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BMW CCA, Puget Sound Chapter Raises \$15,000 for Northwest Parkinson's Foundation

The BMW Car Club of America, Puget Sound Chapter, raised \$15,000 for the Northwest Parkinson's Foundation (NWPf) at its recent annual banquet and auction January 26th, 2005. This topped the amount raised for charity the previous year by fifty percent.

Auction bidders were inspired to be generous by the story of one of their own members. Martin Hovenkotter, a Sammamish, WA resident an active member and currently holds the office of Treasurer. Martin told us about the disease and his personal experience with it. It was moving and certainly helped people get in the spirit to benefit this worthy cause.

Further inspiration came from the auction items donated by local business supporters of the club and club members. These included services from the businesses, a handmade quilt from a member, and the donation of the opportunity to drive the race cars owned by two members, the chance to be a passenger in an acrobatic plan and the topper to drive a club member's 1957 Chevy in a drag race!

Spirited bidding resulted in auction proceeds of a little over \$15,000. The club's board of directors decided to donate \$15,000. A check was presented to the Northwest Parkinson's Foundation representatives Bill Bell, Executive Director, Craig Howard, Co-Founder and Board Chairman and Joanna Glickler, Development Director on February 9th, 2005 by BMW CCA PSR representatives Rick Gulstrom, President, Martin Hovenkotter, Treasurer and de-Anna Martin CPS/CAP, Banquet Chair.

Over 250 members were in attendance at the event. The evening's program was M Night and featured on the floor one of every M Car produced by BMW. The cars were presented by local club members. Former M Brand Manager of BMW NA Erik Wensburg was on hand and spoke to those in attendance about his involvement with BMW. Also on the banquet floor was the one stunning BMW race car featured in the auction.



Pictured from left to right; de-Anna Martin CPS/CAP, Craig Howard, Martin Hovenkotter, Bill Bell, Rick Gulstrom, and Joanna Glickler.