



# Mercedes-Benz Club of America - Minuteman TRI-ANGLES

MARCH 2021



**Caro Wagon at  
RM Sotheby's**  
*From Ed Owen*



I was recently out at auction week in Scottsdale, AZ, and although Barrett-Jackson and Russo and Steele were postponed, RM Sotheby's and Bonhams kept their schedule. I was hired to represent a few clients and bid on some vehicles - but of course I always have my eye out for something interesting to bring home... what really caught my eye was RM Sotheby's Lot #184, a 1990 Mercedes-Benz 560 TEL Estate by Caro.

It started out as a W126 Chassis 560 SEL, delivered new domestically in Germany, and in May of 1990 was shipped to Caro International GmbH, a Hamburg based coachbuilder. The owner requested the sedan be custom converted to a wagon. I am aware of the reputation for quality that Caro still has and was excited to see this 1-of-1 in person.

With 90K original kilometers, it was featured in the original Black Pearl Metallic (DB199) with black leather interior. I loved the look of the European bumpers and headlights and the fit and finish of the custom work was very impressive, especially with the use of OEM W124 Wagon taillights. It definitely looked a bit odd relative to what we are used to seeing in a W126, but the body lines all looked proportionally correct. All in all, it was a pretty cool car.

The catalogue stated that the modifications cost 377,000 Deutschmarks and their expectation for the "No Reserve" sale was \$30-\$40k. I was interested and spoke with my RM representative, he stated that there was a lot of pre-auction interest in the vehicle.

The lots were fairly consistent with pre-auction estimates through the first 80 and only a few did not meet expectation. For Number 184, (the 84th lot in the auction), the bidding started at \$20k. I jumped in at \$25k. Bids quickly jumped to \$40k and I started to question whether or not to continue - then the bids increased to \$50k! I decided I was out around that mark and the bids then quickly hit \$75k. The room got quiet and everyone focused in... we were all watching with amazement as the bids reached \$90k. Then \$92... \$94...\$96... \*pause\* ... then \$98k! The auctioneer challenged bidders, "Let's make it an even \$100k?!" and a buyer acquiesced. \$100k plus the 12% buyer's premium is the final price - and it certainly didn't come home with me! Turned out to be quite a day for the seller and an indicator that the classic car market is still very strong.

# Letter from the President

Hello Everyone,

2020 was certainly challenging for everyone and turned out to be a wash for our section. It seemed every time we committed to an event there were new restrictions implemented here in Massachusetts and Rhode Island, doing their best to keep us safe. In speaking with the other officers, we are optimistic about holding events as the vaccine roles out.

Later in the year we would like to have the EAS Technical Session, the Newport Polo Match Tailgate Party, and Germanfest/Mercedes Day at the Larz Anderson. If you bought tickets for the Polo Match last year, we will be honoring them this year. We are also looking into a Track Day at Thompson Speedway. In other good news, it looks like Art of the Automobile, the Misslewood Concours, and the Audrain Concours are all scheduled to take place this year.

If you have any suggestions you would like me to bring to the board please e-mail me at: [ed@virtualeas.com](mailto:ed@virtualeas.com).

We will be updating the "Upcoming Events" section as things become more concrete. Until then be well, be safe, and enjoy the drive!



Edward Owen  
MBCA- Minuteman Section President

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Along with our MBCA Event, we will be able  
to experience the kickoff of Legends of the Autobahn-East,  
as well as the renowned HHI Concours d'Elegance.

Dates:

Mercedes-Freude - Tuesday, November 2nd - Friday, November 5th, 2021

Legends of the Autobahn East - Saturday, November 6th (@Port Royal Golf Course)

Hilton Head Island Concours d'Elegance - Sunday, November 7th (@Port Royal Golf Course)

**Enjoy the comraderie of being together with old and new friends alike!  
Mark your calenders NOW for a NOT-TO-BE-MISSED event!**

Further details coming your way in the near future!  
Rick Siefert - National Events Chair - rick.siefert@att.net



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## Collector Car Insurance

Collector Car InsuranceMBCA members have access to receive an additional 5% discount, in addition to all other offered discounts, with their collector car insurance policy through Hagerty. They host to the largest network of collector vehicles and one of the premier collector vehicle insurance providers, with coverage tailored specifically to protect your Mercedes-Benz. Experience great benefits like Guaranteed Value™ Coverage, Flexible Usage, Roadside Service and Expert Claims Handling.

## Club Trips to Germany

Membership benefits include the exclusive opportunity to experience a first-class European vacation and VIP tours that places you at the heart of Mercedes-Benz rich history. These member only trips provide direct and personal access to Mercedes-Benz facilities, museums, assembly plants and the many amazing European landmarks.

## Misc. Discounts

*15% Discount on Parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center:*

*Club members receive 15% off hard-to-find parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California. Learn why they say in the end, they're not just restoring cars ... they're reviving dreams.*

*Discounts on Parts, Service & Accessories at Participating Mercedes-Benz Dealers:*  
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# BE A PART OF THE MBCA

## *Minuteman Section*

The Minuteman Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America serves Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts from Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

As a member of the club, you can enjoy an array of benefits and many Minuteman Section functions and social activities fostering friendship and sharing of our common passion for the Mercedes-Benz automobile. We encourage you to take advantage of the many benefits of the club and join us as an active participant in its many automotive and social gatherings.

### Did You Know?

Your membership with the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) comes with special privileges, like saving \$500 off the purchase price of a NEW Airstream Autobahn® or Airstream Interstate®, both built on the award-winning Mercedes-Benz Sprinter chassis. To qualify, you must be a current Member of the MBCA. Learn about the MBCA Member's Loyalty Rewards Program and how you can save money off an upcoming MBCA automobile purchase.

To renew: <https://www.mbca.org/node/7391020>

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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

*Farberallye 2018  
Jimiery Peak Resort, Hancock MCA*



## Introducing Our New Editor

*Hello!*

My name is Leia Owen (yes, I am Ed's daughter) and I've been attending car shows and MBCA events with my family for many years. We may have met at previous events or if you've brought your Mercedes-Benz into European Auto Solutions (Waltham, MA) for service. I learned to drive in a vintage Benz and am currently driving a 2014 GLK350, which I truly enjoy.

I'd love to share your stories in future editions of this newsletter and help connect members of our community. We have a very limited number of contributors to this newsletter at the moment and content is therefore pretty sparse.

Do you have a road trip story you want to share? Perhaps some expertise or a car blog you've written? I'd be happy to feature them in future newsletters! You can email them to: [info@leiamowen.com](mailto:info@leiamowen.com) or [europeanautosolutions@gmail.com](mailto:europeanautosolutions@gmail.com).

If you organize an event for the club, please send in a summary and pictures of your event to the editor in order to share with the other members of our section. This is a great way to promote your event or other events to the Minuteman Section to garner interest.

Thank you - I look forward to reading your submissions.

Best,  
*Leia*

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