

Tri-Star News

Mercedes-Benz Club of America Triangle Section

October, November, December 2009



New Section member Ed Shelton, owner of Shelton Vineyards, working at the tasting bar to make sure our group had a great time

Triangle Section members getting ready for another great day at Shelton Vineyards. Next years visit is planned to be a much bigger event so mark August 28, 2010, on your calendar now



Shelton Winery Tour

WOW! That's all I can say. WOW!

What an event. On August 22, Jim and Maureen Parent arranged for twenty one Triangle Section members to tour the beautiful Shelton Vineyard in Dobson, NC. It was a wet beginning for our caravan, but the weather soon cleared up and revealed a picture perfect day. We were treated to a private tour of the wine making process and a wine tasting (accompanied by a delicious cheese and fruit plate) of some of the premiere wines produced by the vineyard. We were also privileged to have Mr. Shelton join us and inquire about becoming a member of MBCA. You can bet an application is on its way!

I know what some of you West Coast-ers are thinking, "There aren't any real wineries in NC." Well, I have visited many of the Napa Valley vineyards over the years and can tell you that Shelton Vineyard ranks right up there with them in ambiance and quality of wines. Their Stainless Steel chardonnay had a light crisp flavor, and their oak aged had a good nose and legs. (See, we do know a little about wine.)

After the tour and some shopping in the gift store, we headed across the grounds to the Harvest Grill to enjoy a specially prepared gourmet lunch. With all mem-

bers there full and satisfied, the event was a total success.

Six of us had decided to stay at the new and nearby Hampton Inn (owned and operated by Shelton Vineyards) so we could extend our weekend tour. To my delight, we were joined by four more like-minded members; bringing our after-event number to ten. What we soon discovered was the Harley-Davidson motorcycle club was holding their annual meeting and rally in nearby Mt. Airy and many of their members chose to stay at the Hampton. It

Continued on page 3

2008 Triangle Section Officers

President

Terry Crawford
2005 Rolling Rock Road
Wake Forest, NC 27587
(919) 556-9922
tcrawford@nc.rr.com

Vice President

Tom Lewis
PO Box 137
Moncure, NC 27559
(919) 418-5095
tlewis5095@charter.net

Treasurer

Newsletter Editor
Juel Duke
1904 White Plains Road
Chapel Hill, NC 27517
(919) 942-3680
realjuel@mac.com

Secretary

Mike Dowdy
601 North Drive
Moncure, NC 27559
(919) 810-2093

Board of Directors

Sherrill Allen

Dr. Robert & Sandra Chandler

Terry & Nancy Crawford

Jane Davison

Fred & Cathy Hayes

Dan Mahoney

Bjorn Nordemo

Jay Evans

Hello Triangle Section

This will be the LAST hardcopy newsletter you will receive. Please be sure you bookmark www.mbca.org/triangle, as all newsletters beginning in 2010 will be soft copy only and posted under the Tri-Star News section of the website. Your Officers and Directors are discussing the use of limited snail mail announcements and reminders, but the newsletter will no longer be printed and mailed via USPS.

Our Shelton Vineyard tour in August was a great success! We are working with Ed Shelton to expand next year's event to include a clean car show with focus on recruiting. We also intend to invite members from neighboring MBCA Sections. Be looking for more details as August draws near and contact me if you would like to help.

The annual Holiday Lunch will be held again at the TPC Wakefield Country Club Saturday December 5. Please get your ticket requests in early as this event is a favorite of the Section. We will also be sponsoring Toys-For-Tots, so please bring an unwrapped new toy per attendee for this charity.

Membership continues to decline on a national basis and the Triangle Section has followed the trend, although slightly less dramatic. Please share membership details with fellow Mercedes-Benz drivers and actively recruit new members. If you have any ideas on recruiting or retention please contact membership chair Ralph Recchie

and discuss your ideas with him. There have been some good ideas on recruiting new members featured in The STAR and the NBO will be launching a targeted marketing campaign to grow name recognition and expand MBCA's exposure.

While I am on the topic of recruiting, we are looking for a newsletter editor. If anyone out there has experience with compiling and formatting a newsletter and would be willing to spend a few hours every other month helping the Section, please contact me.

The next business meeting will be November 10 at Crazy Fire Mongolian Grill off Capital Blvd. in Raleigh. As always, I know your time is valuable and I continue to promise business meetings will follow an agenda, start and end on time. Please consider attending. It is, after all, your club!

Regards,

Terry



Specializing in Classic Mercedes-Benz Automobiles

A Vintage Automobile and Sports Car Company

- Repair & Service
- Partial Restorations
- Sales of Vintage Cars
- Frame-up Restorations
- Interiors & Luggage Sets
- Vintage Race Car Preparation
- Appraisal's & Sales Consultation
- Convertible Tops & Headliners
- Engine & Transmission Rebuilds
- Paint & Body Work - Coachbuilding
- Front End, Drive Shaft & Rear Axle Rebuilds

Bjorn Nordemo
President

(910) 235-0500
Fax: (910) 235-0741

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 517
Pinehurst, NC 28370-0517

Street Address:
110 Mid South Drive
West End, NC 27376

Website:
www.sportsleicht.com

E-mail:
nordemo@sportsleicht.com

was an added treat to view the beautiful "hogs" and have a chance to converse with the riders.

With our own little Mercedes-Benz gang, we headed out to take in a few more of the local vineyards. Our first stop was Round Peak Vineyards. We arrived to live music playing and a celebration in process for new releases. After a very leisurely visit, a tasting flight, and purchase of some bottles, we headed out for RagApple Lassie Vineyards. Again we discovered live music and a festive atmosphere, not to mention the only NC grown Zinfandel along with some amazing Cabs, Merlots, and blends!

By now our merry band was beginning to think of eating. Two of our group had made reservations back at Shelton Vineyards for dinner. They were able to take advantage of the Hampton's shuttle services to and from the restaurant. The remainder of us decided to try some local dining and secured reservations at 21 and Main in nearby Elkin, NC.

At breakfast the next morning we all compared notes on our dinners and concluded there had been no bad choices. We said our goodbyes and began the trip home. But great minds think alike, and once more six of us spontaneously stopped by the

Old Salem Inn in Winston-Salem for lunch and more camaraderie! With lunch behind us and great memories with fellow club members, the weekend had to finally end. But not before we all sampled a piece of homemade ginger bread and lemon ice cream! WOW!

Terry Crawford

President MBCA-Triangle Section

Attention Membership: ELECTION OF OFFICERS November 10 dinner meeting

The following slate will be presented for your vote:

President	Terry Crawford (incumbent)
Vice President	Tom Lewis (incumbent)
Secretary	Mike Dowdy (incumbent)
Treasurer	Marty Watts

Board members are asked to continue their service. The staggered 3-year terms are being reinstituted based upon our Section by-laws and recommendation by National. Due to the length of terms, the members holding a seat on the Board of Directors may continue indefinitely, or resign by letter at the expiration of their term. Mid-term resignation options are available, but discouraged in the interest of continuity.

Board Member	Term expiration
Dr. Robert & Sandra Chandler	Dec. 2010
Jane Davis	Dec. 2010
Sherrill Allen	Dec. 2011
Dan Mahoney	Dec. 2011
Bjorn Nordemo	Dec. 2012
Jay Evans & Juel Duke	Dec. 2012
Fred & Cathy Hayes	Dec. 2012

OCTOBERFROST

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Saturday, October 17 4 to 7 pm
Maple View Farm Country Store

PLAN TO STAY AND WATCH THE SUNSET

3111 Dairyland Road Hillsborough, NC 27278
www.mapleviewfarm.com 919-960-5535 for directions
When you arrive, each passenger in your car will receive a coupon.
Each coupon will be accepted at the store for any one ice cream treat to be enjoyed during the event.

FREE ICE CREAM

Kevin Parrish
Owner

919-828-3113

Pinnacle Automotive Service

Import & Domestic Service & Repair

3101 Spring Forest Rd
Raleigh N.C 27616

www.bimmercare.com
pinnacleservice@bellsouth.net

Kick off the Season at The Triangle Section Holiday Luncheon Buffet

Come make new Mercedes-lovin' friends, and visit with those you know!
Lots of Door Prizes ---- and Surprises

Saturday December 5
12:00 noon

Wakefield TPC Golf Course Clubhouse - 2201 Wakefield Plantation Drive
(just off Falls of Neuse Rd, 4.9 miles north of I-540/Northern Wake Expressway)
Raleigh, NC

\$15.00 each for member, and spouse or one guest
\$7.50 for Children under age 10

Due to limited seating, reservations will be restricted to 60 persons.
So respond early! Reservations will be taken on a **first-come-first-served basis**.

Full buffet with choices of salads, meats, vegetables, breads and desserts – a
genuine Holiday Feast !!!
Cash bar available.

Please bring an unwrapped toy for the MBCA Triangle Section **Toys-For-Tots** gift donation.

*\$15.00 price of admission will get you a meal valued at \$35.00 (per adult).
Come on out for a good time!*

Complete the form below and mail it with your check.

Please print:
Member name: _____ \$15.00
Spouse or Guest name: _____ \$15.00
Children name(s) 10 and older: _____ \$15.00 X EA = \$ _____
Children name(s) under 10: _____ \$ 7.50 X EA = \$ _____
Additional guest name: _____ \$35.00 X EA = \$ _____
IMPORTANT: Member phone number OR email: _____

Check made payable to Triangle Section MBCA Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Your check must be received before November 27

Mail to: Nancy Crawford
2005 Rolling Rock Road
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Farewell From Your Current Treasurer and Newsletter Editor

I leave my post as treasurer with the club's finances firmly in the black. I can't really take credit for that—we were in the black when I started. Switching to an on-line only newsletter will save the club a great deal of money even with the occasional snail-mail reminder. Declining membership, as President Crawford highlighted, translates to less money coming into our coffers because a percentage of membership fees is returned to the Sections. This money supports member communication via the newsletter and the web site. It is also used to underwrite the reduced rate which members pay for some events as well as paying the entire tab for free events. For instance, the upcoming Holiday Brunch would cost each member \$35 without the club being able to pay \$20

per member. Octoberfrost and the Shelton Vineyards trip amenities are paid-in-full by the Section. The Section also pays for refreshments or prizes for other club activities such as the Tech Sessions and the Road Rally. We do not expect advertising fees to equal 2009 because the five returning advertisers took advantage of an offer to buy two years at a reduced rate and will not need to pay for their 2010 ads on the website. The new advertisers will hopefully renew for 2010 and I hope to attract a few more new advertisers before my departure. Remember that anyone can advertise in the newsletter and the advantages of an electronic newsletter make it a very affordable way to reach a targeted market.

I leave the position of newsletter editor a bit reluctantly but there are other things in my life that need more of my time. I will be glad to work with a new editor to get them up and running. The

job takes less than 8 hours once a quarter. At this point we are planning to have A Better Image, who has formatted and printed the newsletter for several years, still do the formatting (unless a member steps forward who can do that) and the newsletter will look just as it has—only it will be on your monitor rather than in your mail box.

Any member who would like a copy of our current financial statement, as given out at meetings, is welcome to contact me with the request—until there's a new treasurer, that is! Seriously, it has been a privilege to hold these two positions and to be on hand as we worked to revitalize the Section. I would like to thank the officers, board members and all our advertisers that I have worked with during my posts. Of course, you'll still see me at meetings.

Juel Duke



DON'T FORGET!



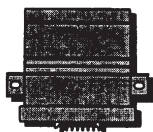
**Triangle Section Newsletter Going Completely To
E-Newsletter Format Starting January 2010**

Access the newsletter at www.mbca.org/triangle



Electronic Control Modules

Mercedes-Benz Remanufacturing Specialists



Automatic Climate Control
Cruise Control Amplifiers
Idle Speed Controls
Ignition Units
Radio Amplifiers

Climate Control Relays
Fuel Pump Relays
Diesel Glow Relays
Clock/Tach Assemblies

BMW – Porsche – Jaguar – Mitsubishi
Original parts remanufactured and tested in our lab!

**Beckmann
Technologies, Inc.**

**Sales
(800) 742-1021**



3333 Industrial Drive • Durham, NC 27704 • Tel. (919) 381-2700 • Fax (919) 381-2707
www.beckmanntechnologies.com

EUROPEAN PERFORMANCE
Porsche – BMW – Audi



SALES – SERVICE – PARTS

5641 Hillsborough St.
Raleigh, North Carolina 27606

www.europeanperformance.net
919.851.5084



Tri-Star News

Mercedes-Benz Club of America Triangle Section

503 South Glenwood Trail
Southern Pines, NC 28387

Produced by A Better Image Printing • Chapel Hill, NC

Presorted
Standard Mail
US Postage
PAID
Chapel Hill, NC
Permit No 77

Triangle Section Calendar

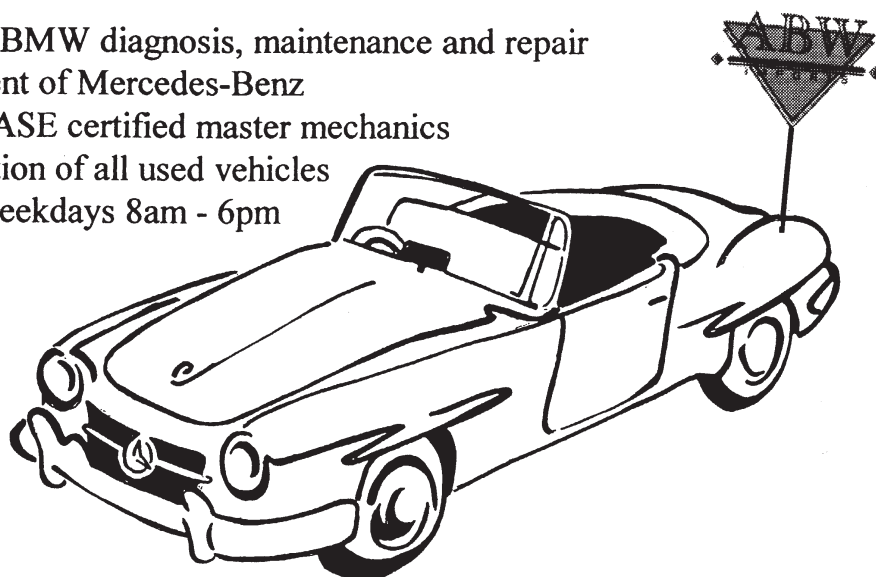
IS NOW A PULL & POST INSERT FOR YOUR
CONVENIENCE. PLEASE POST IN A PROMINENT PLACE
IN YOUR HOME TO HELP YOU REMEMBER TO ATTEND
AN EVENT OR BUSINESS MEETING. ALL ARE WELCOME

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

A Better Wrench

Caring about people and their cars since 1983

- Mercedes-Benz and BMW diagnosis, maintenance and repair
- Sales and procurement of Mercedes-Benz
- Factory trained and ASE certified master mechanics
- Pre-purchase inspection of all used vehicles
- Convenient hours, weekdays 8am - 6pm



102 Northfield Drive Chapel Hill, NC 919-929-6921 800-445-5214

MERCEDES BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA TRIANGLE SECTION CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ALL BUSINESS MEETINGS START AT 6 PM & END BY 8:30 PM

		2009 EVENTS	LOCATION
OCT	17	OCTOBERFROST	MAPLE VIEW FARMS
NOV	10	BUSINESS MEETING including ** ELECTION OF 2010 OFFICERS **	CRAZY FIRE - RALEIGH
DEC	5	HOLIDAY BRUNCH	TPC-PGA WAKEFIELD - RALEIGH
	18	NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	
2010		2010 EVENTS	
JAN	12	BUSINESS MEETING	LONESTAR GRILL, RALEIGH
FEB	TBD	TECH SESSION	TBD
MARCH	9	BUSINESS MEETING	CUTTING BOARD - BURLINGTON
	12	NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	
APRIL	19	PINEHURST BRUNCH	PINEHURST COUNTRY CLUB
MAY	11	BUSINESS MEETING	BAY BREEZE - SANFORD
JUNE	TBD	ROAD RALLY	TBD
	17	NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	
JULY	13	BUSINESS MEETING & PLANNING SESSION FOR 2011	TBD
AUG	28	SHELTON VINEYARDS	DOBSON, NC
SEPT	14	BUSINESS MEETING	TBD
	17	NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	
OCT	16	OCTOBERFROST	MAPLE VIEW FARMS
NOV	9	BUSINESS MEETING including ** ELECTION OF 2011 OFFICERS **	TBD
DEC	TBD	HOLIDAY BRUNCH	TPC-PGA WAKEFIELD - RALEIGH
	18	NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE	

Pull & Post calendar made possible by the generous support of

A Better Wrench

102 Northfield Drive Chapel Hill, NC 919-929-6921 800-445-5214

Diagnosis, Maintenance & Repair

Pre-purchase inspections

Weekdays 8am to 6pm

