



THE GASLINE

Brandywine Motorsport Club, Inc.

www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org

September 2015

BMC CLUB MEETING

**Hunters Den Restaurant, 3517 Old Capitol Trail, Wilmington, Dela.
Tuesday, September 1st – Meet & Greet @ 6:30, Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.**

BMC AUTOCROSS VI

Saturday, September 12th – Dover Speedway Site

BMC Dealer's Choice Road Rally

Sunday, September 27th - Newark Park n Ride

Chair Chatter – Paul Alderman



Wow, Labor Day is right around the corner and so is the Lofland. Autocross V is in the books and was another successful event, with nice weather and no major issues. Fun runs were run at the end of the event, so I got a chance to swap cars with Nuri and David.

Nuri has been battling for FTD (and PAX) all season and I was able to drive his MR2. It was fun but the adjustment from a Caterham to any other vehicle is always a challenge, even the MR2 feels big. David and Nuri both ran my car and wished we had put in a posi rear. Fun was had by all, and it was neat watching the car go around the course with someone else driving.

The Lofland Memorial Sprint will be held this month on the 12th to avoid the rain that has stopped us the last couple years. The event is in memory of Jack Lofland, a BMC member who passed away from cancer; his parents donated the trophy in his memory. The cup is presented to the driver with the Fastest Time of Day for the event. So come on out and drive hard and we will see who will get their name on the trophy this year.

Our next event will be our Dealers Choice Rally on the 27th. Come out and join us you can run either a beginner style rally or the harder experienced rally. If Jim's other rallies are any indication it should be a fun and challenging route. I look forward to running.

For those with a desire to come out and check out some interesting cars, club members will also be attending the BCCD Delaware City Car Show on the 19th and the Annual Hagley Car Show on the 20th. We will also have our meeting next week on the 1st at the Hunters Den Restaurant. Come and join us for food and fellowship. See you there..

Paul

Dealer's Choice Rally

BMC's Dealer's Choice road rally on September 27th is a great chance for those who have never run a rally to try one - on us! It's free for first timers and only \$10 per car for others. You have a choice of two classes.

The **E-Z Tour Class** has easy-to-follow route instructions and just one average speed. We even give you the time of day that you should be at the instruction before each checkpoint, so you only have to run about 2 miles at 30 mph average to get a good score.

The **Classic TSD Class** also has easy-to-follow route instructions with no tricks or traps, but has various speed changes to provide a timing challenge for the more experienced rallyists.

Both classes will also have 12 questions about things encountered along the route. Each correct answer reduces your total score by 10 points. This Q&A is voluntary, but will provide a little extra fun for the navigators, along with reducing your scores.

So hook up with a driver or navigator to partner with, check the flyer in this Gasline (or on the BMC website), and email me with your class choice. I will send you the rally's General Instructions (rules & details) via email. No entry fees needed up front.

So if you're not going to Philly to see the Pope on the 27th, I hope you will come out and enjoy the Dealer's Choice rally.

*Jim Irons,
Dealer's Choice Rallymaster*

Autocross Report – Duke Wilford



The only autocross event left in the 2015 season is our grand finale, the Lofland Memorial Autocross at Dover Speedway on 12 September. This event will not have an attendance cap, so please preregister now!

And don't forget our September 27 Dealer's Choice road rally, which is fun and free to first-timers. Details are at www.motorpsortreg.com.

Autocross V, our last Glasgow High School event this year, is in the can. Continuing our streak of favorable conditions, the weather was hot but dry, and wind was mild. August is typically our least-attended event, but we still hosted 60 drivers in a wide variety of cars, despite overlapping with some other regional events. Thanks to the moderate turnout and efficient event management, everybody got 6 competition runs, plus 3 fun runs if desired. Many – if not most – competitors took advantage of the fun run offer. Lots of drivers switched cars or brought passengers along.

The course was a little shorter than some of our recent layouts, with times ranging from the low 30s to the mid 40s. Thanks to Nuri and David for helping to design and set it up.

We continue to see many new faces at our events. We try to be a novice-friendly group, and apparently it's working. Autocross is a great way to introduce people to the car hobby and performance driving at any age. At this event we had several first timers trying a new experience at a, ummmm, *mature* age. We are also glad to see an ever-increasing number of women getting involved in the sport at our events, such as the Wortmann sisters, Shelby Cooper, Louise Coltharp, and Linda Ockner, among others.

While David Hughes's Miata pulled triple duty at the last event, this time it was Nuri Heckrotte's white MR-2 Spyder that provided a seat for at least 3 drivers – Nuri, David, and Mike Kingsland. The car took all 3 podium spots in STR, though David edged out Nuri for the win. Nuri's MR-S also took 3 of the Top 5 PAX spots! We had a number of other 2-driver cars, with friends or siblings squaring off in battles of pure driving skill.

Although George Alderman declined to bring the Prius this time, he was heard to comment that Prius sales were down 10% following the Toyota's loss to Lou Spinelli's Chevy Volt in our last event. "Electric Lou" brought the silent but swift Volt back to take second in HS behind Chris "Corner on the door handles" Maassen's Civic DX sedan.

Other noteworthy cars included Nicholas Betegh's well-sorted red 1969 911 and Robert Nyitrai's clean blue 1995 version, spreading that beautiful air-cooled flat-six sound across the course. Tim Ploechinger returned in his red Lotus Elise, and overcame some morning frustrations in the afternoon runs.

Matthew Tornetta's heavily prepared (and heavily cammed) Volvo 240 wailed around the cones, representing the station wagon fans. Dan Ritter fitted an external muffler to his side-dumped Focus, but unfortunately bottomed out and damaged the rest of the exhaust system. We hope to see him back at Dover with his radical bodywork conversion. The field was rounded out with a number of FRS/BRZ "frizbees", S2000s, STi/WRX/OBS Subaru, and many other marques and models.

Paul Alderman returned with the Aldermans' Caterham Super 7, fresh from a heart transplant after suffering an apparent rod bearing attack at an earlier event. The Caterham didn't need much recovery period, as Paul drove it to a quick 32.150 to take FTD. Paul actually posted a pair of smoking times – 31.790 and 31.791 – but coned on both of those runs. That kind of consistency is what makes for a good driver, particularly in autocross. David Hughes also posted a number of low-32 runs, all within a few hundredths or each other. David ended up trailing Paul's clean FTD by a mere tenth of a second!

PAX, as usual, wound up with a slightly different ranking. Fastest Index Time of the Day was claimed by David Hughes, driving Nuri's MR-S to an adjusted 27.032. He was followed by Brandon Hipp's S200 at 27.563 (index) and Nuri Heckrotte with a 27.602 (index).

Our Class and PAX Championship standings are posted at the Club's website. As we head into the final event, the battle for various class championships is heating up, as well as the PAX-based Driver Of The Year. Only about 50 points separate the Top 5 PAX drivers, so it could be anybody's win after Autocross VI and the 1-event drop.

Thanks to all of our regulars and especially our volunteer staff, including tech, registration, instruction, and timing / scoring. Dedicated volunteers keep our events running smoothly. We couldn't do it without your help.

Feedback is always appreciated, so please feel free to contact me at BMCautox@gmail.com with any questions, comments, or suggestions. You can also post on our Facebook page or the Club's website. Thanks!

*-Duke "Hey, I got to drive" Wilford
Autocross Chair*

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

Rally Chair - George Alderman



Other than the special BMC/PCA Braille rally on October 18th, there are no other rallies scheduled for this year after Jim Irons' Dealer's Choice rally on the 27th. So we hope you will support Jim's event.

George

Membership Chair – Anita Steward

Welcome to our new members Darren Hussey & son Troy, as well as George Pearson! Looking forward to seeing you at one or all of our upcoming events!

Keep on cruising!

Anita — neats1102@yahoo.com

Secretary's Report - Jim Martin

The 4th of August, 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 Paul Alderman at 7:27 PM.

Treasurer's Report (Willis Weldin) - At the end of July our finances were \$11,466.63. This dollar amount is a new high for our Club, which is a direct result of our AutoX Program. This new high accounts for the close to \$5,000 spent on new equipment.

Membership Report (Anita Steward) – At the end of July our membership has grown from 102 members in June to 107 members, which is a new high. Last year at this time we were at 90 members. This can be tied to our renewed focus on growing the Club. We would like to welcome Jose Marcano to both the monthly meeting and BMC; our last AutoX was also his first.

AutoX Report (Duke Wilford) – Our 4th AutoX for the Season resulted in 66 Drivers participating, we had a number of pre-registered who did not show. Everyone managed to get 6 runs in plus some free fun runs at the end. Last year at this time we had 49 drivers registered for the Glasgow Site. Looks like we lose a lot to summer vacations?

The Glasgow School District managed to get the fence fixed for a cost of \$565 and they were promptly reimbursed by the Club.

We are looking at the possibility of having an annual meeting to award trophies to the best PAX scores of the season. We also want to keep searching for at least one more site at least the size of Glasgow to provide variety for the attendees.

Rally Report (George Alderman) –

Jim Irons, Rally Master for our 3rd Rally, reported that his event will be called Dealer's Choice Rally. Participants can chose between one of two classes:

- Easy Tour Class
- * Classic TSD Class (more competitive group)

Please note that we have rescheduled this Rally to Sunday, 9/27. Registration will open at 12 PM and will be located at the Park & Ride, at the corner of South College Avenue (route 896) and Christina Parkway (route 4) in Newark, DE.

Street Survival (Bob Turner) - He reported on Street Survival program that is sponsored by Tire Rack and the SCCA. The Dover Air Base is interested in this program and wants to stage one on Base for Air Force Personnel. He said it would be a good way to introduce the Base to Autocrossing and other Club activities. To put the program on, he will need a number of experienced autocrossors.

Editor (Jim Irons) – Reminded everyone that all articles for the next newsletter need to be forwarded to him no later than Tuesday, August 25th (the Tuesday previous to our Monthly Meeting).

Chair (Paul Alderman) –The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Last Rites?





Brandywine Motorsport Club
Dealer's Choice Rally

Sunday, September 27th, 2015

Dealer's Choice is a low pressure road rally of about fifty miles on paved country roads in Delaware, Southeastern Pennsylvania, and Cecil County, Maryland. Two separate rally classes are available, you choose which one you wish to run. Both classes have very straightforward written instructions designed to keep you on course and enjoy the drive.

Choose Your Class:

E-Z Tour: One average speed, mileages to most instructions, timing in seconds. Plus answer questions along the route for extra points.

Perfect for Novices - separate Novice class if entries permit.

Classic TSD: More challenging time-speed-distance rally for experienced rallyists. No equipment restrictions. Plus answer questions along the route for extra points.

Trophies: Vintage BMC Armetale Pewter Mug Trophies for Class winners

Start Location:

Newark Park & Ride Lot, Intersection of Routes 896 and 4 in Newark, Dela.

Registration opens at 12 Noon

First car off @ 1:00 PM plus car number

Finish: Matilda's Restaurant, Rte 896, Newark, DE

Cost: Just \$10 per Car (First-Time Rallyists Free)

Rallymaster: Jim Irons @ jimsz4@verizon.net

Email the rallymaster to get an advance emailed copy of the General Instructions (Rally rules and details.)



AUTOCROSS VI The Lofland Memorial



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2015
Dover Speedway South Parking Area
Leipsic Road, Dover Delaware

From Route 13, turn east onto Leipsic Road (Rt 88) just south of the Speedway. Follow Leipsic Rd. approximately 1 mile to Finish Line Rd. Turn left onto the Speedway property near the Monster Mile statue and follow on-site directions to the paddock.

Setup 8:00 AM

Registration 9:00 to 10:00 AM

Entry Fee: \$45

(BMC Club Members: \$40)

**Trophies awarded by Class –
Special Lofland Trophy for FTD**

- **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.**

There is no entry limit for this event, however, online preregistering is recommended.

Preregister 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.

You can also preregister by contacting:

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