TRI-ANGLES

Minuteman Section Official News-Letter

Spring, 2010
Volume X, Issue I

2010 ANNUAL MEETING, THEATRE, DINNER

by Ronald Beaton

Boston — April 25 The Boston Opera House. Our allocated 60 seats were sold out early (as usual) for this Annual Meeting, theatre and dinner event which featured the theatrical production of *Young Frankenstein*-the musical adapted from the 1974 film by Mel Brooks et al.

IT'S ALIVE! From the creators of the record-breaking Broadway sensation *The Producers* comes this monster new musical comedy.

A wickedly inspired reimagining of the Frankenstein legend based on Mel Brooks' classic comedy masterpiece, the story follows bright young Dr. Frankenstein ("that's Fronkensteen") as he attempts to complete his grandfather's masterwork and bring a corpse to life.

Together with his oddly shaped and endearing helper Igor (that's "Eyegor"), his curvaceous lab assistant Inga, and in spite of his incredibly self-involved madcap fiancé Elizabeth, Frankenstein succeeds in creating a monster -- but not without scary and quite often hilarious complications.

With such memorable tunes as "The Transylvania Mania," "He Vas My Boyfriend" and "Puttin' On The Ritz," The New Mel Brooks' musical Young Frankenstein is scientifically-proven, monstrously good entertainment ... and the only place you'll witness a singing and dancing laboratory experiment in the largest tuxedo ever made.

A little history: Mary Shelley was born Mary Wollstonecraft in London in 1797, the result of a lengthy labor which took her mother's life. Mary's father was William Godwin an intellectual and political theorist who introduced her to the great minds of the era.

At the age of 15, Mary met poet Percy Shelley and the two began an affair in spite of the fact

(Continued on page 4)

Inside this issue:

Annual Meeting	*1*
Administrivia	*2*
President's Message	
Peter Vanderveer article	*3*
Annual Meeting (cont)	*4*
Viti Tech Session +	
Free Roadside Assistance	*5*
EAS Tech Session	*6*
Message from sponsors	*7*
Upcoming Events	*8*
Active Member Competition	

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the weather finally drying out, I hope everyone is taking their cars out of storage and driving. Our 560 SEC and SL have both been on the road, it sure beats looking at them in the garage all winter. It's also a great time to check over your daily driver for damage from the winter.

We had two great Tech Sessions this spring, one at Viti Mercedes-Benz in Tiverton, RI. And one at European Auto Solutions in Waltham, MA. They are both great supporters of The Minuteman Section and offer great service to our members.

Our Annual Dinner was a fantastic event as it has been for the last 23 years, hosted by Event Chairman Rich Garick, it was great to see a lot of new faces and familiar ones as well. At the dinner we held elections of Officers for 2010, with the incumbents returned for another year. I want to thank the Officers for their service and look forward to working with them for another year. I want to thank you all for allowing me to return as President, I truly enjoy being part of a great group of Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts'.

We honored Ronald Beaton as Member of The Year for his outstanding work on the Newsletter. Ronald works hard on what is one of the most time consuming jobs in the Section. We also honored Dave Bryant for 28 plus years of dedication to the Section, with an award and a gift. Rich, Ron and Dave thank you!

Our next event is Summerfest Presented by Wagner Mercedes-Benz on June 12th at Indian Ranch in Webster, details and registration form are on the Website. Two new events are in the planning stage for Rhode Island and Western Mass, stay tuned to the Website and Email Blasts for details.

I would like to welcome the following new members for January, February and March; Peter Hayden, Joe Previtera, Howe Allan, David Braga, David Wright, Travis Tucker, Robert Walton, David Uva, Robert McKinney, Robert Conolly, Keith Bellucci, Peter Nee, Ron Isaccs, John Licciardello, Steven Carlino, Robert Luich, Luke Zbylut, David Borkosky, Robert Bennett, Keith Fecteau, Herman Morrill, Randy Wheeler, Bob Price, David Newsom, David Westerling, Alexander Spare, Ronald Champoux, Arthur Aucoin, Scott penny, Patrick Ahern, Donna Digivovanni, Matt Marano and Joseph Marocco. Thank you all for joining the Minuteman Section.

John S Piekarczyk
President, Minuteman Section

EVER FIND YOURSELF FIGHTING SLEEP BEHIND THE WHEEL?

By Peter Vanderveer

Essential know-how on what works when you're driving and become sleepy. Driving home from work and your eyelids are doing that dreamy far away 'I'd like to close now' thing and you shake your head and blink away the sandman. Obviously the best thing to do is pull over and rest awhile, some caffeine or the like, if you still imbibe. In reality almost no one can afford the downtime and who wants to call home and create worry. This drowsiness can also pop up while traveling, perhaps driving home on a Sunday night after an active weekend away.

We left for New York around four in the afternoon for Easter weekend. Right away I was in trouble. First of all we weren't even in a Mercedes-Benz; we were using the big SUV truck full of chain saws and tree clearing gear. Before we got through Providence on I-95, I was driving with a case of the drowsy eyes. The venti Starbucks coffee wasn't helping and my wife's right ankle was sprained so she couldn't take over. A hectic week of working and having my sister and her kids visiting all week was taking it's toll. That Friday with three hours of driving to go I struggling to stay alert – what to do"?

An answer came indirectly at a first aid clinic I attended for horses put on by a couple of veterinarians. Out of the blue one vet talking about acupuncture mentioned an awake pressure point located halfway between the upper lip and the base of the nose (in that little cleft or valley). When this exact spot is pressed real hard with a pencil erasure or a finger, a signal goes to the hypothalamus part of the brain and wakes you up!

When you are feeling a little sleepy around the house or at work try this technique…then you can begin to trust, see if it works for you. Generally, it takes a minute of firm pressure for the effect to take hold and usually, for me, it takes two tries to become completely wake for a good long time. In all the years and miles I've spent behind the wheel I only came close a couple of times to falling asleep, although it's scary enough waking up as my car is crossing lanes or heading for the shoulder! God knows what woke me. Now I've got a powerful tool to use at the first sign of trouble. At first, please try this not driving and you may see how well it works for you…and use this as a last resort. Getting off the road when you are feeling sleepy is still the best policy. Me, I left the drowses in Providence and had a pleasant and alert drive to New York for the holiday. –30-

Editor's Desk

The spring issue of Tri-Angles arrives with Mother Nature's annual imperative…life regenerated. Like Frankenstein.

Our modest effort has something less than her monumental effect, but the renewal spirit is the same.

We started the year off with our Annual Meeting, theatre and dinner event which was a great success thanks to Rich Garick who continues to amaze us with his organizational skills and dedication to the club. Tech sessions at Viti and EAS were well attended, informative and well appreciated by the members.

If you haven't been to an event yet, plan on coming out for the **nautical cruise**, **Germanfest**, **summer outing** in Webster or the **Farberallye** in the fall. All events are great fun for the whole family.

~ Ronald Beaton

that Shelley was married. Two years later she ran off with him to France and Switzerland. Mary and Percy were married in December 1816, two weeks after Shelley's first wife Harriet committed suicide by drowning.

Her epic novel, *Frankenstein; or, The Modern Prometheus* was first published in 1818. It was written 3 years prior when she was only 19. It was a smashing success.

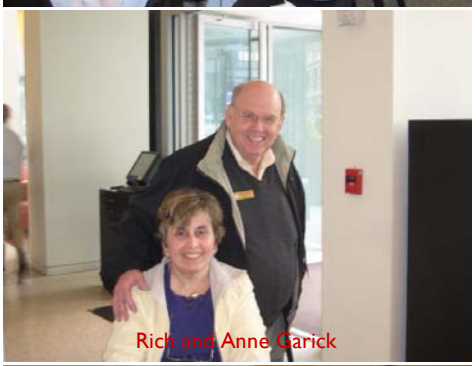
She died at the age of 53 in 1849.

Our production was also a smashing success and equally entertaining.

Songs, dancing, regenerating the dead tissue of the monster with wonderful sound and visual effects were just good fun.

While much of the production was based on the highly successful movie, it did not follow the screenplay word for word. There was just enough to include the "Puttin' on the Ritz" song and dance number and the hay wagon ride for a roll in the hay with his new assistant Inga along with a few other familiar scenes for the audience to follow along easily.

Dinner followed at Bina, just about next door to the theatre. Officers were re-elected for a another term. Rich Garick was honored for his deft handling of this annual event. Dave Bryant was also recognized via award and gift for his 28 years' service to the club.



Rich and Anne Garick

Rich Garick receives award and gift

Dave Bryant receives his award and gift

Viti Tech Session & Open House

Longtime Minuteman Section supporter Viti Mercedes-Benz opened their doors to Section members on March 20th. Viti was the Section's first Web Sponsor and has continued to support us as the sponsor of The Best of Show Trophy at Germanfest.

With warm weather and breakfast provided by Viti MB waiting, the Service Clinic started at 9:30 with the inspection of members' cars which included a wash and vacuum. In the parking lot Service Manager and Minuteman Member Tony Miele had old and new Mercedes on display, including Minuteman member Arthur Goldstone's original unrestored 1971 280 SE Cabriolet, that looked as if it had just left the showroom.

Minuteman Member and Sales Manager Steve Koertje offered a $500 Coupon to members towards the purchase of a New or Certified Preowned Mercedes-Benz. Judging by the number of people in the showroom, I'm sure the Sales Department had a successful day.

Viti MB also provided lunch, including shrimp cocktail, ensuring no one drove home hungry.

Viti Mercedes-Benz not only offers great deals on great cars, but will pick up your Mercedes anywhere in New England and New York for service, provide you with a loaner, and return your car washed and vacuumed!

They say great service starts at the top, Partners Jim Gray, Nick Viti and Mike Murphy have strived to create an atmosphere of friendly service backed by great people, to enhance your Mercedes-Benz ownership.

Thank you for a great event!
—John S Piekarczyk

Members arrive for tech session

John and Nancy with their SEC

Text and photos by Bonnie Fancy
The Minute Man Section met at Viti Mercedes in Tiverton, Rhode Island for a chance to look at the cars and have their own cars looked at. While there were no formal talks on technical subjects, there was plenty of time to enjoy the late March sun and warmer than normal temperatures and get caught up with each other after a long, cold winter.
Newcomers' names were taken down so they could be eligible for prizes in the participation contest. Future events were talked up to encourage further attendance.

Ric Fair buys new windshield wipers

Tony Miele, the Service Manager, with John P.

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I left my MB key in the "on" position in the ignition overnight and all the next day. This drained the battery. Dead. My local MB dealer came to the house, charged the battery, and got me going. No charge. All Mercedes-Benz vehicles, regardless of age, mileage or ownership, are eligible to use the Roadside Assistance Program. Roadside Assistance can be contacted by calling **1-800-FOR-MERCEDES (1-800-367-6372)** or by pressing the wrench button in your vehicle (if your vehicle is equipped with Tele Aid with active service agreement - only where cellular and GPS are available).

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European Auto Solutions Tech Session

By John S Piekarczyk

On April 17th European Auto Solutions (EAS) held their 5th annual Tech Session for The Minuteman Section. Each spring members along with an EAS Technician inspect their cars to insure that they are ready for the spring driving season. This a great way to check for damage from winter driving as well as make sure that cars coming out of storage are in top condition.

With breakfast provided by EAS, 30 members of The Minuteman Section lined up their cars to be inspected. EAS Tech's put the cars on lift's and went over the entire under carriage and showed the owners what needed to be done.

The engine and body were also checked and the owner was provided with a list of recommended service.

EAS also showcased their new Leather and Upholstery Shop, making them a true one stop destination for your Mercedes-Benz.

During a brief break, EAS Partner and Minuteman Secretary, Ed Owen held a raffle of Mercedes-Benz accessories provided by Mercedes-Benz of Westwood including an SLK Pedal Car as the Grand Prize. This was won by Section Treasurer Ernie Fancy, now Ernie needs to decide which of his three grandchildren will get their first Mercedes-Benz. I would like to thank Jim Parker of Mercedes-Benz of Westwood for his continued support.

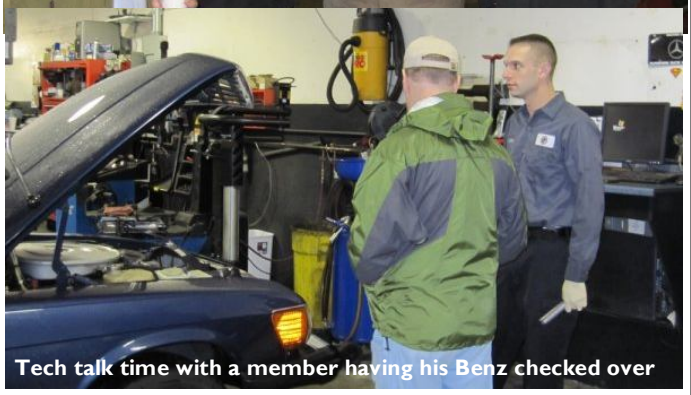
With EAS Partners, Ed and Tim Allen already members of The Club, Section President John Piekarczyk presented memberships to the remaining Partners, Arthur Aucoin and Scott Penny, it was given to them for all the support EAS has provided the section over the years.

Not only do they run this event, but sponsor a Trophy and a Class at Germanfest and they are also the title sponsor of Farberallye Presented by European Auto Solutions.

I would like to thank Tim, Ed, Arthur and Scott and the entire staff at EAS, for a great event. -30-

Ernie Fancy Drives off with Grand Prize presented by Ed Owen

MBCA MinuteMan members with Ed Owen of EAS



Tech talk time with a member having his Benz checked over

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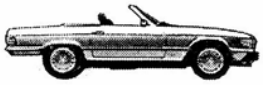

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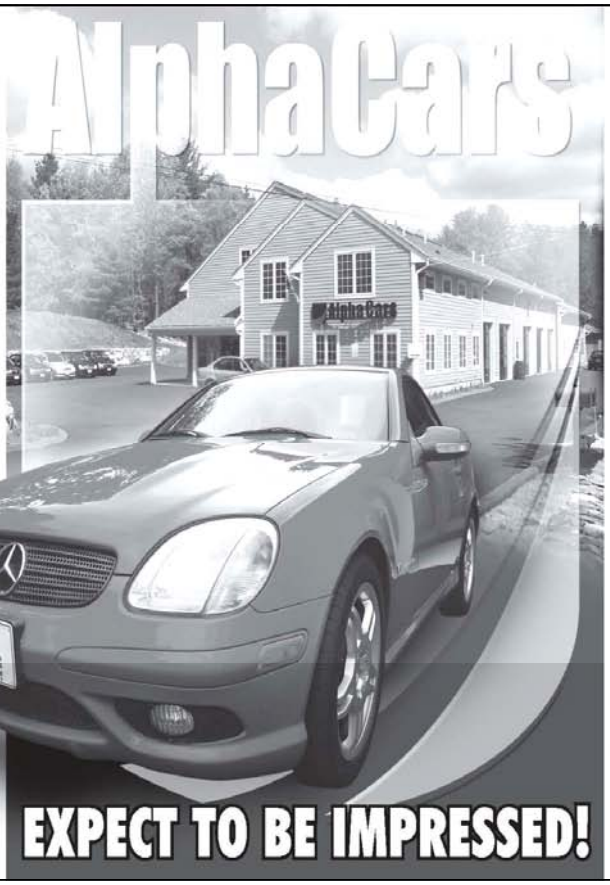

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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2010

DATE	EVENT
June 12	**Summerfest.** A great family day on the lake in Webster. **Details on website! This event has been one of the most enjoyed of the year.**
TBD	**Ken Bourque's Nautical Cruise sponsored by AlphaCars. Details with reservation form on website and in summer news-letter.**
October 3	**Germanfest XXIII. Presented by InterCity Lines**. Details on website and in summer news-letter
TBD	**Farberallye XXXIII. Details on website and in summer news-letter**

Minute Man Most Active Member Competition

Starting in January 2010, the Minute Man section will begin a new year-long competition for the Most Active Member. This competition will be judged by which specific member frequently attends events as well as contributes to our section the most.

Rules:

1. All Board Members and Officers ineligible. 2. Points are accumulated over a calendar year. Once the year rolls over, all points are reset to zero.

2. Scoring:

5 points for attending an event. 5 points for arriving at the event in Mercedes. 5 points for bringing a non-member. 10 points for winning a competition event. 10 points for helping out at an event. 25 points for running an event.

Winning

The member with the most points will win a **cash** prize. There is a minimum of 50 points required to win. The winner will be announced at the 2011's Annual Dinner.

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