



THE GASLINE

Brandywine Motorsport Club, Inc.

www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org

February 2014

BMC CLUB MEETING

***Tuesday, February 4th, 2014 – 6:00 P.M. greet & eat / 7 P.M. Meeting
The Charcoal Pit at Price's Corner***

Chair Chatter – Paul Alderman



Boy, if a little snow isn't enough to make you long for car club events. Maybe we need to have a snow rally or go ice racing. Only one more month for our March winter thaw go-kart event at Mid Atlantic Grand Prix. I will plan on having a short meeting like last year, then after the meeting those that want to stay and drive some karts are welcome to stick around. I need everyone to let me know they are coming in order to get an accurate count for food. More information at the meeting; see you at the Charcoal pit Tuesday February 4th.
*Still shoveling,
Paul*

Membership Renewal Time

BMC membership renewals were due January 1st and must be renewed by March 1st. Dues are still just \$15 for a single memberships or \$25 for family memberships. If none of your personal information has changed, simply mail a check made out to "BMC" to:

BMC, P.O. Box 474, Montchanin, DE 19710-0474

If any of your personal information has changed, download the Application/Renewal form from the BMC website, fill-in your updated information, and mail it with your check to the above address.

Or, even better, bring your membership renewal to the next club meeting!

Rally Chair - George Alderman

As soon as the snow melts, I plan to start laying out the 2014 Braille Rally that is planned to be run on Sunday April 27th. As in previous years, Scott Clabaugh, who is also a Porsche Club member, will be soliciting drivers from Delaware PCA and BMC. So if you would like to drive in an easy rally where your navigator will be reading you the route instructions that are supplied to him or her in Braille, then give Scott or me a call. The rally will be followed by a pizza party at the Delaware Association for the Blind which is near Brandywine Springs Park where the rally has started for many years.

George: 302 373 2111 or galderman32@comcast.net

Scott: 302 234 4212 or cab996c4@verizon.net

George



Autocross Chair – Duke Wilford



This is the first winter on record for the Philadelphia area with 3 snowfalls of more than 6 inches before February. NJMP is offering snow karting sessions. Hmmmm, snow + autocross = ??? No, no, it'll never work... shouldn't even think such evil thoughts. But the piles of snow don't mean we're just sitting by the fireplace re-reading Henry Watts' *Secrets of Solo Racing*. At BMC, we are busy preparing for our upcoming 2014 season. There is much to get done, and if you are interested in helping out, please feel free to contact me. We have a corps of volunteers who make each event happen, but help with some of the planning and promotional tasks would be welcome as well.

There will be changes to the car modification categories to align with new SCCA rules. Also, some cars will move to different classes in each category. Please take a few minutes to research where your car will wind up in the 2014 season in the SCCA rulebook, because that is where it will probably wind up with BMC as well. (See: <http://www.scca.com/solo/content.cfm?cid=44517>)

We are also looking to streamline our preregistration and check-in system, and knowing the correct category and class you are in will be a big help with that.

We are also considering opportunities for local businesses to underwrite certain parts of our program, such as an investment in upgraded timing gear. For our season finale last year, we had a voluntary contribution from Sports Car Service, an independent SAAB specialist and shop in Wilmington. This helped offset the cost of the lot rent. Even a small amount can go a long way towards helping us expand our programs. If you have a business that might be interested, or know someone who does, please feel free to get in touch with us.

We hope to have the event calendar published on the Club website and Facebook pages in the near future. Venues will probably not be determined at this point. We are considering adding more events this season, particularly if we can secure some of the locations we are pursuing. We would love to have your feedback about going to 5 or 6 BMC events per year. Please stay tuned for details as they become finalized.

If you have any comments or suggestions about our program, please feel free to email BMCautox@gmail.com.

We will make announcements on the BMC website and Facebook pages, as well as via Twitter [@BMCautox](https://twitter.com/BMCautox). Judging from what I've seen and heard, some of you are making changes too, and I'm eager to see who shows up driving what.

-Duke "So many cones, so little paving" Wilford

Think Spring!



Secretary's Report - Jim Martin

The 7 January 2014 meeting was held at the Charcoal Pit on Kirkwood Highway. The turnout was a low, but a still lively 10 members.

In 2008, we had 47 members; today we have 81. During that time, we lost 50 members., but we are still growing. We talked about various ways to grow the Club and that we need someone to focus on membership growth. We should also have New Members' Packets. Also asked was whether we should have a Social Committee to organize our Christmas Parties and summer picnics. It became obvious that we need more help on our committees to help the Chairs accomplish their tasks. Nothing was resolved.

We talked about who was part of the Executive Committee and whether we needed separate Executive Committee Meetings. It was pointed out that we should post the Club's Bylaws onto the website; the Secretary will take care of this. It was agreed that we would consider our monthly meeting a joint members and Executive Committee meeting. It was also pointed out that our Member-At-Large was also our Rally Chairman which reduces the size of the Executive Committee; nothing was resolved on this point.

It was suggested that we look at using PayPal to allow for pre-registration and online membership drive. Paul Alderman is working out the details with Shawn Dewey. It was pointed out that we should work out how to charge for the PayPal fee.

We also had a report from Scott Clapper on the progress of setting up an online site (Club Store) where Club members can order Club hats, etc. He is working a company that the Corvette Club uses to supply their needs. Scott will provide an update at our next meeting.

The Club was also reminded that we have a Club member (George Alderman) nominated to the Delaware Sports Hall of Fame. It was asked what we could do to help

George get elected. It was pointed out that only members of the Hall of Fame vote on the issue, and that will not occur until May. So if anyone is a member of the Delaware Sports Hall of Fame, please help us get George elected and recognized.

The Rally Chair reported on the upcoming March Lamb Rally, scheduled for April 5th. Details can be found on our website. Dave Mitchell volunteered to assist the Rally Chair in setting up Rallies for this year. The Braille Rally is set for April 27th, details will become available shortly. The British Car Club and the MG Club of Lancaster County are setting up a tour to Watkins Glen on September 5th for the Vintage Fall Festival.

The Autocross Chair reported that our Club will have to provide the Liability Insurance on our own in the future. The Porsche Club will no longer be able to provide this for us. It was felt that our current liability insurance would be enough going forward. The Chair will work with George Alderman and our insurance provider to ensure that this is the case. The Chair brought up options to replace our timing equipment and meet our current needs, the prices ranged from \$400 to \$1800. We are checking with other Clubs to see if they have used equipment that we could buy. It was also suggested that we may be able to sell advertising and use that money to buy equipment. We reviewed where we stood with various Autocross sites:

- Keene Elementary – Still viable – no rental fee
- Glasgow High School – Still in the picture, no rental fee
- Dover Downs – Have to negotiate a more viable fee
- Delaware Park – Have to check for availability and fee

Our March Club Meeting will be held at Mid Atlantic Grand Prix on N Dupont Highway.

Material for the next Gasline needs to be submitted to Jim Irons by January 28th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM

The Hard Drive Garage

Mark Schroy is taking a Winter month off from his Hard Drive Garage articles. But Mark is happy to report that his podcast has now had 700 downloads from 5 of the 7 continents worldwide, missing only South America and Antarctica!

Here's the direct link for it:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/mark-schroys-podcast/id693165870>

If you lose this link, plug Mark Schroy in the search window. There will be a subscription button on the side, so you will get notified of new podcasts.