



THE NORTHWESTERN STAR

Vol. 44 • No. 3

Portland Section

Fall 2017

CRUISING INTO FALL!



1990 Mercedes 560 SEC



Pebble Beach Recap



Forest Grove Recap



Covered Bridge Tour

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Event Recaps on YouTube



Go here to see short videos of events you may have missed. We try and capture the essence of each event and the fun!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChRfvCsbyqkVfLUZpKcvPhg>

Or search MBCA PDX

Welcome, New Members

Richard Birkinshaw	Medford
Anna Burkoff	Newport
Bruce Curtis	Eugene
Robert Fournier	Canby
Gregory Jost	Ashland
Tony Kelly	Lake Oswego
Suzanne Kendall	Vancouver, WA
William Koenigsberg	Ashland
Jim Martin	Vancouver, WA
Daniel Porcaro	Rouge River
Carol Richards	Florence
Richard Snyder	Vancouver, WA
Terry Tolls	Portland
Jennifer Vookles	Portland
Timothy Zach	Grants Pass



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President's Message

By Section President Ron Woodruff

The rain is finally here, and I'm sure most of us really appreciate the cooler weather! We did, however, have a rain-free event at the Wings & Wheels gathering in Camus last Saturday, and THAT was a big change from the rainy gathering we had last year. Once again, Paul Pietrowski (from our Northwest Section), did a great job organizing the event for our club members.

The high point of the season, for me at least, was the Eclipse viewing party at our home in Monmouth, which just happened to be one of the best locations for viewing this amazing event. The weather was perfect, with cloudless blue skies. Nine members from the Seattle Section drove down, one local member joined us, and we even had a member from Bellingham, WA, attend! Now, that was a long drive, but he said it was worth every mile!

We have a couple more events scheduled for the end of the season. A Mid-Willamette Valley tour and a General Tech session at Burback Motors in S.E. Portland. We hope to cover the basic principles for maintaining older, as well as some of the newer models. We may also present some tips on how to research and purchase an older model Mercedes. This may include topics such as, "what's the deal with this bio-degradable wiring problem I keep hearing about," etc. Mike Burback always gives a fun and entertaining presentation on what informed Mercedes owners should know about their cars.

This Summer found me replacing the rear springs on my 1977 450 SL - it's always good to have the correct spring compressor! I had to contact two different rental shops, only to discover that I needed to buy one on eBay, specifically for the Mercedes application. If any of you need to do the same job, you can borrow mine. I've also been working on my friend's 1968 Buick large body convertible, which has been a four year project! The lesson for me in this process has been discovering that GM's "disposable cars" of the 60's are a far cry from the Mercedes' quality of the same era. This project has made me even more appreciative of the engineering and design of all Mercedes' products, even the most basic models. There is a great deal of truth behind their motto, "Drive the Best or Nothing."



Portland Section Schedule of Events

October 7th/Saturday, Fall Covered Bridge Tour. Start in Albany 10am-2pm

November 4th/ Saturday, Preventative Maintenance, Burback Motors 10am-12pm

December 2nd/Saturday, Annual General Meeting and Holiday Dinner, Hayden's on the Lake, Tualatin 6:30pm,

Follow the Portland Section on Facebook!



Visit our web site for the most up-to-date event

Fall Covered Bridge Tour Forest Grove Concours D'Elegance Recap

By David Abarr, Portland Section



Join Mercedes Benz Club members for a tour of the Scio area covered bridges in Linn county, Oregon. Just in time for some fall colors and brisk days we will head out from Albany and tour 4 covered bridges along winding picturesque country roads. A stop at Roaring River Park as well. We will head back to Albany and enjoy lunch in historic downtown. Adjacent to the restaurant is the newly opened Albany Carousel.

To get to Fred Meyers from the Portland area drive south I5 exit 233 US-20W/Hwy 20 SE. Drive .6 miles and Fred Meyers is on the left. Starbucks is on the front grocery entrance. Arrive early to get coffee or a snack. We will depart at 10am. We will have driving route maps for the covered bridge tour portion.

WHAT: Covered Bridge Tour and Lunch

WHEN: Saturday October 7th, 10:00am – 2:00pm

WHERE: Meet at the Starbucks in the Fred Meyer shopping center at 2500 Santiam Highway SE, Albany, OR. Arrive early to grab a coffee or a snack. We will head out by 10:00am.

Keep an eye out for an email blast on this event!

By David Abarr, Portland Section



A picture perfect day was enjoyed by all in attendance at this year's Forest Grove Concours d'Elegance. Section members included Judy Tonz in her 1968 280SL, Dan Beard in his 1964 220sb, Ernie Brawly and his 1960 190SL and Walter Tabrum and his 1960 220SE. Best in class winner (above) was Rufus Aylwin and his new restored 1958 220s Cabriolet. It is a stunning example. Section member Barry Corno brought out his 380SEC AMG as part of the Best of Cars and Coffee coral always a favorite. Best of the MBCA coral went to Laura and Cathie Roberts in their 1974 450SL with original low miles and stored for over 40 years. A true time capsule.

Forest Grove celebrated 100 years of Lincoln. Some great cars this year included section member Mike and Pam Burback and their 1930 4 door sedan and a 1953 Lincoln Capri. Another highlight was a 1967 Lincoln Continental Limousine originally used by Ford Motoco executives in Michigan.



Portland Vintage Racing Festival @ PIR Recap

By David Abarr, Portland Section



Great turn out and fun day at the SVRA Vintage Racing Festival at PIR. Greg Buechler as always puts on a great event for the track enthusiast. This year we had a c63 507 edition, a AMG SLS and a SL65 Renntech in attendance. My highlight was driving the Jaguar F type R coupe around the autocross track at the Jaguar driving experience. Not quite a AMG GT R but pretty good!

Preventative Maintenance Clinic

By Ron Woodruff, Portland Section

Join the section on Saturday November 4th for a winter preventative maintenance session at Burbuck Motors in Portland. Mike will cover basic maintenance tips for older cars and newer well. Great opportunity to come and ask questions and learn about your cars.

WHAT: Winter Maintenance Tips

WHEN: Saturday November 4th 10am-12pm

WHERE: Burbuck Motors
71 SE Main St,
Portland, OR 97214

RSVP Ron @ ronwoodruff9@gmail.com

Crater Lake Drive Recap

By James Hendershot, Portland Section



A group of 11 club members took part in the Crater Lake drive on Wednesday, August 16th. We started with coffee and doughnuts supplied by Mercedes-Benz of Medford, spending a bit of time for everyone to get to know each other, including three members that drove down from the Portland area. In spite of the local fire situation, everyone had a pleasant drive to the resort at Lake of the Woods, where we had the pleasant surprise of being treated to lunch by Matt Burkholder, the owner of Mercedes-Benz of Medford. A couple from Klamath Falls drove over to join us for lunch, after which the original group journeyed on to Crater Lake. After a fairly smoky drive, we arrived to find the lake almost clear of smoke, and the lake showing its trademark blue color.

The trip was not without incident, however. On the way out of the park via the west rim, we encountered a long stretch of road repair, which caused quite a delay. Eventually we made it to one of the better overlook points, and took some pictures with the cars in front of the lake. We finished with dinner at the historic Prospect Hotel, with good food and great company. While the event didn't go perfectly according to plan, everyone that went commented that it was a great time. Thanks to all who attended!



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Mercedes-Benz

General Annual Meeting and Holiday Party

By David Abarr, Portland Section

WHAT: Annual General Meeting and Holiday Party

WHEN: 6PM, Saturday December 2nd

WHERE: Hayden's On The Lake, 8187 SW Tualatin-Sherwood Road, Tualatin, OR

COST: \$43.00 per person.

No Host Bar from 6pm to 6:40pm

Dinner includes salad, entre, desert and tip.

Choices are Cedar Plank Salmon, Chicken Saltimbocca or New York Steak.



Join the Portland section on December 2nd for the Annual General meeting and Holiday get together. After a year of great events, it is time to celebrate and recognize our members who have reached Membership Milestone with MBCA. We will present 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 year membership pins to those in attendance.

Send Reservation request to David Abarr @ abarr63@comcast.net

Before Nov 20th

QUESTIONS? CALL 541-981-1919

2017 Milestones

5 Years (2012)

David Abarr
Laszlo Bernat
Randy Enyeart
Brian Heath
Walter Johnson
Wash Kohnke
Tom Layton
George Morgan
Francis Smith
Laurence Stewart
Sheri Sundstrom
John Wellsclager
L Clark Wood

15 Years (2002)

Henry Baumgardner
Peter Brandt
Robert Deming
Russel Eppler
Pat Hartmann
Richard Jones
Richard Koida
Bart Speagle
Ed Waite

20 Years (1997)

John Paul Broad
Robert McHale
Gregory Williams
Len Wolford

10 Years (2007)

Dan Beard
Jeff Brandt
Andrea Eisenbarth
Otto Fennerl
Nicolette Galyan
Larry Lewman
Byron Pace
Mike Romanini

25 Years (1992)

Jim Lawson
Manual Quiogue

30 Years (1987)

Bertan Copp

40 Years (1977)

Stephen Zielinski

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190e AMG Tribute Part 2

By David Abarr, Portland Section



In the last edition I discussed the overall project. In the summer of 2014 I prepped the car myself and sent it off to Springfield for a full respray in Almandine red #512. Using an air sander I got it down to the bare metal. The car was completely rust free and straight was the good news. I stripped the Sacco panels off and replaced a lot of hardware resembling the car. I did learn a lot from this process and would do a few things differently next time. On a quality respray removing all windows and doors to ensure the sills are properly sprayed is the biggest thing I found. When it was said and done all the glass did get replaced. I rebuilt the sunroof mechanism and seal as well. Next issue is the AMG parts!



Oak Bay Collector Car Recap

By Paul Pietrowski, Portland Section



On Sunday July 30th, several Portland section members attended and exhibited their Mercedes-Benz cars at the 16th annual **Oak Bay Collector Car Festival**. This was held in the District of Oak Bay, British Columbia, Canada – a beautiful waterfront township on the east side of Vancouver Island between the City of Victoria and the Puget Sound.

All types of automobiles were on display: European, American, and Japanese ranging from old classics to new models. In addition to our Mercedes-Benz there were Jaguars, BMWs, hot rods, and two dozen Aston Martins. In total there were roughly 250 cars of various makes and models. One of the great things about the show is its open to the public for free; there were about 10,000 spectators – both young and old, with many children present. It was truly a family affair.

The entertainment was a lot of fun for all present. The Elvis impersonator was so good people were dancing in front of the stage. The Shriners were making balloon animals for the kids. Prime Rib BBQ, hot dogs and burgers were the fare at the food court set up in front of city hall. One great feature of this car show is its location in the commercial heart of the village. The cars were arranged on each side of the main street, in front of cafes, coffee shops, pubs, and other stores. Nearly all the shops were open and welcoming the public.

Victoria and Oak Bay are located on Vancouver Island, which is situated along the west coast of British Columbia Canada. Getting there involves a ferry boat ride, which posed a problem for one of our members. He owns an AMG GT S, and the front air dam has low ground clearance. He had to check the high tide schedule for departure from the USA and arrival in Victoria to ensure that he didn't damage the air dam when driving on and off the ferry boat (oh, the challenges of AMG ownership).

We'd like to thank our MBCA Portland Section members who attended this car show: Bernd & Christy Hoffmann, George & Kathy Larson, Nils Jensen, and Armin Bestel & his wife Ray who traveled a considerable way to come to this event. Our members' cars attracted a lot of attention from the spectators. Members were constantly answering questions about their cars by the public. Thank you again and see you next year!

Monterey Car Week and Legends of the Autobahn Recap

By David Abarr, Portland Section



Jeff Wong's Best in Show *and* Best in Marque winning 1996 e60 AMG @ Legends of the Autobahn. <<<<<<

The MB built tribute 1967 AMG 6.8 "Red Pig" at the start of the Pebble Beach Tour d'Elegance driven by MB brand ambassador Jochen Mass. >>>>>



Legends of the Autobahn this year's highlight was AMG 50 years celebration with a very unique mix of great examples from around the United States. Johnathan Hodgeman from Blue Ridge Mercedes in Georgia brought 2 significant pre merger AMD cars. The one and only w124 Hammer wagon was displayed the Mercedes-Benz Sar Lounge on the 3rd fairway at Pebble Beach. He brought his Hammer couple of a handful in the world. Seeing a genuine 6.0 example is very special. Allan Lyndon exhibited his 1984 500SEL AMG that was recently featured in *The Star* magazine. A very special 1988 560SEC wide-body was brought by Mario Puento from Florida. AMG Canada founder Eddy Lai was on hand as well rejoining his creation after many decades. The car is still in showroom condition almost 30 years later.

Elsewhere in Monterey that week MB won best in show at Pebble Beach Concours d'elégance for the 8th time in the history of this iconic show. The winning car was the 1929 S Barker Tourer. A stunning example of a British bodied MB. Originally owned by 5th Earl of Howe who fitted the unique red light on the front of the car to warn towns people to get out the way as he drove through town. The car when found for restoration had a tow hook on it so the Earl could tow his race car to the track. Emerging from restoration the week before the concours in NJ the car took the cross country trip to make it to California to take home the top prize! A very special year to attend Monterey car week indeed.



2017 Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance Best in Show 1929 MB S Barker Bodied Tourer owned by Bruce McCaw of Washington State. <<<<<

At Legends of the Autobahn queued up for awards. L-R 1987 AMG Hammer, 1984 AMG 500SEL and 1988 AMG 500SEC >>>>>



Fall Board Meeting

TBA. Email abarr63@comcastnet for details

We invite all members to attend a board meeting to provide suggestions on how we can improve the



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