

Northeastern  
Pennsylvania Section

Mercedes-Benz  
Club of America

[MBCA-NEPA.COM](http://MBCA-NEPA.COM)



## *Shining Star* Winter 2016 Newsletter



### President's Message



It is my great pleasure to announce that at the general membership meeting held November 10th, the current officers were re-elected for another 2 year term: President - Mike Ziegler, Vice President - Roger Egolf, Secretary - Debbie Egolf, and Treasurer - Jolanta Piekarski. Our board members were also approved: Ron Gabel, Barry Brobst, Brett Kropf, and Alice Christensen. We have worked well together and I look forward to two more years of working with them to bring you fun events with fellow MBCA Northeastern PA members and their cars.

We are still in need of a volunteer to help with membership, and an Ad/Sponsor Coordinator. If you know of a Mercedes Benz related business, ask them if they may be interested in advertising in the Shining Star, website, and eBlasts; then contact an officer or director to follow up with that business.

I hope to see you at our Christmas Holiday Dinner at the Blue Grillhouse on December 15th to help honor a club member who will be receiving an award. The presentation after the dinner by Ron Gabel should be very interesting. Wear your MBCA-NEPA (or any) name tag to help a new member (or to help an older forgetful member) remember your name.

Winter snow and ice will be here soon. If you put your Mercedes Benz away for the winter, many recommend putting a gasoline stabilizer in your fuel tank to slow down the breakdown of the gasoline. For those with a 4-matic or AWD, the winter drives will be

both safer and fun.

Pencil the 2017 NEPA events found in this newsletter into your calendar. If dates of events change, they will be announced on the website, by newsletter, or by eBlast. These events were selected at the November 10th general membership Planning Dinner. Thanks to those members who attended and helped with the planning. Hopefully you will be able to attend some of them.

I look forward to seeing you at an event.  
Happy and safe motoring,  
Mike Ziegler



### MBCA-NEPA Christmas HOLIDAY Dinner

There is still time to sign up for the *MBCA-NEPA Christmas Holiday Dinner* on December 15, 7 PM at the Blue Grillhouse; 4431 Easton Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18020

Cost is \$36 per person (tax and Gratuity paid for by MBCA NEPA section). Cash bar.

Payment is needed before the dinner. Preferably a check mailed to Debbie Egolf; 2346 Wehr Mill Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

Please RSVP to Debbie Egolf  
[egolf2000@yahoo.com](mailto:egolf2000@yahoo.com)  
610-751-7865



### News:

!!!!Congratulations to Mercedes-Benz for getting the 2017 MotorTrend SUV of the Year for the Mercedes-Benz GLC (per MotorTrend magazine January 2017 issue)!!!!

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### Welcome to our new Newsletter Editor:

Alice Christensen has volunteered to be our Newsletter Editor. Alice is an associate member married to Otto Christensen, a real Mercedes Enthusiast with a garage larger



than their house!  
Alice is retired from various IT systems and sales positions, the last being 25 years with HP. She is currently a part-time yoga instructor. Her hobbies include reading and yoga. She and Otto together have four grown sons, 2 in the US and 2 in Denmark, and share one granddaughter.

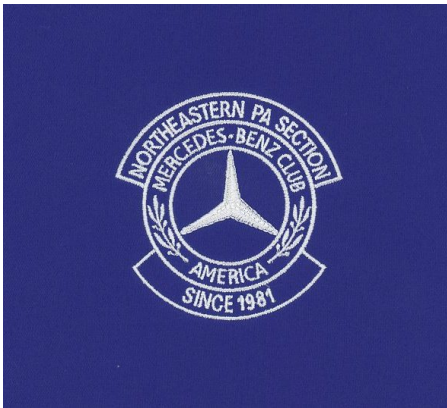
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## Meet our New Members

Albert Flail of Pottsville PA (2004 SL500)  
Mary Grassi of Nazareth PA (1989 300E Pearl Grey(sale-see classifieds lists))

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## Mercedes Logo Shirts from Lands End



Here is our logo for Lands End shirts. They can be purchased through Business Outfitters by Lands' End magazine, a special book from Lands' End. Here is the link for placing your order:

<https://business.landsend.com/store/mbca-nepa/>

You will need to know the color of shirt and the color of thread for the logo ( green shirt and green thread.)

The logo has of this writing not been submitted to Lands End, pending final approval.  
Many thanks to Joe Grattan, for helping us get started. We can show our Mercedes spirit at car events, picnics, etc... call Lands End at 1-800-770-9315 for your Business Outfitters catalog.

Thank you all,  
Debbie Egolf, secretary  
610-751-7865



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## [Previous Events:](#)

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## Northeastern Pennsylvania Section Fall Rally

On Saturday September 10, 2016, Northeastern Pennsylvania Section held its fall car rally, hosted by Ron and Elaine Gabel.

A show of hands revealed more than half the participants had never been on a car rally. The weather was perfect for the eleven cars and thirty people who ventured forth at 8:30 AM for breakfast at the Starlite Diner near Fogelsville Pa. After the traditional "Words of Wisdom" from our host, rally master Ron, the first car was off at 10 AM in search of answers to the seventeen questions located somewhere within the rally's 25.9 mile first half.



Ten of the eleven cars managed to find their way to the all important "pit stop" at the end of the first half, the home of hosts Ron and Elaine, where abundant refreshments of Buffalo wings, potato chips, pretzels, vegetable trays soda and ice water were served. The car driven by Paul Greenblatt didn't reach the half way point because, having a prior appointment, he intended to drop off during the first half.

After regaining their strength and courage the ten remaining cars were off to tackle the rally's 26.8 mile second half and its twenty-three questions. About 2:00 PM cars began to arrive at the end of the rally, the Hops Paddock Restaurant in Allentown PA where all participants were treated to pizza and drinks, courtesy of the NE PA Mercedes Club.

The actual overall mileage for the rally was 53.0 miles, but everyone enjoyed the scenery of covered bridges, big homes and Lehigh County PA countryside so much actual miles traveled ranged from 53.2 by the Taylors' in car #11 to our club vice-president Roger Egolf and his wife Debbie who had the most fun traveling 102 miles coming in eighth with a score of 35 points out of a possible 200.



In first place were Royal and Gail Stout in car #1 with a total of 160.5 points. Second place went to Larry, Mary & Robert Taylor in car #11 with 153 points. Car #8 took 3rd place with Brett & Debra Kropf and friend with 128.5 points. John & Catlin McCormick and Charyl Durback finished in 4th place with 121.5 points in car #5 while fifth place went to car #6, Aaron & Helen Neuman, Laura and Michael.



David and Wesley Wormser in car #7 were 6th and Howard & Susan Sherer in car #4 were 7th, Our vice president and club secretary Roger & Debbie Egolf in car #2 who got lost 300 yards from their house came in 8th, Car #3 with Barry and Lyne Brobst placed 9th.

As is nearly always the case the teams who got lost, confused or otherwise mixed up seemed to have the most fun at the finish point explaining what went wrong, where they got off track or how they cleverly recovered from their mistake.

The coveted last place award went to our club president Mike Ziegler and his wife Nancy in car #9 who were forced to open their "panic" envelope near the end of the second half, due in part to a fire emergency that closed the rally road just prior to their arrival. They were overheard to say "just wait until next time".



So the rally day beginning at 8:30 AM with breakfast and ending eight-hours later with Pizza and drinks at the Hops Paddock was deemed by all to have been "time well spent".

Newsletter Editor:  
achristensen@comcast.net  
Cell - 908-337-8511  
Home 610-926-8966

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## 1st Gear by Robert Taylor, Youth Ambassador for the Mid-Atlantic Region.

On Labor Day weekend, we went to Lime Rock, CT for the Historic Festival. They race old sports cars. On Sunday, they do a car show. The cars were parked around the track. I also met Wayne Carini and my friend Matt Orendac from Hagerty Insurance again. Matt helps with the youth judging program.

I went to the Radnor Hunt Concours on September 11. This year they featured Lancia and the Mercedes 300SL. About 15 kids judged cool cars with me for Hagerty Youth judging. It was the biggest group ever for me.

I met Mrs. Marianne MacDunna who still owns 1956 300SL Gullwing that her husband bought new. We also judged a Lancia that had seats made from ostrich hides.



Lancia



1956 300SL Gull

On October 8, my mom and I went to the AACA Hershey Fall Meet. It's the biggest car show in the world. I judged 5 old cars with about 10 other Hagerty Youth Judges. My favorites were a 1908 Cadillac and a 1958 BMW Isetta. Afterwards, I had chocolate milk at Hotel Hershey. See you next year.

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## Radnor Hunt September 11, 2016



The 20th Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance was held September 11, 2016. It was a beautiful day with 100 beautiful Concours cars and motorcycles from all over the country.

The picture with Robert Taylor, Youth Ambassador for the Mid-Atlantic Regions on the Concours field, shows a few of the Concours Mercedes Benz show cars and a couple of house drawn carriages in the background. The black Mercedes in the front is a 1957 300SL Roadster owned by Rare Wheels Collection of Windermer FL. The other picture shows some of the Mercedes Benz club members cars in the Motorsport Park area, who came to see the Concours d'Elegance. Plan to attend next year, normally the second Sunday in September.

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## Fall Drive (Poconos) October 23

In October Barry Brobst planned and hosted a Day Drive to the Poconos to see the fall foliage. We saw beautiful colors of trees on back roads and the Delaware River.



Thank you Barry for directing us to a winery and great food. Thank you for your dedication to making our Day Drive a success. We had at least nine or ten cars to make this trip a fun drive. We didn't lose anyone thanks to Barry & Lyne occasionally stopping, especially at traffic lights, so everyone could catch up. Kudos to Barry for his dedication and mileage for a fun time.





## 2017 Upcoming Events:

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Sat Feb 4, 8:00 AM

### **Philadelphia Auto Show**

Preregistration on web site required - [click here](#)

Philadelphia Convention Center,  
1113 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA.

Contact for the outing is Bill Fisher

[BillFisher\\_560sl@Yahoo.com](mailto:BillFisher_560sl@Yahoo.com) - 609-221-2633

Thu Apr 27, 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

### **Spring Dinner, NEPA Section Event**

Carmel Kitchen and Wine Bar, 3750 Hamilton Blvd, Allentown PA 18103

RSVP: Debbie Egolf - [egolf2000@yahoo.com](mailto:egolf2000@yahoo.com) - (610) 751-7865

Sun May 21, 11:00 AM - 3 PM

### **Day Drive, NEPA Section Event**

Sunday Drive in the Lehigh Valley. After the drive we will go to a restaurant.

Mark your calendar with the date. More information when it gets closer to the date. Barry Brobst - [bbrobst@ptd.net](mailto:bbrobst@ptd.net)

Sat June 17

### **Picnic, NEPA Section Event**

Sun Aug 6

### **Das Awkscht Fescht**

Sun Aug 13

### **New Hope Auto Show**

Sat Sep 9

### **Road Rally, NEPA Section Event**

Sat Oct 14

### **Saturday Drive, NEPA Section Event**

Thurs Nov 9, 7:00

### **Planning Dinner, NEPA Section Event**

Thu Dec 14, 7:00 PM

### **Christmas Holiday Dinner, NEPA Section Event**

\*\*\*\*Check [MBCA-NEPA.COM](http://MBCA-NEPA.COM) for more 2017 events\*\*\*\*

As new information becomes available, it will be included on our web site:

Upcoming Events at [MBCA-NEPA.COM](http://MBCA-NEPA.COM)



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**\*\*\*\* NEPA Member Classified Listings \*\*\*\***

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FOR SALE:

1989 300E Pearl Grey. Immaculate inside and out. Meticulously maintained, all records. Garage kept. Runs beautifully. Contact: Mary Grassi (NEPA member), [mgrassi@rcn.com](mailto:mgrassi@rcn.com)  
610-837-7888



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Contact Jim at [jsangiorgio@knopfauto.com](mailto:jsangiorgio@knopfauto.com), or at 610-967-0787.



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Route 145, 440 Lehigh St, Allentown PA 18103  
[www.ZieglersRV.com](http://www.ZieglersRV.com) 610-435-8100



## Your MBCA-NEPA Board

Mike Ziegler | President | 610.504.5370 | [mikez@zieglersrv.com](mailto:mikez@zieglersrv.com)

Roger Egolf | Vice President | [rae4@psu.edu](mailto:rae4@psu.edu)

Debbie Egolf | Secretary | [egolf2000@yahoo.com](mailto:egolf2000@yahoo.com)

Jolanta Piekarski | Treasurer | [jolanta.rentals@verizon.net](mailto:jolanta.rentals@verizon.net)

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Alice Christensen | Newsletter Editor | [achristensen@comcast.net](mailto:achristensen@comcast.net)

Ron Gabel | Assistant Newsletter Editor, Rally Master | [rggabel@ptd.net](mailto:rggabel@ptd.net)

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Joe Grattan | Regional Director | Mid Atlantic | [josephgrattan@aol.com](mailto:josephgrattan@aol.com)



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**Submit news, event, and other contributions for MBCA NEPA Shining  
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