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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE BMW CLUB OF CANADA, TRILLIUM CHAPTER.

Annual Scenic Drive and Wine Tour a Sight for Sore Eyes

By Dave Cook

After a year's hiatus, the Scenic Drive and Wine Tour returned with a vengeance! This tour more than made up for the missed mileage and wineries of last year. I put 583 kilometers on my MINI, and we toured to five wineries.

Kenn Hale did a great job of planning our routes and finding some interesting wineries to visit. He got us away from the usual Niagara wine tour route.

We started our adventure on Saturday October 3rd at the BMW Durham Dealership. They were kind enough to have coffee and doughnuts ready and waiting for us. From there we cruised along the 401 to Brighton, then headed down Highway #33.

Just past Hillier we turned east to our first winery and lunch stop, The Grange of Prince Edward. *(cont'd on page 5)*



Benefits of Trillium Membership

By being a member of the BMW Club Trillium Chapter, you get the benefits of being able to take part in other events hosted by affiliated organizations. Our affiliates include:

- The BMW Club of Canada (BMWCC)
- International Council of BMW Clubs
- Canadian Automobile Sports Club-Ontario Region (CASC-OR).

For more information on these events, visit each organization's respective websites: bmwclub.ca, bmw-clubs-international.com, and www.casc.on.ca.



Trillium Chapter Board of Directors

Nigel Etherington

President

416.399.7569

nigel.etherington@trillium-bmwclub.ca

Steve Gailits

Treasurer & Co-Chief Instructor

905.479.1769

steve.gailits@trillium-bmwclub.ca

Stuart Sherman

Events Registrar

416.399.1100

stuart.sherman@trillium-bmwclub.ca

Vanessa Agosta

Director of Communications

416.333.5373

vanessa_agosta@trillium-bmwclub.ca

Pierre Knobbs

905.472.8105

pierre.knobbs@trillium-bmwclub.ca

Allan Lewis

Director of Club Race and Technical Policies

allan.lewis@trillium-bmwclub.ca

Rich Simpson

Social Director

rich.simpson@trillium-bmwclub.ca

John Venditti

Competition Director

john.venditti@trillium-bmwclub.ca

Other Contributors

Dave Cook

Membership Secretary

dave.cook@sympatico.ca

Derek Hansen

Co-Chief Instructor

President's Message

Moving Forward, Looking Forward



Well, that was a blur. It seems like it was just yesterday that we were celebrating spring and the beginning of the driving season. Yes, we did have to wait until August for summer to really begin. But now, as the autumn wine tour is behind us and the autocross championship winds down, our 2009 season is nearly over. So what happened in the Trillium Chapter over the course of this season? Quite a lot, it seems.

Co-Chief Instructors Derek Hansen and Steve Gailits are pleased to report we've had three very successful advanced driving schools since our April event. At our June and September schools at Mosport, we averaged 66 students and 42 instructors. In August we held an inaugural (Stuart Sherman inspired) Driver Development School at Mosport's more manageable Driver Development Track. This sold out event brought in a total of 25 students and 15 instructors. During the day, students learned about the challenges of keeping the rubber on the tarmac of a tight technical track. While we await final reports on the bottom line of our financials, we expect to be in the black this fiscal quarter.

Perhaps as important—given our aspirations to build upon the club's solid

foundations—has been the recruiting of three new board members. With the anticipated birth of Pierre Knobbs' first child, we had to act in a timely fashion.

First, Allan Lewis, one of our top club racers, assumed responsibilities for racing and technical policy. Most unfortunately for Allan, we had to cancel the September race at Mosport due to low registration. John Venditti has taken over responsibilities for our competition series and has major plans for revamping our autocross events. Recently, Rich Simpson also joined as the club's Social Director. Rich has an event planning background, and his preliminary agenda is to have more club events throughout the year. He also intends to offer different formats for club meetings. Recently, we added a Show'N Shine and some Sunday drives to complement our regular staple of Tuesday monthly meetings.

In case some of you remember from my last message in our Spring issue, you are about to receive an email (assuming we have your address) to complete a membership survey. Fortunately Vanessa Agosta,

our Communications Director, has received some help from fellow member Glen Mackie with the creation and delivery of the survey. We all thank him for his generosity in making this happen. We plan to use the winter to process the information we gather and turn your feedback into action.

Lastly, we are still working on revamping our website. We have heard your requests—or maybe complaints—to make it more user friendly both from a front-end (member) and a back-end (volunteer administration) perspective. This project is tougher than you think, but we hope to make progress this winter.

We hope to see you at our free Holiday Season party in early December. Let's close the year with a celebration. Stay tuned!

Nigel Etherington

President, Trillium Chapter



2009 Upcoming Events

For more details about events and their locations, visit the club website at www.trillium-bmw.ca.

October

4th—Club Wine Tour, Belleville

18th—Club Meeting, MDS Sciex

18th—Club Autocross Series, MDS Sciex

November

1st—Club Autocross Series, MDS Sciex

10th—Club Meeting, TBA

December

6th—Holiday Party, TBA

Letter from Our Social Director

by Rich Simpson, Social Director

Hello fellow BMW enthusiasts. I was recently asked to join the club as the Social Director, and am very happy to accept the position. I look forward to planning some new, amazing events for the club next year. I am hoping that with these new events the club can truly be the ultimate BMW enthusiasts club. I look forward to planning these events with you, my fellow members, so anyone who would like to get involved in the planning please let me know. My email address is rich.simpson@trillium-bmwclub.ca.

Here is a quick rundown of the events I am hoping to add to the schedule for next year.

June – BMW bonfire/beach event. This will be a weekend away with camping on the waterfront, an evening cruise, followed by a bonfire....and of course a day at the beach.

July – working on a west end meet/cruise (London area)

August – This will be the trip of a life time.....One week BMW road rally to Florida and back.....stops along the way will include the BMW factory, Tail of the dragon, an afternoon at Sebring, and of course a day in South beach!!!

Sept – BMW Fest 2010 – a weekend that will be all things BMW lifestyle should offer

We are also planning on having more social things going on at track events, as all members should feel welcome to come and hang out at all events the club hosts. I am also looking to make the monthly members meeting more fun by hosting them at club events, by bringing in some sponsors, and adding a lot more interaction and networking into our club.

All the events I am working on will be family-friendly, and planned well in advance so we all have the time to add them to our schedules. We as a club have a broad spectrum of members and through a little networking and social interaction at these events our membership will grow, and become the club all other enthusiast club look to model themselves after.

Hope you are as excited as I am about adding events like this to the club, and if you want to get more involved with helping plan and organize things please feel free to email me at rich.simpson@trillium-bmwclub.ca.

About Autocross

The Trillium Chapter of BMWCC has run autocrosses for many years. Competition is based on a fairly level playing field with all the other participants.

During the racing season (April to November), Trillium Chapter Autocross holds eight events at a large parking lot near Canada's Wonderland . Our host is MDS Sciex at 71 Four Valley Drive, Concord. The fee is \$15.00, a large portion of which we donate to the Hospital for Sick Kids on behalf of MDS Sciex.

Registration opens at 8:30AM, and the first car is away at 9:00AM sharp! The drivers' meeting and walk-through begin between 8:30 to 8:45AM. If you are considering attending our next autocross event, make sure that you arrive on time so that you don't miss this important orientation and walk-through. As we're usually pressed for time, latecomers cannot make up their runs.

For more information about Trillium Autocross, contact John Venditti at john.venditti@trillium-bmwclub.ca.

Editor's Note

The editor would like to thank those who submitted copy for this issue of Contact.

All members are encouraged to contact the editor at vanessa.agosta@trillium-bmwclub.ca if they have an interest in writing articles or ideas about the things they would like to read about. We'd like to hear about your experiences with current BMWs and if there is a club member that you would like to know more about let us know.

This issue of Contact was assembled and edited by Vanessa Agosta with contributions from John Venditti, Rich Simpson, Evan Weaver David Cook, and Nigel Etherington.

Advertise to Trillium Members

Would you like to advertise your company or services to your fellow Trillium members? We offer print, web banner and t-shirt advertising. Sales booth space is available at our schools.

For more information, contact Nigel Etherington at nigel.etherington@trillium-bmwclub.ca.

New Trillium Club Members

The Trillium Chapter is pleased to welcome the following new members to our club. We encourage all new members to take part in the many events we offer throughout the year so that you can be a part of the spirit that makes the Trillium Chapter a great community to be a part of.

Marlies Hendricks	Fred Kracht	Lance Webb
John N. Wood	Nick Sirianni	Keith Stube
Fardad Soleimanloo	Guy Lavallee	Emilio Raimondo
Adam Splonick	Rene Lavallee	Brown, Jeff
Gianmarco Raimondo	Pawel Buczkowicz	Melanie Lim
Kenneth Smith	Sandy Gabriel	Hancher, Trevor
John A. Johnston	Richard Davies	Trinidad, Joe
Mike Kriil	G. Samuels	Laszlo Toth
Hamill, Taylor	Jessyka Ludwig	Kitmitto, Firas
Manik Verma	Rob McArthur	Hudson, Crispin
Arnaud, Graeme	Kent Lefley	Neil, Tim
Arnaud, Victor	Rich Simpson	O'Brien, Don
Jeff Chia	Spencer Reinke	Chan, Daniel
Joselito Malixi	Andrew Tyrell	Ng, Hubert
Marty Smyth	Elen Dashevskaya	Dinesen, Michael
Anatoly Dobovinsky	Ching-Yen Chen	Stefan Hammerl
Barton, David	Fabian Theriault	Giles Gallie
Younge, Brett	Chin-Wei Li	Ryan Szucs
Dan Janssen	Marcel Leone	Paul Christiansen
Anthony Calamusa	Bob Ellis	Mirna Sinmayanandan
Peter Hammerl	Frank Rende	Ann Read
Don Rhule	Jin Ma	Bill Piekos
Stewart Dickle	Justin Wortley	Xiaohua Guo
Dave Sewell	Jon Abela	Johnny Ip



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Wine Tour (cont'd)

The luncheon was good and the wines also passed muster. Carrying on down the road we came to Closson Chase Winery, which is owned by Sonia Smits and her husband. After enjoying the ambience of a nice sunny day by the vineyard with a drink, we continued until we found another winery to visit. Sugarbush Vineyards is a “garagiste” winery. According to their website, a garagist is “a passionate winemaker who creates limited production premium wine in a garage-sized winery.” Their motto is “you don’t need a big space to produce great wines.” They were right.

Farther along we came to Huff Estates. This is quite the operation. Along with a winery, they have an inn and an art gallery. They have a well-thought-out tasting area, nice patio, and the inn and gallery look very new as well. However, the feeling here seemed

to be that the previous wineries we had visited had better product and better prices. Maybe Huff is putting more money into their buildings than their wine.

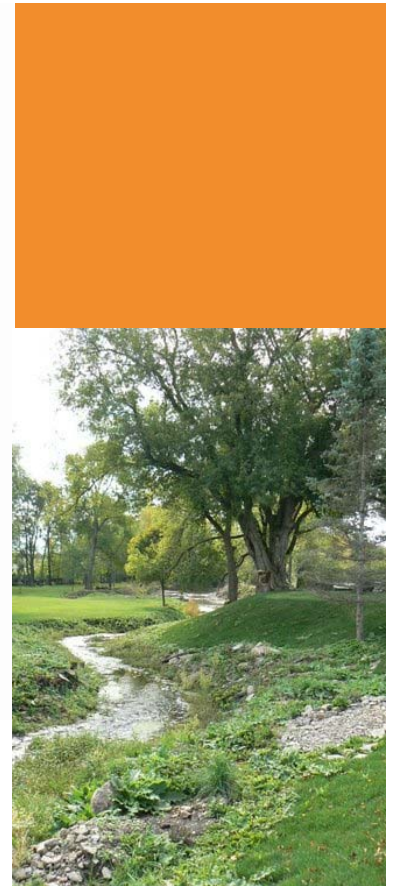
We then headed into Picton for a downtown stroll, and then it was off to The Waring House Inn for the evening. Up until this point the weather had been very cooperative, especially as the weatherman had been quite negative all week leading up to the weekend. My wife, Cathy, and I checked in and made it to the room dry and in time to settle in and watch a storm pass through in comfort. I guess the weather had to play a little catch up for giving us a beautiful day. Dinner at the Waring House was very good and they gave us a good breakfast as well.

Sunday morning started off wet, but the rain subsided as we stopped at the Glenora



Ferry and the Lake on the Mountain.

Our tour of the vineyard at Waupoos remained dry so we were able to get some great shots of the property and vines. The winery is situated right on Lake Ontario. They have a great view of the lake and have set up a dock for wine tourists arriving by boat. Lunch was very good, as were the wines. The limestone in the area apparently



enhances the flavour of the area wines.

Overall, this lovely weekend gave us an opportunity to have fun, make new friends, and taste good wine. There is nothing like good food and drink to bring people together—except maybe our BMWs.

Safe touring!

Driver Development School and Show'n'Shine—August 23, 2009

By John Venditti, Competition Director

Hello fellow Trillium Club members. Earlier this summer I was asked to join the Trillium Chapter Board of Directors, and help out with Autocrosses, Advanced Driving Schools, and other various club activities. Anticipating the demands, I took the challenge and must say I am enjoying it immensely. One of the larger undertakings was the Driver Development School that we held on the 23rd of August at the Mosport Driver Development Track (DDT). I

Director, we held our annual Show'n'Shine in conjunction with the driving school.

We're glad to report that both events were a great success. The school was a complete sellout. We regretfully had to turn away several students after the school was full.

At the Show'n'Shine, we had 24 cars on display, with some pulling double duty by participating in the school as well.



to have rides at speed with Instructors during their sessions out on track. The feedback I received was positive all around, and we will definitely be extending this feature to driving schools of the future.

The winners of the Show'n'Shine, which were chosen by the participants themselves, are as follows:

Best Classic: Uwe Wolffe; 1973 3.0 CS

Best Luxury: Guy Lavalee; 1988 635CSI

Best Convertible: Dave Sewell; 2004 Z4 Supercharged

Best 3 Series: Nick Sirianni; 1993 325is

Best 5 Series: Sia Honarkah; 1985 Alpina B7

Congratulations to the winners, and a big thank-you to all of you who came out to participate, volunteer, and spectate! We will be having more events like this next year so please keep checking the website as we will be updating it frequently.



wanted to expand the exposure of the club to not just our track-oriented members but to all members. So with the help of Rich Simpson, our newly appointed Social

On a personal note, I loved seeing both the track and show participants interacting with each other. One of the largest attractions for the show goers was the chance



Club Meetings

Trillium Chapter meets monthly at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of the month at various locations in the GTA.

See the club website at www.trillium-bmwclub.ca for further details.

Instructor's Corner

Situational Awareness: The Elusive Goal

By Evan Weaver

Situational awareness is a phrase that is increasingly being bandied about at high performance driver education (HPDE) events. Literally, it refers to being aware of what is going on around you. By implication, it includes the concept of reacting appropriately to anything that is out of the ordinary.

Advanced driver education is intended to be all about situational awareness. Improving vision skills, developing a feel for the limits of traction, training to react correctly when those limits are exceeded - these are all things that help a driver realize trouble before it happens and take action to avoid it. Drivers coming out of advanced driving schools not only leave with increased situational awareness when driving on the public roads, but also with an appreciation of how poor other drivers are in that regard.

However, any form of training has its limits, and our skills and abilities tend to shrink around those limits. In the gym, if you do the same exercises all the time, you improve at first, often quite dramatically, then reach a point where you stop getting stronger. Eventually, rather than keeping that same level of fitness, the muscles that aren't specifically triggered by those exercises start to atrophy, creating imbalances with the trained muscles, often leading to injury. The best fitness programs keep progressing, and, as important, keep changing to focus on weak spots.

Over the last few decades, advanced driver education has matured to the point where most high performance driving schools have similar formats, similar curricula and similar outcomes. Repeat participants develop quickly in the first few schools. Improvement

slows down as the lessons that need to be learned become more subtle. Every once in a while, pieces of the puzzle fall into place and the intermediate/advanced participant makes a small leap forward. This sort of incremental improvement can carry on for quite a while. Eventually, many of these students become truly excellent drivers who can carry staggering speeds around a familiar track with an ease that belies the work which got them to that level of skill.

Then one day, something goes wrong. A part breaks, another car does an unpredictable thing, a deer runs out onto the track. And it all comes unwound in an instant. The advanced driver can find that situational awareness, which had developed so dramatically in the early schools, has shrunk around the very specific demands of going very quickly around a particular track. The safety rules, the driving curriculum and the track itself eventually, ironically, become hindrances to further development of situational awareness.

We found this out earlier this year at our own Mosport driving schools, when we declared a new "school line" through turn 8. The difficulty many of us experienced (myself included) in developing

confidence to drive the new line at full speed was illuminating. It focused my attention on how fixated we all had become with the old line. Retraining instructors and advanced students alike did us all a world of good. It reopened our eyes, invigorated our approach to a familiar road.

Once of our sister clubs, the Genesee Valley Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America, has also been playing with changing up the HPDE curriculum. They borrow many of our instructors and students, just as we borrow many of theirs, so a number of us have had a chance to experience their successful experiments with intentionally driving off-line and practicing cooperative passes into the entry of corners.

Advanced drivers can expect to see many shifts over the next few years as we try different things to keep our HPDE drivers progressing rather than stagnating. Even the core driving curriculum will change somewhat, as Formula I and other top level racing is showing that "slow in, fast out" can be turned into "fast in, fast out" with some refinement of corner entry technique. Now that the physics have been analyzed and understood, it's not just for Michael Schumacher any more.



What Displays will Offer in the Future

BMW Tech

For many years the BMW Group has been conducting intense and thorough research on the reliable and safe presentation of information to the driver, with virtually no distraction. A big step was the introduction of the Head-Up Display in 2003. Now, with display concepts being consistently enhanced and optimised, BMW is focusing in particular on the further potentials of the Head-Up Display and the Central Information Display.

Research on the Head-Up Display currently goes in two directions. First, there is the trend to “more colour”, with the concept of a Full-Colour Head-Up Display almost ready for production,

face improves the potential of the information provided and how an interactive function may be successfully integrated into the Head-Up Display. This would allow the selection of specific items from lists and, accordingly, enable the driver to actively influence the Navigation, Telephone or Entertainment functions without having to take his eyes off the road.

The MINI Center Globe in the MINI Crossover Concept already showed last year how information may be presented on the centre console in future. The combination of Black Panel and laser projection technology allows crystal-clear, detailed and



tounding progress has also been made with laser projection.

Whether the Full-Colour Head-Up Display, Head-Up Display Max or laser projection – all three research projects enrich the interior of the car through well-conceived, future-oriented solutions. Through their functions they enhance the status of the vehicle as an experience in space and help to ensure an even safer and more comfortable driving experience.



“The Head-Up Display hugely intensifies the driving experience in a BMW—with your focus always on the road.” (Gunnar Franz, responsible for development of the Head-Up Display)

presenting information in all colours for even better support of the driver’s tasks and activities. Second, there is the Head-Up Max Research Project examining to what extent a larger display sur-

absolutely brilliant presentation of information in three dimensions. In the meantime Black Panel technology has reached production standard and as-



Membership Application/Renewal

**BMW Clubs
Canada
Trillium Chapter**



(Please print clearly)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Member number (if renewing) _____

Preferred phone number: _____

(Indicate home, business, etc.)

e-mail address: _____

Model and year of BMW(s): _____

Interests (please check as many as applicable)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Advanced driving school program | <input type="radio"/> Technical information |
| <input type="radio"/> Concours / Show & Shines | <input type="radio"/> Movies |
| <input type="radio"/> Autocross competition | <input type="radio"/> Social activities |
| <input type="radio"/> Indoor go-kart competition | <input type="radio"/> Products |
| <input type="radio"/> Observational rallies | <input type="radio"/> Other |

Please enroll me as a member as indicated below (please check one)

- Membership: \$57.75/year (\$55.00 plus 5% GST)
- Associate membership: \$57.75/year (ownership of a BMW not required)
- Family membership: \$57.75 + \$15.00/year (must reside at the same address)
please list family members:

1 _____ 3 _____

2 _____ 4 _____

GST Registration No. R122436041

If paying by cheque, please make it payable to:

BMW Club of Canada – Trillium Chapter
4936 Yonge Street
Suite 530
Toronto, Ontario
M2N 6S3

Or FAX (VISA/Mastercard applications only) to: 1-866-801-9185

Card # _____ VISA Mastercard

Signature: _____ Expiry date: _____

Personal information supplied to the Trillium chapter of the BMW Club of Canada is used only for the administration of valid club activities and is never given to third parties without your express consent. If you have any concerns about the use of your personal information, please contact one of the chapter directors.