

**Northeastern Pennsylvania
Section**

**Mercedes-Benz Club
of America**

MBCA-NEPA.COM



**Shining Star
Spring 2018 Newsletter**

President's Message

Spring is here! And that means you'll be able to take that collector car, antique car, or your newer "baby" out of the garage for a drive, especially to MBCA-NEPA events: Sunday April 7th is the Penn State Lehigh Valley Car Club's 2nd Annual Charity Car Show where you can enter your MB. Saturday May 12th is the Spring Day Drive where we will see Mr. Bernstein's private, rare, collectible & exotic cars in Dunmore. Sunday June 10th is the Concours d'Elegance at Hershey with 70 of some of the world's finest collector vintage and antique cars out there. Saturday June 23rd the June Jamboree, the longest running MBCA event where you can enter your MB in the show. Invite another Mercedes owner to the events. They may then want to join the club to continue to enjoy the camaraderie and the events. See more details on these events in this newsletter and future eBlasts. I look forward to seeing you at an event.

Happy and safe motoring,

Mike Ziegler



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Upcoming Events

2018 Upcoming Events

Sun Apr 7, 9:00 AM - 2 PM - PennState Lehigh Valley Car Club 2nd Annual Charity Car Show

Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus, 2809 Saucon Valley Rd, Center Valley PA 18034. Click [here](#) for more information

Sat May 12, starting 11AM - Day Drive - NEPA Section Event

[*See more details in following article*](#)

May 15 - 22 - StarFest 2018 in Alabama

[**See schedule in section below**](#)

Sun Jun 10 - Concours d'Elegance, Hershey, PA

[***Further described in a following section***](#)

Sat Jun 23 - June Jamboree - Regional N & S NJ

Sat Jul 14 - Deutsche Classic

Sat Jul 21 - Summer Picnic at John & Arlene Frailey's - NEPA Section Event

Tannersville, PA 18360

Aug 3rd to 5th - Das Awkscht Fescht, Macungie PA

****[see write-up below for more information](#)****

Car registration deadline of June 30th!

Sun Aug 12 - New Hope Car Show

Sun Aug 19 - IndyCar Day Show at [Pocono Raceway](#) - NEPA Section Event

1234 Long Pond Rd, Long Pond, PA 18334

Pocono Raceway is holding their third annual car show during their Annual Indy Race. Our own Debra Kropf wrote a review of their amazing experience at 2016's event, was eBlasted to our membership, and is [reproduced here](#).

Sun Sep 9 - Radnor Hunt C d'Elegance, Malvern, date tentative

Sun Sep 16 - Day Drive ending at Jacobsburg Historical Society - NEPA Section Event

Sat Sep ?? - Mid-Atlantic Regional Picnic at Falkenhorst (John Bleimaier's Estate), Hopewell, NJ - Northern NJ Section Event

Sat Oct 13 - Road Rally - NEPA Section Event

Thu Nov 8, 7:00 PM - Dinner & Planning for 2019 events - NEPA Section Event

at [Starlite Diner in Fogelsville](#), 233 N Route 100, Allentown PA 18106

We will be discussing events for the 2019 calendar year. Bring your ideas and your 2019 planning calendar so we can pick dates that most of you are available to attend

Wed Dec 19 - Christmas/Holiday Dinner at [Melt](#) - NEPA Section Event

For any changes after this newsletter publication, check MBCA-NEPA.COM for the latest information.”

Spring Day Drive May 12th

May is a wonderful time for a Day Drive. Temperatures are usually great for putting down the top.

On May 12th we will be leaving the Lehigh Valley area probably around 9 AM and hope to pick up more members around 10 AM midpoint and arrive in Dunmore at 11 AM to see Mr. Bernstein's private, rare, collectible and exotic cars. I saw his collection a few years ago while touring with a Rolls Royce Phantom I club (they let Nancy & I attend with our 1922 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost). When I asked Mr. Bernstein if he would allow our MBCA-NEPA section to see his collection, he asked me, "I only have one Mercedes Benz, will the Mercedes Benz Club want to see my collection?" I said definitely! The Rolls-Royce group had an amazing time, and hopefully you will too. After viewing the cars, we will go for lunch at about 12:30 PM. Barry Brobst, our Day Drive Coordinator, will have an eBlast sent out with the details as we get closer to the date.

Mike Ziegler

****StarFest® 2018**** **May 15-21** **Birmingham, Alabama**

Tue. - Fri. May 15-18

- Tours of the Mercedes-Benz US International Factory (MBUSI) near Birmingham, AL - lead by MBCA Alabama Section members. (Those who registered earliest were placed on the Friday tours. and are now filled. Thursday is being booked now, and Wednesday & Tuesday are added as necessary. Register now to get a day closer to the main events!)
- 4 untimed Rallies of different lengths (3-5 hours) with easy-to-follow directions to take you to world-class museums and great restaurants on challenging, lightly traveled roads that feature great scenery. Competition is answering questions along the way and in the museums.
- Technical and historic seminars in the Bill Taylor Training Institute at MBUSI. There will be 2-3 each day. Subjects include Mercedes-Benz collectables/values, automobile systems and functions on full scale cutaways, current production systems and equipment, history of Daimler, Benz, Mercedes-Benz, factories, racing history, photography, maintenance of your car for women and men and more.

Thu. May 17, 9 AM - 4 PM

- Southern Heritage tour (bus) to Birmingham's great older neighborhoods, the Arlington Antebellum home with history professors as guides. Includes mint juleps on the veranda, gourmet lunch, visit to the Birmingham Museum of Art. This is filled with a waiting list.

Thu. May 17, 6 PM - 10 PM

- Welcome reception at Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum - world's largest motorcycle and Lotus race car collection.
 - Dan Gurney and John Surtees cars and bikes and memorials.
 - Recap by principals on why Alabama was selected by M-B 25 yrs ago.

Fri. May 18, 6 PM

- Reception at M-B Birmingham.

Sat. May 19

- MBCA judged concours and Silver Star certification at factory's Brand Immersion Center.
 - Concours Awards banquet speaker - Jason Hoff, President of MBUSI.
- Safe Drivers-Safe Families-driving skills for teens and adults.

Sun. May 20

- Autobahn experience at Talladega Superspeedway - drive the 33-degree banked oval at speed that just can't be described without experiencing it.
- Safe Drivers-Safe Families emergency driving skills at Talladega (required prerequisite for Performance Driving).
- Autocross at Talladega Superspeedway.
- Acceleration runs at Talladega Superspeedway.
- Off-road driving in Talladega national forest.
- Reception and awards-program by the 28 hr Cannonball NY-LA in a CL55 AMG record holder.

Mon. May 21

- Performance Driving Experience at Barber Motorsports Park classroom and track coaching.
- Performance Driving Experience at Barber Motorsports Parks, 17-turn road course - the most popular circuit in the IndyCar series. This is an intro at highway speed with in-car and classroom instruction.
- Off-road driving at Barber Motorsports Park's 7-mile off-road course.
- 7 PM - Farewell reception.

As you can see, this StarFest also adds the events we have at StarTech, StarTrails, and Safe Drivers-Safe Families. You will not be able to do everything, but everyone should be able to find several things of interest.

The Birmingham Hilton Perimeter Park has a private parking lot for us and is giving us a special Mercedes-Benz Club of America rate of \$111/night. You must call them directly at 205.967.2700 to get this.

"The Star" Magazine, March-April 2018 pg 96 has more details, or visit the website StarFest2018.mbca.org.

To register and see prices go to [www.msreg.com/starfest 2018](http://www.msreg.com/starfest2018).

You don't want to miss this!

Mason Beale, PhD
MBCA | Alabama Section President
Co-Chair Starfest 2018

Jim Roberts, DMD
MBCA | National Secretary
Co-Chair StarFest 2018

Our NEPA director Brett (& Debra) Kropf are registered to attend, so if you are planning to attend or have questions, contact Brett from [our web site](#) or Brett@Kropf.com.

*****The Elegance at Hershey June 8-10*****

The Elegance at Hershey is a 3-day event. Friday June 8th and Saturday June 9th is the Grand Ascent: Vintage Car Hill Climb & VIP Charity Ride Along. The highlight of the weekend, The Concours d'Elegance Garden Party, is Sunday June 10th 9 AM - 4 PM at Hotel Hershey, Hershey PA. The Elegance is modeled after the finest of European and American Concours d'Elegance. It is an automotive garden party featuring 70 of the world's finest collector vintage and antique cars, arrayed around the manicured formal gardens of The Hotel Hershey. Car owners, and those who adore their cars, gather for a day of mutual admiration and relaxed camaraderie while special guest judges review and critique the participants' cars. At 2:45 PM the winning vehicles begin to drive to The Elegance Award Ceremony for presentation of trophies. This event benefits the following charities: AACA Museum, JDRF, and AACA Library & Research Center. For additional information check out the website: theEleganceAtHershey.com Tickets available online (Concours admission tickets are \$37.50 each) or at the door. If you would like to car pool or caravan to The Concours d'Elegance on Sunday, contact Mike Ziegler mikez@zieglersrv.com 610-504-5370.

******Das Awscht Fescht******

3-day event August 3rd to 5th, Car Club Show is Sunday Aug. 5th

Car registration deadline of June 30th

ANTIQUÉ AND SPECIAL INTEREST CAR CLUB SHOW--A 'cast' of 35 car clubs puts on quite a show with over 1,000 vintage autos (Sunday)

Car registration deadline: June 30 (pre-registration only, [NO day of show registration](#)). [Registration information here](#).

\$15 car registration includes up to 4 people (\$32 admission value & you don't have to walk from general parking)!

ADMISSION (for those not pre-registering their car): \$8 for adults, \$3 for age 15 and under.

For 54 years, Das Awkscht Fescht has been a summer tradition for all ages. Offering three [fun-packed days](#) in the great outdoors, it's a perfect way for families to celebrate summer. This year, we celebrate our 55th Annual Fescht, so come cruisin' through 42 acres of fun at the Fescht – and enjoy the great things classic summers are made of. Admission Includes all events, shows, and entertainment.

ANTIQUE AUTO FLEA MARKET Get a “peach” of a deal on parts and accessories for sale by more than 450 vendors. Plus, many vendors have antiques and collectibles as well, from toys and home decor to tools and beer signage.

Car Corral \$30 covers all 3 days, no pre-registration, first come first serve, includes admission for up to 4 people.

Arts, Crafts & Antiques area, featuring the handcrafted wares from over 100 vendors. From soaps, jewelry and clothing to home decor, pet items and food items, our arts & crafts vendors are sure to have something for everyone.

KIDS' SHOWS and ACTIVITIES The fun begins at Kinderland and Crayola® Corner. Jugglers, magicians, ventriloquists, clowns and a special creative activity and display center will educate and entertain young Fescht-goers for hours on end. A moon bounce has been added as well. (small fee may apply) The playground and swimming pool are open all weekend for everybody's enjoyment.

For even more refreshment, enjoy a dip in the **swimming pool** (open all 3 days, with lifeguard on duty).

Band Stand Live Entertainment, Sunday schedule:

11:15 AM – 12:30 PM.....Brian Dean Moore Band

12:45 PM – 2:00 PM.....Scott Marshall & Marshall's Highway

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM.....Crazy Hearts Country Band

MBCA-NEPA coordinator at the event: Ron Gabel.

Hope to see you there,

Mike Ziegler

NEWS

Meet our new members:

Chris Cordaro of Dickson City, PA
Thomas Fought of Williamsport, PA
Emmanuel Ojo-Powerson of Pocono Pines, PA

Request from Tom for Current Information

Dear Fellow Members;

As the new Membership Chairperson for our Club, one of my duties is to maintain our Membership Directory and database. Keeping your contact information current helps the Club to provide timely and accurate information regarding events and activities.

There is a definite need to provide the following bits of information to help the Club for event planning purposes:

- The year, make, and model of your car;
- Associate Member—all Members can add one Associate Member to their membership AT NO COST! We would just need you to provide that person's First Name, Last Name and e-mail address

Double-check for accuracy---

Your current address, telephone number and e-mail address. This can be accomplished by providing the information to me at lindemantd@gmail.com or by phoning me at [610-349-9597](tel:610-349-9597) and I will be happy to assist!

Volunteer Needed to Handle Sponsor Ads

Your NEPA club is looking for a volunteer to handle sponsors (ads) in the newsletter/eBlasts. For more information contact Mike Ziegler 610-504-5370 or one of our officers or directors.

Past events:

Sat Feb 3 - Philadelphia Auto Show - South Jersey Section

On, February 3rd - the South Jersey Section made their annual trip to the Philadelphia Car Show and included our NEPA Section.

We really want to thank the South Jersey Section for including us in the event and also thank Mercedes Benz for hosting this annual visit. We had a one hour private showing of the cars in the Mercedes Benz section prior to our admittance to the main show floor at 9 AM. The SJS collected \$140 in donations for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and provided a \$160 match for a total of \$300 to CHOP. Thank you Carl Janson for including us.





From top left: NEPA and SJS Attendees in front of the AMG GTR showpiece in mango green; my favorite G-Wagon. From lower left the new 2018 SL 450; and the SL 300 Gullwing.

The early admittance was such a wonderful benefit, enabling us to have the time to get close to all the cars before the crowds.

[Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance](#)

by Otto Christensen



On March 8 my wife Alice and I set out on a road trip in her nifty Mars Red C300 4matic, heading for Jekyll Island, Georgia, to visit former member Wesley Wormser and his family. (Wesley transferred his membership to Georgia, where he is currently attending college). We miss the Wormsers and were glad to get to spend some time with them again.

Left: Wesley and his Silver Star Preservation 1978 280E

On Saturday, March 10, I attended the show with Wesley and David Wormser. Mercedes had a very good presence in both Cars and Coffee and the Concours. The green Mustang below is the original Bullet Mustang.

[Click here for a link to the awards of the 2018 Concours.](#)





Due to an unreliable weather forecast, the concourse was moved to Saturday so that it coincided with The Cars & Coffee which I participated in with Wesley in his 280E. That meant that the lunch with Georgia MBCA club was cancelled.

This show is a 'must do' for any car enthusiast. [Here is a link to the 2019 Amelia Island Concourse](#)

Spring Dinner Carmel Kitchen March 15

Our Northeast Section hosted its annual spring dinner at the Carmel Kitchen in Allentown on March 15.

We had a wonderful time. The food was delicious. The menu included crabcakes, broccolini, and multi-colored potatoes, dessert, and coffee or tea.

The best part was the camaraderie! We had a nice turnout. The layout of the room and the number of attendees made it possible for everyone to talk to everyone else. Attendees included: Debbie Egolf, Lois and Sam Giamber, Barry and Lyne Brobst, Ronald and Elaine Gabel, Adele and Chuck Clemmer, Tom Lindemann, Debra and Brett Kropf and John and Arlene Frailey.

We are already looking forward to next year! Thanks, Debbie, for great picks of venues and for organizing the event!

Classic Mercedes Parts

Novey Recycling runs a U-PULL-IT auto salvage in Central Pennsylvania. We have just bought out a small auto salvage in our area and have brought about a dozen older Mercedes automobiles to our yard. We are writing to you knowing that certain parts are hard to find during a restoration or normal part failure. We do not keep an inventory being we are a U-PULL-IT yard. Our pricing is the same for a Ford Pinto part as it would be for the same Mercedes part. Our website is www.noveyrecycling.com and our toll free phone number is 1-888-620-7976 if you should have any interest. Thank you for your time. Tyler Boal, Online Sales Manager

Airbag Recall

At Mercedes-Benz, our highest priority is keeping you safe. So we'd like to share some important information about a recall involving Takata frontal airbags used in many vehicles, including certain Mercedes-Benz models. This safety recall is a result of inflators that may improperly deploy with excessive force in the event of a crash. Takata and other inflator suppliers are working with the U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to coordinate availability of replacement airbags as soon as possible. To learn more about the Takata Recall, including information on free airbag replacement, visit mbusa.com/mercedes/recall.

Personalized License Plates now Available from DMV

The Pennsylvania license plates with the Mercedes-Benz Club of America logo on them are available again through our Keystone Section. They are available either sequence numbered, or customized with up to 5 letter/numbers for an additional one-time fee. At least two of our members have applied for and received their customized plate, and are pictured on the top-right corner of our MBCA-NEPA.com web site. The link to the directions and forms to fill out can be found here: <https://keystone.mbca.org/pa-license-plate>



Event Attendance Book:

We have started something new. Members who attend NEPA events are requested to sign the Event Attendance Book, and if you brought your MB to the event, list the year, make, and model brought. If you don't see the book at the event, tell Debbie Egolf or one of the other officers (with gold colored name badges) that you would like to sign the Event Attendance Book.

Name-Tags:

Professionally-produced name-tags are a great way to display your pride in membership and introduce yourself to other members at Club events.

Name-tags are available for purchase by Members and Associate Members.

For details and to order your personalized tags, please **contact Membership Coordinator Tom Lindeman at 610-349-9597 or lindemantd@gmail.com**

Associate Members emails:

We would like to have each member who has a spouse or partner, to list that person at no additional cost, as an associate member, and to list their email address so they also get the newsletters and other updates directly. You can do that by logging into the MBCA.org web site, or email the information to Mike Ziegler along with their phone number (or let him know that the associate member's phone number is the same as the member's phone number).

MBCA Car Flags for sale:

Blue car flags with the MBCA logo on both sides are available. They fit on the side windows. They are good for any MBCA event to show your support of our club. They are available from Debbie Egolf or Mike Ziegler at most events. Preferably, email Debbie at egolf2000@yahoo.com so she knows to give it to you at the event you are going to. There is a donation of \$5 requested preferably by check to MBCA-NEPA. Get one for each of your MB cars and keep it in the car, so you don't have to remember to take it with you on an event.



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This is your forum to keep in touch and share information.

www.facebook.com/groups/MercedesBenzNEPA



KNOPF
AUTOMOTIVE

MBCA member discount: 10% off (up to \$100) parts and service on your first visit.

Contact Jim at jsangiorgio@knopfauto.com, or at 610-967-0787.

The advertisement features a photograph of a modern automotive dealership building at night. The building has large glass windows and is illuminated from within. Signs for 'Classic Center', 'PORSCHE', and 'Mercedes-Benz' are visible on the building's facade. Several cars are parked in front of the dealership.



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Submit news, event, and other contributions for MBCA NEPA Shining Star Newsletter to nepa.mbca@gmail.com

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