



# TRI-ANGLES

## The Official MBCA Minuteman Section News-Letter Late Fall 2016 Edition

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### President' Message

Dear Minuteman Section Members,

After 10 years as President this is my final PM. 2017 will see Ed Owen as President, someone I think will bring the Section to new levels. Ed is a well-qualified, certified Mercedes Benz nut!

In the last 10 years, the Section has added new events along with old favorites. We convinced the National Board to allow us to email the Newsletter saving \$6000 per year over printing and mailing.

Nancy's original Website allowed us to keep you informed as well as adding Web Banner Advertising, which was the catalyst for our financial successes. It also led to Sponsorship of our major events. Today the Treasury balance is 18 times higher than it was in 2006.

The biggest part of being president is the friends I have made over the past 10 years. You the Members are the best part! Making friends is what being part of the Mercedes Benz Club is all about.

Nothing I may have accomplished in the last 10 years could have been done without my wife Nancy. She has been at my side the whole time. Thank you Honey.

Thank you all,  
John S Piekarczyk  
President  
Mercedes Benz Club America, Minuteman Section



### The Editor's Desk

*This Fall 2016 Edition is late. The Winter Edition will be sent out in March.*  
Unfortunately I didn't receive any submissions to share "Your Mercedes-Benz" stories after a request in the prior newsletter, so we have no other stories to share for now. If you're interested in sharing, please forward them along.

**A NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR POSITION IS OPEN AND NEEDED FOR OUR SECTION.**  
Unfortunately responsibilities at work are taking up most of my time, which has created a barrier for me to complete newsletters on time, and in the high quality that you should expect from our club. With that in mind, we are looking for someone to take over and produce an outstanding newsletter

going forward.  
Ideally we need someone to take this role on as soon as possible. If interested, please contact one of the following:

- Ed Owen Tel: 781-642-0667 [ed@virtualeas.com](mailto:ed@virtualeas.com)
- Barry O'Neil – [barry056@gmail.com](mailto:barry056@gmail.com)
- Ernie Fancy Tel: 413-391-1887 Email: [fancyer@cox.net](mailto:fancyer@cox.net)
- John S. Piekarczyk Tel: 860-315-5575 [560sec@charter.net](mailto:560sec@charter.net)

Sincerely,  
Court Brannen

## MINUTEMAN LEADERSHIP TEAM

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[560sec@charter.net](mailto:560sec@charter.net)

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## TRI-ANGLES

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Please direct advertising inquiries to:

Courtland Brannen  
Tel. 617-970-8156  
[courtlandbrannen@gmail.com](mailto:courtlandbrannen@gmail.com)

Members may run classified advertisements free of charge.

Send email changes to: MBCA, National Business Office  
1907 LeLaray St. Colorado Springs, CO 80909  
Tel. 800-637-2360

Copy Deadlines: 15th of March, June, September and December.

Courtland Brannen/*Editor & Publisher*

## MBCA MINUTEMAN SECTION WEBSITES

### Section's Home Website:

<https://minuteman.mbca.org/>

### Facebook Website:

[www.facebook.com/MBCA.Minuteman](http://www.facebook.com/MBCA.Minuteman)

### MBCA's Main Homepage:

[www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org)



## **Minuteman Section Tech Article**

**by Peter Vanderveer**

**January 1, 2017**

### **Hybrid 'All Weather' Tires**

#### **Can a single set of tires perform both winter and summer duty**

My experience with Mercedes-Benz drivers year round in the Boston, Massachusetts area -fewer drivers change over to winter tires than had been the case even ten years ago. Statewide changes wrought by insurance companies have played a part. All towns in Massachusetts were instructed to budget more for plowing and salting or insurance rates will surge! New high tech solutions such as roadway pre-treatments before it starts to snow and real time connection between drivers and weather officials via smart devices forewarn and prevent bigger problems. So it becomes harder to rationalize the added expense and effort to install snow tires at all... especially with 4-Matic all-wheel drive systems and recent stability assistance features as standard equipment.

Now available here in the States there is a HYBRID summer/winter alternative; half warm weather and half cold weather tire, which looks more like a regular tire at the outside edges and like a snow tire in the middle. All Weather, not to be confused with All-Season tires, were introduced this fall in the USA. Two examples of this are Toyo Celsius and Nokian WR G3's both highly rated by Consumer Reports. Canadian drivers have been using these All-Weather tires for around five years now. Mileage warranties run 55,000 and 60,000 miles for tread wear and they cost about the same as regular all season tires. This isn't scary new technology either as Canadians and Northern Europeans have been buying and loving First Generation Nokian WR all weather tires since 2002!

As all-weather tires gain footing here, extreme sizes have not yet been supplied. Many tire manufactures and retail stores do see these Hybrids as threats to sales numbers if adding 4 snow tires is curtailed by enlightened car owners. So, when inquiring about All- Weather tires from your Mercedes-Benz tire dealer, they may not have reached all mainstream outlets just yet. My guess is technology, which proves safer, and benefits that are more economical will find its way to buyers in short order.

# **UPCOMING MINUTEMAN SECTION EVENTS IN 2017**

## **2017 Annual Theater & Dinner**

Date: Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017

"WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?"

Theater: The Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon Street, Boston, MA

Cocktails & Dinner: FOGO de CHAO, 200 Dartmouth Street, Boston, MA

Time: Theater 3:00PM. Cocktails & Dinner: Immediately following the show.

### **Join us for "WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?"**

Edward Albee's towering masterpiece, the fiercely funny and intensely painful "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf." The play thrillingly examines the breakdown of a middle-aged couple, who mercilessly draw a naïve younger pair into the bitter psychological cage match of their frustrated marriage.

Immediately following the show, we will enjoy cocktails and a superb dinner at FOGO de CHAO - An Authentic Brazilian Steakhouse, just a few blocks away from the theatre.

**COST:** A ridiculously super value at only **\$62.50 per person** (thanks to a huge contribution from the MBCA-MINUTEMAN SECTION). Preference will be given to MBCA Minuteman Section Club Member and one guest only.

Theater tickets and directions will be mailed out in early February, but please include an E-MAIL address in your reply for confirmation and a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope for mailing the tickets.

**(This will be the final notice of the event; do not delay your reservation)**

SEND THE RESERVATION FORM with a CHECK and a SELF-ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE (to send you your tickets) by January 21, 2017 to:

Rich Garick, 19 Gordon Mountain Road, Windham, NH 03087

Questions contact: rgarick@comcast.net (603-898-3980)

## **11<sup>th</sup> Annual European Auto Solutions (EAS) Technical Session April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00AM to 1:00PM**

Come celebrate the arrival of Spring at European Auto Solutions' 11<sup>th</sup> Annual MBCA Minuteman Section Open House, on April 22nd from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

Each attendee will be provided with 15 minutes of lift time for personal inspection of their Mercedes-Benz with one of EAS's technicians to both learn more about their vehicle and to have it checked for the upcoming open road season.

Come check out some of E.A.S.'s current projects!

Quality door prizes

Refreshments provided

Please RSVP to Ed Owen at 781-642-0667 / [ed@virtualeas.com](mailto:ed@virtualeas.com)

## **Track Day May 23<sup>rd</sup> at TSMP**

The Track Day on May 23<sup>rd</sup> will be held at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park (TSMP) from 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The day will start with a Safety Inspection at 7:30 a.m. with the Drivers Meeting at 8:15 followed by On Track 9-12. Lunch 12.00. Afternoon session, 1:00 to 5:00. Learn more about TSMP at [www.thompsons Speedway.com](http://www.thompsons Speedway.com)

This event will give you a chance to drive your Mercedes Benz at speed in a controlled, safe environment. Instructors will be on hand to help you learn the track and proper line around it to enhance your experience.

You do not need prior experience; you'll be grouped in Novice, Intermediate and Advanced depending on your experience level, and can advance to the next level with the approval of the Instructors. This will become addictive!

You must have your car inspected within 6 months of the event using the MBCA Inspection form. A Snell approved helmet (not motorcycle) and wear long sleeve shirt, long pants and closed toe shoes. Click the link to get the [Driving Inspection Form](#).

### **Register For a Great Driving Experience**

The cost is \$175 for MBCA members and \$200 for non-members. Breakfast and lunch are included. Lunch for guests not driving is \$15. Please send your entry including model of car, experience level, number of drivers and additional lunches with a check for the total amount made out to [MBCA/Minuteman Section](#) before May 16<sup>th</sup> to:

John Piekarczyk  
108 Gawron Rd  
Thompson, CT 06277  
Questions: 860-315-5575 or [560sec@charter.net](mailto:560sec@charter.net)

## **Barrett-Jackson Northeast at Mohegan Sun Excursion and Road Trip**

June 21 – 24, 2017

Road Trip on June 24<sup>th</sup>

For more information, contact Ed Owen at 781-642-0667 / [ed@virtualeas.com](mailto:ed@virtualeas.com)

## **Myopia Polo Club Event**

July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

Hamilton, MA

Keep an eye out for more details on the Minuteman Section Upcoming Events Web page

## **Ken Bourque's Nautical Cruise – August**

Portsmouth, NH

Keep an eye out for more details on the Minuteman Section Upcoming Events Web page

## **Germanfest/Mercedes-Benz Day**

Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

10:00am – 3:00pm

## **Farberrallye 40**

Western, MA

October 13 – 15, 2017 Hosted by the Minuteman Section

Keep an eye out for more details on the Minuteman Section Upcoming Events Web page

## **NEW CLUB EVENTS NEEDED**

Each year, our section puts on some great events, but the same people typically organize them year after year. I hope that we will continue to be able to take advantage of all their wonderful planning, but we need some newer members to bring their expertise into the mix.

Types of events that have been successful:

- Rally's that end with a lunch or dinner social
- Auto-cross /Track Events
- Back country road driving events that end in a wine tasting
- Group excursions to attend the Canadian Grand Prix during the summer
- After work or weekend socials to meet new members
- Tech Sessions
- "How to" sessions

The Minuteman Section is open to new and out-of-the box ideas, so please plan an event today! Contact a Member of the Board if you would like help with organizing.

## **NEWSLETTER CONTENT WANTED!**

These Newsletters need to be informative, interesting to read, humorous, and educational for you. Your help is needed. Have you written a Mercedes-Benz related article? Have you taken a road trip that you would love to share with other members? Have you encountered any articles on the web that you think is important to other members? Have you attended well-known Concours d'Elegances that you'd like to share? Write an article and send it to [Courtlandbrannen@gmail.com](mailto:Courtlandbrannen@gmail.com) and we'll publish it the quarterly newsletter.



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