



## Vancouver Island Section

### October, 2017

#### In This Issue:

Coming Events .....	2
Cascade Loop Tour, October 14-15 .....	2
Nanaimo Tech Event and Brunch, October 22 .....	2
Winter Maintenance, Nov. 19.....	4
2017 Motor Gathering .....	4
V.I. Motorsports Circuit Event and Annual General Meeting.....	5
Membership Milestones .....	8
Classifieds.....	8
Links of Interest .....	9

#### CALENDAR

Give a Dam. Let's do the loop (Seattle Sec.) Oct 14-15  
 New models and technology, Nanaimo, Oct 22  
 Winter maintenance, Nov. 19  
 Christmas lunch, Dec. 17

#### Section Officers

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



## Coming Events

### Cascade Loop Tour, October 14-15

Join Seattle Section on a tour of the Cascade Loop with a side trip to the Coulee Dam. Forty-two Club members have already signed up. The adventure starts in Snohomish, the “Antique Capital of the Northwest”. From there, it heads through the autumn colors along Highway 2 to Leavenworth for a lunch break at Sleeping Lady Resort. What trip on Hwy 2 would be complete without a stop in Cashmere for a tour of the Applets & Cotlets factory? Participants can check out some of Chelan’s wineries before dinner. Getting tired? Let’s check in to the Coulee House in the town of Coulee Dam. There are special MBCA group rates of \$60 to \$90 if you call directly to (509) 633-1101. Dinner will be at the Melody Restaurant.

After breakfast next morning, the group will tour the dam, then head to Winthrop for lunch and a little browsing before continuing up Hwy 20 for the scenery of the North Cascades Highway. We may make a stop or two as we head to our final destination of Mount Vernon.

RSVP: Please contact Bob Willits ([email](#)) or (206) 619-2045 to make your reservations. Bob’s tours are always beautifully organized, making this an event not to be missed.

### Nanaimo Tech Event and Brunch, October 22

Vancouver Island’s next event is a Technical Seminar at Mercedes Benz Nanaimo on Sunday, October 22. Peter Zdan will give us a talk on the basic engineering of the GL class (GLA, GLC and GLE), similarities and differences, as well as an update of how the Smart brand will become all electric in 2018. We will get to try a GL(X) on the road. We will start with brunch at 1130 at Christina’s on the Lake:

<http://www.christinasonthelake.com/>

The fixed menu is Pecan Waffles with maple syrup, homemade scones with homemade peach jam, Eggs Benedict with Rosemary Potatoes and Tomatoes, and Carrot Cake for dessert. Everything homemade and local. Price will be \$30. plus tax and 18% gratuity. The bar will be open as well. We will be happy to make Mimosas and Kir Royales and any other “brunch” drinks.

Please inform Barry Patchett ([email](#)) by Tuesday, October 17 if you are attending.

#### Welcome New Members

*Della Garvin & Rick Noel, Saanichton  
Sean Harte, Victoria*

#### Renewing Members!

*David Bullincks, Victoria  
Philip Early, Cobble Hill  
Martin Enright, Sidney  
Catherine Leblanc, Cowichan  
Robert Maitland, Victoria  
Dennis & Hazel Ostrowerka, Victoria  
Don Simmons, Victoria  
David & Pauline Stephen, Victoria*

**Thank you!**





# Three Point Motors' Annual Garage Sale

## Saturday October 14th, 2017 | 9am - 4pm

Join us October 14th for our Annual Garage Sale. Whether you are looking for parts for your Mercedes-Benz, smart or Sprinter, winter or summer tires, gifts, accessories, or boutique items, you will find them here!

- Enjoy a complimentary BBQ with refreshments
- One-day pricing on 2017 models for New Mercedes-Benz, smart & ex-demo vehicles
- Large selection of tires and wheels for all makes and models
- View a selection of our vintage, classic Mercedes-Benz cars
- Enjoy an experience on our race car simulator to drive a F1 sports car
- Special pricing on all clearance parts and accessories, up to 80% off on select items
- Special preview of new 2018 models, including the All-new Smart Electric
- Special one-day pricing on select pre-owned vehicles

**Date:** Saturday, October 14, 2017

**Time:** 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Location:** Three Point Motors | 2546 Government Street

**Parking:** Dealership and street parking



## Winter Maintenance, Nov. 19.

Scott Murley will take us through a project to get a car ready for winter on Sunday, November 19 at 11 am. The event takes place at Three Point Motors, with lunch at the Med Grill, Royal Oak, to follow.

## 2017 Motor Gathering

*Article and photos by Rob Watson*

Sunday, August 27 dawned sunny and warm for the GAIN Group's 2017 Motor Gathering at the Vancouver Island Motorsport Circuit in Duncan - a typical day in the record-breaking summer of 2017. Perfect weather for the 500-plus cars and motorcycles who had registered. Eleven different marques won in their respective categories, ranging from a 1970 Ford Mustang Boss 302 for Best in Show, a 1991 Nissan Figaro for Best Original and a 1918 Cadillac for Best Classic.



The Vancouver Island Section was provided a prime location in front of the Circuit clubhouse on the main straight where Ron Drane, aided by Board members, set-up our marquee tent. Eight Section members and one former one were directed to park around the marquee resulting in a wide-ranging display of models including a 190SL, 230SL, a 500E to



SL550s. Proving we are a ‘multi-cultural’ Section, one member brought their Lotus Elan to show. As well, member Horst Lowell came with his brilliantly and artistically painted Smart car. Many people stopped by our marquee enabling us to engage and answer questions. We made good use of our brochures and gave out some complimentary issues of *The Star* magazine. Once again, we held a draw for a free one-year membership in the MBCA; the lucky winner was Della Garvin from Saanichton.

Our Section won the Best Car Club Display in 2015, the Corvette Club won last year. This time an exemplary turnout of a hundred or so from the Porsche community meant that the Vancouver Island Region Porsche Club of America were awarded a well-deserved win in this category. We congratulate them!

The Motor Gathering was first hosted in 2013 by the GAIN Group. Each year has seen an increase in the donations. This year’s Gathering saw a record of \$174,000 in cash and over \$180,000 in *in-kind* donations. GAIN employees, volunteers and sponsors work incredibly hard to make the Motor Gathering such a successful event. Kudos to all!

The next Motor Gathering will be held August 26, 2018. Mark your calendars now!

## V.I. Motorsports Circuit Event and Annual General Meeting

*Report from Rob Watson, photos from Barry Patchett*

Hot on the heels of the Motor Gathering, our Section enjoyed a half day at the Vancouver Island Motorsport Circuit Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, and combined it with our Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Circuit rental fee was a gift to the Section from Three Point Motors.



We had a small but enthusiastic group of 17 participants, with just 4 cars and drivers. The end-of-summer long weekend, and perhaps the excellent turnout at our 2016 Circuit Event probably contributed to the low participation this year.

Patrick Braspenning, the Operations Manager at the Motorsport Circuit, and Shane Routhier, our Instructor, did excellent work in making the day memorable for those of us who attended. Shane started with a short classroom introduction and provided a good overview of the rules of the Circuit. Before anyone got too antsy, we were led through the Circuit in a convoy, stopping at four of the critical corners while Shane gave a detailed briefing on what to expect and how to drive them. Following that, he led us in a “train” for a couple of laps and then . . . wow! We were let loose. No need to follow the driver ahead in a convoy, no restrictions, except for the observing the Circuit rules and good driving practices. For the few of us driving, it was a unique and exhilarating experience. We took a break to give our brakes and engines (and ourselves!) a rest and then were able to invite some of those there to observe for a spin to experience the thrill of the Circuit.



Soon it was time for our much-anticipated lunch. We had arranged an excellent catered buffet catered with Chef Castro Boateng . . . a delicious mix of specialty sandwiches, a satay, salads and desserts.

Following lunch, the AGM began. Rob Watson, the Section’s president, introduced new members, guests and those members of the Board present. It was established we had a quorum with 14 members in attendance. Two special resolutions for the approval of our constitution and revised bylaws passed. Ron Drane, Philip Early, Dennis Ostrowerka, Hazel

Ostrowerka, Barry Patchett, Rob Watson and Bob Wilson were re-elected to the Board of Directors. The AGM was adjourned shortly after 2 PM and participants left for home, appreciative of the opportunity Three Point Motors had provided.



### Postscript to the AGM

The Board of Directors held its first meeting after the AGM on Monday, September 18. At that meeting a motion was made and passed to assign the elected Directors to the following positions for 2017/18:

President - Rob Watson  
Vice-President - Dennis Ostrowerka  
Treasurer - Philip Early  
Secretary - Hazel Ostrowerka  
Membership Chair - Bob Wilson  
Newsletter Editor - Bob Wilson  
Dealer Ambassador, Victoria - Dennis Ostrowerka  
Dealer Ambassador, Nanaimo - Barry Patchett  
Director-at-Large - Ron Drane

With this meeting and the approval of the Special Resolution at the AGM, we were able to file our 2017 BC Society Annual Report and the Transition Application for our constitution and revised bylaws with BC Registries. The result is they are now both *official*.



## Membership Milestones

Once a year, Vancouver Island Section recognizes those whose memberships have reached a milestone. We congratulate this year's members and thank them for sharing their enthusiasm:

**10 years:**

**Nigel Oddy & Sherri Clarke**

**15 years:**

**Kevin & Marilea Pirie**

**Christo Pandelidis**

**35 years:**

**Donald Prochnow and Chris Sly-Prochnow**

Membership pins will be given out at the Christmas lunch on December 17, or put into the mail for those unable to attend.

## Classifieds

*Mercedes Toolkit, appears complete, circa 1967*

*I acquired what appears to be a complete toolkit for an unknown model of Benz. Photos attached. Accepting offers or suggestions on what this might be. Can be seen in person in Oak Bay.*

*Ron Dempsey, [rdempsey@telus.net](mailto:rdempsey@telus.net)*





### Links of Interest

Only 27 of the 85 Smart dealers in the USA will continue selling the brand after it goes all-electric ([link](#), *hat tip to Mike McBride*). Three Point Motors has reconfigured its Smart showroom to focus on AMG.

The new S class plug-in hybrid has an electric-only range of around 50 km ([link](#)). Daimler has said every class will be available with electric or hybrid drivetrains by 2025 but the S class hybrid is not yet available in Canada.

The new GLE550 e plug-in hybrid has been well reviewed ([link](#)). This vehicle is available in Canada with a premium over the GLE400 of \$19,000 ([link](#)).

Electric dream! Daimler showed an electric Maybach convertible in Monterey ([link](#); *hat tip to Mike McBride*)

Daimler will spend \$1 billion to start production of electric SUVs at its Alabama plant, including building the company's fifth battery plant ([link](#); *hat tip to Mike McBride*). It's part of a more than \$10 billion investment in electric car production over the next ten years (*Twitter*).

MB launched the front passenger airbag with the S-class 30 years ago, in September 1987 ([link](#)). A driver's side airbag came earlier, in 1981.

MB's Vans Division is setting up a ride-sharing program (distinct from the Car2Go car sharing program that uses Smart cars) in Europe with a US startup called Via ([link](#))

