

StarTracks 2013



Volume 9, Issue 4

July-August 2013

NNJS 50th June Jamboree - A Truly Golden Event

Ah... the power of positive thinking. The weather forecast for June 8th was a gloomy one to say the least, especially with the torrential rain that came down on Friday. Many people were concerned whether or not we would hold the Jamboree. Not to fear – in my correspondence with members, I ended my email with Think SUNSHINE for Saturday! There may still have been some doubters, but when I looked out the hotel window at 5:15 on Saturday morning, the skies were blue and there were some of the participants already wiping down their cars. Amazing! They didn't even wait for me to put the hose out!

The "worker bees" arrived at MBUSA even before the security guards had unlocked the doors and began unloading trophies, door prizes, silent auction items, and registration materials. Lauren Ianelli, MBUSA intern to Christine Chase, called security and they opened the doors for us and we began the task of moving everything into the building and putting it where it belonged. Then the parking lot 'crew' began the task of chalking the parking space numbers for the cars. (This is usually done the night before, but with the weather, it was not possible. There was even a back-up plan to number the spaces with numbered plates held down by the Delaware River rocks found in the islands in the parking lot – fortunately, we did not need to use this method.)

Even before 8 am, our members began to arrive eager to start off the day and signed in. Upon receiving their registration packet, wristbands, and goody bags the participants then drove up to the Mercedes Benz sign where Nick Ford and Sean Connor took a picture of their car. From there they proceeded to their designated parking spot ably assisted by the parking crew - Jim Motacki, James Motacki, Justin, Pankaj Dayal, Don Rotolo, and Rich Luongo. Many began some last minute detailing of the cars – wiping off any road dirt or bugs that had decided to attach themselves on the way to the show before venturing down to the building for a delightful Continental breakfast graciously provided by MBUSA.

After a judges meeting lead by Head Judge, Pete Lesler, and Chief Judge, Andreas Molde, it was time to stop detailing and begin the judging. There were four teams of judges and each team did an outstanding job. A great

big THANK YOU to the June Jamboree Judges.

A great BIG NNJS "Thank you" goes to Christine J. Chase, National Brand and Classic Public Relations, MBUSA, for once again graciously allowing us to use the MBUSA facilities at Montvale in order to host our June Jamboree. We sincerely appreciate all that Christine does not only for our section, but for all that she does to support the MBCA.

We would like to thank the following dealers for their continued generous support of our section and for supplying door prizes: Benzel Bush located in Engelwood; Contemporary Motors located in Little Silver; Mercedes Benz of Freehold located in Freehold; Globe Motor Car located in Fairfield; Mercedes Benz of Princeton; Inter-Car of Newton. Please remember to support the dealers who support us. We would also like to thank Lisa Juhl, Marketing Director MBCA for the Mercedes Benz insurance and registration card holders and Mike Kuntz for the Classic Center brochures for our goody bags. We would also like to thank Haggerty for supplying the bag for our goodies and to Bob Wegner for contacting them in order to make it possible.

Thanks also go to Nick Ford, Rich Luongo for getting the photos of the winning cars up on the screen and for counting the Popular Votes; to Carl Schwartz for the fabulous photos that were on display during the day; to our tabulators – Jodi Lesler, Bobbi Wozney, Lucille Chabala, Marina Pushkareva, Joe Grattan, Andreas Molde, and Pete Lesler. Thanks to Lucille for working with me, yet again, at the registration table – it was great to have you back!!! Once again these ladies did an outstanding job - Loni Spingarn for the 50 – 50; Nora Ochwat and Judy Einfeldt for the Silent Auction. Way to go ladies!!! All in all, it was a fabulous day and I am looking forward to next year! My apologies in advance to any helper whom I might have forgotten to thank. Thanks to each and every one of you who attended the 50th June Jamboree and a special 'Thank you' to all those who helped in the preparation beforehand and worked during the event.

There was a delightful and delicious Continental breakfast in the cafeteria for our members to partake once

**President**

Valerie Cristiano

MercedesLadyI@verizon.net**Vice President**

Ken Spingarn

KHS@openix.com**Secretary**

Pankaj T. Dayal

pankajd@optonline.net**Treasurer**

Lucille Chabala

LuluChab@aol.com**Editor-Webmaster**

Ken Spingarn

KHS@openix.com**Past President**

Joe Grattan

JosephGrattan@aol.com**Board Members**

John Bleimaier

Bleimaier@aol.com

Claire Wegner

My190SL@verizon.net

Nick Ford

Mb05203_nnjs@yahoo.com

Doug Ochwat

daocatswamp@yahoo.com**Committee Chair Member**

Dave Hall

Davideo@comcast.net**Technical Advisor**

Sean Connor

snc@comcast.net**Photographer**

Carl Ian Schwartz

Carlianschwartz@mac.com

their cars had been parked in the proper location. There was coffee, tea, juices, muffins, bagels, and fresh fruit. Once again the Company Store was open for our members to browse and purchase MB items of their choosing.

Thanks to Sean Delany, Pat Jansen, and Doug Ochwat for providing security at the store. Mercedes Benz members like to eat and we certainly had plenty of food to choose from during lunch. This year we used once again used wristbands for lunch tickets. It was a great way of keeping track of how many people were in attendance at the jamboree and partaking of the luncheon. Thanks to Matt Huda and Claire Wegner for being our 'lunch monitors' and cutting off the wristbands. (I had a lot of fun counting them on Monday!)

This year we were lucky to have Tom Hanson, from the Mercedes Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California as one of our guests. Tom spent a lot of time on Saturday talking with the members and answering questions about just what the classic center does and how it can be helpful to them in a variety of ways. Tom also spoke after the luncheon about the Classic Center and then held a Question & Answer session for our members. While members were eagerly awaiting the results of the judging, Anne Doris Korallus, Order Administrator Euro Delivery, spoke to everyone about the benefits of taking advantage of this wonderful and fun program. Think "Road Trip!!!" Thanks also to Paul LaPenta for the walk around of the new CLA 250, our members enjoyed being able to see the car up close and personal.

Many states were represented this year at the Jamboree: New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Oklahoma, Maine, Massachusetts, Ohio, California, Tennessee, Connecticut, and of course, New Jersey (I hope that I didn't miss any). Washington, DC was also represented.

Our feature car was the *Pagoda* which was introduced in 1963 and was known as the W113 body. The Concours cars were on display in the lower lot and the Popular Vote cars were on display in the upper lot. The 230 SL's were represented by the years 1963 and 1964; the 250 SL made a showing with the 1968 model; and the 280

SL's were represented by vehicles from 1968, 1969, 1970, and 1971. The other model introduced in 1963 was the 600 which was introduced in September of 1963 and produced from 1964 until 1981. We had a beautiful 1967 600 in the Popular Vote on display in the upper lot.

There were many outstanding cars at the Jamboree and one in particular caught the eye of the judges. It was the beautiful 1967 250 SE which once had been owned by Stefanie Powers and presently owned by Richard Reyle. You might even recall that in the show 'Hart to Hart' Jennifer Hart (Stefanie Powers) drove a yellow 1979 450 SL with a black interior and Max (Lionel Stander) drove the 1979 300 TD wagon. We had 103 cars registered and 96 were on the field - (2 cancelled and 5 did not show) - 44 cars in Concours and 52 in Popular Vote!! . (The results of the Concours and the Popular Vote are listed separately on page 3 & page 10.)

50th Anniversary Dinner

"It was a dark and stormy night" to quote Snoopy, but that did not dampen the spirits of those attending the dinner on the eve of the 50th NNJS June Jamboree. One of our attendees almost didn't make it because of the flooding on the roads and he kept getting rerouted, only to encounter another detour. The tables were tastefully decorated with lovely floral centerpieces in gold baskets, *Golden Anniversary* confetti, and beautiful water/wine goblets etched with the NNJS logo and June Jamboree. The blue and white theme was carried out with the royal blue napkins and white tablecloths.

We began the evening with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres followed by a sit down dinner. The evening was filled with a great deal of conversation about cars. There were many new faces and many familiar ones as well. After dinner, John Bleimaier showed us photos of many beautiful examples of automotive design and engineering. He also told us the history of the different vehicles. Thank you to John for regaling us with his stories and to Claire Wegner for arranging the flowers for the centerpieces. *Valerie Cristiano*

50th Anniversary NNJS June Jamboree Results

Best in Show

Carl Belt 1985 300 CD
98.500

Judges Choice

Richard Reyle 1967 250 SE
91.400

Concours

Class 3

1st Hans Karl 1957 220 S
90.276

1st Claire Wegner 1956 190 SL
98.548

2nd Eckart Scheffler 1957 300 SL roadster
94.636

Class 6

1st Keith Morgan 1970 280 SE
93.628

2nd Shahe Kupelian 1972 280 SE
93.441

3rd Robert Platz 1972 280 SEL 4.2
92.340

Class 7

1st William Miller 1971 280 SE 3.5 coupe
94.086

2nd Richard Raskin 1971 280 SE
88.385

3rd Alvin Martz 1964 2230 SE conv
84.312

Gregory Butler 1966 250 SE
83.897

Class 8

1st Doug Ochwat 1993 300 E
97.192

2nd Carlos Heiligmann 1978 230
96.053

3rd Andrew Gusman 1981 300 D
95.396

4th Rui Silva 1987 190 e 2.3 16 valve
89.482

Class 10

1st Philip Morgan 1980 500 SLC
96.775

2nd Valery Maksin 1993 300 CE
95.545

3rd John Welsh 1987 560 SEC
95.403

4th Ross Wilson 1980 450 SLC
95.399

5th Joe Chiappinelli 1991 560 SEC 94.673

Class 11

1st Don Stellhorn 1997 500 SL Anniv Ed 95.516

2nd John Votta 1997 500 SL
94.755

3rd Tom Elder 2001 SLK 320
94.261

Class 12

1st Barbara Fiedler 1999 E 320
95.924

2nd Aaron Streater 1997 C 36
92.318

Class 13

1st Gerard Bellerose 2004 CLK 500 cab
94.450

2nd Dean Nichols 2005 500 CLK
93.996

Class 14

1st Dominick Citera 1998 S 500
94.909

Class 15 (280 SL)

1st Terry Spaeth 1971 280 SL
94.456

2nd Ann Fagan 1969 280 SL
90.903

3rd Dave Lamoreaux 1968 280 SL
87.958

Chuck Benz 1971 280 SL
84.363

Class 15 (230 SL and 250 SL) Pagoda Trophy

1st Lauren Ianelli 1966 230 SL
96.338

2nd Bruce Ianelli 1963 230 SL
96.257

3rd Jerry Robinson 1964 230 SL conv
95.466

Mickey Wilson 1968 250 SL
90.108

Class 16

1st Nick Starace 1987 560 SL
96.179

2nd Sylvia Sama 1989 560 SL
95.894

3rd Tony LaBella 1985 380 SL
95.099

4th Sean Connor 1988 560 SL
93.944

John Angeleri 1973 350 SL coupe
93.328

Marc Loranger 1984 380 SL
92.584

Technical Corner

Sean Connor, Technical Advisor



Over 100 classic Mercedes-Benz owners made the trek to their favorite marque's U.S. corporate headquarters for the 50th annual "June Jamboree" car show, sponsored by the Northern New Jersey MBCA chapter. Also reaching a 50th anniversary milestone was the "113 body" SL two-seater which spanned model years 1963 through 1971. Nicknamed "pagoda" style SLs because of the unique shape of their removable hardtops, over one dozen pagoda SLs were on display – grouped together as a tribute to the lasting appeal these models have maintained. After first being shown to the world in January of 1963 at the Geneva Automobile Show, the 113-body SL made its production debut late in the '63 model year that June as a 230SL. As engine sizes increased, the 230SL became the 250SL then the 280SL during the 113-body's model run.

Perhaps worth mentioning is the fact that as many pagoda SLs as there were at this year's 50th anniversary show, notably absent was the presence of any 250SL "California Coupe" models - a rare 2+2 version of the 113-body. Sanctioned by the factory, California Coupes were produced only as a small subset of the 250SL – in itself produced from December 1966 through January 1968. 250SL California Coupes were not fitted with soft tops, and all extra room normally devoted to the fabric top, its folding mechanisms, storage well, and tonneau cover was instead used for the fitment of a fold-down rear bench seat (see photo).

On the outside, California Coupes have the same wheelbase and look identical to any other 230/250/280SL. On the inside, they provided passengers under 5 feet tall with a comfortable backseat to rest on – albeit one that was usable comfortably *if and only if* the front seats were slid forward a generous amount. California Coupes came only with the removable hardtop. Because the lacking soft-top relegated open California Coupes to a formidable nice weather ride, many of them ended up being better preserved as a result.

99% of 250SL California Coupes were produced as 1967 models, with perhaps only a dozen being built as '68s. While these 2+2 models have always been rare, their somewhat limited usability has consistently made them less sought after by many throughout the years, so prices are not excessive today. Retrofitting a soft-top above the extra rear bench seat is not practical because of the considerable effort, creativity, and expense it would take to do so.



Welcome New Members

Stephan Dabney

Walter Husar

Stephen Knill

Shahe Kupelian

David North

Henry Ney

Howard Prager

Clara Rho

Robert Whaley



*Diamonds and Jewelry of Distinction,
and the Finest Quality Watches.*

Patek Philippe
Breguet
Cartier
Jaeger LeCoultre
I.W.C.

Breitling
Tag Heuer
Bedat
Kreiger
and much more...

*Also your destination for professional watch and jewelry repair
with a watchmaker and bench jeweler on site.*

175 Westwood Avenue
Westwood, NJ 07675
201-664-0616

28 South Dean Street
Englewood, NJ 07631
201-569-4556



Visit us at www.lavianojewelers.com

From the President Valerie Cristiano



The summer is finally here with all of the heat, humidity, and car shows and activities galore! There are a variety of activities to choose from – be they from our section or another section. Check out the different websites and see if there is an event that you might be interested in participating. Also, when you are on vacation, no matter what time of the year, check the website for a local section and see if they will be offering any activities or events while you will be in the area. It is always great to see what another section is doing. You might even be inspired by an event and come back and share it NNJS. You never know, you might meet members from a

different section, state, or even country and develop a lasting friendship. I know that we have developed ones this way.



? Did You Know ?

Did you know that the 600 (W100) was also introduced in 1963 and that production began in 1964 and went until 1981? It came in two different wheel bases. The short wheel base (2,190 built), was made up of the 4 door sedan and the 4 door sedan with a power window that separated the front seat from the back bench seat. The long wheel base (428 built) had different models – a 4 door [Pullman](#) limousine with two rear-facing seats in the back along with the back bench seat – the front and back seats were separated by a power window; a 6 door limousine with two forward-facing jump-seats positioned at the middle two doors and a rear bench-seat; a few of the limousines were made with a convertible top over the rear passenger compartment and were called [landaulets](#) (59 built). These specialty limousines were mainly for official use by the Pope or the German Government. The interior of the 600 was available in full leather or cloth (depending upon the climate of where it would be used determined which interior – the hotter climate owner would choose cloth because the leather would get too hot) and the dashboard was finished with leather and real wood trim.



Alloy Wheel Repair of NJ
Serving
Morris, Sussex, Somerset,
Hunterdon & Warren
County

Mobile Wheel Repair - We Come to You

Cosmetic
Bent Wheels
Pothole Damage
Scrapes

Curb Damage
Gouges
Peeling / Cracking
Fading

Call (484) 357-4490

customerservice@xpresswheelrepair.com

All of Our Services & Promotions
Visit
www.xpresswheelrepair.com

Is Your Wheel Beyond Repair?

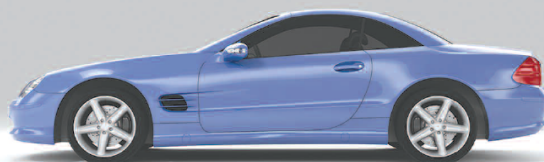
No Problem - We Have
a Large Inventory of
OEM Wheels



An Exclusive Benefit for Northern New Jersey Section Mercedes-Benz Club of America Members

**New, pre-owned or
refinanced vehicle rates**

AS LOW AS **2.99%** APR*
FOR 36 MONTHS
Other rates and terms available



Federally-insured 60-Month Certificate
1.60% APY* | \$500 minimum (penalty for early withdrawal).
Other rates and terms available.

Contact: Ray de Quintal at 800-284-8663,
ext. 3040 or 201-546-2928 (cell)
or raydequintal@xcelfcu.org.

www.XCELfcu.org

*APR= Annual Percentage Rate.
APY= Annual Percentage Yield.
Rates quoted are subject to change without notice.





PRIDE OF THE FLEET. SUV OF THE YEAR.

We're proud to announce that the all-new 2013 GL-Class has been named *Motor Trend's* 2013 Sport/Utility of the Year®.

We invite you to judge for yourself.

Of all 7-passenger full-size SUVs, only the all-new GL-Class offers the innovative luxury, pioneering safety and rewarding performance that define a Mercedes-Benz.



Our unique approach to automotive retailing focuses on an unparalleled response to owner requests.

Arrange to meet with your own Personal Account Representative today to test drive the All-New 2013 GL-Class, or start your journey at benzelbusch.com.



 benzelbusch.com
888-214-5667



Mercedes-Benz
28 Grand Avenue
Englewood, NJ 07631

BENZEL  BUSCH
DEFINE THE WAY YOU DRIVE



open your mind.
24 Grand Avenue
Englewood, NJ 07631

NNJS Election of Officers to be held at the September picnic on Saturday, September 21, 2013

This is the year for the election of officers for the NNJS. If you are interested in running for office, please let Joe Grattan, our Regional Director know. You can contact him at JosephGrattan@aol.com. You can just submit your name and the office that you wish to run for, or a slate of candidates with whom you would like to run. Valerie will not be running for office as she has decided that she would like to be able to take advantage of travel opportunities as they come along. Details and registration form for the picnic in our next issue.

LEGENDS OF THE AUTOBAHN AT OLD WESTBURY GARDENS – Sunday, September 22, 2013

Web Page - <http://www.oldwestburygardens.org>

This will be an expanded car show hosted by Mercedes (NYC-LI section), BMW, and Porsche Clubs. This year we are going all out to create the largest venue for cars found on the Autobahn. The venue is magnificent, and it alone is worth the trip. We had a magnificent turnout last year and expect to surpass our attendance record for 2013. All hands on deck! -LI section website http://sections.mbca.org/nyc-long_island/ For information Contact: Oliver Seligman 917-763-0178 or Jerry Shapiro 718-637-7234

Moving?

**Send Address- Changes
to: MBCA 1907 LeLarey
Street Colorado Springs, CO
80909 or call 1-800-637-2360**

Reminder: Did you know that **For Sale** ad submissions are free for members? Just email your ad to the editor by the 21st of the month prior to publication. You may include one or more digital photos with your ad. Send to khs@openix.com

Notice:

The next deadline for submission of all written and graphic material to the editor is Aug 21, 2013. Please email your submissions to Ken Spingarn khs@openix.com

Trust your Mercedes service and repair to the experts.



SHADE TREE GARAGE

171 Washington St., Morristown, NJ 07960

(973) 540-9880

www.shadetreegarage.com

Foreign Car Experts Since 1975

Genuine Mercedes Parts

Personalized Service

ASE-Certified Professionals

Anything the dealer can do, we can do better!

Thank you for your trust, confidence and referrals.



Popular Vote (other than 1st, 2nd, 3rd the results are listed by car number)

New (2009 to present Sedan and Sport)

				Peter Jansen	1995	320 SL
1 st	Fred Marcus	2012	E 350 cab	Malin Weeratne	1997	320 SL
2 nd	David Hatton	2012	AMG C 63 sedan	David Veith	1990	560 SEC
3 rd	Donald Boop	2011	E 350 A cab	Richard Paul	1989	560 SEC

Modern Sedan (1999 – 2008)

1 st	James Sehl	2003	E 320 wagon	1 st	Ralph Esposito	1975	450 SL
2 nd	Anthony Fiocco	2000	E 320 wagon	2 nd	Frank Conforti	1986	560 SL
3 rd	Ray DiMeglio	2001	E 320 sedan	3 rd	Sean Delany	1987	560 SL
	Bob Donnelly	2005	E 320 CDI		Michael Goldberg	1980	450 SLC
	John Anaischik	2004	E 320 wagon		Vinny Milo	1987	560 SL
	Hannah Kertesz	2003	C 230		Robert McMinn	1968	280 SL

Vintage Sport (Pre 1989)

Modern Sport (1999 – 2008)

1 st	David Kisley	2003	SL 500		Claude Bennett	1978	450 SL
2 nd	Rui Silva	2002	600 SL Silver Arrow		Don Johnson	1963	230 SL
3 rd	James Harbold	2003	230 SLK		Tony LaBella	1970	280 SL
	Carl Schwartz	2002	320 CLK		Jaime Kopchinski	1974	450 SL
	Christian Buda	2008	350 CLK		Robert Walther	1987	560 SL
	Jerry Campagna	1999	230 SLK				
	Alex Rosner	2004	CL 500				
	Priscilla Sedita	2003	SL 500				
	Jo Bottor	1999	230 SLK				

Vintage Sedan (Pre 1989)

Old Sedan (1989 – 1998)

1 st	Gail Lasser	1997	S 600 v12	1 st	Allen Wagner	1966	230
2 nd	Daniel Foote	1993	500 E	2 nd	Richard Rose	1967	600
3 rd	Chris Sciales	1993	190 e	3 rd	Michael Maddalena	1967	230 S sedan
	Roger Egolf	1992	500 E		David Lamm	1989	300 TE
					Jay Hirsch	1987	300 DL
					Matthew Gesek	1974	240 D
					John Bleimaier	1965	190 DC
					Jeri Barrett	1962	300 D
					Dimitri Seretakakis	1982	240 D

Old Sport (1989 – 1998)

1 st	George Heinz	1989	560 SL
2 nd	Carmine Buda	1998	CL 600
3 rd	Joe LoFaro	1998	500 SL
	Jerome Alpart	1997	500 SL
	David North	1991	560 SEC
	Peter Jansen	1995	E 320 cab





My Choice. My Convenience. My Service.

At Mercedes-Benz, we recognize that every customer has different needs and priorities. That's why **My Service** lets you decide how we handle your service appointment.

Relax or Ride

Would you prefer to drop off your car? You are welcome to spend time in our comfortable lounge or be on your way via shuttle.

Drop and Drive

If having your own transportation is most convenient, you also have the option to reserve a courtesy vehicle at the time of appointment.

Door to Door

When your Mercedes-Benz needs service and you don't have the time to come see us, you can arrange for our driver to pick up your vehicle.



Family owned and operated since 1973



Mercedes-Benz



Making your experience... exceptional.

Rts 206 and 94, Newton Sales 973-383-8300 Shop anytime intercarmb.com

DIRECTIONS: FROM ROUTE 80: ROUTE **94 NORTH**, ONE MILE NORTH OF NEWTON **OR**

ROUTE **206 NORTH**, ONE MILE NORTH OF NEWTON **OR** ROUTE **15 NORTH** TO 94 SOUTH TO 206.

HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday - Friday 8am to 5pm. Saturday 9am to 5pm

NOW up to 20% off FOR CLUB MEMBERS
Free Door-to-Door Delivery



Available for qualified customers only.



Take us for a spin
Take us for a spin

Scan your smartphone



FOR SALE: 1985 500 SEC Rare imperial red, saddle leather interior, A/C, AM-FM-Cassette, Sunroof, 105,000 original miles, Excellent condition, One owner, 25 years from new until May 2010. Original paint, no rust. Drives great. Asking \$10,875 Andrew Permison thepermitage@comcast.net 973-379-7283



FOR SALE: 1998 Mercedes Benz ML320 AWD Black with gray leather interior. Well maintained and mechanically reliable. 248k miles. Mature, original owner & non-smoker. Mobil 1 oil changed every 5k miles. 3.2L V-6. Complete, professional transmission rebuild @ 216k miles in October 2009. High and low range transfer case. Vehicle is loaded including sunroof, tilt wheel, cruise, PW, PDL, OEM Bose AM/FM cassette & 6-disk CD, heated seats, power seat, PS, roof rack, etc. Towing package. Michelin tires. All records since new. \$3,500. Call 908-377-5982 or e-mail kwmccauley@earthlink.net

FOR SALE: 1969 280SL Red Metallic DB-571 Beige interior, A/C, Automatic, Two Tops \$22,000

1986 560 SL Burgundy, Two Tops, Excellent Condition \$12,500

1980 450SL Signal Red, Black interior, Two Tops, Mint Condition \$11,500 Alvin Martz 201-567-7224

FOR SALE: 1986 300 SDL Mercedes Benz, 6-Cylinder Turbo diesel. 415k miles. Gold exterior/brown interior. Motor in good mechanical condition, car has some rust spots. Sunroof and a/c don't work. I drive it everyday, gets 27mpg. Good parts car. \$1200 obo. Carl 732-533-8380



FOR SALE: 1985 380SL Red with red hard top, dark brown convertible top, and tan interior. 185,000 miles. Garaged in Morristown, NJ in case you want to check it out. \$9,750.

Contact joe.stivaletti@gs.com or 646-245-8926



FOR SALE: 1995 E 320 cabriolet Concours and Popular Vote winner; Imperial red/cream interior; excellent condition with new Michelin tires; true four place top down cruiser.

Asking \$16,900 obo Contact Joe: 908-369-0793 or jjcristianojr1@verizon.net

FOR SALE: 1973 280 SE 4.5 Green with Ivory Interior 117,000 Miles Garage Kept/ Non Smoker. Good Chrome and Glass. Four Extra Wheels and Tires Included. Can be used as a daily driver. guntherbil@GMAIL.COM 917 848 7209



FOR SALE: 2007 CLK550 Cabriolet with only 8,000 miles, garaged and covered in winter. Beautiful Storm Red. Driven mostly to Rallies and Car Shows, Concours and Popular Vote Winner.

Vehicle is loaded with extras including Wood and Leather Steering Wheel, Bi-Xenon Headlights with Active Curb Illumination, Heated and Ventilated Front Seats, Multi-contour Driver's Seat with Adjustable Side Bolsters, Harman/Kardon Digital Surround System, AM/FM/MP3 Audio System, 6 Disk CD Changer with MP3 capability. Asking \$29,500.

Bob Donnelly bobdon1@comcast.net 732-275-1140



High Gear

John Kuhn Bleimaier



Why do the vast majority of drivers in Western Europe demand automobiles with manual transmission, while most Americans order cars with automatics? Does this phenomenon have anything to do with the physical landscape on our continent? Are we as people anatomically or psychologically different from our cousins across the pond? These questions have been puzzling me for quite some time. As an American who prefers to shift for himself, this matter has particular urgency. If there are not enough of my countrymen and women who require manual transmission, auto makers will simply not provide this option in the land of the free.

I am convinced that I have finally found the answer to this nagging quandary. As is frequently the case with such riddles, the answer was surprisingly simple. Allow me to approach this using the Socratic method. Let me pose a question whose answer will lead you to the solution for the initial problem. In a country where nobody learns how to swim, how many Olympic pools will be ordered? If you have never experienced the tactile pleasure of propelling yourself through a cool, wet medium by means of coordinating the strokes of your arms and legs, you are unlikely to construct a pool.

You see, in most European countries an applicant for a driver's license is required to know how to drive a car with manual transmission. If you aspire to operate a motor vehicle, you have to know how to coordinate the application of clutch pedal, accelerator and brake with the manipulation of the gear selector. If you cannot muster this level of physical dexterity you are relegated to public transport. Not surprisingly, where it's required virtually everybody acquires the requisite skill. But, now here comes the rub. Once people have learned how to swim they just naturally take to the water. By the same token, when folks have experienced the tactile joys of choosing their own cog to face life's diverse challenges behind the wheel, the preponderant majority voluntarily elects to drive with a manual tranny. It's also healthier; lowering the incidence of spinal and joint problems; decreasing the risk of Alzheimer.

People who have learned how to operate a manual transmission, who have tasted the sweet fruit of self-determination are the individuals who seek out this option when they purchase a motorcar. In today's US market the three pedal enthusiasts are, by and large, the folks of my generation who cut their automotive teeth with VW beetles and European sports cars which just were not available with slush boxes. Today's American young people who remain transmissionally naïve can hardly be expected to order 4, 5 or 6 on the floor.

Since coming to this realization I am no longer bashing the carmakers for foisting an effete driving culture on us. Now I am lobbying the state legislature to alter the requirements for licensure. Along with Thomas Jefferson, I conclude that representative democracy is the last, best hope for the survival of enthusiast driving. I hope....



Drive, Wine, and Dine - Saturday, July 27

Come join us for a delightful afternoon in wine country. We will gather at the Starbucks in the Ben Franklin Shopping Center at 12:45pm and leave at 1:00 pm. We will caravan along back roads to our first stop which is Applewood Winery (<https://www.applewoodwinery.com/>) located at 82 Four Corners Rd in Warwick NY. We should arrive there around 2:00 for those who would like to meet at the winery. There will be wine tasting for those who wish to sample some of the wines, and we can have fruit and cheese platters upon request. NNJS will provide the cheese and fruit platters at this winery. During July there will be a band on weekends. *Take note it is a dirt driveway.*

Next is Demarest Hill Winery (<http://www.demaresthillwinery.com/>) (about a 10 min drive away).

It is a quaint mom and pop operation that is very nice and intimate. This is a great way to spend a short time before dinner comparing the two wineries, with some great scenery and a wonderful backdrop for some pictures of our cars! Think *Photo Op*.

From there we will head to dinner at the Dutaj (<http://www.thedautaj.com/>). It can accommodate us at 5 o'clock for those who would like to do dinner or for anyone who would just like to join the group for dinner. (If we get through the wineries quicker we can go earlier if necessary)

There is no cost for the event, unless you are doing a tasting and attending dinner. Tasting will be per person, and dinner will be ala carté with separate checks. NNJS will provide the cheese and fruit platters at the first winery.

Directions: The Starbucks is located at 45 Wanaque Ave Pompton Lakes NJ 07442. When traveling on 287, it's exit 53. If coming northbound make a right onto Hamburg Turnpike, if coming southbound make a right onto Hamburg Turnpike. Go through two lights and then make a left onto Wanaque Avenue. Follow Wanaque Ave to the Starbucks on the right side. Parking is ample.

Registration is a MUST! You may email Lucille at LuluChab@aol.com or call her at 973-731-9133 and let her know that you will be attending. Please be sure to let her know where you will be joining the group (Starbucks or at the first winery) and whether or not you will be staying for dinner. We need to let the restaurant know how many of

Das Awkscht Fescht - Sunday, August 4th

Another Golden Anniversary celebration of car shows is Das Awkscht Fescht held in Macungie, PA on Sunday, August 4th. This is a great event to either attend or show off your car.

For more information, please check out their website <http://www.awkscht.com/> for registration forms.

New Hope Car Show - Sunday, August 11th

Come join fellow members for this car show held on the grounds of Solebury – New Hope High School in New Hope, PA on Sunday, August 11th. This is a great show to either participate in or just wander around and enjoy the magnificent vehicles on display. There is a judged category and a popular vote category as well. Check out the website for more information - <http://www.newhopeautoshow.com/html/show.htm>. After the show, there is plenty to do in New Hope! Hope to see you there!

White Sails Became Me

Nick Starace's book "White Sails Became Me" is now available on Amazon.com and B&N.com. The Kindle and Nook versions are also available. Nick, who is a long-standing member, takes you on a journey bursting with more adventure, travel, terrorism, and tragedy than most people dare imagine. The foreword is written by none other than our own John Bleimaier. Like Nick on <https://Facebook.com/NicholasFStarace/info>. Follow him on [Twitter @NickStarace](#) www.whitesailsbecameme.com Or, contact Nickstar2nd@aol.com \$19 including free shipping.



Exceptional dealer. Exceptional prices.

Leave your *high price* expectations at home.



New 2013 C-Class Sedan



New 2013 C-Class Coupe



New 2013 E-Class Sedan



New 2013 E-Class Coupe



New 2013 E-Class Cabriolet



New 2013 E-Class Wagon



New 2013 S-Class



New 2013 CL-Class



New 2013 GLK-Class



New 2013 M-Class



New 2013 GL-Class



New 2013 G-Class



New 2013 SLK-Class



New 2013 SL-Class



New 2013 SLS Coupe VS



New 2013 SPRINTER line

The Mercedes-Benz Sprinter proudly joins the rest of the Mercedes-Benz models NOW at Intercar.



Winner of three Vincentric Best Fleet Value in America™ awards¹⁹. And the most efficient species of van.



SPRINTER



Mercedes-Benz



Family owned and operated since 1973

INTERCAR

Rts 206 and 94, Newton Sales 973-383-8300 Shop anytime intercarmb.com

Making your experience... exceptional.

DIRECTIONS: FROM ROUTE 80: ROUTE 94 NORTH, ONE MILE NORTH OF NEWTON **OR** ROUTE 206 NORTH, ONE MILE NORTH OF NEWTON **OR** ROUTE 15 NORTH TO 94 SOUTH TO 206.



Available for qualified customers only.



Take us for a spin

Scan your smartphone



Northern New Jersey Section —
Mercedes-Benz Club of America



150 Leeds Ct.
Madison, NJ 07940

Presorted
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Alexandria VA
PERMIT NO. 1490

We're on the Web!

[http://sections.mbca.org/
northern new jersey](http://sections.mbca.org/northern-new-jersey)

**Saturday, July 27, 2013 — Drive-
Wine & Dine** — See page 14 — You
may email Lucille at
LuluChab@aol.com or call her at
973-731-9133 to let her know that you
will be attending

**Sunday, August 4, 2013 — Das
Awkscht Fescht** — [http://
www.awkscht.com/](http://www.awkscht.com/) See page 14

**Sunday, August 11, 2013 - New
Hope Car Show** — [newhopeauto-
show.com](http://newhopeauto-show.com) — See page 14

**September 6, 7, 8, 2013—Radnor
Hunt** — See their website
www.radnorconcours.org

**Sunday, September 14, 2013 —
Buckingham Auto Show** — See
their website — [http://
www.buckinghamautoshow.org/](http://www.buckinghamautoshow.org/)

**Saturday, September 21, 2013 —
Annual Regional Picnic & NNJS
Election** — Falkenhorst — Hopewell,
NJ — See page 7

**Sunday, September 22, 2012 —
Legends of the Autobahn** — See
page 7 — LI section website [http://
sections.mbca.org/nyc-long island/](http://sections.mbca.org/nyc-long-island/)



Find us on

facebook

[www.facebook.com/
MBCANNJS](http://www.facebook.com/MBCANNJS)