



# THE Ottawa Tri-Star

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June  
2025

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## Time to Drive! And to Welcome Some New Members



If you have an idea for an interesting drive, or just a nice place to stop for a bite of lunch, pass it along to me at my personal email, bobdgraham@yahoo.com and I'll share it with the club here in the newsletter. Find a neat little overlook along a highway or road? Pass it along. Find a spot where the poutine is otherworldly? Share it with the club.

Thanks,  
BobG.

*Find the hidden non M-B car in this issue. Identify it for bonus points*

From the pages of the internet we find more "Never ceases to amaze me" marketing ploys like the shoes shown above. Once again Bob Richer sends along this pic and then I did some research, (if we knew what we were doing it wouldn't be called research now would it?) and found a site where you can buy a whole raft of branded merchandise like this in a rainbow of colours and styles, every thing from shoes to handbags, shirts to wine glasses with almost any imaginable corporate logo printed on it. The shoes, as you can see, can be ordered with your name or anyone else's name printed on the side. I will not share the site here but if you must have them, I'm looking at you Elias, you can contact me and I'll pass it along. While waiting for a flight years ago in Milwaukee I visited the Harley-Davidson store in the airport, and while you could order a new bike there, they did a brisk business in "merch" as it's know today. So much so that the guy working there said the swag actually kept the company afloat mostly during slow times. Nice shoes though.

**MBCA.ORG**



# President's Message

Tom Lang



At its meeting last month, as part of its continuing efforts to simplify its operations, the MBCA board voted to dissolve the Montreal and Atlantic Canada sections on the grounds that these were no longer viable sections due to their small size. The remaining nine members of these sections have now been transferred to Ottawa section, and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly welcome these nine new members to our section. With two other new members joining us last month, our section is now 54 members strong and looking forward to a long and successful future. I would like to



wish all our new members a long and happy membership in Ottawa section. Of course, it's important for the continuing health of our club that we never stop looking for new members, especially at the younger end of the

age spectrum. In other good news, our driving season will be officially kicking off soon. We are planning our third annual BBQ lunch at the ever-popular Manotick Golf and Yacht

and Coffee event hosted by Mercedes-Benz Ottawa

Downtown, which some of our members will remember as Ogilvie Mercedes-Benz. The event takes place in mid-June, will feature a professional barista, and is not to be missed. Look for more details in your inbox. This is a significant event because, while our club has enjoyed a good relationship with the other local Mercedes-Benz dealership, Star Motors, for a number of years now, it is only in the last year that we have been able to bring Downtown onboard, and this is the first event where they are hosting us. I would

like to thank our members Bob Richer, Bob Graham and especially Winfried Hillebrand for spearheading the effort to accomplish this. Club, arranged as always by our tireless member Bob Mather. It will be a bit later than usual this year, in early July instead of early June, and there is a good reason why. For the first time, our club has been invited to a Cars

like to thank our members Bob Richer, Bob Graham and especially Winfried Hillebrand for spearheading the effort to accomplish this.

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## Advertising

Full page	\$120
Half page	\$90
Third page	\$80
Quarter page	\$60
Business card	\$30
Classified	

Free for members, including a photo. NON MEMBERS: \$20 with a photo, ad must be submitted thru a current section member to avoid scammers.

## The Ottawa Tri-Star

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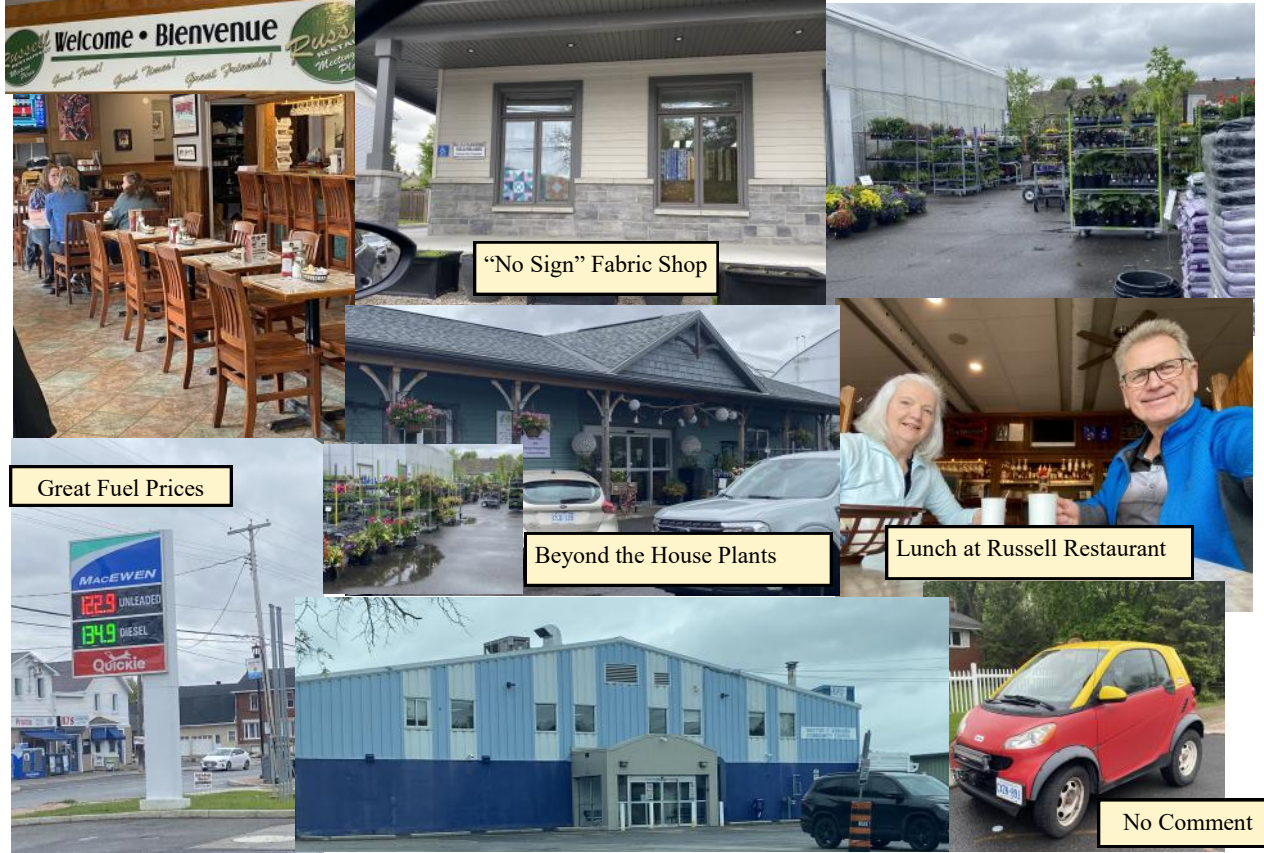
# Travels with Fritz

## June & Bob Graham



*One of the great joys of owning a Mercedes-Benz is actually travelling in it! They are almost, without exception, great touring vehicles. In this recurring feature of the newsletter, June and I will share some places we have travelled and visited in our old car, Fritz. He has been in the family for over 30 years and despite being old, smelly and slow, (not unlike yours truly) has visited many interesting places. We gladly share those with you, some far afield, some very close to home, and hope they inspire you to get out on the road and see the world around us.*

**THIS ISSUE: We visit Russell, just outside the city limit**



Just barely beyond the south east corner of the city, a bit east and tad south of Metcalfe village, which is still Ottawa by the way, you leave the city and drive into the town of Russell. There is Prescott-Russell Municipality, but there's still the town itself. Its just a few minutes from our home to the Russell town limit, and yes, its become a bedroom community for the city but it maintains its own dignified if not defiant identity and style. June and I are members of the very active Russell 55+ Group which has events and activities more days of the month than it does not. Bus trips, Tai Chi, fitness groups, monthly catered luncheons with special activities at each one, not to mention prizes and games. They even have a weekly craft group, and a very knowledgeable young woman comes once a week to help members with their technology concerns, computers, tablets, cellphones, Facebook, web creation and on and on. There's a super little restaurant in the middle of town with a very imaginative name: Russell Restaurant! But don't be fooled, its top shelf. The food is great, and the menu huge, décor is really nice and the service and staff couldn't be nicer. Lunch for the two of us was under \$40, and we were full! Many of you have admired the Hawaiian shirts that June has sewn for me over the years with some great automotive style material. Well just across the street from the Russell arena is a hidden gem of a fabric store with an owner that not only knows her stuff, but gives lessons and classes for the crafty crowd and has a huge selection of fabric in stock. I just have to convince my bride to do another shirt for me, 'cause the fabric store in Russell has just what we needed. There's also a terrific plant/nursery/garden centre in town called Beyond the House. Not sure the origins of the name but you only need look at the pics that accompany this page and you'll be amazed at the selection and the folks that run it are pros and can get you growing! I dared not let June out of the car while I took some pics, as she normally spends at least as much time in there as I do at Princess Auto. And just take a look at the gas prices! When I took this photo, gas at Bank St and Rideau Rd was over \$1.30 per litre. Can't say it's always a bargain, but usually it's at least competitive with the city stations. Also, the community centre arena and curling club are always busy with everything from kids hockey and ringette to seniors groups and bonspiels. Round it off with a really clean Foodland store and a very nice Home Hardware you can see the attractions in Russell. Plus the little river that winds through the town is very photogenic. Enjoy a stop in Russell this summer while you are on the road. Fritz did!





# Ottawa Section

INVITES YOU TO THE DOWNTOWN MERCEDES CARS &  
COFFEE BARITSA on JUNE 14, 2025

Where: Mercedes-Benz Ottawa Downtown  
1110 St. Laurent Blvd

When: 9:00AM

Parking: Please park on the showroom side, south of the building,  
(closer to the St Laurent mall)

A Special Invitation to Our New and Transferring  
Members to Meet Your Fellow Benz-Friends



We encourage our members attending to wear your name tags. For those who have the car identification cards that have been passed out in the past, please bring those as well and place them on your windshields. Please bring a lawn chair just in case

If you plan to attend, please inform Bob Graham  
at [bobdgraham@yahoo.com](mailto:bobdgraham@yahoo.com)





# EXCELLENT IN-STOCK SELECTION!

OVER 150 VEHICLES TO CHOOSE FROM

Summer time is the perfect time to shop at Star Motors, with an amazing selection of Mercedes-Benz gas, hybrid, and all-electric vehicles for you now. MBCA Ottawa Chapter members enjoy exclusive member discounts on new Mercedes-Benz vehicles and 10% off Mercedes-Benz parts and service.\*



ALL-ELECTRIC



GAS



HYBRID



**STAR MOTORS OF OTTAWA** 400 West Hunt Club 613-737-7827 (STAR) [starmotors.ca](http://starmotors.ca)

\*Proof of Mercedes-Benz Club of America Ottawa Chapter membership for at least one year is necessary. New vehicle member discounts range from \$500 to \$1,500 depending on model and powertrain regardless of payment method (finance/cash/lease). Please note: some models may not apply. Ask your Star Motors sales representative for complete program details or email us at [info@starmotors.ca](mailto:info@starmotors.ca).



## From Another Canadian Member, Vancouver Island Section.

How to renew your membership online and save a little cash and a bit of hassle.

### THE MBCA CANADIAN MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL PROCESS

To renew your Canadian membership, follow these key steps to ensure you pay the CAD \$95 membership fee. Please note that a 3.3% processing fee applies, bringing the total to CAD \$98.14.

When should you renew your membership?

The optimal time to renew is within 30 days of your membership expiration to ensure payment in Canadian dollars. You will receive an email notification alerting you that your membership is about to expire. Once you receive this notification, follow the instructions below to renew. Please note that renewing directly from the email notification will not allow you to pay in Canadian dollars.

### THE RENEWAL STEPS ARE:

1. Go to the MBCA website at <https://www.mbca.org> and select JOIN US.

2. Select the CORRECT membership category

Select the MBCA Membership box with CAD95 /12 months and USD 85/12 months in it, then select the Become a member link.

DO NOT SELECT THE International Membership box (or the Lifetime Membership box).

3. MOST IMPORTANT: Select the correct Canadian Dollar currency

In the next window under Select a Currency, select Canadian Dollar or CAD \$ from the drop-down menu.

At this point, the Balance will say CAD \$95 Select Apply.

4. Chapter Selection.

In the next window, select the Ottawa Section or Chapter

In the search window, search for Ottawa Section/Chapter

Select the Ottawa (CAD \$0) box (the amount refers to the complimentary fee for selecting your primary Chapter).

The Balance will continue to read CAD \$95.

5. Complete your basic membership information, status and membership number

In the next window, you will enter your basic membership information (name, address, contact information, etc.)

TIP: Select the Country (Canada) before trying to select the Province and enter the Postal Code.

At the bottom of the page there is a radio button that asks Are you a rejoining MBCA Member with box entries for If Rejoining – enter Prior Member Number and Original join date. Note: these fields aren't required and can be left blank but are useful.

If you wish to fill out these fields and do not remember this information or can't access it on GlueUp, please let us know and we will find it for you.



# Random Ramblings

If you have something to share: [ottawasectioneditor@gmail.com](mailto:ottawasectioneditor@gmail.com)

Once again this month our good friend and chapter treasurer Bob Richer has found some great nuggets of automotive lore on the interweb and has shared them with me to pass along to you.



Clearly there must be more to this story.

Which classic Mercedes-Benz would you take for a nice Sunday drive



In 1933, Mercedes-Benz simplified its logo from the 1926 merger design of a three-pointed star and laurel wreath. The new emblem featured a minimalist black star within a thin black ring, primarily for print. A less common variant had a gray background and blue ring. Symbolizing dominance in land, sea, and air, this sleek design, created during the Great Depression, influenced later silver star logos, balancing elegance and versatility.

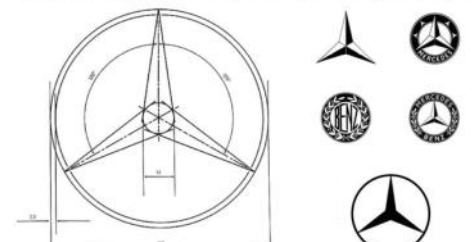
#anatomyoflogos



Above: No this is not too many cars to keep in a cabinet in your basement. The cheque is in the mail, your mileage may vary. In fact, there are people in this world who have this many real Mercedes-Benz cars. But a guy can dream.



This appears to be a W108, but I could be wrong. It's right hand drive and there's a front plate that's not reversed to its not been a mirrored image. Strange, but I like it.



Never enough pics of a 600 Pullman



I sincerely hope this is photoshopped, it's a terrible thing to do to a 600!



## Sorry if this offends you, but it's just too good to not share.

Opinions expressed here are those of the author/editor and do not reflect those of Mercedes-Benz, MBCA, or the Ottawa Section of MBCA



Obviously from looking at the gas prices that this was taken in the United States, and while we are hopeful all the current upheaval will not become the norm, it's very good to see that folks are keeping a sense of humour about it all.

I'm reminded of the visit our club made to Ogdensburg NY last fall to the Frederick Remington Art Museum and the very warm reception that we enjoyed there. In fact our volunteer guide was delighted to share his Ottawa connection with us. Just to refresh your memory, his father was head coach of the Grey Cup Champion Ottawa Rough Riders in 1951. We were also welcomed at a local eatery and even given coupons for a free bridge toll on the way back across the border. Never have we felt unwelcome in America before and we have travelled extensively there for decades. I suspect many of you have had similar experiences.

Looking back just a few years, we had a member from upstate New York in our section, also named Bob Graham. Section founder John Fisher would distinguish us by calling one Bob Graham.US and the other Bob Graham.CAN. All of this to say, keep your sense of humour and we will all be OK in the end.

## The Last Word is Mine

Bob Graham, Newsletter Editor.  
 ottawasectioneditor@gmail.com  
 Let me know what YOU think



If you read President Tom's remarks on page 2 you'll know that we have gained some new members, not new to the club but new to the section, as MBCA Head Office has dissolved the Montreal and Atlantic Canada sections and has transferred the members to us here in the Ottawa Section. I personally want to offer a warm welcome to all of you on behalf of myself and my wife June, long time members of the section and current board members. While we may not be geographically nearby, any owner of a Mercedes-Benz is a friend in my mind, and we certainly hope that we will get to meet all of you in person in the near future. Our section was founded in the early 90's by the late John Fisher, a retired Canadian Navy officer and proud Newfoundlander. John's widow Joan still lives in the city and we see her smiling face from time to time at events. We are a very social group, we get together and eat regularly. In reality we could be a dining club with an interest in Mercedes cars or a Mercedes club that likes to break bread together. We have several

events on the schedule for this year, once plans are set you will be emailed the details and if there are questions there will be contact info on announcements where to direct your inquiries. You may find my newsletters to be a bit out of the ordinary, not the normal fare of coverage of past events, and upcoming happenings, but the newsletter job was empty and I took it with the understanding that I would talk about lots of greasy fingered Ponton topics, (there isn't much of that this time but it will return next time around) and President Tom said as long as there's nothing NSFW then that's fine by him. If and when we do see you, by all means reach out in advance by phone or email, and we would greatly appreciate the chance to introduce you to everyone and get to know you better. Here is a list of the new folks and where they're from:

Carmelo Baldino, St. Leonard  
Daniel Boucher, Varennes  
David Laidley, Westmount  
Jacques Laverdure, Austin  
Allen Patrick, Fredericton NB  
Mark Sherman, Montreal  
Ioan Spiratos, La Prairie  
Jason Summers, Montreal  
Rwmi Tayar, Montreal

### Father's Day is June 15th.



Happy Father's Day to all the dads in the club, and to those who have acted as dads and/or father figures

to many thru the years. My father, Morley H. Graham was born in Lindsay Ontario June 22nd 1922, the third of 10 children and raised mostly during the Great Depression. After graduating from the technical program at Belleville Collegiate in 1940 he and brother Ken enlisted in the Army in Kingston, was schooled as a skilled tradesman in Petawawa, Sussex NB and Kingston before being sent to Newfoundland to await being sent to England where he served in the RCME until after the war. Returning to Canada just before Christmas in 1945, only to meet Nora on a blind date just before New Years eve. They were married in July '46, and welcomed three sons, in 1951, 55. and 65. We lost him in 2008 at 85. He could fix almost anything, never questioned Nora, his sons were his pride and joy. His only grandson still uses his many hilarious sayings daily.





**COME VISIT US**

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Downtown

[mercedes-benz-ottawa-downtown.ca](http://mercedes-benz-ottawa-downtown.ca)



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**Classified Ads-Free for Club Members, with photo. Non members \$20 with photo but must be submitted thru a member to avoid scammers.**

*FOR SALE: 4 Pirelli Winter Tires ,Scotto Zero 255/35 R19 96V M+S on MBenz rims. 2 tires brand new 2 lightly used as we winter down South. They don't fit my new car. Asking \$1200. 613 715-1900. Ric*

FOR SALE: Set of 4 OEM rims with tires from 2005 E class. Size shown in pics. Rims have clearcoat flaking off, could be cleaned up, would be ideal for your winter tires. Call Bob Graham, bob-

dgraham@yahoo.com 613 821 4809 \$200

Attention Members: Do you have old copies of the Star Magazine you no longer want? Donate them to the Club so we can help in our recruiting efforts.

We have labels we can attach to your old unwanted mags and pass out to prospective members when we are in the community.

Contact Bob Richer 613-738-4731 or Bob Graham 613-821-

4809, or bring them to any event. A board member will take them.



Here is this year's schedule for C & C, but why just to that when everybody does the same thing.  
So here's our solution, we're gonna do

# Caffeine and Gasoline

If you have any questions, [bobdgraham@yahoo.com](mailto:bobdgraham@yahoo.com)

Ottawa Section MBCA 2025 Caffeine and Gasoline Schedule				
These are informal gatherings, no program or activity just coffee and conversation, could be 3 or 30 attending				
<b>Although it is not required to 'Register' or 'Sign up' to attend, we'd like to have a rough idea of the interest for each outing, CASUAL DROP INS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME</b>				
If you can please..... RSVP <a href="mailto:bobdgraham@yahoo.com">bobdgraham@yahoo.com</a> or June Graham 613.243.6018 3 days before event				
Date	Time	Location/Address	Bring along...	Notes
Tues June 10	10am	Second Cup, 3170 Greenbank Dr at Strandherd	Lawn chair	Plenty of shopping opportunities nearby if cars aren't your thing
Tues June 24	10am	Starbucks, 2271 Prince of Wales Dr, just south of Hunt Club	Lawn Chair	Nice central location
Wed July 16	10am	Black Walnut Bakery, 979 Cameron St Cumberland	Coffee and Lawn Chair	Charming little bakery in an old house in Cumberland, don't sell coffee but Mr. Gas next door does!
Sun July 27	10am	Meet at Foodland, Bank St at Parkway Rd Greely, drive to Winchester Tim Hortons	Lawn chair	A short cruise just for a change, coffee available at both ends of the cruise
Tues Aug 12	10am	Second Cup, Hunt Club Rd at Riverside Dr (South east corner)	Lawn chair,	We may sit outside and watch the airport activity, weather permitting
Sun Aug 24	10am	Red Dot Café, 5673 Main St Osgoode	Lawn Chair	Breakfast- We will have a table inside.
Sun Sept 14	10am	Burritts Rapids Lock, 673 River Rd Kemptville	Coffee and Lawn Chair	Washrooms will be open

Please note that we have only one Wednesday C & G for this year to accommodate those who find that Wednesdays are particularly suited for golfing.

We will entertain other suggestions for alternate days in writing only.

Hope you see you soon.

