Fall 2020



Badger Bimmers OktoberFAST 2020 was another success! We had lots of weather to deal with: snow flurries, rain, wind, cold and even pleasant sunny cool. Huge thanks to all of the volunteers who helped to make it another successful event: Registration, Group managers, grid, classroom instructors, exercises, clean tech, and instructors. Special thanks to Chief Instructor, and DEC. Mark your calendars for next year's OktoberFAST 2021.

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"Hot" lap by Ron Pace. Surface temperature was over 140







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Well... What can I say? The coronavirus outbreak has really messed up everyone's best-laid plans. As a club we're doing our best to follow the rules, keep people healthy, and try to figure out some ways to have fun while we bide our time waiting for a resolution.

On the bright side we did have a very successful Door County Tour – Thanks Justin DeMaa! - .record turnout and a bunch of new members made it a time to remember.

OktoberFAST driver's school at Road America was a success as well. Considering the impact of the virus and the late-inthe-year date the results were beyond our expectations. Those who attended and braved the chilly mornings were rewarded with some truly great track conditions in the afternoons. I'd like to thank Darcy Yench for being the driving force (no pun intended!) behind this event along with David Swernoff for taking on Chief Instructor duties. Many other people made huge contributions to the success of this event and I would like to thank them, too. We can't do it without the support of our members.

Some good news is that we have confirmed dates for our Blackhawk Farms driver's schools – Monday, June 21st and Friday, August 20th will be on the calendar and open for registration pretty soon. Keep your mailboxes open for a future email.

We also have a tentative date for OktoberFAST 2021 – October 1-3 is shaping up to be our dates. I'll also keep everyone posted when the date is confirmed and registration opens.

The Badger Bimmers board meetings have been held via teleconferencing and I expect that will remain the case for the foreseeable future.

Club officer elections open online on December 15 through January 15. There is also a paper ballot in this newsletter that you can fill out and mail if you don't want to vote online.

Remember to visit our web site (www.badgerbimmers.org) to see the full event calendar to be sure you don't miss anything.

Take care and see you all soon!

Jeff



Details on Events can be found on the website: www.badgerbimmers.org

January 14th	Virtual Board Meeting
February 11th	Virtual Board Meeting
March 11th	Virtual Board Meeting
June 21th	Blackhawk Farms Driver's School
August 7th-8th	IMSA Car Corral
August 20th	Blackhawk Farms Driver's School
October 1st-3rd	OktoberFAST

Badger Bimmers Okkicial Ballot

Save a stamp and vote instantly online!

https://www.motorsportreg.com/index.cfm/event/survey/uidSurvey/AC0413AA-CD9F-1EE7-21273148E227F90C

Pick one:
President: □ Jeff Fait □
Treasurer: Dave Thurek
Madison Liaison: □ Justin De Maa □
Pick two:
Member at Large: □ Rich Friman □ Hemanth Shenoi □ □
Fill out the ballot and place it in an envelope. Be sure to write your name and BMWCCA number as the return address. Mail to: Badger Bimmers P.O. Box 170104

Milwaukee, WI 53217

2021 Board Candidate Profiles

Hi, my name is Jeff Fait and I'm running for re-election as President of the Badger Bimmers. I've been a Club member for almost 20 years and have served as Chapter President for the last 6 years and as a Chapter Board Member for 2 years before that. We're facing some big challenges due to the COVID pandemic and changing demographics but our chapter is strong and there are lots of great things on the horizon. I would be honored to continue to serve as President and am excited to continue helping make our Club the best that it can be.

Be Sure to Visit Our Website <u>www.badgerbimmers.org</u> for More Articles and Event Information

2021 Board Candidate Profiles

I have served as an at large Badger Bimmers Board Member for two years and am asking for your support for re-election to another term. When I ran for the Board two years ago, I was looking for a way to give back to the Badger Bimmer / BMWCCA that had given me spirited driving tours, a deeper appreciation of the BMW brand and new friendships. The past two years has allowed me to contribute to the continued operation of our Chapter, but I am most proud of leading the effort to establish an automotive repair program scholarship at Madison College. This scholarship program is a "pay it forward" program by Badger Bimmers to support education of the next generation of young people who love cars as much as we do. Together with similar efforts in the Fox Valley and Milwaukee, this kind of outreach makes me proud to be part of an organization that sees its potential impact beyond simply it's members but to the broader automotive community. The COVID-19 pandemic certainly changed the type of activities we could organize and attend, but I am confident that we are ready to bring back many of the margue events of out chapter while we have continued many that could still be held with social distancing in place. I'll continue to drive my now 15-year old e46 ZHP daily driver sedan, mostly because it's so much darn fun! But that doesn't mean that I'm not thinking about adding either an M2 or i3 to our family fleet, for very different reasons. In closing, I believe the BMWCCA exists to provide a place where BMW enthusiasts can learn and develop a deeper appreciation for driving and the BMW brand. I have not taken advantage of all the events the club offers, but believe that providing as many diverse choices gives members the opportunity to find the activity that allow them to enjoy BMW on their own terms. I also believe there is opportunity to grow club membership if we continue to focus on evolving to new member needs as we continue to cater to the core. If re-elected, I will serve you by sharing my enthusiasm with members old and new. - Hemanth Shenoi

Hi Everyone, I am running for re-election of the Madison Liaison. I have been in this role for 2 years and it has been a great experience. Even though we have had some rough times during this last year we have all come together to make some memorable times as a club. Moving forward, I hope that we can develop more great events that continue to help grow and become even stronger for years to come. – Justin De Maa

My name is Rich Friman and I am running for an at-large seat on the board. I have been a member of Badger Bimmers since my first O'Fast in 2004 and a driving instructor since 2013. A few years after that first O'Fast, I bought my first BMW—a bone stock 1990 325i with 168k. With more drivers' schools, enabling club mentors, and some self-taught wrenching, by 2013 the e30 had morphed into a fully gutted and caged SPEC E30 racecar and I was racing with NASA. Since 2016 I have been part of the Badger Bimmers contingent racing with the Midwestern Council of Sports Car Clubs. The BMW fleet has also grown over the years to include a well-worn 1991 318is and a more civilized 2004 330i ZHP as daily drivers. As a board member I look forward to working on driving events, finding new ways to share the club's expertise on wrenching and car tech, and expanding the club's presence in the community. Thank you for your support.

I am running for the Treasurer position to replace the current treasurer who has decided not to return for an additional term. I have completed two terms as Secretary and 1 1/2 terms as Vice president. I enjoy supporting and participating in all the Club's activities from social events to Driving School. So, I am asking you to vote for me and allow me to continue to be involved in the planning and support of the activities that make the club fun and interesting. – David Thuerk



Hemanth Shenoi



Justin De Maa



Rich Friman



Dave Thurek

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Two day adventure at BMW "M" School.

By Dave Thuerk

I have seen BMW Performance Center ads for their High Performance Driving School in the Rondell and have picked up fliers at International BMW describing the M school activities. When I found out that three of my Badger Bimmers friends attended M school, I had to talk to them about the experience and their feelings about the school. Their response was all I needed and I decided to attend BMW M school. I brought up my desire to attend a two day M school to my son. It did not take much time for him to decide to join me. The next step was to decide which location, Spartanburg South Carolina or Thermal, California and when it would fit into our schedules. Since I was retiring early 2020, I had little limitations. After reviewing dates available at both locations, June 13-14 at Spartanburg South Carolina was selected. We registered in January prior to all the COVID-19 issues began. The Performance Center did shutdown in March which became a concern. Mid May I checked and the Performance Center was scheduled to open June 1st, so all was a go.

The M school experience started Friday night at the airport. I was picked up for the ride to the hotel with an X5 by Marriott Hotel staff and presented with a packet of information on the M school. At check in you are asked what time you would like your evening dinner which is specifically prepared for the M school participants. In my room, there was a complementary Performance Center polo shirt and jacket. Saturday morning, we were chauffeured to the BMW Performance Center for the introductory meeting and review of the morning activities. Our meeting started with introduction of the instructor staff followed by each student providing similar info. All instructors were racers, currently or in the past.

There were 11 students in the school including my son and myself. The other nine were comprised of a group of five friends who return each year and have attended 3 to 5 previous BMW M Schools, a father, who had attended M school at the Thermal California Performance Center and his son and two ladies with no M School experience. The main instructor then explained that we would be split into 3 groups and then reviewed the track layout and what three sections we would drive this morning. An instructor would lead each group through the track segment and then we would be on our own. The instructors would be stationed at different locations on each track segment to provide instructions through radios. Then the main instructor reviewed the vehicles we would be driving. To our surprise and excitement, we were told that the school had just received a full set of M8 Competition, 617 HP, dual clutch, carbon ceramic brakes, all-wheel drive beasts. We would also be driving the M4 and the M2 Competition. The meeting ended with the comment that these are not your cars, brakes or tires, so go at it. We then headed out for our drives.

Each morning and afternoon we drove all three cars on different sections of the track. The sessions were around 25 minutes each. We continuously ran through the track section with only a short stop to keep spacing sufficient. In between sessions we returned to the staging area and received a short introduction to the next track segment followed with a lead follow drive of the new track segment.

After the morning driving session, we returned to the staging area and headed to lunch in the Performance Center's cafeteria. Lunch was prepared by the M School Chef. During the lunch hour we could talk to the instructors and other students and visit the Performance Center gift shop. Lunch was followed by a review of the next track segments and the cars we would drive in each segment. At the end of the day we had a review of the day and comments from the instructors on our performance.

As we completed each driving session, the track layouts became longer and we reached higher speeds. Sunday's afternoon track segments were combinations of the many track segments we worked on in prior sessions. The track layout was extended nearly to full length of the track and we drove the M8 Competition and M4 on the longest layouts.

The M8 Competition is an amazing car. The 617 (or more) HP provided the most intense acceleration I have experienced in a street car. BMW lists a 0 to 60 time of 3 seconds, Car and Driver test results were 2.5 seconds and 10.7 second quarter mile. The M2 competition was very responsive, rotated quickly and was fun to drive as close to the limit as I could get. We drove it on a section of the track with tight and closely spaced turns, quite a workout for the shoulders and arms. The M4 is the sister car to my M3 so I did not need adjustment and could concentrate on reaching the cornering limits of the M4. It did give me the opportunity to get closer to the vehicle limits.

We also had the opportunity to go on a ride along with an instructor in a M5 Competition. Their driving skills are amazing, and I understand why they race. It appeared they rotated the car around the car's centerline instantly without losing speed.

Overall, the M School was an amazing experience in fantastic cars. The instructors are great and encouraging. They keep feeding you information and pushing you forward. The track at the South Carolina Performance Center offers a massive quantity of corners throughout the layout providing countless combination of track layouts for the school. I am interested in attending the school again or possibly the Advanced M school which is held at Virginia International Raceway. Must be time to ask my son if he wants to attend an M school again.

2020 Door County Rally

By Justin De Maa

On September 19th we hosted the Door County Fall Tour. This year was not only the 5th year, it was also our largest Door County Fall Tour to date. We had participants that traveled from all over the state, Minnesota, and even Ohio. Our route took us on a beautiful drive starting at George Pinney Park, then to the top of Gills Rock, then winding us through the color changing country roads. We stopped as a group in Baileys Harbor before we finished the tour at the Landmark Resort. Thanks to our amazing sponsors this year, we were able to have a great raffle outside with a bonfire & cocktails. The feedback from the participants expressed a lot of excitement for next year's events!





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