

MBCA BCStars

BRITISH COLUMBIA SECTION



Sunday
Sept 1, 2019

MBCA SHOW & SHINE
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BCSTARS ELIZABETHI SUELZER

EVENT RECAP
CAR SHOW
MARIE STENZEL



CONTENTS

BC BENZ BULLETIN Volume 28 - Issue 9; Spring 2019

- 03 Editor's message
- 04 Editorial team
- 05 President's message
- 06 Enthusiasts in R107's Getting Coffee
- 14 MBCA Wine Tour 2019
- 22 Hublot Diamond Rally
- 24 Upcoming Events



EDITORIAL

BC Stars Volume 28 - Issue 9 - Spring 2019

Editor's Greeting

Well school is out and the weather has (generally) been satisfactory for driving our special cars. I hope you have had some time to wax and shine and get out in the sunshine. We have two special events coming up, the All German Car Show on July 21st and our MBCA Show & Shine on September 1st. I hope to see you at one of these events.

Joseph Anthony

Editor

Newsletter (at) bcstars.org

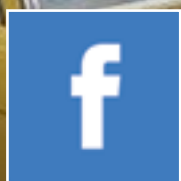
EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Joseph Anthony

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Contributing Editor: Tony Millikin



FACEBOOK



INSTAGRAM

LETS GET SOCIAL

Photo credit: Instagram @cooperpopscorks



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Matthew Peck

PHOTOGRAPHY

Matthew Peck

Dear Members,

I hope everyone is enjoying the warm summer weather and ripping up some backroads!

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, my grey market 1984/85 2.3-16V Cosworth has went under major restoration at Orient Auto in Port Coquitlam. I'm still chipping away at the 2nd piece to my article on the story of the restoration. It's been coming along, thank you for your understanding, it'll be worth the wait. Hadly from Oriennt Auto must have taken well over 300 photos and because of who I am i have to color correct all of them! Our section is gearing up of our annual MBCA Show & Shine Sept 1st at Waterfront Park in North Vancouver. If anyone is interested please register soon, we had over 50 cars pre-register within the first days. All the information for this event can be found in the upcoming events setion in this newsletter.

Please note that our Annual AGM and Aug club meeting will take place Aug 10th from 10am til 12pm at the Mercedes-Benz Langley dealership. PLease see the advert inside this newsletter

I hope to see everyone at our next meeting or gathering. Please review the calendar for upcoming events.

Best,

Matthew Peck

President - BC Section



Follow me on Instagram @mocedees

WRITER

Marie Stenzel

PHOTOGRAPHY

Marie Stenzel

BYC Classic Car Show

JUNE 7&8 2019

After participating in our second Burrard Yacht Club's Classic Boat and Car Show on June 7 & 8th we would like to share with you our comments regarding the Show:

The friendliness of the Club staff and members was evident to us immediately upon entering the Club and participating in the various scheduled events.

The food prepared and served at the Friday night reception, pancake breakfast, lunch barbeque and wine and cheese reception on Saturday night was very good and served with enthusiasm by the Club volunteers.

We enjoyed the pleasure of sipping wine while watching the cruise ships sail from English Bay on Friday and Saturday nights from the deck of the Club House. We enjoyed the beef dinner and dessert (sweet treats with strawberries) at the banquet on Saturday night.

We enjoyed dancing to the music of the live band at the Saturday night banquet and sharing stories with Club members who also truly have a passion for classic boats and cars.





WRITER

Sean Clark

PHOTOGRAPHY

Sean Clark

Coquitlam R107's: Coffee and a Saturday Drive to Belcarra



Sunny Spring weather is a great excuse to take your convertible out for a coffee, especially if it's a Mercedes R107 "Youngtimer Classic". A quarter of a million 107's were made over a span of 18 years. Many of us grew up with these cars as a symbol of elegant, carefree motoring. There are still a lot of them around. Some are still treasured by their original owners. Others were sought after as the ultimate 'dream car' by newer owners. Quite a few MB owners have one MB they drive daily, and an R107 tucked away for nice days.

Saturday morning at 8am, six cars and owners met at the Como Lake Starbucks, in Coquitlam. It's a busy place, but there is outdoor seating and plenty of parking. On occasion, over the past couple of summers, a small group of 107 owners,

organised by Bob Armstrong, have met there to share their interest in these lovely cars. That interest seems to be growing.

We put on quite a show, that day. Of the six cars, Sean Clark and Bob Armstrong brought two elegant black cars, and Dan Cachola drove "Bluebell", a vibrant blue 380SL. We also had an unprecedented three eye-catching Signal Red examples. Viktor and Viera Hold brought their striking 380SL, Richard Madden showed up in his red 380SL, and Leigh Gayman arrived in his aptly-named 560SL, "Red Rose".

Needless to say, we got a lot of attention. Several people wanted to chat and share their MB or SL stories and memories. A few asked advice or



took photos.

By nature, our meeting was a casual one, with no set plans. However, we all appeared to be of a like mind, the weather was warm and sunny, a perfect day for photos and a drive. Our local Coquitlam guides, Bob and Viktor, took us over to Como Lake Park for some staged photos with nice surroundings. Viktor and Viera then led us on a beautiful drive along the waterfront, past the 'ghost town' of Ioco, and on. We had a relaxing drive through the forest to the Belcarra Regional Park, by Bedwell Bay.

We all agreed that it was a great way to enjoy our cars together. If this catches on, we may need to devise coffee holders for our cars.

Video clip:

Drive to Belcarra

<https://youtu.be/Txjpc3XfVTU>





Summer Retail Report

Dilawri Group of Companies takes ownership of six Mercedes-Benz locations in Vancouver

TORONTO, ON – Effective immediately, Dilawri Group of Companies will take ownership of six Mercedes-Benz locations in Vancouver. The locations, which previously formed Mercedes-Benz Canada's Vancouver Retail Group, were divested as part of an ongoing worldwide assessment of Mercedes-Benz Cars sales and after-sales networks. Prior to the transfer of ownership, Mercedes-Benz Canada had one of the highest shares of corporately owned retail locations of all markets around the world. This led to the decision to reduce the company's overall corporate retail footprint in Canada by divesting the Vancouver locations.

"Throughout this process, our priority was to find a buyer who would maintain the same high standards of sales and service that our customers have come to expect from these well-established Vancouver locations," said Brian D. Fulton, President & CEO, Mercedes-Benz Canada. "After a comprehensive review, which incorporated several of the leading Mercedes-Benz dealers across the globe, Dilawri Group of Companies emerged as our retailer of choice. In addition to their excellent retail experience and strong reputation in the industry, we were impressed by their commitment to our retail employees who are integral to creating positive experiences for our customers. We are confident that our customers and employees are in very good hands with Dilawri; they are experienced, reliable, socially responsible, and invested in the dealerships' long-term success. We look forward to supporting their efforts in Vancouver in the months and years to come."

As Canada's largest automotive group, Dilawri Group of Companies operates 72 franchised dealerships with more than 4,000 employees nationwide. Dilawri already owns Mercedes-Benz franchises in Langley, British Columbia and Dollard-des-Ormeaux, Quebec. By acquiring the Vancouver locations, the group adds five dealerships and one body-shop to its portfolio. The locations involved in the sale are:

[Symbol] Mercedes-Benz North Vancouver (two locations):

- o North Vancouver (Mercedes-Benz Cars Sales & Service)
- o Bodyshop (Mercedes-Benz Cars Service)

[Symbol] Mercedes-Benz Richmond (two locations):

- o Richmond (Mercedes-Benz Cars Sales & Service)
- o Richmond Service Center (Mercedes-Benz Cars Service)

[Symbol] Mercedes-Benz Boundary (one location):

- o Boundary Road (Mercedes-Benz Cars Sales & Service, Mer-

cedes-Benz Vans Page 2 Sales & Service)

[Symbol] Mercedes-Benz Vancouver (one location):

- o Terminal Avenue (Mercedes-Benz Cars Sales & Service)

The new ownership will not impact Mercedes-Benz customers, who will continue to enjoy the same Mercedes-Benz sales and service offerings at these Vancouver locations.

"We are honoured and thrilled to expand our partnership with Mercedes-Benz through the addition of these high-profile locations. We are committed to continuing the Mercedes-Benz tradition of delivering exceptional customer service and showcasing the brand's lineup of world-class vehicles," said Ajay Dilawri, who shares the title of Principal Director with his brothers, Tony and Kap. "We look forward to working closely with our new colleagues at the six locations and would like to officially welcome them to the Dilawri family."

About Dilawri Group of Companies

Dilawri Group of Companies is Canada's largest automotive group with 72 franchised dealerships representing 30 automotive brands throughout Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia. Privately owned and operated by the Dilawri family since 1985, the company continues to expand its footprint in Canada, building on its history of excellence in the automotive industry. With more than 4,000 employees, Dilawri Group of Companies is proud to offer exceptional products and customer service in every dealership. For more information about Dilawri please visit www.dilawri.ca.

About Mercedes-Benz Canada

Mercedes-Benz Canada is responsible for the sales, marketing, and service of Mercedes-Benz and Mercedes-AMG passenger vehicles, Mercedes-Benz Vans, and smart. Headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, Mercedes-Benz Canada Inc. employs approximately 1,200 people in 14 locations across Canada. Through a nationwide network of seven Mercedes-Benz own retail operations and 52 authorized dealerships, Mercedes-Benz Canada sold 49,758 vehicles in 2018. This positioned Mercedes-Benz as the top luxury manufacturer in Canada for the fifth consecutive year.

Further information from Mercedes-Benz Canada is available at www.media.mercedes-benz.ca.



Welcome to the family.

Dilawri is proud to welcome four new Mercedes-Benz dealerships to our growing automotive family. With 13 brands across 22 dealerships throughout B.C., we're prepared—more than ever—to help you drive excellence forward.

Mercedes-Benz Boundary
3550 Lougheed Highway
Vancouver | 604.639.3300

Mercedes-Benz Langley
20801 Langley Bypass
Langley | 604.533.1205

Mercedes-Benz North Vancouver
1375 Marine Drive
North Vancouver | 604.984.9351

Mercedes-Benz Vancouver
550 Terminal Avenue
Vancouver | 604.736.7411

Mercedes-Benz Richmond
5691 Parkwood Way
Richmond | 604.278.7662

Drive excellence with us at bc.dilawri.ca

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AUTOMOTIVE GROUP





WRITER

Sean Clark

PHOTOGRAPHY

Sean Clark

BC Stars Okanagan Wine Tour 2019

May 17th, 2019

We had faith, but the weather was not looking promising as six cars gathered at the Langley Starbucks to start our journey to the Okanagan. Three R107 SL's, Dan, Leigh, and myself, and not one with the roof down - we expected rain ahead.

Ken Browne and his wife Trish, in their 560SEC, were new to our group this year. Don Ruth-erford (C55) brought his guest, Laurie. Gary and Linda Pully-blank brought their new S550 for the journey. No dog-sitter available, my wife and I had Romeo, a small Shih-Tzu, in our SL, as well. This might be a bit of a test.

Successfully driving in convoy over a long distance, can be a big responsibility. We learnt

our lesson last year with unexpected diversions and pit stops, in unfamiliar towns. We all exchanged phone numbers before setting off, and I took my new GPS purchased the night before, out of its box, ready to go. We agreed to set our first destination as Manning Park, for a nice lunch.

Thankfully this year, no highways were closed and there were no reports of flooding on Highway 3, the "Crow's nest". Off we went...!

Sure enough, we drove into some heavy rain, but we all coped. The petrified (original?) rubber blades of my OEM wipers were still up to the task. We kept our speed down, however the anticipated Manning Park speed traps never materialised.

People and dog, all enjoyed a good lunch at the Manning Park Resort. We added some oil to Leigh Gayman's 560SL, which was doing "something funny", and continued on our way. Nearing the Okanagan, the roads dried up and Leigh led us on a great scenic drive through hills and past orchards, all the way to our hotel in Penticton.

This year again, we stayed at the Ramada. Dog-friendly, it has rooms opening onto a large grassy central courtyard. It is a perfect spot for large groups, and very relaxing. We were joined there by our MBCA Regional Director, Jeff Shindler, and his wife, Shelley. Hardy and Elizabeth Suelzer arrived, in their very limited edition GT-C. We were met also by David and Sharon Cooper. David has

already proven his sense of good taste by owning a striking, yellow 450SL, but he is also a well-qualified wine aficionado – our own Wine Consultant!

Our Event organizer, Joseph Anthony, put together a great itinerary for us. Each participating car received a Tour Package. Our friends at the Dilawri MB dealerships gave us Mercedes caps, and Mercedes wine stoppers, along with Joseph's 2019 Tour Book.

Saturday morning started with a visit to Red Rooster, up in Naramata. Our nine cars filled the parking lot. They were kind enough to have us in early, for our own private tasting. Our host was not only very welcoming, but extremely knowledgeable. David Cooper had a good chat with him. We much enjoyed their whites. It was hard to get everyone out the door again.

Our next visit was to the Saxon Estates Winery in Summerland, a bit of a drive on the highway, and down some country roads. Joseph had our driving planned out in great detail, and laid out the route in his thoroughly researched Wine Tour Guidebook. According to Joseph, we were running behind schedule after leaving Red Rooster. It was going to be tough to get to Saxon Estates on time. I thought it best to take no chances on time-consuming wrong turns. I set the Saxon address on my new GPS. Predictably, our printed instructions from Joseph were at odds with my GPS as we neared a turnoff. What to do, what to do...? Despite protests from my navigator, Saras Mudaliar, I followed the GPS. Everyone else followed the map. I ended up going up and down hills through a new subdivision, only to meekly rejoin the others on the correct road, at the rear of the pack.

Saxon was expecting us. The owners, Jayne and Paul Graydon, had cut the grass in the field and had a photographer standing by, in anticipation of our visit. Their Facebook page was heralding our imminent arrival. Very humbled, I offered my apologies for deviating from Joseph's designated time for our arrival. The photographer, Denise, was eager to get some shots of our cars lined up in the field. Despite his muddy misadventure previously, Leigh gamely parked Red Rose with the rest of our cars. Jayne and Paul were very gracious and gave us a humorous and wonderful talk about their wines, and the fun they had with some of their 'mistakes'. A few of us now own small bottles of a unique, fizzy "Port"! With such warm hospitality, it was hard to make our exit in a timely enough manner to keep the schedule for our lunch stop at the Little Straw Vineyards.





Little Straw was a good drive from Summerland, but it was a great run with the clear skies and the top down. We knew that Joseph's trusty guidance would get us to Little Straw, but would we be on time? My GPS was clamouring to be heard. Would it lead us astray, or to a possible shortcut? I played it safe. We were only a few minutes late, and a very nice lunch was waiting for us. Again, the hospitality of the family-run winery was marvelous. The food and the wines were delicious, and we had a great view of the vineyards below. As it was now becoming very hot outside, the owner even invited Romeo to join us, on the shaded balcony.

This year, we had asked Joseph to add a bit more driving to our tour – and he did. Our next stop was to be an old favourite, See Ya Later Ranch, amongst the scenic backroads of Okanagan Falls. Joseph gave us exactly 65 minutes "Travel Time", to get there. To keep us on schedule, it was suggested that I lead the pack, using my GPS. The highway had a beautiful view of the lake and the sunny hills as we headed south. We were only 30 minutes along when the GPS indicated a turnoff and nine cars ended up having to turn around in a narrow cul de sac. The group's faith was shaken. It was time for somebody else to lead. Fortunately, we had Joseph's map book as guidance. See Ya Later Ranch is in a lovely setting, and the

roads are a delightful drive, especially in an open car. The winery is renowned for being dog friendly, as a tribute to its original owner. We enjoyed a great view from the large balcony. The area is so scenic, that we watched as a helicopter with a camera in a large sling underneath, made multiple passes to capture background images for a new movie. We took advantage of the location for a photo op of our own.

That evening, dinner was at the nearby Poplar Grove Winery in Naramata, overlooking Penticton. We had a good time getting to know one another and recapping the day's events. We all agreed that Joseph had done a meticulous job of planning our route and our stops. We noted that his Travel Times were very precise but very tight. It led Leigh Gayman to quip, "if we're going to remain on schedule, we'll have to limit it to no more than two questions each, to the Winemakers!"

David Cooper thought it was very amusing that I had bought brand new, an outdated GPS, `` ... what's next, a new fax machine?`` I had to laugh. The Dilawri Auto Group were kind enough to provide us with a door prize, also. Gary Pullyblank was the happy winner of a men's Mercedes watch.

The next morning, we gathered in the hotel parking lot. The weather was comfortable for top down cruising. Hardy and Elizabeth were headed for home. The rest of us took a leisurely drive to the Stag's Hollow Winery in Okanagan Falls. Afterwards, we bid our farewells. Some of us stayed in the Okanagan for another day or two. For those who headed home, the weather was nice and we had an unhurried drive, our cars loaded to the gunwales with refreshing and unique, souvenir, small-batch Okanagan wines.

The GPS was abandoned for the ride home. Romeo had a great, dog-friendly, adventure trip in an open Mercedes, and in the regal comfort of the air conditioned Pullyblank S-Class on the way home. Many thanks to Event Organiser Joseph Anthony, and Event Host David Cooper. Thanks as well, to the Dilawri Mercedes Dealer Group for their gracious support. Also, a big thank you to our friendly and accommodating winery hosts.







WRITER

Elizabeth Suelzer

PHOTOGRAPHY

Elizabeth Suelzer

HUBLOT DIAMOND RALLY

May 4 th, 2019

A The Vancouver Sun wrote:
“They came, they drove, they
set a record.”

And we, Hardy, his “super-Mercedes” car,
and Elizabeth participated in this record-set-
ting event.

This was a charity fundraising rally estab-
lished in 2013, run yearly since, trying to set
a record for the largest number of luxury cars
parked together on an airstrip, which was at
Pemberton.

Hardy spotted this event on the internet,
promptly signed up both of us, paid his dues
and we all gathered on Saturday morning in
Burnaby, on Brian Jessel’s dealership lot.

The attendants guided us to park the car, then
we went inside to get a wristband for driver
and navigator. Breakfast was “help-yourself”,
after which the drivers received instructions
and slowly we began our trip - in a convoy,
with the assistance of the police - in order to
get this large number of cars onto the Street
and on the way to Pemberton Airport. The
final count of cars was 294 unofficially.





The drive on the Sea-to-Sky was very eventful, as there were Police in every bush, corner, stretch, on the highway, catching speeders and handing out tickets, or towing cars away (some of them). What did they expect, of course there was speeding!

Most of us arrived at the Pemberton Airstrip (duly checked at the gate for official wristbands) to make certain, that the record would be accepted by Guinness.

Have you ever seen 294 luxury cars, lined up in row after row, showing themselves to the sunshine, the official photographers, the helicopter flying over-head, the hundreds of cameras aimed at them? All this wealth (about 100 million dollars), the beauty, the mastery of design, the racing, buzzing, burring, the excitement of the drivers and the onlookers, it was the most awesome sight ever! And the record was set at 294 (unofficially), and I am very glad we were part of it!



MONTHLY CLUB MEETINGS

Aug - MB Langley Dealership - Sat Aug 10 | 10am - 12pm
20801 Langley Bypass, Langley City, BC V3A 5E8

Sept - White Spot Tuesday Sept 2 | 6pm -8pm
1616 Georgia Street, Vancouver BC

Oct - MB Richmond Dealership - Sat Oct 12 | 10am - 12pm
5691 Parkwood Way, Richmond, BC V6V 2M6

Nov - White Spot Tuesday Sept 2 | 6pm -8pm
1616 Georgia Street, Vancouver BC

Dec - MB North Vancouver Dealership - Sat Dec 7 | 10am - 12pm
1375 Marine Dr, North Vancouver, BC V7P 3E5



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UPCOMING EVENTS

AUG 11, 2019

MBCA SEATTLE REGIONAL SHOW AND SHINE

Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 11th and join your fellow Mercedes-Benz members for the Annual Regional Show & Shine sponsored by the MBCA-Seattle Section. This event will be held at the beautiful Nile Golf & Country Club just north of Seattle. In addition to the largest area display of Mercedes-Benz owned by MBCA Northwest Region members, this event offers People's Choice voting with awards, local dealer displays, door prizes, and a raffle ticket sale benefiting charity.

If you're interested in going, 5 members from the BCstars section will be driving down to support this regional show and shine. Email mbca.bcstars@gmail.com for more information.

Contact Debbie Ward for additional information.
jazznlady@comcast.net or 253-278-2314

www.mbcaseattle.org.

SEPT 1, 2019

MBCA BCstars SHOW & SHINE

Guess what! Pre- Registration is open for the Mercedes-Benz Club of America's BC Stars Show and Shine, Sept 1, 2019 at Waterfront Park! DON'T MISS OUT - Over 70 Cars Registered already!

Pre Registration From July 30 - Aug 27: \$10 per entry

Registration on the day of the event is \$20.

All pre registrants will receive a gift bag valued at over \$50, this doesn't include any discounts coupons or the included tickets for a chance to win exciting door prizes! If you've been before you know we go big each year, and this year with the support of the @dilawriauto @dilawri_vancouver we're excited to host you, family and friends at this years @mercedesbenzclubofamerica BC Stars Show and Shine!

This year we're celebrating 30 years of the R129 SL and 40 years of G-Wagon!
To register visit:

www.mercyvr.com

BC STARS EXECUTIVE

President: Matthew Peck

Vice-President: Anthony Millikin

Secretary: Manfred Stenzel

Treasurer: Gary Pullyblank

Newsletter Editor: Joseph Anthony

Membership : Sean Clark

Club Historian : Marie Stenzel

Webmaster: Mark Block

Alaskan Officer: John Fouse

PNW Regional Director: Jeff Shindler



CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified Ad Policy Classified ads are intended to help members sell their personal items. Ads submitted are subject to review by the board of directors for determination of commercial or non-commercial status. Members submitting ads deemed commercial in nature will be notified and charged commercial rates (\$25 per issue). Non-commercial, classified, ads are free to members and are \$10 for non-members. Ads will run for one issue (3 months) of the Print and Web editions of the BC Benz Bulletin. We can include one image of each item for sale. No additional charge will be made for images submitted in digital format. Payment for non-member ads should be made out to "MBCA BC Stars Section". All payments should be sent to the address above along with a copy of the ad. Whenever possible please submit the text of the ad and associated image by email. These policies are subject to change without notice.



OWNER
Local Owner

VEHICLE INFORMATION
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contact
info@bcstars.ca

OWNER

MBCA Member

VEHICLE INFORMATION

Submit your listing for the next newsletter.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

WHITE SPOT 6PM.

1616 W Georgia St, Vancouver, BC V6G 2V5

The monthly meeting takes place on the first Tuesday of the month



WWW.BCSTARS.CA

Want more casual weekly/monthly cruises with other Mercedes Benz enthusiasts? Want a bigger role within the club? Do you have a suggestion?

Join us at our next monthly meeting.
info@bcstars.ca

