



Mercedes-Benz Club of America - Minuteman

TRI-ANGLES

DECEMBER 2022

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NEW MEMBERS!**

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Included in your
membership...

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Happy holidays to you all! What a year we've had, full of trips and events that we should all be proud of.

In 2023, we will see some returning favorites (Tech Session, Polo, Farberallye) plus some new activities and events. If you are interested in coordinating an event or have an idea to share, please contact President Dean Coclin.

Do you have a road trip story you want to share? Perhaps some expertise or a car blog you've written? I'd be happy to feature them in future newsletters! You can email them to: hello@leiamowen.com or europeanautosolutions@gmail.com.

If you organize an event for the club, please send in a summary and pictures of your event in order to share with the other members of our section. This is a great way to promote your event or other events to the Minuteman Section to garner interest.

Thank you - I look forward to reading your submissions.

Leia Owen

EDITOR

Holiday Pops



Annual
THEATER
AND
DINNER
EVENT



Did you capture any photos of this event? We'd love to include in a future newsletter! Please email photos and captions to: hello@leiamowen.com

Holiday Pops

MBCA-MINUTEMAN SECTION

35th ANNUAL THEATRE & DINNER MEETING EVENT

On Sunday, December 11, 2022 over 50 members of the MBCA-Minuteman Section met at Boston Symphony Hall for the 35th Annual Theatre & Dinner Meeting Event (once again a sold out event). The highlight of the day was the “Boston Pops Holiday Concert” featuring the famed “Boston Pops Orchestra” under the direction of conductor Keith Lockhart. This year's performance featured outstanding orchestral renditions of “Christmas Canticles”, “Rock of Ages”, “Greensleeves”, “Ukrainian Carols” and the world premiere of “Noche de Posada” (a Mexican orchestration, slide presentation and narration). After intermission “The Pops” performed its more traditional holiday songs, including its famous “The Twelve Days of Christmas” with its highly amusing accompaniment by the “Tanglewood Festival Chorus”. The show concluded with the crowd participating in the annual Christmas Carol Sing-a-Ling.

Maestro Lockhart informed us that it actually started to snow outside during the concert. This made our trek to “Petit Robert Bistro” a few blocks away by foot a little challenging, but it was worth the effort. The Minuteman Section had the entire dining room to itself, which led to a great deal of comradery. “Petit Robert Bistro” served us a unique, French Parisian style dinner with items such as Soupe a L'Oignon Gratinee, Steak Frites, Demi Poulet Roti, Creme Brulee, and Tarte Aux Fruits among many of the delicious culinary choices.

This event also acts as the election of next years officers, and the current slate of officers was unanimously approved for re-election.

President Dean Coclin was surprised as he was awarded a plaque for being named Northeast Region Officer of the Year by Minuteman Section Vice President Barry O'Neill and Past President Ed Owen. Congratulations Dean!

After dinner we all buttoned up and headed in to the cool night (gladly the snow had stopped) as we headed back to the parking garage area to get to our cars (Mercedes-Benz I hope).

Rich Garick
Event Chairman

Welcome, New Members!

The following members from our region joined MBCA in September, October, November, and December:

Bhaskar Banerjee

Amy Trotsky

Robert Ide

Volker Nahrman

Doug Harriott

Joseph Rhatigan

M Robert Rose

Donald Geehan

Athena Yerganian

Letter from the President

The club has had a great year with well attended events and in many cases, sold out. Despite a tough economy, members continue to support our events and they can't wait for what's in store for 2023.

I'm pleased to announce that our own Ulysses deGuzman was voted Minuteman Chapter's Member of the Year. We presented him with a plaque honoring his participation and leadership in club events. Ulysses has lead several drive events and is already planning new ones for 2023. Congratulations Ulysses!

The Holiday Pops and Annual Meeting, organized by Rich Garick, was another great success. You can read more about it in this newsletter. I was completely surprised to be presented with the Officer of the Year award during the dinner meeting by Vice President Barry O'Neill and past president Ed Owen. I had no idea this was coming and am extremely grateful for this honor. Thank you! In addition, Barry, Court and I were re-elected to our current positions in the club. We look forward to serving the members for another year.

The Minuteman Chapter presented Mercedes Benz of Westwood with a plaque in recognition of their generous sponsorship of this year's Germanfest. We are hoping to work with MB Westwood again in 2023. I was told they will be knocking down their existing showroom and building a brand new place, to be completed by end of 2023. We will likely have an event there once construction is complete.

We've already started planning some familiar and new events for 2023. There will likely be a break for the winter but spring will be back with the annual EAS Open House, one of the most popular club gatherings. We will publish our 2023 event schedule in the next newsletter.

I want to wish everyone a Happy Holiday and a great New Year. I look forward to engaging and driving with you in the New Year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dean".

Dean Coclin
Minuteman Section President

Member of the Year

Ulysses De Guzman



Ulysses deGuzman was unanimously elected the Minuteman chapter member of the year.

Ulysses joined our chapter after a move from California and has jumped right into action. He has led driving events, and has been a regular at most of our club outings and events.

His enthusiasm is exemplary and Ulysses is already thinking about what events he can lead in 2023.

Please join your fellow members in congratulating Ulysses!



Photos from the Sunday Drive event at Fulchino Vineyards

German Fest

September 11th, 2022



Photos by Joshua Sweeney of Shoot for Details

German Fest

September 11th, 2022



Germanfest, or Mercedes Day, is the longest running lawn event at the Larz Anderson Auto Museum and this year was the biggest field we have seen in a while. As a result, excitement was high for our 35th signature M.B.C.A Minuteman Section event and it did not disappoint. This year the event was held in its traditional time of mid September. As a result, a very eclectic mix of vintage and modern Mercedes-Benzs showed up to fill the field and presented many a challenge to the judges, as the winners of 3 different classes came down to less than 2 points. For the second year in a row, MBCA members from Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island, and New York joined in our local fun, giving the event a very regional feel.

Highlights included a 1966 600 SWB, 6 113 Chassis SLs, 3 spectacular 190Es (201 Chassis), a Euro Spec SEC (C126 Chassis), a '58 190 Ponton (180 Chassis), 5 late model GTs, and a '55 300SL Gullwing (198 Chassis). "Best of Show" was won by member Jim Jones with his 1954 300b 'Adenauer' Cabriolet. Ironically the award was sponsored by Mercedes-Benz of Westwood which was founded by the original owner of the 'Adenauer', Ernie Clair. Definitely a full circle moment. Thank you to all our sponsors and especially to all our volunteers and judges for their efforts in a well run and memorable day celebrating our favorite marque!

*President Dean Coclin
presenting an appreciation
award to Mercedes Benz of
Westwood for sponsoring
Germanfest 2022*



German Fest

September 11th, 2022



Photos by Joshua Sweeney of Shoot for Details

Farberallye

October 21 – 23, 2022

Court Brannen



Farberallye



by Court Brannen

This year's Farberallye was held the weekend of 10/21 – 10/23 and our beautiful fall New England weather did not disappoint. During the rally, the sun was out shining bright and was perfectly clear and not too cold.

Starting out on Friday night for our Welcome Reception, we hosted a table with a MBCA tablecloth and checked in attendees. Members were provided with insight on breakfast times as well as when our pre-rally drivers meeting will be on Saturday. Members from the Minuteman, Northern New England Stars, Hudson-Mohawk, and even some from Canada were able to enjoy a cash bar as well as plenty of hors d'oeuvres. This was also a wonderful time to meet, mix, and mingle with members from over 3+ MBCA sections.

On Saturday morning between 7-9 A.M attendees were able to take advantage of a nicely stocked breakfast buffet at our hotel and then met just outside in the hotel's car port for our Drivers Meeting at 9:15 where guidelines, and comic relief was shared.

After the driver's meeting, we started the rally off on time and sent the 1st car off right at 9:45. We then launched the remaining 25 cars off every 2 minutes. Prior to leaving, rally participants chose either a time/distance or quiz rally. To help hand out participant lunches, Miss Vermont's Outstanding Teen 2022, Abigail Hunter, joined us. Her assistance was very much appreciated!

Also attending our pre-rally drivers meeting was a reporter from the Rutland Herald, a local newspaper, who wrote a syndicated article on this years' Farberallye.

You can read the article at: https://www.rutlandherald.com/rutland_reader/mercedes-enthusiasts-rally-in-killington/article_1a4fa324-37d1-54c4-97d9-02dd4908752c.html.

(copy and paste into your browser).

Farberallye



by Court Brannen

Overall, the participant feedback regarding the route was very positive. Many did comment that the Quiz portion might have been a bit too challenging – based on previous Quiz Rally questions from other section planners, my fear was that it was actually going to be too easy. Perhaps not, but everyone enjoyed it none-the-less.

On Saturday evening after the day's rally competition, dinner and awards were held at The Foundry at Summit Pond. We enjoyed a cocktail hour before dinner and then sat down for a nice meal. After the meal we held a raffle for prizes and then awarded trophies to our rally winners.

After the awards were handed out and before everyone went back to the hotel, we had a first for the Minuteman Section and Farberallye, perhaps even for an MBCA rally overall. One of the Minuteman Sections newer members, Brandan Venne proposed to his girlfriend, and she said YES!

Here are the Rally winners and rally specifics:

Actual miles traveled was 104.6

Actual time was 180 minutes.

Winners

Time Distance

Robert & Julie Kalustian – 3rd Place

Jeff & Christine Santacruce – 2nd Place

Robert & Kathy Harradine – 1st Place

Quiz Rally

Ed & Emily Hilbert – 3rd Place

Volker & Sarah Nahrman – 2nd Place – took them over 5 hours

Thomas & Paula Aubee – 1st Place

On Sunday, before making our final journeys home, about 30 of us attended a distillery tour at “Vermont Spirits” in Quechee, VT. Randy, one of the owners, provided us with a phenomenal tour and question session that lasted just over an hour, with a spirits tasting at the end.

Audrain Newport Concours and Motor Week

Ed Owen



1911 BENZ
VICTORIA



1937 540K

The third iteration of the Audrain Newport Concours and Motor Week started on September the 28th and culminated with the Concours D'Elegance on Sunday, October 2nd at the Breakers. Starting in 2019, with a Tour D'Elegance only in 2020, this has been a growing event and a must see part of anyone's automotive calendar. Events include seminars, a Bonham's Auto Auction, the Village and Vendor display at the Tennis Hall of Fame, the Gathering at Rough Point, a Cars and Coffee, the Tour D'Elegance, and the Concours.



1966 600 SWB

SFD
@ShootForDetails

Audrain Newport Concours and Motor Week

Ed Owen



Pictured, from left to right: Neal & Susan Heffron, me (Ed), my father (Tom Owen), David Geisinger, Jim Hatch, Bob Laughrea, Ted Yerardi, Michael Sakkas, and my son (Denton Owen).

Between my son Denton and I, we have been fortunate enough to participate in every Concours and Tour to date. This year the Tour D' Elegance was on a soggy day but that didn't hinder the participation, the enthusiasm, or the fun. The cars that showed up to drive in the rain were spectacular and among the vintage Porsches, Jaguars, Cadillacs, and Bentleys were a '55 300SL Gullwing, an original '66 Ford GT40 MK I, and a stunning and award winning '39 Alfa Romeo 8C 2900 B Coupe Touring. We drove our '91 Mercedes-Benz 190E 2.5-16V with its fresh DTM tribute wrap and were pleasantly surprised by the amount of spectators on the route and at the finish on Bellevue Ave, despite the Cars and Coffee cancellation. Thankfully the heat system and defrost were working well. Definitely a fun and memorable day with friends.

We stayed in Jamestown, RI, just across the bridge from Newport, which makes for a beautiful early morning, no traffic ride to the Breakers on Sunday. This year saw a prodigious sunrise coming over the bridge in style in our '66 Mercedes-Benz 600 SWB. Pulling into the front gates of the Gilded Age "Summer Home", with its Italian palazzo facade, in a 'Grosser Mercedes' is an experience all of its own.

Audrain Newport Concours and Motor Week

Ed Owen



1939 ALFA ROMEO 8C

We shared a class with fellow Minuteman member Jim Jones and his '54 300b "Adenauer" Cabriolet (Winner of Germanfest), a '66 Citroën DS 21 Chapron Le Lemans Coupe, a '48 Daimler DE36 "Green Goddess" Hooper Drophead Coupe, and the winner of our class a '48 Delahaye 135 MS Faget Varnet Cabriolet. The curated field did not disappoint and included the very cool "30 under 30 Class". Of course our favorite marque shined bright on the lawn with a '37 Mercedes-Benz 540K Cab A and a 1911 Benz 50HP Victoria whose original owner died on the Titanic.

As a participant I can honestly say I have never been treated better by both the organizers and the volunteers of this event. The level of quality, curation, and organization, combined with the location, is second to none. As this emerges as a yearly automotive tradition in our own backyard, I hope you all consider attending and or participating as it is worth your time and effort, especially if you are a vintage car fan. Mark your calendar for next year September 28th through October 1st 2023 in Newport, RI. and we will see you there.



1991 190E 16V-2.5



UPCOMING EVENTS



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Stay tuned for upcoming club & enthusiast events:

- Amelia Island, March 2023
- European Auto Solutions - Open House & Tech Session, May 2023
- Museum event, June 2023
- Nautical Event - July 2023
- Polo Match, August 2023
- Larz Anderson Lawn Events, Summer & Fall 2023
- Farberallye, Fall 2023
- Sunday Drives - throughout the year
- ... and other returning favorites!

Have an idea for an event? Would you like to plan a drive, gathering, or other activity for the club? Please contact: (include Dean contact info)



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TRI-ANGLES

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