



BMW Car Club
of America
Connecticut Valley



DZ is Die Zeitung,
the newsletter of
the Connecticut
Valley Chapter of
the BMW Car Club
of America.



Vol 53 No 1
Q1 | 2025

GET YOUR MOTOR RUNNIN'



INSIDE

STREET SURVIVAL
ROAR AND THE ROLEX
AIRPORT AUTO BODY
HPDE



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

It's March 2025 and we're nearly a quarter of the way through the 21st century. It has been 25 years since we were concerned about the Y2K menace that would befall our computers. Back at the turn of this century, the iPhone was still seven years in the future. Yet here we are now, heads bowed down to our ever-present electronic 'Swiss Army knives' through which we live our lives via Instant Messaging, email, social media, on-line banking, e-commerce, entertainment of all sorts, navigation and even, on rare occasions, actually talking to another human being on a phone – though we are just as likely to be conversing with a bot or hearing from "Steve" who sounds as though he's calling from a crowded room of other chatterboxes in some far off land. There's a pretty good chance that you are reading this edition of the DZ "magazine" on your so-called phone right now. What's the point, you ask? Simply that just as in the world of electronics, what is common today was an unseen dream just a short time ago.

The same holds true for cars. It wasn't that long ago that Diesel was the alternative mode of automotive power. Now that seems like a quaint and wrong-headed idea. Electric propulsion via pure battery or hybrid designs as well as hydrogen-fed fuel cells looks to be the way forward. And with warp speed acceleration from zero to infinity (and beyond!) made possible by the vast amount of torque generated from as many as four electric motors, we enthusiasts can still enjoy life while saving our planet from the scourge of hydrocarbon emissions. Just don't plan any long trips quite yet!

But do plan to join with your other BMW CCA friends and neighbors for plenty of fun and games throughout the year. Whether your thing is social gatherings, scenic tours to interesting places, quick laps at a race track, all of the above or something in between, our chapter has something for you. For instance, this year we are adding new ways to enjoy our HPDE track days at Lime Rock. Check out our **EVENTS** Calendar frequently for things that interest you. And if you don't see something you'd like, get in touch with any CVC board member and let us know how we can make that happen.

Oh, and getting back to that whole electronic revolution thing, be sure to visit our **Facebook** and **Instagram**.

—Paul



Vol 53 No 1

DZ INFORMATION

Die Zeitung is published quarterly by the BMW CCA Connecticut Valley Chapter, P.O.Box 432, Hartford, CT 06141

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SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Membership in the BMW Car Club of America is \$58.00 yearly and includes a one year subscription to Roundel, the national publication of the club and to Die Zeitung, the publication of the Connecticut Valley Chapter. Associate membership is available for \$10.00 per year and does not receive publications.

[Join Membership Now](#)

Articles and other materials intended for inclusion in Die Zeitung should be sent to **DZ@CTValley.org**. Copyright information must be included with all items submitted for publication.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

InformationThe DZ is published in full color and distributed electronically to our members and the public. It reaches approximately 1,700 enthusiastic BMW Club members and receives views from all over the world. We provide URL links to our advertisers websites directly from the eZine.

ANNUAL RATES

Full page – \$1,295
Half page – \$795
Quarter page – \$475
Business card – \$285

Full color camera ready art should be emailed to Roger Chartier at **RChartier@CTValley.org**

USE OF IMAGES STATEMENT

Chapter events may be photographed or recorded and subsequent images published in the Chapter newsletter or other BMW CCA publications. Attendance at Chapter events constitutes permission by all participants for public release of images from the event.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Timothy Hopkins
Aliina Hopkins
Steven Hylinski
Ashish Jain
Mike Jennings
Laraine Johnson
Kenneth Karp

Susan Maslow
Deborah Matarazzo
Nikiforos Mathews
Luke Mathews
Jennifer Maya
Chase Monroe
Shane Nelson

Debra Reale
Orlando Rodriguez
Mark Ross
Thomas Roybal
Faris Saah
Anthony Saraceno
Bryan Schmeiser
Alexander Schwartz

Sean Anderson
Peter Angus
Joshua Arambulo
Jeff Barrett
Colin Barrett
Jeffry Bellody
Gerald Boss
Michael Burns
John Calabrese
Charles Calmar
Michele Carta
Michael Castiello
Christopher Coston
Zach Criscuolo
James Currie
Edward Diamond
Robin Diamonte
Davd DuRocher

John Ehli
Deborah Eldredge
Tonya Felton
Daniel Ford
Meredith Fote
Marie Galvao
Antonio Galvao
Sarah Gerard
Prakash Gopaldas
Matthew Green
Doug Guion
Sean Hanson
Richard Haskell
Anders Hebelar
Joseph Hooks

Nate
Keaton
Stephen
Kerins
Srinivasan
Krishnan
Michael
Lepore
George
Lycoudes
Enzo M
Steven

Madonick
Daniel Mao
Jack Markussen



Jim Nenning
Katharine
O'Connor
Alexander
Pereslugoff
Robert
Perkins
Thomas Perry
Ryan Pinney
Vicente
Placeres
Richard
Pordes
Jim Pugliese
Heather Raker

Stacy Sheiman
Arthur Simonian
Allison Soto
Jason Spector
Jeffrey Spector
Paige Suttle
Robert Tallaksen
Joshua Thomas
Thomas Trautwein
Grace Tseng
Keith Van Warren
Daniel Wagenberg
Jason Weathers
William Wells
Holly Wenner
Maury Wind
Linda Wood

CONNECTICUT VALLEY CHAPTER MEMBERS

YOU ARE A PART OF THE CLUB - MAKE THE CLUB A PART OF YOU

Whether you have recently joined the BMW CCA or have been a member of our club for many years or even decades, you are part of a diverse group of individuals who share at least one thing in common – a passion for cars and one brand in particular. Our club engages in all sorts of fun events and activities year-round. There are, of course, car-related activities like:

- **High performance driver training at race tracks and autocross circuits**
- **Road rallies**
- **Scenic drives just for fun**
- **Car shows**
- **Go-kart competitions**
- **Tech sessions at automotive businesses**
- **Our Street Survival program for teaching accident avoidance and car control to young drivers**

But importantly, there are many other occasions when we come together to simply socialize and enjoy the beautiful, bountiful region where we live. We'll meet for:

- **Picnics, ice cream socials, dinners**
- **Drive-in movie nights**
- **Visits to museums and marinas**
- **Vineyards, breweries and distilleries**
- **And many more...**

We find joy not only by doing the things we like to do, but joining with friends both old and new, to share those experiences. So, while you may enjoy reading DZ, BimmerLife and the Roundel magazines to learn about what's going on in the world of BMWs and those who drive them, the most value and satisfaction you can get for your membership in BMW CCA and the CT Valley Chapter is sharing experiences with fellow club members. You are already a part of this community

of enthusiastic people, why not make the most of what it has to offer?

All of this happens because CVC members make it happen. So how about sharing your ideas for places to go, things to do?

Here are some things you may consider:

- Offer an idea for an event for members to participate in whether it's automotive-related or not. Board members will happily help to get these going!
- Volunteer to help out at events like Street Survival, High Performance Driving Schools or the Hospitality Compound at Lime Rock Park. We always welcome enthusiastic helpers – no experience necessary
- Share on our social media sites: Facebook, Instagram. Take photos at an event? Tag it @ctvalleybmwcca
- Write an article for the DZ or one of the national magazines. We'll get you published!
- Join a committee to work with board members on specific areas like advertising, sponsorship, publishing, event planning and more

LET YOUR INTERESTS AND IMAGINATION BE YOUR GUIDE! IT'S EASY AND FUN!

Come be a part of it!!!

We welcome hearing from you! Reach out at any time to any of our Chapter's Board Members via our [Contacts Page](#) to share your ideas and volunteer at any event.

And join us at events you find interesting by checking our ever-changing [Events Calendar](#) frequently! ■

2025 CVC BOARD MEMBERSHIP AND ELECTION

We're Here to Serve

The Annual Connecticut Valley Chapter Business Meeting was held via Zoom on February 25, 2025. The results of the election of chapter officers and other board members were announced as follows:

Officers:

2025 BOARD MEMBERS

President, Chapter Contact & DZ Editor

Paul Frickenhaus | pfrickenhaus@ctvalley.org

Vice President & Activities Chairman

Dave Mucciacciaro | dmucciacciaro@ctvalley.org

Secretary & BMW CCA Foundations Ambassador

Bob Morin | rmorin@ctvalley.org

Treasurer & Street Survival Chair

Dave Ortoli, Street Survival | dortoli@ctvalley.org

Members-At-Large

John Bate | jbate@ctvalley.org

Heather Centrella | hcentrella@ctvalley.org, Member Communications

Al Harper | alharperdeccvc@gmail.com, Driving Events Coordinator

Adriana Lee | adriana.bmwctvalley@gmail.com, Social Media Coordinator, Membership Chairperson, Driving Events Registrar

A Special Note:

Our chapter's By Laws allow for up to ten members-at-large. As you can see, only four positions are filled at this time. If you are interested in joining us to help lead the club, please contact [Paul Frickenhaus](#) to discuss opportunities and see if becoming part of the leadership team is something you would like to pursue.



Contact any of our members at our website! [Click here.](#)

CT VALLEY CHAPTER'S SOCIAL MEDIA PAGE



Our Connecticut Valley Chapter has an active presence in the Facebook / Instagram realm. Our ultimate goal is to utilize the FB / IG platforms as announcement boards and memory banks to help nurture our community through BMW-related posts of life events, not just CVC sanctioned events. We invite your submissions for both CCA and non-CCA event-related photos – and experiences you'd like to share. We request BMW-themed subjects such as family photos (road trips, birthdays, camping trips, sports, picnics, rallies, etc.), enthusiast builds, car care, photoshoot images and the like. The idea is for these shared photos to be posted periodically (as received), allowing our large community to coexist vicariously through them.

Please send anything you would like shared / posted to our Social Media Coordinator (SMC) via **e-mail**, **Facebook Messenger** or **Instagram Chat**. We wholeheartedly welcome your contributions so we may continue to grow our great online community and build a stronger networking base beyond our in-person events!

Our "handle" is: **@ctvalleybmwcca** Our SMCs' e-mail address is: **socialmedia@ctvalley.org**

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SOMETHING NEW IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING OLD...



BMW Group Classic Product Catalog

Being a BMW aficionado often means you already possess an innate encyclopedic knowledge of the automotive lineage of our favorite autos. But on the odd chance there are gaps in your grey matter data bank, here's a link to a quick and easy reference for filling in those blanks.

Classic BMW Cars

Now, see if you can identify the car pictured here:



Trick Question!

Our dear friend, Linda Wright, organizer of the Rallye for a Cure, explains: “I asked ChatGPT to make a photo of a “vintage BMW in a cozy garage with snow falling softly outside” and ...this is what AI created.”



75 Locust Street, Hartford

***The Best Time to Visit an Auto Body Shop...
...is when you don't need to be there!***

Open House: Sunday, March 30, 2025 - 10:00am - 12:00pm

The dentist. The gastroenterologist. The tax collector. All pretty high on the the list of folks we'd rather not visit. Add to that list the collision repair shop - a trip to which is usually unplanned and unpleasant. This time it can be both planned and pleasant!

On Sunday, March 30th, the folks at Airport Auto Body, long-time CVC supporters and DZ advertisers, are welcoming us to an exclusive open house at their state-of-the art facility located at 75 Locust St., Hartford, CT. You may be amazed at the the technology and organization employed at this Certified BMW Collision Repair Center. You'll get an inside look at all stages of the transformation that takes place there and have the opportunity to ask questions. *Oh* yes, light refreshments will be served. You won't get that from the tax collector!

Please RSVP to pfriickenhaus@ctvalley.org





A HAPPY ENDING

STORY AND PHOTO BY PAUL FRICKENHAUS

It's never good when the conversation starts, "You're not going to like to hear what I have to tell you." It turns out, a momentary lack of attention resulted in a "fender bender" involving someone whose name will not be mentioned but can be found beside mine on a particular certificate of marriage. Since a picture is worth a thousand words, here's a photo of the damage proving the law of physics that two solid objects cannot occupy the same space at the same time.

So now comes the decision, whether to: **A)** fund the cost of repairs out of pocket or, **B)** ask the insurance company to get involved. Fortunately, it had been several decades since making that sort of decision was necessary. To the untrained eye (mine) the damage appeared to be relatively minor and the car was drivable. Well, OK the headlight didn't work but it wasn't cracked. All else seemed as though exchanging a few crunched pieces of metal and plastic with some new ones covered by some fresh paint was all it would take to put this unhappy incident behind us. But then that nagging thought of the legendary high prices of BMW parts stuck itself into the decision-making process. So the decision was made: Call the insurance company. After all, why have insurance if it's not to be used to cover losses?

Turns out, that was indeed the correct decision. But not the first one I had made. About two years prior, I had switched from an insurance company I'd used since Nixon was president to one which just happens to be a sponsor of BMW CCA. No knocks against the former company (and no claims either for that matter) but Amica is highly rated for their service and offers good rates with discounts for BMW CCA members. For BMW owners, Amica is particularly choosy when it comes to who they will work with to repair damage to our Bavarian-born babies.

And that is a good thing. The first Certified BMW Repair Facility they recommended was Airport Auto Body located in Hartford. Wow, what a coincidence. AAB has been a long-time supporter of the CT Valley Chapter of BMW CCA and an advertiser in the very publication you are now reading!

Once our bruised baby was put into AAB's care, they did a thorough assessment of the damage and produced a comprehensive report of the repairs required - along with the cost. "Wowzers!" was my (printable) reaction! The repairs would be made with genuine BMW parts, using BMW-specified methods and standards for work. That said, Amica stood behind the repair plan Airport Auto Body had developed and gave approval to proceed. All in, it took about a month to accomplish the repairs but Amica provided a rental car for our use at a minimal cost. And the results? Remarkable! Not only was all the damage repaired both functionally and cosmetically, the entire car was spotlessly detailed upon completion.

So this story that began with a sketchy start ended on a most happy note! It's a good feeling to have first-hand proof that the companies that support our larger Club are there when we need them for our individual care and service. ■

A. footnote: An unsolicited review from a certain someone who had become accustomed to driving a nine year old BMW reports that it remains a far superior vehicle than a brand new Nissan Altima rental car. Helps to appreciate nice things!

B. footnote to the footnote: The designer of this newsletter had an incident with a boulder at the author of this article's house in September and was recommended Airport Auto Body for repairs their beloved eight-year-old MINI. They did a great job and even repainted the bumper when it was deemed not up to par during delivery. Highly recommend.



**New Country
BMW**

RALLYE FOR A CURE

Road Rallye



Great Cars • Little Roads • Wonderful Friends • Important Cause

MARK YOUR CALENDAR and spread the word!

The 13th Annual Rallye for a Cure will take place on June 14th, 2025. New Country BMW will host our start, and Palmer Motorsport will be our final destination.

This event, which benefits Breakthrough T1D (formerly JDRF), has become a perennial favorite for BMW CCA members. So much so in fact, though it had its roots in a British-focused car club, participation from BMW teams regularly exceeds that of any other marque – and that's without counting the many Minis in the field of participants.

The Rallye for a Cure invites car enthusiasts to participate in a fun-filled day for the entire family! Owners of vintage, classic, sports and modern cars are all invited to join in the fun of the Game-Tour-Adventure (GTA) Rallye. Each Rallye team consists of a driver and a navigator, in one car. During the drive, navigators will be asked to record information about the routes in a "scavenger hunt style." The \$100 registration includes entry into the Rallye, breakfast courtesy of New Country BMW and lunch at Palmer. The day also includes an Online Auction and an Awards Ceremony. Enjoy parade laps on the track for an additional \$30.

Register Now!



PHOTOS BY DANTE DIMAURO





2025 Event Schedule

Mark your calendars for Caffeine & Carburetors in 2025!

**June 22nd - Downtown
October 19th - Waveny Park**

**8:00 am - 11:00 am
New Canaan, CT**

Vehicle registration and spectator parking information are forthcoming.

Please [subscribe](#) to C&C emails and follow [@caffeineandcarburetors](#) on Instagram to stay updated on the latest news and announcements.



A Special Note: Though this is a non-CVC event, it has become a most popular fixture on our calendar each year. There will be BMW Corrals at each one, so do yourself a favor and join in the automotive overload these events promise and deliver!

High Performance Driver Education...

The Connecticut Valley Chapter of BMW CCA has a long tradition of offering so-called "Track Days" to our members who feel the *need for speed*. Our High Performance Driving Education program kicks off on April 19, 2025 for the first of our three-event season. The other Dates are July 26 and September 6. HPDE gives both novice and experienced drivers the opportunity to take full advantage of the capabilities of their cars and themselves in a safe, controlled environment under the guidance and encouragement of experienced instructors.

This is the most cost-intensive program our chapter undertakes each year, and understandably so. Renting a racetrack is not inexpensive. But a large number of perhaps our most avid BMW CCA members find this to be the most exhilarating and satisfying activity of their lives. **For those of you who want to get on track, sign up early for savings on single events or save even more when registering for packages of multiple events.**

Register for HPDE



...Plus There's More in Store!

There is no reason these HPDE "track rats" should have all the fun! That is why we are starting a program of inclusion for those of you who are, shall we say, HPDE-Curious. We are inviting any CVC member and their friends and families to come to Lime Rock Park during any of our three schools this year to experience this exciting activity up close and in action in three ways.

One: Show up and Observe (Available at the April, July and September events)

Away from the crowds of a typical race weekend, beautiful, historic Lime Rock Park is open for all to come and watch the goings-on at their leisure. Wander the grounds to watch the cars and drivers doing their thing from several vantage points. Stroll through the paddock to see the cars up close. Chat with the driving students and instructors. Bring a picnic lunch or find food and refreshments at the Lime Rock Café.

- Must sign attendance waivers for Lime Rock Park and BMW CCA
- Attendees under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- NO CHARGE and, no pre-registration required

Two: Hot Laps On the Track (Available at the April, July and September events)

Do you want to see, hear and feel what it's like to be on track? Sign up for a ride along with one of our skilled HPDE instructors. You'll strap into the passenger seat in an instructor's car for some fast laps around the famed Lime Rock Main Circuit.

Safety Gear Required – SNELL 2015 or 2020 SA, EA, or M helmet (bring your own – a limited number of loaners are available).

Dress Code – Long-sleeved shirt/jacket, long pants, and closed-toe shoes.

Fee: \$25 | Pre-registration required.

Limited spots available – so register below to secure your place today!

Three: A Taste of the Track (September Event Only)

Drive your own car on the track in paced laps behind an instructor-driven pace car.

No helmet required

No passengers permitted

Fee: \$25 | Pre-registration required.

Must be a BMW CCA member

Special Offer: Not a BMW CCA member yet? Join now and take advantage of this unique experience! [Click here to Join BMW CCA](#)

Spots are limited— so register below to secure your place today! ■

Experience the FEEL of HDPE



Stay updated on current events at our website! [Click here.](#)



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Connecticut Valley Chapter



Scan to register



THE ULTIMATE DRIVING MUSEUM

ALPINA: 60 Years of Excellence

STORY BY BOB MORIN

The BMW CCA Foundation's Ultimate Driving Museum is excited to announce the opening of this year's exhibit *ALPINA: 60 Years of Excellence* this May. Twenty-five very special Alpina cars will be displayed, as well as other Alpina memorabilia, historical items and more. Additionally, there will be a section of the Museum floor space devoted to the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of BMW of North America.

Thursday, May 15th will be an Opening Gala dinner/reception. There will be ~120 openings for those wishing to attend. Matt Russell, the North America Representative for ALPINA Automobiles, and former BMW M Brand Manager, will lead an interview with ALPINA VIPs: Erik Ploss, Vice President of Sales, and Carina Boevensiepen.

Registration for that event is now open at:

Opening Ceremony for ALPINA: 60 Years of Excellence Exhibit

The next day (Friday, May 16th) is the museum's traditional Open House in conjunction with The Vintage weekend. Tickets for Friday are also available now on the website:

The Vintage 2025 Open House - ALPINA

And of course, on Saturday, May 17th the Foundation will have a booth presence at The Vintage, this year moved from Hot Springs, NC to the Hendersonville Airport in Hendersonville, NC due to the devastation suffered in the Hot Springs area from last fall's Hurricane Helene. For more info on The Vintage:

The Vintage 2025 - Henderson Airport



Stay updated on current events at our website! [Click here.](#)



THE 2025 ROAR BEFORE THE 24

and The 2025 ROLEX 24 at Daytona

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BOB MORIN

The **Roar Before the 24** for 2025 took place over the weekend of January 17th, 18th and 19th, and this year The Roar reverted back to its more traditional format where the sessions were all about testing and practice for both the Michelin Pilot Challenge Teams and the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Teams. The only competition during the weekend was in the VP Racing SportsCar Challenge, which held its season-opening first two rounds.

I won't endeavor to give you a race report on these pages as, if you are a fan, you likely already know the results and probably would have even watched the TV coverage, so instead I'll give you some more behind-the-scenes information.

Beginning with Michelin Pilot Challenge, from the first of five on-track sessions, it was pretty obvious that the BMW teams had no chance at Daytona this year. In speaking with Rob Driscoll of Connecticut's own AutoTecnica we learned why. IMSA had issued the dreaded Balance of Performance (BOP) right before the weekend and the result was a reduction in HP and the addition of weight for all the BMW teams in the GS Class. The M4 GT4s were running 2 to 2.5 seconds PER LAP slower than the fastest cars in practice. The race the following week was a four hour enduro and lap times for the fastest cars were under 2 minutes/lap. At 2.5 seconds a lap deficit they had would be lucky to finish in the same time zone as the leaders after four hours!



It may be an M4, but something looks different under the hood



Paul Miller Racing's #1 GTDPro entry ready to take to the track

Things were only slightly better in the WeatherTech series where the BMW teams run the M4 GT3 EVOs in GTD and GTD Pro. The cars in both classes have the exact same specifications, only the driver ratings are different with GTD requiring a Bronze or Silver driver to go with the Gold or Platinum, while the Pro class can load up with the higher rated drivers. Will Turner said that in the Rolex 24 they were going to have to rely heavily on their ace strategist Don Salama, since they were so slow on the straights that it sounded like the drivers would have a better chance of passing a kidney stone than another car. They were good on energy (in IMSA, they don't talk about fuel usage anymore, it's energy usage), and brakes and handling, but top speed? Forget about it! Will also mentioned that the cars have various performance modes and the allowable mode is set by IMSA based on their data. Each BMW has 8 modes and last year they were allowed to run in mode 7, but this year were tuned down to level 5. Unfortunately, the way that the BMWs make power makes them more consistent and less ambient temperature dependent. You might think that's good, but for Daytona, not so much. It was very chilly in Daytona for both weekends and the cooler temperatures allowed the other manufacturers to make more power for a given mode than if it was sweltering hot in the same mode, so everyone but BMW was faster due to the temperature. And finally, Will spoke about all of the technology that is mandated by the series so that they can have the data available to make their BOP determinations. Will says they have \$250,000 worth of parts on the car just to give IMSA data. That's a lot to spend and still get screwed by BOP!

The best news of the Roar was in the GTP class where the BMW Team RLL GTP BMWs were running VERY well and near the top of the time charts in most sessions. Could this be the year they get an overall win in the Rolex and take home those nice Rolex Daytona timepieces?

In the two VP races where the BMWs fared pretty well at Daytona last year, they were unfortunately relatively midfield and lower this time around.

After a very cold, mostly rainy and quite windy weekend for the Roar, the weather for the **2025 Rolex 24** looked to be much better. Still cold mind you (our group had several wearing long johns to the track each day – TMI?) but slightly less windy and no rain.

The Michelin Pilot Challenge 4 Hour Race is held on the Friday of the Rolex weekend and not much changed between the Roar and the race for the BMW Teams. They qualified 12th, 17th, 20th, 22nd, 24th and 25th out of 25 cars in the GS Class, with the best BMW qualifying 2.466 seconds off the poll, but that was a total outlier, as the next BMW was a whopping 3.870 seconds off the poll and then it got worse from there. Yay

BOP! In the end, strategy and caution periods allowed them to actually somehow finish on the lead lap in 11th, 12th, 13th, 15th, 20th and 21st. I DO wonder how much longer BMW of North America will continue to sponsor a race in which they are so clearly treated poorly by the BOP formulas used.

The Rolex 24 started off very promising. The #24 BMW GTP M Hybrid V8 qualified on the poll and was fastest in all three sectors of the track, meaning they were very good on straightaway speed, in the infield twisties and on the banking. The #25 BMW GTP had an incident in qualifying and qualified 61st and last. The 2-car Paul Miller Racing GTD Pro entries qualified 3rd and 13th, while the single Turner Motorsports GTD car was to start 13th in the largest class in the race with 22 entries.

As the green flag flew, the #24 sprinted to the lead and held that for much of the early running. And by Hour 3, the #25 had worked its way all the way through the field and was leading. Even into the final hour of the race, the #24 car was still in contention for the win, but it was all just a tease to keep the BMW fans hopeful as in the end, the #24 finished off the podium in 4th and the #25 was 7th.

Meanwhile, in the GTD classes, the Paul Miller #48 had also been running very well until an incident in Turn 1 occurred. They managed to avoid the track blockage only to be absolutely hammered from behind by a driver thinking he could win the race if only he could drive through the wreckage without lifting. That removed them from contention, but their #1 M4 was still in the running with a chance into the final hour, but like the above, ended 4th and just off the podium again. Okay, so how about Turner and the GTD M4? They too lost spots in the final hour and finished 5th, but it was their best ever finish in the Rolex 24, so they were (relatively) happy with the result.

Let's see what happens with BOP for Sebring, coming up next and may have even happened by the time you read this. ■



Former CVC member Will Turner holds court as Jake Walker (L) and Robby Foley (C) look on



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HEY YOU! WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

HOW ABOUT SHARING IT WITH THE REST OF US?!

Call for Submissions: 2025 Fall/Winter Issue of BimmerLife!

The theme for the Fall/Winter issue of BMW Car Club of America: BimmerLife will be
“3”

a tribute to the legendary BMW 3 Series, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

All chapters are invited to embrace the theme in creative ways, whether by sharing stories of unforgettable drives, restorations, or personal connections to the iconic 3 Series. While we encourage submissions that align with the theme, it's not a requirement. If you have a compelling story to tell, we want to hear it!

The Fine Print

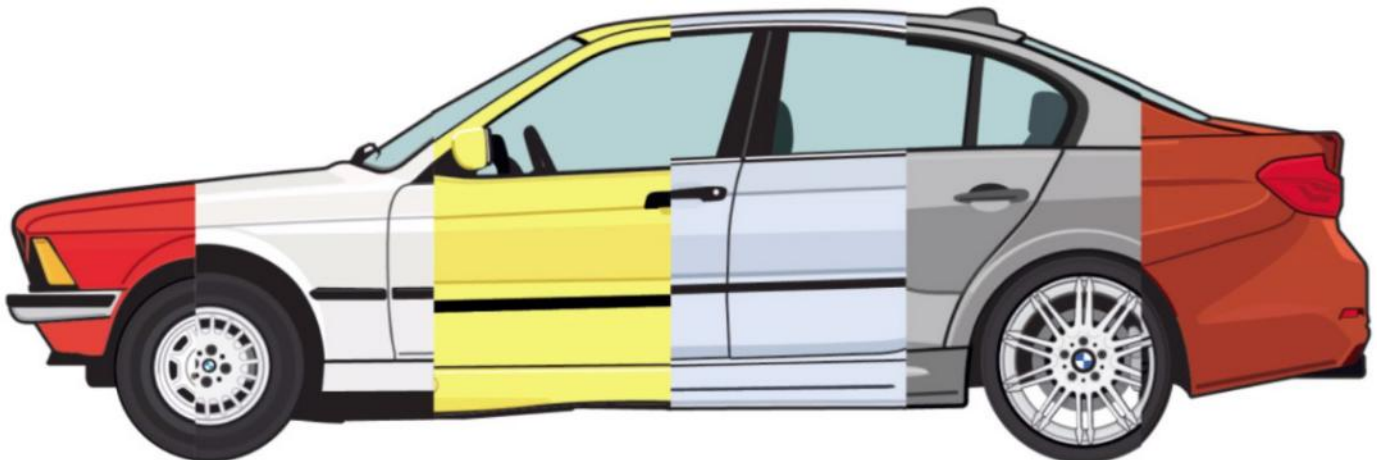
Your story should be **between 600 and 750 words** long and, if available, accompanied by **three to five** high-resolution photos. We can accept photos in RAW, TIF/TIFF, HEIC or JPG formats. (Checking the file size is a good way to determine if the file might be hi-res; if the file size is listed in KB or is below about 6 MB, it's probably not going to look good in print. In the case of photos for BimmerLife, bigger is better!)

The deadline for submissions is May 1, 2025.

Send your submission to pfickenhaus@ctvalley.org

Any questions? Same email address.

We can't wait to see the stories and photos that showcase how the 3 Series, and the BMW community, have made a lasting impact! So please, take a few minutes to tell us your story.
Thanks!



EVENTS CALENDAR

*Check out our website for upcoming events and happenings organized by the
CT Valley Chapter.*



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The advertisement features a black sports car with its headlights on in a parking garage. In the bottom left, a mechanic is working on a car engine. The bottom right contains contact information and logos for Bosch Service, AAA Approved Auto Repair, and ASE Certified.



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