

BAVARIAN BMW CAR CLUB OF AMERICA SACRAMENTO VALLEY • JANUARY 2013 beamer

BMW Car Club
of America
Sacramento Valley





SPECIAL EMAIL TO OUR MEMBERS:

The 2013 Daytona Rolex 24hrs completed and the Grand Am Rolex Sports Car series is on it's way! Qualifying first was great and then to finish it off with a win... pole to podium, and it was sweet. It was the busiest race that I can remember. I typically drive 10 hours of the race, as I did this time, but somehow with the driver rotation it felt like I was always on deck. Of course with the Telmex BMW handling so well, fast and consistent day and night, I was loving it. The Ganassi boys never disappoint, they work hard and do it right, giving us their best all 24 hours. That works out to 30+ pit stops that included 3 brake changes, and they never made a mistake. What a team. My co-drivers: Memo, Juan Pablo, and Charlie all did a great job!

It's been exciting for me to see the growth of the Rolex 24 race. Before the start there was an ocean of people on the grid. More than I have ever seen at that race. Similar to the start of the Indy 500 to tell the truth. It was great seeing all the fans come out. The green flag flew for the 51st Rolex 24hrs. Saturday at 3:30EST, then twice around the clock. Since I qualified the car I started and drove the first three stints, roughly 3 hrs. Next up in the rotation was Memo for two stints, JPM for three then back to me for three more. All was going smoothly. Darkness fell and I'm happy to say the car just got better. More grip with the cooler temps while maintaining the same balance. What fun to drive. Next up was Memo for another two stints, Juan for another three then it was Charlie's turn. Charlie drove roughly 1 1/2 hrs before yellows flew and it was time for Memo again, then Juan and then back to me for another three. Fog had rolled in heavy... Couldn't see more than a few hundred feet in front of you. Yellows flew for safety. We rolled around under yellow for what had to have been 2+ hrs., it was soup... Going from 195 mph to rolling around in the fog at 55 mph is no fun. Finally the sun broke thru at roughly 8:30am and back to racing we went. The Telmex BMW was still running as strong as ever and I carved my way from fifth to first in three laps. I did another two stints then turned the car back to Memo for two stints. Memo had a great run and I climbed back in for two more stints, handing the car to JPM in first place to bring it home. There were five cars on the lead lap, everyone working their strategy for fuel and pit stops, and it was a fight to the finish. We changed brakes, calculated and recalculated fuel numbers, as did the others. We knew the 60 had a good chance to make it to the finish with no stops, but we would need to do a splash of fuel... and we thought the 10 needed one as well. We needed a 50 sec gap. to complete our splash and stay out in front. Juan drove it like he stole it and made great time. There could be no mistakes on the stop... With only 4 laps remaining we did the splash. The stop went flawlessly and we came out in second behind the 10 car, until they stopped for their splash and we were back in the lead. Victory was in our reach... I hate sitting on the stand for the finish. I felt like I was going to puke!!! The white was out, one to go. Come on baby make it to the checkered... We were all standing on the wall just waiting to see the car come off NASCAR 4. There she is... Checkered flag flies... Winner, Winner Chicken Dinner... Victory is ever so sweet!!! A great team effort, especially for the Rolex 24. For me tying the legendary Hurley Haywood for number 5 overall victories is an amazing accomplishment. WOW!!! The good Lord has certainly blessed me with this great career.

A very special thanks to Telmex, BMW, Ganassi/Sabates, and Dinan. What a run... For tonight my wife and I are celebrating with a bottle of our 2010 Taylors Reserve Syrah, YUM... However, tomorrow I'll be thinking about the next stop on the Grand Am tour at the new addition of the Circuit of the Americas in Austin Texas March 1-2. Follow me on twitter [scottpruett01](#) and Like us on face book at [pruettvineyard](#)

– Scott Pruett





BMW POWERS CHIP GANASSI RACING WITH FELIX SABATES TO VICTORY AT ROLEX 24 AT DAYTONA

PHOTOS COURTESY OF BMW GROUP PRESSCLUB USA AND GRAND-AM RACING

Woodcliff Lake, N.J., January 27, 2013 – The No. 01 Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates TELMEX/Target BMW Riley ended 24 hours of hard fought sports car racing at the 51st Rolex 24 At Daytona in the same position from which it started: First.

Starting from the pole-position, CGRFS co-drivers Scott Pruett, Charlie Kimball, Juan Pablo Montoya, and Memo Rojas completed 709 laps in the twice-around-the-clock endurance classic at the Daytona International Speedway to secure the famous pyramid-shaped trophy and Rolex watches. The car led a total of 420 laps and set the fastest lap of the race at 1:41.177 minutes on Lap 180.

The victory is the second overall Rolex 24 win for BMW with CGRFS. The first win came in 2011. Since the program began in 2010, the combination has combined for the GRANDAM Daytona Prototype Manufacturer's championship in 2010 and 2011 and the Team and Driver titles (Pruett and Rojas) in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

The No. 02 CGRFS TARGET/Telmex BMW Riley of Scott Dixon, Dario Franchitti, Joey Hand and Jamie McMurray started the race from the outside of the front row and led 107 laps before retiring from the race with gearbox problems on lap 594. They were credited with an 11th place finish.

Team Sahlen, in the team's debut Daytona Prototype race, finished their two BMW Rileys in the 9th and 15th positions. The performance of the No. 42 Sahlen's machine of Dane Cameron, Bruno Junqueira, Will Nonnamaker and Simon Pagenaud was notable for qualifying 3rd and finishing 9th. The BMW Riley of Fifty Plus Racing finished 12th, completing 517 laps.

In the GT class, BMW was represented by two Turner Motorsport BMW M3s. Unable to start their No. 93 car due to a mechanical problem and crash in the Friday's final practice session, the team raced the No. 94 M3 to an 18th place class finish.

"The Rolex 24 at Daytona is always an exciting race and this year was no different," said Gordon McDonnell, BMWNA Motorsport Manager. "BMW and our engine partner Dinan Engineering are extremely proud to have powered Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates to another Rolex 24 victory and Scott Pruett to a record-tying fifth win. I would also like to congratulate Team Sahlen on an excellent debut race with BMW Power."

The second round of the 2013 GRAND-AM season will be held at The Circuit of the Americas, in Austin, Texas, on Saturday, March 2.





BMW WINS DTM 2012 CHAMPIONSHIP

October 21, 2012 – After 20-year absence from DTM, BMW returned this year and won the exciting racing championship. In a electrifying race at Hockenheim, Bruno Spengler finished first ahead of Gary Paffett from HWA Mercedes.

Here is a quick recap from Autosport.com:

The key to the Canadian's race was a great getaway from third on the grid as he passed the slow-starting Paffett to slot in behind polesitter Augusto Farfus.

While Paffett dropped from second to fourth, Spengler was gifted the lead by fellow BMW man Farfus at the Mercedes Arena on the opening lap.

HWA driver Paffett climbed to third when Mattias Ekstrom—who had already hit Joey Hand at Turn 1—pushed the American and himself wide at the Spitzkehre.

The Briton then passed Farfus during the first round of pitstops to climb to second, escaping censure from the race officials despite being initially investigated for an unsafe release from his pit stall that resulted in him and his rival running side-by-side momentarily.

Paffett put Spengler under immense pressure following the second stops, trimming his deficit from 4.1 seconds to 2.0s within just five laps and then continuing to close until he was

within 1.1s of the black BMW.

He could get no closer though and was unable to prevent Spengler from taking his fourth win of 2012 and securing the championship by just four points.

Farfus was a comfortable third in his RBM-run M3 while Jamie Green, the third driver to start the race with a chance of the title, drove superbly to climb from ninth to fourth during the race. His highlight was an excellent move on Hand's RMG BMW at the Spitzkehre during the opening stint.

Dirk Werner made it two Schnitzer cars inside the top five. He passed Edoardo Mortara and Hand at the first round of stops and gained a further spot when Ekstrom retired with a loose right-front wheel.

Mortara was sixth, less than a second ahead of the BMW of the impressive Andy Priaulx, Hand, Ralf Schumacher and Christian Vietoris.

David Coulthard retired from his final DTM race after being spun by Timo Scheider at the Mercedes Arena. The Audi man was given a drive-through penalty for causing the collision.

Adrien Tambay and Mike Rockenfeller both retired early on, each Audi driver a victim of contact, while Miguel Molina's race ended when he slid into the Sachs Kurve gravel at mid-distance.

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BY JAY BORTOLOTTO

Happy New Year everyone!

Welcome back to the newsletter; I know it's been awhile but we're back with renewed enthusiasm! The newsletter will supplement the chapter's "very-current" Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/197565875377/> and Web site: <http://www.svbmwcca.org/> with additional pictures, past events, and racing news.

Late last year, if you hadn't the time or opportunity, we moved our monthly meetings to Chevy's Mexican Restaurant, 1234 Howe Ave., Sacramento. The restaurant has been very accommodating, and given us an entire private room for the evening. Dinner is available from the menu, along with free chips and salsa! We have also started a new tradition of a monthly raffle for great prizes, and you can buy as many tickets as you wish! Come out on the 3rd Thursday of each month, around 6:00.

We have been making plans for the annual dinner; once again at Cattleman's Restaurant in Rancho Cordova. Look for the event late February or early March. Great food, friends, and door prizes as always!

Also this year is a rare event; BMW CCA Oktoberfest in

Monterey! No excuse NOT to spend the week in the peninsula with hundreds of enthusiasts; all 5 California Chapters will be involved, showing the rest of the country how it's done! Most of us (myself included) have only read about this annual event- this year we can be a part of history! Stay tuned for updates!

OK, what annoys Mr. President (me) more than drivers talking on cell phones, tailgaters, stupid little dogs on driver's laps, left lane bandits, and old people driving for miles with their blinker on?? EXPIRED REGISTRATIONS! If I can keep 7 vehicles and a boat current on registration, you can too! If you need a great smog shop, or repair shop, send me an e-mail! Thanks! Phew!

On a technical note, I've seen a lot of "plastic component failure" on old and newer BMW's! Personal observations include heater valves, thermostat housings, radiator nipples, plastic bleed screws, valve covers, and coolant reservoirs! If it's questionable, have it inspected or replaced; don't wait for failure. (The picture was not plastics related...)

Happy Motoring!

Prez. Jay





2012 Annual Dinner

TEXT BY THE EDITOR
PHOTOS BY JIM BONDESON

It really seemed like a good idea to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of BMW Motorsport at our Chapter's annual dinner. SVR member Art Simonds was at BMW AG 40 years ago and had hands on experience building the first BMW Motorsport cars. I decided to see if we could reunite Art and one of his creations at our 2012 dinner. What could go wrong with such a good idea? Answer: "Plenty of things could get scrambled up!"

The weather was great, the tables were decorated and the door prizes were all arranged as the members began to arrive. As the room filled up I began to worry as the "guest" of honor, Scott and Fran Hughes' beautiful CSL race car, was late...soon we were to find out why!

The house phone at the restaurant had an important call holding for me and my cell phone was ringing at the same time. One call was from Bill Watson,

the owner of Road Rockets at Sonoma Raceway where the mechanical prep for the next race was being done. The second call was from Dennis Gray, a well known vintage racing photographer from the Sonoma area who was just coming along with Bill and was looking forward to a prime rib dinner. It was a call for help! They had a trailer tire go flat and it was a borrowed trailer and they were stuck about 5 miles from where [CONTINUES](#) ➔

they needed to be. I noticed that Gil Caravantes hadn't arrived yet, so I called him for suggestions. I told him where they were, and he offered to go back home, hitch up his trailer, bring another person to help, and get the tire changed. He is a most amazing friend of BMW!! They got all this done in less than an hour, and dropped the offending trailer at his house. What a wild day!! The 100 members inside were happily eating the Cattlemens best prime rib, hardly noticing what was going on outside.

When dinner was finished everyone came outside to admire the lovely and famous CSL, took photos, and then we jumped into the drawing for all the well chosen door prizes. Dessert was served, again two cakes with pictures of the race car which was sitting out in front of the main door of Cattlemens. After a brief explanation of what had happened, our hero, Gil, was given a standing ovation. Art Simonds gave us the inside scoop of what it was like 40 years ago at BMW Motorsport with the creation of the CSLs.

Niello BMW was generous with genuine BMW items, and Turner Motorsport sent special TMS Team things and some very special posters which were dry mounted in Sacramento and displayed on easels around the room. Special among the posters were 2 from the 50th Anniversary of the Daytona 24 Hour race with many signatures on the poster of 2012 Daytona 24 participants.

It must be mentioned that Gil made Bill and Dennis take the CSL back to Sonoma with HIS trailer, and he had the borrowed trailer's wheel bearings repacked and both tires replaced the next day. The guys returned on Tuesday to switch the trailers, and everything was back to normal.

I think a good time was had by all. The date for the 2013 dinner wasn't final as we go to press. Look for an invitation in the mail soon. Also on Facebook and Twitter.







Winemaker's Dinner AT RUTH'S CHRIS

One of the most enjoyable events of 2012 was the winemaker's dinner at Ruth's Chris Steak House in the Galleria in Roseville. It was our original plan to have this dinner 2 years ago, but a genuine wing nut set the main part Galleria on fire! Our dinner was moved to the Sacramento location. Quick thinking and a helpful staff saved the day for us.

2012 was the designated date for our visit to the repaired Galleria and another visit from John Trefethen. He kept us entertained so well that our trusty photographers didn't do their regular good work. I think that this portion of the Trefethen Family vineyard website completely describes the family and the goals they have set for a dynasty to keep the name of Trefethen around for a long time!

It is my suggestion that when we do this event again, it is not something you will want to miss!

– Editor Pat



The Trefethens

During his decades as a key executive for Kaiser Industries, where he helped construct the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge and the Hoover and Shasta dams, Eugene Trefethen and his wife Catherine entertained frequently, with scotch the socially mandated beverage of choice. But at family

and business dinners, Catherine, a gifted chef and gardener, made sure the table was laden with good food – including fresh vegetables from her garden – and fine wine. When Gene retired in 1968, the wine-loving Trefethens moved to Napa Valley – then considered an agricultural **CONTINUES** ➤



backwater – where they purchased six small farms and the ramshackle 19th-century Eschol Winery, creating a 600-acre wine estate. At the time, there were fewer than 20 operational wineries in Napa Valley and many of its vineyards were on life support. Where others saw ruin, however, the visionary Trefethens saw enormous potential.

The couple's intention was to sell all their grapes, but their son John had other ideas. While studying at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business, John began making small batches of wine in the basement of his parents' Napa home. (John's original foray into fermentation, a batch of apple cider, went explosively awry in a friend's dorm room, one of many teenage escapades that earned him an enduring reputation as a mischief-maker.) His initial efforts, using trash cans as fermentation tanks, were unpromising. Yet, in 1973, aided by his new bride Janet, John produced Trefethen Vineyards' first commercial wine. Just three years later, the winery's 1976 Chardonnay earned "Best Chardonnay in the World" honors at the 1979 Gault Millau World Wine Olympics in Paris. That accomplishment, coupled with John's good business sense and determination to create a world-class wine estate, put Trefethen Vineyards on the global fine wine map.

Today, John devotes himself full-time to the family winery, inspiring the Trefethen team with his jocular and still-youthful energy. A talented race car driver, he often spends weekends at the track lapping drivers half his age.

As Trefethen came to prominence during the 1970s, Janet Trefethen took responsibility for the winery's marketing efforts, becoming one of the wine industry's first female executives. Having grown up on a Northern California rice farm, Janet knew agriculture and was an accomplished horsewoman, yet she was initially greeted with derision in the heavily male-dominated world of wine. Her savvy and sparkling personality, however, soon won hearts and minds throughout the industry, establishing her as one of

California's most engaging wine personalities. Along with Catherine Trefethen and several other female vintners, Janet also pioneered the promotion of wine with food, creating the groundbreaking Napa Valley Cooking Class in 1973.

Janet still works later at the winery than anyone – among other things, she designs every Trefethen wine label – yet she still finds time to cook dinner for her family and exercise her beloved cutting horses. Among the nation's top female cutting horse riders, she's earned a rare belt buckle from the Cowgirl Hall of Fame and was among the top five-ranked riders in the world in 2005.

John and Janet's children, Loren and Hailey, now work (voluntarily!) at the winery full-time. Having literally grown up in the middle of the family vineyard, the siblings have traveled widely with their parents throughout the world's leading wine regions. A graduate of Stanford University, Loren joined the winery in 2007 and has spent several summers immersed in vineyard and cellar operations, including a memorable harvest at famed Chateau Petrus in Bordeaux. He also is injecting new energy and ideas into the marketing and sales departments, with a focus on promoting direct and export sales of Trefethen wines. Hailey, who graduated from Santa Clara University in 2008 with a degree in Biological Anthropology, helped her parents chair the 2009 Napa Valley Wine Auction and wears a variety of hats, from marketing to production, even beekeeper of the estates bee hives. She currently works in viticulture & winemaking operations.

Hailey and Loren are often found together hatching schemes to make life at Trefethen even more exciting. Just as John and Janet took the reins from Eugene and Catherine in the 1970s, Loren and Hailey are poised to put their generation's stamp on the Trefethen credo of "One Family, One Estate, One Passion."





Pine Lodge

The Hellman-Ehrman Mansion
Tour on Lake Tahoe's West Shore

TEXT BY EDITOR | PHOTOS BY VIVIAN



In 1897 SF businessman I.W. Hellman began buying property at Sugar Pine Point on Tahoe's west shore. By 1913 he had title to 2000 acres and had finished construction on one of the finest homes in the Sierras by 1903. The house was designed by Walter Danforth Bliss and contained the most modern utility systems of the day. The electric lights are powered by steam generators, and the 8 bedroom, 7 bathroom main house was certainly luxurious for a summer home of the day.

When the family was in residence there was a live-in staff of 27! Outlying buildings include a caretaker's cottage by the

lake, the children's house by the tennis court, maid's quarters, butler's cabin, ice house, coach house, power house, 2 boat houses, and a boatman's cabin. The boathouses contained several mahogany speedboats. In 1937 Mr. Hellman's son in law raced his favorite boat to a first place in the Tavern Regatta 200+ HP event. Life was good!

Due to the estate's isolated location, Pine Lodge had to have its own dairy and vegetable garden. It was necessary in order to feed the guests and the small army of staff including caretakers, chauffeurs, maids, cooks, laundry workers, groundskeepers, gardeners, tailors, and boatman.

CONTINUES ➔



The house was built mostly of materials gathered locally. The interior is tastefully finished in wonderful woods and displays of Craftsman style panels and woodwork.

Mr. Hellman's daughter Florence Hellman Ehrman inherited the estate. For many years she and her husband spent summers at Pine Lodge entertaining family and friends. In 1965 the house and the 1,975 acres were acquired by the California State Park system. Today, the house is maintained as an example of the turn of the century opulent Tahoe

summer home. It is open for tours from Memorial Day to the end of September, and is closed during the winter.

After our tour we drove to a lakeside restaurant for a leisurely lunch out on the pier watching the beautiful lake. A good time was had by all! We could do this tour again if there are some members who missed this tour and want to spend a leisurely day at Lake Tahoe. Just let Vivian Sumner, our SVBMW Activities Director, know that you would like to make it happen again!!







CHRIS TEDESCO

PHOTOS







The photos seen here, on the cover and preceding spread were generously provided by Chris Tedesco of TedescoPhoto.

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Name:

Chris Tedesco

Location:

Based in the United States of America or where ever you need me to be.

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1998

Shoots with:

Canon EOS-1D Mark IV and EOS-5D Mark II with Canon lenses. Profoto, Hensel, and Quantum lighting equipment

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SAVE THE DATE: AMERICAN LEMANS SERIES RACES MAY 10-12



TEXT AND PHOTOS BY EDITOR PAT

It is time to plan to attend the American LeMans Series Races this year at Mazda Laguna Seca Raceway in Monterey!

Save the dates: May 10-12. You will get to meet and greet the team, including Sacramento resident Joey Hand, before he flies off to run the DTM races in Germany. We will have the usual corral with tables and chairs and a TV with the live feed so that you won't miss anything. The exact details aren't in place yet, but they will be on our Club's Facebook page and website.





The BMW corral is the place to park your BMW! We will have a special tech session to see up close all the details of the entirely new BMW Z4 race cars like the cars which raced across the pond last year. It will be an exciting event, so don't miss it!



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2013 CLUB MEETINGS AND EVENTS

What events would you like to participate in this year? The weather is slowly turning and soon we will be into driving weather! We have many ideas for events this year and need your help deciding on which ones appeal to our members the most. Here are some suggestions:

Charles Schultz Museum | Santa Rosa

Clear Lake area | Drive/Winery

Empire Mine State Park | Grass Valley

Redwoods

Jack Russell Brewery | Camino

Lake Tahoe drive via Highway 88 | Kirkwood

Moaning Cavern Adventure Park | Murphys

Reno Car Museum | Reno

Safari West Wildlife Tour | Santa Rosa

Sierra Nevada Brewery | Chico

Trefethen Family Vineyards | Napa

Virginia City

Tech Sessions (i.e. detailing, brake, suspension, new car intros, etc.)

My email address is activities@svbmwcca.org. Send me an email and let me know what events YOU are interested in joining. We are not limited to the above suggestions. Everyone responding via email, or to our future on-line form, will be entered into a contest for a prize! Be sure to respond by **February 25!**

Don't forget to keep an eye on our Facebook page for up-to-date news and events. Join the group and add your own Bimmer tidbits!

Looking forward to some enjoyable events again this year!

Vivian

Activities Director

Monthly Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at Mimi's Cafe, 2029 Alta Arden Expressway, near Arden Fair Mall at 6:00pm. Formal meeting starts at 7:00pm. Everyone is welcome!



More specific information will be provided as event details are solidified. Stay connected and up to date with the club and our activities on Facebook at the following URL:

<http://facebook.com/group.php?gid=197565875377>

You

can walk among the race cars on the pre-grid at Mazda Laguna Seca Raceway

Two Different Weekends in 2013



May 10 - 12, 2013

- BMW Corral sponsored by BMW North America
- American Le Mans Series Monterey presented by Tequila Patron
- Details soon @ svbmwcca.org
- ** Team Tech session just for us! **
(Parking at tent between Turn 4 and 5.)

September 6 - 8, 2013

- BMW Corral
- Continental Tire Sports Car Festival featuring the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series
- Details soon @ svbmwcca.org
- Paddock Tour
(Parking at tent between Turn 4 and 5.)

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