

**Northeastern Pennsylvania
Section**

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

MBCA-NEPA.COM



**Shining Star
Summer 2019 Newsletter**

President's Message

Summer is a busy time for car events. During July, August, and September we are promoting: 4 car shows, our Mid-Atlantic Regional yearly picnic in NJ, and our NEPA day drive. Info on these events are in this newsletter.

Deadlines and specific requirements to bring to your attention as follows:

1. To enter a MB car in the Das Awscht Fescht Car show, it must be 1994 or older and the postmark deadline to register is July 1st.
2. The New Hope Auto Show is limited to 300 cars in all makes on Sunday and may fill up quickly (day-of-show registrations can't be guaranteed and if available are \$5 additional), all MB models thru 1990 may be judged or for display only (both must register).
3. Radnor Hunt Concours pre-registration is less than registering that day, and includes admission and close special parking in the Motor Sport area with MB cars of any year parking together (display only, judged cars are pre-selected by invitation).

Election of officers will be held at the October 10th General Membership/Planning Meeting. If you have an interest in serving as an officer or want to nominate someone, let one of the current officers know. We would like a volunteer to solicit MB type ads for our Newsletters and eBlasts.

You don't have to bring a MB car to attend events, but it is part of the fun if you can. Invite other MB owners to join our camaraderie at an event and ask them

to join the club (personal invitation is the best way to increase NEPA membership). Hope to see you at these fine events!

Mike Ziegler



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Upcoming Events

2019 Upcoming Events **July through end of year**

MBCA-NEPA picnic rescheduled for Summer 2020

Sat Jul 13 - Deutsche Classic, Oley Fairgrounds near Reading PA -
www.deutscheclassic.com

Sun Aug 4 8AM-4PM - Das Awkscht Fescht Macungie PA deadline for registration is July 1st - <https://awkscht.com/>

Sun Aug 11 - New Hope Car Show

Sun Aug 18 - IndyCar Show at Pocono Raceway - NEPA Section Event
**** See following write-up for more details ** Registration is closed. The event is full**

Sun Sep 8 9AM-4PM - Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance

Sat Sep 14 - Mid-Atlantic Regional Picnic at Falkenhorst (John Bleimaier's Estate), Hopewell, NJ - Northern NJ Section Event

Sun Sep 15 - Day Drive - NEPA Section Event

This is an exceptionally fun, interesting drive. Barry, our Day Drive Coordinator always picks interesting and fun places to go, including a lunch at a great restaurant. In past day drives, we have driven to Bill's Bike Barn, and on yet another drive, to see a very private, very rare car collection. Please see the write-up under past events to read about our latest day drive to Kaufmann's Barbecue Chicken Ranch.

Sat Oct 5 Road Rally - NEPA Section Event * details in article below *****

Sat Oct 10 NEPA Planning / Election Meeting ** details in a short article below ******

Thu Dec 19 6PM - Christmas/Holiday Party

2019 POCONO RACEWAY CAR SHOW

Sunday, August 18, 2019

Thank you for your interest in our classic car show to be held at Pocono Raceway, 1234 Long Pond Road, Long Pond, Pa. This show will be held in conjunction with our IndyCar race on August 18, 2019, bringing some unique and exciting action to Pocono Raceway.

Registration is closed for this popular event. Suggest sending registration asap since previous years' registration filled up months earlier than the deadline! There are currently 21 stand-by reservations as of 6/22/19.

Show specifics:

- Show date: Sunday, August 18, 2019*
- Show time: 10 AM to 3:30 PM - Cars must remain through race, until about 6 PM*
- Vehicles must enter at Gate 1*
- Parking will be in the designated area only*
- Engines must be off while parked*
- Tents/canopies are NOT allowed.*

If you have any comments, questions or concerns, please contact me at the email or phone number below. Thank you!

Starrlee Warner | Pocono Raceway | Operations Assistant
swarner@poconoraceway.com 570-643-7116

Thank You,

Starrlee Warner

Operations Administrative Assistant
Assistant Pocono Raceway NASCAR Training Coordinator
PO BOX 500 | 1234 Long Pond Rd | Long Pond, PA 18334
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***** FALL 2019 MERCEDES CLUB ROAD RALLY *****

Our popular 2019 Fall Rally is scheduled to be held **Saturday October 5th, 2019**. This rally will again begin with an optional breakfast from 9AM to 10AM at a Lehigh Valley restaurant at which time your rally master will hand out and explain the rules of the road and general instructions for this rally.

Our last rally consisted of only one leg beginning with breakfast and ending with a late lunch. This shortened route proved popular with participants and will be the format used again in this fall rally.

If you are a member of our club, a sister club or a potential club member who would like to try your hand in one of our club rallies, we suggest you give it a try. All models of Mercedes cars, any year are welcome. If for some reason your Mercedes is not available, you can use another car. There is no previous experience necessary and virtually all who have attended in the past have universally enjoyed the experience.

Our rally is in no way a race, take all the time you need to complete the task. The rally is simply a contest in which you follow a predetermined route while searching for answers to sometimes tricky questions whose answers are possible to be found along the way. Our hope is no one will answer all the questions correctly, after all someone must win the rally.

We require at least two people in each car, a driver and a navigator, however additional people are allowed in each car. As noted above members of sister Mercedes clubs and potential club members are, as always, welcome to attend.

Look for details in our next newsletter.

Ron Gabel



Here we are at the start of our previous road rally in 2018. Lots of fun.

**** [October 10 NEPA Election/Planning Meeting](#) ****

Election of officers will be held at this October 10th General Membership/Planning Meeting. If you have an interest in serving as an officer or want to nominate someone, let one of the current officers know. Contact information for current officers is at the end of this newsletter.

NEPA Section board meetings for the remainder of 2019 (*tentatively*):

Mon September 9, 7pm-9pm
Tue December 10, 7pm-9pm

Please check MBCA-NEPA.COM for updates after this newsletter publication.

Meet our new members:

Paulo Benatti of Bethlehem, PA (2006 SLK350, formerly Mike Ziegler's)

Grant Genzlinger of Hawley, PA (2019 Atlas)

Curt High of Gilbertsville, PA (2018 AMG GLC 43)'

Guido Pichini of Reading/Wyomissing, PA (2016 S550, 2019 GLC AMG 43)

John Sales of Allentown, PA (2004 CLK320 Cabriolet)

Please note: if your associate member would like to receive a separate copy of our newsletter and eBlasts, please send their email address to our Newsletter Editor, Alice Christensen (achristensen@comcast.net)

Mercedes-Benz Club of America Educational Foundation (MBCAEF)

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) established the Mercedes-Benz Club of America Educational Foundation (MBCAEF) as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in 1997. The newly formed Foundation's goal was to share the rich history and heritage of the Mercedes-Benz automobile through education and preservation.

With the founding objectives clearly in mind, the MBCAEF Board of Directors has launched three initiatives.

Automobile Restoration Initiative – There is a strong history of cooperation between Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts and the McPherson College automobile restoration program. The MBCAEF Board views automobile restoration as an excellent means to both educate and preserve Mercedes-Benz automobile history and heritage.

The McPherson College Automobile Restoration Program has announced their acquisition of a 1953 Mercedes-Benz 300S Cabriolet. As part of their strategic plan, they will restore this car and present it at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance in 2023. The MBCAEF has contributed funds and Board members, regularly attend the annual McPherson College Automotive Restoration Students (C.A.R.S.) Club weekend event the first weekend in May.

Driver Skills Initiative – Each year, too many drivers in the United States and Canada are seriously injured or lose their lives on public roadways. A significant percentage of these drivers are new and inexperienced. In

recognition of an educational opportunity that would benefit the greater community of drivers, the MBCAEF developed the Safe Drivers/Safe Families (SD/SF) Driver skills curriculum on behalf of MBCA. The SD/SF curriculum uses a combination of classroom instruction and closed course practical application of vital driving tactics while providing a sustainable and uniform driver skills curriculum that may be applied in all twelve regions of MBCA

The SD/SF Driver Skills Curriculum is the exclusive property of MBCA and has been formally adopted as the official MBCA driver skills curriculum. The MBCAEF has developed printable pdf documents and has printed Driver Handbooks and Coaches Guides for use by MBCA Regions and Sections who host or sponsor SD/SF events.

Library Cataloging - Since inception of the MBCAEF, the Foundation has been recipient of many volumes of literature, video tapes, 16mm films, microfiche film and other assorted materials. It is within the scope of the MBCAEF to organize and catalog, as possible, the materials that now belong to the Foundation. The materials reside at the National Business Office of the Member. Some cataloging of donated materials has been previously accomplished. There has been no recent progress in this initiative.

Fund Raising – The MBCAEF accepts cash donations from Sections and members. Additionally, the Foundation is prepared to accept donations of Mercedes-Benz automobiles from members. Because the Foundation is a 501(c)(3), contributions are deductible. Please consider the Mercedes-Benz Club of America Educational Foundation among your charitable giving candidate organizations.

MBCA Northeastern PA Section Logo Clothing Available!

A diverse line of quality men's and women's *Lands' End* activewear, outerwear, shirts, sweaters and other items are available with our MBCA Section logo.

Visit the *Lands' End* website at <http://business.landsend.com> to browse the catalog or email them at businessoutfitters@landsend.com.

You can also connect by telephone at (800) 587-1541.

*Be sure to indicate that you are a member of the **MBCA Northeastern PA Section** and wish to have that logo placed on your selected items.*

Tom Lindeman

Survey Request:

In an effort to keep the NEPA section interesting and relevant to all of our members, we have included a link to a survey. If you have not previously filled out the survey, would you please fill out this short 6 question survey regarding your preferences by clicking the below link. Thank you!

[Click here to complete short survey.](#)

Tom Lindeman

Past events:

**MBCA-NEPA Spring Dinner
April 11, 2019**

We all had a wonderful time at Stefano's Grill in Bethlehem. Members ordered the Roasted Chicken, Veal parmigiana or Swai fish. The dinners were large servings.

Before the meals we had a choice of potato soup or wedding soup. Delicious soups. Warm bread was served with butter and oh-so-good. Stefano's had a special dip for the bread and not oil & herbs. It was a red sauce with a slight kick of flavor.

After the meals Stephanie and Beth (our servers) sliced and served Jolanta's 2 yummy torte cakes with cream cheese and strawberries. The slices of cakes were a hit as many members didn't eat Gelato. We all talked until 9:30 PM and left. Kudos to Jolanta for picking this great restaurant.

Deborah Egolf, secretary



From back left to front: Adele & Chuck Clemmer, Lyne Brobst, Debbie Egolf, Arlene & John Frailey.
From back right to front: Debra & Brett Kropf, Barry Brobst, Roger Egolf, Jolanta & Walter Piekarski.

Saturday, May 18 - NEPA Day Drive

On Saturday, May 18, we participated in a beautiful day drive planned by our Drive Coordinator, Barry Brobst. The group of 7 cars met at the Dunkin Donuts in Fogelsville where we were treated to a great Dunkin Donuts breakfast. We all then set out along scenic country roads, wending our way to Kaufman's Chicken Ranch in Bethel, Pa, where we all enjoyed a delicious lunch of (what else?) Kaufman's Chicken Barbecue!

If you missed this drive, come out next time. Barry always plans a beautiful route and we always end up someplace interesting where most of us have never been.

Top Photo: Day Drive Participants and their cars at our Kaufman's Chicken Ranch destination!



Day drive photos courtesy of Debbie Egolf. Next four photos taken at Dunkin Donuts before the drive, from top left to right: Daniel and Frances Kelly and Barry Brobst; Lynn Brobst and Elaine Gabel; Ron Gabel; John and Arlene Frailey.

**56th Annual June Jamboree, June 22, 2019
Florham Park, NJ**

There was a great turnout this year at this year's June Jamboree at the Park Avenue Club in Florham Park, NJ. There were almost 90 beautiful cars turned out due to near-perfect weather.

The cars were broken down into two categories: Concours (judged by a team of judges according to MBCA guideline); and Popular (voted on by those in attendance).

NEPA Member Daniel Kelly won 2nd place in Concours Class with his 1984 300CD. Otto Christensen won first place in the "Old Sports" popular vote category. NEPA Members Roger and Debbie were also in attendance and brought their award-worthy 1992 500E.

Shown in the first photo below is Otto Christensen, 1st place winner in the Old Sports, Popular category in his 2000 SL500. In the next photo below and to the left is Dan Kelly and his 1984 300CD which took 2nd place in the Concourse. Followed by a few other miscellaneous photos of the Jamboree.



OnGoing Items

Technical Advisor Position for NEPA Section:

Member benefit to our NEPA Section: Walter Piekarski, owner of Walter's Foreign Car Service, has volunteered to be our Technical Advisor. Walter, along with his wife Jolanta (our NEPA Treasurer) are founding NEPA Section members. He works on most Mercedes-Benz cars. He has worked on Mercedes-Benz cars for over 50 years which makes him very knowledgeable on the older Mercedes-Benz cars too. Call him at his shop during business hours for free technical help with your Mercedes-Benz. If after talking with him, you would prefer him to do the repair, he will offer a 10% discount on labor to Mercedes-Benz Club of America members. Make sure you identify yourself as a member of the Mercedes-Benz Club when you call.

The best time to reach Walter is Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-noon, 1 PM - 4 PM at **610-865-4255** (he may have to call you back). You can visit his web site at: www.WaltersMercedesServices.com

Mike Ziegler

Request from our Membership Coordinator

As the 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 and I will be happy to assist!

Also, If your associate member is not currently receiving a separate copy of our

newsletter and would like to receive a separate copy , please send their email address to our Newsletter Editor, Alice Christensen (achristensen@comcast.net)

Tom Lindeman

Name Badges:

Please wear your name badge to all events. If you (a NEPA member or associate member) never got a badge, your NEPA section will pay \$6 and you pay the other \$6 and it will be sent to you in the mail. If you lost your badge or would like one to keep in your other MB, they are \$12. Contact Tom Linderman for name badges.

Mike Ziegler

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.

Free classified ads:

As a NEPA member benefit, if you have a Mercedes-Benz car or part for sale or wanted and are a member of the NEPA Section, you may list one ad for free per issue (limited to 20 words plus your contact information, then 20 cents per word) in the NEPA newsletter. One free picture will also be permitted if picture is emailed (\$50 if submitting a photo). Free ads may not be listed in printed copies (\$75 to ensure it will be in the printed newsletter). Submit ads by email to the newsletter editor. If you want your classified ad in another issue, you must resubmit your free ad for each newsletter. Members who are in the business of selling Mercedes Benz cars or parts may list one free classified ad per year. For paid ads email the newsletter editor or president with your

request.

Personal non-NEPA member classified ads are \$25 for up to 20 words, then 20 cents per word (picture rules same as for NEPA members).

The deadline to submit classified ads are June 1st for the Summer issue, September 1st for Fall issue, December 1st for the Winter issue, and March 1st for the Spring issue.

Mike Ziegler

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. Two of our members customized plates 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:

Members who attend NEPA events are requested to sign the Event Attendance Book, and if you brought your Mercedes-Benz 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.

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 (also notify editor if you want the associate member to receive emailed newsletters and eBlasts), or email the information to [Tom Lindeman](mailto:Tom.Lindeman) 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



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Bill Fisher | Regional Director - Mid Atlantic | 609-221-2633 | billfisher_560sl@yahoo.com

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

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