



www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org

May 2021

BMC Club Meeting

The Green Turtle Sports Bar & Grille, 425 Stanton Christiana Rd., Newark, DE 19713 Tuesday, May 4th - Greet & Eat @ 6, Meeting @ 7 - Masks & Social Distancing Req'd.

BMC AUTOCROSS I CANCELLED

Club Chair



Well, shortly after a flying start, our 2021 motorsports season has been red flagged because of an incident in the second turn.

Autocross I is unfortunately cancelled, due to loss of our venue for the immediate future. After we secured our autocross season dates and signed our contract, the State of Maryland informed Ripken management that they were requisitioning the stadium's main parking lot for COVID vaccinations through at least July. The end date is not set at this time and the program may go longer. Ripken offered to let us use the remaining space on Sundays, but it is simply not adequate

for autocross. The city's stadium management was very apologetic but even City Hall can't fight the State.

We will contact everyone who preregistered for AxI to discuss credits, refunds, and rollovers. The event was sold out, and we are sorry to disappoint everyone – we're just as disappointed. We apologize for the inconvenience, but at this time the situation is not in our control.

Our Autocross Chair is looking for alternate locations, but they are scarce. We will investigate options to salvage as much of the season as we can.

One of those options may be the **Coatesville Vintage Grand Prix**. At our April meeting, Treasurer Jim Martin brought news that the organizers had reached out to him concerning a 2021 event in September. They appreciated our help with the 2019 running, and they would like BMC to take a larger, more authoritative role in their 2021 restart. Discussion is still in preliminary phases, but looks tentatively promising. **Possible additional activities include a Friday night cruise and Sunday autocross.** The event brings a lot of rare and historic race cars out to run, and is exciting to watch – especially up close! We would need a large number of volunteers to work as flaggers and marshals; we are brainstorming premiums and enticements we can offer. We will keep everyone informed as negotiations develop.

In the meantime, we are continuing in-person meetings. Our next get-together is the first Tuesday of May, the 4th (*insert Star Wars reference here*). Our secretary is making triple-sure that we get a space for our meeting after last month's minor debacle. **Facial masks and social distancing will be enforced** as BMC follows regulatory guidelines for public gathering.

Sorry there is not better news, but we'll keep doing our best to bring you amateur motorsports activities! -Duke "Just Bought A New Helmet, Too" Wilford

2021 BMC Officers

Club ChairDuke Wilford BMCchair@gmail.comMembershipBeto Castelo BMCmembershp@gmail.comTreasurerJim Martin BMCtreasure@gmail.comSecretaryMike Trzonkowski BMCsecretry@gmail.comPropertyGeorge Alderman BMCpropert@gmail.com

Gasline	Jim Irons BMCgasline@gmail.com
Autocross	Liz Wilford BMCautox@gmail.com
Rally	Hanna Alderman BMCrallymaster@gmail.com
Past Chair	Paul Alderman BMCatlarge@gmail.com

Autocross

In these unprecedented times, as we adjust to the new normal, thoughts and prayers... Hahaha, just kidding. Can you imagine? While Ripken Stadium's unavailability is disappointing, BMC's priority has always been the health and safety of our members. If that means

sacrificing a couple autocross events in favor of using the site for vaccinations, I think it's the fairest of trades.

As Duke mentioned above, Autox I is definitively canceled. At this time, I think it's safe to say Autox II in June will be as well. I am leaving Autox III (August) and Autox IV (September) on the table for now, as well as requesting that our original rain date in October be converted to an official event if the stadium is available by then.

If you preregistered for Autox I, expect to hear from me shortly with your options for getting your money back or rolling your registration over to a later event. We will try to preserve as much of the season as possible and certainly hope to see you out at any dates we are able to run.

In the meantime, we are exploring possibilities for alternate venues and highlighting our other club activities like rallies and group trips. We have a handful of leads, but I am soliciting suggestions, especially if you have a specific point of contact. You can email thoughts to <u>bmcautox@gmail.com</u>.

Though the autocross season is on hiatus, I'll still be around for questions and feedback. I've got a few goals in the works to improve our behind the scenes information management, roll out some new offerings, and come back better prepared than ever to make BMC the best it can be. If you want to see us grow and have been thinking about getting more

involved, now is a great time to reach out.

Here's to health and, hopefully, still a few vrooms to come! *Liz Wilford, Autocross Chair*



Rally

Hello all, and Happy (almost) May!

This Sunday, (5/2) my parents, Jozef, and I are scheduled to participate in the Get the Dust Off Rallye with our friends MGs of Baltimore! Jozef and I ran the postponed event last year in July and had a blast.

However, this year we are switching up the teams! Jozef will run with my mom, Heather and I will run with my dad, Paul. Nothing like a little healthy Alderman-Wagner competition! Look for a recap of the event in the next edition of the Gasline.

As far as BMC rallies go, we are in the process of working on a rally (or two) for this summer. While the club as a whole is very sad that AutoX has to cut their season short, we are happy to offer a rally in the interim.

Be on the lookout for more details in the coming weeks. Stay safe and stay healthy!

- Hanna Alderman, BMC Rally Chair

Treasurer



I wanted let to let everyone know that we finished the year with over \$27,000 in the Club's checking account. It wasn't too many years ago that we would finish out the year in the range of \$7,000. This increase is primarily due to the great Autocross program we have

developed. We are now normally sold out at every event.

Since the beginning of the new year, we have paid our annual insurance bills, incorporation fees, and a down payment on track rental. This lowered our checking account to about \$20,000. I have also filed our federal taxes.

Keep your calendars open for the weekend of September 18th. We are working with the Coatesville Vintage Gran Prix again, and it may be extended into a 3-day weekend. We will need a lot of volunteers.

Jim Martin, BMC Treasurer

Tesla Prepped for Cannonball Run?



April BMC Meeting Highlights

BMC Meeting was held at Greene Turtle in Christiana, DE on 06 April 2021. Management had no record of our reservation despite multiple confirmations by the Secretary, so it was held in the bar area. We are seeking recommendations for a new meeting location – preferably one with a semi-private room.

The meeting was called to order by the Club Chair at 7:00pm and was attended by 11 members and guests. There was not a quorum of the Executive Committee.

Treasurer: BMC finished 2020 with approximately \$27,000 in funds. We have paid yearly general insurance for 2021, and a \$3,000 deposit to Ripken Stadium. Current reserves are approximately \$20,000. 2020 non-profit corporate taxes are not yet complete, but will be filed on time. There will be a nominal fee for preparation and filing.

Property: New cones have been received but not integrated into the trailer yet. Property Chair George Alderman would like to have a trailer prep day at the Alderman shop to discard accumulated junk and organize remaining supplies. George has also purchased some pipe to be installed as cone racks. This is unscheduled, but may happen in April.

Membership: As of meeting date there are 109 members, distributed between individual and family memberships. Renewals / joins largely occurred in waves around rally and autocross preregistrations. One family renewed at the meeting.

Rally: Rally Chair was not present. It was noted that Rally I in March had the largest attendance of any BMC road rally in recent history.

Autocross: Autocross Chair was not present. After signing our 2021 contract and sending a rent deposit, AX Chair was informed that the stadium parking has been commandeered for a State of MD vaccination site. It will not be feasible to have events there until at least the end of July and possibly longer. BMC will contact management for a refund of rental deposit. We are investigating alternate sites.

Newsletter: Contributions for the May Gasline are due to the Editor by 27 April.

New Business: Treasurer Jim Martin was contacted by a group from Coatesville about the 2021 Vintage Grand Prix. The organizers were impressed by BMC's focus on safety during the 2019 CVGP. They would like us to take a larger role in planning and executing the 2021 event. They also want to expand to a 3-day format, possibly including a cruise night, race day, and autocross. CVGP paid BMC \$2000 for our work in 2019. Jim indicated to the organizers that a larger role would require a larger fee, between \$5000-\$10,000. BMC's board and informal VGP committee will put together a list of conditions and costs, including possible enticements such as free BMC memberships or event entries for volunteer workers. Jim will continue meeting with organizers as the project develops.

Next meeting date is 04 May 2021. Location to be determined.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Duke Wilford for Mike Trzonkowski, BMC Secretary

Barn dust for sale. Increases car value!

\$500 · Crittenden, KY

Here I have buckets of authentic barn dust. Just scatter all over any pre-80's car, park it in a shed and turn a \$500 beater into a \$25,000 "survivor".



