

# THE GASLINE

# Brandywine Motorsport Club, Inc.

www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org

May 2020

#### NO BMC CLUB MEETING IN MAY!!

#### Club Chair



Well, if March saw radical changes to our daily lives, April unfortunately has stayed much the same. We hope the extended BMC family is healthy (going stir crazy doesn't count). With the ban on all nonessential gatherings, we're all stuck in the garage – and we can't even bench race over a cool beverage.

The motorsports world, facing almost total cancellation of all events, has moved to the virtual racing platform to keep automobile racing alive. A few days ago, iRacing, Valvoline, and the SCCA got together to host the Valvoline ProAm 50 – a 20-minute road race that brought a field of 30 virtual Cadillac CTS-V

race cars to a virtual Watkins Glen road course. Drivers were a mix of real NASCAR drivers, e-sports pros, and a chosen group of SCCA amateurs. Among the SCCA roster was frequent BMC autocrosser **Ken Houseal, who drove to a very strong third-place finish!** Ken outpaced such names as William Byron (Jeff Gordon's real-life replacement in the #24), Jimmie Johnson, and Chase Elliot to capture a spot on the podium. Congratulations, Ken – here's a splash of virtual champagne for you! You can watch the race via YouTube at <a href="https://youtu.be/iIrUCWcR7Yo">https://youtu.be/iIrUCWcR7Yo</a>.

Unfortunately, virtual racing doesn't work so well with autocross or road rally. Having postponed AxI to the original date of AxII on 30 May, it now seems likely that BMC will have to push that date back as well due to the ongoing virus situation. We will keep you posted as the details develop, but we promise to get the cones out of the trailer as soon as we can safely do so.

With isolation still in force, we are also canceling our May club meeting. Hopefully we will be able to see everyone on 02 June at the Greene Turtle in Christiana... but again, that is dependent upon the pandemic situation.

In the meantime, you can always contact our program chairs via the Club's Facebook group or the email addresses published at <a href="https://www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org">www.brandywinemotorsportclub.org</a>.

We hope everyone stays healthy. It sure is frustrating to have cheap gas, nice weather, and nowhere to drive. -Duke "Battery Tender" Wilford BMC Club Chair

# Simeone Museum App

Can't visit the Simeone Museum due to the pandemic? The Simeone Museum mobile app includes 86 stops on the tour, each accompanied by a photo of the car or venue, brief text description, and a audio portion narrated by Dr. Simeone. And it's free!

https://www.simeonemuseum.org/education/downloadour-phone-app/

## Membership

We should be active again soon!

Join BMC or Renew your membership at:

http://msreg.com/BMCMembership2020

#### 2020 BMC Officers

 Club Chair
 Duke Wilford BMCchair@gmail.com

 Membership
 Beto Castelo BMCmembershp@gmail.com

 Treasurer
 Jim Martin BMCtreasure@gmail.com

 Secretary
 Mike Trzonkowski BMCsecretry@gmail.com

 Property
 Dave Mitchell BMCpropert@gmail.com

 Gasline
 Jim Irons BMCgasline@gmail.com

 Autocross
 Liz Wilford BMCautox@gmail.com

 Rally
 Hanna Alderman BMCrallymaster@gmail.com

Past Chair Paul Alderman BMCatlarge@gmail.com

#### Autocross Report

It's not the news I want to give, but with COVID19 still a major threat nationwide, Autox I on May 30 is looking to be on shaky ground at best. While Delaware's stay-at-home orders are scheduled to end on May 15, Maryland's orders (in effect since March 30) do not currently have a stated effective end date. I have reached out to Ripken for information on whether they are entirely shut down during this time.

Even if BMC is not actively prohibited from using Ripken's facilities under Maryland's orders, we want to make the best choice for our members with the current available information. Just because we may technically be allowed to gather, does not mean it is the safest call. We're also following the lead of several car clubs in the area who have preemptively cancelled events for most of spring. I will make the final decision in mid-May, but currently the outlook is not great.

If May 30 is ultimately cancelled, all registrations will again automatically roll over to July 18. I'm still working through the handful of refund requests for Autox I - thank you for your patience. I will also be in contact with Ripken to determine whether there's any chance of securing a 4th date later in the season, or whether 2020 will be a 3-event year for BMC.

I do have a spot of good news! For those who didn't catch the early announcement on Facebook, BMC does intend to run CAM classes this year (Classic American Muscle). We've received several requests to add these since SCCA started using them, and we're happy to instate them now that they've been play-tested a bit and become a regular fixture in SCCA Solo. All 3 CAM classes - CAM C, CAM T, and CAM S - are currently available to register or update your registration on any of our autocross events at MSR.

Just a heads up that while CAM cars will be classed separately for PAX purposes, competitive placement will be scored as a combined class. This means that trophies and class winner of the year will be based on the top PAX times across drivers in all 3 CAM classes combined. This is because we're still expecting a fairly low turnout in these classes while we get them off the ground - who wants to win unopposed?

Finally, thank you to everyone who turned in a course design! We received a number of submissions, and I'm excited to start rolling them out when we can finally get an event going.

That's about it for now. Please stay safe, and I hope we'll see each other again soon.

Liz Wilford, Autocross Chair



#### Mike's Notes

All,

So much for my changing our meeting location to the Green Turtle for April and May meetings. I will have nothing to post for the meeting highlights due to lack of meetings. I did have a funny thing I wanted to post instead, but can no longer find the image. Oh well.

I was thinking along the same lines as Duke, in finding a way to do something fun as a club without gathering. A car cruise came to mind, but I like the idea of a "no-contact social distanced rally" provided we can make this work. I would participate in something like this.

Hope everyone is happy, healthy, and taking one day at a time.

Michael Trzonkowski, BMC Secretary

## Rally Report



Nothing really new on the rally front, but the MD club's rally that we announced at the March rally dinner is cancelled for obvious reasons.

Hanna C. Alderman BMC Rally Chair



# Autocross I Saturday, May 30, 2020 Ripken Stadium 873 Long Dr, Aberdeen, MD 21001

Come Auto ros. in a Fi v dl , Co peti v Env on en

**Setup: 8:30 AM** 

Registration: 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM First Car Off: 10:30 AM

There is a 90 Car Entry Limit - Preregistration is strongly encouraged!

Preregister online at: www.motorsportreg.com

Preregistration closes Wednesday before the event at 6:00p. Walkups on the event day will incur a \$5 late registration fee.

**Autocross Preregistration Fees:** 

**Entry - BMC 2020 Member - \$50** 

Entry – Non-BMC member - \$55 (includes 1-day BMC membership)

Trophies awarded by class!

In addition to typical autocross classes, we offer a CLASSIC STREET CAR class for mostly-stock street cars 1978 and older. Let's give those older cars the exercise they deserve!

- NO OPEN EXHAUST Effective muffler required. We reserve the right to disqualify a car from competition if it is judged to be too loud.
- Approved helmet (M or SA 2010 or newer) and seatbelts are required. Loaner helmets will be available.
- Drivers must be at least 18 years old and have a valid driver's license.
- All contestants, workers, and guests must sign a release and waiver of liability.
- Parent / guardian signatures required for workers and guests under 18.
- Vehicles must pass safety and technical inspection.
- No loose or unsecured items in any area. Remove floor mats from cabin.
- All cars are welcome to compete except SUVs and other vehicles that present a rollover risk.
- Common Solo rules and classifications will generally be followed. We reserve the right to modify/ interpret these rules to suit the spirit of the competition and to promote safety. Please take time to research what class your car will be in prior to registration.

If you have any questions, please contact the event administrator: Liz Wilford @ BMCautox@gmail.com or 302-353-7254