



THE GASLINE

Brandywine Motorsport Club, Inc.

www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org

July 2015



BMC CLUB MEETING

**Hunters Den Restaurant, 3517 Old Capitol Trail, Wilmington, Dela.
Tuesday, July 7th – Meet & Greet @ 6:30, Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.**

BMC AUTOCROSS IV

Saturday July 25th – Glasgow High School Site

Chair Chatter – Paul Alderman



Where have the months gone? We have just completed the 3rd Autocross and the 2nd Rally of the season. Thanks to Jim Martin for the hard work of laying out the Summer Solstice Rally on the 20th. The day turned out to be a nice one to cruise around the countryside. Jim

had us looking for answers to questions about some pictures along the rally route, as we followed the route. It made it a bit more interesting, I was also keeping the car close to the official time. We missed two answers and that dropped us in the running order, but we had a fun time. I want to challenge everyone if you have not tried a rally to give it a go. It's not like the WRC blasting through the countryside, but it is precision while driving. Thanks again Jim (and everyone else who helped him.)

My next driving challenge was last weekend for Autocross III, and while my own results were hampered with an engine problem. The group from Riesentoter and the Mini Meet East helped make it the most subscribed event in recent history. Duke, Dave, and Nuri collaborated on course design and again were able to make it a fun event, despite the standing water adding another level of difficulty. Duke is to be congratulated for all his hard work. He is continuing to refine the processes for registration and signup, as well as, assigning jobs that need to be done during the event. Thanks to everyone that came out and made the event a success.

The next club event is the Monthly Meeting on Tuesday, July 7th. Come out and join us for food and fellowship at Hunter's Den Restaurant. See you then,
Paul

Rally Chair - George Alderman



Jim Martin put on a great rally on June 20th, unfortunately we only had a turnout of six cars. Jim Irons was going to organize a rally for August 29th but because of the poor turnout for the last rally, we decided to plan a fall rally maybe the beginning of October. Sunday October 18th is the date for the annual Braille Rally which we organize in partnership with the Porsche Club of Delaware. My thought is to use the course laid out by Jim Martin because of the interesting roads that I think the Porsche Club drivers will enjoy.

George

Membership Chair – Anita Steward

Welcome to all of our new members and members that have rejoined this month: John Daly, Nick Gurnas, Robert Hopkins, Kathe and Phil Worrell, Ellen and Stan Roper, and Wilbert Cedeno! Looking forward to seeing you at one or all of our upcoming events!

Anita

BMC Online

- **BMC Website:** www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org
- **BMC Facebook Page:** Brandywine Motorsport Club
- **BMC YouTube Page:** Brandywine Motorsport Club (autocross videos submitted by members and friends)

Autocross Report – Duke Wilford



BMC hosted delegations from 2 regional car clubs at Autocross III at Glasgow High School on 28 June. Fortunately, the weather improved dramatically overnight, and while the winds were annoying at times, overall the day was bright and clear. Water from the heavy rains the day (and night) before left the lot with a few permanent wet areas, which forced some last minute adjustments to the layout.

First, we were glad to offer the classic Minis of **Mini Meet East** a chance to try their hands at autocross, though some had clearly tried several hands at it before. After the autocross, the MME folks were headed down to St. Michael's, MD, for a multi-day social event featuring both Minis and MINIs. The event attracted about 10 classic Minis, from various Coopers to a screaming yellow (and well prepared) Mini pickup, and even a hot-rodded Mini Moke, which was about as minimalist as it could be without being demoted to golf cart status.

We also welcomed the **Reisentöter Region PCA**, most of whom are no strangers to autocross or fast driving. The RTR guys are not shine-n-show Porsche owners; they drive their P-cars as intended. They have a unique autocross series where they visit other clubs' events around the region as an organized group. We were event #5 on their 2015 schedule, and we'd be glad to have them back – they always have great attitudes and look like they're having fun.

These groups helped expand our attendance to 95 cars, yet again the most we've seen in recent years. While this success makes us proud, it comes with a price. This event filled every square foot of available space at the GHS venue – paddock, grid, and course – with cars and people. Registration seemed to run pretty smoothly. We had extra help under the timing tent, too, which kept stress levels reasonable despite the size and pace of the event. Every-one seemed to have fun, whether running, working, or spectating. The large turnout and some delays meant that we only got 5 competition runs instead of our usual 6.

Speaking of delays, unfortunately, this autocross was not without incidents. In the morning heat, a driver spun at the finish line, causing minor damage to the car and to the school's property-line fence. While that served as a warning to most, in the afternoon another competitor spun much more dramatically in the same place. This car actually went through the fence, causing further damage to the fence and to the car involved. Fortunately the driver was unhurt and did not hit anything else.

This incident represents the first real accident BMC has suffered in more than 8 years. We contacted the school immediately and are working with the District to have the fence repaired to their satisfaction. However, this accident also attracted the attention of the neighboring residents, and a complaint was filed with the District office.

We are addressing the damage and the complaint with the District and the residents, but further incidents like this will jeopardize or end our ability to run at the School. It is absolutely *critical* that drivers respect the environment both on campus and around the neighboring homes. Excitement runs high at an event like this, but with civilian houses located directly across the street from our venue, we must remember to keep safety our highest priority.

Toward this end, we are considering a number of adjustments to the way events are designed and managed:

- **We will be capping attendance at 75 cars for Glasgow HS events.** This represents a manageable size that will allow proper control over administration and safety, as well as maximizing the number of runs for all drivers.
- **We will be adjusting the course layouts to reduce speeds** and to stay farther away from the neighboring houses. Safety is Priority One.
- **We will be enforcing noise control.** Hard acceleration and braking generate loud sounds that others do not appreciate the way car enthusiasts do. Our rules have always required an effective muffler, and excessively loud cars will be parked.

I realize that this sounds like all the fun will go away, but it won't. Accidents are not fun, and losing access to our **ONLY** real venue will ruin *everybody's* season. Although we continue to search for additional sites, Glasgow HS is the only location we currently have permission to run. The tiny Keene lot is still available, but it belongs to the same School District. If they must remove us from one campus, they are unlikely to welcome us at another.

If you have any ideas or contacts with access to a large, open lot the size of GHS or more, please let me know. Scout around on your Sunday drives or weekly errands. We continually look for additional venues in order to provide backup for GHS, as well as some variety in location and layout. Please keep your eyes and ears open!

With attendance limited, it will be even more important to preregister for the event to secure your spot. Those who preregister will receive top priority at check-in on site. Walkup space will be limited to the spots available after all preregistrants are enrolled in the event. So, as always, please go to Motorsportreg.com and sign up before preregistration closes for our future events. Our next Autocross, AxIV, is on **Saturday, July 25** at Glasgow High School unless we announce otherwise.

As mentioned earlier, we had additional volunteers working with Timing and Scoring under the tent. We also had a good group of instructors to help point rookies in the right direction. These extra hands helped a great deal, so if you are interested in a specific staff position instead of shagging cones, please contact me.

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Autocross Report – Continued

A number of you have already posted or provided me with videos from the event – thank you! They will be linked on our Club’s YouTube channel shortly. If you have any videos from previous events, please feel free to send me links or post them on the Club Facebook page. Just search YouTube for Brandywine Motorsport Club to see past and current event videos. Our club Facebook page has many pictures from the June event as well!

Feedback is always appreciated, so please feel free to contact me at **BMCautox@gmail.com** with any questions or comments. Thanks!

-Duke “Uh Oh” Wilford
Autocross Chair

Editor’s Note: Autocross III Results were sent separately with this Gasline, and are available on the BMC website: <http://www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org>

Secretary’s Report - Jim Martin

The June 2nd of June, 2015 meeting was held at the Hunter’s Den Restaurant. The turnout was 11 members, thanks to all that showed up. The meeting was called to order by Jim Martin at 7:24 PM. Our Chairman, Paul Alderman was visiting his father in the hospital, (everything turned out fine).

At the end of May, our finances were \$8,361.38; our membership is now at 94 members.

Duke Wilford (AutoX Chair) talked about our 2nd AutoX of the season. We had 75 cars registered for the AutoX, which is a new record (recent history) for our Club; we have not seen a number this high since the 80’s. This was our 2nd AutoX with the new electronic equipment. Our 3rd AutoX of the season will be Sunday June 28th at the same location.

Jim Martin (Rally Master for the next Rally) spoke about the layout and that we incorporated pictures into the Rally to provide a different type of challenge.

As Club Secretary, I have to apologize for the brief notes since I was also chairing the meeting, I didn’t keep very good notes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Summer Solstice Rally Report

The Summer Solstice Scavenger Road Rally was run on June 20th and we had 6 cars entered in this less than two hour Rally. Thanks to everyone who showed up.

There were 10 photos of things along the route with questions; each answer was worth 10 points. The average speed was 30 mph (2 min./mile) and mileage was given for each instruction. The checkpoints were self scored (DIY), very little calculation and you didn’t need a GPS.



Was laundry hanging out when you drove by?

The Winners in the Experienced Class were Willis Weldin and Eric Nicolaisen; they had identified all 10 photo questions correctly and finished early by 12 seconds.

The Novice Class Winners were the Santonastaso Family. (with all those eyes they missed 3 pictures?)

Driver/Navigator	Rally	Photos	Total
Weldin/Nicolaisen	-12	100	88
Worrell/Irons	-12	90	78
Alderman/Alderman	-254	80	-174
O’Donnell/Trahan	-510	60	-450
Santonastaso Family	-288	70	-218
Mitchell Family	-576	50	-526

Jim Martin, Rallymaster



AUTOCROSS IV

Brandywine Motorsport Club

Saturday, July 25, 2015



Glasgow High School • Route 896 • Glasgow, DE 19702

Right at 3rd traffic light north of Rte 40

Left at 2nd traffic light south of I-95

Setup begins @ 8:00 AM

Registration 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM



Entry Fee: \$30

(BMC Club Members: \$25)

Trophies awarded by Class



- **NO OPEN EXHAUST – Effective muffler required.**
- Approved helmet, seatbelts, and valid drivers license required.
- Loaner helmets will be available.
- Vehicles must pass safety and technical inspection.
- *All contestants, workers, and guests must sign a release and waiver of liability.*
- **Minimum age of 18 years for Drivers.**
Parent/guardian signatures required for those in attendance under 18.
- **All cars are welcome to compete.** Common Autocross Rules and Classifications will generally be followed. We reserve the right to modify/interpret these rules to suit the spirit of the competition.
- **Classic Street Car Class for generally stock pre-1978 cars.**

Pre-Register Online and Reserve your Car Number at:

www.motorsportreg.com

Free & easy online preregistration provides faster check-in at the event.

No online payment required.

MotorsportReg
.com

You can also pre-register by contacting:

Duke Wilford at BMCAutox@gmail.com or 302-528-0612