

MBCA BC Stars

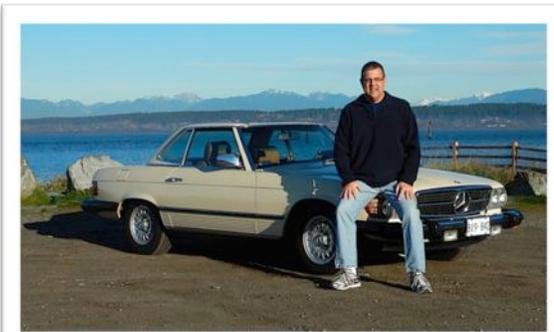
BC Benz Bulletin

Autumn Brings the Cool Back to BC Motoring



A Change of Seasons and A Look Back on the Autumn of 2015

Welcome to the 2015 Fall Edition of the *BC Benz Bulletin*. I am always amazed how fast summer ends on the west coast. One day it is top down and t-shirts, the next day is hardtops and jackets. This issue is another jam packed one. We have some great stories showcasing how busy so many of our members have been this fall. The amazing, although wet, Whistler Run was another wonderful success and we have a great look at this year's trip organized by Manfred and Marie Stenzel. BC Stars member, Gary Hawthorn, gives us a look at his latest project car. Our own Section President, Sean Clark, takes to the track with the Seattle Section to hone his driving skills. Don Rutherford decides to try show business with his 1953 220 sedan, while we also look at a magical means to get both new and classic Mercedes to the big screen and I say goodbye to a friend that defined "car guy" to a generation. Enjoy this look at the fall of 2015.



BC Benz Bulletin editor, Bruce Woloshyn out for a crisp Autumn cruise with his 380SL, but now with the hardtop on.

Needing A Jacket,
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.

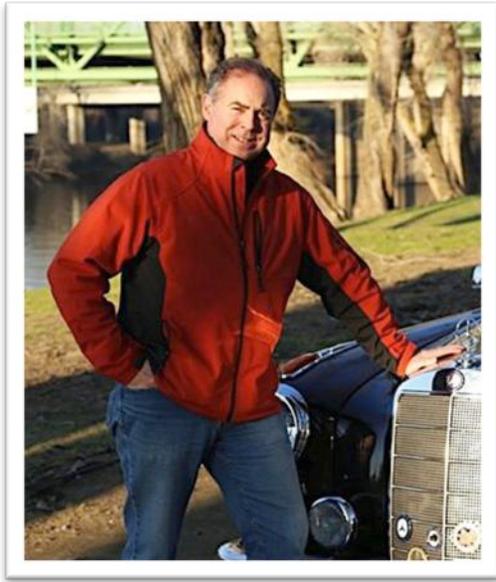
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Fall President's Message



Dear Members and Enthusiasts,

The Whistler Run is over for another year and so marks the end of our season of carefree driving.

The weather deteriorated a bit earlier than we would have liked this year. Nevertheless, our Whistler finale was a great success. The food and the good spirits were in abundance. I was pleased to hear the exceptional enthusiasm from one of our long-term veterans. My thanks to Marie and Manfred Stenzel, for their hard work and extra effort to put on a top-notch event this year.

Some of you may have already seen the short Whistler Run [Event Report](#) I posted on the MBCA.org website. I like to do that for all our events. Our Section members can look back at themselves enjoying an event, and share it with others.

The latest STAR Magazine yet again printed short accounts of our Section events, directly from our uploads. As Bruce Woloshyn reports elsewhere in this newsletter, we even enjoyed a bit of notoriety in another publication. If you enjoy our events, I encourage you to take pictures and write an Event Report. Show off your car, let everyone share your experiences. Of course, some of our people don't really need encouragement. Again, our own Hedda Hopper, Bruce, will tell you in this issue, of those amongst us, who are quietly and modestly, about to achieve STAR-dom . . .

This rather neatly brings me to our next subject, the Sunday Drive events. After the popular approval of the last Sunday Drive, the mini-wine tour, we have been looking for ideas for outings. Our very media-savvy Matt Peck, has generously stepped up and offered to organize a short drive and photo-shoot, followed by lunch. For those who signed up, it's a great way to spend a morning with friends, and get professional quality photos of your own car. Great for a keepsake, or to share online!

I hope we can do more of this sort of thing. Casual weekend or evening get-togethers to drive to local attractions or events, are a great way to enjoy our cars with others. We are looking for people with ideas - everyone likes to drive their Mercedes!

That of course reminds me, driving . . . don't we all want to enjoy it more, to be one, man or woman and machine? The MBCA Education Foundation has just launched their Safe Drivers, Safe Families, Drivers Skills Training Course.



As a Car Club, the MBCA sees this as a true value they can offer their members.

Our Regional Director, Barry Patchett, is currently working with the Section Presidents to offer this course affordably in the near future.

There is much interest within our group for more driving, and motorsport oriented activities. There are several organizations that offer driver instruction and race days open to the public. I propose that next year, we may wish to share a drive and spend a "Day at the Races" at Mission Raceway.

We've had a wonderful year, beyond expectations. Thanks to our hard-working Event Organizers who surpassed themselves and our members who eagerly stepped up to make these events so exceptional.

Of special note, Tony Millikin really 'kicked it' this year, with a star-studded cast of Sponsors and Guest Speakers at our annual Show & Shine! Well done to Tony and his amazing team!

Our very generous support from Nestor Balcé and the Mercedes-Benz Vancouver Area Retail Group has been nothing short of phenomenal. Our thanks go out to Nestor and his group.

The teamwork of our Officers, Section members, and Sponsors, has allowed us to put our best foot forward - and people are noticing!

You should be rightly proud of yourselves.

I have been very honoured to serve as your President this year and I am so grateful for your guidance, initiative, and tireless dedication, throughout the season.

I hope you will join me in January for our Annual Club Awards Dinner, so I can thank you personally.

I wish you a Merry Christmas, and happy and safe motoring over the holidays,

Happy Motoring!

Sean Clark

President
BC Stars
MBCA British Columbia Section





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

- December 1st, 2015 BCHRA & VETA Christmas Auction Night - 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM
West Langley Hall - 9400 208th Street, Langley, British Columbia
For more information:
<http://bchra.ca/event/april-2014-bchra-general-meeting-2015-12-01/>
- December 6th, 2015 MBCA BC Stars Sunday Drive: "Sunday-Funday" - 8:00 AM
Vancouver, British Columbia
For more information: peck.matthew@gmail.com
- December 6th, 2015 Northwest Toy Run 2015 - 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM
Pacific Raceways - 31001 144th Street SE, Kent, Washington
Cost: One new unwrapped toy per person OR a \$5 donation.
For more information: <https://www.facebook.com/events/461926977333323/>
- December 12th, 2015 MBCA Vancouver Island Section Event: Christmas Lunch - 1:45 PM
4512 West Saanich Road, Saanich, British Columbia
For more Information: Contact Hazel Ostrowerka at
<http://www.mbca.org/contact/contact?nid=7156642>
- December 26th, 2015 Vancouver Vintage Car Club Boxing Day Run
Vancouver, British Columbia
For more information: <http://vancouver.vccc.com/>
- January 22nd, 2016 Winter Rod and Speed Show
9:00 AM to 6:00 PM (Awards begin at 6:00 PM)
Linn County Fair and Expo - Albany, Oregon
For more information:
<http://www.northwestclassicautomall.com/CruiseNews.html?step=3&id=5046&returnstep=1>

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>



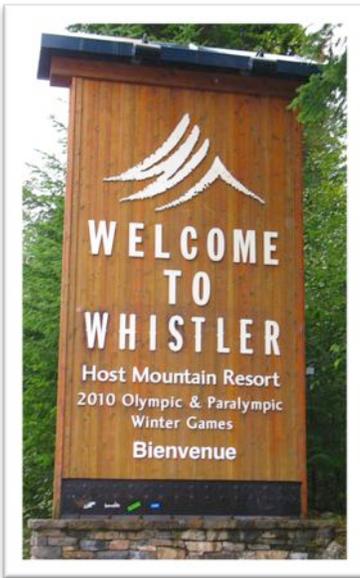


2015 Whistler Run



Regardless of the Weather: We Run!

By Sean Clark and Bruce Woloshyn



A year of extensive planning by event organizers, Manfred and Marie Stenzel, culminated in a simply wonderful, albeit damp, time for MBCA members from British Columbia and Washington State for the 2015 MBCA BC Stars Whistler Run.

The rain and heavy clouds certainly conspired to upset Manfred and Marie's plans for everyone, but in the end, we had a more intimate event overall and certainly had a wonderful time. This year's Whistler Run had a total of 16 cars participating. With three cars from the Seattle Section, and one car from Vancouver Island . . . it was a true Regional Event. The Pinnacle Hotel in North Vancouver, right next to

Lonsdale Quay, was an excellent location, with great views and amenities. Our out of town guests met us on Friday evening in the MBCA Hospitality Suite, to have a glass of wine and say hello. Some of us then went down to the food trucks on the pier, which served up unique and varied dishes from around the world.



Above: MBCA Members from the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island and Washington State enjoy the amazing assortment of cuisine on Friday evening (left.) The delicious Whistler Run cake (centre). BC Stars President, Sean Clark, prepares to serve event participants in the MBCA Hospitality Suite (right).



2015 Whistler Run

(continued)



Not a single car with the top down as Saturday morning's staging gets underway to head up the Sea-To-Sky Highway.

On Saturday morning, we met at the North Vancouver Mercedes-Benz dealership to look at the new cars on display and visit the Gift Shop. A few of us bought MB umbrellas to help protect us from the liquid sunshine. As people arrived, many of us bought coffees and hot chocolates from Tim Horton's, to go with our Whistler Run rally plaques and Mercedes-Benz water bottles, courtesy of Nestor Balcé and the Mercedes-Benz Vancouver Area Retail Group.



With so much liquid sunshine to start the day, most of the participants opted to use their 2015 rally plaques as dash cards (above). Sean Clark giving his opening remarks before the run (right).



Armed with our trusty Whistler Run Guide Books, expertly created by Joseph Anthony, we set off through West Vancouver, with Manfred and Marie leading the way in their 300CE. The leisurely drive took us through residential West Vancouver (<http://westvancouver.ca/>), past Fisherman's Cove and then on to the spectacular Sea-To-Sky Highway. As we began our trip north along Highway 99, we drove past the Horseshoe Bay Ferry Terminal (<http://www.bcferries.com/>) on our left. Normally, an impressive sight. But the amount of moisture in the air kept it mostly hidden in the mist. Next stop . . . Squamish.



2015 Whistler Run

(continued)



Even in the rain, it handles like a dream. ☺ Joseph Woloshyn (and his Dad) cruise the Sea-To-Sky.



The "fleet" arrives at the Squamish Adventure Centre to stretch their legs and "coffee up" before resuming the trip and heading on to Whistler (above). Marie found some "rain art" at the Adventure Centre (bottom left).



A regular stop on the Whistler Run, The Squamish Adventure Centre (<http://www.adventurecentre.ca/>) is located in the heart of Sea-To-Sky country and is a signature landmark building at the entrance to Squamish. A convenient 40 minutes from downtown Vancouver and 30 minutes from Whistler, it has proven to be the ideal pit stop for the Whistler Run event. With breathtaking views of the Stawamus Chief, the facility had ample space for all of the participants to line-up the wide variety of Mercedes-Benz automobiles and socialize (some outdoors and some indoors) midway through the drive.

Given this year's inclement weather, many of the participants had the opportunity to give their newly purchased Mercedes-Benz umbrellas a thorough workout. Much like their fine automobiles, the newly christened umbrellas performed flawlessly. We then departed Squamish for Whistler. Through the rain and mist, we still managed a few glimpses of some pretty incredible scenery. Our spirits were not dampened.





2015 Whistler Run

(continued)



When we arrived in Whistler, it didn't take very long to stage the cars for display in the Village and, even with the weather, it was so pleasant to spend time together and "play cars". As the afternoon wore on, the weather did improve ever so slightly and we did, indeed, have some Village pedestrian traffic come to see the various participant vehicles on display. Several owners took the time to answer questions from passers by and talk with those that were curious. All participants were great ambassadors for the marque.





2015 Whistler Run (continued)



The Woloshyn boys installed the hardtop on their 380SL for this year's event and followed Frank Edwards up the Sea-To-Sky in his E320 (left). Roger and Dianne Peterson came all the way from Seattle in their SL550 (below).



Marinus van Prattenburg's SLK 350 (left).

We had no sooner staged all of the cars for display, when "Team Stenzel" magically produced a delicious picnic lunch for everyone. Even with the drizzle, we had a pleasant picnic. Some of the more optimistic of us (you know who) were unprepared for the weather, with open-toed shoes and improper raingear. That said, those amazing Mercedes-Benz umbrellas were the gift that just kept on giving. ☺





WHISTLER

2015 Whistler Run

(continued)



WHISTLER

Following our picnic lunch and some time to display the participant's vehicles, MBCA BC Stars President, Sean Clark, and 2015 Whistler Run organizer, Manfred Stenzel, handed out prizes in various categories. We did our best to make it worthwhile for Dianne Peterson's cold tootsies, by awarding her and Roger "Best in Show" for their bright red SL550. Joan Glass was the happy winner of an MB umbrella . . . a good thing for her, as although we thought the rain was giving us a break . . . it wouldn't last.



Roger and Dianne Peterson are presented with "Best In Show" at the afternoon prize session in the Village (above). Sean and Manfred present Sheila with a much-needed Mercedes-Benz umbrella (right).



Ahmad Gandomi and his grandson, Dariyus, and granddaughter, Dariyah, pose with Sean Clark (above).

The Woloshyn boys were not the only father-and-son team heading up the Sea-To-Sky Highway this year. Matthew Peck and his pup, Smudge, were joined for this year's Whistler Run by Matt's father, Joe, who travelled all of the way from Las Vegas, Nevada to ride with his son (right).





WHISTLER

2015 Whistler Run

(continued)



WHISTLER

The social highlight of Saturday was the annual BC Stars Whistler Run Dinner at the Caramba Restaurant in the heart of Whistler Village. Attended by over 30 members and guests, Manfred, owner Jay Pare and executive chef of Caramba, James Pare, created an amazing menu especially for the club event. Each and every course was marvelous and there was course, after course, after course . . . so delicious!



MBCA members from both Canada and the United States enjoy the wonderful event dinner at Caramba Restaurant, hosted by Manfred and Marie Stenzel and BC Stars President, Sean Clark.



Sean Clark making a presentation of thanks to 2015 Whistler Run event organizers, Marie and Manfred Stenzel, at the annual Whistler Run Dinner held at Caramba Restaurant on September 19th (left). Although it takes a great many people to make this annual regional event possible, Manfred and Marie lead the charge in the organization of this amazing multi-day event. The BC Stars and event participants are all very grateful for their dedication and effort in helming this wonderful experience.



WHISTLER



Caramba!
RESTAURANTE

<http://www.carambarestaurant.ca/>



2015 Whistler Run

(continued)



As a lucky door prize winner, MBCA Seattle Section member, David Glass, is presented with a limited edition (and highly coveted collector item) BC Stars golf shirt by Sean Clark (left). Joseph Woloshyn is thrilled to be presented with his official Mercedes-Benz 100 piece SLS AMG racing puzzle

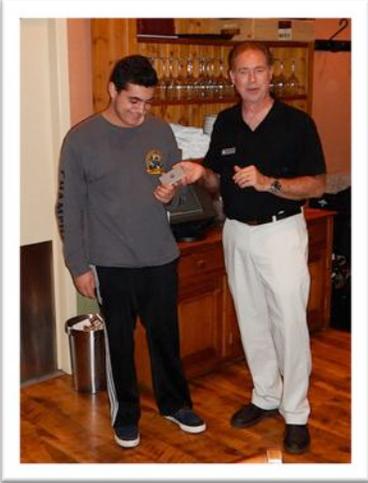


We were very grateful to our Seattle and Vancouver Island visitors who showed such great faith, that they came all the way to Whistler to be with us. Certainly a testament to the event, given the less-than-stellar weather we had. Marion Rutherford awarded each of them a keepsake custom MBCA wine glass to thank them for attending and commemorate this year's Run. Certainly, rain or

shine, the gathering of Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts who truly enjoy the marque and each other's company is more important than the weather. Again, thank you to our hosts, volunteers, sponsors, hotels, Caramba and all of this year's participants. Regardless of the weather . . . we run!



The final prize presentations of the evening went to a couple of fine young men who will be behind the wheel in the not-to-distant future. Dariyus Gandomi (near right) and David Woloshyn (far right) were both presented with Mercedes-Benz Classic Selection key chains by Sean Clark. Both Dariyus and David are Whistler Run veterans and SL roadster enthusiasts (Dariyus riding shotgun in his grandfather's amazing 190SL and David eyeing up the driver's seat of his Dad & little brother's 380SL). We are so happy to have both of these fine young men attend club events.





Member Featured Car

“My 1975 R107 280SL”



By Gary Hawthorn



Gary Hawthorn standing with his 1975 280SL roadster at this year's BC Stars Show and Shine.

I have owned a 1981 380SL with Collector plates for about four years. After correcting a few inherited deficiencies, all related to the problematic 380 timing chain and guides, it has been a pleasure to drive. That could have been my first and last Benz collector car, but for what follows.

About two years ago, I bought a non-running, and a bit shabby, Ontario titled 1975 R107 Euro 280SL with 115,000 miles that was on Craigslist in Sooke. What was intended to be a modest winter “refurbishment” required nearly two years. Even that would have been somewhat longer, other than my strong desire to have it in the 2015 MBCA BC Stars Show and Shine.

The car actually passed the mandatory out-of-province vehicle inspection four days prior to the S&S, and the title was transferred two days later. The sequence of “inspection” first, followed by

title transfer is a bit of an uncomfortable requirement from a buyer’s perspective of an “imported” non-driver, since you could conceivably restore a vehicle only to find that it has unwelcome encumbrances.

My 280 was originally imported into USA as “grey market” vehicle, as indicated by a tag on the door post that includes the importer’s name. At some “much” later date, the car was brought to Ontario.

Unlike the North American 107s that are equipped with: V8, AT, AC, electric windows, central locking system, and cat converter, my Euro has an inline 6 cylinder DOHC M110 engine with a manual transmission and none of the other features of the North American models. It is a bare bones car and unlike the V8s has lots of room in the engine compartment. What it does have, are Euro headlights and Euro bumpers and that creates the visual uniqueness of this model.

Although Bosch D-Jetronic fuel system that was used from 1972 to about 1976, has a bad reputation for complex diagnostics that does not so much apply to the M110 engine. Unlike the same period 450s, with a spaghetti factory of vacuum lines in the engine compartment, the M110 engine is fitted with one short vacuum line from the intake manifold to the distributor.



Member Featured Car: My 1975 R107 280SL

(continued)



Gary's 280SL interior being refurbished.

The biggest challenge in the project derived from accepting the seller's belief that the vehicle had been driven until about 10 years previously and then, only minor work had been performed. It turned out that the transmission had been separated from the engine, and then re-installed with the yoke incorrectly positioned so that the slave cylinder would not engage, suggesting something more than "minor".

A somewhat frustrating timing problem permitted the engine to run, but with copious white exhaust. It turned out that the timing chain was offset by one tooth on both camshafts. After several months to get past the mindset that "the engine had not been touched", the deficiency was recognized and corrected.

The car required quite a bit of other work including: replacing several missing or end-of-life parts (thanks to five Pick 'n Pull self service wrecking yards), a new top, extensive reworking of the upholstery, repair or replacement of the clutch and brake hydraulic systems.

I assume that the vehicle was originally fitted with Euro upholstery with its distinctive cloth inserts in the seats and door panels, but had been replaced with the North American vinyl pattern. The upholstery was not in good condition, but with some mixing and matching and re-spraying (SEM vinyl paint from Lordco) a decent set of North American vinyl seats were produced. Almost immediately after they had been installed, they were replaced with leather seats at a modest \$41.00 from a Pick 'n Pull yard located in Surrey.



The original water pump that needed replacing.

Identifying replacement and spare parts was somewhat of a challenge for this Euro model until I obtained access to the MBUSA EPC (electronic parts catalogue) site. Having done that, it was quite straightforward to cross reference part numbers to models that were sold in NA. With that information, for example, I bought a spare manual transmission from a 240D parts car.

Last year, the Sparks, Nevada PnP yard had a Euro M110 with the same Bosch D-Jet fuel system as in my car. Two hours and \$230.00 later, I now had spare parts for every component in the fuel system, and only a minor diversion, or so I told my wife, on a road trip to the Grand Canyon.

Although the public will view this as a pretty car, or so I hope, the eyes of Benz enthusiasts will be drawn to the uncommon manual transmission, the feature that ultimately caused me to purchase this vehicle.





Safe Drivers / Safe Families

Drivers Skills Course

By Sean Clark

Photographs By Jerry Cole, Benjamin Keller and Dean Clark



This last October 10th and 11th, I experienced some very memorable and exciting driving.

Our BC driving season was nearly over for the year, our Whistler event was done, and I was contemplating putting my 500E away in its warm garage for the winter, when I decided one last good run was needed.

This year, many of the things on my car's to-do list were fulfilled. Ignition tuned, cooling system rebuilt, suspension lowered, new brakes, new oil, best of all - new tires . . . yes, the highway beckoned.

Fortunately for me, I remembered our Section had been invited to a day at the track by our friends in Seattle.

In the interest of the Club, I explained to my wife, I was honour bound to attend a Safe Driving event in Bremerton, near Seattle. I made it sound reasonable, no need to mention the Auto-X component, "I'll get things done at home first... it's an easy drive down to Bremerton... I'll go the afternoon before... take it easy on the way..." etc.

October 10th - Getting There is Half the Fun

As these things usually go, it was raining as I left home late and I realized I wasn't going to make the ferry from Edmonds after all. I had a much longer journey ahead me to reach my hotel in Bremerton. I was now going to have to travel South, "around the horn" of Tacoma and Gig Harbour before heading North to the Hampton Inn of Bremerton. I wasn't quite sure how long that would take me. I had thoughtfully cleared out my car of all loose items like GPS units and maps, but I was sure I could just follow the main highway, and well-marked road signs.

By the time I was south of Seattle, the ominous clouds on the horizon had turned to a blinding rainstorm for the whole drive from Seattle to Tacoma. It was "white-knuckle driving", nobody daring to slow down, no visibility!

I took the first Tacoma exit I could safely turn off at, without the being hit by the guy tailgating me in the rain. After that drive, I wondered what they could possibly throw at me to further test my safe driving skills.

I pulled over several times to check my iPhone GPS. It seemed I must have overshoot the restaurant about three times before finding it - "Well", I told myself, "I'm late, but at least I arrived safely!"



Safe Drivers / Safe Families: Drivers Skills Course

(continued)

Inside the restaurant, I was very surprised to find myself sitting across from Gary Anderson, the Editor of the STAR magazine, and his wife Genie. Next to me were Richard and Laura Simonds, all from San Francisco. Richard and Gary had co-authored the Safe Drivers, Safe Families Driving Skills Training Program, with Jim Roberts. I had no idea they were coming up personally to put on their course, and I found that they were putting a great deal of effort into establishing Driving Instruction as one of the benefits of MBCA membership.

Jerry Cole and Tony Andrews were wonderful hosts that evening, and made me feel very welcome. Gary spoke of his recent experiences behind the wheel of the iconic C111 experimental car, and I took advantage of the unexpected opportunity to speak with Laura Simonds, our National MBCA Vice-President, and a very gracious lady.

By the time dinner was over, the rain had stopped and I headed off to my hotel in Bremerton, with great anticipation for the next day's event.

October 11th - Getting Down To Business: The Other Half of the Fun



A cold damp morning greeted participants of all ages at the airstrip that serves as the Bremerton Raceway. With a wet mist still clinging to the ground in some places, about 15 cars gathered for hot coffee and the classroom segment of the MBCA Safe Driving/Safe Families event. Event Organizer, Tony Andrews, along with Gary and Richard Simonds, were there to greet us.

Again, I was late, stopping to check my iPhone GPS - didn't want to be ticketed for Distracted Driving, "Sorry Officer, I'm trying to find my way to a Safe Driving course." ☺





Safe Drivers / Safe Families: Drivers Skills Course

(continued)



Gary Anderson speaks to the class.

Gary and Richard first gave us some formal instruction indoors. They made sure to bring us up to date on the latest safety features of modern cars. For those of us who started driving 40 years ago, they reviewed how driving instruction had been rethought and revised over that time.

While the temperature was starting to rise, and the track started to dry, Richard took us outside, to demonstrate proper techniques in our own cars. Driver positioning, seatbelts, mirrors . . . he examined everything we needed to know before driving off.

There were several younger drivers, so covering the basics was very important - and a good reminder to some of us who may have forgotten what we had learned years ago. Seattle Section President, Jerry Cole, was very pleased, as he had brought three teen drivers and provided four Mercedes for the track that day.

Then it was time to get ready for the track. Brightly coloured helmets were passed out. There were some lighter moments as we tried them on. Some people found them to be a bit too small and suffered from what we called “chipmunk face”.

However, once we had our helmets sorted out, we headed out in our cars towards the bright orange cones

for the “Braking and Maneuvering” exercises. It was very enlightening for many of us, to see how long it took a car to stop and how well we could brake and steer in an emergency.



Richard goes over the in-car demonstration to the class.



With safety in mind, the author suffers from the dreaded . . . Chipmunk Face!



Safe Drivers / Safe Families: Drivers Skills Course

(continued)

I admit, I was very unnerved by the fearlessness of Richard Simonds. Holding his flag, he stood directly in front of our cars as we hurtled towards him at full acceleration, and at the last moment, he would wave us off to either side to demonstrate handling! I'm sure I swerved too early and clipped a cone - I could only imagine the fallout from running over an MBCA Past President and author of the Safe Driving course!

Not to worry, Richard avoided any cars or mishaps. Next, a figure eight course was laid out with cones by the track marshals. We then had ride-along instruction for some good tire-shredding fun on the tight curves!

After lunch, we had a review of what we had learned in the morning. By then, the track had dried out a bit and we headed off one at a time to try our skills at the slalom, and then a fast run to the other end of the track where the auto-cross track was prepared. A tight circuit of cones was laid out, with an emphasis on precise control, as well as speed. The chicane, varied slaloms, and sharp corners, were challenging and fun.

The CLK55 of Tony Andrews had arguably the best time, but the SL cars were very powerful and very fast. It has to be said though that even the heavy W140 sedan of Alex Cole, did very well around the course!

The Auto-cross segment was very popular with everybody. Despite my adventures in the rain getting down there, I can certainly say I still learnt a great deal more about driving. It was really a very worthwhile experience, and a great program. At the end of the day, not only did we have the memory of an exhilarating experience, but we took away with us a better understanding of our capabilities, more confidence, and greater driving enjoyment.

Our thanks to Richard, Gary, Tony, and the other Instructors - what a great day!





Safe Drivers / Safe Families: Drivers Skills Course Bremerton Track Day Album



Kim Andrews is ready to go!



With the track beginning to dry off, Sean Clark gets ready to put his slalom driving to the test.



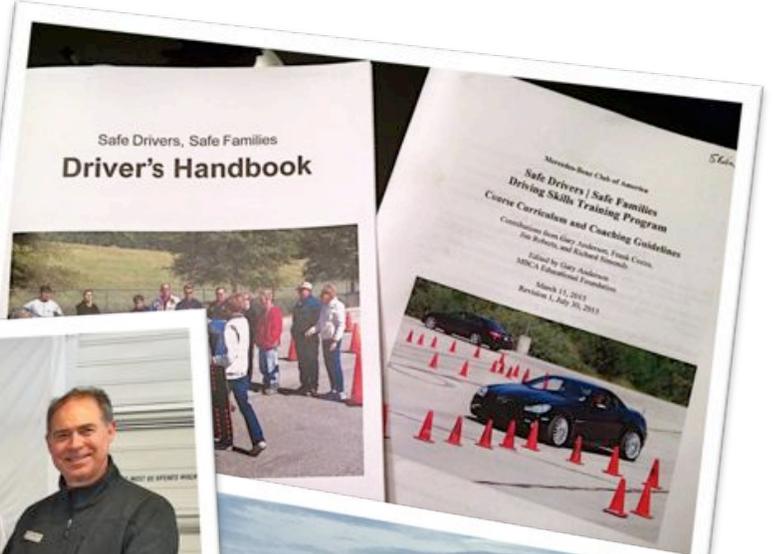
Sean Clark accelerates with "gusto" onto the course (left). Joachim "Joe" Lee, past Seattle Section President, ready to roll (right).



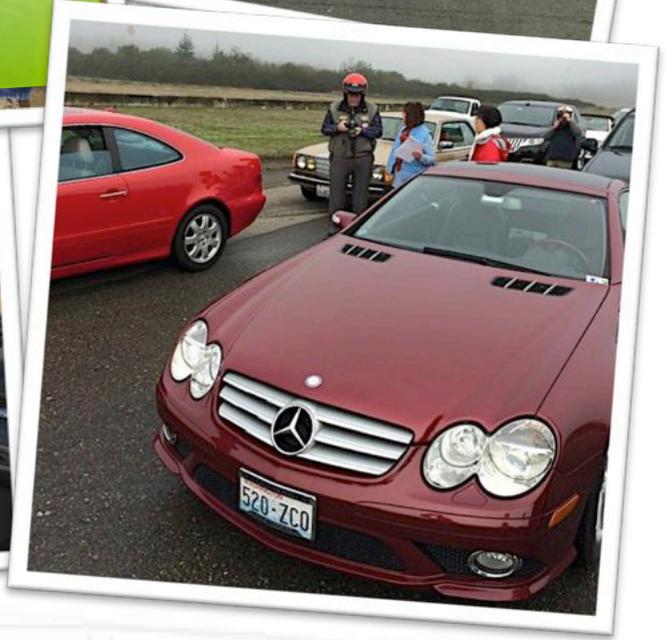
Event participant's Mercedes-Benz vehicles line the track at the Bremerton Raceway near Port Orchard, Washington.



Safe Drivers / Safe Families: Drivers Skills Course Bremerton Track Day Album



*(Left to Right) Gary Anderson - THE STAR Editor,
Richard Simonds - MBCA National Past President,
Tony Andrews Seattle Section Vice-President,
Jerry Cole - Seattle Section President,
Sean Clark - British Columbia Section President*

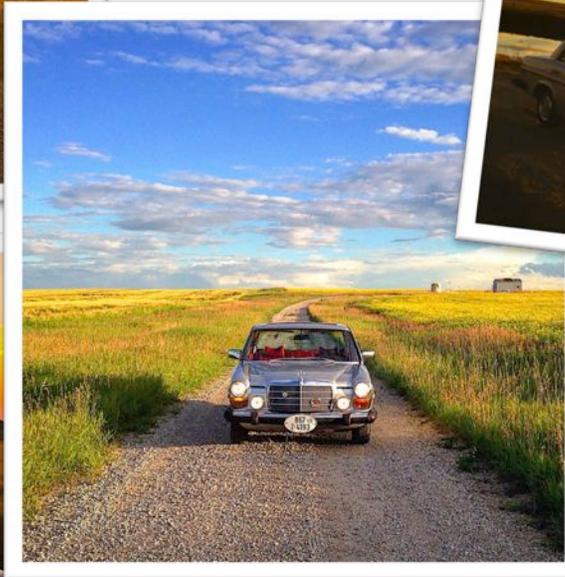
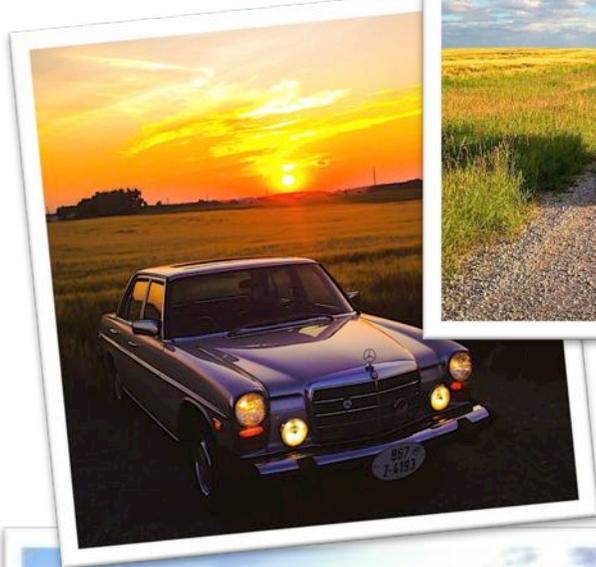




Mercedes-Benz Colours of Autumn



Pictorial by Kevin Hansen of Carstairs, Alberta





Mercedes-Benz presents the All Time Stars

The Mercedes-Benz Museum has now begun selling vintage automobiles under a very clever, yet appropriate, name.

The goal behind the *All Time Stars* is to extend the brand's quality commitment to the purchase of classic cars - which is part of the reason why a competent team of sales consultants are on hand to provide customers with detailed information and extensive descriptions of the vehicles in question - which are subjected to a thorough inspection based on a 160-item checklist.

All vehicles are categorized into three separate editions that describe both their condition as well as their authenticity:

- Premium Edition models are those classic cars in rare original condition with very few miles on the clock.
- Collectors Edition cars are vintage and in excellent condition both technically and visually.
- Drivers Edition cars can be both vintage vehicles as well as modern classics which are still suitable for everyday driving.

A complete range of cars can be viewed on the custom web site:

<http://alltime-stars.com/?TS=1446745381828>



MBCA Membership Application
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY



FULL NAME _____

ASSOCIATE MEMBER (PARTNER/ASSOCIATES MEMBER) _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE/FAX _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

MERCEDES-BENZ VEHICLES YOU NOW OWN (YEAR AND MODEL) _____

INTEREST(S): (check as many as you like)

driving events car shows social events
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SIGN ME UP FOR: (check one)

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Victor Chan Photos Grace “Classic Mercedes” Magazine



Congratulations are in order to a BC Stars member for bringing some notoriety to our local MB club.

This just in . . . BC Stars member and resident club function event photographer, Victor Chan, has had his pictures published by *Classic Mercedes* (<http://www.classicmercedesmagazine.com/>). The magazine took the BC Stars story of the German Car Festival, with Victor’s photos, and published them in their Autumn 2015 issue under Club News. Thanks go out to David Gebert of the Mercedes-Benz Club of Western Australia for bringing this special news to our attention.



Fred and Elizabeth Smits took a short break from their world tour in their Ponton to visit the event; sometimes an afternoon nap is just the thing; more than 45 Mercs showed for the German Car Festival.



Canada dry

Held on a bright and sunny June day this year, the German Car Festival in Vancouver, Canada, attracted an impressive turnout of 45-plus Mercedes in a field of an estimated 170 cars, and was a great kick-off to the summer for the German car community, writes Sean Clark, president of the British Columbia Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club. In attendance were Fred and Elisabeth Smits, of ‘Classic Strider’ fame, the New Zealanders currently undertaking a world tour in their 1957 Mercedes 220S Ponton and trailer. They

were a public favourite at the show, Fred and Elisabeth spending all day chatting with admirers and the curious, going over their very special car, and speaking of their experiences. Mercedes classic models were well represented on the day, including Ahmad Gandomi’s beautiful 1960 190SL, a W110 Fintail, a W114, two 280SE 4.5 saloons, two Cosworth-engined 190Es, and several SL Pagodas. The event raised funds for the Harvest Project, a Vancouver charity that helps those affected by family breakdowns and illness.



HOLLYWOOD IS CALLING SOME BC STARS

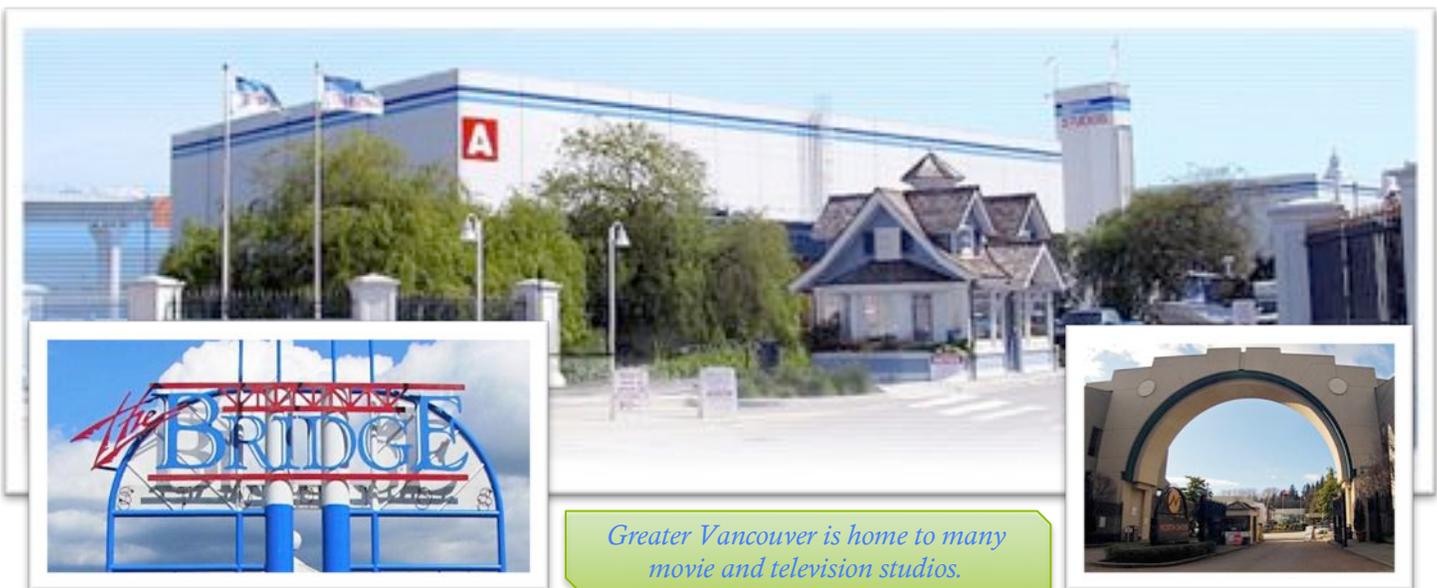
By Bruce Woloshyn

Known across the globe for its 30+ years of creativity, quality and innovation on the big and small screens, Vancouver, British Columbia is the third largest film and television production centre in North America. With a location in the same time zone as Hollywood and a production community that is built on creativity, Vancouver is the ideal locale for production, post-production and visual effects. Over 34,000 direct and indirect jobs are generated by feature film and television production in British Columbia, with more than 80 per cent of it located in Metro Vancouver.

So . . . what does that have to do with cars and, more specifically, Mercedes-Benz you ask?

As more and more of the world’s film and television productions are created in Vancouver, it offers a unique opportunity for owners of classic automobiles . . . including our own MBCA members.

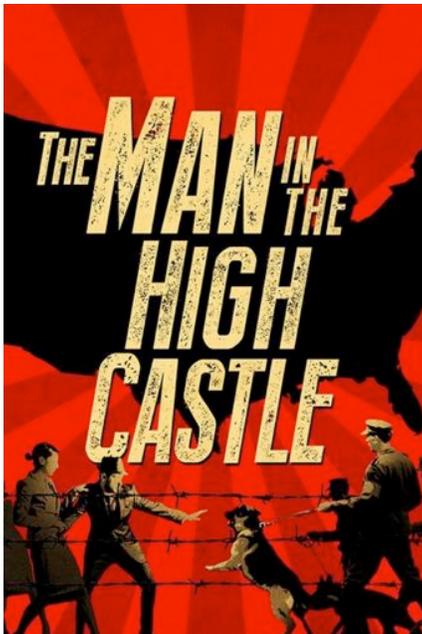
While attending the German Car Festival two years ago, MBCA BC Stars member, Don Rutherford, met Paul Lavigne from “Reel Cars Ltd.” (<http://www.reelcars.net/>), a company that supplies cars for the film industry in the Vancouver area. Don was asked if he would be interested in supplying his classic 1953 Mercedes-Benz 220 for use in filming of projects that were being shot in Vancouver. Don was certainly intrigued and made the decision to try the “movie business”.



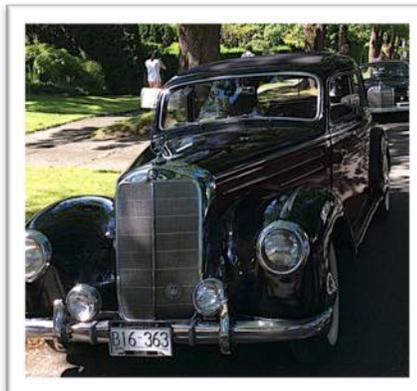
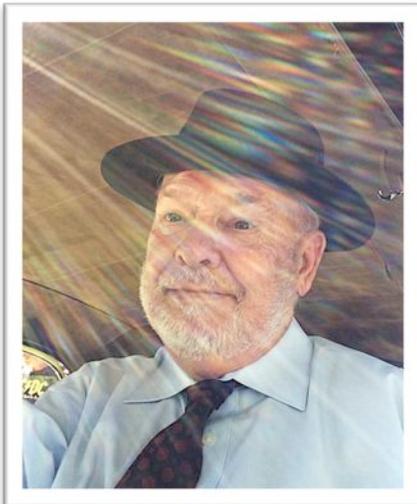
Greater Vancouver is home to many movie and television studios.



Don's first foray into motion pictures was Amazon's new original series, *The Man in the High Castle*. It is a UK-American dystopian alternate history television series produced by Amazon Studios. It is the story of an alternate history of the world, in which the Axis powers won World War II. The pilot debuted on January 15th, 2015 and was Amazon's "most-watched since the original series development program began." On February 18th, 2015, it was announced that it has been picked up for a season of 10 episodes to be released on November 20th, 2015. Considering the project's rave reviews, Don and his MB 220 may be back in alternate history again in the not too distant future.



The combination of very unique Mercedes-Benz and handsome owner / actor was the perfect fit for Don as he appeared in costume with his beautiful machine on the set of "The Man In The High Castle" (above). Don sitting in his MB 220 between takes (lower left). His 1953 Mercedes on the set, ready for action (lower middle). Note the special license plate on Don's car for shooting (lower right).





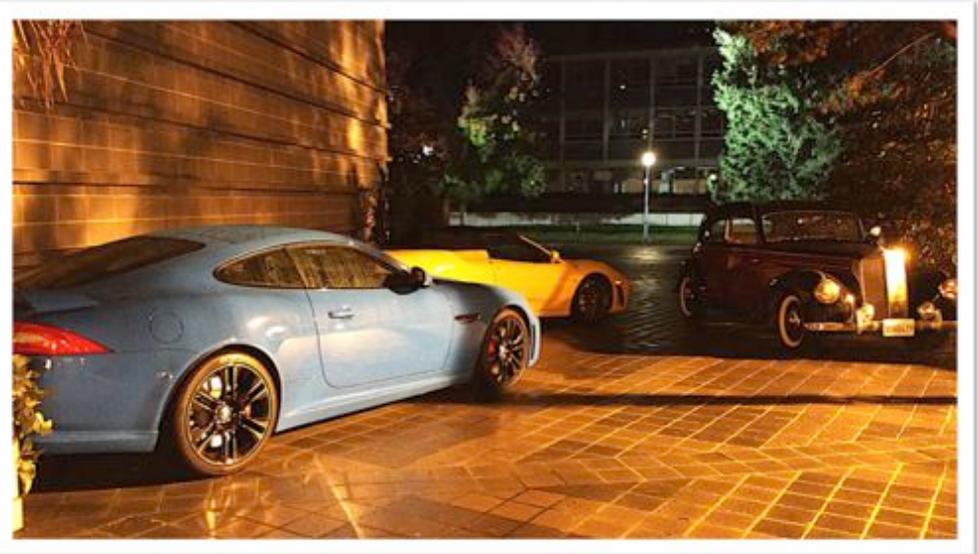
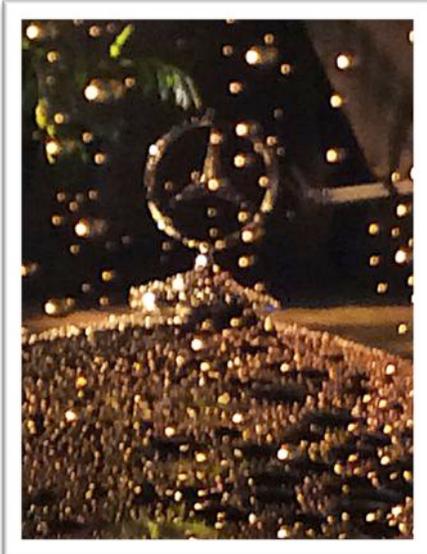
Don's second experience with his newfound calling was for the upcoming television series, *Lucifer*. This new American television series is set to air on Fox and is a loose adaptation of the comic book character created by Neil Gaiman for the comic book series of the same name (published under DC Comics' Vertigo banner). The series was officially picked up on May 9th, 2015 for the 2015-2016 season and is scheduled to premiere this coming January. Don and his car spent a very rainy late night in October shooting for the new series. As Don recounts, "*Although I was supposed to be a chauffeur, my car was staged with a couple sitting in the front seats as though driving. They left the car and walked into a building (Chan Centre). My car and myself were on the set from 7:00 PM until 5:00 AM the next morning. It was a long night, but the time passed quickly conversing with several interesting people and enjoying the catered buffet.*" Ah yes, the perks of show business.

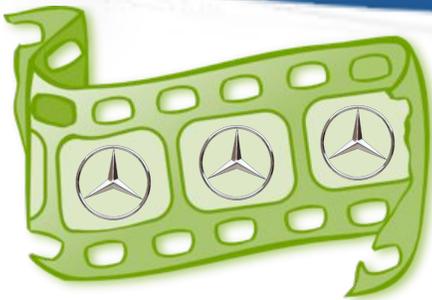


Don and his Mercedes-Benz are represented by Reel Cars Ltd. Supplying picture vehicles to the film and entertainment industry since 1995, Reel Cars Ltd. works in co-ordination with production companies, representing vehicle owners. The company inventory includes: period vehicles, background and star cars, North American, British and European models, specialty vehicles, motorcycles, boats and small planes.

The liquid moonlight at the Chan Cente, falling on Don's hood ornament (lower right). Of the weather on the night of the shoot, Don recalls, "We had showers throughout the night which created work for the car owners: dry the cars, watch the rain begin, dry the cars, etc., etc.". Yes, Don is living the dream.

The set of Lucifer has no shortage of devilish (excuse the pun) rides. A new Jaguar and Ferrari and flanked by Don's 1953 Mercedes-Benz 220 (below).





Interestingly enough, Don hasn't been the only club member to get his classic Mercedes-Benz in the movies. Fellow car guy, Joseph Woloshyn, has also been able to get his car noticed by the movie-going public . . . although, using a slightly different approach.

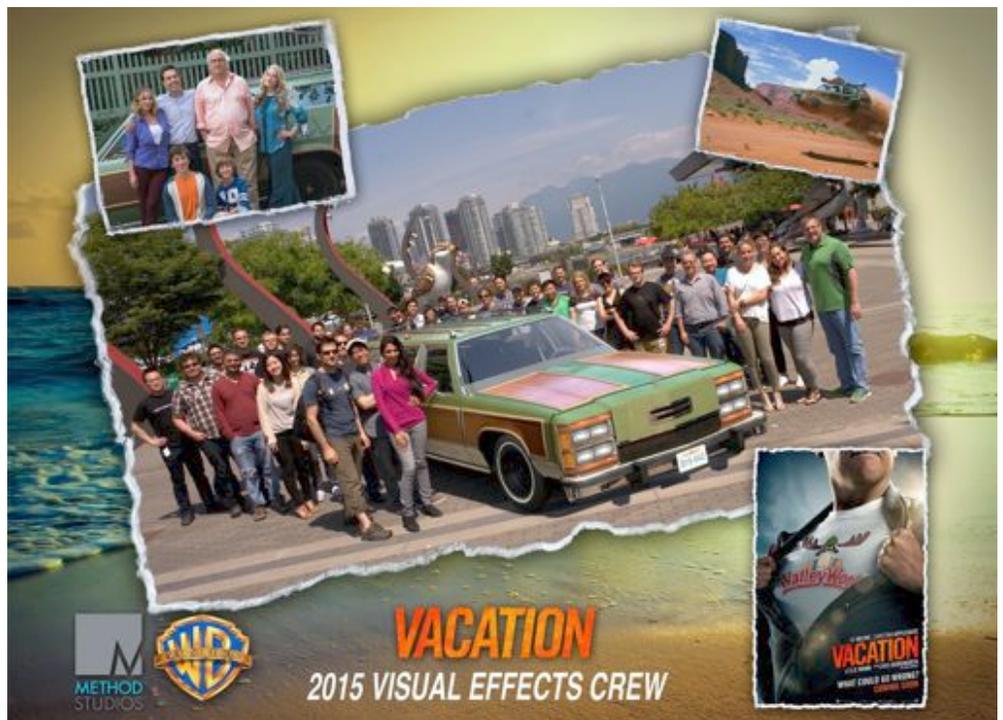
This last summer, the next generation of Griswolds brought their own story of the family-driving holiday to the big screen for the Warner Bros. feature, *Vacation*. In the film, following in his father's footsteps and hoping for some much-needed family bonding, a grown-up Rusty Griswold takes his family on a cross-country road trip back to America's favourite family fun park, *Walley World*. To bring the fictional theme park to life, the filmmakers turned to Vancouver visual effects artists, Method Studios, to create the park and reimagine its front gate for the Griswold's arrival.



As the main gate to *Walley World* would be realized through the magic of visual effects, so too would the pedestrian and vehicle traffic that inhabited it. To this end, Method Studios digital modeling supervisor, Ian Sorensen, would oversee the creation of several vehicles to serve as background for the scene while the Griswold's entered the park in the legendary, Family Truckster. Digital modeler, Alex Tang, was tasked with creating one digital vehicle in particular. Made entirely out of "pixels", Alex built a photo-real version of Joseph's 380SL roadster to fit in with the rest of the "digital traffic". Right down to the lug nuts, this digital Mercedes-Benz was modeled on Joseph's 1984 *sport leicht*.

Now, if the digital driver could have just found Don's *catered buffet*.

The digital version of Joseph's 380SL was modeled in Maya by artist, Alex Tang (above). The digital 380SL Mercedes roadster was created by the same visual effects team that brought the iconic Family Truckster back to its former glory. (bottom right).





On the Island of Isla Nublar Only The Very Best Vehicles Will Do



Twenty-two years since the events of the original film, Steven Spielberg returns to executive produce the long-awaited next installment of his groundbreaking Jurassic Park series, *Jurassic World*. During their adventures in the jungles of *Jurassic World*, the characters played by Chris Pratt and Bryce Dallas Howard put their trust in the off-road capabilities of various Mercedes-Benz vehicles. The partnership continues the relationship between Universal and Mercedes-Benz, first forged in 1997's *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*, when Mercedes introduced the M Class vehicle.

“We are delighted to have been able to support this epic action-adventure with our vehicles,” said Dr. Jens Thiemer, Head of Marketing Communications for Mercedes-Benz. “Our wide range of SUVs in particular fit perfectly with *Jurassic World* 's various requirements, with the focus on our new trendsetter, the GLE Coupé.”

Above all, it is the new GLE Coupé that shows off its best side. The first prototype of this new SUV-sector vehicle, which was handmade specially for filming, can be seen in the movie, right in time for its mid-2015 market launch. The GLE 450 AMG Sport is convincing on screen in dynamic off-road scenes set against the tropical backdrop of *Jurassic World*.

YouTube Link: Take an exclusive look behind the scenes of JURASSIC WORLD. Learn more on how the film was created and the various roles of the Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Featuring the all-new GLE 450 AMG Coupé, G-Class, G 63 AMG 6x6, Unimog and Sprinter Van.

YouTube JURASSIC WORLD | Official 'Mercedes-Benz' Featurette (2015)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsSG7N7YVw8>



The complete list of Mercedes-Benz models used in the film include:

- GLE Coupé
- G Class SUV
- G63 AMG 6x6
- Unimog
- Sprinter Van



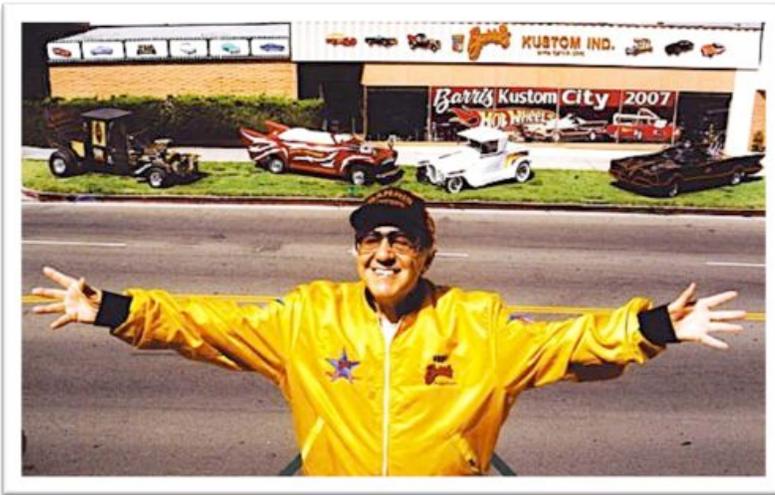


George Barris 1925 - 2015

We Will Miss You



By Bruce Woloshyn



Both a “car guy” legend, as well as a very special man . . . George Barris, whose most famous creation was the original 1966 Batmobile, passed away on Thursday, November 5th at the age of 89.

George was the son of Greek immigrants and was born George Salapatas in November of 1925 in Chicago, Illinois. At 18, being fond of model cars and with a keen eye for design, he was drawn to the City of Angels at a time when a new trend was just beginning. World War II had just ended, so new cars were out of the question for most people. That’s why people had started to

modify the older cars, using parts from junkyards . . . and that is how the kustomizing culture really began. George Barris was there . . . right from the start.

But just modifying the original vehicle’s looks just wasn’t enough for George. He began experimenting with different designs. He incorporated such bold modifications as tailfins and bubbletops. George and his brother, Sam, founded Barris Kustom and, inevitably, drew the interest of Hollywood filmmakers.

The first foray into the entertainment business began with two 1948 Chevys, which George and Sam kustomized for *High School Confidential*. These were then used as the model for designing the 1949 Mercury James Dean would drive in *Rebel Without a Cause*.

However, it was a call from producer, William Dozier, of the 1966 Batman television series, that really thrust George into the spotlight. George used a 1955 Lincoln Futura concept car as the base for the original Batmobile and, with his team, created the iconic automobile in just 15 days, with a budget of \$15,000.00 to complete the work.



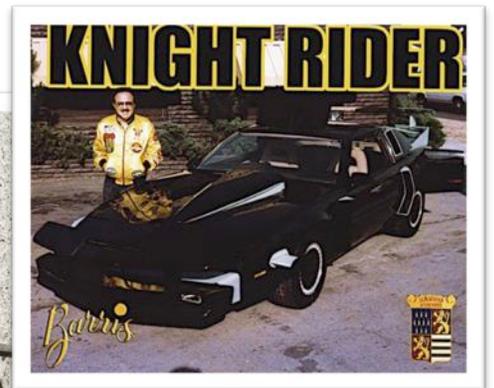
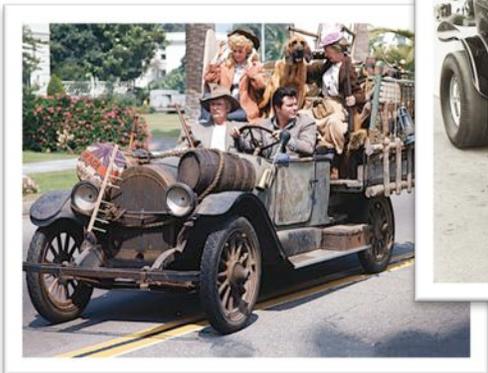


George Barris: We Will Miss You



As time went on, George became one of the most sought after kustom car creators in the world. His clients over the years included celebrities such as Elvis Presley, Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope and Bing Crosby. His creations for both the big and small screens included such famous vehicles as:

- 1949 Mercury - *Rebel Without A Cause* (1955)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0048545/?ref=mv_sr_1
- Chevy Coupes - *High School Confidential* (1958)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0051724/?ref=fn_al_tt_4
- Jethro's Truck - *The Beverly Hillbillies* Television Series (1962)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0055662/?ref=mv_sr_1
- The Munster Koach - *The Munsters* Television Series (1964)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0057773/?ref=fn_al_tt_1
- ZZR - *Out of Sight* (1966)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0060807/?ref=fn_al_tt_4
- Deathmobile - *Animal House* (1978)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0077975/?ref=fn_al_tt_1
- Super-Pursuit K.I.T.T. - *Knight Rider* Television Series (1982)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0083437/?ref=fn_al_tt_1
- Wagon Queen Family Truckster - *National Lampoon's Vacation* (1983)
IMDb: http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0085995/?ref=mv_sr_2



Barris
KUSTOM



George Barris: We Will Miss You



But of all of his accomplishments, it was his ability to connect with people that struck me the most. This, I know . . . from personal experience.

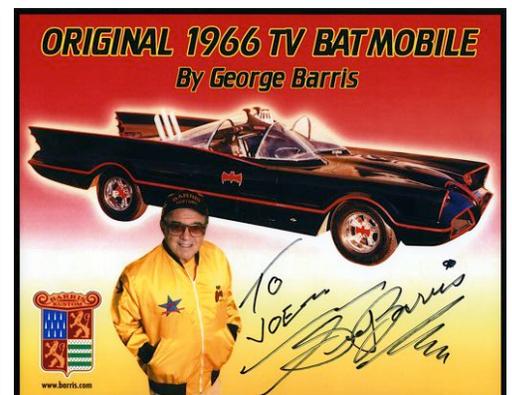


I met George when he was already in his 80's, while attending the BC Classic & Custom Car Show (<http://www.bccustomcarshow.com/>) in 2010. As with everyone I ever saw him meet, George made me feel like he had been waiting for me to come by and see him. He was so very welcoming and so happy to talk about his kustom cars. But when he saw that my two little (at the time) boys had come to see the Batmobile in their matching Batman t-shirts, he immediately turned his attention to them. George especially, as soon as he met him, took a real shine to Joseph. He just knew he was a "car guy".



Over the years that followed, George always had extra time for my sons when we would see him. Taking his time, he would talk to the boys about "hot rods" and always had a treat for them (pretty cool to get autographed treats from George Barris, I thought). When we saw George last year, he was very keen to have Joseph sit with him at the car show we were attending and "help" man the booth. "*You go for a walk. He'll be fine with me*", he said as Joseph sat down beside him. David and I went off to see the rest of the show and when I would come back to check on Joe every once and a while, George would smile and say, "*See? He's fine.*" Joseph just sat there with this big smile, holding hands with his "Uncle George" and being so happy

with the newest autographed toy car from his friend, the King of the Kustomizers.



Just a couple of car guys enjoying the show. "See? He's fine". He sure was.



George Barris: We Will Miss You



Sadly, last year would be the final time that we would ever see George.

The headlights on the "car guy" world are a little dimmer now.

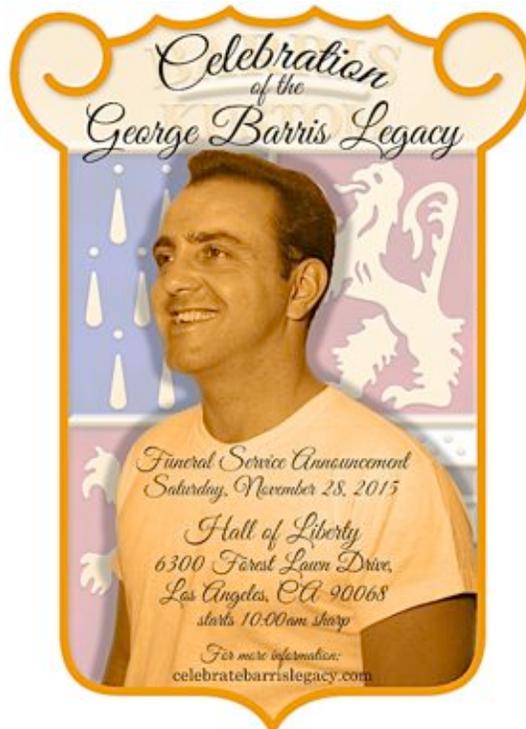
On November 5th, George's son, Brett Barris, wrote on Facebook the sad news of his Dad's passing, *"Sorry to have to post that my father, legendary kustom car king George Barris, has moved to the bigger garage in the sky. He passed on peacefully in his sleep at 2:45 am. He was surrounded by his family in the comfort of his home. He lived his life the way he wanted until the end. He would want everyone to celebrate the passion he had for life and for what he created for all to enjoy."*



When I was a boy, he was already a legend. But for my boys, he was a wonderful, sweet man . . . and always made them feel special. He was so very good at making them feel special . . . I think, because he had so much practice at doing that . . . with everyone.

Thank you George . . . for the great memories.

We will miss you.





Mercedes-Benz Club of America

MBCA's Premier 2016 Event

Starfest 2016 will take place in Connecticut's "Quiet Corner" with lush green valleys and picturesque hilltop farms, it's also known as the Antique Capital of Connecticut. From the seashore near the host hotel, to the lush greenery near the host track, the two linked by a short trip on I-395. Spectacular scenery and iconic New England towns await your discovery.

Mohegan Sun, the host hotel, is known for World Class shows, Spas, Restaurants, Shopping, and of course the Casino. Located 2 hours from New York City, 1.5 hours from Boston, and 30 minutes from Hartford and Providence, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Mystic Seaport and the seashore are close by.

Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, the nation's oldest Closed Road Course, is the site of all Track Events. Newly renovated in 2014, it incorporates sections of the original track and new turn complexes over its smooth 1.7 mile layout. Fun for the novice, yet challenging for the expert. With onsite restaurants and championship golf course, it's the premier motorsports destination in New England.

The Contours of Elegance Presented by Intensity Lines, will be held at The Golden Lamb Buttery, a picturesque 1,000 acre New England Hilltop Farm. It's the perfect backdrop for the Stars to Shine.

Other Events Include ...

Nautical Cruises from Mystic Seaport, The Ladies of Mercedes-Benz event, and of course the Rallye.



Get updates online at:
starfest2016.mbca.org



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We Want to Hear from You

Just like Gary Hawthorn did, 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.

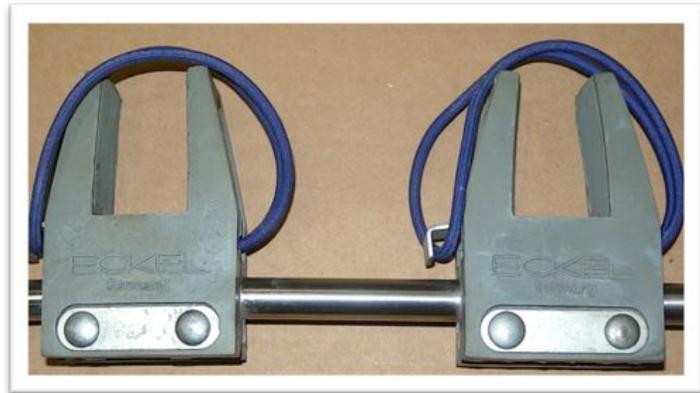
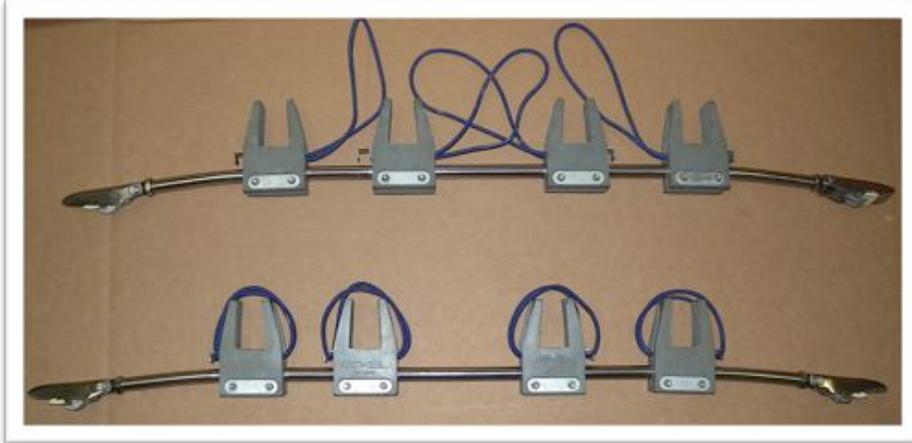
For more information, please contact BC Stars President, Sean Clark (mbcabcexecutive@gmail.com) for further details.

www.mbcavancouver.org





BC Stars Trading Post



Ski Rack for W107 for Sale

This is a very rare accessory for the W107 bodied SLs. The ski rack was sold by Mercedes-Benz as an accessory and is shown in promotional material of the time. The ends are adjustable and the jaw which, is shown in one photo, snaps into the rail on the hard top. The rack only touches the roof at the end clips. A very neat design. The skis are held in place by the elastic straps. The item I have has been used lightly and is in very good condition. It is made by ECKEL of Germany.

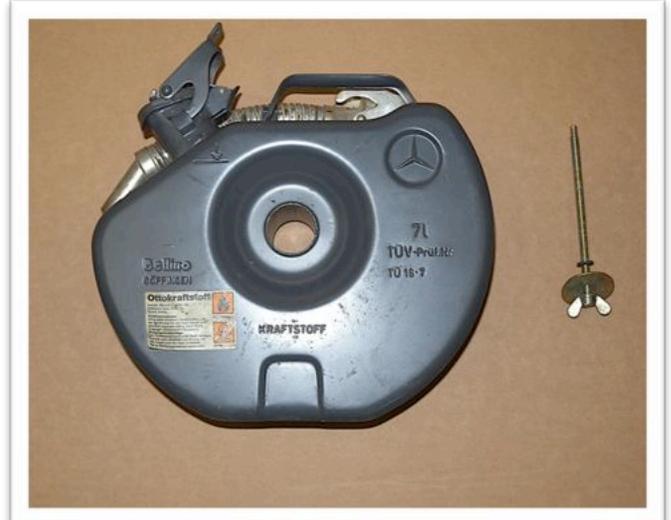
Asking \$400. A great addition for any W107 SL owner who wants a unique addition.

Contact David Godwin - dgodwin@telus.net or (604) 351-4812

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BC Stars Trading Post



Vintage Spare Fuel Can for Sale

This is an accessory that was sold in the 1950s through into the 1970s. It is designed to fit inside the spare tire. In a new form, it still may be available. The fuel can closes tightly so as not to leak. For those spares that have a center-mounting bolt, the longer one to attach the can is included. These are hard to find. The outer diameter of the fuel can is just over 12" so it fits into pontoon spares and the W113 SLs very nicely. I had it in a 280SL. It will certainly fit inside the newer larger spares.

Asking \$250.

Contact David Godwin - dgodwin@telus.net or (604) 351-4812

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You can learn about the club and upcoming events by visiting our website:

<http://www.mbcavancouver.org>



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