

das Kummert

The Newsletter of the Tidewater Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America



May • June 2017



Peter and Donna Evans with their 1973 2002

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6 May - Saturday 10:00 am - Blues, Brew, & BBQ on the Peninsula**
- 20 May - Saturday 9:00 am - Bimmer Breakfast, Pop's Diner, Chesapeake**
- 3 June - Saturday 10:00 am - Peninsula Meet and Greet and Eat**
- 17 June - Saturday 9:00 am - Bimmer Breakfast, Pop's Diner, Chesapeake**
- 24 June - Saturday 11:00 am - BMW/PCA Annual BBQ**
- 2 July - Sunday 10:00 am - Independence Day Drive**

RSVP for all events at <http://www.motorsportsreg.com>.
Additional info at events@tidewaterbmwcca.org.



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OFFICERS & KEY PEOPLE

President

Darin Kwasniewski (757) 304-1512
president@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Vice President

Shawn Halsey
vicepresident@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Secretary

Ray Laffoon (757) 686-8924
secretary@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Treasurer

Ron Boustedt (757) 339-0679
treasurer@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Activities Committee

Al Schneider (Chairperson) (757) 447-8159
Marc Garcia (757) 803-5658
Chris Triplett (757) 620-6623
Melissa Waddell
events@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Membership Chairperson

Rob Waddell
membership@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Member-At-Large

Jeff Triplett (757) 620-4171
memberatlarge@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Webmeister

Judy Semo (757) 456-9923
webmeister@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Newsletter Editor

OPEN
editor@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Driving Events Chairman

Ron Boustedt
drive@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Tech Session Chairman

OPEN
techsession@tidewaterbmwcca.org

BMW Classics Chairman

Steve Waddell (757) 539-1305
classics@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Peninsula Rep

Al Resnick
peninsula@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Outer Banks N.C. Rep

Jack Robey (252) 480-3356
obx@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Foodbank Chairperson

Chris Triplett (757) 620-6623
foodbank@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Club Merchandise

merch@tidewaterbmwcca.org



MEMBERSHIP

Tidewater Chapter: 723 as of March 2017
National: 69,055 as of February 2017

ADDRESS CHANGES

Address changes can be made on the BMWCCA National website (www.bmwcca.org) by hitting 'Login' and following instructions on site. From there, click on the 'Manage Account' link on the top of the page; then click on the 'Change Addresses' link.

Or write to:

ROUNDEL BMW CCA
640 South Main Street - Suite 201
Greenville, SC 29601

All changes done through the National office will update both your National and Tidewater Chapter address information.

NEWSLETTER and PHOTO CONTRIBUTIONS:

Your articles and photos are very welcomed by us. To be included in an issue the materials must be received by the 1st of the month preceding the date of the issue. To spice up the newsletter we always need photos of chapter events. We may also use them on the chapter website. Send your contributions to Editor@tidewaterbmwcca.org. Thanks!

SOCIAL MEDIA:

Chapter web site: www.tidewaterbmwcca.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TWBMWCCA/>
Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/twBMWCCA/>
Follow us on Twitter: @TWBMWCCA
Subscribe to our email lists: <http://www.tidewaterbmwcca.org/lists/>

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President's Corner

This edition of President's Corner covers a variety of topics, beginning with a topic I just may have mentioned in prior articles and which is a top priority for the Club. We still need to fill the newsletter editor position. This issue of Das Kummert is the third published issue since Mark Jumper, our previous editor, stepped down. Since then issues have been

produced by several members, but we need to identify a lead person. If you even have a slight sense that you may be able to tackle this position please contact me to learn about the process and responsibilities. We can entertain an interim solution or the option to "test drive" this position, so it can't hurt to try. Now on to more exciting items...



There have been some recent inquiries regarding the translation of our Club newsletter's title. Das Kummert is of course German, and it is believed (no absolute confirmation has been established) that it translates to "The Horse Collar." This seems to make some sense, as one can see the resemblance of the classic BMW kidney grille (see our Club logo) and such a collar (see picture). Several sources have pointed to this translation, but possibly one or more of our long term members may be able to shed some light on or confirm this theory. If so, I can provide any updates in future

newsletter editions. Another possible translation that was identified is "The Cramps." I think we can discount this one.

Speaking of horses, yours truly and our Vice President, Shawn Halsey, took a trip to Dallas for the BMWCCA National Congress, a three day conference for all chapters to gather and share their knowledge of BMW and BMWCCA. Over 150 members and Club supporters were on hand in Dallas including representatives from all 68 chapters, the Club's National Board members, BMWCCA National office employees and BMW of North America employees. Shawn and I obtained a wealth of information regarding the business of our club, upcoming events, and the future direction of BMW. We also received first notice of the grand prize for the annual BMWCCA raffle; a one-of-a-kind BMWCCA special edition Alpina B6 worth over \$130K.

Our National leadership also reminded us of the many benefits of membership and stressed that we need to advertise these benefits to members and potential members. Many of these benefits you may be aware of including: club events, discounts (not only for service and parts, but many other items/services such as hotels and office products), free classifieds, Club newsletter, and the Roundel magazine. In addition, members can receive a rebate for a BMW purchase, utilize the service of our Club ombudsman to help

Our Chosen Charity For 2017:

Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia



You can support this effort by bringing canned goods or money to any chapter event. However, money provides more meals than canned goods. Chris Triplett leads the committee. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Chris Triplett, foodbank@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Join Us On Facebook!

Join us on Facebook to stay up to date with all your club's activities!

To become part of our Facebook group, you must have a Facebook account. After you sign on to Facebook at www.facebook.com, enter "Tidewater BMW CCA Activities Page" in the search block. You should be shown our activities page along with a link labeled "Join Group". Click on join group, a box will appear that will ask you if you want to join this group, click the "Join" button. You are then taken to our club activities page, where you can see and post activities and pictures.



Alpina B6

Continued on pg 12

Cure for Groundhog Day

Ray Laffoon

In February I traveled to Germany for three long weeks to fill-in on a job for a co-worker. It was not my usual job and included 11 nights straight of 12-hour workdays. It is cold and dark this time of year in Germany and except for the ice, snow, fluorescent lighting and utilitarian spaces for all I knew I could have been on the dark side of the moon. After a while I started to talk about barbecued ground hog. The next day it was sautéed ground hog, then ground hog roasted over a spit. Every day was like the previous one bringing to mind scenes from the movie *Groundhog Day* where Bill Murray is trapped with Punxsutawney Phil in the same day, day after day after day after day.

Like Bill Murray, I must have learned my lesson because all of that was finally over on a Saturday morning as several of us loaded my coworker's rented Volvo V60 for the drive back to Franz Joseph Straus – Munich International Airport. My coworkers were flying home, but I was staying through the weekend and returning Monday so I could visit a German friend Markus, who is like a son to me. Markus introduced me to the world of BMW by letting me drive his Bimmers on numerous adventures across Germany and Austria. One such adventure involved a marvelous drive with a group of enthusiasts from Munich that ended with an outdoor cookout in the Austrian Alps. Markus let me ride his S1000RR on numerous occasions including one excessive sojourn in excess of 160 MPH one Sunday morning on the autobahn in northern Germany. That is the fastest I ever drove or rode anything on the ground. In anticipation of this visit, my thoughts were solidly of BMW as my coworkers and I made the two hour drive across Bavaria to Munich.

Once at the airport, I parted with my coworkers and walked to the Sixt rental car counter towing my luggage along the way. There were lots of people, many carrying skis and ski equipment. The Avis line was very long, and I noticed that Sixt had a line,

although it was not as bad as the one at Avis. I got in line, pulled out my iPhone, and checked the Sixt app to see if by some chance they were going to rent me the MINI I reserved several weeks ago. No MINI. In fact nothing was available in that class of rental car. However, the app did show the cars that were available. First was a Renault Megane. I rented a Megane once before and found it to be a decent driving car, however, I recently spent two weeks with a rented Citroën and was not in the mood for any more French quiriness. Next were several Opel Astra sedans and wagons. The new Astra is a nice looking car, and also supposed to be a good drive. Sixt had several Opels with automatic transmissions, a feature I like to avoid most of the time. There were

a couple VW Golfs for 11 more. I like the Golf VII. VW has perfected it through the decades to be a very nice driving package and I find the latest generation to be especially nice to drive.

Then I saw it in the corner of the app two BMW 116i hatchbacks, one with a manual transmission for not that much more than I planned to spend. I looked at the detailed information on

the one with the manual. It was "Schwartz" or black. Black cars are everywhere in Germany. No surprise there. This BMW looked like a nice place to spend the weekend so I pressed "SELECT" on the app. That made passing the time in line go a bit faster so all I had to do when I made it to the agent was sign the paperwork and grab the key.

I journeyed to the rental car parking garage again my with luggage in tow. I passed over to the east elevator, up five floors and then turned right. There in front was the black BMW that was to be mine until Monday morning. I checked it over and was pleased to discover that the shifter had an M on the top of the lever and the steering wheel also had an M on it. I get tactile about my car controls and having M Sport features is always good in my experience. I popped the hatch and loaded the luggage. Then I pressed the start button and worked through the process of



BMW 116i

Continued on pg 16

Activities Committee

Spring is in the air!!! To kick off Spring, we held our first Peninsula breakfast at the Shorty's Diner, Williamsburg, VA. The member's that attended shared some insights of the Williamsburg area, thanks to John and Spence for sharing local information. Those venue locations will be taken into consideration.

As the weather starts to warm up, I invite you all to come to our scheduled Chapter Events listed below.

- Blues, Brew, and BBQ at the Riverwalk, Yorktown, VA
- Monthly breakfast every 3rd Saturday of the month at Pop's Diner, Chesapeake, VA
- Peninsula Meet and Greet, Williamsburg, VA
- BMWCCA & Porsche CCA BBQ, Chesapeake, VA
- Tech Session X 2 (Ron's house)
- Ice Cream Social, so bring your little ones for this event (location to be announced)
- Poker Run in and around the Hills of Virginia, 2-3 day event

On a special note, I would like to thank the following members for volunteering to assist during the upcoming events.

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|
| Jude Holland | Alex Kordis | James Loriol |
| Bill Volz | Rich Jones | Stephen Bradshaw |
| Ray Laffoon | Debbie Laffoon | Mike Tanious |

RSVP is always appreciated when attending our scheduled events. RSVP's can now be made at <http://www.motorsportreg.com>

On a final note, your food or monetary donations to our local charity - South Eastern Food Bank (SEFB) is always welcome. Bring any amount of food items or monetary value during the event and will be gladly received by your events committee member for storage and distribution to SEFB.

Al Schneider, Events Chairman
757-447-8159 • events@tidewaterbmwcca.org

Advertisements

Non-commercial classified ads are free to chapter members. Ads will run in three published issues and then may be continued in subsequent issues only by contacting the Newsletter Editor. Ads submitted are limited to 200 words per ad including name, address, phone number and email address if available. Items offered for sale must be the personal property of the submitting member or family and not of a business.

Commercial ads are available to members and non-members. Such ads must be accompanied by payment in full. Rates shown below are per year (approximately 6 issues). All ads must be submitted in a usable digital format or as camera ready. "Das Kummert" reserves the right to edit or reject any ad submitted.

FULL PAGE
...\$135 per issue or \$700 per yr.

HALF PAGE
...\$65 per issue or \$350 per yr.

1/4 PAGE
...\$50 per issue or \$225 per yr.

BIZ CARD
...\$20 per issue or \$100 per yr.

Club TOOLBOX

For those that have always wanted us to put a name with a face, here's a picture of our club tools. They've been relocated to our treasurer Ron Boustedt's house. Feel free to reach out if you need to scratch your shade tree mechanic itch.

- **HELMETS for track events**
- Service light resetting tools - very useful
- Tie rod separator - pickle forks
- Remote starter switch
- Clutch Alignment tool
- Pilot bearing puller
- Fan clutch wrench & bar
- Electric impact wrench
- Lockstrip tool
- 17mm Trans. drain socket
- Brake bleed system - very useful
- Coil spring compressors
- PEAKE code/reset tool - all models can be connected under hood or dash
- SRS air bag scanner

Contact borrowequip@tidewaterbmwcca.org for your needs.



Club MERCHANDISE

We have made arrangements through Lands End for club members to order a wide variety of chapter logo items. Access by going to: http://ces.landsend.com/Tidewater_BMWCCA. Contact merch@tidewaterbmwcca.org for any questions regarding Lands End or the following merchandise:

Apparel (polos, hats, etc.) - various prices at club events
Chapter Logo Decals/License Plate Frames • BMW CCA Decals & lapel pins: FREE at club events

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Service Engine Soon?

Al Schneider



Service Engine Soon? For some of us, buying a BMW is like buying a piece of history. Since its inception in 1916 as Bayerische Flugzeugwerke,

(now known as BMW) the company has built some of the finest cars for consumers and enthusiasts. For the most part, enthusiasts are the cornerstone of ensuring the company's legacy is known for generations.

As our cars age and fall out of the original manufacturers warranty, our tendency is to buy a new one while for some, that BMW stays with the family and passed on to our children. It is during this time frame that the vehicle starts to talk to you. Not by voice but rather, warning lights to let us know that there is something wrong with vehicle, that it's not feeling well and needs some type of attention by a technician or mechanic. Similar to a situation when we, homo sapiens are not feeling well however, we go to a doctor instead of a mechanic.

While inching along I95 at the Woodbrige / Dumfries area around our nations capital trying to get to the Hampton Roads area, an amber warning light "Service Engine Soon" (SES) illuminated. If you are not up to date on the maintenance of your BMW, having this warning light illuminate during your trip is a nuisance and enough to jitter you till the end of your trip or till it is fixed. And its about this time that we tend to start asking the questions of: What could this be? Is the vehicle going to break down? Will I make it home? What happens now? And lastly, we say to ourselves, I hope this repair is not going to BMW (Break My Wallet).

For me, knowing that the maintenance is up to date, I was not too concerned of the warning light. I know that the engine is in excellent mechanical condition and up to date on its scheduled maintenance however, if the warning light started to blink "on and off" then the problem would be multiple and I would have definitely needed to stop soon to prevent further damage. Thank goodness the SES warning light was constantly on and I was able to drive all the



way home without a hitch.

The next day, packed with troubleshooting knowledge I linked my handy dandy On Board Diagnostic (OBD) II reader to my vehicles OBDII port (driver side next to the hood release handle). It was time to diagnose the cause of the SES warning light. After navigating through the Multi System Scanner, the scanner identified the problem to be "5D Function, Tank Venting System."

Knowing about this system, it is the vehicle's gas tank venting system. To be specific, it's a conglomerate of tubes, hoses, clips, and a sensor that vents gasoline fumes directly to the engines intake throttle body. A very nice system designed by BMW to prevent flammable gasoline fumes from spontaneously combusting.

So after a couple hours of troubleshooting the tank venting system, the problem was isolated to the only culprit - fuel tank breather valve. It was the only component that had a sensor on this particular system.

The location of this fuel tank breather valve is on the driver side, front of the engine, just above the alternator. It has two quick disconnect (QD) air hose couplings and one bayonet type electrical connector.

For anyone with the right tools, time and knack for getting to know their BMW's system functionality, it is a simple fix that encompasses a component "remove and



Continued on pg 16

CLUB EVENTS SURVEY

The BMW CCA -Tidewater Chapter officers and board is committed to making sure that you continue to derive great value from your membership. To help us achieve this goal, we have created a short survey that will provide us feedback about the lineup of Club events. Please take a few minutes now to complete the survey online at <https://kwiksurveys.com/s/0hy2TCLX> The information you provide will be used to improve the Club experience for all.

This survey can be completed by members or non-members. It is the same (or similar) survey distributed at the annual banquet, but you are welcome to provide further feedback if you had completed it at that time. If you have questions, or have survey issues, please contact Rob Waddell at membership@tidewaterbmwcca.org.

Tidewater BMWCCA now on MotorsportsReg.com

By Ron Boustedt

Great news everyone! We've set up a handy new tool to manage all types of member events. Many of you who frequent track events may already be familiar with this tool, it's called MotorsportsReg.com (MSR). Those new to MSR will need to create a free account at <http://www.motorsportreg.com/>. As part of your registration you will need to add our chapter to your "Club Membership" list, select "BMW CCA - Tidewater Chapter."

Our Event's coordinator Al Schneider will be posting all our events on this site, and we'll be pointing all our event registration links here as well. From an event management perspective this is gold. It greatly simplifies the RSVP process and gives us a one-stop-shop for event coordination. If you have any questions or issues (or constructive criticism) please feel free to shoot an email to me at treasurer@tidewaterbmwcca.org.

First Activities Committee meeting at Gordon Biersch, Town Center, Virginia Beach







April-Fest Photo Ops & Drive



Import Autowerks

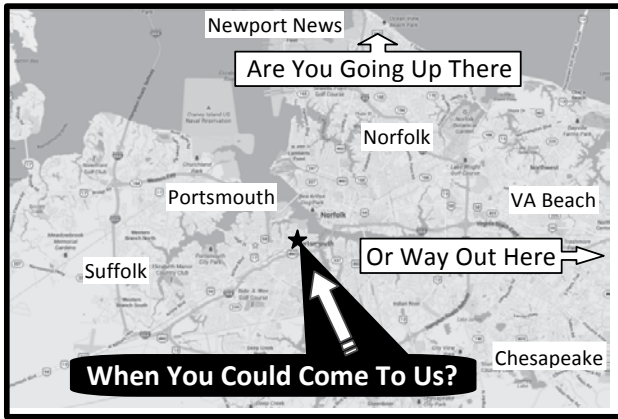
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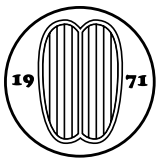


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President's Corner, continued from pg 4

resolve issues with dealerships and independent shops, and members can consult with designated technical advisors for questions about our autos. So take advantage of your membership and your benefits. You can find more details and info about these benefits at bmwcca.org or in Roundel Magazine.



And last but certainly not least. Within this edition you will find information about a Club Events Survey. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey so that you can help us organize meaningful and interesting events to improve your experiences with the Club. I hope that wasn't too much variety in the preceding paragraphs. So until next time, I'll see you on the road.

Darin Kwasniewski, President

Classifieds

PARTS FOR SALE:

E39 Cabin Air filter/Microfilter - charcoal activated
 BMW OE 64-11-0-008-138 \$25/pair brand new, sealed
 E53 X5 Retaining clip-anti rattle for disc brake
 BMW OE 34-11-1-163-488 1 only brand new \$5
 E53 X5 Set of Wheel Locks, used 2x only

BMW OE 36-13-6-773-192 \$25
 email enhiniero@gmail.com / cell 757-510-6996

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 Bob Parsons: inkabob@gmail.com
 Phone: 587-7423

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New Facebook Page for Tidewater BMWCCA

If you are currently a Facebook user, hopefully you are familiar with our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TWBMWCCA>. We have been utilizing this Group for several years - it is for member's exchange and communication. We have now added a new Facebook Page to our social media lineup at <https://www.facebook.com/TWBMWCCA>

The Page is accessible by everyone, and advertises our club and club events. So check out this new Page, join the Group, and let all your BMW friends know about the two Facebook sites.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are thrilled to have you as part of the BMW-CCA Tidewater Chapter!

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Audra Bullock | Brian Howerton | Mack McQueen | Ken Powell |
| Wayne Edwards | Karollette James | William Mullis | Israel Rodriguez |
| Marc Garcia | Johnny Jones | Urs Murmann | Patrick Steele |
| Mark Haynes | Blair Lee | Anthony Nekervis | Samuel Sipe |
| Paul Heim | Kristin McCarty | Frederic Peycelon | Bob Stoufer |
| Thomas Holston | Bob McLaughlin | Damian Powell | |

Whatever your reason for owning a BMW, you have the opportunity to meet others with common interests, form new friendships, and learn more about your "Ultimate Driving Machine!" You decide how you want to participate - face-to-face, virtually, actively, occasionally. Check out www.tidewaterbmwcca.org and our Facebook page, or contact **Rob Waddell** at membership@tidewaterbmwcca.org for more information about participation and the many membership benefits.

You can now follow us on Twitter
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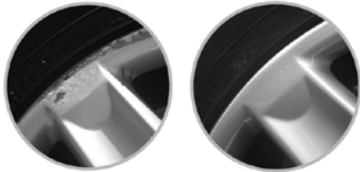
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changing Sprachen to English from Deutsch, and putting Markus's address into the GPS. After fine tuning BMW's excellent fully articulated manual sport seat and the mirrors, I was headed for the A92.

I like the small size of the 1-Series which works nicely with the utility of the hatch. I wish the U.S. market were more accepting of this configuration because these are excellent cars. The 116i is not powerful, but when the traffic opened up I found myself cruising at a comfortable 160 kilometers per hour. Do the math and that works out to 100 miles per hour in a light rain and wearing winter tires. I could set the car precisely where I needed in the traffic and through the curves. I do wish it had more top end oomph, but I can't complain since I wanted a BMW on a budget. I was still running along at a comfortable 100 MPH without straining the engine. The brakes felt a little different but that is probably due to the energy recovery system.

The weekend went well. Besides driving my rented BMW, I rode with Markus in his personal X1, the car that influenced my decision to buy an X1. We watched BMW racing videos like *Adrenalin*, which tells the history of BMW in Deutsche Tourenwagen Meisterschaft (DTM) racing and 24 Hours which told of BMW Motorsport's preparation to contest the 24 hours of the Nurburgring in 2014. This was the perfect weekend to recharge my batteries after a long, cold and dark three weeks.

Late Sunday after saying goodbye to Markus, I had a good drive back to Munich in the 116i. The autobahn

was dry this time and I spent a lot of time watching for faster traffic coming up in my mirrors. Despite moving at 160 KPH, there were a lot of cars moving faster than me, especially BMW 3 and 5-Series Tourings. The lights diverge pretty quickly at the speeds they were running, so I would finish my pass and clear the lane so as not to hold them up. I love the way they look as they go by me. I do like driving in Germany! Germans are good about staying right except to pass, and will only occasionally bog down the left lane, which only seems to occur when a large truck or bus is passing another large truck or bus. However, today is Sunday and no trucks are on the autobahn and so the traffic flows briskly and smoothly all the way to Munich and my hotel.

The Joy of Driving! I can think of no better way to come out of a boredom induced stupor than driving a BMW on the autobahn or along a road through the Alps. I could have chosen one of the other rentals to just drive from point A to point B, but I knew they did not convey the same driving pleasure as that very basic 1-Series hatchback did. I took a few pictures and said a thank you as I nodded goodbye to my BMW for a weekend upon returning the car to the airport. My coworkers said I almost cried when I turned in a rented BMW 520d Touring last year because I enjoyed driving that car so much. I'm glad they were not around to see my misty eyes when I left this marvelous black BMW 116i. The good part is I am only a Trans-Atlantic flight away from driving my beautiful blue X1!



replace" and then resetting the OBDII. If this is not your arena, it would be best to let our sponsors in the maintenance area resolve the issue. They are always ready to assist in resolving any mechanical, electrical, and even install gadgets to make your BMW go faster. But don't forget to bring a few of your friends like Ulysses Grant and Ben Franklin.

Ready to go again and another new part installed on my X5 to keep it running in tip top condition. Enough babbling and lets go for a drive.

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When: 3 June 2017 @ 10:00

Where: Harris Teeter Parking lot, 1470
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Join us for a short drive in the Williamsburg area and meet your fellow Club, new and long-standing, members. We will end with lunch at a local restaurant.

Please RSVP for the upcoming event through:
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events@tidewaterbmwcca.org



Independence Day Drive

When: 2 July 2017 @ 10:00

Where: Location is currently TBD and details to follow.

Come and join us for a drive within the Chesapeake and Suffolk area with lunch at a local restaurant. Please RSVP for the upcoming event through:

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24



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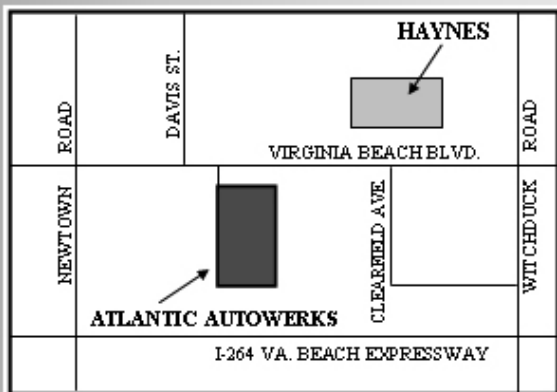
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