



2007 National Award Winner

METRO TRI-STAR

www.gws-mbca.org

August 2008

As summer comes to an end, the fun continues with the GWS Picnic, Autocross and Tri-O-Rama

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Joe Wozney putting Bobbie's new smart fortwo through its paces with Ben Weber riding shot gun at July's Autocross. (Photo by Brett Hack)

GWS Picnic and Mid-Atlantic Concours d'Elegance

If you haven't yet marked your calendar for this fun family event, find it and reserve Sunday August 17, for the GWS Picnic and Mid-Atlantic Concours d'Elegance! Once again, GWS members Steve and Barbara Newby have graciously offered to host the picnic at their lovely estate in Potomac. This event combines proven ingredients: tasty German cuisine, good friends, and a terrific selection of MB automobiles to look at and talk about. As in years past, we will have authentic German bratwurst and beer, along with an all American selection of wines and soda. Brats will be served from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm. The Concours Award will be announced at 3:00 pm.

For those of you who are new to Concours and think you might like to show your

car, this is your opportunity! There is no additional charge to enter your car in the Mid-Atlantic Concours d'Elegance. There will be three classes: Show, Street, and Display. Both the Show and Street classes will be judged. The Show class is the most intense, judges will inspect the entire vehicle including the underside. If that is more than you want to tackle, Street class might be the place for you. Give your car a good wash and wax and a once-over with the vacuum and you should be good to go. Entering one of the judged classes is a great way to learn about your car and how the judges see your car. If the entire judging process send shivers up your spine, then try the Display class, this class is not judged, but rather your car is parked on the show field with the Show and Street classes for everyone to admire. Members with cars entered in the Concours should plan to arrive before 9:30am.

See GWS Picnic, Page 5

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Calendar of Events

See our website for the latest activities: www.GWS-MBCA.org/event.html

August

- 8/2 Detailing for the Street: At Speed
Motorsports, Hanover, MD; Ray Lombardo:
raymondalombardo@yahoo.com
- 8/17 Mid-Atlantic Concours & GWS Picnic,
Potomac, MD (rain date: 8/24) (See page 1)
- 8/30 Evening Tour of Monticello: Central Virginia
Section; Justin Sarafin: jas2wa@yahoo.com
- 8/31 Autocross # 5: Millbrook High School,
Winchester, VA (See page 8)

September

- 9/14 Autocross # 6: Millbrook High School
Winchester, VA (See page 8)
- 9/18 GWS Board Meeting: TBA
Bill Hopper: wwhrestoration@att.net
- 9/21 Keystone Section Autocross: Sun Motors,
Mechanicsburg, PA – Keystone Sect. (See pg 8)
- 9/19-9/26 StarTrip 2008: Gettysburg, PA
Werner Fehlauer: w.fehlauer@verizon.net
- 9/26-10/1 StarFest 2008: San Francisco, CA

October

- 10/4 Engine Group Meeting, 10 am, – Henry
Harrell: hharrell@tortogallas.com
- 10/12 Autocross # 7: Millbrook High School
Winchester, VA (See page 8)
- 10/19 GWS Annual Meeting: ASC, Arlington, VA
Bill Hopper: wwhrestoration@att.net
- 10/24 to 10/28 Tri-O-Rama: Thunderbolt Raceway,
Millville, NJ (See page 9)

November

- 11/2 Autocross # 8: Millbrook High School
Winchester, VA (See page 8)

December

- 12/7 New Members Reception: TBA
Jim Glenn: jrglenn@erols.net

January 2009

- TBA Holiday Party

Tri-O-Rama Preview - Oct 24-28, 2008

MBCA member and New Jersey Motorsports Park (NJMP) member Gregory G. Calabro, drove the 1.9 mile northern circuit, Lighting Raceway track, with his 1986 190E 2.3-16 on July 5's inaugural track day. Greg reports that the track is both fast and challenging.

For participants in this fall's Tri-O-Rama 2008, Lightning Raceway track will be entertaining for both novice as well as experienced racers, and anyone simply interested in experiencing what their Mercedes can actually do in a safe environment.

Greg was nicely impressed with the level of completion of the Motorsports Park complex on opening day. In addition to the Lighting circuit and paddock being completed, the classroom and timing tower were also finished. The concession area was open for lunch (with track food much better than you would expect).

The owners of the New Jersey Motorsports Park also own Virginia International Raceway and have brought that facility to its current state of grandeur. Greg predicts that NJMP is destined for similar greatness. (For more information about Tri-O-Rama See page 9.)

2008 GWS-MBCA Election of Officers

The section is celebrating its 50th year and does so thanks to the time volunteered by its members. Every two years, officers are elected by the membership at the annual meeting as required by the GWS-MBCA bylaws. The offices are: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you are interested in running for an office, please contact GWS Member Jim Smith at ptspdlr@yahoo.com or 757-258-4933.

If an officer's position is more than you would like to commit to, please contact Bill Hopper to learn about the other volunteer opportunities, 202-363-4189 or wwhrestoration@att.net.

Thank you for your participation in the GWS.

From the President

GWS, Your Car Club Stepout, Stepup, Get Involved!

No matter where we go in the world of the Mercedes-Benz Club, be it a local, regional, or national event, the fun we have is because of the people behind the scenes who give of themselves by putting out time and energy to make those events happen. These are the volunteers without whom this club would cease to exist.

Everything we do here at GWS is done by volunteer help; your committees, Board, and everyone else is an all-volunteer group. Each member has raised his hand and said, "I want to help" "I want to have Fun" "I want to be useful," "I want to be involved in what goes on within the Greater Washington Section." With that attitude we are able to get all the things done that this club does each and every month, be it running an autocross, where everyone who comes helps out in some way. As a corner worker, registrar, or announcer, or even the guy who helps pick up the trash at the end of the day, without them autocrosses could not happen. At a DIY Session, our Tech Committee works to make sure that we have all the things that are needed to make that run smoothly, from taking registration, handing out the numbers to folks who attend, to just walking around making sure that everyone is on track with their projects of the day, without them DIY sessions would not exist. And so it goes with everything that we do here at the Greater Washington Section.

Some ask, "Why do you do it?" Well the answer is easy; it is a lot of fun! We get to meet other car enthusiasts and get to know our local dealers and MBUSA personnel better, and we get to learn more about our

Mercedes-Benz's and the things we love about them.

So with that, make this the year that YOU get involved!

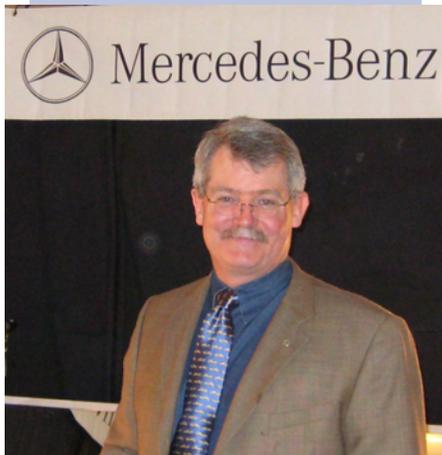
We have a number of events coming up where you help would be most welcome. At the upcoming Mid-Atlantic Concours and Picnic working the silent auction and club store table, helping judge or "scribe" the judges scores during the Concours, and helping out at the grill and food table is always fun.

This is an election year and the section is looking for qualified members of the club to run the club. The offices of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are up for vote. It is also a great time to say that you want to head up a project, help out with the Newsletter, or be involved in any number of committees that produce the programs we do each year.

Volunteering for the club opens up a lot of new experiences for you not only do you get to make new friends, but you also find out more about what we are here for, the love of the Mercedes-Benz brand.

So think about taking some time out of your busy schedule and putting yourself to work for something that you know you would enjoy doing. We have a great group of club members, and we have a lot of fun behind the scenes developing programs and running this section.

Come aboard and join us! Make a better club experience, because you are involved in it.



Bill Hopper

wwhrestoration@att.net

If you haven't already, be sure to signup for the GWS's eNews at

www.gws-mbca.org

With the eNews, you will receive advance notice of events and the rare weather cancellation along with reminders of upcoming activities.

Judging for cars entered in the Street and Show classes begins at 10:00 am.

As in the past, we will hold a silent auction and 50/50 raffle with proceeds going to our section's charities. Local and national merchants are contributing items for the auction, and we ask that you consider making a contribution to the silent auction as well. Because we are trying to raise money for worthy causes, please give us items that have not been the subject of numerous "re-giftings." All donated items will be sold to the highest bidder.

If you've reached a five-year multiple (5, 10, 20, or more) anniversary as a club member, you can claim your (free) membership anniversary pin at the picnic. Check the membership label on your newsletter to see what year you joined.

The picnic cost is \$15 per person if you pre-register. The cost at the gate is \$20. Be sure to submit your registration form so we know how many cars to expect and how much food to provide. For questions or information, please contact Ray Lombardo at 301.388.0141 or raymondalombardo@yahoo.com

DIRECTIONS

12716 Split Creek Court

Take the exit for River Road/MD-190 West toward Potomac from I-495;

Merge onto MD-190 West/River Road; (7.0 mi - 15 min);

Right at Stoney Creek Road (1.5 mi - 3 min);

Right at Travilah Road (1.0 mi - 3 min);

Left at Split Creek Court (0.3 mi).

Deutsche Marque Concours Tsunami

by Eric Wagner

Mercedes-Benz Tsunami Rolls Over Nottoway Park

This was the headline that one would imagine if an automotive daily newspaper reported on the 25th Deutsche Marque Concours. The silver anniversary of the hallmark event we hold every year with the local BMW, Porsche, and Audi clubs was a complete success: A beautiful day at the well-prepared Nottoway Park in Vienna, VA, terrific cars on the show field in record numbers engaged in a friendly competition for the awards; satisfied and enthusiastic spectators strolling among the beautiful selection of cars spanning seven decades' (when was the last time you have seen a 1938 BMW 502?). Tireless volunteers who gave freely of their time so we will all remember this show for a long time.

Concours chairman Ray Lombardo and GWS Vice President Eric Wagner began preparation for the 25th Deutsche Marque Concours in January with planning meetings with other German car clubs. The event was successful in securing sponsorship from long-time club sponsors Curry's Auto Service and funKtion auto as well as from newcomer Upscale Detail. All sponsors provided many opportunities for the members and spectators to learn more about their services and commitment to quality work. Walid

Achi, owner of funKtion auto, even brought a beautiful Mercedes 600. Upon arrival, the trunk would not close anymore. Lucky for Walid, GWS past President Norbert Lamp was on hand to explain the intricacies of the hydraulic closing mechanism of the W100's trunk and provide a temporary fix right on the field. Where else can you find this kind of service but at the Deutsche Marque Concours?

Joe Wozney, another GWS past president, started the Circle of Excellence a couple of years ago as a way of connecting the four marques on the field. This year, the Circle of Excellence was established as a separate awards class to highlight the beauty and elegance of our German cars with a theme. This year's theme was "Coupes of the Eighties." The Greater Washington Section asked Ellen Ruck, long-time club member and Mercedes-Benz enthusiast to bring her 1991 C126 560SEC, a perennial class winner and 2007 Best of Marque recipient. BMW provided a well-prepared 1987 M6, Porsche a mean-looking 1984 928S, and Audi a pristine Ur-Quattro. The Audi was entered by GWS members Brian and Shannon Peterson who also showed their Euro 1986 C126 500SEC. This gave us all a good idea what people in the 80's, with sufficient disposable income, were considering when contemplating the purchase of a powerful German coupe.

This year, because we had a number of new people, it would have been easy to feel overwhelmed by the record number of cars that registered for the Street class. However, GWS members again came through and volunteered in record numbers for judging. The quality of the judging clearly benefitted from the two events GWS held earlier in the year: "Detailing the Stars" at American Service Center and the "Judging School" at MBUSA's Vehicle Preparation Center at the port of Baltimore taught by Pete Lesler, MBCA president and national Concours chair. Thank you to all the judges for their hard work; there are too many to name in this space, but we really appreciated your support!

This year we again had a special treat: Dennis Frick and his partner Lori brought their 1952 W187 220 from Pennsylvania, where they run a restoration shop. The now-defunct German coachbuilder Karosserie Authenrieth from Darmstadt built this delivery van on a Mercedes-Benz chassis, and the car saw service as a warehouse delivery truck, hearse, and motocross support vehicle before coming to the U.S. in 1971. Where it languished for a long time before Dennis and Lori were finally able to take possession in 1996. It took them about five years of research, preparation, and work to restore the car to its present condition. A well-known German classic car magazine even

See DM, Page 16

New Members



Henry Harrell

Hharrell@tortogallas.com

As luck would have it, I am preparing to leave for Stuttgart, Germany to participate in the Mercedes-Benz Driving Experience sponsored by MBUSA. The Mercedes-Benz Driving Experience introduces drivers, in a hands-on manner, to a course of safety driving skills and accident avoidance. A similar course on defensive driving is taught by sections of the Mercedes Benz Club of America. I will have an article on my experience in the next newsletter.

One of the best ways to get information from the Club is to make sure we have your current email address in our database so we can send you information on upcoming events. Please go to our website at www.gws-mbca.org and enter your email address on the home page.

Henry Harrell

Welcome to the newest members of the Greater Washington Section - MBCA:

Steven Welty Reston, VA	Glendon Williams Rockville, MD	Thomas Wood Baltimore, MD	Stephen Beeler Springfield, VA
Bruce Darconte Bethesda, MD	Chuck Carmichael Edgewater, MD	Bruce Johnson Towson, MD	James Bright Arlington, VA
Kiyoshi Nakasaka Chevy Chase, MD	Brian Scott Severna Park, MD	Robert Lancelotta Ocean City, MD	



GWS Spring DIY/Autocross Tech Session

by William Hopper

MBCA members love their cars, be they Mercedes-Benz's, Cobra SVT's GTO's Crossfires, or any other rolling stock. What? You say, an MBCA tech session with something other than the Mercedes-Benz? GWS is well known for its active driving program, and you don't have to drive a Mercedes-Benz to belong to this car club, just be interested in cars for the spring DIY session, we encouraged our autocrossers and active drivers to join with our MBCA wrench loving regulars to get those vehicles up on lifts and to play with them in a different way.

Curry's Auto Service's Dulles VA shop was the place for our March 29 spring DIY Autocross Tech session. With their in-house dynamometer, a machine that measures the actual horsepower at the wheels of any car, even all-wheel drive vehicles, we had quite a day. Members brought their cars out to work on, but also to see what their engines

put out. This special opportunity for GWS members was a set of dyno runs for \$55 that normally goes for over a hundred bucks, a great bargain for our members and one of the many benefits that Curry's Auto Service has to offer its customers.

The shop doors rolled up early and members rolled their cars in and got to work quickly. The Curry's techs showed participants how to use the lifts and where everything was, including the coffee and doughnuts, a staple at GWS DIY sessions. Members brought out their tools, parts and fluids and got right to work. Most dressed the part, but member Malcolm Hill came in a sportjacket, and finished up with nary a spot of dirt, grease, or oil on it. His wife waited patiently in the comfort of Curry's Customer Lounge, ready to take Malcolm shopping once he finished his DIY tasks.

For those members who had special projects, GWS Tech Committee member John Heflin, a Mercedes-Benz Tech at

Euro Motorcars in Germantown MD, had brought some of his own personal tools to help on those projects that required MB specialty tools. John also brought along his vast knowledge of the Mercedes-Benz and was able to help more than a few members out. Gordon Smith, also an active GWS Tech Committee member, was there to aide and guide members on their projects with his engineering and technical knowledge as well.

SLK owners were in the majority with Mark Menchik, Anthony Marinelli, Steve Spector, and Michael Wasylyszyn all with their hot little coupes being readied for a summer of driving. One whole section of the shop was filled with SLK's and even a Crossfire tossed in for a little competition.

SLK drivers were not the only ones to dominate the lifts Edward Coles brought his son-in-law and his 202 C Class, as well as his own W113 to work on. Edward's son

See Tech Session, Page 14

August 2008

TireVan

Humbly submits three reasons to contemplate your new tires being installed at your home or office



Your time... Your money... Your *baby*

YES... now you can buy tires online or on the phone and have them installed, by appointment, at your home or workplace

NO... it is not premium priced...we meet or beat TireRack prices, guarantee no scratches on your wheels and provide true Road Force balancing...all for less than most traditional shops

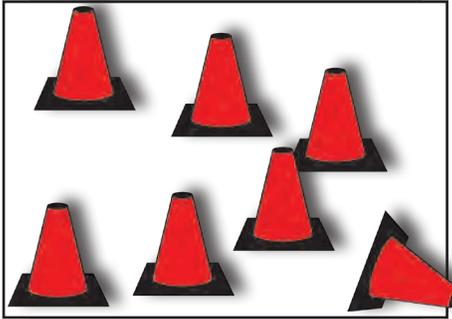
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Pylon Alley



Joe Wozney

joewozney@aol.com

Results: Autocross #2, #3, and #4

For Cumulative Totals and Photo Links: <http://gws-mbca.org/ax/ax-08/2008.html>

Driver	Mercedes-Benz	#2	#3	#4
Hirtes, Deborah	67 230SL	57.718 MB-LFTD		67.538
Stewart, Bill	86 190E 2.3-16	52.997 MB-FTD	69.703	
Joseph, Ted	86 190E 2.3-16		67.209	60.924 MB-FTD
Dersin, Denise	86 190E 2.3-16			61.209 LFTD
Vandenberg, Paul D.	86 190E 2.3-16	54.816	71.039	65.595
Vandenberg, Paul T.	86 190E 2.3-16	56.539	67.375	64.009
Heflin, John	87 300D	55.025	71.679	
Miller, Greg	84 300SD		94.320	
Smith, Jim	92 190E 2.6		68.478	62.357
Weber, Ben	86 190E 2.3		66.447 MB-FTD	63.470
Hopper, Bill	97 C280	57.432	70.299	64.876
Smith, Gordon	98 C280	67.843		
Huelsman, Alexandra	98 C280	69.840		
Thompson, Andrew	97 C280		73.319	
Thompson, J. David	97 C280		77.486	
Repass, Bill	93 400E	55.940		
Avellaneda, Guillermo	02 CLK430	62.225		
Heflin, John	83 500SEC			63.248
Harrell, Henry	93 400E	54.092	68.296	64.210
Harrell, Laurie	93 400E	57.852	75.537 LFTD	70.296
Mazzola, Christopher	01 SLK320	55.938	74.675	66.515
Mazzola, Michelle	01 SLK320			69.961
Menchik, Mark	01 SLK230			81.655
Knoll, Greg	04 SLK320		70.733	
Spector, Steve	07 SLK350	56.090	69.968	68.370
Glenn, Jim	03 E55 AMG	55.310	70.988	65.301
Wozney, Joe	08 smart fortwo			73.686
Reisler, Kurt	08 smart fortwo	66.610		

For more scores, See page 21

Keystone Section's Fall Autocross

On Sunday, September 21, at 10 am, the Keystone Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America will hold an autocross at Sun Motor Cars, a Mercedes-Benz dealer in Mechanicsburg, PA. What could be more fun than a leisurely drive north into Pennsylvania for a day of autocross.

Larry Taylor, Keystone Section President, known to many of those who have attended Tri-O-Rama and other regional events, will be the host. The event will be held at Sun Motor Cars' new location, complete with specially designed autocross track.

This is a great opportunity to reconnect, make new friends and do some A/X skills

training, before this year's Tri-O-Rama at Thunderbolt Raceway in New Jersey. (See page 17)

The Keystone Section's Fall Autocross will begin at 10 am and cost \$15 per person. Sun Motor Car is a short drive north of Baltimore up route 83. They are located at 6677 Carlisle Pike, Mechanicsburg, PA. Sun Motors website offers exact driving directions. (<http://www.sunmotor.mercedescenter.com>)

For more information, contact: Larry Taylor e-mail, larryt543@yahoo.com 717.627.1423

RI-O-Rama 2008

Hosted by the South Jersey Section

*The Only National Driving Event East
of the Mississippi this Year*

Millville, New Jersey
24-28 October 2008

Concours d' Elegance **Defensive Driving** **Autocross** **Time Trials** **Acceleration Runs** **Rally and Awards Banquet**



Drive your Mercedes-Benz like it was built to be driven!
Coached by Trained Instructors



Track activities will be held at the brand new New Jersey Motorsport Park in Millville, NJ, using the 1.9 mile Lightning Circuit. This ten-turn circuit will be challenging, featuring some of the most interesting corners and dramatic elevation changes in the park. For more information visit www.njmotorsportspark.com.

Area Attractions:

- Within a 60 minute drive of Philadelphia, Wilmington, Atlantic City, and the Jersey Shore;
- Wheaton Arts – World Class Glass art created in the Glass Studio. Tour the Museum of American Glass, walk through the Craft Studios, see skilled artists at work;
- The Millville Army Air Field Museum – preserves the history of “America’s First Defense Airport” dedicated in 1941 to train P-47 (Thunderbolt) pilots;
- Millville Arts District – Glasstown Center Arts District, an area with studios and galleries, retail outlet stores, restaurants, antique shops, and an arts and pottery school.



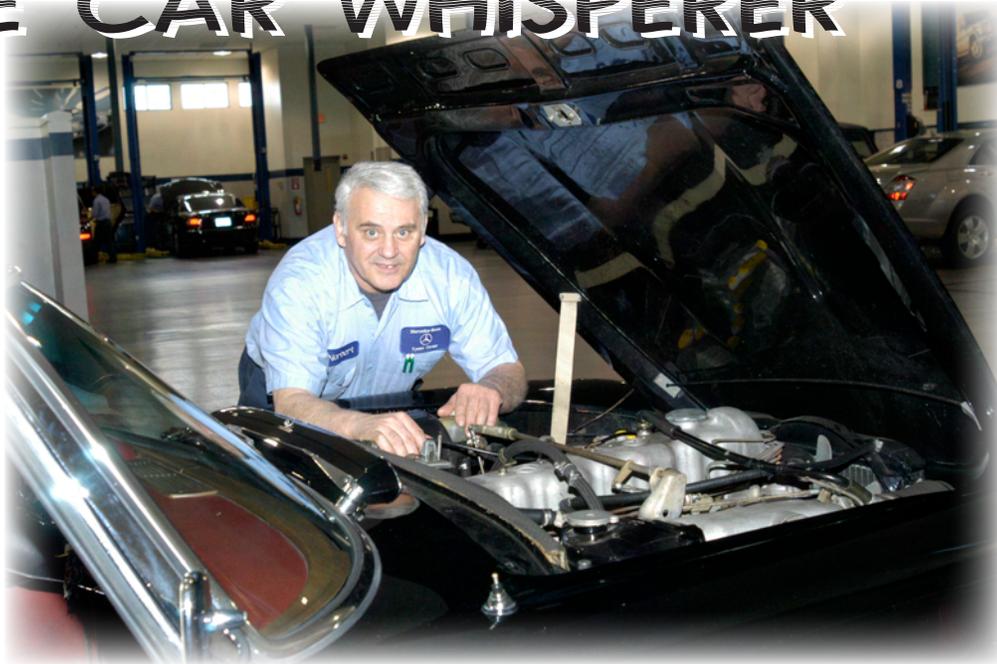
For Registration Information Visit the South Jersey Section’s Website at:
www.sjs-mbca.org/TOR.htm

or contact:

Rob Fini | 1334 Walnut Street, Third Floor | Philadelphia PA 19107
Phone: (215) 735-5874 | Fax: (215) 735-5918



THE CAR WHISPERER



Mercedes-Benz history is rich with style, luxury, performance and prestige. Mercedes-Benz has built the most technologically advanced automobiles of their time, and they have been coveted by collectors and drivers around the world for decades.

These fine automobiles deserve only the best care and service by a master technician who understands Mercedes-Benz unlike any other. Mercedes-Benz of Tysons Corner is proud to offer you the opportunity to have access to such a source: Norbert Lamp.

Norbert Lamp started his career with Mercedes-Benz in 1960 in Germany working for Daimler-Benz AG. In the factory-owned repair facility he was selected to work on the 300SL Gullwing, 300SL Roadster and later, 230SL and 250SL. He was also one of the first mechanics ever to work on the famous 600 limousine. During the next six years, Norbert became not only proficient in the repair of these vehicles, but also logged more hours on these historic and significant vehicles than probably any other specialist in the world today.

From 1966 to 1968 he worked for Mercedes-Benz of Canada in Toronto as a Mercedes-Benz Contract Technician. In the summer of 1968, on a sightseeing trip to New York and Washington, D.C., he fell in love with the United States and accepted a job at HBL in Fairfax, Virginia. Since 1969, Norbert has been working exclusively for Mercedes-Benz dealers in the Washington area, pleasing thousands of clients in various positions such

as Technician, Quality Control Manager, Shop Foreman and Assistant Service Manager. In addition to his unique professional credentials, Norbert has been a member of the Mercedes Benz Club of America since 1974 and has served as President/Vice President of the Greater Washington Section from 1986-1994.

Norbert Lamp brings his legacy from Mercedes-Benz Germany to you here in Tysons Corner today. As one of the leading experts in the field of Mercedes-Benz mechanical restoration, he has assisted many Mercedes-Benz owners with the full mechanical restoration of their vintage classic Mercedes-Benz automobiles. We can say with confidence that Norbert is the leading authority in the Mid-Atlantic knowing not only the intricacies of your vintage Mercedes-Benz but also having the resources and knowledge to restore your vehicle to an almost new condition.

Mercedes-Benz of Tysons Corner is proud of Norbert Lamp's life-long dedication to customer satisfaction and his outstanding work product. Whether your goal is to keep your classic Mercedes-Benz rolling for your daily driving pleasure or to restore your car for your collection, Norbert will work with you to develop a comprehensive plan to fulfill your dream.

To schedule a consultation please call:

Customer Service at 703-448-2289 or Norbert Lamp at 703-380-3490

Mercedes-Benz of Tysons Corner

National Board Meeting - Canandaigua, New York

Joe Wozney and Bill Hopper attended the MBCA Spring National Board Meetings in May. It was great to hear how well respected GWS is these days. We thank each of you for that, because several of our active GWS member's names were brought by various National Board Members who have had a positive interaction with them. Good Work Team!

MBCA overall is doing very well. The new STAR contract has provided additional income to the club, making us less reliant on the raffles which have been going down in income as fewer people are buying tickets. Although the club is still not totally out of the woods and does need raffle income to keep it in the black, MBCA is in an excellent cash and asset position at the moment, due to the bringing The STAR Magazine in house.

The current STAR contract expires at the end of 2008, an RFP is now going out for it. Not that the National Board is unhappy with the current publisher, but the two-year contract is coming to an end, and club management wants to keep the process open and keep the club's name in front of interested parties.

Overall, membership decline has slowed, though it is still an issue, especially the retention of existing members. Programs are being put into place to attract AMG owners, smart owners and CPO buyers. GWS is down 50 members from this time last year, so looks as we will have to ramp up a membership campaign. Interestingly enough, MBCA's membership has an

average age of 53 and is mostly male! So the average age is indeed coming down from what it had been.

StarFest and Tri-O-Rama are going full force and will be the big national events this year on each coast StarTech will be held next year in Indianapolis in April, combined with the Spring National Board meeting. Also this



Eastern MBCA Regional Director Greg Magnus (right) looks over Northeast Regional Director Doug Dees (center) fine 290SE along with South Central Regional Director Charles Boyd (left) at the MBCA Spring Board meeting.

year's Star Trip, a trip from the East Coast to the West Coast, taking members to StarFest will happen a week prior to StarFest and begin in Gettysburg, PA. Michigan "Mille" around Lake Michigan is being held in October and is already attracting a lot of interesting classic MB's. Also, our presence at various top-level Concours, Amelia Island, Pebble Beach and others is starting to pay off as the club is now being seen as a major player in the world of classic and show quality cars

The MBCA Educational Foundation (EF) has taken on a new look (Well, look who is the head of it now - our own Joe Wozney!) and really doing something. Check out the website www.mbcaef.org for more information. The Sea Level Section gave a \$500 donation to use toward a scholarship in a formal presentation at the meeting. That is a big leap. No section has given large amounts to the EF before this year. It is great to see the EF, which has been floundering for most of its life, come alive with lots of energy and activities that include the Street Smart Teen Driving Program.

The Board worked on Bylaw and Operating Procedures changes, mostly to cleanup the language to make it read more as intended. No major changes there, but the Bylaw rewrites will be on the fall ballot. There was a discussion of the Section Rebate being increased due to the lower costs of producing The Star, that is still under discussion as so many sections that are not that active seem to hold a lot of money in savings.

A couple of perks came up at the Board Meeting that GWS will get some benefit from. One was a chance for our membership chairperson to attend the Mercedes-Benz Driving Experience in Germany in late July. And the chance for our members to evaluate a prototype 2 Bluetec diesel SUV.

The next National Board Meeting will be in early November in Denver CO, and the Spring 2009 Meeting will be in Indianapolis, IN along with StarTech 2009.

Visit our National Club's website: www.mbca.org

Photo Gallery: GWS summer



1

Cold, Rain, or Sun . . .



2

. . . Autocrossers are always having FUN!



3



4

events bring out the members

June Jamboree - MBUSA Headquarters, Montvale, New Jersey

June Jamboree is an annual event. It is the longest running car show in the history of MBCA. This event is hosted by the Northern New Jersey Section and is usually held the second weekend in June. This year seven GWS members attended the event. Mark your calendar and join us next year!



5



6



7



8



9

Autocross: 1. John Robinson (in car far left) Laruie Harrel at the wheel, with Barrie Gochman and Henry Harrel enjoying a day of summer autocross; 2. Bobbie Wozney (left center) and Deborah Hirtes (right center) relax at spring autocross; 3. Bill Lear (left) and Joe Wozney man the autocross announcers table; 4. July Autocrossers get SOAKED while helping stranded AMG (Jim Glenn's E55), Team Vandenberg under umbrellas with a wet Henry Harrel (right).

June Jamboree: 5. Steve Spector (left) receives People Choice Award in the "old sport class" at June Jamboree from MBCA National President Pete Lesler; 6. Steve Spector(left) shows off his winning "old sport" '91 300SI to yet another beauty (right); 7. Gary Callis at June Jamboree with his 300CD; 8. MBUSA Liason Valentine O'Connor offering refreshments at June Jaamboree; 9. Keith Morgan (left) receiving a June Jamboree Award from MBCA National President Pete Lesler (right) for his '67 250SE.

Tech Session continued from Page 6

calling in from college to give technical as well as moral support to the family DIY team. Team Thompson also brought out the family with Father Dave and son Andrew working to get their rides ready for the Spring Track Event at Summit Point.

Little Benz's had some competition from the bigger-bodied models Bill LeVan brought in his '99 S Class outfitted with a custom kit and got it up on the lift to work on some issues, while Henry Harrell brought out the 400E, his wife's track car for a little pre-track work. DIY Session regular Chuck Gainor brought in his S class that was having curious window switch issues. Chuck was sure this was going to set him back a few dollars, but John Heflin showed him that all he needed was to teach his windows (and sunroof) a few tricks.

With a couple of flips of the switch from inside the car John not only saved Chuck some money but some sleepless nights. We all know Chuck secretly wanted to be a M-B mechanic, or maybe just a mechanic's manager.

Andrew Strosfoggel brought out one of his classics for a few spring tweaks, Andrew is not only a DIY regular, but often seen in the winner's circle at MBCA Concours events. It is always good to see members attend the many different events that our Section holds.

Speaking of events, long-time active driver Marty Gallagher brought out his Mustang Cobra to see if the Dyno could give him

some idea what kind of power he had. Marty also brought out the younger Gallaghers, who were often seen holding their hands over their ears as Dad's Mustang was being redlined while showing up some pretty impressive numbers on the Dyno screen. Dyno got some interest from others as well.

most took their sandwiches back to their bay to maximize their lift time. But many trips back for cookies were noted. No mechanic can ever work on an empty stomach.

John Heflin, GWS Tech team member, a regular at the autocross, and professional Mercedes-Benz mechanic, helped people with their MB issues, talking through fluid changes and explaining how the power windows need to re-learn their stop points. The little tidbits that only a pro knows saved a couple of members from spending money needlessly on parts that were in working order on their Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

Gordon Smith, the other trusty part of the GWS Tech team worked as cheerleader, helping folks think through their projects, and get them the support they needed to get their projects completed.

Special thanks to the entire team at Curry's, Jon, the Manager and his entire staff were just great

helping throughout the day.

GWS members are true car lovers, and really enjoy learning more about their vehicles. One of the best ways to do this is to pop the hood, or put the car up on the lift, and see their baby from the inside out, like a mechanic. Knowing what makes your car work helps you be a better owner and enthusiast.

GWS will be holding more Tech events throughout the year, with fall and spring DIY lift session in the planning stages now. The newly found Engine Group will be disassembling a Mercedes-Benz engine, (see page 16) so you can all see what puts the GO under the Star.



Matt Curry (center) and his crew from Curry's Auto Service Inc., Dulles/Sterling location.

Woody brought a 2005 Crossfire SRT that was all tricked out, and was quite impressed with the power range that this re-badged Mercedes-Benz SLK showed.

Team Crim brought out the GTO, but somewhere between West Virginia and Curry's Dulles location, the key to the wheel lock seemed to disappear. Richie could not do the Dyno, (next year Richie) so Rachelle, the sweeter side of the Crim Racing Team, decided to head out to the mall for a shopping expedition, with Richie in tow. Now this is a family that drives together, races together, techs, together and even shops together!

Lunch from PotBelly Sandwiches gave everyone a mid-afternoon break, though

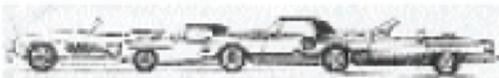


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had a story on the car just a few months ago. As in 2006, this astonishingly restored Lieferwagen took the Best of Marque.

Larry Ledbetter won the People's Choice award with his 1966 W111 250SE, a beautiful coupe that may symbolize the stylish life of the 1960's unlike any other. Rounding out the special awards was the Judges' Choice award for David VanDuzer and his 1959 W180 220S coupe. It seems that this year really was the year of the coupe!

Some cars continue their excellent performance even if they have new owners. One of these is Paul Vandenberg's recent acquisition a 1986 W201 190E 2.3-16 that won first place in performance sedans, beating out the modern 2005 W203 C55 entered by Larry Myers. In the sedan category, the race was very tight. Age proved to be the friend of Keith Morgan's first place winner, a 1967 W108 250SE that bested Ellen Ruck in her 1988 W201 190E 2.6 while Franc Kaur's 1973 W109 300SEL 4.5 held off Eric Wagner's 1982 W123 200 and Dennis King's 2001 E320.

The coupe class was even more varied, and included cars from 1955 through 2008. Those cars were the bookends on the awards with David Olimpi taking first place in his W198 300SL Gullwing and Steve MacKellar third in his W209 CLK63 AMG Black Series. Newcomer Frank Neundorfer won second place in a nicely restored 1985 C123 300CD. Rebecca Feldman's 1980 R107 450SLC, a rare car at club events, placed fourth.



AWARDS

Best of Marque: Dennis Frick: 1952 W187 220 Delivery Sedan

Circle of Excellence: Ellen Ruck: 1991 C126 560SEC

People's Choice: Larry Ledbetter: 1966 W111 250SE coupe

Judges' Choice: David VanDuzer: 1959 W180 220S coupe

Group 1: Performance Sedans

1. Paul Vandenberg : 1986 W201 190E 2.3-16

2. Larry Myers : 2005 W203 C55 AMG

Group 2: Sedans

1. Keith Morgan: 1967 W108 250SE
2. Ellen Ruck: 1988 W201 190E 2.6
3. Franc Kaur: 1973 W109 300SEL 4.5

Group 3: Coupes

1. David Olimpi: 1955 W198 300SL
2. Frank Neundorfer: 1985 C123 300CDT
3. Steve MacKellar: 2008 W209 C63 AMG Black series

Group 4 Classic SLs

1. Ray Schlicht: 1967 W113 250SL
2. Harvey Cherner: 1969 W113 280SL
3. Dean Turner: 1960 R121 190SL

Group 5 Modern SLs

1. Jerry Chenault: 1986 R107 560SL
2. Bill Lofquist: 1984 R107 380SL
3. Fred Perry: 1989 R107 560SL

Group 6 Convertibles

1. Amy McKenna: 1959 W180 220S
2. Whitey Pakiz: 2007 CLK550

The Engine Group

A group is now forming to discover the inner workings of a Mercedes-Benz 117 engine. A small group of GWS members will be dismantling the engine in preparation for an upcoming Tech Time to find out more about this workhorse. This teardown group is limited due to the size of the space where the engine is located, but the upcoming Tech Time event will be open to as many interested members as possible.

For those of you interested in participating in "The Engine Group" contact Gordon Smith 301-475-2870 smithgd@maxinter.net

The Trading Post

Up-to-Date Listings:

www.gws-mbca.org

Trading Post Advertising Information

GWS members may place an ad in the Metro Tri-Star Trading Post free of charge. The rate for nonmembers is \$45. Ads are limited to 50 words. Photos are an additional \$20. Include your name, membership number, and phone number with your ad. Ads will appear for two issues and must be received by the 10th of the month preceding publication. Send your ad to Janet McFarland at janetmcfarland@earthlink.net or call 703-765-9405. The editor has sole discretion in determining ad acceptability.

1976 450SL: Dark blue, both tops, new blue leather seats, not running for several years but will run. Complete stainless steel exhaust system (Time Valve). Good for parts or restore? SAVE IT FROM THE CAR CRUSHER! Car cover to hide it, too! \$600.00. Andrew: 301.577.0052 or callimahos@yahoo.com.

1971 300 SEL 3.5 Engine/Tranny runs strong, great chrome, windows, seats, air suspension, but the car has hidden cancer holes. It was my baby for 8 years (reliable) and always ran great. Brakes started leaking fluid from a cylinder and rusted rear line. It would be a great project or parts car. \$1,500 obo. Dean Rosa 301.899.2208 or cell 301.335.9819

E500, 1994: Brilliant silver metallic black (271). 58,000 miles. Own the legendary 322hp V8 hand built in conjunction with Porsche. One of only 374 brought to the U.S. in 1994. Model profiled in The STAR magazine (Nov-Dec 2005). Always garaged, never raced, all original. Fully equipped, silky paint, unblemished wheels, and stunning hand-sewn interior with rear buckets. All records including original window sticker. New ignition control module. \$32,500. Walter: 301.370.2990, or walterwray@comcast.net.

Factory Service Manual for 450SL models (1976) near excellent condition. \$50.00 plus \$6.00 postage. Andrew Callimahos at 301.577.0052 or callimahos@yahoo.com

Near perfect 17-in (7-spoke) original wheels with Michelin Pilot Sport 245/45 x 17 tires mounted on them. From 2003 SL500, approx 13,500 miles. \$500 for the set. Dave: 703.924.2867 or davidjestine@cox.net.

Set of four OEM alloy wheels and Pirelli P245/45R-17 P-Zero Nero M&S mounted tires from my 2003 E500. Tires were on vehicle only one year/10,000 miles. Alloys are in excellent condition except for one wheel which has four small scratches. \$700 obo. Tom: 703.946.4522 or mcleantmw@aol.com.

Four Alloy Wheels. 8-1/4Jx17 H2. ET34 inscribed inside. \$800. Julian: 703.625.1878 or julian.t.reeves.69@dartmouth.org.

Set of OEM Wheels for SLK, mfg by Ronal (2) Rear part number 170 401 03 02, size 8j x 16H2 ET 30 (2) Front part number 170 401 02 02 size 7j x 16h2 ET 37 Have used Bridgestone Potenzas mounted on them. Wheels were refinished but have some scuffs on them. \$600 obo. Bill Hopper 202.363.4189 or wwhrestoration@att.net

Tires: If you have a Mercedes, chances are there's something that I have that will fit! I'm clearing out all the extra tires I have! Most tires with almost new tread wear (10/32 or higher) are \$50 each. Any tire with 6/32 or less are \$10 each. All other tires are \$25. Contact: John Heflin, johnhef@comcast.net

Car Cover: Like-new car cover used for a 1987 300TD (station wagon). \$49. Call Andy at 703-799-7533

Marshall Booth's Misc "Estate" Items: Mercedes-Benz books, filters (2 in-line fuel filters; 2 In-line fuel strainers; Knecht KC63D fuel filter; 2 Knecht OX38D oil filter cartridges; Mann PF 1050/1n oil filter cartridge; Hengst D 16 E 170 HN oil filter cartridge, same as Mann PF 1050, and OX38, Mann C23 148 air filter; Mann C29 126/2 air filter; Mann C38 163/1 air filter; Hengst E30 L02 air filter; 2 Mann WK 817/3x fuel filters; W201 Meistersatz Transmission filter kit), gaskets, and misc stuff such as 201 270 00 98-FE; W124 wagon, new rear wiper motor assy, grommet, sleeve, bushing, other parts for rebuilding wagon rear wiper sleeve where it goes through the glass; W124 electric vacuum pump; W201 metal oil line part # 201270 44 96; Brake hoses: (3) # 126 428 0335; (3) # 129 428 00 35; Chain tensioner Febi-Bilstein 601 050 07 11; Timing chain, Iwis Ketten brand (German); 003 997 48 94, New OE brake line, 62-1/2" long, part # A 123 420 71 28; 2 rubber Y "distributor fittings"; Vacuum line "strainer" (like a little in-line filter) MB Part # 126 490 03 37 Looks like differential mount bushings kit and MORE! Contact: Pete K. pkurzenhauser@cox.net

High Gear



by

**John Kuhn
Bleimaier**

bleimaier@aol.com

Driving, is it a right or a privilege? Well, because you cannot very well live in our society without driving, I attempted to posit that driving is a fundamental human right. However, there is a long line of judicial authority here in New Jersey holding that driving is a privilege bestowed, or withheld, by the state. Be that as it may, whether right or privilege, driving is something we had better take very seriously. Obviously, the automobile is a dangerous instrumentality, deserving of respect. But from my perspective, operating a motor vehicle is such a source of inner fulfillment that it demands something akin to reverence.

In most European countries, the process of securing a driver's license is long, rigorous and demanding. You have to learn how to handle your automobile under a wide range of difficult conditions. Over there, driver's education involves careful analysis of the physics of handling and performance. It entails obtaining a more than rudimentary knowledge of mechanics. You must know how to operate a manual transmission, even if you ultimately decide to opt out of the good life and buy a slush box. It's ironic that in America, where our jurisprudence considers driving to be a privilege, the licensing process is ridiculously simple. In most states, a person can literally get out on the road knowing little more than that red means "stop" and green means "go."

I just got back from Germany. I still feel the sense of exhilaration that comes from driving flat out on the A5 autobahn between Karlsruhe and Frankfurt, and approaching the limits of adhesion on the well-maintained and wonderfully banked tertiary roads of the Black Forest. In Europe, folks drive fast and hard. At one point I was running a rented Opel Corsa at 180 kmph on the highway and was passed by a new bluetech Diesel Mercedes as if I were standing still. On the scenic byways motorists always overtake slower traffic, passing with verve and deliberation. While average road speeds are substantially higher than on this side of the Atlantic, my

perception is that the incidence of serious accidents is not high. In my opinion, this is the result of the fact that, by and large, Europeans operate their vehicles with a higher level of concentration. Driving is simply taken more seriously.

Now, even in this country, those of us who travel behind the silver star tend to operate our vehicles more conscientiously than do the drivers of lesser marques. The fact that we have selected a not-inexpensive, performance vehicle possessed of cutting edge active and passive safety features says something about our priorities. Mercedes owners who take the time to join the Mercedes-Benz Club of America are an even more elite cadre. One of the perquisites of membership is access to our club's defensive driving courses and our track events. It is in this context that we can hone our driving skills and make ourselves into careful and competent experts, trained driving enthusiasts.

Most of all, when I'm on the other side, I am positively impressed by the fact that the vast majority of cars on the road have manual transmissions. Now, does this signify that the Europeans are smarter and more dexterous than we? Are they more sensitive and demanding when it comes to performance? Are their roads free of traffic jams and urban snarl? No, no, and again I say, "No!" They drive stick because they know how. If our student drivers were required to master the engagement and disengagement of the clutch and the snick, snick of the gear lever, Americans would also choose to experience the advantages of shifting for themselves and would be enjoying their driving experience to boot. My countrymen and women are second to none in their *éclat*, *élan* and *esprit*. If all Americans knew how to operate a manual tranny, most would opt to do so and would do it with nary a grinding cog or a missed ratio. Next thing you know, Uncle Sam would repeal the speed limit on the interstates and we could truly be the land of the free and the home of the brave.

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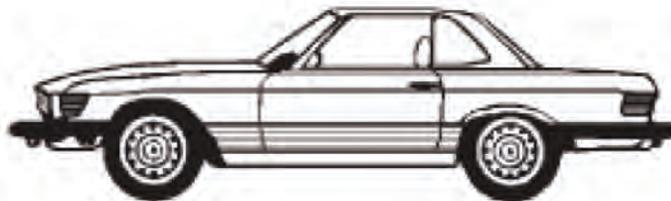


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GWS Annual Financial Report

Section bylaws require the treasurer to prepare an end of fiscal year financial report. At least two club members must audit this report, and the audited report must be published in the *Metro Tri-Star*. Any member with questions on the financial report or section finances in general has the right to contact the Treasurer and request an appointment to review the financial records.

GWS-MBCA Income and Expenses January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2007 (In Dollars)

Income

Events.....	\$178,467
National Rebates	\$16,477
Newsletter Advertising.....	\$10,300
GWS Store	\$1,519
Dividends and Interest.....	\$2,806
Maryland Auto Tags.....	\$130
Contributions.....	\$0
	<u>\$209,699</u>

Expenses

Events.....	\$165,775
Newsletter	\$22,969
GWS Store	\$4,648
Contributions.....	\$0
Equipment Purchases	\$3,025
Operating Expenses.....	\$15,212
Taxes	\$29
	<u>\$211,658</u>

Realized Loss..... \$0.00

Net Income (Loss)..... (\$1,959)

Balance Sheet (As of December 31, 2007)

Assets

Bank Accounts	\$52,512
CDs.....	\$0
Investments	\$11,015
Assets (Fixed & Store Inventory).....	\$13,880
Total Assets	<u>\$77,407</u>

Liabilities..... \$0

Net Worth..... \$77,407

Our accountant recommended several corrections to our fixed assets account. The net result of the corrections is a more realistic fixed asset value.

Two club members reviewed the club's financial records on June 28, 2008. Their findings were that the club's financial records for FY2007 accurately reflected income and expense activity and assets.

Pylon Alley continued from Page 8

Driver	Car	#2	#3	#4
Cillan, Jill	08 Chevy HHR SS	63.465/49.943		
Dachary-Bru, Valerie	90 Mazda Miata	57.644/49.343	75.689/62.814*	68.172/56.583
Gochman, Barrie	99 Mazda Miata	54.185/46.382*		63.163/54.068*
Kirby, Bobbie	96 Mazda Miata			76.183/62.225
Blase, Brad	87 Porsche 924S	55.158/45.009	69.033/56.331	62.260/52.423
Bru, Francois	90 Mazda Miata	50.976/43.635	63.174/52.434	58.545/48.592
Brubaker, John	06 VW R32	50.457/40.971		58.272/47.317
Burke, Tom	94 Mazda Miata			70.292/57.249
Campana, Ernest	92 Honda Civic	47.211/40.601	60.957/52.423**	58.027/49.903
Chaney, John	90 Mazda Miata	51.793/44.335		
Chung, Ryan	94 Honda S2000	52.273/45.146		
Crim, Richie	04 Pontiac GTO	52.250/42.897		
Fleming, Tim	05 Chrysler Crossfire	52.629/42.735	67.275/54.617	
Gallagher, Marty	03 SVT Cobra	51.353/42.161	63.451/52.093	59.547/48.888
Gocek, Anthony	00 BMW 328Ci	53.650/43.778		
Gochman, Pete	99 Mazda Miata	49.008/41.951		57.660/48.550**
Hack, Brett	90 Maza Miata	54.704/44.748	67.486/55.204	62.039/50.748
Johnson, Bill	03 Honda S2000	50.466/43.502		
Johnson, Jeremy	08 VW R32		72.060/58.513	
Kallam, Michael	06 Dodge Charger			65.581/54.462
Kallam, Michael	98 Dodge Neon		70.153/57.175	64.224/52.343
Kallam, Michael Jr.	98 Dodge Neon		70.396/57.373	66.129/53.895
Knoll, Greg	02 Audi S4	52.067/42.278		
Lear, Bill	92 Acura Integra GSR	50.622/42.674	63.607/53.621	58.549/49.357
Leiken, Howard	86 Porsche 944T	48.370/41.501		59.094/50.348
Lipsky, Richard	58 Morgan Plus 4/8	51.733/44.853		63.279/55.253
Lowers, Robert	08 Chevy HHR SS	55.211/45.936		
McWhorter, Brian	98 Cobra	57.217/49.207		
Mitchell, Steve	00 Porsche Boxster	54.980/46.293		
Morehouse, Russell	08 VW R32		74.722/60.674	
Mortimer, Jeffrey	04 Honda S2000		68.547/59.088	64.905/55.948
Myint, Calvin	05 Honda S2000	48.383/41.706		
Newman, Harry	93 Subaru SVX		67.900/55.339	
Newman, Tom	07 Porsche Cayman	63.006/53.051		
Prevatt, Andrew	04 Subaru WRX STi	54.980/46.293		
Rattinger, Larry	Morgan Plus 4/8			64.794/56.176
Robinson, Bob	03 Corvette Z06	50.620 /43.128		59.295/50.519
Robinson, John	03 Corvette Z06		62.841/53.541	59.684/50.851
Rochelle, Paul	03 Honda Civic	58.416/47.784	73.175/59.711	
Snyder, Ross	02 Honda S2000	51.221/43.128		
Soskey, Bryan	07 Subaru WRX	56.427/45.819		
Squires, Stephen	08 Saab Turbo			67.114/54.698
Unger, Danny	88 Mazda RX7		75.740/61.880	
Urdal, Robert	98 BMW M3	58.230/48.447		69.303/57.660
Williams, Bob	73 Porsche 911 RSR	46.375/40.207**		
Wirt, Mike	07 Porsche Cayman	49.215/41.439	61.933/52.148	58.875/49.573
Woodworth, Woody	05 Crossfire SRT-6	52.451/44.164		
Young, Jonathan	02 Audi S4	51.980/42.208		
* LFTD	** FTD			

GWS Event Registration

Name _____ Member Number _____

Address _____ eMail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Event

GWS Picnic and Mid-Atlantic Concours d'Elegance, August 17, \$15.00 per person / \$20 at the gate

Send check to: Ray Lombardo, 2316 Hidden Valley Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904-5270 - Make all check payable to GWS-MBCA

If you are displaying a car please include the following:

Car: _____ Year: _____

Class (circle): - Show - - Street - - Display -

Maryland GWS License Tags

Mercedes-Benz license tags with the section logo and the words "Mercedes-Benz Club" on them are still available. These plates are not available through the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration. You can purchase them only through the club. Send the form below to Ed Hainke, coordinator of the program, with two checks: one payable to GWS-MBCA in the amount of \$10, and the second payable to the MVA in the amount of \$25. Ed will then contact you for the required MVA information.



Greater Washington Section Tags for Maryland Residents

Name _____ Member # _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Send this form and one check for \$10 payable to GWS-MBCA
and one check for \$25 payable to MVA to:

Ed Hainke, 10755 Sawpit Cove Road, Lusby, MD 20657

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