



February-April 2000

## Deutsche Marque Concours

**O**n Sunday, May 7, the 17th Annual Deutsche Marques Concours d'Elegance will be held at beautiful, historic Woodland Plantation in Alexandria, Virginia. Each year the Mercedes-Benz, BMW, and Porsche clubs join together to display the finest versions of their marques in a beautiful setting.

This is a family event, so please plan on bringing the kids. There is plenty of room to roam around and much to see on the grounds, including the plantation home and Frank Lloyd Wright's Pope-Leighey home.

There will be three classes of entries. In Show class the entire car is judged---engine, exterior, interior, and underbody. Street class is for cars usually driven daily, so the underbody is not judged. The Display class is not judged, but ballots are provided to visitors and entrants to vote for a people's choice award.

The entry fees are \$20.00 for the Show and Street Classes, and \$10.00 for the Display Class.

Groupings for the judged classes will be determined by the total number of entries. Trophies will be awarded in each of the classes. The car with the highest point total will receive the Best of Marque Award.

This year we will be following the latest MBCA national event rules which require cars in the Show class to be at least four years old and have been driven at least 20,000 miles.

In the morning, Woodlawn will present for sale specialty coffees, Danish, Bloody Marys, and Mimosas. Lunches will be available for purchase. A full service bar will be open all day. We hope to see the return of last year's jazz group to provide background music.

The awards presentation will be held at approximately 3:30PM.

There is no charge to attend the Concours. However, you must be prepared to present your MBCA membership card for admittance to the grounds and car show or be required to pay a \$5 gate fee. Woodlawn will charge visitors.

Directions: Take Route I-95 South (south of I-495) to the Woodlawn Plantation exit. Get on the Fairfax County Parkway. The Parkway ends at Route 1. Make a right on Route 1. Go 4 lights and make a left into Woodlawn Plantation.

Complete and mail the centerfold entry form. If you have questions, please call Ed Ayre at 301-

## What's Inside

### Deutsche Marque Concours

- Registration Form
- Camera Police Return
- Calendar of Events

- GWS

- MBCA

- Thoughts of a Car Guy

- Pylon Alley

- Mercedes-Benz News

- New Ceramics for Brakes

- Daimler/McLaren Option

- Mercedes is Number One

- Record Sales in March

- Fuel Cell Vehicles

- Exciting New Models

- S-Class Sport

- 2001 C-Class Introduced

- CLK55 AMG Coming Here

- C-Class Special Edition

- SLK Limited Edition

- A-Class Coming to U.S.

- High Gear

- Advertisers

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- [GWS Home Page](#)

- [Newsletter Archive](#)

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## Camera Police Return

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Several years ago when we realized that many of you were showing up at events and leaving your cameras at home, we threatened to have the Camera Police confiscate them. These are cameras that cost anywhere from twenty to several thousand dollars, and many of you were using them to photograph the bottom of drawers and the insides of closets they are stored in. They must make great dust collectors and paper weights.

Well, the Police are back! Use it or lose it! The Annual Holiday Party is eight months away, so time is no excuse. Start taking pictures now for the (resumed) Annual Photo Contest. Prizes will be awarded at the Party.

Categories will be: 1) Mercedes-Benz art (car, grill, reflection, etc.), 2) Mercedes-Benz people and their cars and scenic, 3) Mercedes-Benz action (driving events, rallies, etc.).

Rules: amateurs only; professionals may submit for display; no limit to the number of entries; black and white or color prints 5 by 7 or larger; no slides; digital shots have to be converted to prints; pictures must be taken after January 1, 2000; affix a label or write your name and address on the back of the photo only; include a title (optional); and, include an envelope with return postage or plan to pick up your photos at the Holiday Party.

Send your photos to Joe Wozney. Entries must be received by November 1, 2000. All members failing to participate will have to deal with the Camera Police after the party. They're looking for Hassies, Nikons, Canons, even Brownie Hawkeyes. They especially like all the new digitals... the more expensive the better. We know where you live and we know (pretty much) what you drive. You will be reminded several times over the contest period, so there is no escape!

## Calendar of Events

### Greater Washington Section Events

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April 30	<b>Autocross #1</b> James Wood High School Winchester, Virginia Contact: Joe Wozney Call: 703-437-7866	July 23	<b>Annual Picnic and Mid-Atlantic Concours</b> Harris Estate Potomac, Maryland Contact: TBA
May 7	<b>Deutsche Marque Concours</b> Woodlawn Plantation Alexandria, Virginia Contact: Ed Ayre Call: 301-654-0837	July 30	<b>Autocross #4</b>
		August 13	<b>Autocross #5</b>
		September 10	<b>Autocross #6</b>
		October 15	<b>Autocross #7</b>
May 28	<b>Autocross #2</b>	December 2	<b>Annual Holiday Party</b>
May 18	<b>GWS Board Meeting</b> The section Board Meeting is open to members. Because space is limited, you are asked to call Dick Pedersen		Possible additional events include a fall trip to the Mercedes-Benz Vehicle Prep Center, a drive and dine, and Do-It-Yourself and classroom tech sessions.

to confirm your attendance.  
June 25 **Autocross #3**

Remember to check the web site for  
regular updates!

## Regional and National Events

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May 20 **Star-O-Rama 2000**  
Clearwater, Florida  
Contact: Scott Suits  
Call: 727-789-4582

Sept. 23-26 **Tri-O-Rama 2000**  
Summit Point, West Virginia  
and Winchester, Virginia  
Registration packets will be  
available in June

August 19-22 **Gemütlichkeit 2000**  
Nelson Ledges and  
Thompson Drag Raceway  
Contact: Dick Gortz  
Call: 216-765-1901

## President's Message

### Thoughts of a Car Guy

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**J**ohn Bleimaier, bless his soul, is the consummate car guy. I must share with you a story John may also tell, but perhaps in a different context. I spoke with John the other day and, after exchanging the basic pleasantries, he mentioned he would be in Charlestown, West Virginia the following day. I replied, why?

It seems that John got a speeding ticket upon returning to New Jersey from one of our events last fall. I assumed the worst, reckless driving, perhaps an accident. No... it was a ticket for doing 72 in a 60 mph zone. I wondered aloud if the ticket was completely bogus. "No," was the answer, "it's fun to go to court and make them prove it." I asked "how many points do you have?" The answer, "None."

Okay, let me get this straight... the ticket is from West Virginia and they will not contact New Jersey, so there are no points. The mail-in fee is \$75.00, what am I missing? What I missed is what we love about John.

John is taking a day trip to a quaint West Virginia town to an even more quaint magistrate's court to mingle with unforgettable characters.

John will plead his case before a stern hometown magistrate and talk about how the officer had his daughter in the police car eating ice cream while he was running radar. That's right, the little girl was eating an ice cream cone. Either day care was closed or perhaps it was daughter's day at work. Was the daughter working the radar? John may have a good case. Stay tuned for the conclusion next month.

Ready! Set! Go!

Our events are about to begin. The 2000 Autocross Series begins on April 30 and runs through October (November is being saved for any makeups). The Deutsche Marque Concours with the BMW and Porsche clubs will be held on Sunday, May 7. The Annual GWS Picnic and Mid-Atlantic Concours has been set for Sunday, July 23. With the cancellation of StarFest 2000, we will host Tri-O-Rama 2000, a National Event, on September 23-26. And to finish the year in style, the Annual Holiday Party at the Belle Haven Country Club will be held on Saturday, December 2. Don't forget to mark your calendars with your favorite events.

We hope to be able to add more opportunities for you and are looking into another trip to the



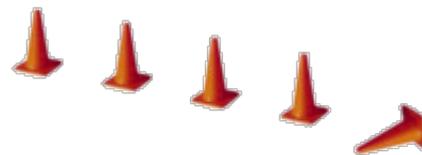
Vehicle Prep Center and a classroom tech session. There is a possibility that we'll be able to do one more DIY session, too.

Please make the effort to bring your teenage drivers to our 2000 Autocross Series. They don't have to drive the family Benz. What they learn there will make them significantly safer and more confident street drivers. Join us!

Dick

## pylon alley by Joe Wozney

### Autocross 2000



The winter doldrums are gone and the joy of springtime is upon us. For those of you who missed the Summit Point Drivers' Ed, Pffffttt! (Said with tongue sticking out.) It was chilly but it was fantastic! The improvements to the track are significant. It's a shame we don't go back until Tri-O-Rama in September.

Back to AX 2000... The season begins on April 30 and, unless we can locate another lot, all events are planned for James Wood High School in Winchester.

Since there have been no complaints or recommended changes related to last year's rules or classes, we will stick with them. If you do have suggestions, now's the time to get them to Tom Newman or to me.

Rain rules: There is always some confusion as to what to do in the case of rain.

If there is a real downpour, we will not hold the event. Many of you have said that you will run in the rain, but when it happens only ten or eleven folks show. If a light rain is threatened we are a go. If you just don't know, call in the morning. If there is no answer or you get the tape, we're on our way to the event. Under no circumstances will we hold an event if there is the possibility or the likelihood of lightning or thunderstorms.

## Mercedes-Benz News

### New Ceramics for Brakes

Research scientists from DaimlerChrysler have developed a cost-effective, fiber reinforced ceramic for use in brakes.

Ceramic brakes have several advantages over conventional materials. They are heat and rust resistant. They are not subject to wear or warping and thus are maintenance free. In addition, they are one-third the weight of steel.

Fiber reinforced ceramics overcome the problem of brittleness of traditional ceramic materials but have been too expensive for large scale use. Now, with a special combination of carbon and silicon, brake discs can be produced on a large scale. Field studies have shown that ceramic brakes perform reliably after 180,000 miles of use. Brake disk changes are not needed, saving the time and expense of maintenance.

With this method, carbon fibers, carbon powder, and resin are compressed and then heated to and held at 1830 degrees Fahrenheit. The carbon bonds to form a stable framework similar to when pieces of ice fuse. When cooled, this material can be shaped into the desired form. After grinding the brake disk blank to size, the finished blank is reheated together with silicon, causing the pores in the carbon

#### Autocross 2000 Series Schedule

April 30

May 28

June 25

July 30

August 13

September 10

October 15

framework to absorb the silicon. This fiber reinforced ceramic material cools overnight, and the dark gray brake disc is ready for use.

## Daimler/McLaren Option

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**D**aimlerChrysler said on February 3 it had taken up its option to buy 40 percent of TAG McLaren, the Formula One team. The option was agreed to last year. McLaren group's chief executive Ron Dennis confirmed the deal at the launch of the team's 2000 race car. "This is a milestone for the group because the equity participation from DaimlerChrysler will give us a great deal more strength and encourage much closer cooperation between the two companies," he said.

McLaren/Mercedes has won the Formula One drivers' championship two years running with Mika Hakkinen driving.

## Mercedes is Number One

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**R**ecord sales of 189,437 new vehicles in 1999 made Mercedes-Benz the number one luxury automotive brand in the United States. The 1999 sales represent a doubling of the company's U.S. sales volume over a three-year period and marks the sixth consecutive year of sales gains.

December sales of 19,118 were an all-time monthly high for MBUSA.

Virtually all Mercedes-Benz model lines posted increases for the year with the E-Class, S-Class, M-Class, and CLK lines achieving the highest annual volumes in their series' history.

According to Paul Halata, president and CEO for MBUSA, "It's an extraordinary accomplishment when you consider the caliber of our competition. Equally important is the fact that we stand alone as the only automaker over the past six years to forego any type of rebates or incentives. Instead, we have chosen to invest back into the product and provide real value to our clients."

## Record Sales in March

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**M**ercedes-Benz USA reported sales of 18,595 new vehicles during the month of March 2000, a 15.8 percent increase over last year's March sales record of 16,054. This month represents the highest March sales volume ever by MBUSA, the second all-time best month ever for MBUSA, and the eleventh consecutive month where the company posted year-over-year sales gains. MBUSA's all-time monthly sales record was set in December 1999 with 19,118 vehicles sold. Year 2000 to-date sales increased 17.9 percent to 47,788 versus the 40,536 vehicles sold during the first quarter last year.

Sales for the month were led by the E-Class, which recorded its best March ever with sales of 4,667 vehicles, up 11.6 percent (vs. 4,183). Following the E-Class, the award winning M-Class posted sales of 4,556, an increase of 36.9 percent from 3,328 vehicles sold during the same month last year, making this the best March ever for the M-Class. C-Class sales recorded 2,687 units, a 4.0 percent increase from 2,584 in 1999. The S-Class, MBUSA's flagship model line, recorded a slight decrease in March sales with 2,806 units sold versus the 2,887 sold last March when the new S-Class was launched. The all new CL500 posted 205 units in its fourth month on the market. The SL-Class finished the month with 630 units sold, a decrease of 16.9 percent (vs. 758). The CLK model line established a March sales record with 1,853 units, an increase of 45.4 percent (vs. 1,274). The SLK showed an increase of 14.5 percent to 1,191 (vs. 1,040), which represents an all-time sales record for this model line as well.

On a year-to-date basis, the M-Class accounted for the largest volume with 13,008 vehicles sold, up 38.3 percent (vs. 9,408). Trailing closely behind the M-Class, E-Class sales increased 4.7 percent to

11,831 (vs. 11,296). Year-to-date S-Class sales increased 32.7 percent to 6,672 (vs. 5,026). The CLK model line sold 5,042 units, an increase of 38.0 percent (vs. 3,653). Sales of the SL-Class posted a decrease of 20.6 percent to 1,466 (vs. 1,847). The SLK showed a slight decrease of 1.1 percent to 2,617 (vs. 2,647), while C-Class sales remained on par with last year's sales (6,752 vs. 6,659) as the current model records its last year of production.

Separately, through its Starmark pre-owned vehicle program, MBUSA recorded sales of 2,806, an increase of 60.8 percent compared to March 1999 sales of 1,745 vehicles. On a year-to-date basis, Starmark sales increased 47.6 percent to 7,269 units sold (vs. 4,923 in March 1999).

## Fuel Cell Vehicles

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**D**aimlerChrysler is the first automaker worldwide to offer fuel cell vehicles for sale. The company plans to build 20 to 30 city buses with fuel cell drives during the next three years, and offer them for sale to transport operating companies in Europe and abroad.

Prof. Klaus-Dieter Vohringer, the Board of Management member responsible for research and technology, said, "As a result of our research and development activities the development of fuel cells for automotive applications has reached a stage where we can now offer the first vehicles to customers."

The first vehicles are planned for delivery by the end of 2002. They will be driven in normal traffic conditions for a period of two years. These bus operations will also mark the first time that detailed evaluations can be made on the basis of data from an entire fleet of vehicles. "This first production step demonstrates that fuel cells have reached a stage of technological maturity," said Professor Dr. Ferdinand Panik, head of the DaimlerChrysler Fuel Cell Project. "At the same time, we are aware that we have to reduce the cost, volume and weight of the fuel cell systems in order to become competitive with internal combustion engines."

EvoBus GmbH, a wholly-owned subsidiary of DaimlerChrysler, will supply the Mercedes-Benz Citaro low-floor city buses with fuel cells at a price of \$1.2 million each, including comprehensive technical consulting and on the spot maintenance for two years. DaimlerChrysler will provide the operators with guidance and expertise on preparing a fuel infrastructure.

DaimlerChrysler considers fuel cells to be the alternative drive system with the greatest long term potential. They have either very low levels of emissions or none at all, and are extremely quiet and energy efficient. DaimlerChrysler has performed tests using methanol, hydrogen and a purer form of gasoline to power fuel cell vehicles. It is also the first automobile manufacturer to put fully functional, hydrogen and methanol driven fuel cell vehicles on the road. Hydrogen is particularly suited to fleets in public transport systems since the vehicles can regularly return to a central filling station. The emission-free, low-noise, hydrogen fuel cell buses are especially suited to city traffic.

The fuel cell driven Citaro now being offered for sale is the successor to the NEBUS (New Electric Bus). In 1997, NEBUS-a prototype based on the low-floor city bus O 405 N-became the first Mercedes-Benz fuel cell driven bus to hit the streets.

The Citaro's fuel cell unit delivers more than 250 kilowatts of power. It was developed and manufactured by DaimlerChrysler subsidiary Xcellsis, with fuel cell stack provided by Ballard Power Systems. The gas pressure bottles containing compressed hydrogen are mounted on the roof of the bus. The environmentally friendly bus can travel up to 186 miles at up to 50 miles per hour and carry 70 passengers.

The electric motor, transmission, drive shaft and mechanical rear axle are all located at the rear of the bus. This ensures smooth low-floor design and easy access during maintenance. The bus also includes three doors for optimal passenger flow.

## Exciting New Models

### S-Class Sport

There is now a Sport package available on both the S430 and S500 models. The Sport package brings a more aggressive AMG-designed front spoiler, more sculpted rocker panels, and a new rear apron.

The S-Class Sport comes with new AMG Monoblock alloy wheels---8.5x18 in the front and 9.5x18 in the rear. The tires are 245/45YR18 and 275/40YR18s, respectively.

Like the rest of the S-Class series, the AIRmatic air suspension offers adaptive damping with three different levels of ride and damping compliance, selectable from a simple switch on the dashboard.

The S430 uses a 275-horsepower, 4.3 liter V8 and the S500 has a 302-horsepower, 5.0 liter V8. The S-Class Sport package is available in any of the S-Class exterior or interior colors.

All S-Class cars come with the COMAND satellite-based navigation system. An optional digital StarTAC telephone integrates with COMAND and can be directed by voice, controls on the steering wheel, or buttons around the display screen.

The tire/wheel combo is the perfect way to get more stick at a driving event. The COMAND system will keep you on course at your next autocross. Price of the Sport package is \$4,800.

### 2001 C-Class Introduced

Mercedes-Benz has released photos and information about the new 2001 C-Class sport sedan. Available this September, the all new C-Class represents an investment of over \$1 billion in four years of development.

The 2001 C-Class standard safety features include dual-force front airbags, head protection curtain airbags and door-mounted side airbags, ESP stability control, Brake Assist, the BabySmart child seat recognition system, and Tele Aid emergency call system.

The C-Class for the U.S. will have two V6 models---the C240 and the C320. Both engines provide spirited performance but still attain the coveted Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) status. The C320 has a five-speed adaptive Touch Shift automatic transmission. The C240 will have a choice of an all new six-speed manual or the five-speed automatic.

Mercedes-Benz USA projects that primary competition for the new C-Class will include the BMW 3 series, Audi A4, Lexus ES300 and the Volvo S70. While pricing will be established shortly before the late-summer retail launch, the 2001 C-Class is expected to establish a new benchmark for value in its



market segment.

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## CLK55 AMG Coming Here

**M**ercedes-Benz debuted the 2001 CLK55 AMG, a new limited production model, at the Chicago Auto Show. The high performance variant of the popular CLK coupe will become the fastest ever production car from Mercedes-Benz when it goes on sale this fall. Modified for Mercedes by AMG, the CLK55 will accelerate from 0 to 60 miles per hour in just over five seconds.

Sharing the spotlight at the Chicago Show with the road-going CLK55 AMG was a modified version of the car, which was the official Safety Car of the Formula One racing circuit last year. Mercedes-Benz powered Mika Hakkinen to his second straight F1 World Championship in 1999, and he will defend the title on September 25 in Indianapolis when F1 racing returns to the U.S. this year for the first time in nine years.

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## C-Class Special Edition for the Individualist

**M**ercedes also debuted special edition of its popular C-Class and SLK coupe/roadster. All C-Class Special Editions come in Brilliant Silver metallic (regularly a \$610 option) and unique black/gray leather upholstery with gray stitching (normally \$1,325 for single-tone). The package also includes a black/gray leather sport steering wheel and shift knob, a glass sunroof, folding rear seats, a power passenger seat, embossed stainless steel door sills, and special floor mats.

The C-Class Special Editions also receive the Sport Package (normally \$900) including higher-rate springs, more taut shock absorbers, 7x16 inch wheels, 205/55R-16 performance tires, telescopic steering column, leather sport seats and special interior and exterior trim.

Additionally, the K2 package (normally \$1,795) is included on C280 Special Editions, combining the integrated StarTAC digital telephone and six-disc CD changer. Ordinarily, a C-Class with all of these options would add \$4,000 to 5,000 to the price of the vehicle. However, the Special Edition package costs \$1,200 on the C230 Kompressor, and for the C280, the package adds \$1,600, representing a remarkable value on an already value-laden automobile.

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## SLK Limited Edition

**C**elebrating a successful 2000 model year before the spring arrival of the 2001 SLK line, the limited edition SLK230 Kompressor will be produced in special-order Obsidian Black metallic paint, with a combination Oyster/Charcoal two-tone leather interior.

Features unique to the limited edition include six spoke, 7.5x17-inch, EVO II design lightweight alloy wheels and 245/45R-17 tires; Oyster/Charcoal leather shift knob; special badging and floor mats; and a commemorative key chain. In addition, limited edition SLK230s will include the K2 package as well (a digital StarTAC cellular telephone and an integrated CD changer for the Bose audio system). Finishing the package, the exhaust is capped off by a polished stainless steel tip. The entire package is a no-cost option---roughly \$4,200 worth of equipment for free, bringing even more value to the affordable two-seater.

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## A-Class Coming to U.S.

**D**aimlerChrysler AG has said it plans to sell a new-generation A-Class compact car in the United States in what could be the first foray by Mercedes-Benz small cars into North America.

The U.S./German car maker, which is scheduled to announce its small-car strategy shortly, did not disclose when it aimed to introduce a new generation A-Class in the world's biggest car market. "The next generation of the A-Class will also be sold in the United States," DaimlerChrysler management board member Juergen Hubbert said at the Detroit North American International Auto Show.

The A-Class, introduced in 1997, was modified and also refitted with an electronic stability system after it turned over during an evasive safety maneuver known as the Elk test.

It is standard practice for Mercedes-Benz to renew a model every seven years, which would mean that a revamped A-Class could be introduced by the middle of this decade.

DaimlerChrysler sold 208,000 A-Class cars in 1999 and manufactures the model at its German Rastatt plant and also in Brazil.

## High Gear

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**I** was hurtling through a pine forest at 45 miles per hour on a narrow logging road covered alternately with blowing powdery snow and cold black ice. You begin to wonder... Why am I doing this?

After all, it is dangerous; storming at full throttle between immovable objects; taking right angle curves flat out and sideways next to a 300 foot drop off; putting four wheels in the air over a frost heave. It demands every ounce of concentration from two weary-eyed people---one straining to make out the contours of the road ahead, the other trying to focus on a set of cryptic instructions affixed to a bouncing clipboard. This is work. Some would think that you couldn't pay anyone enough to fill these two seats, even in a bear market. Yet here we are, volunteers. Not just the two of us, but a whole gallant convoy strung out in the forest, flying in the face of peril, daring the fates.

No, not for money would we dash across this pale, frigid desolation: not for lucre place all our golf balls on the line. But, mayhaps, yet for glory!

It's funny how your mind can be totally concentrated on the physical environment, can coordinate your every muscular response, while still retaining the capacity for flights of fancy far and wide. At times like these a couplet or quatrain of poetry may flit in and out of consciousness helping to maintain mental acuity.

Ours is not to reason why,  
Ours is but to do or die!

Why, indeed, are we here bashing athwart the north woods of a cheerless winter eve? But of course, to bring up cartridges to a hunkered down battalion ringed with fire on the ice. Low, the blizzard sky is now alight with the flash as a field piece brings to bare while the pine needles tremble with the concussion. Left and right the tracers arch through the blackness to their mark. Every choice of turn upon the bleak road is critical not to stray across the lines to hostile ground or blunder into the line of fire. Pray for traction. Pray for grace.

Off the road's marge we pass the desolation of an abandoned farm house with tumbled down barns. The stone fence rows between pastures long untended and breached agape. In the event of a withdrawal from the advance position all these features of the terrain will provide fall-back cover and, per chance, a snipers nest. But, away these thoughts of retreat as we scramble to the front. It is in order to help hold this salient that we barrel through the snow.

Now before us on the track I spy a peculiar symbol. Is it the battle device or ensign of an

unfamiliar corps? A dot and a check mark, fluorescent on a board beside the road.

My navigator wildly gesticulates to me to halt. I put "both feet in," depressing clutch and brake pedals to the floor simultaneously as we skitter sideways to a stop. Suddenly, the whiff of cordite clears. The detonations die away. I can no longer see the muzzle flashes. I only hear the ticking of my mechanical stopwatch and feel the rapid thumping of my heart... Ah yes. This is a checkpoint on the "Cabin Fever Rallye" run by the Finger Lakes Region of the Sports Car Club of America.

Checked in and flagged out in a twinkling of an eye; we are hanging our tail into the next curve as our knobby tires snatch for grip among the cold, lose, white flakes. Indeed, we ride for glory! A gaudy hunk of plastic is our Croix de Guerre! The operative, economic element of this equation of adventure simply states that you couldn't pay me enough to keep me away from the very special thrill of this winter rallye series.

At 1:00AM, at Cortland, New York, at the terminus of the rallye, at the Red Dragon Inn, over pizza and O'Douls, someone asked me what was the most tense moment which I experienced during the course of the preceding evening. I thought about the skid toward a wall of hardwood bark. I recollected the time we almost missed a turn. I even contemplated the fleeting image of an artillery barrage. Then came my answer. "The most tense moment happened at registration when I realized that I didn't have evidence of insurance for my Mercedes rallye car... Just before my fast thinking navigator saved the day by slapping down an Allstate card which nobody seemed to notice covered a BMW reposing some 250 miles away in a garage in New Jersey!"

John Kuhn Bleimaier  
Mid-Atlantic Regional Director

## TradingPost

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**220S Convertible, 1959:** Wood, upholstery, chrome, like new. Pampered, always garaged. Just the model you've always wanted. Runs beautifully. \$25,000. Call Murdaugh Madden at 202-833-3360. On weekends call 202-333-7491.

**190SL, 1962:** White/red leather. Both tops---hard top white/black soft. Outstanding condition, beautiful car. 55k miles. Sheepskins. \$45,000. Call Fred Moran at 301-622-0197.

**280SL, 1969:** Bone white/beige leather and top. Mechanically sound. Needs body work. Must sell. \$15,000 obo. Call Maureen at 703-875-6261.

**600SWB, 1970:** Just in from its original Beverly Hills home. Outstanding 40k mile example. Why not go first class? Some trades O.K. \$44,500. Call Ron at 301-855-7774.

**450SL, 1973:** New Icon gold paint with ZEN aerodynamics. Both tops, new soft top. Garaged, covered/records. Beautiful. \$21,500. Call Steve at 888-349-8627 or <sjlocke@us.fortis.com>.

**450SLC, 1973:** Sand beige/Palomino. Originally from Palm Springs. Shows 68k two-owner miles. Bare metal respray in 1997. Everything works but the clock. Close to concours. \$17,950. Call Bruce at 703-360-1726.

**450SL, 1980:** Signal red. Both tops. Pristine condition. Garaged, only goes out in sunny weather. 117k miles. All records. Mechanically superb. Recently appraised at \$18,100. Selling at \$16,000 firm. Call Carol at 301-888-1323 or <cauletta@aol.com>.

**300SD, 1982:** Light blue/dark blue. Strong engine, excellent interior, new tires, new brake booster, gaskets, seals, battery, radiator. Body fair. Needs trans work. Will sell for \$1000 obo. Call Andrew Strasfogel at 202-452-7723 or 202-966-6168 or <mthura@yahoo.com>.

**380SEL, 1983:** Black/gray leather in showroom condition. Concours street class first place winner. 15 inch 8-hole alloys w/225-60R15 tires. Well maintained. \$9,995 obo. Call David at (w) 703-934-8130 x158 or (h) 301-831-4532.

**500SEC, 1983:** Silver. Paint and interior two years old. Two owner, 140k miles. Driven to work daily. Moving in August. \$9500. Will consider trade for pickup. Call 703-339-9823 or <WFLADA@aol.com>.

**C280, 1997:** Black/black. 7k miles. Moon roof, factory phone. Excellent condition. All records. Always garaged. No snow/ice. Rain once. CLK320 coming May. Asking \$31,250. Call 202-255-3037 or <woodyww@usa.net>.

**420SEL, 1983:** White/palomino leather. Loaded. Excellent condition and maint. Looks and drives like new. No dings. Recent major service. Garaged, not smoked in. 130k pampered miles. \$10,000. Call Robert at 301-251-3894 or <ChefRobert1966@hotmail.com>.

**Sto' Away electric hardtop lift:** With cover. Should fit most SLs. See Jan/Feb The Star, p.70. \$400. Call Jim Kirk at 301-277-8374 or <jakirk@fareinc.com>.

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