



Coming Events:

- Apr 8, Tech Session, Gilson's 7 PM
- Apr 14, Meeting/Social, Bill Pearce BMW 6 PM
- Apr 16, Virginia City Drive 10 AM
- May 12, Meeting/Social, Bill Pearce BMW 6 PM
- May 14, Genoa Drive/Lunch TBD
- Jun 9, Meeting/Social, Bill Pearce BMW 6 PM
- Jun 25, Tahoe Gal Cruise 9:30 AM

Sierra Scene

Tech, driving events coming up!

Spring will offer lots of great BMW club events – from Tech sessions to Drive & Dines to a cruise on Lake Tahoe!

The twice postponed **Tech Session at Gilson Autobody** on Glendale Ave. is now set for **Friday, April 8** from 5-7 PM. Gilbert Dayao will demonstrate how they use their new NAJA wireless diagnostic machine to pinpoint suspension and frame damage on a vehicle. He'll also show how they install Paint Protection Film (Clear Bra) urethane clear plastic film to protect cars from rocks, sand and debris. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to 720-7485 or email him at gilbert@gilsonautobody.com.

Two drive & dines are planned for April and May. The first, on **Saturday, April 16**, leaves from the Raley's parking lot on Wedge Parkway and Mt. Rose Highway at 10 AM and ends up via a fun-to-drive route at The Palace restaurant in **Virginia City** for lunch. Contact John English for details and to sign up – call 790-4205.

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These photos were taken at the BMW Museum in Munich. *Can you identify the vehicles they come from?* Check on page two for the answers. Story on page 4.

Photos by John Strom.

From President Art...

Greetings BMW Club Members,

I am excited to be your new president of the Sierra Chapter BMW Car Club. I want to thank Jeff Warner and Jeff Whitesides who will help guide me through the transition. I would like to thank all the members and board members for your support in voting for me. Thank you, John Strom, for lending your expertise in running a car club and providing a fantastic presentation about the history of BMW. And finally, I want to thank Melissa Nicholas for filling in for me at the January meeting.

As you may know our car club is no longer in the infancy stage. We are now at the maturity stage. What does this mean to you? For me, it is continuing the culture both Jeff Warner and Jeff Whitesides started and becoming more organized as a car club. We will continue to evolve as a premier car club and still maintain our unique club culture that both Jeffs so ably promoted. Our first order of business is to improve our website and its functionality. We are on our way there thanks to Carol Villar. We will put our quarterly newsletter on the website to attract new members. This is the first car club I joined and I am amazed at the turnout at each of our monthly meetings. My goal is to continue that trend.

And now for our events. John English, our new Events Director will coordinate our club events for 2011. We will have two tech sessions, six driving events, two Street Survival events for the coming year. In addition to our events, we will list other events of interest going on in Northern Nevada and California. I would love ideas for next year or possibly insert an event sometime in August. At the conclusion of the February 2011 meeting, I proposed a \$5.00 per person fee for each driving event to help pay for the required liability insurance (\$155.00 per event). We are also considering getting sponsors for the driving events to offset costs. Gilbert Dayao is willing to help the club generate revenue at his tech events. Thank you, Gilbert!!!

This is your club and would love to hear from you about your ideas to make it even better. This is a great and wonderful association to be in. Everyone seems to enjoy each other's company at the monthly meetings and scheduled club events.

Enjoy the club and drive safely. Hope to see you all at the coming events!

Art Ona

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Page 1 answers: Left – 1930 and 1934 roadsters.

Right – 1936 328 Miglia Miglia coupe and 1956 507 roadster

Bottom 3 – 1939 335 sedan, 1968 2002ti and Isetta

Page 4 answers: Left – 1956 507 roadster and 1936 328 Mille Miglia.

Right – 1962 700LS and 1930 3/15 PS delivery truck.

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New wave of front-drive BMWs coming

By John Strom

The February issue of *Car* magazine contained a cover story article by Georg Kacher about the **New BMW Generation** – a new wave of 13 small, front-drive cars coming from BMW/MINI between 2013-2018. That’s right – front drive! According to the Kacher “the age of the rear-drive BMW is ending.”

On the cover were artist images of a **Z-2**...the 2016 answer to the MX-5 and new small Porsche/Audi/VW sports car and the **1-series GT**...developed side-by-side with the MINI clubman. These are two of the five vehicles Kacher says will be sold under the BMW name (the other 8 vehicles will be MINIs). The goal of adding these new vehicles is to push sales up to 1-million annually worldwide.

The backbone of the front-wheel-drive project is UKL₁, a new, highly versatile architecture which derives its code name from *untere klasse* in

German, meaning lower class. Power will be from both 3- and 4-cylinder transverse mounted engines, in both front- and four-wheel drive (ala *X1* and MINI *Countryman*). AWD technology is being developed from scratch with Getrag, along with a new dual-clutch transmission.

The transition from rear to front-drive is years away, according to Kacher’s article. The 1-series hatchback, and related coupe and convertible due in 2013 will remain rear-drive cars. The transition starts the following year with the GT – described by insiders as a “compact activity tourer” ...like the Audi A3 Sportback not sold here in the U.S..

The other front-drive BMW models are called the “**Joy**”...3- and 5-door version of the new 3rd generation MINI due in 2013, the “**Fast**” ...a Family Activity Sports Tourer (larger than the 1-series GT pictured) and the **X1** replacement. These will be out from 2014-2016. Who knows what we’ll be able to buy here?



The other fascinating article in the issue was on the BMW Megacity Vehicle. All electric, made of carbonfibre, it will be “unlike any production BMW that has gone before.”

It is a product of *Project i*. a group formed “to develop sustainable, pioneering products and ideas for the future.” The MCV, as it’s called, with still have “sharp agile handling and punchy performance” they say.

Tech, driving events planned for April, May and June!

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The second drive & dine is scheduled for **Saturday, May 14**. John English is organizing a drive from Reno over some fun roads to **Genoa**. The exact lunch location has not yet been set. Watch your email and the web site for details.

On **Saturday, June 25**, our club will join with the Sacramento club to cruise on the **Tahoe Gal** out of North Lake Tahoe. Expect a Reno departure at around 9:30 AM for the Noon sailing. Details are still being worked out for this trip. Again, watch your email and the web site for details.

And don’t forget about our usual **Meeting/Socials** on the second Thursday each month. We first meet at Bill Pearce BMW at 6 PM, followed by an optional dinner at a local restaurant. Dates are **April 14, May 12, June 9** and **July 14**.

A BMW history lesson at the Museum!



John Strom gave a talk at the February meeting about his visit to the BMW Museum in Munich in September. It was essentially a history of BMW through his pictures and descriptions.

He and his wife, Alice, visited four German car museums – Mercedes-Benz, Porsche, BMW and Audi – the Great German Car Museum Driving Tour, as he called it.

John showed the evolution of some key BMW styling details through the years – like the kidney grille and Hofmeister kink. He also showed many other styling details from the various cars on display.

Can you name these BMWs? Look on page two for the answers.



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