

MBCA BC Stars

BC Benz Bulletin

A Crisp Autumn Breeze and Some Time to Reflect!



From Warm to Crisp . . . It Is Time for Some Fall Driving!

Welcome to the 2014 Fall Edition of the *BC Benz Bulletin*. Yes, it's that time of the year when we are either getting our cars ready for winter driving or getting them ready to put away for the winter (yours truly is the latter). Time to squeeze in one last cruise and one last car show. We have had a simply gorgeous fall in British Columbia's lower mainland this year. Still cruising well into October with the top down. This issue has a look back at



BC Benz Bulletin editor, Bruce Woloshyn stopping along the Sea-To-Sky Highway with his navigator, Joseph, during the 2014 Whistler Run.

some special club events from this fall and the events listing shows what we have to look forward to over the winter months ahead. Yes indeed, time for long pants and short days. Although, that's what heated garages are for I suppose. Enjoy this look back at our fall and look ahead to our club's Annual Winter Dinner on January 24th. A not-to-be-missed evening!

Getting The Hard-Top Out,
Bruce Woloshyn

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The BC Benz Bulletin is a quarterly publication of the BC Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

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President's Message

We have had a great response to our two major events of the year and sincere thanks go to Tony Milliken for the Shipbuilder's Square Show and (Not) Shine and to Manfred and Marie Stenzel for the Whistler Run. The detailed organization of these events was very evident and thanks also goes out to their supporting crews.

As the days get shorter and nights longer there are less opportunities to get our older cars out, but it is the ideal time to show out four-wheeled friends some tender loving care.



If they are being put away for the winter months an oil change is a must do as well as fuel stabilizer. The passenger leather seat on my 230SL will be fortified by gluing leather back-to-back to minimize tears. This practice has already worked for the driver's seat. I know new leather should be considered but frankly I like the patina of the creased original seats.

My 1990 300TE is being prepared for collector plates. The front bumper is already off to attend to the nicks from 25 years of cruising. ICBC tripped up Joseph Anthony's application for the same reason, so a little sanding and respray is in order. Also the original radio which fortunately came with the car needs to be re-installed, because that appears to be the first thing that ICBC checks.

A few years back after the 230SL was leaving oil deposits wherever she sat, I tried high-mileage oil because of its rubber seal softening properties and now the old girl is leak free. The 300TE is displaying the same bad habit so will soon be given a new oil diet.

Gary Pullyblank is currently planning our annual January dinner. It is always a fabulous evening and I hope to see many of you there.

Happy Benzing,

Louis F. Fourie





BC Stars 2014 Whistler Run

By Bruce Woloshyn



For the second year in a row, the MBCA BC Section's revival of the annual Whistler Run was met with a wonderful turnout and simply amazing weather. Club members from British Columbia and Washington State descended on Vancouver to celebrate the marque and take the scenic drive up the stunning Sea-To-Sky Highway. A combined fleet of 16 Mercedes-Benz automobiles, with models ranging from the classics of the 1950's

and 60's, to the latest SLS Gullwing, participated in the 2014 event. MBCA Seattle Section member guests included Jerry and Tracey Cole, Roger and Diane Petersen, as well as Kenneth and Susan Atwell.

The weekend got underway on Friday evening with BC Section president, Louie Fourie and his wife Gail, hosting a cocktail party at their home in West Vancouver. It was a wonderful evening event and an opportunity for participants to get together and socialize before hitting the road the next day.



Whistler Run attendees can have their cake and it too.



BC Stars vice-president, Sean Clark, and Whistler Run organizer, Manfred Stenzel.



Louis and Gail hosted a wonderful pre-Run party in advance of the trip.



Whistler Run Fun Facts

Whistler is located at 50° 9'N, 122° 57' W - Whistler Village's elevation is 675 metres, or 2,214 feet. - Driving distance from North Vancouver to Whistler is approximately 120 km, or 75 miles. - The Resort Municipality of Whistler was incorporated on September 6th, 1975. - Whistler was the first designated Resort Municipality in the province of British Columbia. - Whistler receives approximately 2.3 million overnight and non-overnight visitors each year (approximately 44% in winter and 56% in summer).





2014 Whistler Run (continued)

On Saturday morning, participants and vehicles gathered in the morning sun at the parking lot across from the North Vancouver Mercedes-Benz dealership to receive their route books and event guides, convoy instructions and for the final arriving vehicles, to have their 2014 Whistler Run rally plates installed.



The early morning staging in North Vancouver for coffee and snacks before beginning the Run.



The gorgeous fall weather had many tops coming down for the drive up the Sea-To-Sky.



This year's run was marked with special BC Stars rally plates to commemorate the event.



Lead car navigator, David Woloshyn, receives his final radio communications instructions from BC Stars vice-president, Sean Clark, before preparing to get underway.

The BC Stars membership was out in force as the various participants from across the Pacific Northwest arrived in North Vancouver to prepare for the Run. Event organizers, Manfred and Marie Stenzel, as well as the BC Stars executive were on hand to make sure that all of the participants were briefed on the trip and were clear on what to expect for the day's adventure.

With Mercedes-Benz on one side and Tim Horton's on the other, everyone had time to get their morning coffee or wander over to the dealership to visit the parts department. And, although the line-up of Mercedes-Benz vehicles on the dealership lot was impressive, the line-up of MBCA member vehicles in the parking lot across the street was certainly nothing to sneeze at. From the suicide doors of Don Rutherford's 1953 MB 220, to the gull-wing doors of Ron Price's 2011 SLS, the marque was very well represented.

And the weather . . . simply outstanding. Marie had told me that while Manfred was setting the event accommodations at the *Pinnacle Whistler*, she had been put in charge of arranging the weather. Well, Marie . . . you simply could not have done any better than what we experienced for the entire weekend. We may have had to put the tops up for the Show & Shine, but every SL was going topless on this year's Whistler Run. ☺



2014 Whistler Run (continued)

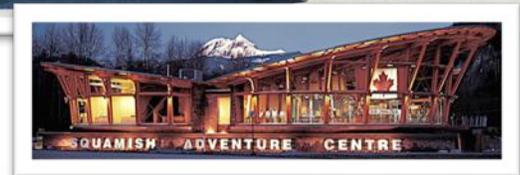


With such amazing weather, David and Susan Stefishen are happy to cruise along with the top down in their R107 convertible.



This year's line of Mercedes-Benz roadsters included Ahmad Gandomi's beautiful 190 SL. Ahmad's grandson, Darius, rode along as navigator.

The convoy of Mercedes departed shortly after 9:45 AM along Marine Drive and took the scenic route through beautiful West Vancouver, before turning onto Horseshoe Bay Drive and merging onto BC Provincial Highway 99. Once on the Sea-To-Sky Highway 99, the convoy travelled as far as the Squamish Adventure Centre, where all of the vehicles paused to visit the Centre and take advantage of



its visitor resource information desk and coffee shop. It also provided an opportunity for some of the late starters to refuel.



2014 Whistler Run (continued)



Shortly after 11:30 AM, the convoy departed Squamish and continued up the scenic Sea-To-Sky, bound for Whistler. From the luxurious C-Class sedans, to the various incarnations of sporty SL convertibles, it was simply a spectacular drive along the famous highway to BC's premier resort. Upon arriving at Whistler Village, all of the participants were directed to reserved parking at Whistler's Base 1. Once all of the vehicles were properly staged, BC Section event organizers Manfred and Marie Stenzel hosted all of the participants to a wonderful picnic lunch at the Base 1 location. Throughout the afternoon, the participants had the opportunity to socialize and take in the various venues of Whistler Village, while the Whistler Run vehicles were on display to the public. It was a wonderful afternoon to "play cars" in Whistler.



Saturday, September 20th was a perfect afternoon to spend relaxing with friends and surrounded by the finest automobiles.



A panoramic view of the MBCA 2014 Whistler Run Mercedes-Benz fleet.



2014 Whistler Run (continued)



At 4:00 PM, the Whistler Run Show & Shine concluded and those staying the night in Whistler, departed the Base 1 site for the Pinnacle Whistler (<http://www.whistlerpinnacle.com/>) to check in for the evening. Once checked in and settled, the

event guests and organizers attended the annual event dinner, this year held at the Caramba Restaurant (<http://www.caramba-restaurant.com/>) in Whistler Village, only a short walk from the Pinnacle Whistler.

It was a wonderful evening, hosted by Whistler Run event organizers, Manfred and Marie Stenzel, and BC Section president, Louie Fourie, with a variety of special participant prizes provided by Nestor Balcé and the Mercedes-Benz Vancouver Area Retail Group. After the conclusion of the event dinner, participants then broke up into various groups and took in the many venues in the Village.



2014 Whistler Run organizers, Manfred and Marie Stenzel, and MBCA BC Stars president, Louis Fourie, at the Caramba Restaurant in Whistler Village.





2014 Whistler Run Gallery

... some days are just better than others ...





2014 Whistler Run: From A Younger Perspective

By David Woloshyn



The trip to Whistler was a fun getaway and a great weekend. From the Tim Horton's I had in the morning, to the hot tub at night, it was a relaxing time and both my brother and I had a lot of fun. I'd like to thank the organizers and all of the club members that allowed me to travel with them while my Dad and brother drove up on our roadster. I know that I was certainly very lucky to be able to ride in so many nice cars during the event and it was a very interesting experience to ride in so many

completely different kinds of Mercedes. The entire weekend was a lot of fun and I hope we get to do it again next year.

Once again, thank you to everyone who made it happen, who drove me on the trip and who arranged such a great lunch and dinner while we were in Whistler. I really look forward to doing this trip again.



David's Sweet Rides for the Sea-To-Sky



David begins his Saturday with class in a 1953 MB 220 sedan.



David enjoys the amazing weather with the top down in a 1966 230 SL.



David enjoys the performance of the 16-valve 1987 190E.

EDITOR'S NOTE: From day one, I have been impressed with how incredibly welcoming the members of the BC Stars have been towards myself and my sons. This year's Whistler Run has been a prime example of that welcoming and generosity. I would like to extend my personal thanks to Don & Marion Rutherford, Louis Fourie, Yen-Hsen Liem and Gary & Linda Pullblank for chauffeuring my son, David, to and from Whistler while his brother, Joseph, and I drove Joe's SL roadster. You are all wonderful friends and I very much appreciate your kindness in ensuring David could participate in this year's Whistler Run. I would also like to extend my thanks to Marie Stenzel, Sean Clark and the other club members for taking the extra time during the trip to make both my boys feel included and a true part of the group. Memories like this are special and all of you have been so very kind in making this trip just that . . . *special*.



Listing of Mercedes-Benz and Other Car Events in the Pacific Northwest

- December 12th, 2014 **MBCA Vancouver Island Section - Annual Party**
The Vancouver Island Section's annual windup party, with conversation, drinks, awards, draw/ door prizes, slide show, the Union Club's dinner buffet, and dancing.
For more information, contact: Bob Wilson <http://www.mbca.org/contact/contact?nid=7105016>

- December 13th, 2014 **MBCA Seattle Section - Candy Cane Caravan**
Join the Seattle Club on Saturday, December 13th for the third annual Candy Cane Caravan adventure. The event will start at Larson Mercedes-Benz in Fife (1701 Alexander Ave. East in Fife) at 10:00 AM where we will pass out treat bags and directions.
For more information: <http://www.mbca.org/event-notice/2014-12-13/candy-cane-caravan>

- December 21st, 2014 **MBCA Portland Section - Peacock Lane Walk**
Members are invited to the December event to take the walking tour of one of the season's best Holiday Light Displays. Tour begins at 6:30 PM at Peacock Lane
For more information, contact: Rus Eppler, President of the MBCA Portland Section
<http://portland.mbca.org/>

- January 17th, 2015 **MBCA Seattle Section - Convertibles Only Tech Session**
Les Hurlbert and his staff of Convertibles Only have invited the Seattle Section down to his new location in SODO area of Seattle for an informative tech session on soft-tops, interiors and hydraulic tops issues and maintenance.
For more information, contact: Bob Willits <http://www.mbca.org/contact/contact?nid=7117142>

- January 24th, 2015 **MBCA BC Stars Annual Winter Dinner**
The final details are currently in the works for this popular not-to-be-missed event, being held this year at *Seasons In The Park* (<https://www.vancouverdine.com/seasons-park>). If ever there was a club dinner to attend to beat the winter blues, this is it! Set aside the date for this evening of great fun. Be sure to check out the club website for upcoming details: <http://bcstars.mbca.org/>

Listing of Alberta Car Events

Every Saturday Morning Breakfast Gathering of Gearheads at Ambers Restaurant in the Ambassador Hotel
802 16th Avenue NE, Calgary Alberta

Listing of MBCA Events

For more upcoming MBCA Events wherever your travels take you, please check out the MBCA website:



<http://www.mbca.org/upcoming-events>





Featured BC Stars Member: Gary Hawthorn

By Sean Clark



Earlier this year, our local Section had cause to give dubious honour to Joseph Anthony with the "*Failure to Proceed*" Special Award. When we needed a discarded non-functioning Mercedes-Benz fuel pump, Louis Fourie knew just where to turn.

Gary Hawthorn has been a long time MBCA BC Stars member, and a notorious DYI'er.

I took a little trip out to see Gary at his home. Sure enough, Gary had just what I needed, "yup, kaput - changed it out myself." Gary has been like a terrier with a bone, getting to the solution for troubles with his project cars.

The last we saw of him at a meeting, Gary was working his way through a problem with a replacement camshaft that was doing its best to defy him. This time, Gary had a new project R107, a 6 cylinder, with Euro bumpers, and a beautiful blue paint job - very pretty.

My visit to his home, revealed once again, how much enjoyment Gary gets from working on his car projects. Gary was just in the act of leaving, when I got there. Off to a show, Gary was taking his 1937 Packard Roadster with a rumble seat, in a lovely medium green colour. Gary purchased this car, in rough shape, over 20 years ago. Using his ingenuity, and with much hard work, Gary has brought this magnificent and elegant car too, back to its former glory.

I'm looking forward to seeing Gary's "newest" SL when hopefully; he brings it to one of our shows. ☺



Gary's newest project, a 6-cylinder R107 roadster.



Gary's gorgeous 1937 Packard.



Mercedes-Benz Driving Academy

This last spring, the Mercedes-Benz Driving Academy for New Drivers completed its first year of operation. Since its official launch in the Greater Vancouver Area in 2013, more than 730 new drivers have taken in over 6,100 hours of intensive coaching.



Since its inception, the Mercedes-Benz Driving Academy for New Drivers has delivered a very comprehensive curriculum which exceeds British Columbia's provincial requirements and also incorporates proprietary best practices established by other Mercedes-Benz driving schools around the world. Very competitively priced at \$1,290, the Graduated Licensing course (GLP) provides students with access to a diverse fleet of Mercedes-Benz cars that includes B-Class sports tourers, C-Class sedans, a CLA 250 4MATIC and an SLK roadster equipped with a manual transmission (GLP is \$1,390). There are many different driving package configurations available to various levels of proficiency, some starting as low as \$99.

The program, which combines classroom, in-car, and online education sessions, pushes well beyond learning the basic traffic regulations and fundamental driving techniques necessary for novice drivers to obtain their license. The Mercedes-Benz Driving Academy for New Drivers' main objective is to coach and empower students by providing them with a set of skills that will allow them to properly and safely address the many demanding and delicate situations that they will face behind the wheel once they become autonomous drivers.

"We are very proud of the impressive success that the Mercedes-Benz Driving Academy for New Drivers has experienced in a one-year period. The Driving Unlimited team has worked very hard to launch this revolutionary approach to driver education and training in Vancouver and the enrollment results are extremely encouraging so far," said Tim A. Reuss, President and CEO of Mercedes-Benz Canada. *"Mercedes-Benz is known for its many sophisticated safety and advanced driver assistance systems but we are thrilled to pioneer this type of driver education and training. It is rewarding and comforting to know that the new drivers who have taken any of our programs are definitely better and safer drivers."*

To enroll, please contact:
Mercedes-Benz Driving Academy for
New Drivers customer service centre at
(604) 460-5004
or on-line at
info@mbdrivingacademy.ca.





Fall Car Show Fun - Ocean Park Ford Hot Rod Show

By Joseph Woloshyn (as told to Dad)

There may not have been any Mercedes-Benz cars, but there sure were some pretty cool hot rods. On September 17th, Ron Ford at Ocean Park Ford hosted his 25th Annual Hot Rod Show and Shine.

Dad and I had a great time (although we were the only Mercedes that I could see) attending the Saturday event and checking out all of the cool rides. This year's show featured Woodies (the cars, not the cowboy) and there were some really nice ones to see.



Author, Joseph Woloshyn, gives the thumbs-up to yet another successful Ocean Park Hot Rod Show. Although, he wonders why he was the only one that brought his SL.



One of the pretty machines that caught Joe's eye at the show was this Shay Motors reproduction of a 1930 Ford Model A roadster owned by Raymond Bozzer.



Definition: A **Woody** is a car body style with rear bodywork constructed of wood framework with infill wood panels. Originally, wood framework augmented the car's structure, where later models featured applied wood and wood-like elements.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Mercedes-Benz has only ever used wood as an interior finish, never a body panel. ©



Mercedes-Benz Boundary Road Opening

By Sean Clark



MBCA BC Stars vice-president, Sean Clark, and his lovely wife, Saras, attend the VIP grand opening of the lower mainland's newest Mercedes-Benz dealership.

The days are getting shorter, and the nights colder. Many of us are putting our Mercedes away for the winter, waiting for next year's first event, to once again enjoy opening up the top for a nice drive in the sun.

As late in the year it was, we had one last chance to enjoy our Mercedes. This time, comfortably catered to - indoors!

We were very fortunate that Nestor Balcé, Vancouver Retail Marketing Manager, invited us to an exclusive VIP Grand Opening of their new Vancouver "Boundary Road" dealership at 3550 Lougheed Highway.

The building itself has a three story glass facade, and illuminated, it looked wonderfully impressive as my wife and I rolled up to the entry that evening. My 23 year-old E Klasse was whisked away by the army of valets and we entered in style.

This new flagship store is undeniably, impressive. It is the largest Mercedes Sales and Service facility under one roof in Canada. All four Daimler marques are now in one place, from AMG and Mercedes, to the Smart cars and the Sprinter. There is a spectacular view window looking into the space-age 32 bay Service Centre. However, customers can also track the progress of their car through "Venue Vision", from the comfort of the lounge.





Boundary Road Opening (continued)

Mercedes-Benz Canada President, Tim A. Reuss, and his senior management team were there personally to officiate at the Grande Opening. It was quite an affair, with about a thousand invited guests, but *our* President, with the help of Paul Browne, was able to 'manage' an opportunity to introduce himself and our BC Section, to Mr. Reuss. As a true Automotive Historian, Louis also impressed him with some little known history, of the vintage 300SL on display.



As honoured guests, and feeling not a little spoiled, we were treated to some fabulous hors d'oeuvres, wines, and as fitting for the occasion, Champagne, as well as some live jazz. It was nice to see everyone dressed for the occasion, but the real stars, were the cars.





Boundary Road Opening (continued)



From left to right: MBCA members, Don Rutherford, Gary Pullyblank, David Godwin, Tony Millikin, Mercedes-Benz Vancouver Area Retail Group Marketing Manager, Nestor S. Balc  and MBCA members, Victor Chan and Paul Browne.

This was also the local launch for the new 2015 C-Klasse, the GLA45 AMG crossover, and the beautiful new S-Klasse Coupe. I think we all had to sit in at least one. We had a hard time getting Tony Millikin out of the C-Klasse.



Tony looks good in the new C-Klasse sedan at the new Mercedes-Benz Boundary Road VIP Grand Opening.

The most impressive car in the room, however, was the stunning 300SL Roadster on display alongside a modern interpretation, the SLS. Both were owned by the same person. The 300SL was fresh from a complete restoration. According to Louis Fourie, this car was likely the last car to be completed at the factory. Now, better than new, it can be yours for the asking price of \$3,000,000.00 (custom luggage included).





Boundary Road Opening (continued)



All in all, a very impressive new venue, befitting the exciting and elegant new Mercedes-Benz products. There was certainly a lot to see. Paul Browne in particular, had a hard time leaving, after making several attempts to get past the cars and the wonderful Cappuccino Bar.

Certainly, we look forward to another opportunity to go back for a tour and a good look around. I know Tony is dying to test drive that C-Klasse.

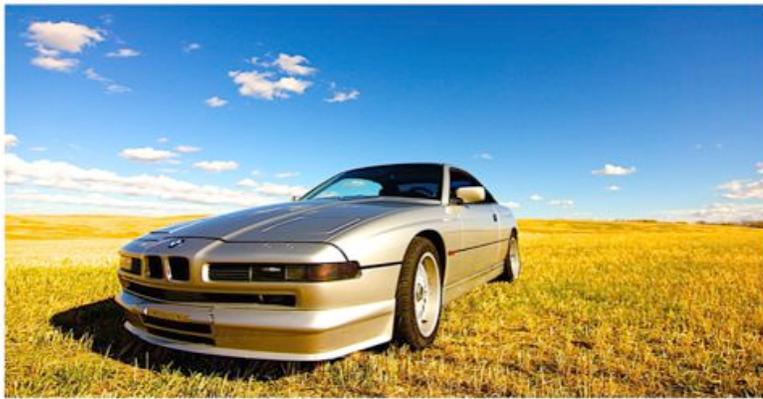
Many thanks to Nestor Balcé for inviting us, and to the rest of our Mercedes-Benz hosts, for a great evening.





German Fall In Alberta

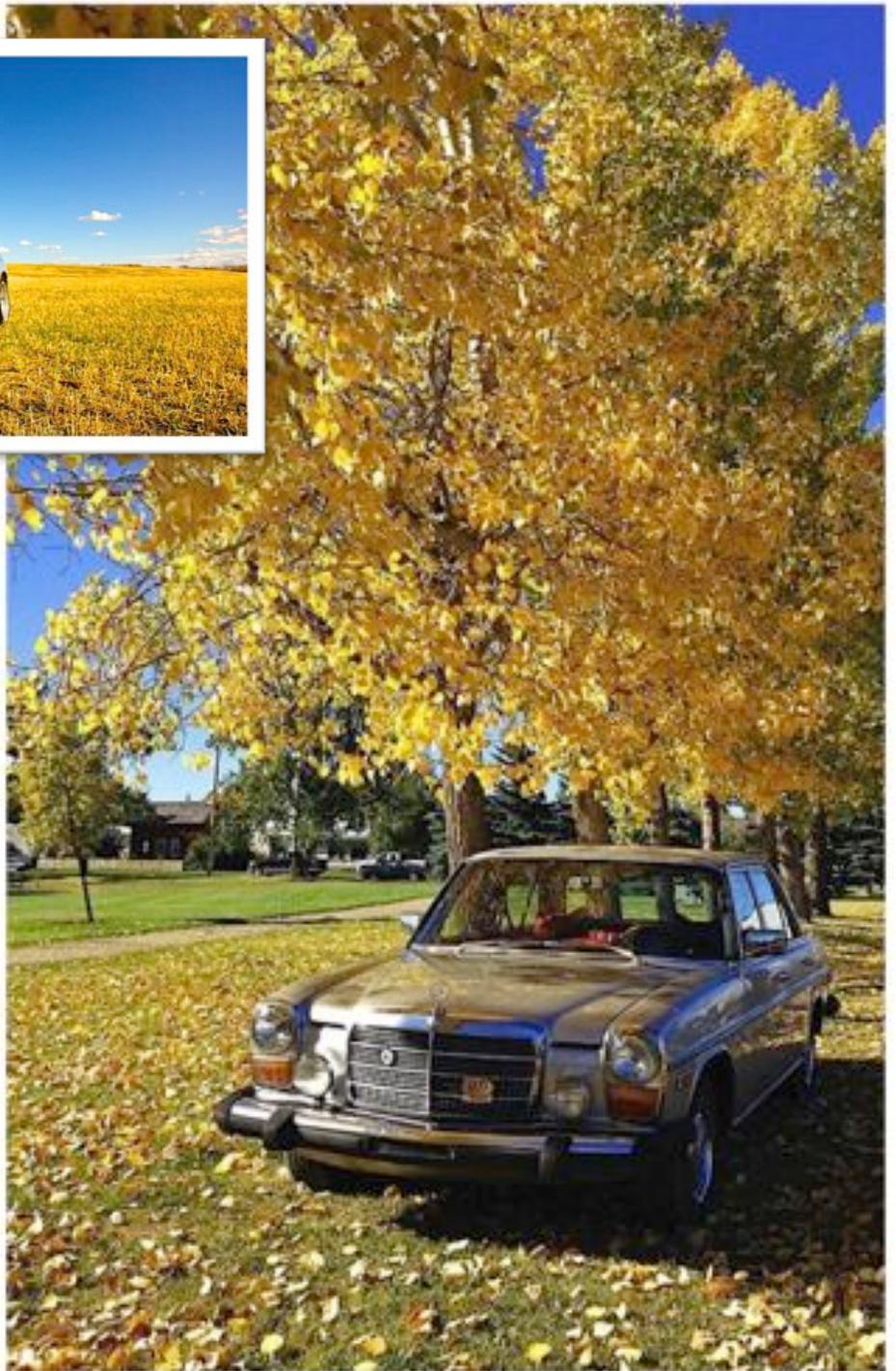
Photographs by Kevin Hansen and Lloyd Lewis



With the harvest fall colors of Alberta as his backdrop, Mercedes-Benz enthusiast, Kevin Hansen, captures the feeling of fall with his Mercedes W115 in wild rose country.



And in the big sky country north of Edmonton, Lloyd Lewis photographed a harvest fall with his 1990 BMW 8 Series.





We Want to Hear from You

If you have a story or photographs that you would like to share with fellow Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts, then we want to hear from you.

If you have a story about:

- How you first became interested in Mercedes.
- The purchase or restoration of your Mercedes.
- A special trip or adventure you had while driving yours or someone else's Mercedes.
- A drive or route (either in the Pacific Northwest or elsewhere) that you would like to share with others who love to drive.
- A particularly good (or bad) experience you had while looking for parts or having work performed on your Mercedes.

Or, if you just want to share some photos of your Mercedes with fellow enthusiasts of the brand, we are certainly interested in hearing your story and sharing it through the MBCA BC Stars BC Benz Bulletin.

To contact me about sharing your story, or to submit ideas for the next edition of the BC Benz Bulletin, please email me at brucewoloshyn@telus.net

Looking Forward To Hearing From You,
Bruce Woloshyn



BC Stars Monthly Meetings

Held each month, the BC Stars meetings are a great time to catch up with fellow Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts and talk about everything MB.

The monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at the White Spot Restaurant (<https://www.whitespot.ca/>) in Vancouver at 1616 West Georgia Street (Georgia at Cardero).

All Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts are welcome to attend, even if you are not a current MBCA member.

Whether you drive a new Mercedes-Benz as your daily driver, or you have an older collector's model that only comes out for fun during these summer months, you are more than welcome to attend the monthly meetings and talk MB.

For more information, please contact either Louis Fourie (L4ie@telus.net) or Sean Clark (elsidca@yahoo.com) for further details.

www.mbcavancouver.org





BC Stars Trading Post



1983 Mercedes-Benz 380 SEC for Sale

- 175,000 km
- Collector Plates
- Drives nicely

\$3,000.00 or best offer. No trades.

Contact Brian at (604) 812-3677 - Port Coquitlam, British Columbia

Tires and Rims for Sale

- 2-13" Michelin Radials - BR 13 tubeless - Asking \$75.00 for the pair.
- 2- 15" 78 Defiance Steel Belted Radials P205/75 R 15 mounted on SL 300 rims with chrome rings and tabs for small hubcaps.
Asking \$150 for the pair.

Contact Ron at pricerd@shaw.ca

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BC Stars Trading Post



Multiple Items for Sale

- AMG Penta style rims by Maristar (w/ mounted old Bridgestone snows) 8J x 16CH, 5 bolt 112, Offset: ET11. Will fit a wide range of Mercedes models. Some minor curb rash on all 4 - centre caps & bolts included \$1,200.00
- Blaupunkt FM cassette stereo, Mannheim 24 - \$50.00
- Mercedes antifreeze - \$10.00
- Bilstein power steering fluid - \$10.00
- Set of slightly used Australian sheepskin seat covers, w/ headrests & centre armrest - \$350.00

Contact Paul at (604) 438-8568 or email b_bright@telus.net

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BC Stars Executive

President & Treasurer

Louis F. Fourie
L4ie@telus.net
(604) 922-0421

Vice-President & Membership

Sean Clark
elsidca@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Bruce Woloshyn
brucewoloshyn@telus.net

Webmaster

Mark Block
mark@bbbearing.com

Events Coordinator

Tony Millikin
tony.millikin@sjrb.ca

Alaskan Officer

John Fouse
sbjfouse@gci.net

Past President

Charles Godwin



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Mercedes-Benz Richmond
5491 Parkwood Way, Richmond

Mercedes-Benz Surrey
15006-104 Avenue, Surrey