



TRI-ANGLES

Minuteman Section MBCA
Official News-Letter
WINTER 2012-2013
VOLUME XII, ISSUE 4



The Best of 2012

Special points of interest:

- *A review of the year's events*
- *Annual Board of Directors' meeting and minutes.*
- *Classified*
- *President's Message*
- *Synthetic oil article*
- *Editor's Desk*

Nautical Sail

Presented by
AlphaCars



Germanfest XXVI

A chance
to revisit
or enjoy
reading
about the
best
events of
2012



JERSEY BOYS
The story of Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons

Annual meeting, theatre
and dinner event



Farberallye XXXV



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Great condition! Engine rebuilt 2k miles ago. Smoke Silver/Tan Leather interior. Burr Walnut Trim. Electric Seats and Electric Sunroof, 8 hole alloys, Air bags, New small wire harness, New Hood insulation, New alternator, Rebuilt transmission and new mounts, new coil springs, new water pump and battery.

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Email-benz560sl4sale@aol.com



TRI-ANGLES



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www.mbc.org/minuteman

President's Message

Happy New Year to all I hope you had a nice Holiday season.

Back in 2006 the Section Bank balance was \$3-4,000.00, with the cost of printing and mailing the Newsletter between \$5-6000.00 and the Annual Dinner subsidy around \$2,000.00. With our rebate from the National Business Office of \$6,200.00, it was clear this model wasn't going to work. We asked Nancy Piekarczyk to design a Website that would inform members of Section news and events and also serve as a vehicle for banner advertising that would bring income to the Section. We partitioned the NBO and were granted permission to sell Banner Ads on the website. We then solicited dealers and other's to buy

Banner Ads. This was met with great success and also tied into the sponsorships of events. It all goes back to the website as the starting point.

Now it was time to do something about the Newsletter expense. The Club By-Laws state the Newsletter has to be delivered to members 4 times per year, it doesn't say how to deliver it. Back to the NBO for permission to email the N/L, Granted. This took some work to get the emails merged to a program that could be used with Constant Contact. It took some time but when it was finally done we not only saved \$5-6000.00, but had an email program that allowed us to send event notice's and emails with breaking

news.

The bottom line is that as reported elsewhere in this edition we have a healthy bank balance and are putting money in a CD for a rainy day.

We return far more to the members through subsidized events than the law requires.

I want to thank the entire Team for all their hard work in making this happen, and most of all our Sponsors. We truly have come a long way.

– **John S Piekarczyk**
President, Minuteman Section



The Editor's Desk



Another wonderful year comes to an end as we enjoy the winter of 2012-2013.

We have outlined the best of last year's events as a special in this issue. Committees are busy planning next year's events for our enjoyment. Let's try to attend as many as possible to enjoy the outings with fellow Mercedes enthusiasts.

First up is the Annual Meeting, Theatre, Dinner event on Sunday, March 3 with The Jersey Boys as the theatre entertainment in Boston at the Citi Colonial Theatre on Boylston St.

This usually sold out event should be really good. Rich Garrick wanted reservations and

checks by 12-31-2012, but he may have a few seats left, so if you want to attend, call him.

We will have a Tech Session at EAS in the spring, our last wine tasting road trip, Ken Bourque's annual sail in the summer, Farberallye in the fall and Germanfest on September 15. Watch the newsletter for final dates and also check our website for additional events, dates and further details. [Www.MBCA.org/minuteman](http://www.MBCA.org/minuteman).

We have an interesting article about using synthetic oil in our cars by our Technical Editor, Peter Vanderveer in this issue. A lot of very good reasons for this oil choice are outlined.

The minutes for the annual

Board of Directors' Meeting are included with this issue. We noted increased revenues from ad sales by our section president, John, and increased cash retained due to his careful husbanding of assets.

Ill health prevented my attendance at the meeting this year, but thanks to our Secretary, Nancy, who took the minutes, we all have an idea of what transpired. See her report on page 5.

2013 has arrived. We will have another program of fun and interesting events through the year. Plan on joining us, or even better, how about planning an event?

– **Ronald Beaton**

Why Synthetic Motor Oil?

We have a 2004 C240 in the shop and it smokes so badly that you can't see traffic in the rear view mirror. There are not that many miles (74,000 K) on this C either. Everything checks out – compression is fine – codes indicate random misfires- nothing bad enough to cause this smoke show! Looking down the oil cap opening into the engine we saw a sludge buildup there that gave us our first possible clue to work with. Now we wondered how often the required oil change schedule had been ignored and if the motor was getting the recommended synthetic oil upgrade when it was changed.

A more expensive alternative to “regular” motor oils, synthetic motor oil is a man-made product developed like many other automotive technologies, primarily to aid in the battle for cleaner air through cleaner burning engines. Besides allowing for longer oil change intervals and better start up properties, synthetic oil provides better fuel mileage and again most importantly cleaner air! Regular motor oil is made straight from crude oil and contains lots of toxins and impurities which make it into the atmosphere. Today's engines can operate leaner and hotter than those even just a decade ago. Regular motor oil will coagulate (become sludge) much more quickly than a

synthetic oil in this modern engine.

You could make an analogy here with ski clothing, high tech ski suit (man-made polyesters) vs. blue jeans (natural cotton) - both will get you down the hill - only in the blue jeans you could be soaking wet and prone to a chill. In a good way high performance ski clothing and true synthetic motor oil are cheap insurance against Mother Nature!

The above-mentioned C240 engine may be saved from a complete rebuild (thousands of dollars) after we remove the engine covers and oil sub pan and literally wash sludge down and out the bottom of the motor. Actu-

ally the cause of all the smoking oil from this car is the clogged up crankcase breathing system (caused by sludge) which than puddles oil onto the intake manifold pan which periodically tips a slug of it into the combustion chamber of the engine. Results are a short but spectacular smoke show and a very startled driver!

Incidentally all of our used oil and hazardous materials at Vanderveer Motors are picked up and responsibly recycled by a state licensed environmental company we hire.

Peter Vanderveer is the owner of Vanderveer Motors in Norwood, Mass., Tel. 508-255-0797

CLASSIFIED FOR SALE

1966 Mercedes-Benz 250 Se Coupe



Graphite Grey(DB 190), Red Leather Interior (Roser Red #1079), Polisander wood trim (#203 interior color package) Complete and correct repaint and weather seals in 2003. 57,000 gentle miles. Engine bay original and very clean, trunk original and in exceptional condition Interior in excellent original condition with less patina than you would expect in a 46 year old car.

Original spare, tools and manuals, full documentation from new. Glass and chrome is exceptional, stainless steel exhaust.

\$30,000, John Slamin, Tel. 781-345-9122, jslaminknee@comcast.net

Annual Planning Meeting

Minutes: MBCA Minuteman Section Planning Meeting 12/3/2012 @ 6:30 p.m.

**In attendance: Ken Bourque, Rich Garick, John Piekarczyk, Nancy Piekarczyk, Ernie Fancy, Ed Owen, Mark Fancy.
Minutes by: Nancy Piekarczyk, Secretary.**

Advertising/Sponsorship Billing:

Proposal was made by John Piekarczyk to consolidate billing of event sponsors and advertisers to the end of January with a Due Date of March 15th. Purpose: eliminate number of billings/mailings and put all on a common billing cycle.

Discussion:

Concern that businesses may have issue with paying full amount in one billing cycle as it may have an impact on cash flow and marketing budgets all falling within one quarterly cycle.

Outcome:

Try it. Beginning in 2013, one billing will be mailed to all at the end of January. We will monitor outcome and feedback and adjust accordingly.

Minuteman Account:

Mark provided a Banking Summary 1/1/2012 - 11/10/2012 itemizing income and expenses.

Bank Balance as of 12/3: \$19,500.

Discussion:

John indicated the club currently brings in approximately \$14,300 gross revenues annually from advertising, sponsorships, Germanfest, and Club membership stipens. With the economy and other unforeseen circumstances, that could change in the future.

John proposed that we create a raining day account and put \$10,000 in a CD.

Currently the Nautical Cruise, Annual Meeting, and Farberallye are subsidized. There was discussion around other types of events that might attract more members and be subsidized. A New Member's Dinner was mentioned.

Outcome:

A motion was made, second and approved by the Board to put \$10K in a Bank Certificate of Deposit (CD) / 1 Year Term. John will research best rates for CD.

Event inconclusive. The challenge is not only defining an event, but obtaining volunteer(s) to organize and manage the event.

Charitable Donation:

Ed Owen suggested that the club sponsor an event that would benefit a charity. One idea was to organize a rally where participants would pay a certain monetary amount per mile or solicit donations from others who would pay a certain amount per mile driven by participants with the net proceeds donated to a charity. Possible charities: Veteran related charities, Wounded Warriors. Outcome: Ed Owen agreed to work on organizing a charity event in 2013.

Club Leadership:

John indicated that he cannot, due to health reasons, continue in the role of President indefinitely, and Chief Judge of Germanfest immediately.

It was agreed by those in attendance to work towards a identifying a suitable and orderly replacement of President for 2015 and Chief Judge of Germanfest in 2013.

Nancy will step down as Secretary in 2013.

Note:

Subsequent to the meeting, it was announced that Arthur Aucoin will assume the role of Chief Judge of Germanfest in 2013.

Subsequent to the meeting, it was decided that Steve Coulter will assume the role of Secretary in 2013. A vote will be taken at the Annual Meeting on March 3, 2013.

Nautical Cruise

Sunday, August 12 – Salem, Mass.
By Ronald Beaton

Ominous weather forecasts could not dampen the spirits or enthusiasm of the full complement of sailors in Salem for Ken Bourque’s Annual Nautical Outing.

Rain threatened until noon, then full sunshine fell upon land and sea. We met on Pickering Wharf at 3:30 in the afternoon with stragglers straining to find suitable parking. The forty or so Minuteman members and guests filled the boat for a pleasant, leisurely two hour plus sail through Salem and Marblehead harbors.

Our vessel, *Fame*, is a 1983 replica of an 1832 privateer, some 70 feet long. Captain Jeremiah skillfully handled the tiller while giving us a vivid account of the history of the ship and the privateering business in the 19th century, particularly during and after the war of 1812. He answered questions cheerfully while continuing to keep an eye out for the safety of the vessel and her passengers.

As we passed another privateer from Canada also loaded with local tourists, we fired a small rail-mounted cannon in acknowledgement. This 24” long cannon had a very loud report. A **very loud report. What?**

The Captain’s commentary included local lore about the various islands in the harbors and some of the mansions dotting the coast. America’s first millionaire, a man named Derby, hailed from these parts and was engaged in commodities speculation - importing and exporting the most desired commodities of the times: spices, fabrics, lumber, tea and spirits.

Ed Owen’s son, Denton, 13, (an official junior member of the club) was given the tiller for an unexpected thrill by Captain Jeremiah to steer us through Salem harbor. He did a good job and got us through safely and smoothly.



Minuteman members and guests queue up at Pickering Wharf to begin the adventure.



All aboard, settled nicely



Captain with commentary to sailors



Denton Owen mans the tiller



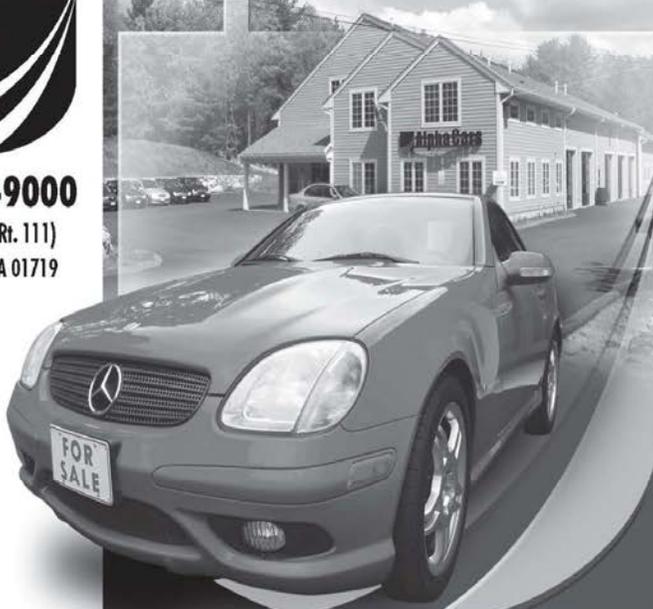
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MBCA: Membership That Pays You Back. Handsomely.

Your membership with the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) comes with special privileges, like saving (up to) \$1,500 on the purchase or lease price of a NEW Mercedes-Benz. To qualify, you must be a current Member of MBCA and have at least one year of uninterrupted membership with the Club, prior to your NEW car lease or purchase. See details below.

U.S. Members — Get \$1,000 off a NEW Mercedes-Benz

If you are a current U.S. Member of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America and have been a Member for at least 12 consecutive months prior to purchasing or leasing a NEW 2013 or NEW 2014 (when available) Mercedes-Benz vehicle, you are considered a “Member in Good Standing” and automatically qualify for a \$1,000 price discount.

Are You a Member in Good Standing?

It’s easy to find out. Visit the Club website at mbca.org. Click the ‘Login’ button at the top right corner of the page then enter your username and password. If you’ve been a Club Member for 12 consecutive months or longer, a Member in Good Standing symbol will appear at the bottom left of your personal profile page.

From your profile page, go to ‘click here’ for time-sensitive terms and conditions and to print an official Loyalty Reward Certificate redeemable at Mercedes-Benz Dealerships in the U.S.. Go to your favorite Mercedes-Benz Dealership then present your Certificate to the Dealer on the day you make your purchase. The Dealer will take \$1,000 off the price of your NEW car.*

*Excludes Sprinter Vans, smart, SLS AMG Coupes & SLS AMG Roadsters. Discount may not be combined with other Mercedes-Benz Certificate Programs or offers including, but not limited to: Master Lease Program and European Delivery. Please read online rules carefully.

Canadian Members — Get (up to) \$1,500 off a NEW Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes-Benz Canada Fleet Services Division wants to reward MBCA’s loyal Canadian Members with (up to) \$1,500 off the purchase or lease price of a NEW Mercedes-Benz.

1. Take this ad to your local authorized Mercedes-Benz Dealership in Canada and negotiate the best price for a NEW 2013 Mercedes-Benz.* Tell the Dealer you are eligible for the “New Car Discount Program” and present your current/ valid MBCA membership card.
2. Your Dealer will automatically deduct the following amount from the price of your NEW Mercedes. Discount CAN be combined with current retail, finance and lease offers:

2013 Models MBCA Discount

(Canadian Members ONLY)

B-Class \$500

C-Class \$750

E-Class (all models) \$750

S-Class \$1,500

SLK-Class \$750

SL-Class \$1,500

CL-Class \$1,500

CLS-Class \$1,500

GLK-Class \$750

M-Class \$750

R-Class \$750

smartfortwo \$500 *Excludes all Demonstrator and AMG vehicles

Note: Dealership salespeople ONLY may contact Daniel Snell, Fleet Marketing Coordinator, Mercedes-Benz Canada at daniel.snell@mercedes-benz.ca or 416.847.7508.

Germanfest XXVI

Presented by InterCity Lines

Class 1 - Contemporary Sedans, Coupes, Wagons and Cabriolets

First Place	Ed Estrella	CLK 63
2nd Place	Glenn & Jane Davis	CL 500
Third Place	Jim Gallo	CL500



Class 2 - Modern Sedans, Estate Wagons, Coupes and Convertibles

First Place	Steven Moeser	300 CD
Second Place	Kevin Dinsmore	560 SEC
Third Place	Kevin Gaudette	190 E, 2.6



Class 3 - Modern Sports Cars

First Place	Joe Cassone	500 SL
Second Place	Patrick Sarsgard	SL 500
Third Place	Ronn Malzone	SL 600



Class 4 - SUV

First Place	Bill Telford	Sprinter
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Class 5 - Classic Sedans,

First Place	Mark Fisher	300 SEL, 6.3
2nd. Place	Keith Porges	280 SEL, 4.5
Third Place	Seldon Loring	280 SEL, 4.5



Class 6 - 113 Sports Cars

First Place	John Mackinnon	280 SL
2nd. Place	Scott Polivy	250 SL



Class 7 - 107 Sports Cars

First Place	Pete Newman	380 SL
2nd. Place	David Pastor	450 SL
Third Place	Frank Soracco	560 SL



Congratulations to all!

Class 8 - Vintage Coupes, Cabriolets, Roadsters & Sedans

First Place	Keith Morgan	250 SE Coupe
2nd. Place	Janet Michael	190 SL
Third Place	Steve Kent	220 S



Class 9 - All New Models

First Place	Richard Wolfson	E550
2nd. Place	Ashok Nayak	E350
Third Place	Brian Dinsmore	S550



Class 10 - Show Class

First Place	Joe Jacob, Old Timer Restoration	300 SL Roadster
2nd. Place	Gerda Echer, Old Timer Restoration	170
Third Place	James Jones	300B



Germanfest XXVI (Continued)

Class 11 - Survivor Class (25+ Years)

First Place Lisa Kaufman 450 SL
 2nd. Place John Perenji 300 SEL, 6.3



Best Modern Street Car Jack & Mary Lou Champney G320



John Slamin with Special Award



Class 12 - Modified Class

First Place Gernold Nisius, SL Tech 280 SL



Best Vintage Street Caleb Steward 280 SL



Best of Show George Grassler Award Bob Hatch & Sons 280 SE Cabriolet, 3.5



Judges' Trophy

Best Classic Street Car Phil Morgan 560 SEC



Judges' Trophy Gordon Bennett 220 Cabriolet



(Photos contributed by Bonnie Fancy, David Bryant, and Nancy Piekarczyk)

2013 Annual Meeting, Theatre and Dinner Event

MINUTEMAN SECTION-MBCA

ANNUAL DINNER, THEATRE EVENT & MEETING

DATE: Sunday, March 3, 2013

PLACE: Theatre Event: "JERSEY BOYS"

The Citi Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston Street, Boston, MA

Cocktails & Dinner: Avila Restaurant – One Charles Street South, Boston, MA

TIME: Theatre: 1:00PM. Cocktails & Dinner: Immediately following the show.



Join the MBCA Minuteman Section at The Citi Colonial Theatre to enjoy

"JERSEY BOYS"

JERSEY BOYS, is the Tony®, Grammy® and Olivier Award-winning Best Musical about Rock and Roll Hall of Famers: 'The Four Seasons': Frankie Valli, Bob Gaudio, Tommy DeVito, and Nick Massi. This is the story of how four blue-collar kids became one of the greatest successes in pop music history. *JERSEY BOYS* features their hit songs "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Rag Doll," "Oh What a Night," and "Can't Take My Eyes Off You."

Immediately following the show we will enjoy cocktails and a superb dinner at **Avila Restaurant**, just a few blocks away from The Citi Colonial Theatre. Serving Modern Mediterranean Cuisine in a cosmopolitan, luxurious environment, **Avila Restaurant** offers a unique & memorable dining experience.

COST: A ridiculously super value at only \$62.50 per person (thanks to a huge contribution from the MBCA-MINUTEMAN SECTION). There is limited seating for only 60 people and reservations will be on a first-come first-served basis. Hurry, this event annually sells out quickly, so send in your reservations now! (Preference will be given to Club Member and one guest only). Theatre 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 only notice of the event; do not delay your reservation)

Cut and mail **RESERVATION FORM** with a **CHECK** by **December 31, 2012** to:

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

rgarick@comcast.net (603-898-3980)

2013 MINUTEMAN SECTION-MBCA ANNUAL DINNER EVENT RESERVATION FORM

NAMES: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

_____ **Total Guests X \$62.50 = \$**_____ Make check payable to: **MINUTEMAN SECTION-MBCA**

Send Reservation Form, Check & a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope for posting tickets to: **Rich Garick, 19 Gordon Mountain Road, Windham, NH 03087**

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

Farberallye XXXV



By Ronald Beaton
October 12-14, Sturbridge, Mass.

The last event of the season was as much fun as the first. This year's much anticipated Farberallye, the 35th, was organized by Mark and Becky Fancy.

The event got kick-started Friday evening with a reception at Ernie and Bonnie Fancy's beautiful new home in Holland (Mass.), with plentiful amounts of adult beverages and fine food. Our hosts made everyone feel welcome and set a fine tone for camaraderie. Ernie took us on a tour of his garage which is already filled and showed us his newer, larger garage which is still in the beginning stages of construction.

Saturday morning began with a breakfast at the Publick House where many of us were housed. Spirits were high and optimism pervasive as the drivers and navigators met at the starting line behind the Publick House and prepared to enter the competitive fray.

Three minute intervals separated the cars beginning the rallye.

The route took us through the rolling countryside of nearby towns and villages searching for clues to answer the rallye master's questions while watching our speed/time/distance to keep within the margins of safety and trying to

maintain the averages to win.

Many found the route challenging with various degrees of difficulty, but most had great fun! We had fine cooperation from Mother Nature as sunshine filled most of the day.

Most of the cars met for a box lunch at the Quabbin Reservoir, took a few minutes to regather their wits, strength and determination – then off to finish the route and again meet at the Publick House to rejoin their friends who went astray along the route.

The awards were presented after everyone enjoyed a fine dinner.

There were different levels of achievement this year: A quiz winner, a Time/Distance winner and Overall/Highest winners.

The Grand Prize First Place Overall/Highest Winners were Ernie and Bonnie Fancy.

Second place prize winner for this category was Henry Magnum.

First place prize for Time/Distance was won by the Gates brothers.

Second place was won by Drew Webb.

First place prize for the Quiz competition was won by Ken and Mary Winicki.

Second place was won by Scott and Ann Warner (this was their first event attendance with the club).

In addition to the awards to the more skilled members, a raffle with numerous prizes was held. The recipients won Mercedes-Benz logoed caps, overnight bags, and miscellaneous items which were well received.

All in all, a grand time!



Arriving on Friday night



Reception at the Fancys

Farberallye XXXV (Continued)



Farberallye XXXV (Continued)



Ed Owen of European Auto Solutions presents prizes to the winners!

MBCA Fast Facts

By Lisa A. Juhl, Director of Marketing

Here are a few interesting facts about the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. Just for fun, try pulling these facts out at Membership gatherings; the Member with the most correct answers wins a prize! Or refer to them as you meet prospective Members. Our positive statistics might encourage other Mercedes enthusiasts to join the Club.

Start of U.S. Recession

October 10, 2008

20,700

20,106

1. As of Nov. 30, 2012 (the last membership report available before press time), MBCA had 20,106 Members. The last time MBCA had over 20,000 Members was in 2007.

19,596

19,940

19,229

19,129

These 20,106 Members are recorded as the “Primary” Member in our national database. Add to that another 8,000 “Associate” Members (listed as the spouse/partner or person 18 years of age or older in the Primary Member’s household) and MBCA hosted over 28,000 Members at the end of November 2012. (Look for membership updates in future editions of this article)

2. Annually, MBCA retains about 61% of its Members. The average retention rate among national non-profit organizations hovers around 50%. THANK YOU for your loyalty!

3. In addition to above-average retention rates, our New Member averages are on the rise, too:

Average # New Members 2008 - (November 30) 2012

2008 2009 2010 2011 2012

311 304 326 348 357

Rank Regional Director Section State

#1 **William Hopper** Greater Washington DC **1533**

#2 **Allen Wrenn** San Francisco Bay Area CA **1190**

#3 **Gene Jurick** North Texas TX **969**

#4 **Barry Patchett** Seattle WA **819**

#5 **Gene Jurick** Fort Worth TX **812**

#6 **Joe Grattan** Connecticut/Westchester CT **763**

#7 **Ernie Fancy Minuteman MA 753**

#8 **Joe Grattan** Northern New Jersey NJ **751**

#9 **Joe Grattan** NYC/Long Island NY **716**

#10 **Bill Denton** Greater Chicagoland IL **703**

THANK YOU! for all you do to keep MBCA GROWING!

Upcoming Events 2013

Spring: European Auto Solutions Tech Session

Spring Winery Caravan

Summer: Ken Bourque's Annual Nautical Sail, presented by AlphaCars

Fall: Germanfest XXVII



Fall: Farberallye XXXVI

Plus new events. See website for up to date details.

THIS SPACE FOR RENT

Bring your message to the finest homes and auto owners in New England! Don't be like a lovely woman in a dark room – unseen – reach thousands of our readers with your message in every issue: Our rates are most inviting: Call **Ronald Beaton to place your ad here! 781-337-1717**