

**Northeastern Pennsylvania
Section**

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

MBCA-NEPA.COM



**Shining Star
Fall 2021 Newsletter**

President's Message

Hope you and your family are well. We had some great summer events this summer: Deutsche Classic, Das Awkscht Fescht, New Hope Auto Show, and our NEPA Picnic. Plan on joining us next year. Even though the Covid-19 variant is keeping us on edge, we are planning on having our Fall events: Radnor Hunt "Concours d'Elegance" 9/12, Regional Picnic 9/18, Day Drive 9/19, Road Rally 10/2, and our Election/Planning Meeting 10/7.

Do you enjoy overnight events? Then join my wife and I for a week of fun in Hilton Head Island. First at the National MBCA "Mercedes Freude" Tuesday to Friday 11/2-5 (see details on page 86 & 87 in the September/October issue of The Star). Then Saturday 11/6 to Legends of the Autobahn East, (see details on page 28 in the September/October issue of The Star). Then Sunday 11/7 the Hilton Head Island Concours d 'Elegance. It should be a memorable week! Hope you can join us.

Are you looking for a formal event to go to? Then "A November to Remember" 11/20 is for you. Details on page 88 and 89 in the September/October issue of The Star.

We will be having our last event of the year, our Christmas/Holiday Party on Tuesday December 14th (note change of date). Information on these events can be found in this newsletter.

Stay safe, happy motoring,



Mike Ziegler

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1. Upcoming 2021 Events

Sun, Sep 12, 9 AM Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance Regional Event

Sat, Sep 18, 11 AM Regional, NNJ/SNJ Picnic, Bleiemaier's, Hopewell, NJ

Sat, Sep 19, Sun Sep 19, NEPA Fall Drive

(Wesley Wormsey has agreed to coordinate our Fall Day Drive since Barry Brobst is recuperating from his surgery. Info to follow in an eBlast with details. Thank you Wesley.)

Sat, Oct 2, 9:30 AM/10:45 AM/11 AM NEPA Road Rally, Ron Gabel

Thu, Oct 7, 6 PM/6:30 PM/7:30 PM NEPA Election/Planning Meeting

Thu, Oct 7, 8:45PM, NEPA Board Meeting

Nov 2 - 5, Mercedes Freude, Hilton Head: see president's message

Nov 6, Legends of the Autobahn East, Hilton Head: see president's message

Nov 7 Hilton Head Concours' d'Elegance at Port Royal

TBD - NEPA Tech Session, Masano's MB, Reading (Alice & Otto)

Tue, Dec 14, 6 PM/7 PM, NEPA Christmas/Holiday Party (6 PM cocktails; 7 PM dinner) date change

Upcoming 2021 Event Details

24th Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance Sunday September 12th

24th Radnor Hunt Concours d'Elegance Sunday September 12th, gates open at 9 AM: Cars in the Concours d'Elegance are pre-selected and limited to 100 vehicles and motorcycles. It is a wonderful upscale event with horse drawn carriages parading at noon and on display till 2pm.

There is special club parking for Mercedes Benz vehicles in the MotorSport Park area. The \$60 for driver at the door admission to the event also allows you to park with the club if you bring a Mercedes-Benz. Passengers are \$50 for adults, 12 to 18-year old's \$25, children under 12 admitted free with a paying adult admission.

Location: 826 Providence Rd, Malvern PA 19355.

For more information and to register online, go to www.radnorconcours.com [610-644-4430](tel:610-644-4430).

VIP lunch and other packages also available on the website.

Tickets may be purchased at the event, but MotorSport parking may not be available if full. Proceeds from the event benefit two local non-profit organizations; Thorncroft Equestrian Center in Malvern, PA and the local Boy Scout troops.

This is a Mid-Atlantic Regionally sponsored event (NEPA Section is a part of this region). A canopy will be in the MotorSport area with applications for membership and Star magazines to encourage people to join MBCA. Delaware Valley Section is the main host and NEPA Section is assisting. If you can take some time manning the table, let Mike Ziegler know.

NNJS & SJS September Picnic & Car Show

Saturday, September 18, 2021

11:00 AM

NNJS & SJS are once again are cosponsoring the picnic and popular vote car show at home and on the grounds of *Falkenhorst*, John Bleimaier's country estate – 41 Moore's Mill/Mount Rose Road in Hopewell, NJ. 08525

The picnic and car show will be held on Saturday, September 18th, beginning at 11 AM, lunch at noon. There is no cost for members to attend the picnic, BUT they do need to know whether or not you will be attending to ensure that we have enough food. NNJS & SJS will again supply hot dogs, hamburgers, paper products, condiments, water, soda, and ice.

There will also be the "Silent Auction." Please bring a new or gently used item that you would like to donate to the 'Auction' table? The proceeds from the auction will be used for one of our charity donations. There may even be "lawn sprints" again this year for those of you who are so inclined!

Even though most of the food and drinks will be supplied by NNJS & SJS, they still need you to bring an appetizer, main dish, side dish, salad, or dessert to supplement the buffet.

Please use the online registration link to sign up and let them know: How many? What car? What will you be bringing? Appetizer; side dish, salad, or dessert.

[Click here to register online.](#) (Registration deadline is Sunday 9/10.)

Hope to see you there.

Contact [Valerie NNJS](#) or [Ernie SJS](#)

Sun Sep 19, NEPA Fall Drive

Wesley Wormsey has agreed to coordinate our Fall Day Drive since Barry Brobst is recuperating from his surgery. Info to follow in an eBlast with details. Thank you Wesley.



2021 FALL COUNTRY VU COVID RALLY

Saturday, October 2

By Ronald G. Gabel

Our traditional MBCA NEPA Fall Rally is scheduled to be held Saturday October 2, 2021. The rally will begin with an optional breakfast starting at 9:30 AM (paying on your own), in the private room at The Starlite Diner on Route 100 (South of Route 22), Allentown PA. The rally will begin at 11:00 AM but we encourage participants to arrive early enough for breakfast on your own if desired and to receive rally instructions prior to the 11:00 official rally start. This rally is a form of friendly competition in which participating cars leave the starting point individually and are directed to follow a prescribed route to the finish point.

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

This rally is designed to be shorter than some of our previous rallies in that there is no half-way point. We successfully tried a shorter rally last year to encourage greater participation. In addition, this year we will begin our rally at 11:00 AM to allow our members some additional travel time to attend. COME TRY IT OUT.

THIS IS IN NO WAY A RACE. In a race the idea is to get to the finish line in the shortest possible time. In a rally the aim is to follow a predetermined route, and correctly answer questions along the way. **Going fast will hurt your chances of winning** Answers to all questions can be found along the route for those lucky enough to locate them. (Sort of a treasure hunt). Time allowed for completion of the rally will be more than enough to complete the task. **This contest is simply a test of your ability to follow a precise route while searching for the answers to questions along the way.**

Our rally will last approximately two hours. **Directions will be simple, so no previous experience is necessary.** The rally will basically be a drive through the country, over scenic back roads while searching for answers to a number of questions, answers to which can be found along the way. You will be required to drive slowly while looking for answers to questions. Since you will be scored on driving the “exact” route and distance, backtracking to locate missed answers **will** count against you. Of course, **so will missing the answer.**

If you are a **member of our club, a sister club or a potential club member** who would like to try your hand in one of our club’s rallies, we suggest you give it a try. All models of Mercedes cars, any year, any type is welcome and encouraged to participate. If for any reason your Mercedes is unavailable, you can use another car.

Obviously, this is **NOT** a one-man job. **WE REQUIRE TWO OR MORE PERSONS TO A CAR; family members and friends are welcome to participate in your car**, each car will require a driver and one or more to “navigate”. All you really need to participate is a pencil, a car, a love for driving, a roadmap or GPS in case you get lost, and the desire to have a good time. Only sissies use the GPS while running the rally.

General Instructions will be given to each designated navigator on arrival the morning of the rally. These “Generals” will explain how to correctly follow the route and the “Rules of the Road”. Your rally master will go over the instructions in detail and will answer all questions at the drivers meeting in the parking lot prior to the 11:00 AM start of the rally. **ALL PARTICIPANTS ARE INVITED TO ARRIVE EARLY FOR A LATE BREAKFAST, AN EARLY LUNCH AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE OR JUST FOR FELLOWSHIP, BUT ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE THERE PRIOR TO THE DRIVER’S MEETING ABOUT 10:45 AM.**

The first car will start at about **11:00 AM**. The Route Instructions, your directions from the start to finish of the rally, will be given to each driver one-minute prior to his start time. One of the cardinal rally rules is “**NEVER ASSUME ANYTHING**”, read your Generals carefully.

If you think you may participate, contact me at rggabel@ptd.net or cell [610-417-2053](tel:610-417-2053) by 9/25 so I know how many packets to make. Deciding to attend after cut-off date is ok, but there may not be a packet for you.

Hope you will all plan to join us Saturday October 2nd for food, good fun and good fellowship. Food and toilet facilities will be available at the end of the rally. **JOIN IN THE FUN! PLAN NOT TO MISS THIS ONE! THE MORE PARTICIPANTS, THE MORE THE FUN.**

**Election & Planning Meeting for 2022 events, with
FREE dinner & drink on Thursday, October 7th at the [Paddock](#) Restaurant**

We will have an election of officers and directors this year. We are fortunate all volunteers are willing to run again: President Mike Ziegler, V.P. Roger Egolf, Secretary Debbie Egolf, Treasurer

Jolanta Piekarski, Director/Driving Coordinator Barry Brobst, Director/Road Rally Coordinator Ron Gabel, Director/Webmaster Brett Kropf, Director/IT Specialist Debra Kropf, Director/Ad Coordinator John Sale, and Director/Social Media Coordinator Christina Gardner.

The following position still needs to be filled: Membership Coordinator. We are happy to say that Christina Gardner has volunteered for this position, and her nomination was confirmed by the board. If you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, contact an officer or director.

We will also be discussing events for the 2022 calendar year. Bring your ideas and your 2022 planning calendar so we can pick dates that most of you are available to attend.

In appreciation for your help in planning for the 2022 events, one cocktail or soft drink and dinner (ordered off the menu) will be paid by our section for NEPA members & their associate member. A cash bar is available for additional drinks. RSVP to Debbie Egolf appreciated, but not required.

6 PM social time, 6:30 PM dinner, 7:30 PM election/planning, followed by a board meeting.

**A November to Remember Event
information at:**

<https://mbcatrystate.com/>

Do you want to BUY or do you want to SELL?

Either way the place to be on Saturday, **November 20, 2021** is at the **Hyatt Regency in Greenwich, CT** for the November to Remember event. If you are looking to add another beautiful Starship to your collection or if you need to say "Good-bye" to one of your beauties, this is the place. Sellers will receive the full bid price of their car and the buyer will pay a separate payment of a tax deductible ten-percent premium which will then be donated to MBCA National to help fund the club, its educational programs, and scholarships. If you would like to sell, please contact Oliver Seligman, President of NYC/LI Section for more information at mogs05@aol.com

All cars will be fully vetted before being accepted for auction.

Bill Fisher, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director
The best or nothing

Please check MBCA-NEPA.COM for updates after this newsletter publication.

Members' Corner

Meet our new members:

Michael Doyle of West Reading, PA
Stewart Howden of Morgantown, PA (2018 GLS550; 2006 CL55 Kompressor)
Guido Iammatteo of Harleysville, PA
Brian Ramthun of Phillipsburg, PA (2000 E320 Sedan 4matic; 2014 E350 4matic; 2019 E300
4matic sedan)
Wil Roeschmann of Easton, PA (2013 CL550 4matic)
Dwight Schrute of Scranton, 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)

Update on our Director/Social Media Coordinator/Interim Membership Coordinator Christina Cimino

Christina Cimino is now Christina Gardner.
Congratulations Christina on your wedding to Dennis Gardner (also an MB owner)!

Important Member Survey

Hello Members! Please take a few moments to complete this short but important member survey. We want to hear what in person events and topics presented through social media you would be interested in! <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T5JR28C>

3. Technical Section

A Brief History of the Mercedes-Benz Gull-Wing Door

by John Sale

While attending the Northern New Jersey Section (NNJS) of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) concours d'elegance and sitting in the parking lot shade, I saw an immediately recognizable Mercedes-Benz "Gull-Wing" coupe arriving. Here was a million-dollar car motoring up the driveway to register for a local event like it was an everyday driver's car. No fanfare, no enclosed trailer, just the owner out for a drive! Later in the morning, I walked over to the concours judging area to see the car up close. It was a 1955 Mercedes-Benz 300 SL coupe like one I last saw in San Francisco back in the 1970s. I had a chance to buy it for \$9,000, but that's another story. What made the cars unique was the gull-wing doors. That started me thinking about who developed the concept, why was it first available in the 1950s and why was it brought back for the Mercedes-Benz SLS series.

The following is a brief history of the gull-wing door. A Wikipedia article discuss the origin of the gull-wing door and its application by various production and kit cars. For this article, I'll focus on information, with links to source articles, about specific Mercedes-Benz cars with gull-wing door applications.

Origin of the Gull-Wing Door

The papillon (butterfly) door was a precursor to the gull-wing door, and is slightly different in its architecture, but is often overlooked when discussing gull-wing design. The papillon door was designed by Jean Bugatti for the Atlantic-style 1939 Type 64, 14 years before Mercedes-Benz produced its similar, famous 300 SL gull-wing door. It was fitted with a 4.4 L 2-valve DOHC straight-8 engine and rode on a 130-inch wheelbase. Three cars were started, but only one body was finished.



The Mullin Automotive Museum is out to finish what Bugatti started all those years ago. Using many of the same coach building techniques employed by the French automaker in the late '30s, the museum has all but finished constructing the body, including the signature papillon doors.

Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Coupe

The Mercedes-Benz 300 SL production sports car presented in Mercedes-Benz 300 SL coupe presented in 1954 was based on the successful competition version of 1952.



The Mercedes-Benz 300 SL production sports car presented in Mercedes-Benz 300 SL coupe presented in 1954 was based on the successful competition version of 1952. Its space frame weighed only 110 lbs. and was particularly sturdy but did not permit the fitting of normal doors. With its characteristic upward-opening doors, the dream car of the 1950s popularly became known as the “Gull-Wing”. The gull-wing door concept was adopted by Mercedes-Benz for the 300 SL class coupe. The 300 SL needed the door design, as its tubular frame race car chassis design had a very high door sill, which in combination with a low roof would make a standard door opening very low and small. However, they were also a technical necessity, dictated by the filigree spaceframe which had to be combined with wide, stability-enhancing sills, thereby requiring door hinges at the top. The Mercedes engineers solved the problem by also opening a part of the roof.

Mercedes-Benz C 111 Research Vehicle



The gull-wing doors, retained for all four series of the Mercedes-Benz C 111, identify this charismatic experimental car as a member of the legendary Mercedes-Benz sports car family.

On the four series of the C 111, the gull-wing doors were design quotations relating back to the Silver Arrow era. The C 112 research car presented at the IAA in 1991 equally featured gull-wing doors hinged at the roof. These doors, hinged at the roof, developed into hallmarks of Mercedes-Benz sports cars. They first featured on the filigree 300 SL (W 194) which was entered in racing in 1952; from this car, a road-going sports car (W 198/I) was Mercedes-Benz C 111 coupe derived of which just about 1,400 units were built between 1954 and 1957. Mercedes-Benz introduced the C 112 at the Frankfurt Motor Show in 1991 as a proposed production sports car. The car used a mid-mounted 6.0 L V12 engine. After accepting 700 deposits, the company decided not to proceed with production.

Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren



This elegant door design did not return to series production until the up to date Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren.

The new coupe with styling features reminiscent of the current McLaren-Mercedes Formula One racing car swings its doors upwards into the air as elegantly as the C 111 did 35 years ago and the 300 SL 50 years ago.

There is, however, one major difference: after half a century, the dream of a series-produced road-going Mercedes-Benz racing coupe has finally come true. Unlike the Mercedes-Benz 300 SL, the Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren was equipped with butterfly-type doors instead of gull-wing doors. While scissor doors move straight up via hinge points at the bottom of a car's A-pillar, butterfly doors move up and out via hinges along the A-pillar. This makes for easier entry and exit, at the expense of requiring more clearance than needed for scissor doors.

Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG



The Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG is the successor to the Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren

The Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG is the successor to the Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren and was described by Mercedes-Benz as a spiritual Mercedes-Benz SLR-McLaren successor to the Mercedes-Benz 300 SL Gull-Wing, mainly because it was inspired by the latter. SLS stands for "Super Leicht Sport" (Super Light Sport). The stylish gull-wing doors of the SL and SLR models of the 1950s are still being regarded as an Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG expression of elegance and dynamism today. I hope that this brief history will help you appreciate how the Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG gull-wing door became to define the Mercedes-Benz as a unique supercar.

Technical Questions Answered

If you have technical questions submit them to [Alice Christensen](#), Newsletter Editor, who will then submit them to Walter Piekarski, our Technical Advisor, for an answer in our next edition

[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/>

Past Events

Deutsche Classic

July 10 2021

by Wesley Wormser and Alice Christensen

The 2021 Deutsche Classic was a welcomed return to normalcy, having been cancelled in 2020. There were a ton of cars on display from all the German marques. Bob Steele won first place in the Mercedes Category, Wesley Wormser won 1st place in the Farthest Driven, coming all the way from Georgia. Keith Morgan won second having come all the way from Maine. It was a great turn out with around 40 Mercedes. Next year, let's try to make that 50.

The awards are so cleverly made from parts of cars (see top left photo below)

Farthest Driven: Wesley Wormser - 1978 Mercedes-Benz 280E (Top right photo)

Best Mercedes-Benz:

1st Bob Steele - 1971 Mercedes-Benz 280SE (Bottom left photo)

2nd Keith Morgan - 1967 Mercedes-Benz 300SEL (bottom right photo)

3rd Fred Mazar - 1986 Mercedes-Benz 300E (no photo)





Das Awkscht Fescht
August 8
By Alice Christensen

The 58th Annual Das Awkscht Fescht was held August 6, 7, and 8, 2021 at Macungie Memorial Park. Friday and Saturday is the Variety Show which features hundreds of antique and classic models, restored, as well as tractors, trucks, and motorcycles.

Sunday is our antique and special interest car club show with 35 car clubs and over 1,000 vintage autos.

It is such a fun venue. There were lots of activities for everyone: barbecue cook-offs during the Fescht; lots of kids' shows and activities. There were over 100 artisans selling needlework, paintings, pottery, dolls, metal work, clothing and jewelry.

And many free musical performances to be enjoyed at the Bandshell.

Photo below by Otto Christensen of our Mercedes turnout and our tent.



**New Hope Auto Show
August 15
by Wesley Wormser**

The Sunday import show at New Hope was great as ever. The weather cooperated and we had an excellent turnout.

Thirteen Mercedes-Benz were in the Mercedes class with another six in other classes (see top panoramic photo below).

Daniel Kelly won an award in his 280SL (photo of car middle left).

With everything from a 1921 Rolls Royce to a 1956 competition-proven Ferrari 250 and a 1983 Unimog to a Saan Sonnet, it was a great Show. I hope to see more of you there next year!

List of Mercedes Benz Winners

- 1962 Mercedes-Benz 190SL Matthew Jackiewicz
- 1969 Mercedes-Benz 280SL Daniel R. Kelly
- 1988 Mercedes-Benz 560SL Joseph Rubino (no photo)

1983 UNIMOG Tim Skeuse

For a complete list of 2021 winners and their photos, go to <https://newhopeautoshow.com> and go to past winners, and click on 2021 winners!



Panoramic photo of our 13 cars courtesy of Wesley Wormser.



Bottom left: Daniel R. Kelly III's winning blue 1969 Mercedes-Benz 280SL - photo by Wesley Wormser



Bottom right: photo of Otto Christensen and his beautiful 450SL - not a winner this time

NEPA Summer Picnic
August 28
by Christina Gardner



Photo Credit: Wesley Wormser

The ending of summer was highlighted by the 2021 Northeast PA section picnic that took place on Saturday, August 28th and hosted by Alice & Otto Christensen at their home. Luckily the weather was in our favor, being cloudy, warm, and no rain showers! Attending members arrived in style by bringing their Mercedes Benz vehicles to the event. It was wonderful to be able to have this event and allow for members to interact in person. Precautions were still available such as plenty of space to keep distance and hand sanitizing gel ready for use.

Board member, Jolanta Piekarski, was the master griller (her food is legendary) and picnic goers brought side dishes and dessert. No one went away hungry! Otto and Alice opened up their fantastic garage as an indoor space for people to eat lunch and converse. John Sale was given his 2020 Member of the Year plaque, which was delayed in being delivered due to event cancellations last year from COVID. Congratulations, John!

During the event, there was a popular vote car contest that took place. Congratulations to the owners of the winning cars!

- Class 1 – Antique Sport (1900 – 1995) – 1995 SL320 Ron & Elaine Gabel
- Class 2 – Old Sport (1996 – 2014) – 2004 CLK320 John & Denise Sale
- Class 3 – Newer Sport (2015 – present) (no car was entered)
- Class 4 – Antique Sedan (1900 – 1995) – 1992 500E Roger & Debbie Egolf
- Class 5 – Old Sedan (1996 – 2014) – 2006 S55 AMG Christina & Dennis Gardner
- Class 6 – Newer Sedan (2015 – present) – 2020 GLE350 Cory & Mary Cummings

Also at the picnic, longstanding members of the MBCA were recognized and given a commemorative pin.

Thank you to these members for their continued loyalty and engagement with the club!

5 Year Pin

Kristian Castellano
Wesley Wormser

15 Year Pin

Barry and Lyne Brobst

25 Year Pin

Ron and Elaine Gabel

30 Year Pin

Alice and Otto Christensen

40 Year Pin

Jolanta and Walter Piekarski

Thank you to our hosts, Alice and Otto, our chef, Jolanta, others that helped cook, and Debbie Egolf for helping in planning the event. Plan to join the next MBCA Northeast PA section event! Outings like the picnic are a great way to get to know your fellow Mercedes Benz enthusiasts, talk about the vehicles we all love so much, and see these beautiful vehicles in person. We look forward to seeing you soon!





Top Left: John Sale receives his 2020 Member of the Year plaque; Top Right: Elaine and Ron Gabel's award Best Antique Sport; Middle Left: John and Denise Sale's award Best Old Sport; Middle Right: Debbie and Roger Egolf award Best Antique Sedan; Bottom Left: Dennis and Christina Gardner's award Best Old Sedan; Bottom Right; Mary and Cory Cummings Best Newer Sedan

New Items of Interest

2021 Mercedes C-Class Captures Coveted Safety Award

It's not everyday that vehicles roll away with a Top Safety Pick+ award from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS). That recognition — the highest accolade a vehicle can earn from IIHS — recently went to the 2021 Mercedes-Benz C-Class, provided the car is equipped with an optional front crash prevention system.

The mid-size luxury car was put through the paces, earning good ratings in six crashworthiness tests. These included the driver-side small overlap front, passenger-side small overlap front, moderate overlap front, side, roof strength, and head restraint tests.

Read the entire article from Fleet Safety News [here](#)

Past Items of Interest

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.

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](https://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>



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](https://mbca.org) web site (also notify editor if you want the associate member to receive emailed newsletters and eBlasts), or email the information to [Newsletter Editor](#) 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).

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 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.

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 \$7 and you pay the other \$7 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 \$14. Contact me for name badges.

[Christina Gardner](#)

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

[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.

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.*

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.](#)

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.

Mike Ziegler
MBCA NEPA Section
mikez@zieglersrv.com

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 for possible inclusion on our website.

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: www.WaltersMercedesServices.com

Mike Ziegler

Keeping Your Membership Current

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, Alice Christensen, Newsletter Editor at achristensen@comcast.net or by phoning me at 610-926-8392 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)

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.

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.



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!

The New Online Membership Brochure / Application

The newly redesigned two-page Membership Application has been updated with a cover page highlighting MBCA Membership Roadmap of Benefits, has links to our Social Media Pages and a completely redesigned fillable membership application. This new condensed version of the traditional application reduces printing costs while still providing important information about the club and benefits of being an MBCA member.

This new two-sided online brochure can be locally printed, reducing the expense of printing and mailing the traditional tri-fold application. Sections that need applications immediately for a recruiting event can download the PDF and have the new Brochure/Application printed locally on card stock.

The new Brochure / Fillable Application can be viewed or downloaded by clicking on the link below:

https://www.mbca.org/sites/default/files/reference/MBCA_online_Brochure2021_FORM.pdf

Mercedes Benz Channel on You-Tube

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



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Submit news, event, and other contributions for MBCA NEPA Shining Star Newsletter to
nepa.mbca@gmail.com

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