

**Northeastern Pennsylvania  
Section**

**Mercedes-Benz Club of America**

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



**Shining Star  
Fall 2020 Newsletter**

***President's Message***

Hope you and your family are well.

Summer was a tough time for car clubs when most events were cancelled due to COVID-19. Fortunately, there are events scheduled for this fall (with social guidelines in place).

We have our Fall NEPA Road Rally October 3<sup>rd</sup> which I plan on participating. Let our Rally Master know if you plan on participating. Ron has a lot of experience putting on Road Rallies, and this one should be one not to be missed!

The Mid-Atlantic Region (which our NEPA section is a part of) is having the Fall Picnic & Car Show on September 26<sup>th</sup> at our long time MB friend & past Regional Director John Bleimaier's historical family farm Falkenhorst. Registration is required.

For those who prefer racing their MB (instead of going to the picnic), a racetrack and education event is being held in WV on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

Information on these events can be found in this newsletter.

Stay safe,

***Mike Ziegler***



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## Upcoming Events

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## 2020 Events

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**Sun, Sep 13 | 9AM-4PM | Radnor Hunt concours d'Elegance - Cancelled for 2020**

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**Sun, Sep 20 | | NEPA Day Drive - Cancelled for 2020**

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**Sat, Sep 26 | | NNJ/SNJ Picnic Bleimeier's Hopewell NJ**

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**Sat, Sep 27. | | Summit Point - Two days of Driver Education and track Driving (Additional information below Calendar)**

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**Sat, Oct 3 | | NEPA Road Rally**

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**Thu, Oct 15 | 7 PM | NEPA Planning Meeting, ZOOM Meeting**

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**Thu, Oct 15 | 8:45 PM | NEPA Board Meeting**

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**Thu, Dec 17 | 6:00PM | NEPA Christmas/Holiday Party - Cancelled for 2020**

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## **Annual NNJS/SJS Mid-Atlantic Regional Picnic Is On!**

### **Saturday, September 26 - Noon**

Free for Mid-Atlantic Region MBCA members

A New Jersey picnic with an International flavor. Bring your M-B and have it judged by your peers - you may just take home a trophy.

BYOB. If you have a favorite beverage, be sure to bring it with you. The committee will provide water, soft drinks and ice.

In keeping with best practices, this will be a catered event. Please do not bring pot luck dishes or other items to share to the picnic.

Social distancing will be observed. Members are requested to bring a mask for times when social distancing cannot be maintained.

John Bleimaier's Farm, Falkenhorst  
**41 Moore's Mill Mount Rose Road**  
**Hopewell, NJ 08525**

Free for Mid-Atlantic Region MBCA members.

For everyone's safety and in compliance with local COVID 19 regulations and precautions, social distancing will be applied throughout the event and there will be no outside food to be shared or allowed on the grounds.

You must register to attend. No day of, or on site registrations will be accepted.

Attendants must wear masks/face coverings and everyone is encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer and disposable sanitizing wipes. No one will be permitted to enter without first registering.

**[Click here to register for the Sept 26 Regional Picnic](#)**

Special thanks to SJS Advertising Committee Chair Assad Khoury for pulling it all together along with NNJS President Valerie Cristiano and John Bleimaier for hosting the event at his farm.

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**MBCA GWS returns to Summit Point  
for Two days of Driver Education and track Driving!**

Saturday, Sep 26 — Sunday, Sep 27, 2020

Summit Point Raceway - Shenandoah, Summit Point, WV

**Last Day to register September 19, 2020**

Come out and join us for an educational weekend of fun driving on Summit Point's Shenandoah Circuit - The Shenandoah Circuit is a 2.2-mile, very technical, track containing a dimensional replica of the Nürburgring-Nordschleife's famous banked Karussell turn.

Bill Scott designed Shenandoah to mimic many of his favorite corners seen at other tracks world-wide. Approachable for novices, and rewarding for seasoned veterans. We will be offering both Instructed and Solo run groups again this year.

For those of you who have not attended an MBCA | GWS track day before, we run our events with an emphasis on three key concepts: fun, learning, and safety. This is not a competition or a race -- no one will ever ask, encourage, or pressure you to drive any faster than you feel comfortable driving.

Registration Costs are as follows:

**\$350 for Saturday and Sunday**

**\$215 for Saturday ONLY**

**\$215 for Sunday ONLY**

link: [msreg.com/MBCAGWS2020SHEN](https://msreg.com/MBCAGWS2020SHEN)

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Please check [MBCA-NEPA.COM](https://MBCA-NEPA.COM) for updates after this newsletter publication.

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### Remembering John Frailey



John M. Frailey, last year's Member of the Year for our section, passed away on June 30<sup>th</sup>. He is survived by his wife Arlene, with whom he would have celebrated 60 years of marriage later in the summer. An enthusiastic member of the club, he had hosted our section picnic twice in the past five years. Born in Bartonsville in 1937, John graduated from East Stroudsburg State College in 1960 and taught physics at Northampton High School for eight years until taking over the insurance agency that had been founded by his father. Over his very successful career, he won many awards, including his 1996 induction into the Nationwide Insurance Company Hall of Fame as one of its top 18 agents in company history. John was involved in far too many community organizations and philanthropic activities to completely list here, but a small sample includes service as a Pennsylvania State President of Gideons International, Sunday School Superintendent, Sunday School teacher and Chairman of the Administrative Board at Reeders United Methodist Church, Chairman of the Board of Youth for Christ-USA, Chairman of the Board of Pocono Medical Center, Cubmaster of Pack 84 of the Cub Scouts, Treasurer of the Blue Ridge Hook & Ladder Fire Company, and President of the Pocono Life Underwriters Association. We will all miss seeing John at club events.

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### [Mercedes Benz Channel on You-Tube](#)

Click on the link in the heading to browse Mercedes Benz Channel on You-Tube.

We thought you might enjoy watching the exciting MB channel while waiting for the country to open back up from the Corona Virus, in lieu of our fun activities.

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### [Join us on Facebook](#)



Please visit and join our Facebook page. Once accepted you can post pictures of your cars, join member discussions on various Mercedes topics, and ask questions. Click here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/MercedesBenzNEPA/>

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## Members' Corner

Tom Lindeman

MBCA NE Pennsylvania Section Membership Coordinator

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### Meet our new members:

Ramona Lorini of Bethlehem, PA

Timothy Rosengrant of Cresco, PA (2020 Atlas)

Shubreet Sidhu of Danville, PA

John Nothelfer of Allentown, PA (2003 SL500)

Todd Cummings of Center Valley PA (2016 E63 Wagon)

Chun-Miin Chen of Lewisburg, PA

Guempes Charles of East Stroudsburg, PA

Lynn Leitzel of Sunbury, PA

Please note: if your associate member would like to receive a separate copy of our newsletter and eBlasts, please send their email address to our Newsletter Editor, Alice Christensen ([achristensen@comcast.net](mailto:achristensen@comcast.net))

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### **Spotlight on Member Christina Cimino**



Hello! My name is Christina Cimino and I currently reside in the Lehigh Valley. I became the proud owner of a silver 2016 C-Class back in November and joined the MBCA around the time of the purchase.

My passion for Mercedes Benz cars grew from my grandfather's love for the vehicles. He owned a few Mercedes cars over the years but one that holds a special place in my heart was his S500. He let me have the privilege of getting behind the wheel of this car on occasion and it was the first time I drove a Mercedes Benz, which was at the age of 17. I was instantly hooked.

For me, driving a Mercedes Benz is a truly special experience. The interior and exterior are both sleek and stylish. The safety features of the car give me peace of mind. And the actual driving experience is smooth, peaceful and wonderfully responsive and fast.

I look forward to meeting you at a future NEPA event!

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### ***Renew Your Membership/Sign up New Members***

Current members may **renew their membership**-either online through the MBCA.org portal or by calling MBCA National directly at 800-637-2360. There are annual renewal options, as well as multi-year options available. **Don't let your membership lapse so you can continue to enjoy the benefits of being a member of the MBCA!!!**

**Current Members**-Remember that when you refer a potential member for membership and the person joins the MBCA, ***you receive an additional free month of membership for each new member you refer.*** There are probably family members, co-workers, and other social friends who are enjoying the Mercedes Benz driving experience. Encourage them to join our Club and Section to enjoy the full complement of **fun driving and social activities** our Section plans each year!

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## Technical Feature

### [This Vintage Mercedes SLC Race Car Makes a Wonderful V-8 Noise](#)

This is for everyone that thinks a Mercedes-Benz (M-B) is for old people at country clubs! “This Vintage Mercedes SLC Race Car Makes a Wonderful V-8 Noise” (<https://youtu.be/PcuRLvcJ-5E>) will raise your enthusiasm for one of the world's best race cars! Alongside the video are links to other interesting M-B videos. There are a lot of M-B videos on YouTube that show how to repair and maintain your car. We will try to feature the most interesting video(s) in future newsletters.

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## Get Answers to Your Technical Questions

Question from Barry Brobst: At the board meeting I and some others were talking about how little we are driving. I'll have less than 100 miles on each of my 3 fun cars 67-230SL, 81-300D and 09-SL550. So the question came up on what should be done for winter storage on seldom used cars. Do we have to change the oil etc. before we put them back in storage. One individual said he might get 500 miles, so the question may be different for different milage. Can you help?

If you have a technical question (s), submit them to NEPA Newsletter Editor [Alice Christensen](#) who will forward them to Walter Piekarski, our Technical Advisor for possible publishing in a future newsletter.

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## OnGoing Items

### [Technical Advisor Position for NEPA Section:](#)

**Member benefit** to our NEPA Section: Walter Piekarski, owner of Walter's Foreign Car Service, has volunteered to be our Technical Advisor. Walter, along with his wife Jolanta (our NEPA Treasurer) are founding NEPA Section members. He works on most Mercedes-Benz cars. He has worked on Mercedes-Benz cars for over 50 years which makes him very knowledgeable on the older Mercedes-Benz cars too. Call him at his shop during business hours for free technical help with your Mercedes-Benz. If after talking with him, you would prefer him to do the repair, he will offer a 10% discount on labor to Mercedes-Benz Club of America members. Make sure you identify yourself as a member of the Mercedes-Benz Club when you call.

The best time to reach Walter is Mon-Thu 8:30 AM-noon, 1 PM - 4 PM at [610-865-4255](tel:610-865-4255) (he may have to call you back). You can visit his web site at:



### **MBCA Northeastern PA Section Logo Clothing Available!**

A diverse line of quality men's and women's *Lands' End* activewear, outerwear, shirts, sweaters and other items are available with our MBCA Section logo.

Visit the *Lands' End* website at <http://business.landsend.com> to browse the catalog or email them at [businessoutfitters@landsend.com](mailto:businessoutfitters@landsend.com).

You can also connect by telephone at [\(800\) 587-1541](tel:(800)587-1541).

*Be sure to indicate that you are a member of the **MBCA Northeastern PA Section** and wish to have that logo placed on your selected items.*

Tom Lindeman

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### **Request from our Membership Coordinator**

As the Membership Chairperson for our Club, one of my duties is to maintain our Membership Directory and database. Keeping your contact information current helps the Club to provide timely and accurate information regarding events and activities.

There is a definite need to provide the following bits of information to help the Club for event planning purposes:

- The year, make, and model of your car;
- Associate Member—all Members can add one Associate Member to their membership AT NO COST! We would just need you to provide that person's First Name, Last Name and e-mail address

Double-check for accuracy---

Your current address, telephone number and e-mail address. This can be accomplished by providing the information to me at [lindemantd@gmail.com](mailto:lindemantd@gmail.com) or by phoning me at 610-349-9597 and I will be happy to assist!

Also, If your associate member is not currently receiving a separate copy of our newsletter and would like to receive a separate copy, please send their email address to our Newsletter Editor, Alice Christensen ([achristensen@comcast.net](mailto:achristensen@comcast.net))

Tom Lindeman

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### **Name Badges:**

Please wear your name badge to all events. If you (a NEPA member or associate

member) never got a badge, your NEPA section will pay \$6 and you pay the other \$6 and it will be sent to you in the mail. If you lost your badge or would like one to keep in your other MB, they are \$12. Contact Tom Lindeman for name badges.

Mike Ziegler

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### **Free classified ads:**

As a NEPA member benefit, if you have a Mercedes-Benz car or part for sale or wanted and are a member of the NEPA Section, you may list one ad for free per issue (limited to 20 words plus your contact information, then 20 cents per word) in the NEPA newsletter. One free picture will also be permitted if picture is emailed (\$50 if submitting a photo). Free ads may not be listed in printed copies (\$75 to ensure it will be in the printed newsletter). Submit ads by email to the newsletter editor. If you want your classified ad in another issue, you must resubmit your free ad for each newsletter. Members who are in the business of selling Mercedes Benz cars or parts may list one free classified ad per year. For paid ads email the newsletter editor or president with your request.

Personal non-NEPA member classified ads are \$25 for up to 20 words, then 20 cents per word (picture rules same as for NEPA members).

The deadline to submit classified ads are June 1st for the Summer issue, September 1st for Fall issue, December 1st for the Winter issue, and March 1st for the Spring issue.

Mike Ziegler

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### **Airbag Recall**

At Mercedes-Benz, our highest priority is keeping you safe. So we'd like to share some important information about a recall involving Takata frontal airbags used in many vehicles, including certain Mercedes-Benz models. This safety recall is a result of inflators that may improperly deploy with excessive force in the event of a crash. Takata and other inflator suppliers are working with the U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) to coordinate availability of replacement airbags as soon as possible. To learn more about the Takata Recall, including information on free airbag replacement, visit [mbusa.com/mercedes/recall](http://mbusa.com/mercedes/recall).

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### **Personalized License Plates now Available from DMV**

The Pennsylvania license plates with the Mercedes-Benz Club of America logo on them are available again through our Keystone Section. They are available either

sequence numbered, or customized with up to 5 letter/numbers for an additional one-time fee. Two of our members customized plates are pictured on the top-right corner of our [MBCA-NEPA.com](http://MBCA-NEPA.com) web site. The link to the directions and forms to fill out can be found here: <https://keystone.mbca.org/pa-license-plate>



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### **Event Attendance Book:**

Members who attend NEPA events are requested to sign the Event Attendance Book, and if you brought your Mercedes-Benz to the event, list the year, make, and model brought. If you don't see the book at the event, tell Debbie Egolf or one of the other officers (with gold colored name badges) that you would like to sign the Event Attendance Book.

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### **Associate Members emails:**

We would like to have each member who has a spouse or partner, to list that person at no additional cost, as an associate member, and to list their email address so they also get the newsletters and other updates directly. You can do that by logging into the [MBCA.org](http://MBCA.org) web site (also notify editor if you want the associate member to receive emailed newsletters and eBlasts), or email the information to [Tom Lindeman](mailto:Tom.Lindeman) along with their phone number (or let him know that the associate member's phone number is the same as the member's phone number).

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### **MBCA Car Flags for sale:**

Blue car flags with the MBCA logo on both sides are available. They fit on the side windows. They are good for any MBCA event to show your support of our club. They are available from Debbie Egolf or Mike Ziegler at most events. Preferably, email Debbie at [egolf2000@yahoo.com](mailto:egolf2000@yahoo.com) so she knows to give it to you at the event you are going to. There is a donation of \$5 requested preferably by check to MBCA-NEPA. Get one for each of your MB cars and keep it in the car, so you don't have to remember to take it with you on an event.

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### **Survey Request:**

In an effort to keep the NEPA section interesting and relevant to all of our members,

we have included a link to a survey. If you have not previously filled out the survey, would you please fill out this short 6 question survey regarding your preferences by clicking the below link. Thank you!

[Click here to complete short survey.](#)

Tom Lindeman

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### **Membership Renewal Reminders**

Most of our members utilize the MBCA website to renew their membership. It is important when you do this to also keep your contact information up to date. Remember that you may also add an Associate Member at no cost. This could be your spouse, another family member, or other significant person.

The MBCA National Office also provides several renewal reminders by contacting members approximately 90 days before the renewal date, the date of renewal and 30 days after the passing of the renewal date.

Keep our membership numbers and Club strong and enjoy the benefits and value of membership by renewing promptly. Please contact me if you have any questions or issues.

Tom Lindeman, Membership Coordinator  
MBCA NEPA Section  
[lindemantd@gmail.com](mailto:lindemantd@gmail.com)

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### **Pictures of events needed for our website:**

When you take pictures at our club events, please email the ones you would like to see on our website to Debra Kropf [debra@kropf.com](mailto:debra@kropf.com) for possible inclusion on our website.

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### **Request From The Advertising Coordinator**

Do you have a favorite Mercedes-Benz service center or equipment supplier? Please send me their contact information (name, address, telephone number, and/or email address). I will contact them to see if we can get them involved with NEPA advertising and activities.



Northeastern  
Pennsylvania  
Section

John Sale  
Advertising Coordinator

506 Parkside Court  
Allentown, PA 18104

610.442.5930  
jws3@lehigh.edu  
www.nepa.mbca.org



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**Submit news, event, and other contributions for MBCA NEPA Shining Star Newsletter to**  
[nepa.mbca@gmail.com](mailto:nepa.mbca@gmail.com)

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