



THE GASLINE

Brandywine Motorsport Club, Inc.

www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org

October 2015

BMC CLUB MEETING

Hunters Den Restaurant, 3517 Old Capitol Trail, Wilmington, Dela.

Tuesday, October 6th – Meet & Greet @ 6:30, Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.

Rally Chair - George Alderman

After such a great turnout for the September 27th Dealer's Choice Rally, maybe we should consider having one more rally this year in addition to the Braille Rally on October 18th. We can talk about that at the next BMC meeting.

See Scott Clabaugh's adjacent article on the Braille Rally. We will need a few members to man checkpoints on that Rally, so if you would like to work a checkpoint let me know. Scott is working with his Delaware Porsche Club members to provide cars and drivers for the braille-reading navigators, so if you would like to be a driver, contact Scott.

George Alderman 302 373 2111

Albert "Babe" Johns

Longtime BMC member "Babe" Johns passed away in August 2015 at age 97.

BMC lost a "lifetime" member recently. Babe Johns was a happy, personable guy, and a ready worker. He was very active with the club when I joined in 1960. I was running a lot of the club rallies with BMC, and it seemed that Babe was always working one of the checkpoints. If you are new to the club, ask one of the members that knew him 'when' to tell a "Babe" story of his activities and exploits (shenanigans?). Always a fun time, and friendly.

Born Albert C. Johns in 1918, Babe remained active with BMC, attending a meeting at Matilda's and our 60th Anniversary celebration at the Stone Barn. He was a P. S. DuPont H.S. grad and US Army Air Corps veteran, he worked at Hercules Powder Co's Electromicroscopy Lab until retirement in 1981. His hobbies included photography and skiing, and in retirement, he continued to travel the world, including over 20 visits to Disney and a trans-Canada train trip just a few years ago. A celebration of life service was held in September remembering his contagious energy and passion for life.

Wayne Elvin

2015 Braille Rally

How About a Nice Ride in the Country??

Sunday Afternoon, OCTOBER 18th, 2015.



It's time for the 44th Running of the Braille Rally. A year has passed since the PCA and BMC last joined forces to present this annual event for the benefit of the members of the Blindsight Delaware....and according to some of the Navigators, it can't come soon enough!

We'll start at the usual spot at Brandywine Springs Park off Faulkland Rd. at 1 PM. From there, you'll be given driving directions and hopefully, you'll end up at 2915 Newport Gap Pike, BSDE's Camp Landis. At Camp Landis, along with food and drink, we'll have the awards presentation.

There are four things you're going to need - your car, an ordinary wrist watch, a clipboard for your navigator to read the Braille instructions, and your time. This event is free to everyone who enters and we encourage family participation. We still need drivers and also helpers to serve food and clean up when we're done for the day. This is an awesome opportunity for our club to reach out to those that may be less fortunate in the community.

Let's have a strong showing for the Rally this year! If you'd like to drive, or volunteer on the course, please contact me at cab996c4@verizon.net. After the general instruction meeting and also meeting your navigator the first car will be off at 2:01 PM. If you talk to anyone who's driven in this event over the years, they will tell you that the afternoon is a very rewarding experience. Don't be shy!

Scott Clabaugh

Chair Chatter – Paul Alderman

Sorry, no report from Paul this month.

Autocross Report – Duke Wilford



BMC's 2015 autocross season came to a close this month with our season finale under the shadow of the Monster Mile at Dover Speedway. Because we've had terrible luck with October weather the last 2 years, we moved the final event to September 12th.

Unfortunately, the weather still mostly refused to cooperate. Although we were plagued by rain throughout the middle of the day, at least we didn't have to reschedule the event, and we managed to get 6 runs for every driver who stuck it out.

I designed the course to provide a variety of element types and speeds while maximizing our use of the big lots at Dover. Nuri Heckrotte and David Hughes made some field adjustments to improve drivability while they were laying it out on site, resulting in a course that combined fast, free-flowing parts with some technical areas that required patience and control. Thanks to David and Nuri and the rest of the dawn crew for getting the course up and open for walking in good time!

The course opened with a 180° left through the lot divider, followed by a fast right kink into a left hand Chicago Box. The box opened out into a long, increasing-radius right sweeper past the Monster and into a long slalom at the perimeter. The slalom ended in a switchback pair of box turns, then swooped right through the divider and back into the first lot. From there it snaked through another switchback into a short optional slalom, giving drivers a choice of lines through the last quadrant. The course ended with a sharp right that widened out into a short final straight, with the stop box ending just before the infamous hump that cuts diagonally across the lot.

Times ranged from around a minute & 10 seconds – about twice as long as our usual GHS courses – down to just under a minute. Times varied widely throughout the day, as Group A got dry runs in the morning, with rain starting during Group B and getting heavy enough for windshield wipers during the first part of Group C. After a pause to put plastic bags over all the electronic equipment and secure the timing tents, we continued through the falling rain and accumulating puddles. Apparently we were spared the worst of the weather, as a very powerful storm cell broke up just south of Dover before hitting us. Group A got rain-free runs in the afternoon heat as well, but encountered plenty of birdbaths on course. The course was drying out during B2 and was fairly dry by the end of C2. Unfortunately (or maybe not), a second round of rain cut the award ceremony a little short and didn't leave a lot of time for recognition.

This event was our annual Lofland Memorial Trophy autocross, and the large silver cup was on display in the tent, with names for FTD stretching back to the '70s. Paul Alderman's name is on the cup more than once, and he was hoping to put it there again this year. Unfortunately, oil pressure issues during the long right sweeper in the first section of the course prompted him to park the Caterham

before it needed a *new* new engine. Though conditions made consistency tough, the Top 5 times of the day were all under 1 minute: Lou Montella (ES, 59.811 - the only Street class driver at any level to break the 1-minute barrier!), Michael Shea (STS, 59.743), Wojtek Hajduczek (STU, 59.033), David Hughes (STR, 58.927), and Nuri Heckrotte (STR, a smoking 57.887). Nuri's last run was the only one to dip into the 57s, earning him FTD and getting his name on the Lofland Cup for a second time. Lately it's been Paul, Nuri, Paul, Nuri – we need to vary it up a little next year!

We're holding back our Class and PAX Championship results temporarily while we discuss how to proceed with championship awards. This is our first season with a software system capable of easily calculating these season-long results. Rest assured that we will have something special for our top drivers in each class, as well as our PAX Driver Of The Year. Stay tuned to this column, our club Facebook page, and the BMC website for more information as it develops.

It's been a great season, as the Club and the autocross program have continued to grow. We really appreciate everyone who has come out to run in one of our events, and who has spread the word to bring more novices and experienced drivers to try us. Whenever I am contacted by a new person, I always ask how they heard about us – the consistent answer is “my friend told me.” That seems to mean we're running a fun program that offers good value to the enthusiast community. We even had 2 other auto clubs – Mini Meet East and the Reisentöter Region of the PCA – make our July event a part of their programs. We hope to reach out to more people and make 2016 even better!

Although this is my third year as program chair, I am absolutely just one of the many people who make the events happen. Many attendees, both regulars and first-timers, come up and ask what they can do to help. This attitude is what makes for a successful event and I thank everybody who pitched in this year, even if it was just to chalk cones or lend a spare tire to stop the tent from blowing away.

There are a bunch of people I need to thank individually, too. I will undoubtedly miss some. If so, it's not because I didn't notice you, it's that I recognize some people better by car and helmet than I do by name and face. So big thanks to these folks who consistently came out and volunteered:

- Jim Martin, for helping out at every event, even if he didn't drive, and for his consistent support for the autocross program and boosterism for the Club
- Paul and George Alderman for managing the equipment trailer, radios, generator, and receipts
- Shawn Dewey for lending us his generator all year – we'll get our own, we promise

Continued next page....

Autocross Report – Continued


- Jim Irons for his newsletter and help under the tent
- Anita Steward and Lou Spinelli for being friendly, enthusiastic, and willing to do anything to help
- Nuri Heckrotte and David Hughes for their help and feedback on the course designs, and for laying them out at the crack of dawn
- Bob Turner, Frank Adkins, Lou Spinelli, and all the others who simply handle tech inspection without even being asked
- Alex Brooke, Phil Kunz, Morgan and JB Krause, Greg Kulp, Rich Wortmann, Lou (again!), Wilbert Cedeño, Dan and Will McGowan, and everybody else who stepped up to being starter or helping with timing/scoring under the tent
- Nuri, David, Bob, Gerry Caceres, Jase Johnston, Josh Nash, Lizzy Wilford, and the rest of the instructor corps who ride along with novices to keep them pointed the right way – this makes the difference between somebody who goes away frustrated and somebody who comes back excited
- Last, but absolutely not least – my wife Maryanne and daughters Lizzy and Allegheny, for helping me streamline and improve all the behind-the-scenes tasks as well as being the friendly faces who deal with registration, check-in, timing and scoring, and all the questions people ask. I absolutely could not survive, let alone get to drive in the events, without your help

So thanks to everybody – novice or experienced; BMC first-timer or regular; driver, volunteer, or spectator – who came out in 2015, our biggest year since the revitalization of the Club in the early 2000s. We hope you had a good time and we hope to see you again in 2016.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at **BMCautox@gmail.com**. You can also post on our Facebook page or the Club's website. Thanks!

*-Duke "Look out, SSM" Wilford
Autocross Chair*

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



MINI MEET EAST
2015
St. Michaels, Maryland

In Recognition and Appreciation Of:

BRANDYWINE MOTORSPORTS CLUB

For Accommodating Participants of
Mini Meet East
To Compete In Your Autocross Program
June 28, 2015

Truck, Truck, Truck, Car



Dealer's Choice Rally Wrapup

We had nice Fall day for BMC's Dealer's Choice road rally on Sunday, September 27th. This rally was basically a rerun of my 2013 Trolls Tour rally, but I don't think anyone noticed.

Fourteen teams entered, including a few extra interesting cars. Peter and Anne Renzetti brought their classic MG-TD, Frank and Kristan Adkins ran their mid-60s Dodge Dart "police car" and JD Siemsen had his beautiful Lotus Exige.

The E-Z Tour Class was mostly first-timers who all made it through fine and seemed enjoy the day. We hope they will look forward to rallying again.

Since 3 of the 6 entries in the TSD class were "Pros", I split the class into a Pro and Amateur sub-groups. The father and son Alderman team out-did the Weldins in TSD Pro. In TSD Am, Duke Wilford came close to equaling his 91-point winning Novice score in the Trolls Tour rally, but he and Maryanne had a 200 point max leg that kept that from happening, but they took first in class anyway - with Kristan and Frank Adkins close behind.

All classes had 12 Questions to answer along the rally route and it kept the navigators (and drivers) pretty busy. Each correct answer gave a ten point reduction in their rally scores. In the EZ Tour class, JD Siemsen and Scott McKently had the best rally score, but 3 wrong answers bumped them into 2nd, giving the win to a happy Paige Causey and Joe Shelton.

Thank You's go out to Duke Wilford for bringing his whole extended family out for this rally, and for actively promoting BMC rallies at our autocrosses. Thanks also to Wayne Elvin who was always there to help with the course layout and pre-checks. Also to Willis Weldin for adapting his great Excel rally scoring program for my needs (and for his patience). And of course I have to thank my Lady Marie for handling registration.

I hope to see more of you at the next BMC rally.

*Jim Irons,
Dealer's Choice Rallymaster*

Car#	Class	Driver/Navigator	1	2	3	4	Rally	Q&A	Total	Pos.
2	TSD Pro	Paul Alderman/George Alderman	15	22	77	14	128	-120	8	1*
1	TSD Pro	Willis & Martha Alderman	48	18	79	23	168	-120	48	2*
5	TSD Pro	Arch Scurlock/Steve Mulligan	200	200	200	200	800	-120	680	3
6	TSD Am	Duke & Maryanne Wilford	4	11	200	72	287	-50	237	1*
4	TSD Am	Kristan & Frank Adkins	22	107	170	48	347	-80	267	2*
3	TSD Am	Ross Causey III/Allie Wilford	14	200	200	178	592	-100	492	3
14	EZ Tour	Paige Causey/Joe Shelton	4	39	136	13	192	-110	82	1*
12	EZ Tour	JD Siemsen/Scott McKentley	60	41	31	43	175	-90	85	2*
16	EZ Tour	Peter & Anne Renzetti	80	168	39	1	288	-110	178	3*
13	EZ Tour	Anne & Ross Causey	55	176	180	58	469	-110	359	4*
10	EZ Tour	Greg Kulp/Lori Wright	60	161	86	163	470	-80	390	5
17	EZ Tour	Curt & Maryann Hatfield	143	180	61	63	447	-50	397	6
15	EZ Tour	Anita Steward/Lou Spinelli	165	180	83	58	486	-80	406	7
11	EZ Tour	Robb & Kristen Harman	180	180	180	180	720	-80	640	8

*Trophy Awarded

Secretary's Report - Jim Martin

The 1st of September, 2015 meeting was held at the Hunter's Den Restaurant. The turnout was 15 members, thanks to all that showed up. The meeting was called to order by Paul Alderman at 6:52 PM.

Treasurer's Report (Willis Weldin) - At the end of August our finances were \$8,877.54. This reflects close to \$4,000 that has already been spent to put on our end of season AutoX in Dover on 9/12. Even though we have spent thousands upgrading our equipment over the past several years, we are still running ahead financially over where we have been in the past.

Membership Report (Anita Steward) – At the end of August our membership stands at 107 members. It seems that the more our Club grows the more attendance at our monthly meetings drops?

Rally Report (George Alderman) –

Jim Irons (Rally Master) for our 3rd Rally reported on his Rally, Dealer's Choice Rally. Participants can choose between an Easy Tour Class or a TSD Class (more competitive group)

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.

AutoX Report (Duke Wilford) – We are gearing up for our final AutoX of the Season at the Dover Raceway. We already have 50 Drivers preregistered.

Street Survival (Bob Turner) – George Alderman and Jim Martin attended the Street Survival Course in Warminster, PA on 8/16. It looks like a very worthwhile course for new drivers. They had about 30 registered drivers that gained more confidence as they drove throughout the day.

Property Report (Dave Mitchell) – Nothing new to report.

Editor (Jim Irons) – Reminded everyone that all articles for the next newsletter need to be forwarded to him no later than Tuesday, September 29th (the Tuesday previous to our Monthly Meeting).

Wayne Elvin asked the group if anyone knew of any places that he could go to get Chrome restoration/plating done for children's furniture. Evidently the EPA has shut down most of the chroming operations. Jim Irons provided him a lead to Creative Coating in Middletown, DE. They simulate chrome through powder coating.

Chair (Paul Alderman) –The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

FIREBALL RUN ADVENTURE RALLY STOPS IN OLD NEW CASTLE

FIREBALL RUN is an adventure-travel streaming TV series & live event.

On Sunday Sept. 27, the Fireball Run Adventure Rally (and I use the term loosely) came to Old New Castle for a destination stop and park with lunch break.

BMC's true TSD Rally event, organized by Jim Irons was starting at the Park N' Ride lot in Newark at about the same time. However, it is interesting to note some of the characteristics of the 'online video' event as they relate to Car Rallies. There were about 40 vehicles entered (apparently no two quite alike) from exotics to everyday autos, classics, antique, and a fantasy 'Hollywood' DeLorean included. Driver / Navigator teams with an International flair, and Space / Astronaut themes were represented this year. Hartford CT. to Florida's Space Coast with 4 International Astronauts vs 4 Celebrities vs 40 rally teams. (?)

I had not heard of this event, which has run for a few years in various routes and venues. Every car was individually sponsored, and they all were fully stickered with event sponsors and advertisers. This was billed as an online video event with a large video van and crew, plus 'support' vehicles. This year, the start was in Hartford, Conn. and the route ran from there with the break on the Green in Old New Castle. The Sunday finish was Queen Anne's County, MD. It's a week long event finishing with a parade in Cocoa Beach, Florida.

This event is billed as an Adventure Rally (Treasure / Trivia Hunt). Not all stops or destinations, such as New Castle are pre-announced. However, the News Journal and the New Castle City paper were made aware of the activity, and police plus local dignitaries were on hand. Teams handed out Missing Child flyers to promote recovery of America's missing children, with each car assigned a missing child. For more information, see the official web site www.fireballrally.com.

More pictures have been posted from the stops on the public Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fireballrun>. Scroll down to September 27 for the New Castle pictures, a number of interesting photos have been posted.

This event is a high energy, highly promoted and self promoting live and video event that is heavily sponsored. They had what amounted to a car show for the crowd to see the entrants up close and take photos. There were a number of classes for the entrants, with points accumulated for the various activities, it's not clear how scoring is done, but highest wins. Maybe BMC could incorporate some of these ideas to have an event that is sponsored, with teams & cars that are sponsored, which ends at a car show where the public is invited to a destination with some cachet. Of course, this "fun" event covers 8 days total, and requires a significant amount of personnel, coordination, funding and publicity.

Wayne Elvin
