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# NORTHERN STAR



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# FIRST ANNUAL BIR TRACK DAY

**BRainerd INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY**  
**JULY 13, 2018** 5523 Birchdale Rd, Brainerd, MN 56401

## PRICING

Active MBCA-MNMB Members: \$150.00/driver  
Non-Members: \$250.00/driver  
Passenger(s): \$30.00/person  
*Save \$100 by registering today at [mnmercedesbenz.org/join](http://mnmercedesbenz.org/join)*

### PRICE INCLUDES

- Instructor Training
- Breakfast & Lunch
- Track Time
- Helmet Rental

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Limited spots available. Registration closes July 6.

## SCHEDULE

7:00am Gates Open / Continental Breakfast  
8:00am-9:30am Drivers Class  
12:00pm-1:00pm Lunch  
5:00pm Wrap Up

### MORE INFO?

Christopher Haas  
[CHaasAMG@gmail.com](mailto:CHaasAMG@gmail.com)  
612.810.4227



### EXPERIENCE

Grab the keys to your favorite car and join us for a day at the track. Professional racers will teach you how to safely navigate the track at high speeds, improving your skills behind the wheel of your own car. All driver experience levels are welcome. Drivers must be age 16+ and licensed.

### CLASSES

Novice ▪ Intermediate ▪ Advanced

The BIR staff will help pair you with similar skill level drivers. There will be opportunity to advance throughout the day. Each class will get five 20-minute track sessions. Instructors will be available to ride along.

### PLEASE THANK OUR SPONSORS THAT HELPED MAKE THIS DAY POSSIBLE



*\*MBCA-MNMB and the sponsors are not liable for damage or injury throughout the day. Please have your own track insurance or verify coverage with your current policy. Helmets are required and will be available to use if you do not have one. This is not a competitive race day.*



# PREZRELEASE

**B**y the time you are reading this, we are already halfway through our brief car season here in the Upper Midwest.

I hope you all have gotten your cars unplugged washed and out on the roads. As you may already know, your board members actively brainstorm all year round to plan the summer car season. This planning leads to the numerous car events on our calendar each year; from shows to cruises as well as dinners and brunches. Many of the shows are in conjunction with other groups which we highly encourage members of our club to attend to meet with and engage these other clubs and groups.

I wanted to share with you all a recent trip that Jennifer Brewster and I went on the last week of April 2018. As a result of my car habits, I connected with individuals who put on a charity rally for Steve McQueen's family charity. It is called the Boy's Republic.

After hearing about it, I immediately asked to be on their email list and then registered as soon as I could. In my crazy car mind, I didn't have to think twice about shipping one of our cars out to California to participate. I believe that 99% of non-car people would think that is a ridiculous plan. As we know with transporting a vehicle across the country and needing it there on a specific date and time, many variables could go sideways very quickly. But in our world, it's all rainbows, and it's all going to work out because we're crazy car people. So with that said I organized transport, choreographed the delivery and our flight to to have the car arrive before we arrived in LA. The plan was to arrive in LA get off the plane and pick up the car which was our car, not a rental. And I can happily say that it actually went smoother than getting a rental car!

Cleaning the car in LA ended up being a fantastic experience, and we learned that those of us in Minneapolis are missing out on inexpensive hand car washes with top-of-the-line products. After car wash was complete, we set out to tackle our week-long agenda. We arrived two days early to do some sightseeing before we had any

rally commitments. It was everything and more to experience having our own car in a foreign city.

By Friday afternoon we met up with Chris Russo and Kelly Cisco from our club. I convinced them to register, and they went the rental car route, renting a yellow convertible Mustang that we nicknamed Avis. You get two guesses on where the name came from! After meeting up with them and having a spectacular seafood lunch on the Santa Barbara Pier, we took off to the hotel to start our rally weekend.

The Steve McQueen Charity Rally started Friday night in Santa Barbara at one of the hotel wineries where we applied livery and attended a drivers meeting. After a night's rest, we had breakfast at the hotel and had the chance to meet Steve McQueen's son Chad McQueen. Chad is the family/charity representative that signs off on allowing the rally organizers using the family name. After breakfast, we set off for our first leg leaving Santa Barbara and driving approximately 150 miles north. Our first checkpoing was lunch at the Hearst Castle on the Pacific Ocean. After lunch, our afternoon consisted of heading southeast to Pasa Robles through the mountains and winery country. Saturday evening concluded after another 150 miles at a spectacular Vineyard Hotel in Paso Robles. It included dinner, awards and Matt Stone who is a speaker and a prolific Steve McQueen historian and also who helped discover the original Bullet Mustang. Saturday evening was an amazing evening getting to know and meeting people from across California and Arizona that attended the rally. Sunday, we traveled approximately 300 miles south via one of the best rally routes I have ever been on. We concluded in Oxnard to have a private group tour of the Mullin Museum. This is Peter Mullins private Bugatti and French car collection. Over 50,000 square feet of historic and vintage cars. I highly recommend a tour at some point in your lifetime.

Upon concluding Sunday late afternoon, we said our goodbyes and our farewells, and we're very bummed that we were not all caravanning back to Newport Beach

where most of the group was from. The four of us thought it would be a great idea to unwind in Malibu Sunday evening. It was a great time to reflect

on the whole weekend and try to take it all in. Unfortunately, the bad thing about rallies is that they go by really fast. So I'm sure you're all wondering how did we get the car back and did that go well as well as getting it to California? Well, I'm happy to report that we left it where we picked it up and it was picked up a day later we flew out Monday evening and had the car the following Monday. Absolutely no hiccups or issues with the transport.

The real test will be can we do it again two years in a row? I can tell you now that we will be signing up again and shipping out the car and taking our chances because it was absolutely well worth any hassle.

I wanted to share our experience with you all to encourage you to take your passion for automobiles and meeting other individuals with the same passion and enthusiasm and attend not only our great local events put on by our club but the many other events locally as well as events that are hosted around the country. The great thing is even though you're in a foreign city it all feels comfortable in the same when you're around passionate car people.

I do know of a few other rallies and events down south if anyone wants information or questions answered on how to get involved, please feel free to reach out to me I'm happy to help.

Oh before I forget Jennifer and I won an award for the accomplishments of attending in our car that we shipped all the way from Minnesota.

I hope you all have a great rest of your summer season and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

— Christopher Haas  
President



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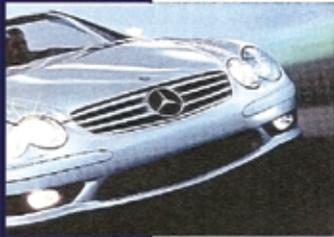
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### Ex-Oficio

### Past Section Presidents

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— Thomas Ogle - Feldmann Imports

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# IN THE MIRROR

May Cars & Coffee

Not only was the temperature a huge difference from the April to May Cars and Coffee we attended, but also the amount of people attended as well! We were thrilled to see so many people show up not only for our pre-meet in the early morning of 7am at Jerry's Foods in Eden Prairie, but over 40 Mercedes-Benz of all years and models came out! This is one of the biggest turnouts we have ever had and we hope that June, with the lesser and lesser chance of snow, will be as good or even better.

The long back to back line of Mercedes-Benz really put a smile on everyone's faces.

We met new excited members, long term members and some fresh faces that didn't know that we do such a big show. It really was a fun day in the sun.

Thank you to all that showed up for May's Cars and Coffee at Canterbury Park that Saturday morning. It was so much fun and we hope that you come out again next month! If you didn't get a chance to make it out, our pre-meet is at Jerry's Foods, 9625 Anderson Lakes Pkwy, Eden Prairie, MN 55344 starting at 7am till 7:30am. We leave at 7:30am as a group over to Canterbury Park so it's easier for everyone to park. It's okay if you don't want to wake up early! Come join us a bit later in Row 16, just look for the MNMB tent. Enjoy the sunshine, coffee and all cars that this event has to offer. See you Saturday, June 2nd!



# IN THE MIRROR *continued*

Intermarque

We had another great turn out at the InterMarque Spring kick off, May 12.

Special thanks to Dave Lindemann for taking photo's, and Jen Cook for setting up the pre-meet among all the other things she does.

Also big Thanks to John Engstrom who runs the event. We had 24 people sign our guest book. 17 were MBCA members and 5 indicated they were on Facebook but not MBCA. It was great that Dave Tobin came back for a visit from his new local in New your to attend what he say's is still his "favorite car show".

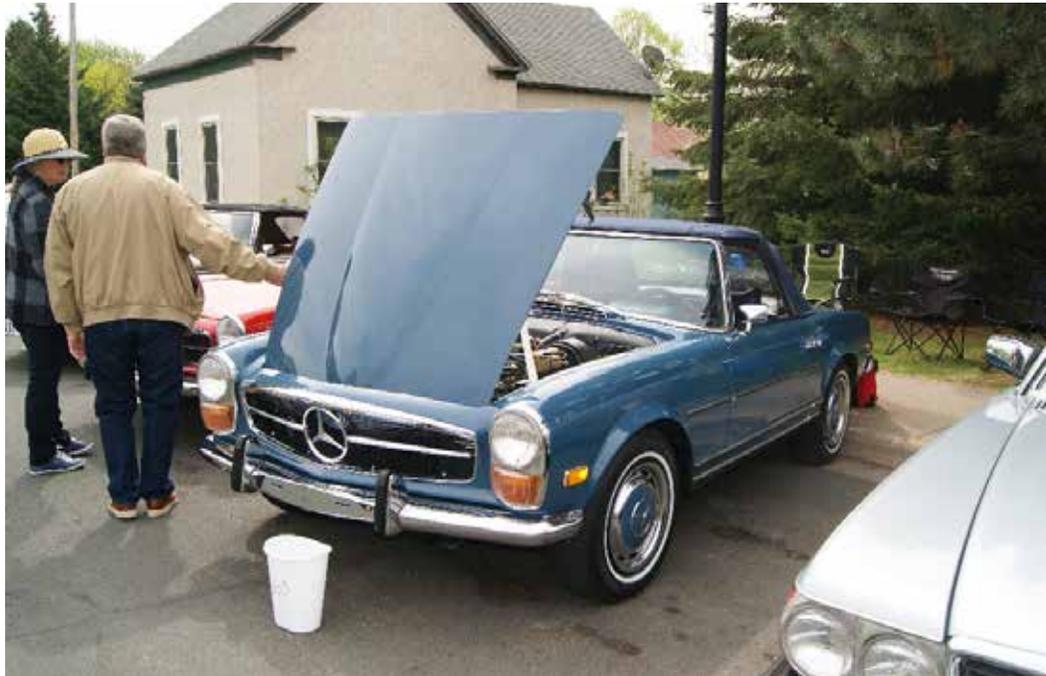
A wide variety of MB cars attended though there was an unusual amount (5) of 113's (SL's 1963-71).

In the afternoon, as the 20+ year old cars thinned, Nick Stanley brought in his AMG. Thanks again for all who came to the show. Hopefully we will see you plus some new faces next year.

Happy motoring.

John Jacobson

InterMarque  
In the Mirror



# AROUND THE BEND

## BIR Driver's Education, Jul 13th, 2018!

The MBCA-MNMB is proud to announce, after over a year of planning we have confirmed our First Annual Driver's Education Track Day at the none other Brainerd International Raceway! We could not be more ecstatic to plan this opportunity to our members. With help from our fantastic sponsors, we are able to have a full day of behind the wheel practice, professional instructors, meals and fun!

If you have never been to BIR (Brainerd International Raceway), we highly suggest that you make this your first experience. Our event is going to be on Friday, July 13th, the only month on record in Minnesota that has not snowed so no snow tires needed! With the BIR team with professional instructors we are going to be having a Driver's Class in the morning, followed by instructional behind the wheel on the BIR track, lunch, more time driving then that's a wrap!

On the other side of the wheel, if you have been to BIR, you know that this is one of the best ones around. Get practice done here so you're ready for your next event there!

We want you to know that any brand car is welcome with this event. As much as we obviously love our Mercedes-Benz, we welcome whatever car you would like to bring! We look forward to see what everyone is bringing for it along with how much you'll learn and have fun as well. Our team has done a lot of work for this and we hope that it pays off for your day with us! Including booking of BIR, we have a block of rooms booked at the Holiday Inn Express Brainerd-Baxter for Thursday, July 12th through checkout on Saturday, July 14th. You can stay just the one night, or book two nights if you'd like. You also don't have to stay at this hotel, there are plenty of other hotels and resorts around if you would like to stay somewhere else.

Look for our First Annual Driver's Education Track Day ad for more information and registering you can go to our website at <https://www.mnmercedesbenz.org/bir/> or visit us on our Facebook Group MBCA-MNMB (Minnesota Mercedes-Benz). If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at [mnmbarclub@gmail.com](mailto:mnmbarclub@gmail.com).

— By Jen Cook

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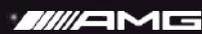
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# TECHFILES

Getting it Together

Automobiles are made up of many sub-assemblies and are joined mostly by welding or bolting together. We will talk about bolts, which uses the simple machine principle of the inclined plane, just wound into a spiral. Bolts have external threads, and nuts have internal threads. So that they work together, SAE and ASME have laid out specific dimensions for major diameter, minor diameter, thread angle and so on. They can be made from many materials; from plastic, bronze, aluminum, stainless steel but mostly steel. Interestingly, a stainless bolt and stainless nut make a bad combination as they tend to stick and gall. Steel bolts can be plain or coated to prevent corrosion. Zinc is the most common coating, but cadmium is best as it is also a dry lube.

Unfortunately, cadmium is highly toxic, so it is only used in government applications. In most applications, the friction of the bolt and nut against the assembly plus the friction of the threads keep the assembly from unscrewing if properly tightened.

The hex head is the predominate shape, as it can be turned by 6 or 12 pointed sockets, or a two sided spanner, and 6 pt or 12 pt box end. Some bolts have 12 sided heads. And then, hollow head bolts that accept a six sided hex wrench (Allen is a trade mark), a 6 pt torqs wrench (like a 6 pointed metric star with rounded points), and even a 3 square (12 sharp points). Almost all bolts are right hand (looking at the end, one turns it clockwise to tighten. Yes, there can be left hand bolts and/or nuts for special circumstances.

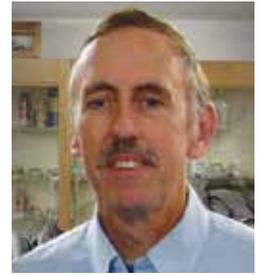
Even among the steel bolts, there are differing grades of steel, depending on the strength required for the job. The common grades in the English system are 0-2, with no markings, grade 5 with three radial lines on the head (I know, doesn't make sense), grade 8 with six radial lines, and Super with a sunburst. Metric uses

8.8, 10.9 and 12.9 roughly equal to 5, 8, super. Each has a specific torque that will maximize holding forces. And as if that isn't enough, there are also stretch bolts for special applications like head bolts. These are torqued to a specific value, then turned another amount such as 90 degrees. Stretch bolts are torqued into the plastic range of the steel, and therefore can't be reused, and they are very spendy. Auto bolts can be made to the auto manufacture's spec, and have no markings. One might think that the same grade nut should be used with the same grade bolt, the nut one grade lower deforms a bit and spreads the load over more threads, giving a stronger assembly.

English bolts have a couple of common thread pitches, coarse and fine, defined by fractional size and threads per inch, such as 1/2-20. Metric bolts are defined by mm and pitch distance, such as 12x1.5. Automobiles switched to metric years ago, and mostly use fine pitch, as the strength is greater (note with finer threads (the minor diameter is larger for the same size major diameter). In bolt school, they taught that it is better to design using fewer but stronger bolts. Money is saved in assembly time, and the margin on higher grade bolts better for the supplier.

The repair manuals have large tables of almost everything telling you what torque to use, and it is good practice to follow it. A beam type torque wrench is very cheap and accurate. Generally, if the threads are lubricated, torque has to be reduced 10-25%. If you look in your drivers' manual, it should list the wheel bolt/nut torque. At a dealer, they use air

wrenches, and to get an approximation of the torque, a plastic extension decreases the available torque to the right value, different color extensions for different values. For a Jeep, the 12x1.5 bolts call for 100"#. Good luck on the roadside with the teeny wrench supplied. When bolting up wheels, it is good practice to tighten bolts in a cross sequence – the next bolt to tighten is as across as possible, to minimize the possibility of warping the wheel or rotor. Don't screw it up :<)



Superb Motoring  
John Elliott

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	28	6.0	11.0	12.0	13.0	15.0	
5/16"	18	10.0	18.0	20.0	21.0	24.0	
	24	11.4	20.0	23.0	24.0	27.5	
3/8"	16	21.7	39.0	43.0	45.0	52.0	
	24	24.5	44.0	49.0	51.0	59.0	
7/16"	14	32.4	58.0	65.0	67.0	78.0	
	20	38.4	69.0	77.0	80.0	92.0	
1/2"	13	43.5	87.0	97.0	102.0	116.0	
	20	54.6	103.0	115.0	121.0	138.0	
9/16"	12	57.5	111.0	123.0	129.0	147.0	
	18	68.0	131.0	146.0	153.0	175.0	
5/8"	11	86.0	173.0	192.0	201.0	230.0	
	18	102.0	200.0	224.0	235.0	269.0	
3/4"	10	152.0	290.0	324.0	336.0	389.0	
	16	182.0	345.0	384.0	403.0	461.0	
7/8"	9	222.0	500.0	555.0	583.0	666.0	
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1"	8	307.0	690.0	769.0	807.0	923.0	
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## JUNE

- 2 - Cars & Coffee - 8am-11am [SATURDAY]
- 2 - KannonBall Fun Charity Rally 11am [SAT]
- 6 - Lion's Tap - 6:30pm [WEDNESDAY]
- 8-10 - MAP Proving Grounds - Brainerd International Raceway
- 16 - **Winery Cruise & Scavenger Hunt** - Contacts: Christopher Haas ([chaasamg@gmail.com](mailto:chaasamg@gmail.com)) & Charlie Achterkirch ([achterkirch@gmail.com](mailto:achterkirch@gmail.com)) [SATURDAY]
- 22-24 - Back to the 50's - MN State Fairgrounds

## JULY

- 4 - No Lion's Tap - Independence Day
- 7 - Cars & Coffee - 8am-11am [SATURDAY]
- 7-8 - Ralleye de Valleye Contact: Mark Sabbann, Ralleye Director (651-324-0819)
- 13 - **BIR (Brainerd International Raceway) Track Day** - Contact: Eric Sorenson (612-384-3067 or [esorenson5150@yahoo.com](mailto:esorenson5150@yahoo.com)) [FRIDAY]
- 18 - Board of Directors Meeting - Davanni's in Minnetonka - 6pm [WEDNESDAY]

## AUGUST

- 1 - Lion's Tap - 6:30pm [WEDNESDAY]
- 3-5 - Powercruise USA - Brainerd International Raceway
- 4 - Cars & Coffee - 8am-11am [SATURDAY]
- 11 - 32<sup>ND</sup> Annual New London to New Brighton Antique Car Run - Contacts: John Elliot (952-941-4040) or Paul Bergquist (952-937-1822) [SATURDAY]

## SEPTEMBER

- 1 - Cars & Coffee - 8am-11am [SATURDAY]
- 5 - Lion's Tap - 6:30pm [WEDNESDAY]
- 8 - Wheels & Wings - Osceola, WI - Pre-meet TBD [SATURDAY]
- 9 - Wayzata Car Show Charity Benefit (J. J. Hill Days) - 9am-2pm [SUNDAY]
- 14-16 - MAP Proving Grounds 2.0 - Brainerd International Raceway
- 15 - **Oktoberfest German Car Show - AutoMotorPlex in Chanhassen** [SATURDAY]
- 19 - Board of Directors Meeting - Davanni's in Minnetonka - 6pm [WEDNESDAY]
- 30 - **Membership Appreciation Lunch & Apple Picking** - Location & Time TBA [SUN]

## OCTOBER

- 3 - Lion's Tap - 6:30pm [WEDNESDAY]
- 6 - Cars & Coffee - 8am-11am [SATURDAY]
- 7 - **Fall Color Tour & Lunch** - Location & Time TBA [SUNDAY]
- 25 - Dinner - Location TBA - 6:30pm [THURSDAY]

## NOVEMBER

- 7 - Lion's Tap - 6:30pm [WEDNESDAY]
- 11 - **Old Log Theater - Play & Brunch - Chanhassen** - Contacts: John Elliot (952-941-4040) or Paul & Chris Bergquist (952-937-1822) [SUNDAY]
- 14 - Board of Directors Meeting - Davanni's in Minnetonka 6pm [WEDNESDAY]
- 25 - Brunch - Location TBA - 10:30am [SUNDAY]

## DECEMBER

- 1 - **Annual Holiday Party & Meeting - Lillydale Pool & Yacht Club** - 11:30am-4pm - Contact: John Jacobson (651-769-1170) [SATURDAY]
- 5 - Lion's Tap - 6:30pm [WEDNESDAY]

## REGULAR EVENTS

**Lion's Tap:** Burgers, beer, & Benz talk. Every first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm (except July 4, 2018) - 1618 Flying Cloud Drive, Eden Prairie (952-934-5299) - For additional Info Contact: John Elliott (952-941-4040 or [jelliott@sicoinc.com](mailto:jelliott@sicoinc.com))

**Cars & Coffee:** Car show, music, food trucks & coffee. The first Saturday of each month (April - October) - Canterbury Park, 1100 Canterbury Rd, Shakopee, MN - 8am - Pre-meet at 7am at Jerry's Foods - 9625 Anderson Lakes Pkwy, Eden Prairie, MN - leave for C&C at 7:30am.

**Cars & Caves:** Classics, rods, exotics and muscle cars welcome! Donations appreciated and will go to a different charity each month. The last Saturday of each month (May - September) - Chanhassen AutoPlex, 8150 Audubon Road, Chanhassen, MN - 8am - 12pm

Summer Nights Car Shows: Chanhassen AutoPlex - Chanhassen AutoPlex, 8150 Audubon Road, Chanhassen, MN - 5-8pm - June 20th/July 18th/August 15th/September 12th

## EVENTS IN BOLD

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