



THE Ottawa Tri-Star

Volume
21
Issue 02
2016

In This Issue...

- President's Message
P.2
- 2016 Events Listing
P.3
- Automotive Milestones
P. 4
- MBCA Name Tags
P.4
- Coffee and Cars at Amelia Island Concourse
P.6
- Mercedes Trivia
P.6
- Classified
P. 7

Off To A Great Start!

Summer has arrived and our season is off to a great start with our first driving event to historic Perth. This was a great success with 40 people attending the tour and lunch. We learned a lot from our tour with the Perth Town Crier. Who knew Perth had such a connection to the distillery industry as well as a link between an 11 ton block of cheese and the start of the British National Railway?

With the amount of sunshine we have been having it's been a great time to go for drives, although I think we all agree we can really use some rain. My lawn is starting to look like the Sahara.

We have several other great events lined up for the summer so please come out and join in the fun.

It is with regret that we say farewell to John Bartholomew who served as VP and our Webmaster for the last few years. John has sold his MB so has relinquished his position. If anyone is interested in taking over this position please contact Larry Lomas or me.

A big thanks to the folks who have sent me articles for the newsletter. Keep them coming!

Drive Safe!



Mike McKinnon
Vice President &
Ottawa Tri-Star
Editor

Visit the Ottawa Section of MBCA at
www.ottawa.mbca.org



Message from the President

By Larry Lomas



Shelley Is Fast, Tireless and Safe

Her lap time may be a tad slower than that of a professional race driver and after a high number of laps the professional would tire. Then at some point become less attentive to the safe speed limits of the many turns and that could lead to drifting off track or a worse experience. Shelley would make no such errors even driving it 24/7 at speeds near 200 kph on the straight portions. She is a custom rigged Audi TTS now tasked with a far more important mission on this 5 km track at Thunderhill Raceway in Willows California.

Professor Chris Gerdes of Stanford University and his students are attentive to their laptops as Shelley spews out loads of data going about the turns and twisty chicanes. What were the G forces on the tighter turns? How did she track in the chicane and what was the breaking force leading into it? This is typical of the information that could assist them in the possible development of collision avoidance software.

It is generally accepted that driver error

accounts for 90% of road collisions resulting in loss of life, personal injury including permanent disability, staggering costs in claims for loss of life, medical expenses, loss of income and vehicle and property damage. Daimler, the world's largest producer of trucks including makes it owns such Freightliner, and some other truck manufacturers know that their customers are anxious to reduce driver error and operating cost and they appear to be the leaders in the development of autonomous driving. This is particularly true in the EU where recently trucks were closely huddled together since breaking or acceleration of the lead truck instantly applies to the following ones. They adhere to the posted speed limit, traffic conditions and are programmed for efficient operation of engine and transmission and there are substantial savings in fuel consumption, carbon footprint and maintenance costs. The huddling also reduces drag (less turbulent air flow) around all particularly for the ones in the middle of the pack. By the

way, in all trucks both in the EU and in the US (Nevada only thus far) a driver is behind the wheel and will not touch it or the breaks unless she or he feels it is necessary.

So what about autonomous autos wearing our star or other makes? Well, so far they are under strict control and only in some cities and other areas and most if not all are now driverless and not for sale. The 2015 S65 AMG a semi autonomous model having steering assist, as well as adaptive braking technology; active lane keeping assist and other such features are available. One would expect buyers able to afford the \$ 250K price would have little if any interest in fuel economy.

Larry

P.S. Driver error or gross stupidity? Years ago an OPP patrolman was told by a driver that her car ended up in the ditch while she was putting on her pantyhose.

Ottawa Section Board

President

Larry Lomas
(613) 720-3847
lomas@videotron.ca

Board Members at Large

Mel Roy
(613) 834-4187
Roymel2@aol.com

Tech. Advisors

Winfried Hillebrand
(613) 851-1139
wahille@rogers.com

Vice-President & Newsletter Editor

Mike McKinnon
(613) 257-1913
mdmckinnon@bell.net

Bob Mather,
613-692-4947
robert.mather@rogers.com

Kurt Hillebrand
613-234-2910
kurt@youngstreetgarage.com

Vice-President & Webmaster

Vacant

Secretary

Josef Ferner
613 599-8908
jgferner@rogers.com

Treasurer

Bob Richer
(613) 738-4731
bricher@capcorp.ca

Advertising

Full page	\$120
Half page	\$90
Third page	\$80
Quarter page	\$60
Business card	\$30
Classified	<i>Members</i> —no charge for advertising cars or parts; \$20 to add a photograph. <i>Nonmembers</i> —\$20 for up to 20 words, 10 cents for each additional word.

The Ottawa Tri-Star

The Ottawa Tri-Star is the official publication of the Ottawa Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA). The opinions published are those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Editors, the Ottawa Section, or the MBCA. Publication of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product or services offered. Articles may be reprinted by other MBCA Sections with acknowledgement.



2016 Events

We have another great season of events lined up for 2016. We've already had some excellent events and we hope that you will be able to join us and participate in as many of the remaining ones as possible. Details on each event will be emailed to Club members prior to the event. If you have questions please contact the event organizer identified below.

Sunday June 26 – Carlton Place Classic Car Show - CANCELLED.
Unfortunately we did not get enough interest from members to attend this show so we have cancelled it as a formal club event. Members are still welcome to attend as individual entries or just come and check out the cars.



Saturday, July 23—Vintage Wings of Canada, Gatineau Airport, - Subject to confirmation— Organizer – Larry Lomas (lomas@videotron.ca). Details to be issued shortly.



Saturday, August 20 – 1000 Islands tour (Gananoque or Rockport) followed by lunch at Ivy Restaurant Organizers – Karen Koivumaki (mkcrosstown@gmail.com) and Bob Richer (bricher@capcorp.ca)



Saturday, September 17 – Tall Ships and possibly RCN Warship—Brockville - To be confirmed - Organizer – Karen Koivumaki (mkcrosstown@gmail.com)



Saturday, October 1 – Fall drive and lunch at Maple Leaf – Almrausch (MLA German) Club. Organizers – Larry Lomas (lomas@videotron.ca) and Winfried Hillebrand (wahille@rogers.com)



Tuesday, October 25 – Fall lunch at the Army Officers' Mess Organizer – Larry Lomas (lomas@videotron.ca)

November Annual General Meeting – Historic location in Ottawa. Date and location to be determined.

Tuesday, January 17, 2017 – Winter lunch at Army Officers' Mess Organizer – Larry Lomas (lomas@videotron.ca)

Automotive Milestones

By Ray Pearlman

There is nothing new under the sun or the hood ! Even the latest automatic-manual transmissions were invented back in 1904 by Sturtevant, although the then technology did not allow a practical example to flourish and the 1900 Lohner-Porsche was a gasoline/electric hybrid ! Indeed, famous German diarist, Count Harry Kessler, watched the start of the Paris to Bordeaux car race in 1901 of 527 km and the British had their London to Brighton Veteran Car Run which started in 1896,

So, to understand what technology is in your car, there is a comprehensive book that describes each component from engine, transmission, brakes and body in somewhat easy to understand terms. *Automotive Milestones* by Robert L. Norton, Industrial Press Inc, 2016, discusses many types of inventions and which car company adopted it or may have copied it. This month we read that Ford has paid a record price to get their hands on a new model Tesla, and when I

visited a business school colleague in Detroit some years ago, he picked me up in a De Tomaso, which Ford had bought to evaluate and sold to him as an employee.

Mercedes is noted early on in the book, amongst the pioneers and being first called Daimler, then Daimler-Benz and finally Mercedes-Benz, the Mercedes of course being the name of the daughter of the French agent!

Mercedes were one of several manufacturers to have a straight eight cylinder engine for aero use in WWI and were the first to bring out a five cylinder diesel in 1974 and has had V12s in their line up and developed a cylinder deactivation system in the 1990s. When Daimler controlled Chrysler, this was adopted for the muscle car Hemi engine. In 1921 Mercedes was the first to bring out the first supercharged production automobile. Mercedes made racing engines with desmodromic valve trains, eliminating valve springs. It also has

used the Knight engine dual sleeve valves. Mercedes also adopted air suspension for its Grosse Mercedes as did Rolls-Royce from Citroen, but some models lost their air and heads of state found their transport somewhat flat ! Mercedes was the first to have two-leaf spring paralelogram suspension in 1931, replacing it with a double wishbone, equal arm arrangement with coil springs in 1933. They were also first with front disc brakes on the 1961 220 SE.

In 1955, Mercedes used the first direct [mechanical] fuel injection in its 161 mph Gullwing which doubled the power of the 3 litre in line six of the 300 sedan, as well as having a hand in the design of the Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren of 2003-10. What will be next ?

The book is copiously illustrated with both photos and diagrams, and it is available in the Ottawa Public Library. If you want to know more about your car, this is the book to read!

MBCA Name Tags

By Bob Richer

I wanted to remind members that the Club will cover the cost for you to get official MBCA Name Tags.

You may have seen some of the members wearing these at our events. It's a good way to meet each other and for those of us whose minds are not as sharp as they once were to help us remember who we are talking to. (Cathy and I each wear ours at home so we know who that other person is living in our house!)

The instructions to order the name tags are as follows:

- 1) Go to the MBCA Website at www.mbca.org and log in;
- 2) Click on Store and from the drop down;

- 3) Click on Event Items/Star;
- 4) Scroll down to Name Badge \$10.00 and then click on Add to Cart. They then have their choices to make concerning the different styles, colors (US spelling), (perhaps to match the color of your vehicle), number of lines, (we usually have two lines – our name and then Ottawa Section as the second line), Style – magnetic is the most popular choice. Once all the selections have been made, click on Add to Cart. This brings you to the next page – Shopping Cart

- 5) Choose your Qty for number of badges (1) . So, if you are ordering one Name Badge for you and one for your spouse, you will need to go back and change the name for the second name.
- 6) Then click on Update Cart

- 7) Verify your spelling and such and then click on Checkout and pay. Regular shipping is included but if you select another method of shipping that costs extra, we do not pay for this.

- 8) Once you receive your email invoice and proof of payment from MBCA, please forward this to Bob Richer bricher@capcorp.ca and Bob will mail you a reimbursement cheque, or pay you at the next gathering.

Then remember to bring and wear your Name Tag at each of our events. Many members seem to forget them and say “oh, I forgot my name tag at home!!!!” LOL

Bob





The new 2016 GLC at Star Motors.

The next generation of the SUV - now at Star Motors of Ottawa.

Stylish, taut exterior proportions. A wonderfully spacious cabin. Strong turbo power. It's an ideal blend of power, efficiency and style that's nimble in the city and fun in the countryside. Feel the next generation difference firsthand; test the new GLC at Star Motors of Ottawa today.

Mercedes-Benz

The best or nothing.



Star Motors of Ottawa

400 West Hunt Club Road . 613-737-STAR (7387) . starmotors.ca

Ottawa-Gatineau's Exclusive Mercedes-Benz Certified Collision Centre



Cars and Coffee – Amelia Island Concours

By Merv Daub & Elaine Forshaw

It has been our practise in the past few years to avoid the last ravages of winter by spending the month of March on St Simon's Island in Southern Georgia. Being just north of the Florida line, it's an easy drive down to Amelia Island and we've taken advantage of that on several occasions to attend the Concours d'Elegance that takes place there in mid March each year on the grounds of the golf course at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel.

This year, in hopes of avoiding the huge crowds on Sunday, the sizeable admission cost (especially given the depreciation in the Canadian dollar), and the \$10US hot dogs(!), we decided to attend the free admission Saturday morning session that the MBCA was holding on the same site called 'Cars and Coffee'.

There would be a juried selection of cars, plus Mercedes folks to talk to, so what was not to like? Off we went at a good hour on March 12th.

As we drew closer the traffic headed in that direction increased noticeably and people were parking at the side of

the road walking onwards. All this couldn't be just for Mercedes! And it wasn't. Every other marque was doing the same thing! So once again there were thousands of people around checking out classic BMWs, Jags, Allards, Caddys, Audis, you name it. And of course MBs which were on display in front of the large MBUSA pavilion.

within MBCA (they plan to meet at Starfest as well). The folks very graciously invited us to lunch but we soon tired what with the heat and the crowds (there are few places to sit if you go), and facing a mile walk back to the car. So we begged off until another year.

As an aside, walking to and from the site was itself a feast of different and exotic cars, all parked along the road! Any number of Vettes, old Thunderbirds, many SLs, A8Audis, the odd Lotus, and so on. Whoever thinks the car culture in America is dead hasn't been to Amelia Island on Concours weekend!

So that was Amelia Island for another year. If you decide to go, be advised it's a big deal. Hotel rooms are at a premium, parking an issue. Allow lots of time, bring sunscreen and a

camera, and above all be ready to enjoy all the cars wherever you might see them. Definitely worth it if it fits you your interests and schedule.

Merv Daub and Elaine Forshaw



Elaine Forshaw at Amelia Island

The weather was excellent, hot even, as we wondered around checking out the cars. We had a nice chat with Jim Roberts, Eastern Regional Director as well as some ladies from the newly formed Ladies of Mercedes group

Mercedes Trivia - Silver Arrows

While the name Silver Arrows was given to only Mercedes racecars of the 1930s, Mercedes racecars thereafter were often recognized for their brilliant silver paint. Legend has it that during the early days of Mercedes in motorsport, paint was removed from their participating cars in extreme attempts to trim down weight thus

revealing the cars' bright silver aluminum bodywork underneath. As a result, Silver Arrows was the name coined for what may be regarded as some of the most beautiful racecars ever built.

Article from Rennwelt.com





o u n g

STREET GARAGE LTD.

Service and Sales

613-234-2910

Complete car care for Mercedes-Benz, Volvo, BMW and Volkswagen

- New and used parts for your older and newer model Benz
- 1950's to current model year.

22 Young Street

Off Preston at the Queensway
info@youngstreetgarage.com
www.youngstreetgarage.com

- Personalized service
- Expert advice and service
- Serving the Ottawa area since 1976
- Up to date equipment and technician training

*Proud supporter of the Mercedes-Benz
Club of Ottawa since 1992*

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale: A rare and beautiful 1966 250S. Asking \$15,000. Excellent condition with 51,700 original miles. I bought the car from the original owner in 2009 and it had 51,000 miles at the time. 4-speed manual transmission with shift on the floor, dual carbs, Bosch head lamps, many manuals, grease guns. A rare and beautiful car.

Please call Bob Richer H: 613-738-4731 or bricher@capcorp.ca



Always wanted to drive a classic MB convertible? Here's your chance. This beautiful 1977 450SL is for sale. Lovingly restored and maintained. Recent work includes: new MB radiator, new soft top, new fenders and paint job. Rare Euro-style headlights. Car comes with removable hard top, MB mats and car cover. Asking \$8,500.

Contact Mike McKinnon (613-762-9655) or mdmckinnon@bell.net



Classified Rates:

Members—no charge for advertising cars or parts; \$20 to add a photograph.

Nonmembers—\$20 for up to 20 words, 10 cents for each additional word.

