



Vancouver Island Section
May, 2018

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- Prime Rib Buffet, Jun. 20**
- Picnic in the Park, Jul. 15**
- Motor Gathering, Aug. 26**
- Open for suggestions, Sep. TBA**
- National event, Rockies, Colorado, Sep. 25-29**
- Annual meeting, Oct. TBA**
- Open for suggestions, Nov. TBA**
- Holiday Lunch, Dec. TBA**

SECTION OFFICERS

- President:* [Rob Watson](#)
- Vice-President:* [Dennis Ostrowerka](#)
- Secretary:* [Hazel Ostrowerka](#)
- Treasurer:* [Philip Early](#)
- Membership:* [Bob Wilson](#)
- Newsletter:* [Bob Wilson](#)
- Website:* [Barry Patchett](#)
- Dealer Ambassador, Victoria:* [Dennis Ostrowerka](#)
- Dealer Ambassador, Nanaimo:* [Barry Patchett](#)
- Director at Large:* [Ron Drane](#)
- Hon. Vice President:* Peter Trzewik



Coming Events

Spring Drive, Jun. 10

SUNDAY, JUNE 10: JOIN US FOR BRUNCH AND A CLUB DRIVE ON THE PACIFIC MARINE CIRCLE ROUTE!

It has been several years since we have completed the Pacific Marine Circle Route from Sooke to Lake Cowichan. On Sunday, June 10 we will revisit this scenic drive, but go counter-clockwise from Victoria to Lake Cowichan, then on to Port Renfrew and Sooke before returning to Victoria. We will have an extended stop at the Vancouver Island Motorsport Circuit at 09:30 where we will enjoy a lovely brunch prepared by the staff of The Eyrie Resort. It will include traditional and West Coast Eggs Benedict, Leige waffles served with berry compote and maple syrup, yogurt and granola with dried fruits and nuts and of course, the always-essential coffee (or tea) plus juice. All this should ensure we are well fortified for the drive ahead.

Brunch cost is \$33 per person, inclusive of tax and gratuity. Payment will be collected by Rob Watson or Philip Early AT the brunch. You may pay in cash or by cheque, made payable to "MBCA VI Section".

You must **RSVP to Rob Watson (click here) by noon Monday, June 4.**

After our brunch, we will continue with our drive. The itinerary and meeting points are:

08:15 Participants starting from Victoria will meet at Tim Hortons at 739 McCallum Road, opposite Home Depot on Millstream Road.

08:30 Depart Tim Hortons. Participants starting from north of Mill Bay can drive directly to the VI Motorsport Circuit.

09:30 All participants arrive at the VI Motorsport Circuit for Brunch.

11:00 Depart VI Motorsport Circuit.

11:00 to 11:30 Drive along Cowichan Lake Road to Cowichan Lake.

11:30 to 12:45 Drive from Cowichan Lake to Port Renfrew. This section is about 62 kms. Stops will be made to ensure our caravan is intact.

12:45 to 13:45 Drive from Port Renfrew to Shirley.

13:45 to 14:30 Break for afternoon sustenance at Shirley Delicious Café.

14:30 to 15:30 Depart Café and return to Tim Hortons on McCallum.

15:30 Return to our respective homesteads.

We're looking forward to you joining us on this most interesting drive.



Dinner at The Farm Table, Jun. 20

An informal follow-up to our brunch at the same restaurant in April, this event has been booked for Wednesday, June 20th. Wednesday is the only day of the week the restaurant offers dinner to non-residents. The menu is a prime rib buffet at a cost of \$39.95 (less for seniors and children; see [link](#)). Everyone at the April brunch thought the buffet choices were excellent and already there have been several sign-ups.

Please RSVP to Barry Patchett ([link](#)) by June 13th.

Summer Picnic, Jul. 15

Several choices are under consideration for the annual summer picnic, which will likely take place at a facility somewhere between Mill Bay and Nanaimo, enabling us to get out and enjoy our cars. Please contact Barry Patchett ([link](#)) if you would like to suggest a favourite spot.

Motor Gathering, Aug.26

Registration for the 2018 Motor Gathering is now open! MBCA Vancouver Island invites members to join us for the [GAIN Group](#), Vancouver Island's 7th annual Motor Gathering, to be held at the [Vancouver Island Motorsport Circuit](#).

What better way to celebrate the vehicles you are proud to call your own than with hundreds of other enthusiasts sharing that similar passion, all while raising funds to support the [David Foster Foundation](#) and the Cowichan District Hospital Foundation.

As it has done recently, the Section will have a marquee tent as a focal point. We look forward to seeing past participants and welcoming new ones on Sunday, August 26th, 2018.

Register: <https://motorgathering.com/register/>

National Event, Rockies, Colorado, Sep. 25-29

The Colorado tour sold out and registration closed early, at the beginning of April. The Patchetts and Wilsons will be the only members attending from this Section.

Welcome New Members!

*Neil Robertson, Sidney
Linnea Turnquist, Victoria*

Renewing Members!

*Barrie Aldrich, Mill Bay
Claire Foley & Glenn Zederayko, Victoria
Garry Graves, Victoria
John McIntosh, N. Saanich
Tony Morris, Sooke
Heinz Mueller, Victoria
Tim Schober, Victoria
Rob Watson & Linda Derrick*

Thank you!



Chemainus Theatre, Apr. 14

Report from Barry Patchett

On April 14, ten members attended lunch and a Chemainus Theatre production of "Million Dollar Quartet". It depicted one day in 1955 when Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis all recorded songs at Sun Records for Sam Phillips. The meal and music were greatly enjoyed by President Rob Watson and Linda, Lou and Catherine Hobson, Garry and Debra Graves, Kevin and Marilea Pirie and Barry and Gwen Patchett. The Beatons joined us for lunch.

New Models and Technology, May 6

Report from Rob Watson, photos from Christo Pandelidis

On a sunny May 6th Sunday, 18 intrepid souls gathered in the service area of Three Point Motors for the annual New Car and Technology Event, with the always-engaging and knowledgeable David Rabii, Sales & Lease Consultant at TPM, hosting. As the event progressed, we were enticed by the smell of sizzling German sausages, the result of Hazel and Dennis Ostrowerka's usual fine grilling skills.



As we listened to David's presentation, we were surrounded by a bevy of new models to inspect including an AMG E63S, AMG C43 Coupé, C300 4MATIC Cabriolet, E400 4MATIC Coupé, Smart Electric car and a GLC 300e 4MATIC. While we stood next to them, David





provided us with an overview of Mercedes-Benz’s strategic direction over the next few years. He discussed the MB approach towards electric vehicles which for the near future is to be hybrid gas–electric until issues with the range of electric vehicles are improved. The issue of self–driving cars was examined. David said while the technology is here, the primary constraints to full implementation are the lack of infrastructure in the current road system (e.g., sensors in the roads) and the liability issues that have yet to be resolved. Back to the new models, he talked about the trend toward bulkier profiles, with implementation of government safety standards for pedestrians as one of the drivers behind the new designs. A number of comments and questions followed, including how difficult it can be to become familiar with the increasingly-advanced technology. David’s response was probably common sense: Learn about the new cars in small steps over a period of time. And then have some wine. He reminded us that the Sales staff are always willing to help clients understand the

technology and features in their cars, but suggested individuals contact their salesperson in advance to book a time to help arrange a mutually satisfactory time to talk.

After David's overview, we enjoyed the grilled sausages we'd been smelling for some time as well as sauerkraut and potato salad, all capped off by dessert. For those who hadn't overdone the sausages, there was the opportunity to test drive the new cars. Most popular were the AMG E63S and its rumble, the GLC300E with its gas-hybrid technology and the open-air driving of the C300 Cabriolet.



Our thanks to David Rabii and Three Point Motors for once again hosting this valuable and entertaining event and providing us with the opportunity to test-drive some exciting new vehicles.

Payment for Events

The following statement was recently adopted by the Executive:



Each year the Club plans a number of events at restaurants and other venues where a commitment to attend and pay is required in advance of the event. This means we must know how many members and guests will attend. These venues require that we provide them with the numbers by an agreed-upon cut-off date and that payment is assured. Our experience has been that while this usually works well, the Club has had instances where members or their guests have committed to and registered for an event by the cut-off date but for various reasons have decided to not attend and not pay despite their earlier commitment. In the past, the Club has covered these sometimes significant costs, but it is time to revise how instances such as this are managed.

We understand our Newsletter or emails have not always been clear about event registration and payment requirements. To that end, we will ensure that the Newsletter and other communications clearly describe the cut-off dates, costs and commitment required. As such, if you have registered for an event where we require a financial commitment, we would then expect you to pay the cost you have agreed to when you registered.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

Links of Interest

Driving.ca revisits the pagoda roof 230SL ([link](#)).

Driving.ca likes the new A class, which will be coming to Canada (but apparently not the USA) this November ([link](#)).

Road&Track explains the complete redesign of the 2019 G class ([link](#)).

Wired interviews Wilko Stark, the man in charge of leading MB into an autonomous, shared and electrified future ([link](#)).

Daimler is gearing up to produce a compact electric car at the Smart plant in Hambach, France ([link](#)). We've not been told about the release date or anything about the vehicle itself, which will be part of Daimler's new EQ brand.

More than a day late, MB confirms that a full-electric S class is under development to compete with the Tesla Model S ([link](#)), which has seriously eaten into the market for Germany's largest luxury cars.

The factory can again provide key body parts for the W198 300SL in metal, at a price ([link](#))

Surprisingly, in 1958 Daimler acquired a majority stake in Auto Union. By 1960 Daimler owned all of this Audi precursor ([link](#)). Do you think the Board might be sorry they sold?

Wired tells us that self-driving cars will never be 'ready' ([link](#)).

