic elegance and sense-tingling sportiness of its exterior design. A long, sweeping bonnet, set-back passenger compartment, long wheelbase and flat waistline combine to create the proportions typical of a BMW convertible. The precise interplay of eye-catching lines and meticulously sculpted surfaces help to give the new BMW 6 Series Convertible its arresting looks.

Like the lines projecting out from the nose of the car and continuing along its full length, the harmoniously curved surfaces of the body take their cue from the movement of waves sent out by the bow of a motor boat piercing the water. Continuing the theme, the waistline surface which leads the body into the interior mimics the character of a boat deck.

The interior: seats for four – and each one made to measure.

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible is designed to be a 2+2-seater. Its interior offers individually tailored seats for the driver, front passenger and rear passengers. High-quality materials, carefully coordinated colours and, once again, meticulously formed surfaces combine to produce an ambience defined by luxury, sweeping dynamism and stylish functionality. A hallmark BMW element of the interior design is the driver-oriented cockpit layout. The central section of the instrument panel, containing the iDrive system's Control Display, the central air vents and the controls for the audio system and air conditioning, are all angled slightly towards the driver. Added to which, the gearshift lever and

the buttons for the parking brake, roof operation and Drive Dynamic Control are located on a surface that opens out towards the driver and is set lower than the front passenger side of the centre console.

The front passenger area is bordered by a surface curving elegantly from the armrest over the side edge of the centre console, upwards and outwards into the instrument panel and then horizontally into the door trim. This provides a harmonious surround for the front passenger area, creating a feeling of exclusive security. The contour of the rear waistline surface, which extends slightly into the interior between the head restraints, highlights the individual seat layout of the rear.

Premiere: freestanding Control Display with flatscreen design.

The black-panel instrument cluster of the new BMW 6 Series Convertible combines the traditional sports car circular instruments with state-of-the-art display technology. The navigation system, telephone and entertainment functions are

operated using the standard-fitted iDrive control system, whose Control Display boasts an innovative design. The on-board monitor takes the form of a freestanding display for the first time in the new BMW 6 Series Convertible. The standard 7-inch screen can be upgraded to 10.2 inches by ordering the optional Navigation system Professional, and the larger screen has a high-quality galvanised chrome surround. The minimal depth of the display gives it the character of a flatscreen unit. The new arrangement of the Control Display – which now reaches further into the passenger compartment – also influences the architecture of the instrument panel, which rises up steeply in front of the driver and front passenger in the style of a powerboat cockpit

This impression is further enhanced by the structure of the door trim panels. Their surfaces have a powerfully taut look and, like the black waistline surface, pull in and rise up to create a smooth transition into the instrument panel, giving the interior the effect of

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BMW 6 Series Convertible

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wrapping around the driver and front passenger.

Majestic power: eight- and six-cylinder engines with BMW TwinPower Turbo.

Instantaneous power development and majestic torque are the stand-out features of the two engines available for the new BMW 6 Series Convertible from launch. The V8 powerplant and six-cylinder in-line unit both have BMW TwinPower Turbo technology and direct injection, and combine their sporting character with outstanding smoothness and exceptional efficiency.

The 4.4-litre eight-cylinder engine in the new BMW 650i Convertible develops a maximum 300 kW/407 hp between 5,500 and 6,400 rpm, and puts its peak torque of 600 Newton metres (443 lb-ft) on tap between 1,750 and 4,500 rpm. This unique engine, whose turbochargers are positioned in the V-shaped area between the cylinder banks, produces an instantaneous and sustained wave of power, making it a feast for the enthusiast driver. The new BMW 650i Convertible completes the sprint from 0 to 100 km/h (62 mph) in 5.0 seconds, and the engine electronics eventually step in to halt acceleration at 250 km/h (155 mph). This range-topping engine also boasts extraordinary efficiency for a model in its output class, as average fuel consumption of 10.7 litres per 100 kilometres in the EU test cycle (26.4 mpg imp) and CO₂ emissions of 249 grams per kilometre clearly show.

The six-cylinder in-line engine under the bonnet of the new BMW 640i Convertible complements its BMW TwinPower Turbo technology and petrol direct injection with VALVETRONIC

fully variable valve control. All of which enables the 3.0-litre unit to develop a maximum 235 kW/320 hp at 5,800 rpm and maximum torque of 450 Newton metres (332 lb-ft) between 1,300 and 4,500 rpm. This engine propels the BMW 640i Convertible from 0 to 100 km/h (62 mph) in 5.7 seconds and on to an electronically limited top speed of 250 km/h (155 mph). Its average fuel economy in the EU test cycle comes in at 7.9 litres per 100 kilometres (35.8 mpg imp), while CO₂ emissions are 185 grams per kilometre.

Advanced chassis technology including Electric Power Steering; Integral Active Steering available as an option.

Cutting-edge chassis technology gives the new BMW 6 Series Convertible the tools it needs to lay on sporty handling characteristics and exceptional comfort. Both the double wishbone front axle and the integral rear axle are made predominantly from aluminium. The chassis set-up is geared to the requirements of drivers with sporting intentions, although the dampers also respond sensitively to bumps in the road surface under high lateral acceleration. The optional Adaptive Drive system, which includes Dynamic Damper Control and the Dynamic Drive active roll stabilisation system, offers the driver even more precise responses. The electronically controlled dampers adapt to both the nature of the road surface and the driver's style to prevent unwanted movements in the car body. The roll stabilisation system reduces factors such as body sway in fast-driven corners and sudden direction changes.

Electric Power Steering with Servotronic serves up the familiar BMW recipe of precision, comfort and efficiency, and is unique in the BMW 6 Series

Convertible's segment. Added to which, the new BMW 6 Series Convertible is the first car in its class that can be ordered – as an option – with Integral Active Steering. This system combines the Active Steering system for the front axle already available for the predecessor model with a steering rear axle, allowing the steering angle and power assistance to be controlled at both the front and the rear with the help of electric motors. Precisely harmonised wheel turns pave the way for extraordinary agility in dynamic driving situations. And Integral Active Steering also displays an impressively deft touch around twisty mountain passes and in city traffic.

The BMW 6 Series Convertible: exclusive driving pleasure and a unique heritage.

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible sees the world's most successful manufacturer of premium cars building on an unparalleled tradition. The

allure of exclusive driving pleasure in open-top BMW sports cars continues to hold a magnetic attraction after more than 70 years. The extraordinary history of BMW convertibles stretches from the legendary BMW 328 – which provided the basis for the winning car in the 1940 Mille Miglia – via the highly coveted BMW 507 of the 1950s, to the dynamic and groundbreaking predecessor to the new BMW 6 Series Convertible.

The new BMW 6 Series Convertible is built at the BMW plant in Dingolfing, Germany. Also rolling off the assembly line at the BMW Group's largest production plant are the BMW 7 Series and BMW 5 Series models. The flexible and efficient processes at the plant combine state-of-the-art production technology with a standard of quality defined by meticulous craftsmanship in the manufacture of premium cars configured to customer requirements.



Post Holiday Party 2011

by Susan Yule

Wow, what a way to start the New Year, 2011, with our BMW family and friends. I am not sure how it happened; I do believe at last year's holiday party it was asked, "When will the Yule's step up to the plate and plan an event". Well, that got Don and I thinking, we could plan 2011's Post Holiday party. We wouldn't have to lead a drive, because as most of you all know that we are usually driving the "whip".

Now, we have been to three Holiday parties. Actually our first event as BMW members was a BMW Post Holiday Party at Red's Steakhouse in San Marcos. We didn't know what to expect, but we were welcomed with open arms from everyone in the group.

So, as 2010 progressed Don and I agreed what better place to host a Holiday Party than at the Saltgrass Restaurant in San Marcos. We talked about the location, and what restaurant could accommodate the size of our group. We didn't actually know how many people would attend. One of our primary concerns was the cost of the meal and making sure that we would have enough servers to accommodate the amount of guests that would attend.

Don and I both worked with the Saltgrass staff planning this event. Jason Byrd, the Manager, was our first point of contact. Securing the banquet room was not a problem, seeing that we were requesting January 22nd 2011 as our date to put us on the books. Next was deciding what the menu choices would be. Joseph Smith, also



Texas World Speedway 2011 Driving Events

TWS PERFORMANCE DRIVING SCHOOL	OPEN TRACK DAY EVENTS	TEST & TUNE EVENTS
January 15-16 February 19-20 June 25-26 July 30-31	August 27-28 September 24-25 November 19-20 December 10-11	March 3 - Open to SCCA Drivers March 17 - Open to Blue Solo & Advanced Drivers April 29 - Open to NASA & Yellow Drivers May 27 - Open to SCCA Drivers July 22 - Blue Solo and Advanced Sept 2 - Blue Solo and Advanced Nov 11 - SCCA Drivers Nov 25 - NASA & Yellow Drivers
-Open to all driving levels -Each day provides four 25 minute sessions on track	January 14 February 4 March 11 March 25 April 15 May 6 June 10 December 2	June 24 July 15 July 22 August 26 September 16 October 28 November 18
\$210 for one day PDS \$295 for two days (weekend) \$25 garages/day	-Open to Blue Solo & Advanced Drivers -4 Hours of Open Track -See website for more details	\$215 for Test & Tune Events \$25 for garages
	\$150 for Open Track Day Events (includes garages)	

www.TexasWorldSpeedway.com

a Manager, brought us three set menus to choose from. We wanted to make sure that there would be enough variety for every to choose from. Plus making sure that the price would fit everyone's budgets after spending money throughout the holiday season.

When planning this event, we wanted to make sure that everyone would have a great time. Everyone always looks forward to the gifts that are donated by our BMW Tejas Chapter sponsors, from Austin and San Antonio as well as RhineWest BMW Service from SanAntonio, and two of our very own BMW members, Herb Carey and Herb Looney.



As you all know, we had an AWESOME turnout! Actually 61 people were signed up for this event, but I do believe we had more than that attend. The preparations started early for us, Herb and I started setting up the sponsors tables with their gifts and

detailed labels along with their corresponding bags for everyone's tickets. Alan and Sri brought the projector and CD with event pictures from throughout 2010. Everyone should have received a copy of this CD to take home. Sandy, Brenda and Glenn prepared the table with everyone's name badges and tickets. Don brought his own PA system for us to use making sure that everyone would be able to hear during the presentation of awards as well as letting everyone know what to expect next.

As everyone starting arriving around 6:00pm, that is when the fun began. Once everyone received their name badges and tickets, seats were secured, hugs were exchanged with friends, drink orders were placed, and everyone started to gather at the sponsors table looking to see what they wanted to win with their tickets. We had over 20 items to choose from. We had a variety of shirts, sweaters, key chains, model cars, CD cases, hats, mugs, car care products, a book, Star Bucks gift card and mug, wooden



wine box with glasses, as well as everyone's favorite, the BMW wooden ice chest with Shiner Bock Beer included.

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**Post-Holiday
January**
Many thanks to D
Many more great photos are av





Party 2011
22, 2011
on & Susan Yule
available on the chapter website



Post Holiday Party 2011

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Around 6:30pm everyone was asked to take their seats so the party could continue. Glenn and Sandy presented the awards for the



Honorable Mentions, Rookies and the Top 10 winners for the year. Congratulations to all of the winners. The winners received plaques as well as a check depending on what place they came in.

The servers from Saltgrass had already taken everyone's order for dinner and salads began arriving. The menu consisted of a non-alcoholic beverage, salad, an entrée and a side for \$ 20.00. People could choose from steak and shrimp, Pork Chops, Grilled Salmon or Chicken and Shrimp. Don and I provided dessert as our gift to everyone. While everyone was eating their salads we started raffling off the gifts from our sponsors.

The highlight of the evening was when the white elephant gift exchange began. Don was the emcee for this part of the event, since he is used to speaking in front of people for a living, this came very naturally to him. There were so many great gifts this year for the exchange. As people were opening their gifts others were waiting



and watching, looking to see what they could steal. It was downright and dirty, with the far corner table. The car dusters were flying like hot cakes. This item changed hands before we knew it several times. If you blinked you missed all of the action. People had lots to choose from. There were books, wine, car care products, model cars and even a blue snuggly, which Don stole from Sandy and donated to Harris, who then gave it back to Sandy



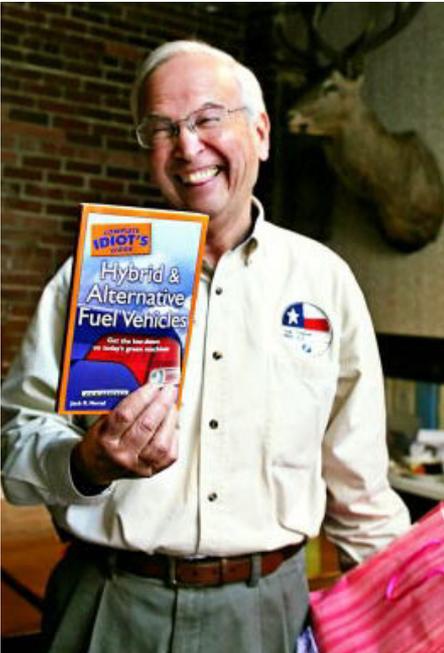
at the end of the night. There were some special gifts that seemed to continue to show up at the gift exchange yearly, that being the actual White Elephant. Each year this is signed by the person who received it the year before. How long will it take

for the white elephant to be covered with signatures? One gift that was

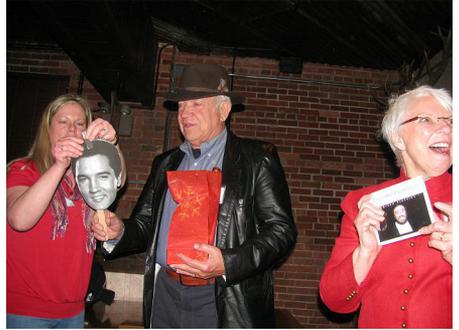


MIA for this exchange was the very large Diamond Ring, hint hint, maybe it will resurface next year. Who could forget the special flaming seat covers that Josh won, or the special commentary that Don provided throughout the evening.

Once the white elephant gift exchange was done, some of us were wondering who received the worst gift. Herb won the worst gift which he



was able to be exchange for a better gift, another book. We had 2 special gifts that we provided at the end of the evening. Everyone's tickets went into the bowl and they were eligible for the Almond wine. The final gift of the evening went to the person that had a picture of Elvis under their chair. They



won a bottle of wine, salami, cheese and a Pavarotti CD.

Thank you to everyone who came to celebrate a wonderful start to the New Year, to all of our sponsors who donated gifts and to my wonderful husband who volunteered us for this event. A special thank you goes out to the Salt Grass restaurant and the wonderful service that we received from Troy, Brinna, Kyle, Josh and John!



By the way, no marriage counseling was needed. As to whether or not we will coordinate next year's Holiday party, Yule never know. ☺

**Calendar of Tejas Chapter
and Related Events**



2011

Date	Event	Meet Location
February 19, 2011	BMW of Austin Tech Session See page 5	Austin
March 19, 2011	Drivers Education (DE) event Harris Hill Road Track	San Marcos
April 2011	Annual Bluebonnet Drive	TBD
May 2011	Railway Event	TBD
June 2011	BMW Arts Tour	TBD
July 2011	TBD	TBD
August 2011	TBD	TBD
September 2011	TBD	TBD
October 2011	Annual Utopia Weekend	Kerrville
November 2011	TBD	TBD
April 2011	Annual Charity Event	San Antonio

<http://www.tejaschapter.org> for the most up-to-date information about the TejasChapter.



What to Expect? Part 1

The following article is about what to expect at your first Drivers School in preparation for the event in March. Many thanks to the author, Dave Nichols of the Tarheel BMW CCA Chapter, for providing this overview.

My first drivers school is coming up, what should I expect?

What To Bring

Most serious students at drivers schools have learned several important lessons:

1. You can have lots of fun just being at the track.
2. You'll have even more fun with the right equipment.
3. SOMEONE at the track is bound to have the right tool or part for virtually any problem. Get to know as many people as possible. Be friendly. Say thank you, and you'll be surprised at how helpful people can be.
4. The amount of stuff you want to take to the track will expand to fill the available space.

Here is a brief list of essentials for the track:

Extra motor oil (at least two quarts), Window cleaner, Paper towels, Hand cleaner, Hat, Helmet (confirm that your helmet meets or exceeds the minimum requirements), Sunscreen, Ground sheet to keep the sand and dirt out of the other stuff, Registration/tech sheets, Cover sheet, Lawn chair, Tire gauge, Pen/paper, Watch or clock, Garbage bags (helps keep the small stuff together), Extra T-shirt (you'll probably get sweaty), Extra long sleeved shirt (some schools require them), Cooler stocked with lots of water and/or Gatorade plus fruit and snacking veggies

(Absolutely NO ALCOHOL of any kind will be consumed by ANYONE during run sessions, but feel free to have a cold one after the last session IF you won't be driving home).

Before the First Session

There are several keys to having a great first school. First and foremost is GET THERE EARLY! Absolutely nothing is more unnerving and creates more anxiety in first timers than being late, missing a drivers meeting and starting the day off wrong. Plus if you're early, you're less likely to make mistakes in your paperwork, cleaning out the car or missing a tech inspection.

You'll begin the day with a group meeting with the classroom instructor and the chief instructor. They will go over the rules of the track, what the flags mean, how to pass properly and about a dozen other things you'll need to know to have a safe enjoyable weekend. You'll hear it about a kajillion times throughout the course of the weekend, so let's get the first order of business out of the way:

THIS IS NOT A RACING SCHOOL!

If you're coming to a school to prove you're the next Jeff Gordon, impress your friends with your courage and skill, or see if you can get your moneys worth out of all those expensive car modifications, here is rule #1:

FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE RULES AND/OR LISTEN TO YOUR INSTRUCTOR WILL MAKE IT NECESSARY FOR THE CLUB TO REFUND YOUR MONEY AND ASK YOU TO LEAVE. IF YOUR ATTITUDE IS REALLY BAD, THE REFUND MAY BE OPTIONAL.

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What to Expect? Part 1

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Please don't embarrass the folks running the school by making them embarrass you. Everyone is there to enjoy the cars, have some fun, meet great people and enjoy a safe learning experience. About 99% of the people who come to these events are the greatest people/drivers on the road. Keep in mind that your instructor isn't being paid. They are just trying to impart some knowledge and live to do it again.

The first priority is to clean out the car. EVERY loose object must be removed from the trunk and passengers compartment. The most important area to check is UNDER THE FRONT SEAT. Objects tend to gravitate to this area and you won't notice them until you get on the binders really hard. Invariably they roll or slide under your feet. Going into a braking zone is not the place to have something jam under the pedals. Any item that is not attached needs to be removed. Clean out the glove box, rear package shelf, and console. All floor mats should be removed to keep them from sliding around.

After you have the car clean, your instructor or the tech crew will perform a tech inspection to check everything including your helmet. They should check the trunk, under the hood and the passenger compartment to make sure the battery is secure, all loose objects are removed, and there are no fluid leaks. They will also check the Snell sticker on the inside of your helmet.

Next is tire pressure. Due to the nature of this kind of driving, you'll need to add some air. About 35lb cold is a good starting point. The one thing you don't want is for the tire to roll over during hard cornering and come off the rim. They will gain some

pressure as they heat up, so don't go overboard and overinflate them.

For first timers (hereafter referred to as "track virgins"), as well as those in beginning run groups, you may have some on track exercises designed to help you explore the limits of your car and get a feel for how the chassis works. Before we take your pride and joy out on the track, let's go over the basics of sitting in the car.

It may seem elementary to discuss how to sit in a car. After all you've been doing it for many years, but [no pun intended ;-)] for this type of driving, seating and body position is important. To control the car you must be able to concentrate on inputs - steering, throttle and brakes - without worrying about being a loose object behind the wheel.

You should be sitting IN rather than ON the seat. Use your feet to push back and wiggle your butt into the seat. After making sure you're in total contact with the seat, see if you can reach all the pedals. If not, adjust the seat and start again.

Next up is hand position on the steering wheel. Place your hands at either 9:00 and 3:00 or 10:00 and 2:00. Notice the word hands, as in plural. This is no place for one-handed driving. You'll get better results if your arms are slightly bent. If they're fully extended you won't get good leverage.

Next move your right hand and place it at "noon" on the wheel. If you can do this without moving your back away from the seat you're probably positioned correctly. To make sure, put your hands back at 9:00 and 3:00 and turn the wheel to the right and left WITHOUT changing position on the wheel. If your elbows hit the seat back or your body, you're too close to the wheel. Tilt the seat back slightly until your arms are slightly bent.

People who are vertically challenged

(i.e. short) or those with extremely long arms may never be able to reach the ideal seating position without modifying the car with pedal extenders. If this is your case, go for the best compromise.

Before attaching the seat belt, check the mirrors. When you are on the track (and of course for everyday street driving) it is your responsibility to check the mirrors. You will be in the beginning or novice run group and there may be students who have attended other drivers schools. They may be faster. In any group of drivers there will be faster and slower cars, so be aware of what is behind you. With that in mind, your first priority is still to concentrate on the line in the turns. The mirrors are for the straightaways when you'll be passing or being passed. Try not to let the mirror affect your line in the turn.

Next is seat belts. You want to make sure they're fastened as tightly as possible. On some older cars you can fool the inertia system into locking, if you lower the seat back, set the belt and then raise the seat back up. It might not work for your car, but it's worth a try. Ask your instructor for help.

Riding with Instructors

You may have the privilege of riding with an instructor in their car either during an instructor session (not for the faint of heart, these guys are obscenely fast) or during an advanced student session. Don't be shy about asking for rides as most instructors love to have someone in the other seat. Once you've ridden with your instructor, ask another one. Each has their own style and if it is at all possible, get an instructor with a car similar to your own. This will give you a good idea as to its potential performance and handling

characteristics.

When you ride with an instructor keep three things in mind.

1.They know what they are doing. If they didn't, the chief instructor would not have invited them. They will be going very fast and things happen in a big hurry. Most of them don't mind you talking to them, but ask just to make sure.

2.Don't compare yourself to the instructors. They have years experience and know how their car will react at any given moment. Forget about the speed and watch the line they take in the turns. If everything is done right, the car will naturally hit the apex and track out to the proper position.

3.Watch their hands and feet. The biggest secret to high performance driving is BE SMOOTH!

The steering input, throttle application, braking and shifting may appear violent at first, but it should be smooth and no more harsh than necessary. They should not be making any unnecessary movements of the steering wheel, turning it only as far as it takes to get the car through the turn.

Braking should be firm and definite. The car should slow to the right speed and then the brakes will be gently released. Downshifts should be barely noticeable except for a rise in engine revs.

The throttle should be applied smoothly and when the entire lap is finished you will notice how gentle it all seemed. Just because a driver is working hard doesn't mean they are fast. The best ones are so good it seems effortless.

Part 2 will be published in the March issue of the Tejas Trax.

Tejas Chapter Incentive Points Challenge for 2011

To encourage participation, the successful Incentive Points Challenge began in 1998. The members or associate members who earn the highest number of points by the end of the year (up to 10th place) receive valuable prizes at the Post-Holiday Party in January 2012. The Rookie of the Year award is for the member that joined in the current year and earns Rookie Points based on Incentive Points earned divided by the time as a member during the year.

Activity	Points
Return Survey Form (form available on request or at website)	50
Attend a meeting or event	30
Organize a monthly event, (social/technical etc.)	100
Assist with a monthly event (credited by organizer)	50
Each new member recruited (credited by CCA)	30
Original photo(s) published in the Trax (30 pts max/issue)	10
Original photo(s) published on the website (30 pts max/event)	10
Original Tech Tip published in the Trax	15
Original Article published in the Trax (500 words or more)	30
Original Article published in the Trax (less than 500 words)	15
Recruitment of a commercial ad for Trax	20% of ad cost



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2010 Incentive Points Challenge Winners



Standing from left to right: Alan Greene - Honorable Mention, Don Yule - 6th place, Susan Yule - 9th place, Mike Sevel - 7th place, David Elyea - 2nd Rookie, Allan Gazza - 1st place, Sridhar Kamma - 3rd place, Paul Goldfine - 10th place, Linda Cavazos - 4th place, and Marco Cordon - 5th place. **Kneeling from left to right:** Herb Looney - 2nd place, Jonna Clark - Honorable Mention, and Eric Chang - 8th place. **Not pictured:** Don Bishop - 1st Rookie

2011 Incentive Points Challenge Leader Board As of January 29, 2011

<u>190 Pts</u> Susan Yule	Jonna Clark Herb Looney	Don Bishop Tom Brown	Tim Ehrhart David Elyea	Gregg Peterson Martie Peterson
<u>170 Pts</u> Don Yule	<u>50 Pts</u> Andre Denais	Josh Butts Ken Carson	Allan Gazza Sridhar Kamma	Mike Sevel Jim Shaw
<u>80 Pts</u> Paul Goldfine	Sandy Whitley	Linda Cavazos	Mary Lou Katchen	Connie Stried
Alan Greene	<u>30 Pts</u> Mohammed Abusalih	Linda Cook	Jack Laumer	Karl Van Shellenbeck
<u>60 Pts</u> Eric Chang	Mike Anderson	Tim Cook	Bill Leisey	Michael Van Shellenbeck
	Bob Ashenbrenner	Marco Cordon	Blake McIntyre	Jay West
		Spencer Cubage	Brad Mitchell	Roger Williams



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Tejas Chapter Merchandise

Are you interested in getting shirts with the Tejas Chapter logo? Do you need a good BMW related gift for someone? A Denim Shirt, Polo Shirt, or a T-Shirt perhaps? Long sleeve, short sleeve, or maybe sleeveless. Perhaps a tote bag or ball cap would be of interest to you.

Chapter members Jose & Cathy Alejo of ALEJO USA, can make this happen for you. They can apply our Tejas Chapter logo on almost anything they carry in their catalogs. Embroidered and screen print logos are available. Seen in the picture below, the Denim shirts have embroidered logos and the T-Shirts have color screen print logos.

You may contact Jose or Cathy by calling (254) 527-4060. You may also go online to www.alejousa.com. or email alejousa@alejousa.com.



BMW Owners Stick Together

by Don Yule

Thought that this photo would be interesting enough to share with the chapter. Coming back after a week in the California Bay Area (I had parked in my usual area of short term covered parking at ABIA) I was pleasantly surprised that our wonderful 1998 M Roadster was being protected by an M3 and a well kept 5 series. Gotta love the kinsmanship.



Classified Ads



2011 128i Coupe

Black Sapphire Metallic/Coral Red Boston Leather, 2,700 miles, Steptronic automatic trans, Premium package, Universal garage door opener, Gray Poplar Wood trim, Digital compass mirror, Moonroof, Power front seats, Lumbar support, BMW Assist with Bluetooth iPod and USB adapter Satellite radio. Like new. \$29,000. Billy 210-281-1527.



1991 850i

This is a rare V12 6-speed. Only 847 manuals were made for the US. This one was well maintained by an airline pilot and BMW lover. Ixm selling her now that I have another 850 in her spot in the garage. This x91 has less than 85K miles, a Dinan intake, CSi front sway bar, K-Mac rear sway bar, Bilstein/H&R

suspension, 3:15 LS diff, Remus exhaust, Racing Dynamics rims, Goodyear F1 285s, StrongStrut front brace, UUC short shifter, Sony stereo with amp, new A and C pillar covers, plus receipts and work record. New, or newer, fuel pumps and filters, O2 sensors, air intake piping, distributors, power steering motor, and spark plugs. With more parts in boxes avail for cheap that I just never installed and donxt need with my new 8. Clean CarFax, all systems work, excellent jet black paint, very good grey leather seats. A weekend toy driven less than 2000 miles/year since Dec 2004. She turns heads and loves to run! Serious inquires only please, and the price is firm. \$17,000. Contact James Millard at 512-899-8228 or send email to james022@att.net.



1996 840i

Calypso red with grey interior. Exceptional condition with only 59,600 miles. New Dunlop tires, new batteries and windshield. All maintenance up to date. CarFax report available. Asking price is \$22,500.. Contact Brad Mitchell at 210 601-7923 or send email to brad.mitchell@gvtc.com.

Classified Ads

Parts for 135i

Original equipment BMW cat back exhaust system \$50.00. Contact Jay West at 512-250-9955 or send email to jwest5@austin.rr.com.



2001 330Ci lights

Amber tail & front corner lights from 2001 330Ci. Addtl pic available of labels on tail lights. \$50. Contact Jonna Clark at 210.601.7919 or send email to jonnack@gmail.com.



For Rent

One parking spot for a BMW, \$135.00. I just completed building a all metal 'car barn' with a concrete floor and have an extra space available. It is located in far NW Austin just past the Mansfield Dam

(Lake Travis)near RR620 and Hudson Bend Road. The building is new, tight & dry, and has lights. You do need to drive approximately 200 yards on a dirt/gravel road to reach the driveway. Contact Bruce Mason at 512-560-8965 or email at amazon@austin.rr.com.



Parts for 135i

New chrome kidney grills for 135i \$20.00. Contact Jay West at 512-250-9955 or send email to jwest5@austin.rr.com.



Parts for 135i

New door sills 135i \$20.00. Original equipment BMW cat back exhaust system \$50.00. . Contact Jay West at 512-250-9955 or send email to jwest5@austin.rr.com.

Tires for Sale

Bridgestone Potenza 245/35/18 "run flat" tire. Less than 1000 miles. Driven by an old school teacher. New condition. \$100. Contact Jay West at 512-250-9955 or send email to jwest5@austin.rr.com.

Parts for M5

BMW 10W60 TWS Motor Oil (2 quarts), E60 M5 air filter elements

Classified Ads

(right and left) - new in box part #13 72 7 834 714/715, Stainless steel wheel guide bolts M12x1.5 (2), BMW USB iPod interface cable, \$75 - email is best contact. Contact Jeff Brennan at 303-521-2026 or email to brennan.jh@gmail.com.

512-775-8459 or send email to dwhdcm3@sbcglobal.net.



2010 M3 Wheels

\$2500, OEM 19'M 220 wheels with ContiSport3's (lots of tread). small mounting scratch, otherwise perfect, optional TPMS's available \$150, (4) part# 36 11 1 095 375 (2010-11), or (4) Part # 36236781847 (2007-09). Contact Derrick Houghton at



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