



THE GASLINE

Brandywine Motorsport Club, Inc.

www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org

May 2019

BMC Club Meeting NEW LOCATION!!

Tuesday, May 7th - Greet & Eat @ 6:00, Meeting @ 7:00 P.M.

Six Paupers Tavern - 7465 Lancaster Pike, Hockessin Dela.

BMC Spring Tour to Crow Winery- May 11th - see revised flyer

BMC Autocross II - June 8th

New Venue! Ripken Stadium, Aberdeen, MD - see flyer

NOTE: We were informed on April 30 that Tyler's will no longer accommodate us for our club meetings. At the last minute, Anita Spinelli was able to get us accommodated at Six Paupers Tavern in Hockessin, DE. BMC has met there in the past.

Rally Chair – George Alderman



HELP! HELP!

Our first Rally/ Tour is coming up soon on Saturday May 11th and I need to give Judy Crow a head count **this Saturday, May 4th**. Please let me know by Email or phone that you are really coming, because so far only about 10 people have entered. We have made some changes to the original rally by eliminating the checkpoints and all speed changes, so you can take your time driving the route at your own speed. If you miss a question don't worry or go back to look for it, that will mess up your mileage, just keep driving until you arrive at Crow Vineyards. See the new flyer in this Gasline, and lets have a fun drive and enjoy the vine and the grilled buffet.

George

Chair Chatter – Paul Alderman



Happy May everyone!

Make a note for the meeting we have BMC's Stefan Vapaa coming to share info about the Hershey Hillclimb.

Stefan is the VSCCA event chairman for The Grand Ascent at Hershey Vintage

Hillclimb, so I asked him to come and share this event with us for the meeting. They have added a Vintage Street Car class to the event and were looking for people to come run the event. The Hillclimb is a 2-day affair and they also have a Concours event on Sunday. The hillclimb is June 7th and 8th (Friday and Saturday). Stefan also mentioned there is a Cars and Coffee also. So if you want to come and watch, come to the meeting and learn more about it.

The autocross went off without any big issues except the wind. I hope that didn't give anyone bad flashbacks to last season. Kudos to Duke and others for all the hard work before and during the event I wish I had been able to make it. We also need people to sign up for the Rally to the Vineyard. Please come out and support your club with a nice drive in the country to a nice meal and wine tasting. Go to MotorsportReg.com or contact George through the other ways listed on the flyer. Let's make our first Rally a success as well.

Have a Great Day!

Paul



Autocross Chair – Duke Wilford



After a somewhat slow start to preregistration, word about AxI and our new Ripken Stadium location really got around! Sign-ups increased dramatically in the last few days, and in fact the event sold out completely at 90 cars!

The combination of season opener, new venue, new faces, and much-larger-than-normal turnout made for a nervous week leading up to the 27th. Although the weather forecast was for sun and moderate temperatures, the real story was wind. Sustained 25-35mph winds managed to avoid the trees and blast the lot all morning. Even ballasted with everything available – spare tires, concrete blocks, our van – the tents would not stay put and eventually had to be taken down. Thanks especially to Alex Brooke for doing his best to keep them in place. And thanks also to all the registration, timing, and scoring volunteers who stuck it out through a long day!

Runs got a late start due to logistical problems with grid and various delays caused by the excessive wind. We managed 3 runs in the morning heat, but shortened the afternoon heat to 2 runs, for a total of 5 instead of our usual 6. If the A.M. had gone as smoothly as the P.M., we could have definitely made 6 or more. The moderating wind had much to do with this.

The Ripken lot is large and nicely paved, but includes more terrain and elevation changes than our old venue. Off-camber slopes at some turns made for tricky spots. The course featured a mix of slow and fast elements, with both increasing- and decreasing-radius turns and a couple slaloms. A fast slalom into a box turnaround caught some drivers out, including the course designer (*ahem* – twice). Overall feedback on the course was positive, with some accurate criticism as well. But most drivers commented that it was fun and flowed well through the various elements.

More than half of the drivers were new folks who had never run with BMC before, including some Nationals-level autocrossers. Most said they will be back again, and indeed, preregistration has been strong for AxII. As of this writing, signups have been open for about 16 hours and there are 15 drivers already committed.

Feedback has consistently mentioned that the start was very late. Although this was partly due to conditions, mostly it is due to the vast amount of setup work necessary. Without a dedicated timing truck, everything must be set up from scratch.

We arrived on site by 6:30a to begin work, with George Alderman and Pat Phelan dropping the trailer off Friday evening (thanks, George and Pat!). **The issue is *not* an earlier on-site time – the issue is that we need more dedicated hands to consistently handle certain setup tasks.** There are a handful of dependable folks who show up early to help out. But in order to streamline the setup process and get the cars rolling earlier, we really need to avoid improvising so much every event morning.

As one person I can only be in so many places and talk to so many people at the same time. **I desperately need a vice chair to help with event management.** Most clubs have a dedicated team with delegated roles. I can't handle my own tasks if I am constantly searching out experienced hands to fill needed roles or finding tasks for willing volunteers.

I understand this is a hobby, and supposed to be fun. It *is* fun! But if we expect to serve events this large, we must raise our standards of professionalism.

All that being said, we hope to keep the success going this summer. Please share our new autocross location and event schedule with other enthusiast groups and friends. Our upcoming autocross events are below:

08 June – Autocross II – preregistration is open now at <http://msreg.com/BMCAxII2019>

20 July – Autocross III

14 September – Autocross IV

I really do need a vice-chair. We have plenty of enthusiastic, helpful volunteers – hopefully one of you is willing to move into a leadership role.

**-Duke “One Down – Three To Go” Wilford
Autocross Chair**

Note: AutoX I Results are posted on the BMC website. - ed.



George Alderman Inducted into Delaware Sports Hall of Fame

George Alderman will be honored at the Delaware Sports Hall of Fame's 44th annual induction banquet on May 9th. George's achievement was already celebrated at the BMC meeting on April 2nd with numerous photos and stories.

Many of his racing accomplishments were detailed in the following, excerpted from the Wilmington News-Journal:

The Newark High graduate spent 49 years as one the country's top race car drivers, competing in Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) and International Motor Sports Association (IMSA) events.

He was the Sports Car Club of America Formula 3 national champion in a Cooper-Norton in 1960 and in a Formula Libre Cooper-Alfa in 1964. He drove a Lotus 23 to the SCCA divisional championship in 1966 and a McLaren Chevy to the Governor's Cup in 1967 SCCA NE divisional championship.

After a move to IMSA, he won the IMSA Baby Grand championship in 1971 in a Datsun 510 and the 1974 BFG Radial Challenge Series championship in an AMC Gremlin. In the 1980s, he drove Datsun Z cars in the Camel GT series and had five wins and 50 top 10 finishes in 70 starts. He competed in his final race in 2002, two days shy of his 70th birthday.

Congratulations George!
Jim Irons

Membership Chair – Anita Spinelli

Anita here - It was great to see everyone at the Autocross event! If you haven't signed up or renewed your membership now is the time!

Can't make an event? Join us at the monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of each month.

Anita

Property Chair – Dave Mitchell

Things remain static in regard to the standard array of items required to put on an event. There are always a few wish list items and room for improvements as well as award replacement.

With consideration to the capacity pre registration for AX1 some of these improvements and suggestions from the group should be looked at as well as solicited.

This new venue holds great promise, and will go a long way towards promoting BMC as well as increasing our membership numbers from participants who realize that participation should include becoming members to further the viability and future Of BMC.

Dave M.

April Meeting Minutes

BMC Minutes 4-2-19

Paul Alderman called meeting to order - 24 members and welcomed to our guests.

Treasurers Report Rich Wortman

March End of Month YTD net income +\$ 400 \$14,000 total. Sent Retainer to stadium for Autocrosses (\$3000), and Insurance (\$4750). Member revenue ahead of last year

Membership Anita Spinelli

Elias Roman, Matt & Barb Wiherle New members at meeting. Kevin F and Rusty A renewals.

Rally George Alderman

Winery Tour Rally: Pre-Register so we can give a count for the buffet.

Paul Congratulated George for Induction into Dela. Sports Hall of Fame

Autocross Duke Wilford

4 events on calendar. Currently 16 registrations for April 27 event. Attending the BMWCCA event to see how they are running their event. We have reached out and promoted to other clubs

Drift: No Report. Events August and Dec.

New Business

Dave Back commented on his work getting George into the Del. Sports Hall of Fame and presented 50 years of Achievements. Dave and Bridget scanned over 500 documents and have been working on it for 5 years.

Had a number draw to see who would win a copy of a poster he made for George. Kevin Fernsler won

Paul showed some photos and video clips of some George's races of

Property Dave Mitchell

Four dozen (usable) cones donated by Alex Meramo. Motion to adjourn & 2nd.

Submitted By Heather Alderman for Mike T

On this day in history: In 1927, Ricky Dale Everclear becomes the first man to put oversized rims on his truck with his girlfriend's tax return.

