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The Northwestern

STAR

Mercedes-Benz Club of America-Portland Section

Inside:

Portland Section members enjoy a W111 event in Leipzig, Germany, and an MBCA Stuttgart Factory Tour!



Fall 2019

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Welcome, New Members!

Name	Location
Timothy Young	West Linn, OR
Wayne Nishimura	Beaverton, OR
Marvin Wolfson	Ridgefield, WA
Erica Martin	Portland, OR
Robert Millis	Portland, OR
Bob Ekblad	Portland, OR
William Meeker	Portland, OR
Connor Finks	Vancouver, WA
John Johnson	Portland, OR
Matt Callanan	Portland, OR

Cover Photo:

Kirsten Hendershot stands in front of the old Leipzig City Hall, next to the 1960 W111 that she and Jim drove while touring the area.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Portland Section

Section Officers: (Expiration Year)

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We encourage submissions, articles and photos from our members. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of December, March, June, and September, care of the editor (see above). We reserve the right to edit or refuse submissions and/or advertising. Copyright © MBCA Portland Section. All rights

President's Message

By David Abarr, Portland Section President

Greetings All,

I hope members had a great summer.

As we enter car hiatus season for those classics I look back on all the great events this year so far. Venues like Astoria, Crater Lake, Victoria BC, Monterey and more! What a great year seeing members come out and enjoy each other's company foremost and seeing some really special cars. Each year in my car life seems to get better. I had the privilege and honor of representing MBCA on a national level at this years Legends of the Autobahn. We had a great Germanpalooza this year as well. Most recently, the annual fall drive exploring the newly reopened historic highway and Columbia gorge.

I look forward to seeing members at the upcoming events. We have a great line up of opportunities in 2020 now in planning stages!

Happy motoring!

Find us:

Visit our web page here: <http://portland.mbca.org>

You can find all event photo albums on our SmugMug site: pdxmbca.smugmug.com



find us on
Facebook

Stay up to date on the latest event information...
Follow the Portland Section on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/mbcaportlandoregon/>

Portland Section Schedule of Events

December	Lunch at Hudson's—Vancouver	Sunday December 8th
	Southern Oregon Holiday Reception	Friday December 13th
January	Annual General Meeting	Saturday February 1st

Germanpalooza Recap

By David Abarr, Portland Section President

The second annual Germanpalooza (August 3rd) was another great success.

We had a great array of cars this year. Truly the highlight of the day was long time section member Ernie Brawley's pristine 1955 300c Cab D—one of only 51 produced. This year each marque presented a feature car and Ernie's sure took people's breath away. It really is a 100-point example to behold.

Another great classic in attendance this year was Mike Spicer's 1971 280SE 4.5 coupe in the striking red color. We will have the third annual event in August 2020 and if you have never been please come out and enjoy the day. It truly is the German version of the all British Field Meet PIR is famous for.

See photos here: <https://pdxmbca.smugmug.com/Germanpalooza-Aug-3-2019/>

Recap: Fall Gorge Drive

By Matt Nenninger, Portland Section Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

It was crisp but beautiful on the morning of October 12th, when about 15 member cars gathered at the Lewis and Clark State Recreation Area in Troutdale. To our surprise we were not the only group of cars meeting there for a Fall drive—there were also about 10 early American cars (1900—1930) from another local club.

We drove along almost every piece of the Historic Columbia River Highway that is open to cars, from Troutdale to The Dalles, only joining I-84 to connect the sections. We stopped at Rowena Crest Viewpoint for a break. What an incredible view of the gorge!

The weather only got better as we continued from The Dalles, across the Columbia River to Maryhill Winery. We all enjoyed a tasty lunch and conversation at picnic tables on their patio, overlooking the gorge from the Washington side.

We all went our separate ways from there, with some returning home and others continuing their explorations. Maryhill Museum of Art is right there, as is the Stonehenge and WWII Memorial.

I think everyone really enjoyed the day.

See photos here: <https://pdxmbca.smugmug.com/Fall-Gorge-Drive-Oct-12-2019/>



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Recap: F-15 Strike Eagle Tour with the Oregon Air National Guard

By Paul J. Pietrowski, Portland Section Vice President

It was ear plugs in and cameras out on Friday, September 27th, as members of the MBCA Portland Section and their guests were escorted out onto the Portland International Airport tarmac to view a duo of F-15s take off on their latest training mission. The special tour of the 142nd Fighter Wing base featured an up close and hands-on viewing of the F-15 and it's armaments.

Two F-15 fighter planes are on the alert 24/7 in Portland to provide security for the West Coast, and able to reach Seattle in less than 20 minutes. They can fly 1000 miles without refueling and carry more bullets than any other fighter in the U.S. inventory.

A pilot briefed all on the F-15 mission along with details of pilot technology, warheads, take offs, and emergency landings. Also included in the comprehensive tour were briefings by 142nd Wing Security Forces personnel with displays of machine guns, offensive entry systems and devices, along with a Humvee.



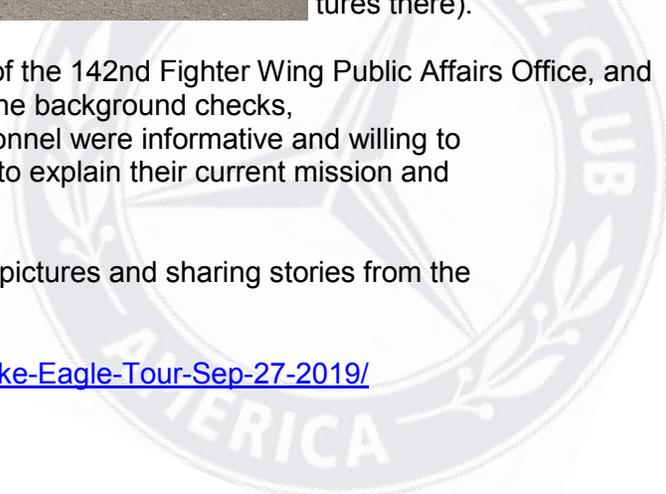
The tour ended in the aircraft maintenance hanger where all of us could see stand-alone engines, training missiles, and actual bullets.

We observed as the avionics, hydraulics, and electrical subsystems were inspected. Each attendee was encouraged to climb stairs for a viewing of an F-15 cockpit (no pictures there).

Kudos to Master Sergeant Steve Conklin, Superintendent of the 142nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office, and his staff for an outstanding job organizing and completing the background checks, speakers, and displays. All maintenance and security personnel were informative and willing to answer all questions from the group, plus they were eager to explain their current mission and share details from their past deployments overseas.

The day ended with lunch at Famous Dave's BBQ, trading pictures and sharing stories from the impressive display of the nation's first line of defense.

See photos here: <https://pdxmbca.smugmug.com/F-15-Strike-Eagle-Tour-Sep-27-2019/>



Cover Story: W111 Event in Leipzig, Germany

By James Hendershot, Portland Section Director at Large

You never know where the road may lead when you drive a Mercedes-Benz. This past Summer, it led my wife Kirsten and me to Leipzig, Germany, for the annual Friends of the W111 group event.

This might seem strange, considering I don't own a W111. My "stable" is limited to an '87 560SL and a '79 450SEL, and that car is where the story begins...

Not long after purchasing the "limo" as my wife nicknamed it, I learned about the International M-100 group, that specializes in cars with the M-100 engine, such as the 600, the 6.3, and the 6.9. I joined them and went to my first LodeFest, their annual gathering, which that year was held in Portland, Oregon.

We met a couple from Switzerland at the opening reception, David and Katja Hiller. My wife is originally from Denmark and the European connection resulted in the four of us forming a great friendship. Over the years, that friendship blossomed, and eventually Hiller's invited us to the W111 event. David was very gracious and offered to loan us one of his W111's to drive to the event. Who could refuse an offer like that?

We arrived a few days before the event for sightseeing in Switzerland and Bavaria, which included a trip to the Classic Center in Stuttgart. Unfortunately, the museum was closed that day for a special event, but I was able to take a tour of the original Daimler workshop. Over coffee with David's parents, I learned his dad was retired from Mercedes, having worked there for several decades. I enjoyed hearing from someone who had been with Benz for so long. As a bonus, I got to drive David's S-Class on the autobahn at 150 MPH. Yahoo!

The day came to head to Leipzig, and off we went. It's a seven hour drive from Switzerland to Leipzig, which is in the area that was part of East Germany back in the communist era. Even now there are still signs of the difficulties of that time, but it's amazing how much things have moved forward since the wall fell.

We arrived just in time to be part of the group picture in front of the old Leipzig city hall. Cars are not normally allowed to park in front of the building, but our host had arranged for a special dispensation and we were part of 25 beautiful Mercedes-Benz cabriolets all lined up in front of this grand building. What a treat! Our lineup was featured in the next day's paper; apparently the editor had quite an appreciation for the old cabriolets.

The next morning we had a walking tour through downtown Leipzig, ending up at the church where Bach is buried. Our guide arranged for the church organ to be playing while we visited, making our tour extra special. That afternoon we boarded a vintage double-decker bus for a wider area tour, ending with dinner at one of the locally famous restaurants.

The following day was a driving tour of an even wider area around Leipzig. Twenty five W111 cars in a row is an impressive sight, and lots of fun!

We stopped at several historical sites, including a wonderful old castle where we had afternoon coffee, tea and pastries. Dinner included a visit to an interesting museum where several very interesting cars from communist East Germany were on display. Perhaps the most fascinating was a Trabant that had a custom paint job and was decked out as if it was a wanna-be AMG. It even had a Ford Mustang emblem on the side!

Membership has its perks!

For a detailed list of MBCA membership benefits, click this link:

<https://www.mbca.org/member-benefits>

Cover Story, continued...

I wish I could say the return trip was uneventful, but traffic on the autobahn was heavy, the weather was unusually hot, and both cars began to have trouble with the heat. After some struggles and a few stops to cool down, we made it to Stuttgart, where David's dad helped get us back on the road. We didn't arrive in Switzerland until the early morning hours, but at least we made it without having to be towed!

In spite of the difficulties on the way home we had a memorable time and enjoyed ourselves immensely. And all this because of the connections made from being in a Mercedes-Benz affiliated club!

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How to Learn About Mercedes Vehicles- The Crash Course

By George Larson, Portland Section Membership Co-Chair

During the summer of 2018, my wife and I participated in the MBCA Stuttgart Factory Tour hosted by Mr. Jim O'Sullivan. It is seldom that a package tour that one signs up for far exceeds expectations when it occurs...this was one of those times! You will see originals (or reproductions where the original was lost to history) of nearly every model made from 1886 to present (Daimler, Mercedes Benz, Benz, .

The MBCA Trip to Germany tour is arranged and conducted by "company ambassadors" that know the company and car history in detail, the locations of special displays, and have the right connections to make real VIP viewings possible. If you have a passion for all things Mercedes, this is the tour to take. It is also very cost effective with nearly everything included in the price (hotel, transportation, most meals, entry fees). A copy of the itinerary is included below to give you a glimpse of the depth and breathe of the events that were included in the Summer 2018 Tour.

Centered around Stuttgart where all of the Company's primary car manufacturing buildings are located, the trip includes day trips by Mercedes buses to surrounding locations of interest.

Monday 7/16

- Breakfast at Hotel Maritim – Stuttgart
- Free day/walking tour of old town and shopping areas – Stuttgart
- Lunch (on your own)
- MBCA sponsored welcome dinner at Hotel Maritim – Stuttgart

Tuesday 7/17

- Breakfast at Hotel Maritim – Stuttgart
- Gottlieb Daimler Greenhouse Workshop – Bad Cannstatt
- AMG Studio Factory, AMG Collection Store, and viewing actual V8 Engine Assembly – Affalterbach
- Lunch at Schorndorf Village
- Gottlieb Daimler's House – Schorndorf
- Classic Center with walking tour of workshops – Fellbach
- Dinner at the Schlachthof (Pig Museum Restaurant) – Stuttgart



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How to Learn About Mercedes Vehicles continued...

Wednesday 7/18

- Breakfast at Hotel Maritim – Stuttgart
- Auto Museum and Technical Center with lunch, fabulous collection of Classic Mercedes and Maybach vehicles as well as race cars, aircraft, train engines, motorcycles, and WWII equipment – Sinsheim
- Carl Benz Museum with collection of Classic Benz vehicles as well as recreation of the original workshop – Ladenburg (Mannheim)
- Dinner at Unsere Küche – Ladenburg

Thursday 7/19

- Breakfast at Hotel Maritim – Stuttgart
- Mechatronic Renovation and Storage Facilities with Classic to new MB vehicles and racecars, plus climate-controlled car storage – Pleidelsheim
- MB Museum with lunch plus access to the Brand Center with Classic to most current MB vehicles, race cars, and concept cars – Stuttgart
- Dinner at Carl's Brauhaus – Stuttgart

Friday 7/20

- Breakfast at Hotel Maritim – Stuttgart
- S, E, and GT 4-door Class Factory Tour (no pictures allowed), MB Store, plus access to view the Delivery Center – Sindelfingen
- Lunch at Schönbuch Brauhaus – Böblingen
- V8 Hotel and Motor World Car Dealerships including McLaren and Lamborghini showrooms/shops, and Classic MB used car sales and storage – Böblingen
- Center of Excellence (AMG - Maybach Delivery Center) – Sindelfingen
- MBCA sponsored farewell dinner at Wirtshaus Zum Hotzenplotz — Stuttgart



Saturday 7/21 (optional excursions – many choices)

- Breakfast at Hotel Maritim – Stuttgart
- Museum Autovision presenting NSU, Bugatti, and Wankel plus new propulsion concept displays – Altlußheim
- Lunch at Heidelberg Schnitzelhaus – Heidelberg
- Heidelberg Castle Tour – Heidelberg

Alternate Tour – Porsche Museum Tour – Stuttgart

Alternate Tour – Porsche Factory Tour – Zuffenhausen

Alternate Tour – Marklin Factory Tour (electric model trains) – Goppingen



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OR Call 800.637.2360 Mon-Thurs 8am - 4:30pm; Fri 8am - 4pm Mountain Time.

Coming Events

Section Officer Elections

Elections are coming up! If you have any interest in stepping up to a position on the board, please contact David Abarr or one of the other current officers (see page 1).

As always, we encourage all members to contribute ideas for events and any feedback to any of the section officers.

Board meetings are currently held at Mercedes-Benz of Willsonville and members are welcome to attend. See our webpage for meeting dates <http://portland.mbca.org>

Sunday December 8 — Holiday Lunch

Join the Portland section for a holiday lunch at Hudson's Bar and Grill.

According to Google Maps, Hudson's offers "Northwest farm-to-table eats served in a rustic-yet-refined dining room at the Heathman Lodge. "

Where: Hudson's Bar and Grill, 7805 NE Greenwood Drive., Vancouver, WA 98662 in the Heathman Lodge.

When: Sunday December 8 at 2PM

RSVP required. Email Paul Petrowski at spietro122@comcast.net

Friday December 13 — Southern Oregon Holiday Reception

Join us for the MBCA Southern Oregon area Holiday reception at Jim and Kirsten Hendershot's house. We'll be serving dinner hors de oeuvres, hot Apple cider, and a variety of local wines as well as coffee and tea. Come and meet your fellow Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts and enjoy a bit of holiday cheer. For directions, and to RSVP to Jim or Kirsten, phone (541) 471-2200, or contact us via e-mail, jim@radiodesign.com. See you there!

When: Friday evening, December 13, at 6 PM **Where:** 3810 Almar Road, in Grants Pass

Saturday February 1 — Annual General Meeting—Save the Date

We are currently planning our Annual General Meeting. Watch for an announcement in the Winter newsletter, on our website and on our Facebook page.



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To place an ad contact the Newsletter Editor.

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richardrv7a@gmail.com



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Portland Section | Fall 2019 Edition

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Event Photo Spotlight

George Larson photographing the view from the Rowena Crest Viewpoint during the Fall Gorge Drive Photo by Matt Nenninger

See more event photos on our SmugMug site: pdxmbca.smugmug.com

