BREEZE

Windy City BMW: January 2025

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VOLUME 54 NUMBER 1

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 20th of month before publication.

windycitybmw.org

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BMW CCA Foundation, 190 Manatee Court, Greer, SC 864-329-1919 **bmwccafoundation.org**

GiGi's Playhouse, 1069 W Golf Road, Hoffman Estates, IL 60194 847-885-PLAY **gigisplayhouse.org**

Northern Illinois Food Bank, 273 Dearborn Ct, Geneva, IL 60134 **solvehungertoday.org**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY
11 Annual Dinner, Two Brothers, Aurora

MARCH
8 Northstar Motorsports Open House

APRIL
26 Bimmers & Beans, Calibre, Barrington

MAY
16-18 HPDE Autobahn Country Club, Joliet
25 Sunday. Autocross Event, Boomers

JUNE
7 & 8 The Yokohama Experience by Tire Rack
14 Bimmers & Beans, Calibre, Barrington

JULY
5 Saturday, Yokohama Autocross, Boomers
23 Bimmers & Beans, Calibre, Barrington

AUGUST
15 Speed Event at Blackhawk Farms
31 Sunday, Yokohama Autocross, Boomers

SEPTEMBER
14 Sunday, Yokohama Autocross, Boomers
28 Sunday, Yokohama Autocross, Boomers

OCTOBER
5 Sunday, Yokohama Autocross, Boomers
9-12 O'fest at Road America

PLAN AHEAD!

2026 JANUARY
10 Annual Dinner, Double Clutch Brewing

THE STEERING WHEEL

HAPPY NEWYEAR!

2025 is shaping up to be a good year. We have planned events at Autobahn and Blackhawk, a full autocross season, car shows, membership meetings, and other fun activities throughout the year. Please attend an event if you haven't before and see about bringing a friend if you can.

As my time winds down as your current president, I would like to say that the Club is in a great state financially, the Board is strong and I'm looking forward to Kyle Ashpole taking the reins. I'll be serving the Vice President role once we change over in the next few months. Albert Valesco will continue as Secretary and Tom Imholz will manager the finances as Treasurer. Kyle did a fantastic job during 2024 setting up and organizing several car shows including VINfest. Kyle has enthusiasm and vision and I'm looking forward to supporting him as chapter president in 2025.

Keep an eye on the website calendar and Facebook page for upcoming events and activities. We will also be hosting our Annual Dinner at the Round House in Aurora. Next year we will be moving to Double Clutch Brewing in Evanston, so if you'd like to see the Round House and you haven't yet this might be your last opportunity. Of course you can always go on your own as their restaurant and microbrewery are very cool on their own.

For those who autocross and attend HPDE events we need volunteers. As a social club volunteerism is critical to making us operate. NO ONE at any of these events is paid, but volunteerism has a bevy of other tangible benefits. Please consider helping out at an event and as how you can get involved!

I'm hopeful to once again be championing an E30 for autocross and track days. My S50 swapped E30 is back up and running after a blown head gasket from the Challenge in 2023! There's plenty of off season work to be done on it and my SpecE30 as I'll continue racing wheel-to-wheel in the NASA Great Lake region, so keep an eye out for that throughout the year and feel free to reach out with questions!

Here's to 2025, may it be filled with farfegnugen while behind the wheel of the Ultimate Driving Machine.

Happy Motoring **GRAIG NEVILLE**

O'FEST 2025 will be at Road America October 9-12!

- ANNOUNCEMENTS -

NORTHSTAR MOTORSPORTS MEETING…

Date: Saturday, March 8, 2025
Time: 1:00 – 3:00pm
Location: Northstar Motorsports -
28144 W. Industrial Ave #108, Barrington, IL 60010
Phone: (800) 356-2080
Cost: Free! We will provide food and drinks as always!
RSVP: meetings@windycitybmw.com

The year is over and racing season is definitely over for us Chicagoans. But that does not mean we cannot stay ahead of the game! As always, we are going to be hosting our safety event at Northstar, but a little earlier next year, on March 8, 2025.

So, what is in store (pun intended) for next year? Well, on the safety side Helmets are always a must, and if you are still rocking a SA2015, it is time for an upgrade. Brakes and fluids are also a must check, and with Northstar stocking smaller sized bottles, no brake fluid needs to go to waste (and as a reminder, the rule of thumb on all cars is to change it out every 2 years). On the fun side, they have had their boutique upstairs open for over a year now, and that collection is strong with racing gifts and gear (wine, maybe a now vintage Merc F1 shirt… or a new F1 red shirt??).

Our members attending this event will have a chance to walk around the shop before and after the discussion and be given a 10% discount (on most items). John and Jeannie will also be around for additional questions you might have.

Start marking the 2025 calendars! See you then, and have a great rest of the Holiday's!

2025 THE YOKOHAMA EXPERIENCE BY TIRE RACK.....

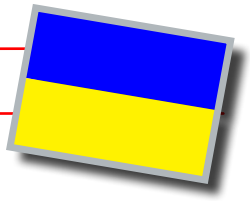
Mark your calendar. The dates are June 7-8 2025 with the Dumpster Dinner being on Friday the 6th at the LaQuinta. MAKE YOUR RESERVATION at the LaQuinta now:
https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/hotels/53760?checkInDate=06/06/2025&checkOutDate=06/09/2025&groupCode=060625WIN|

BIMMERS & BEANS AT CALIBRE. . . . . .

Date: April 26th
Date: June 14th
Time: 8-10am
Location: Calibrè Coffee, 100 W Higgins Rd Ste H-60,
South Barrington
RSVP: None, but bring your BMW CCA membership card

We are beginning our Cars & Coffee season a little earlier this year (hooray!) and we'll find ourselves at Calibrè Coffee for a Bimmers & Beans in South Barrington from 8-10am on April 26th and June 14th with a TBD date in August as well. BMW CCA members will have the 50-or-so spots in the lot directly east of Calibrè reserved for them. Be sure to bring your BMW CCA membership card to show event workers to get in the member-reserved parking. Non-member spectators are welcome too, but please respect the spots that are reserved. See everyone there!

MAKING FRIENDS



Membership 1469
Craig Martin
Ken Pavett
Umesh Prabhu
Bharath Tolappa

Referral
Dominik Golec

BIMMERS & BURGERS AT AUTOBAHN. . . .

YOU MUST RSVP FOR THIS EVENT!
PLEASE TELL THE FRONT GATE THAT YOU ARE WITH WINDY CITY BMW OTHERWISE THEY WILL CHARGE YOU TO ENTER!!!

Date: Saturday, May 17th
Time: 11am – 1pm
Location: Joliet Autobahn Country Club
Cost: Free but bring money for a burger!
RSVP: Send an email to specialevent@windycitybmw.com with your name and what car you are bringing

We are having a Bimmers & Burgers (our "Bavarianified" Cars & Coffee) in conjunction with our High-Performance Driving Event at Joliet's Autobahn Country Club on May 17th from 11am to 1pm. Any make or model is welcome, but there will be lots of BMWs! This event is rain or shine.

By the way, it wouldn't be a Bimmers & Burgers without… a burger! The Autobahn Café has really good burgers, sandwiches, wraps, sides, and soft drinks for sale, so have lunch while you explore our event. Heads up, the café is cards only, no cash. There is no charge to enter the car show, but you'll need to sign waivers at the venue entrance AND tell the front gate that you are a Windy City BMW member. Kids are welcome if accompanied by parents or legal guardians (to sign their waiver) but keep them close by. See you all there!

Sample copies of the waivers in case you want to read them ahead of time are here:
https://windycitybmw.org/resources/forms/

Annual Dinner at Two Brothers January, 11

DEADLINE January 2, 2025
https://windycitybmw.org/event/2024-annual-dinner-celebration/

2025 O'Fest at ROAD AMERICA !

GEM SIMS RACING EVENT

Our first Sim Racing event was a fun one! 16 members (and a few spectators) met at **Gem Sims in Elmhurst** on December 7th to virtually race F82 M4 GT4s around Road America. We had 3 groups of racers and about 3 hours' time, meaning we had three 10-minute qualifications and three 6-lap races. We ended the day with a final 10-minute qualification and a final 6-lap race, with the top 2 finishers from each of the 3 groups. Afterwards, a group of us went next door to Gem Sims' other business, Yorky's, for some dinner. What I couldn't believe was just how tiring the sims were! They had motion, sounds, vibrations, and the wheel was very heavy! Some of our resident race car drivers even commented on how familiar it felt!

I say thank you to everyone for turning out, and also welcome to our new, new-ish, or newer members who came out to this event! I hope you had a good time, and I hope we see you again at the Annual Dinner or any of the many other events planned for 2025.

Finally, thank you to **Mario and Sal of Gem Sims** for having us!

KYLE ASHPOLE

PhotoStory by Larry Schettel

https://www.flickr.com/photos/windycitybmw/albums/72177720322422561/

Race 1:
1st Bill Griffin
2nd Marcin Gluc
3rd Steve Gerber

Race 2:
1st Brian Wright
2nd Jerome Cahuzac
3rd Steve Rosenblum

Race 3:
1st Dominik Golec
2nd Kyle Ashpole
3rd Graig Neville

Race 4: The RUNOFF
1st Dominik Golec
2nd Brian Wright
3rd Marcin Gluc

F1 VIEWING PARTY AT **ELA**: THANKS BRAD !

Life in the Fast Lane downshifts as the fall season arrives. The trees shed their leaves, tracks close for the season and winter slowly tightens her grip. Although our event calendar looks lean through the fall/winter month, I spotted an opportunity in late November to host our BMW Group to enjoy the Formula1 race in Las Vegas with a watch party at my companys home entertainment showroom in Elmhurst IL. Thinking we all enjoy high performance

The F1 race was a late start, or early depending on your perspective of the midnight hour. We kicked off the evening a few hours early providing everyone ample time to tour our facilities, be blown away by some killer demonstrations all while enjoying some hot food and cold beverages. It was really fun talking to everyone about their upgrades & plans for the upcoming driving season and to hear all about what A/V equipment that has passed through everyones living rooms over the years.

Tick-Tock before we knew it the race was getting close to starting. We all gathered together to watch the race in our Tech Center which houses our giant video wall. Six tightly packed TVs create a configurable viewing wall stretching over 120" diagonal creating an immersive panoramic in cockpit view of the race. Big pictures need big sound to bring the action to life so we turned up the volume for the full immersion experience.

Everyone enjoyed the Las Vegas scenes from the race, the chance to get together and their time taking a hot lap through our high performance A/V demonstrations. Special thanks to Gregg Schwartz, David Lee, and Bradley Elliott.

I have my eye on the calendar and look to host another cold weather event. If you didn't make it for Las Vegas Formula 1, we hope to get together at the next Electronic Lifestyle Associates & Windy City BMW entertainment event!

BRADLEY ELLIOTT

Photos by Kyle Ashpole

https://www.flickr.com/photos/windycitybmw/albums/72177720322224796

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Windy City BMW

Just think, if every one of our 1,500 members donated just $10.00 each to the BMW CCA Foundation

!WOW!

VOLUNTEER in 2025 !

THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MUSEUM
BMW CCA Foundation

Show your Colors!

Lands' End has our Windy City BMW logo that can go on any item that you order. The additional cost for the logo will be $6.95 per item. We now have an E-Store set up so buying at Lands' End couldn't be easier. Go to the website WindyCityBMW.org and click on "show your colors".

Windy City BMW

2025 **YOKOHAMA** AUTOCROSS RULES CHANGES

Summary of 2025 Autocross Rule Changes-
Changes in **RED**

Under Safety

9. The stop box approach shall be as straight as possible to prevent cars from sliding or spinning into the box. A rolling stop will be required – cars should exit the stop box at paddock speeds without coming to a complete stop. Suitable runout room shall be provided and the stop box shall not be directed towards grid, the paddock or any other location where spectators or vehicles congregate. Participants who have an incident in the stop box during an event due to reckless or out of control driving resulting in hitting stop box cones and/or timing gear, or failure to reduce speed appropriately, as determined by the safety steward and event operations chair, will be given a warning regarding their driving. If the participant has an incident in the stop box again during the event, their times for that session will be DNF'ed and they will be parked for the remainder of that session. If it occurs a third time during the event, they will be disqualified from the event and not be refunded their registration fees. Multiple infractions in the stop box area during a season may result in further action, including being prohibited from competing with Windy City BMW Club any further.

Under Competition

1. All participants must compete in their assigned group and assigned grid set unless directed otherwise by the Event Operations Leader, safety chair, or event chair (in consultation with operations leader or safety chair). Anyone not competing in their assigned group or grid set will have those runs considered as DNF's.

2 Competitors should not change their position within the designated run group or grid set after cars have gridded unless directed by the Grid Worker or Event Chairperson, or if a competitor withdraws.

Event Points and Final Season Standings

The final season point total for each driver will be based on the FOUR best event finishes in one class. Points do not follow you from class to class. To be eligible for year-end autocross awards, a driver must be a Windy City BMW member and have competed in at least three Windy City BMW autocross events in the same class during the season.

Strike the following:

The season points will be totaled as follows:

1st	25 Points	6th	8 Points
2nd	18 Points	7th	6 Points
3rd	15 Points	8th	4 Points
4th	12 Points	9th	2 Points
5th	10 Points	10th	1 Point

To eliminate the possibility of one or two event upsets, event points will be calculated as follows:

*The class winner for each class at each event will receive 100 points.

*The remaining drivers are awarded points equal to the percentage of the winner's time compared to their time (Drivers PAX time, including any Novice adjustment, will be used).

*If a driver DNFs (Does Not Finish) all runs for a particular event, the class points awarded will be based on the slowest time in that class, plus four seconds. Should the only driver in a class DNF all runs, that driver will earn no class points for that event.1st in class at the event – 100 points

Here is an example of four drivers

Driver	Best Time	Points Calculation	Points
Bayer	47.710	None–Awarded 100	100
Ische	47.839	47.710/47.839 *100	99.73
Motoren	48.657	47.710/48.657 *100	98.05
Werke	49.859	47.710/49.859 *100	95.69

Class season standings will be the sum of the competitors top four events points. If a tie occurs at the end of the season, the fifth and then the sixth event results will be compared. If a tie still exists, it is a tie.

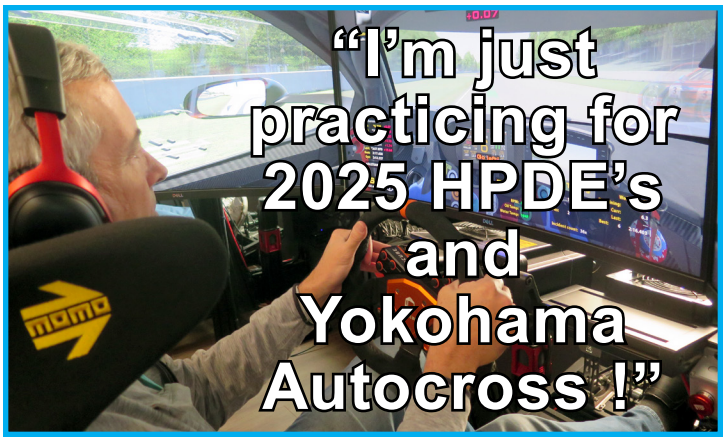
Other season updates:

2025 BMW Classes PAX values are as follows:
AA – 1.000
A – 0.980
B – 0.963
C – 0.925

FOR THE 2025 AUTOCROSS RULES:
https://windycitybmw.org/wp-content/uploads/PDFs/Autocross/2025-AUTOCROSS-RULES.pdf

2025 DATES: **YOKOHAMA** AUTOCROSS

Hold these dates for the
2025 Yokohama Autocross Series
Put them in your calendar NOW!
Sunday, May 25 at Boomers
Sat & Sun, June 7 & 8 **THE EXPERIENCE**
at Tire Rack in South Bend
Saturday, July 5 at Boomers
Sunday, August 31 at Booomers
Sunday, September 14 at Boomers
Sunday, September 28 at Boomers
Sunday, October 5 at Boomers



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Autobahn COUNTRY CLUB

Windy City BMW: State of the Club 2024

Windy City BMW State of the Club 2024

"It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." I can't think of a more relevant quote than from Mr. Charles Dickens on the current state of the Windy City BMW chapter of the BMW Car Club of America.

First, the best of times. As of the end of October our financials are amazing with a net of $166,008.10 in the bank. $119,402.19 is in checking with the rest in various certificates of deposit and iBonds. This is the highest point it has been all year and has been slowly, but steadily increasing. And with the year winding down we only have the annual dinner left to go towards this budget as a major expense. To say we have been fiscally responsible and frugal with chapter funds is an understatement. The chapter will be fiscally solid for many years to come if our spending patterns continue to be responsible.

Our social media platforms, which include two Facebook pages and an Instagram page, have been healthy and growing in leaps and bounds. Each Facebook page has over 5000 members and Instagram has over 1200 followers. So, word is getting out that we exist. Which is great, but that does lead us to…

The worst of times. Our current membership as of the end of October is at 1484 and has been hovering somewhere around this number since COVID. Membership retention has been ok, around 70% on average, which means that as almost a third of our members are not renewing, but we do have a few people joining to help offset some of those numbers. So we have been holding somewhat steady for awhile now. But with how well our social media platforms have been doing and how well attended our car shows have been we would expect to be gaining members – not just struggling to maintain our current numbers. We held 29 events in 2024.

We continue to have a core board presence with several folks with decades of experience on the board, but we also have some newer folks that helps us keep rooted across several generations. Attracting younger members has been a priority and will continue to be so in perpetuity. Attracting folks to volunteer has also been a challenge as volunteerism does require responsibility and commitment, which seems to be in less abundance nowadays then in yesteryear. So we will continue to look for ways to attract members and to engage our membership in participation and volunteering.

Overall the Windy City BMW chapter is in a mixed bag with plenty of money to be fiscally solvent for many years to come, but with a smaller membership than we have had in the past, especially for the metropolitan Chicago area, which has 7 million people and who knows how many BMWs and car enthusiasts. We will keep soldiering on and trying to support our members with media content, social activities, and driving events to engage you as an outlet for your enthusiasm for BMW.

Happy Motoring

GRAIG NEVILLE

Save the Date ! - O'FEST at Road America !

There will be an O'Fest at Road America on October 9-12, 2025. New spin on the national event. Lots of events at the track. The **Osthoff Resort** will be our host hotel and host the concours on the back lawn. This event is hosted by the Badger Bimmers Chapter. Saturday night will be the closing banquet.

Put it on your calendar !

2025 HPDE's

Yes we know it's January, the snow tires are on and the show brush is tucked in the back seat but, hey, the days are getting longer again and spring is less than a dozen weeks away so it's time to start thinking about the summer driving season. And what better way to tune up yourself and your ride for a summer of fun than our spring HPDE on the **Autobahn Country Club** South track?

Once again, thanks to our great sponsors, **BMW of Schererville, Clearwater Capital Partners** and **Euroquipe** we'll be heading down there for two to three days of driving at one of the best track facilities in the Midwest. For our Instructors and Experienced drivers the track will be green for three days. New or just getting into the HPDE scene? No problem we'll provide you with up to four hours of track time with classroom instruction and in-car coaches to literally bring you up to speed. One day options will still be available in limited numbers if you're not ready to commit to the whole weekend.

If you're an Intermediate driver with us this is also your chance to qualify to run with us Friday, August 15th, at close in **Blackhawk Farms** for a fun, low pressure track day.

Either way jot down the dates (May 16-18) and watch for the registration info to go live on Motorsport reg. See you there.

DAVE FARNSWORTH

BMW Car Club
of America
Windy City

PO Box 133,
Glenview, IL 60025-0133

PET PHoTozS NEEDED !

Send 3 cute photos of your pet-dog cat or whatever.
With the new digital format
we can devote a little more fun space for the pictures.
Send pictures with pets name in the email to
adams2002@aol.com

It's time 4 Winter Tires from Tire Rack

Windy City BMW Marketplace

Windy City BMW has a Facebook page that is for sales of stuff. It is now separate from our Windy City BMW page. The name is:
Windy City BMW Marketplace
So type that in at Facebook and ask to join.
Then you can look at all the stuff for sale
and put what you want to sell up there too.
You should really join both groups
and keep up on what's going on.

ACHTUNG!!! iCONTACT!

If you have unsubscribed to iContact and if you can find one of the last iContacts, you can click Unsubscribe at the bottom and that will get you to a screen where you can manage your user profile and add yourself back to the list. If you can't find an iContact email, you can send an email from the affected email address to deliverability@icontact.com and ask to be added back to Windy City BMW's list. We can also do it for you by sending a note to denmother@windycitybmw.com

@windycitybmw

Windy City BMW

SPEED BOX!

2025

Windy City BMW- ACC May 16-18
Blackhawk Farms, Friday, August 15
Badger June 3, Blackhawk Farms
Lone Star May 25, Motor Sport Ranch
NorthStar May 30-June 1, Brainard Intnl
Buckeye August 3 & 4, Mid Ohio
Badger Aug 19, Blackhawk Farms
Motor City Sept 14-15, Grattan
Badger O'fest Oct 9-12, Road America