

THE NORTHERN STAR

The official publication of the Twin Cities Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Visit the Twin Cities Section website for the most up to date event info: www.mbca-tc.org

Event Reports Galore!

- ☾ Scavenger Rally
- ☾ Intermarque Spring Kick Off
- ☾ Walleye 1000 Vintage Rally
- ☾ Maplewood Imports Auto Fair
- ☾ Twin City Tire Tech Event



INSIDE: Upcoming Event Info...

- ☾ Fall Color Tour and Annual Meeting!
- ☾ Oktoberfest at the Auto Motor Plex
- ☾ Old Log Theater with the Porsche Club



MBCA | Twin Cities Section
Summer 2012

Tales from the Road...
A Canadian Adventure with
Jim Krueger Part II

SAVE THE DATE!
Holiday Party 2012
Saturday,
December 8



“Good taste is not limited to food.”

– Don Sears (1926-2011)

For over 50 years, we have devoted ourselves to complementing those among us who have cultured the best taste in every aspect of their lives.

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Prez Release



Jim Walrath

This letter needs a disclaimer: If it inspires anyone to come to an event to be greeted and feted by a congenial group of people, then here it is.

to have at least one "official" club event per month, however, there are many events available that we list on the website calendar that are worthy.

I didn't remember that the New London to New Brighton Antique Car Run had festivities that began in Willmar. That is my "real" home territory. I am #6 in my family (so I have 6 first names) and am the first of us to be born in a hospital, particularly the Rice Memorial Hospital in Willmar. It was in the transition era of being born at home, which probably means I am one of the modern generations. My parents farmed southwest of Willmar near Raymond and Clara City and we still have many relatives in the area. And Dad and Mom are still there along Highway 23. That whole area is my family's stomping grounds. We have an aunt and uncle (born at home) living on Green Lake in Spicer. Then there is the connection on the east end of the run; my oldest brother and family lived in New Brighton for a time and I lived with them for part of a summer while working 3 jobs during a college summer. We have so many reasons to go to the run, and I hope you can find ONE.

Not to preach (that's another story involving aptitude tests in high school) but we do have a good time at the many events your club sponsors. Your board of directors tries

Mary's and my active involvement in the club really began with us hosting an event. We haven't looked back since. If you have any ideas you have the support of the club, and there will be all kinds of help if you want to have it.

On July 22nd your club sponsored the Scavenger Rally!!, and by the time you read this it will have sponsored a Shine 'N Show for your favorite car, or cars, at Burl Oaks Golf Club. The New London to New Brighton run will be have been completed. These events are hosted by different members, something anyone of us can do. If we do an event one time, it doesn't mean there has to be an annual re-run. We have many events that are one time ventures. Then there are those that are reiterations, mostly because you want them to be so.

You are really encouraged to check your local website - www.mbca-tc.org - for event announcements and reports. It also has the full years' club calendar and much other club information. It's also a way to connect with the social network of the club. The national website at www.mbca.org also has our sec-

tion information plus more national news. Your suggestions are always welcome for anything about your club. It is a car club, enthusiasts club, tech club, informational club, etc., but most importantly, it is a club of us who just like to get together to under the three pointed banner.

The aptitude note above is about that when I was in high school we took aptitude tests to see what we were supposed to be good at; one of mine was to be a preacher. Oof Da! I can imagine me holding services before one of our superb events. Thank you for allowing me to be your President.

Jim Walrath
Ph: (715) 723-8844
jwalrathmbca-tc@charter.net

MISSION STATEMENT MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB, TWIN CITIES SECTION:

To further the enjoyment, appearance, utility and preservation of Mercedes-Benz automobiles by providing driving and social events, technical support and educational newsletters.

We will strive to attain the highest standards, act in an open and responsible manner, and provide a broad variety of activities to serve our member's needs.

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raygarver@twincitytire.com

Visit our newest Northern Star advertiser and Summer 2012 Tech Event host... Bring this ad and get 10% Off select services.

We hope to bring the MBCA Twin Cities Section German Car Fest back for 2013! There was no German Car Fest this year due to a lack of volunteers and enough people interested in putting in the time to organize the event.

Events don't plan themselves. Please contact anyone on the club board of directors if you're interested in helping out!

This issue's 'Letter From the Editor' is giving up its usual space to an event report from the Inaugural Walleye 1000 Vintage Rally...



By Dave Tobin

By all accounts the Inaugural Walleye 1000 Vintage Rally over the back roads of rural Minnesota and Wisconsin was resounding success! At about 9:00am Saturday morning, June 9th 15 cars, all built prior to 1991, lined up at Veteran's Memorial Park in Shakopee, MN with drivers and co-drivers ready for a cruise.

After receiving their rally packs full of maps, route guides, event T shirts, rally decals, event dash plaques and other assorted swag teams departed for the +/-250 mile trek East into Wisconsin, along the St. Croix and Mississippi Rivers, North through some of the small towns in Wisconsin, lunch in Somerset and then back into Minnesota, around Lake Mille Lacs to a great group photo op and refreshment stop in front of the huge, fiberglass Walleye in Garrison, MN on the shores of Lake Mille Lacs. After this brief stop it was on to the Brainerd lakes area for the night.

Dinner was hosted at the Bar Harbor Supper Club in Niswa, MN on the shores of beautiful Gull Lake, then it was back to the Brainerd Hotel and Conference Center for a good night's sleep. Sunday morning it was East towards Duluth, a brief, optional stop in Cloquet, MN to fill up for gas at the Frank Lloyd Wright designed 'Lindholm Service Station'. It was Eastward from there, through the great, winding roads of Jay Cook State Park which eventually landed us in Wisconsin again where we head-



Michele Tobin applies rally stickers to the Elliott / Kraus '68 Fiat 124.



Ron and Nancy Burg, '71 280SL.



The Jacobs brothers, Terry and Bill, in their Jaguar MKII 3.8.



Ron and Karen Scott, 1980 MB 450SLC.



"Team 'Arrest Me Red'" - Ken Garelick and Bruce Kelly in Bruce's '89 Porsche 928 S4.



David Steingas rolling in vintage style.



John Olson applies his rally sticker to his 6.3.

ed South. We eventually crossed back into Minnesota at St. Croix Falls and then headed south along the St. Croix Trail into Stillwater, MN. Overall, we covered a little more than 600 miles in two days.

The finisher's dinner was held at the "Tavern on Grand" in St. Paul... a restaurant famous for, of course, Walleye! There was a brief awards ceremony after dinner. John Elliott and Beth Kraus received the 'Journey is the Reward' commemorative plate for their wonderful attitude and easy going manner... They were driving their 1968 Fiat 124SS with their big German Shepard, Bandi, sitting in the back.

There was a gift certificate to an online auto parts store that was going to be reserved for the participating car that left its team stranded by the side of the road... amazingly, there was not a single mechanical failure by any car on the rally. In the end, the gift certificate was awarded to the team driving the 1961 Jaguar MKII 3.8, Terry and Bill Jacobs... Terry keeps his Jags in tip top condition, but I figure he'll need the parts eventually, so he got the gift certificate!

Dave Bortner and Michelle DeMist were recognized for selflessly following the group (in modern air conditioned comfort) in the Chevrolet Suburban "Safety Vehicle" towing a (fortunately) empty car trailer, just in case one of the rally participants needed a tow.



Ron Engle & Ulrich Graefe (all the way from Germany!), 1960 Borgward Isabella.



Finisher's dinner at the Tavern on Grand.



A beautiful morning for the rally start at Veteran's Memorial Park in Shakopee.

The "Spirit of the Walleye Award" was given to the charming team of Ron Engle and Ulrich Graefe driving a 1960 Borgward Isabella Coupe. Ulrich came all the way from Germany to run the rally with his brother in law, Ron. These guys brought one of the oldest cars on the rally, could be seen taking pictures at just about every scenic overlook point, they had a honk a wave and a smile every time you drove by them along the way... they really embodied the spirit of the event... fun, casual and laid back, 'The Spirit of the Walleye'.

I started thinking about planning a rally like this almost two years ago, August of 2010. I see what vintage car enthusiasts do in other parts of the country, in California, multi day, low buck rallies like this are all over the place. I couldn't find an event like that in the Midwest: multiple days, no specific club affiliation, an event to bring all kinds of car people together, but not just for an afternoon, a long drive to a lunch stop, but a real opportunity to get some driving in and get to know some new people over a couple of days... regardless of make or model affiliation and especially, regardless of budget. The event was meant to be accessible to everyone.

The motto of the Walleye 1000, as written on the back of the event T shirt is 'Check your tires, check your oil, check your ego at the starting line and let's go!' In other words, the guy with

the '73 Sprite with a fender in primer and rusty floors is as welcome as the guy with the half million dollar Concours winning '55 300SL.

After the feedback from this year's event and interest from other folks who weren't able to make it, I have no doubt there will be a Second Annual Walleye 1000 Vintage Rally in 2013. Early route plans are already coming together and it looks like we will be Southeast of the Cities in Wisconsin for most of the 2013 event. Next year's event will be open to cars from model year 1992 and older.

The early June date will remain, while there will always be scheduling conflicts with some car club event somewhere, at some point you just have to pick a date and go for it. This June date, for the past 15+ years has been the German Car Fest, held for the past several years at Shakopee's Veteran's Memorial Park, this year's starting point for the Walleye 1000. When it was announced that event wouldn't occur this year, the Walleye date was decided. The weather is generally decent that weekend, and it's early enough to encourage people to get their cars ready for the Summer driving season early. So, you've got the rest of this year and all Winter to prepare your Walleye 1000 entry. Hopefully we can carry on the 'no mechanical failures' precedent set during this year's event. ☺

Tons of event photos at...
www.walleye1000.com

MBCA-TC Members on the Rally

John & Solveig Olson
 1969 Mercedes-Benz 300SEL 6.3

Dick & Marty Olson
 1968 Mercedes-Benz 280SL

Bruce Kelly & Ken Garelick
 1989 Porsche 928 S4

Ron & Nancy Burg
 1971 Mercedes-Benz 280SL

John Elliott & Beth Kraus
 1968 Fiat 124SS

David Steingas
 1951 Mercedes-Benz 220S Cabriolet

John & Anthony Drewitz
 1989 BMW 325i Convertible

Warren Rauch & Ron Liddiard
 1979 Mercedes-Benz 450SEL 6.9

Ron & Karen Scott
 1980 Mercedes-Benz 450SLC

Dave Bortner & Michelle DeMist
 Chevy Suburban Safety Vehicle

Dave & Michele Tobin
 1973 Mercedes-Benz 280C



Rally participants filling up at the FLW gas station in Cloquet, MN.



Photo op on the shores of Lake Mille Lacs - Garrison, MN

Fall Color Tour and Lunch

Sunday, October 14

- Meet in Richfield at 10:00am
- Drive the back roads to Red Wing
- Lunch at 'The Smokin' Oak'
- Brief 'Annual Club Meeting'



10:00 AM - Meet at Starbucks in Richfield. 610 Lyndale Ave. S., Richfield. At the intersection of Lyndale Avenue South & 77th Street West (Just one block North of I494).

10:30 AM - Caravan to Red Wing via a new route from past tours. Route maps will be passed out.

Estimated arrival time at 'The Smokin' Oak' restaurant is 12 noon (check out their website: www.thesmokinoak.com). Plenty of private parking at the Country Inn and Suites next to The Smokin' Oak!

Since an art fair, car show and music program are going on the same day in Red Wing, the restaurant needs a head count in advance.

Please R.S.V.P. by OCTOBER 7th to event hosts John & Maureen Drewitz. Ph: 952-546-9244 or e-mail drewitz@searsimports.com or jdrewitz@gmail.com

By Jim Walrath

Scavenger Rally! EVENT REPORT



The third yearly Mercedes-Benz Club - Twin Cities Section Scavenger Rally!! was performed Sunday, July 22nd on a nice summer day with Vino in the Valley near Maiden Rock, WI, as the headquarters venue again.

At each location the Rallyers obtained verification of their stop, with all verifications giv-

ing participants eligibility for a prize drawing. Verifications of visits were to the Flat Pennies RR Ice Cream Shop (Bay City), Maiden Rock Winery, Maiden Rock Historical Marker (quite a story for the naming of Maiden Rock), the Stockholm Art Fair and Villa Belleza (means bank) Winery in Pepin (brand new in May).

The Italian themed lunch was perfect again this year. And Vino in the Valley is a destination anytime, especially at sunset time.

Ken Ameson and Julie Winger did a superb job putting The Rally!! together - thank you, and to Vino in the Valley for taking care of us. 🚗



OKTOBERFEST!

All German Car Show

Hosted by



Saturday, October 20th from 9:00am until 1:00pm

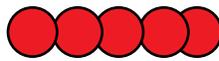
Because there was no German Car Fest hosted by the Mercedes-Benz Club this year, MBCA Twin City Section members, PCA members and all past attendees of the MBCA's German Car Fest are invited and encouraged to attend the Oktoberfest German Car Celebration at the AutoMotorPlex in Chanhassen!



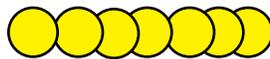
**The MBCA's German Car Fest
WILL RETURN in 2013!**



The Bavarian Musikmeisters 35 piece German Band performing from 10:30 until 12:30



Juergen Holzer from Juergen's Dent Kraft on hand offering painless dent removal



Food and beverages available from Seven Restaurant

Mercedes-Benz | Porsche | BMW | Volkswagen | Audi | DKW | Borgward | Amphicar | All Other German Cars Welcome!

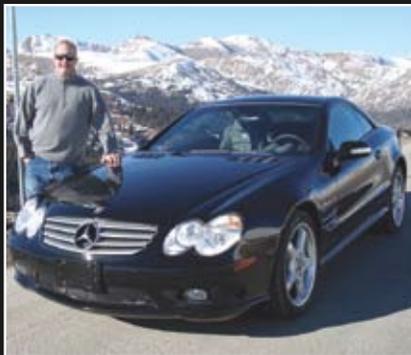


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AUTO ARCHIVES



By Jim Krueger

A Canadian Adventure *(Or, it is easier to enter Canada without a passport than it is to leave.)*



Temperance River

In Part One of our trip, we traveled in our new (to us) Mercedes Benz E320 from Bloomington to Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, a distance 1,292 miles. We began our return journey from Ottawa on Monday, July 7, 2008. We had needlessly worried about entering Canada without proof of citizenship, but now we had a new worry. What would we encounter when we tried to enter the US without proper documentation?

We decided on a strategy for clearing customs at the US border at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. The officers who check passports and enforce the rules are people, and people have good days and bad days. Also, we had heard that there could be long lines waiting to cross into the US. We decided to stay the night on the Canadian side and cross the border early in the morning, before the lines formed, and hopefully, at the beginning of a shift when the officer was fresh.

We backtracked the way we came, on the Trans-Canadian Highway, about 30 miles of divided highway near Ottawa and then two-lane the rest of the way. The drive to Sault Ste. Marie was 420 miles and not much fun because of heavy rain. The travelled portion of the highway was grooved by heavy truck traffic, and the grooves held water, so I

had to worry about hydroplaning.

The highlight of this leg of the trip was gassing up at Gagne's Red and White station in Rutherglen, Ontario. As elsewhere in Canada, the Gagnes were very nice people, but we were reminded again that we were in the boondocks. The gas station was also a hardware store. The bathroom was in the paint department, which was at the far end of the hardware store, and not easy to find. The price of the gasoline was 1.367 Canadian dollars per liter for 56.93 liters, or 15.04 gallons. The total cost in US dollars was \$78.73, or \$5.23 per gallon. We couldn't wait to get back to our cheap gas back home.

We stayed in a big Holiday Inn in Sault Ste. Marie that was located right on the

shipping canal that links Lake Superior with Lake Huron. There was a pleasant boardwalk along the water, and we watched big ships passing through the locks. There was no wind, and people were fishing and walking and talking. Big geese (Canadian, of course) were begging for handouts. Later that evening we had another thunderstorm.

On Tuesday, July 8, the time to cross the border had arrived. We had a big breakfast at 7, and then I loaded the car, to the amusement of two slightly drunk young men with thick Canadian accents. (Were they purposely putting on that accent for me?) The bridge to the USA is very high and is posted at 30 mph. We had a three car wait at the border, not bad at all.

A Canadian Adventure (continued)

A very handsome young man leaned down and the first question he asked was "Where were you born?" (I'll bet he doesn't get many people born in Pierre, South Dakota and Birmingham, Alabama, but he didn't comment.) Next: "How long have you been in Canada?" Then he asked for our driver's licenses. No problem. Then he asked for our birth certificates. Oops. He looked concerned when we said we didn't have any. He studied our licenses for a long time and checked something in a machine. He gave us a list of things we could use for identification and politely told us that we really should get pass-

ports. We could tell that he was going to let us in despite our lack of adequate identification.

At that point I confessed that we really did have passports but that I had negligently left them at home. He waved us through with the smile that a parent reserves for a child who has transgressed but is not punished. Once again, being the age we are and driving a Mercedes Benz had to be factors in his decision.

We covered the last leg of the trip, from Sault Ste. Marie back to Bloomington in one long day. The Upper Peninsula

of Michigan is one long stretch of two-lane road with forest on both sides. Other than trees, the only sight we saw was a pair of Sand Hills Cranes doing a mating dance right on the shoulder of the highway. We gassed up in Escanaba at \$4.49 per gallon, which was not much cheaper than in Canada. It was a 560 mile day in 11 hours, and we were very glad to be back home. It was our first long trip with the E320 and it performed perfectly, 2,357 total miles, consistently over 32 mpg on the trip, and in Mercedes Benz comfort. Next time we travel to Canada, we WILL bring our passports! 🚗

EVENT REPORT

Spring Fling Car Tour & Brunch

By Jim Walrath

On a beautiful, tops down, day Christopher Haas and Liz Maki hosted the second annual Spring Fling Tour and Brunch around Lake Minnetonka. The drive was quite a contrast to 2011 where attention had to be paid to the tornado that did much damage in North Minneapolis.

Christopher grew up in the area and is quite knowledgeable of its history, and that added a really nice dimension. We culminated our drive in Excelsior at Bay View at their Bayside Grill where the ambience was perfect and the history of the location was commensurate with a Mercedes-Benz. A special treat after the brunch was a trip to the headwaters of Minnehaha Creek at the edge of Lake Minnetonka, mentioned at Minnehaha Falls as the "laughing water" in 1855 from Henry W. Longfellow's famous poem The Song of Hiawatha.

A great breakfast brunch was provided by the Bayside Grill with a view of Lake Minnetonka and historical lake charters still shuttling passengers around the lake. 🚗



EVENT REPORT

MBCA-TC Members Convoy to the INTERMARQUE SPRING KICK OFF CAR SHOW

By Dave Tobin

Almost 20 Twin Cities Section member cars and their passenger's met at Sears Imports on Saturday morning May 8th to convoy to the Intermarque Spring Kick Off Car Show, being held this year, for the first time, in downtown Osseo, MN.

To say this event was a success is an understatement. This was the best car show I've attended since moving to Minnesota 8 years ago. There were hundreds of cars from all sorts of manufacturers. The Mercedes-Benz Club had a great showing with some of the highest quality cars at the event.

It was the first year for this venue, so there were a few hiccups. I've already spoken to organizers about letting EVERYONE from a particular club park together instead of having to choose just 6 or 8 cars for the main club display. Next year we will ALL PARK TOGETHER!

"The Intermarque" is a general term for the umbrella organization under which all the local and regional, foreign car clubs reside. This is a group of vintage car enthusiasts that believe there is strength in numbers when it comes to fans of vintage, foreign cars.

They publish a monthly newsletter online that's a great source of local car activity.

If you aren't aware of this group and the events they put on check our their website and newsletter. 🚗

INTERMARQUE.ORG



Dave Steingas' '51 220 Cab, John Olson's 300SL, lots of W113 Pagodas.





Jack and Susan Church's red '85 500SL, Tobin's '73 280C, Mark Flaten's '71 280SL.

InterMarque
 VINTAGE FOREIGN MOTORCARS & IN CITIES MIDWEST
SPRING KICK-OFF 2012



Volkswagen Westfalia.



Citroen DS sedan.



A very elegant Morgan +4 Drophead Coupe.

Multiple Mercedes-Benz owner Alkis Michaelides w/ black Ferrari Mondial Cab, lower right.



TONS of MGs at this show.



EVENT REPORT

Maplewood Imports Auto Fair 2012

By Dave Tobin

George Andeweg and the team at Maplewood Imports put on another successful event this Spring, the historic 'first show of the season' with their "Maplewood Imports Auto Fair".

Proceeds from the show, once again, were donated to benefit the Children's Cancer Research Fund.

It was a smaller turn out than in year's past, probably due to the threatening looking skies, although it never did open up on us.

Despite numbers being down overall, there seemed to be MORE Mercedes-Benz vehicles at the show than usual, so, it was a good turn out for our club. Porsches and Audis were allso in attendance, overall a nice group of cars. Of course, it was nice to see friends out of 'Winter hibernation' and out with heir cars. See you next year! ☺



A good turn out from the Mercedes-Benz Club!



Event organizer, George Andeweg. Thanks for another great event George, see you next year!



Better call the Highway Patrol! Pat McGregor and Don Frasier getting into the 280SE Cab.



Ron and Karen Scott's pretty 450SLC.



Good looking small bumper R107 SL acting as bookend for the Mercedes display.



Old Log Theater



The Mercedes-Benz Club of America Twin Cities Section

and the

Nord Stern Region of the Porsche Club of America

invite you to their annual lunch and matinee outing to the Old Log Theater. This year we will be enjoying a performance of

"A Perfect Wedding"

Sunday, November 11, 2011

Social Hour & Cash Bar starts at 11:30am

Lunch Seating at 12:00 noon

Lunch @ 12:30pm, Performance @ 2:00pm

The outing consists of good cars, food, friends, and laughter (not necessarily in that order). We will meet at the Old Log Theater for lunch and then stay to watch the matinee.

The lobby and bar at the Old Log Theater open at 11:30am. Luncheon seating begins at 12:00pm, luncheon is served at 12:30pm. The show begins promptly at 2:00pm.

You have a choice of one of five main course entrées for lunch: Roast Crown of Pork, Crispy Southern Style Country Baked Chicken, Beef Stroganoff, Walleye Pike Almandine or Grilled Vegetable Stuffed Ravioli (vegetarian). All meals include: Mixed Green Salad & House Dressing, Potatoes O'Brian, Vegetables, French Bread & Butter, Dessert: Apple Crisp, Beverage: Coffee, Tea or Milk.

Please make your meal selection on the reservation form below. Each reservation is \$42.50 per person which includes lunch and your ticket to the show.

Please send reservation form (below) and payment to your events hosts (MBCA club members) John Elliot & Beth Kraus, 5904 Lee Valley Road, Edina, MN 55439. Their phone number is (952) 829-5142 if you have questions. **Make checks payable to: "MBCA-Twin City Section"**



CUT OUT AND ENCLOSE IN ENVELOPE

All reservations and payment must be received by November 6, 2012

Yes! I / We would like to attend the Mercedes-Benz Club / Porsche Club Old Log Theater outing! Cost is \$42.50 per person. Please list name of each attendee, Check one main entrée selection per person:

Attendee#1 Name: _____

Roast Crown of Pork _____

Crispy Southern Style Country Baked Chicken _____

Beef Stroganoff _____

Walleye Pike Almandine _____

Grilled Vegetable Stuffed Ravioli _____

Total \$ Amount Enclosed: _____

Attendee#2 Name: _____

Roast Crown Pork _____

Crispy Southern Style Baked Chicken _____

Beef Stroganoff _____

Walleye Pike Almandine _____

Grilled Vegetable Stuffed Ravioli _____

Mail this Reservation form with payment to: John Elliot & Beth Kraus, 5904 Lee Valley Road, Edina, MN 55439

Make checks payable to: "MBCA-Twin City Section"

A Comedy by Robin Hawdon

A riotous comedy about a man who wakes up on the morning of his wedding with a dreadful hangover, a bump on his head and a stranger in his bed. This sets off a chain of comic disasters, lame excuses and false confessions, leaving everyone in the wedding party hopelessly befuddled and the audience aching with laughter. A nonstop, delirious comedy and touching love story.

PLEASE send in reservations and payment no later than November 6, 2012!

If you need to run directions use:
Old Log Theater
5185 Meadville Street
Greenwood, MN 55331
Box office Ph: (952) 474-5951

EVENT REPORT

Summer Tech Event

By Paul Bergquist

“The Art and Science of Automobile Alignment”

The Bloomington location of Twin City Tire, hosted a tech event for our members on Saturday, June 16th. New owner Ray Garver, who has been with Twin City Tire for over thirty years, purchased the business from Jim Miller two years ago, when Jim decided to retire and travel in his beautiful motorhome and just relax.

Ray Garver and his crew have been known for their great alignment service, and most recently purchased a new state of the art alignment machine called the “John Dean Visualiner”, one of only three in the United States. It is the most accurate alignment equipment available on the market today. Using several of our members cars for demonstrating, Ray went through the process of how they determine what needs to be done if anything, to get your car back to tracking correctly. Members also had a chance to ask Ray Garver about tires, wheel balancing, tread patterns, winter tire compounds, etc.

We had a head count of 27 people attending this tech event and Ray Garver provided rolls, donuts, cookies, coffee and water for all. Ray also had several door prizes that were given out at the end of the event. Thanks to Ray Garver and his staff for putting on such a great event!

For anyone that missed this tech event and has questions regarding their cars alignment or tires, you might want to stop by and have Ray Garver and his crew check over your car.

They are at :
Twin City Tire
8653 Lyndale Ave. So.
Bloomington, MN 55420
(952)888-8880 ☺

MBCA-TC Members in attendance
(at least what was legible on the
event sign in sheet):

Dick Kealy
Dick Lind
Greg Thompson
Tim Windey
Ron Burg
Mark Flaten
Matt Jurcich
Warren Rauch
Rudy & Ursula Lamprecht
Nirmal Jain
Michael Patera
Daniel Miller
Gene Audette
Dean & Nathalie Nolde
Robert Kinsh
Kim Crumb
Noel Bayne
Ron Chihos
Scott Hegstrand
Joe Hognander
Mitchell Shaw
Andrew Borg
Paul & Chris Bergquist



Do you have an idea or suggestion for a TECH EVENT subject?

We need ideas for our January 2013 Tech Event. Please contact Dave Tobin: dave@daveknowscars.com with your ideas.

TECH FILES

COOL NEW REFRIGERANT COMING

The latest and greatest refrigerant is soon to be the European standard, and also appear in domestic production, introduced this summer on the Cadillac XTS. It is called R-1234yf (that defines the molecular structure). It works by the usual principle of evaporating a liquid to remove heat from the air, and transferring it to the condenser at the front of the car behind the grill.

The good news is that it has no global warming potential, and much improved efficiency, which give the car maker carbon-dioxide emission credits. The bad news is that the refrigerant will cost 10-12 times that of R-134a, supplies are limited, and the service equipment will cost at least \$7000, relegating it to the dealers who have the volume to support such costs. Why so costly?

The new equipment standards require gas analysis to detect contaminants such as an incorrect addition of R-134a, or R-40 (a counterfeit substitute for R-134a), and other contaminant gasses. Oh, and it has to deal with the slight flammability of R-1234yf, which is not really an issue in the car. So we go green at any cost. In the real world, I expect that, when a problem arises, the system will be drained and R-134 illegally substituted, as it will cool fine, but the global warming and efficiency (gas mileage) advantages will be lost.

There is still the possibility of warm weather ahead, so it wouldn't hurt to review past tips. To get the most out of the AC, be sure that the condenser (just behind the grill) is clean of bugs and other debris, and the cabin filter, if equipped, is clear. Use the recirculate air feature (sometimes labeled MAX), set the temperature to the lowest setting,

and use the fan speed to get the temperature where you want it. If your car has a lot of automated controls, perhaps there isn't much you can control. Generally, moving the temperature control to warmer turns up the heater to warm the previously cooled air, and is somewhat like driving with the brakes on. Using recirculate after the interior has cooled a bit unloads the air conditioner because it will be cooling air that is already cooler than the outside air, and has already had a lot of the moisture removed (very significant in humid climates).

When approaching the end of the trip, it is good practice to turn off the AC, and



By John Elliott

turn the fan speed up to melt any ice in the evaporator, and dry it off a bit. This keeps mold from growing when the car is inactive.

Superb Motoring,
John Elliott 🚗

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THINNING THE HERD

Please contact MBCA-TC member:
Warren Mesenbring for these items,
call after 4:00. (651) 767-2611



1977 240D, with European 5 cyl. 300D engine, 4 speed manual trans, 336,721 miles, service records (call for itemized list showing \$9256 as partial amount spent on parts and labor), \$3250, W123 parts available.



1982 240D, stick shift, 157,405 miles, no rust, new paint and Michelin tires in 2006 (milage was 155,500), good interior, reliable daily driver, service records (call for itemized list showing \$7355 as partial amount spent on parts and labor), \$5500.

Parts for model W123 cars, 38 parts & assemblies. Also 1977 240D engine & auto trans. & driveshaft (tranny needs repair).



1991 MB 300 CE-24 200K miles. Stored winters, this car is about to emerge and have its annual physical. Recent head work (expensive, but done right) and a German-rebuilt ICU. Metallic black/dark grey, no rust, over light grey, lovely wood \$10,000 car is in Minnetonka.

I also have a spare (working) Bosch Ignition Control Module for this car.
Call Fred (952) 975-0074



1973 450SE, 164,460 miles, no rust, small bumpers, 100% original, steel wheels (alloy wheels available), \$4500.



1976 450SEL, 194,816 miles, \$2000 in engine parts & labor, timing chain & gaskets, running parts car, good drive train & suspension, missing interior, no title, OK car except interior removed due to car got rained into & molded \$800.

1983 380SL, 106,750 miles, engine & auto tranny from a 1985 500 SEL (European 240HP), good motor but not running due to needs engine wiring harness & ECU, no rust, very clean, both tops, \$3500.



1981 Mercedes-Benz 300TD Wagon 5 cyl, 4 speed MANUAL trans, 180,000 original miles, sunroof, excellent red paint w/ palamino interior. Roof rack, new tires and alternator, gets 35mpg, COLD A/C. \$8,500 OBO. Call Dick: (952) 495-8190 or (952) 334-3107.



1984 Mercedes Benz 300 TD Sedan 505,000 miles, Runs great, Looks good Extra set of rims. \$2995 or Reasonable offer Call John: 651-452-1539 (home) or 218-380-0964 (cell).

Collection of the Star Magazine from July/ August 2006 to present. Free to anyone who wants to pick them up. James Hughes 651-436-8073 or jamesmhughes@comcast.net - Woodbury.



1985 Mercedes 190 2.3-16 Rare German model, purchased new in Germany. Shipped to US 10/85. DOT/EPA conversion by Classic Motors/AMG Chicago. Driven ONLY in summer. Stored in a heated garage in Minneapolis. Never raced, abused or crashed. 5 spd. Very clean except for some hail damage, which dentless removal would fix + a few cosmetics. New Michelin Pilot Exaltos. New windshield. 63,750 careful miles. Faster than US models. black leather. have all records since new. email me for many photos and full description \$11,000 mmlellmann@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

3 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

6 - Saturday: Cars & Coffee - AutoMotorPlex Chanhasen 8:00am - 12:00 Open to all.

14 - Sunday: Fall Color Tour & Lunch. Site to be announced. Annual MBCA-TC meeting included! 9:30am meeting time. Contact: John & Maureen Drewitz (612) 242-6881.

19 - Friday: Croissant Club - 11:30am

20 - Saturday - Oktoberfest German Car-Fest hosted by the AutoMotorPlex Chanhasen and the MBCA-TC. More details to come in the next issue of the Northern Star!

NOVEMBER

7 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

11 - Sunday: Old Log Theater - Chanhasen. Play and brunch. Contact John Elliot - 952-941-4040

14 - Wednesday: Board of Directors Meeting 6:00pm DAVANNI'S - Minnetonka - Moved - Thanksgiving.

16 - Friday: Croissant Club - See details below. - 11:30am

17 - Saturday: Auto Motor Plex - Optional - Weather - Check back.

DECEMBER

5 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

8 - Saturday: Annual Holiday Party - 5PM. (Note: this is the second Saturday this year.) Olympic Hills Country Club. 10625 Mount Cruve Rd., Eden Prairie, MN Contact: Dean or Marguerite Rosenow 952-944-2244 or deanmarguerite@aol.com

21 - Friday: Croissant Club - See details below. - 11:30am

2013 >

JANUARY

2 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

16 - Wednesday: Board of Directors Meeting 6:00pm DAVANNI'S - Minnetonka

18 - Friday: Croissant Club - See details below. - 11:30am

19 - Tech Event - See Dave Tobin - Watch for a flyer soon.

FEBRUARY

6 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

10 - Sunday: Valentine's Day Brunch - 10:30am. Lord Fletcher's. Contact: Lloyd or Shirley Hubbard - 952-474-7385

15 - Friday: Croissant Club - See details below. - 11:30am

MARCH

6 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

15 - Friday: Croissant Club - See details below. - 11:30am

20 - Wednesday: Board of Directors Meeting 6:00pm DAVANNI'S - Minnetonka.

23 - Saturday - Member Appreciation Party - Auto Motor Plex - 4:00 - 8:00. Christopher Haas: 612-810-4227

APRIL

3 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

6 - Saturday: Cars & Coffee: Auto Motor Plex 8 - 11:00. Open to all.

13 - Saturday: 10:00. Tech Event - TENTATIVE - Detailing with John Biesecker (Check back later.)

19 - Friday: Croissant Club - See details below. - 11:30am

20 - Saturday: Auto Motor Plex (Ford) - See details below.

MAY

1 - Wednesday: Lion's Tap - 6:30pm

4 - Saturday: Cars & Coffee: Auto Motor Plex 8 - 11:00. Open to all.

5 - Sunday - Annual Maplewood Imports Auto Fair - 10:00 - 2:00. Contact: George Andeweg @ Maplewood Imports. Watch for flyer.

11 - Saturday - Intermarque Car Show - Osseo - 9:00 - 1:00. Contact: Andy Lindberg - 651-292-8585 or Dave Tobin - 651-216-1265. Club members will meet at Sears Imports Mercedes-Benz and convoy to the show together. - Watch for flyer.

15 - Wednesday: Board of Directors Meeting 6:00pm - DAVANNI'S - Minnetonka

17 - Friday: Croissant Club - See details below. - 11:30am

18 - Saturday: Auto Motor Plex (Car ???) - See details below.

REGULAR EVENTS

Croissant Club

Lunch, coffee, pastries and Mercedes-Benz talk. Every third Friday of the month from 11:30am - 12:30pm
Patrick's French Bakery Inside Bachman's
6010 Lyndale Ave Minneapolis
Ph: (612) 861-9277
Additional Info Contact:
Scott Hegstrand: (612) 619-8615

Lion's Tap

Burgers, beer, and Mercedes-Benz talk. Every first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm
16180 Flying Cloud Drive
Eden Prairie - (952) 934-5299
Additional Info Contact:
John Elliott: (952) 941-4040
Email: jelliott@sicoinc.com

Cars and Coffee

Every first Saturday of the month May through October :AutoMotorPlex 8200 Audobon Rd, Chanhasen Additional Info Contact: Bruno Silikowski: (612) 850-8398
bsilikowski@automotorplex.com

Every third Saturday is a featured marque / specific car club event, open to the public 9:00am - 12:00noon



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