



Western Reserve Section

CRUIER

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

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Let the sun shine on a Mercedes-Benz



Benz ready for the Concours at Kingwood

Despite reported sightings of Noah and ark constructions, the weather dried up long enough that most of Gemütlichkeit was in dry weather. The committee had been biting their nails worrying that the **Concours d'Elegance** could not be on the lawn at **Kingwood Center Gardens**. But at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, the word came that the weather would co-operate. What a beautiful venue for a large array of beautiful Mercedes-Benzes. Check out the multiple photos at our website www.benzclub.org. The report from **John Makley** is that more than 400 cars entered the grounds to view the show. The hospitality of Kingwood was phenomenal. Access to tour the house was extended to MBCA participants and members, and meeting places were also provided. The sun was shining, the cars were shining, and the backdrop was outstanding.



Scott Montoney won the peoples choice

worth the drive to Mansfield to enjoy the beauty. As an added attraction, tech sessions were presented by

George Murphy, national tech director; section member, **Fred Gwinn** with his specialized ramps and jack points; and **George Saylor** of Artimis talking about the new traffic control cameras being installed throughout the state.



Michael's Gullwing takes best of show

If you have never had a chance to tour the grounds of Kingwood Center Gardens, it is

Now, to back up, Friday night **Mansfield Motor Group**, the local Mercedes-Benz dealer, hosted us at their dealership for a wonderful cocktail party. It was a good chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Of course, the cars were the main attraction. An extra treat were the Packard and Duesenberg housed in the next room. These were from the private collection of **Ted Schluter**.

Thank-you, MMG for all you did to make Gemütlichkeit a successful event.

On Saturday evening, the Gemütlichkeit Welcome Reception was held at the historic **Richland Carrousel Park**. The weather was still cooperating, and the doors to the building were open so that people could wander onto the grounds or stay inside at tables and benches. Unlimited rides on the merry-go-round were available as participants enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and beverages. So many smiles were visible as the carrousel made uncountable laps.



Richland Carrousel Park

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National and Regional News....

By Frank Cozza, Great Lakes Regional Director

MBCA is encouraging all members to bring their friends and neighbors to events. With the club's new insurance, non-members can attend and/or participate in all MBCA events. This is an excellent way for non-members to "test out" the club to see if they are interested in joining. We are looking forward to meeting many of your friends and neighbors at our upcoming events



Frank Cozza

Message from the President



Bill VerDuin

At last, the monsoon rains appear to be over. My wife **Cynthia VerDuin** and I did our first track days ever at Mid-Ohio, as part of Gemütlichkeit, and it rained the first track day. I like to think that the rains went away because they (the rains) wanted us to have maximum fun at Gemütlichkeit, and so they did. I may be overanalyzing this, but hey.

Anyway, Gemütlichkeit was so very fun. It was the culmination of over a year of work by many dedicated volunteers, to pull off an event of such scope and fun. Thanks to all, co-chairs **Gary Goodman** and **Mary Alice Cozza, Sue** and **John Morrison** for registration, meal tickets, etc. and the many others that handled the myriad of tasks involved. There was comprehensive car stuff: defensive driving, autocross, concours, tech events, track time, and rally. All very fun. I would never have guessed what our new-to-us C230 Kompressor Sport 6 speed was capable of had we not taken it out on the track (and had instructor Gary show us what was possible). And fun non-car stuff: Amish Country tour, afternoon tea, banquets, silent auctions, door prizes all of which made for a great event.

And a great kickoff to our summer season.... On June 26, we have the Horse Country Tour, on July 10 the Spread Eagle Tavern Brunch and Ice Cream Social, on August 20 the new and improved Old Car Fun Day hosted by Mercedes of Bedford, and on October 15, the **Don Velcio** Fall Leaf Tour. And these are just the Club events; there are also the Berea Oktoberfest car show over Labor Day weekend and the all German car show at Donauschwaben in North Olmsted. Details and signups for the club events will be on our website at benzclub.org. Looking forward to seeing you at any and all events!

Neighboring Events

Elsewhere in this Crier are articles about Central Ohio's Family weekend and International Stars' big celebration. Also, the **Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix** is in Pittsburgh July 23, 24 in Schenley Park. The car show on Saturday will feature judging in Show and Street Class as well as non-judged Display class. Registration of \$50 places the car on the grounds and includes 2 catered lunches. For more information check Pittsburgh's website at www.mbcapitt.org or call **Dave Fabyonic** at 724-327-7361.

Not an official MBCA event but organized by members **Rudi and Joan Kamper**, the annual **Oktoberfest** Car show is being held at Cuyahoga Fair Grounds on September 4. If you are entering your car in the show, free entry is available for the driver and one guest at Gate One on Eastland Rd. in Berea. There are many activities available in addition to the car show. Contact Joan or Rudi Kamper at joantkamper@gmail.com or call them at 440-234-5659.

Mercedes-Benz event continued



Here comes Paul Barrett on the Autocross

The **Mansfield Motor Group Autocross** was held on Sunday at **Richland Mall**. The space was large enough to run defensive driving at the same time and not even see each other. As a thank-you to MMG from us and to his customers from the dealership, the invitation was issued to those customers to participate in the defensive driving and autocross using a dealership car. Several took part and came away with huge grins.

That evening, dinner was at **Leiderkranz**, the local German American club. The treat that evening—other than the delicious



Kinder group dancers at Leiderkranz dinner

German buffet—was a performance by the—**Kinder Group** dancers—children ranging in age from 2 to 14 and dressed in their German finest.

Their enthusiasm and skill of the cultural dancing were amazing. After dinner, Concours d'Elegance trophies were awarded by **National Concours** chairman, **Peter Lesler**. Pete also had a power point show running throughout the evening featuring the cars at the concours.



Paul Bailey races down Mid Ohio track

Monday and Tuesday were spent at **Mid Ohio Sports Race Park**. It did rain Monday morning, but all agreed that it increased their skills at driving in

the rain. The sun came out midday, and more practice laps and the acceleration run took place. Tuesday was an ideal day for further practice and timing. An added bonus that day was the presence of **Adam Paige** of MBUSA. He was present at the awards banquet held at the quaint **Café on Main** and presented the MBUSA award to **John Fair**. The MBUSA award is presented to the individual who has the highest combined scores in the concours, autocross, acceleration run, and time trials. John is from

Minnesota and participates in nearly all of the national events.



John Buckingham takes the lead

While others were at the Mid-Ohio, activities were available for those who chose not to be at the track. On Monday, a group boarded a bus at the hotel and toured the large Amish area in nearby Holmes and Wayne Counties and enjoyed an outstanding lunch (more like a feast) in an Amish home. Lehmann's Hardware, an old order Amish home where children were making exceptional baskets, and various other shops were visited. This back roads tour gave real insight into more than the "touristy" aspect of Amish life. On Tuesday, **Josie Lesler** arranged for a tea cupping and lunch. Again, we heard nothing but rave reviews. A tour of the former **Mansfield Reformatory** was also available and taken by several. This was the location for the filming of **Shawshank Redemption**, and parts of **Air Force One** were filmed here.

Much more information and many more photos will be available in the September STAR and on our website at www.benzclub.org. All results of driving events and the concours are already posted on our web site.



Lesler in the SL tries to pass Faison's SL

Pictures courtesy of Kurt von Leyser

For those Do-It-Yourself jobs

With the advent of computer operated engines, many of the do-it-yourself repairs have become difficult to do without specialized, expensive equipment. **George Murphy**, MBCA Technical Director, makes the following suggestions when doing some of these DIY jobs particularly involving the battery:

- Do NOT offer a jump unless you first disconnect your battery
- Use extreme care if getting a jump start—charge battery first
- ALWAYS disconnect battery ground cable when doing electrical work of any kind
- Avoid short trips where engine does not fully warm up (carbon fouling)
- A dead battery can damage some module
- Use OPTIMA battery—higher CCA/ won't leak
- Check battery more frequently
 - Late 124, 140, 202 models: battery in trunk
 - 210 E-class is under back seat
 - Make sure battery case is vented properly—explosion hazard
 - Early models with OVP relay—check fuse
 - Check for minimum 13.8, maximum of 14.6 volts at 1500 rpm
 - Alternator voltage regulator brushes worn or regulator bad?
 - Loose engine to chassis ground cable?

DIY Troubleshooting:

- Disconnect battery ground cable for 60 seconds or more
- Disconnect and re-connect components (battery ground cable off)
- Clean contact pins on suspect modules
- Buy fault code reader with OBD-II and manufacturer enhanced codes

Two Fantastic Days...

Our neighboring section, International Stars of Detroit, is hosting a 2 day event, July 30, 31. On Saturday, the 30th, they are holding a defensive driving and autocross. On Sunday, July 31, is an MBCA Special National Event to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Mercedes-Benz. We are going to be included with **Mercedes-Benz Financial Services** (MBFS) family day event. The event will be located on the show field of the Concours d' Elegance of America at the Inn at St. John (this is the Concours formerly known as Meadow Brook)

The Concours of America will be hosting a special invitation-only class of Mercedes-Benz vehicles and MBCA will have a sponsor tent across from this display. Mercedes-Benz Financial Services, the MBCA and the Concours d' Elegance of America cordially invite all MBCA members to a joint event to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Mercedes-Benz. MBFS are expecting 300 plus employee-driven, clean 2011 Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

This once in a lifetime event will allow us to park on the St. John's Inn golf course in a special parking area next to both the MBFS employee parking and the Concours d' Elegance show field. Your car will be placed in a unique parking area for our "fun concours" to show the employees some of our historic and well-kept Mercedes-Benz cars.

Complete details can be found at <http://www.mbca.org/event/2011-07-30/mbca-conjunction-concours-america-st-johns>.

New members March to June

Patrick Martell
D. P. Smith
Alex Djuric
Laurie Tall
Aaron Rose
Robert Kerek
Fred Kappus
Joseph Scott
Juan Castro

Robert Hinmann

Lin Baker
Howard Schneider
Anthony Godfrey
Nelson Kirsch
Norman Foraker
Terrence Hamilton
Arthur Pickering

Renewals

August Furio
Dana Dubois
Donald Wagner
Dana Young
Mark Schmiedl
James Croniger
William Gesell
Ronald Swenson
Charles Hearn
Obi Isiguzo
Eugene Lucas
Paul Hamann
Edward Monaco
Ronald Amenti
Don Velcio
Norbert Peiker
Stella Camuso
Jon Bernardi
James Johnston
John Buckingham
Werner Heidemann
Donald Jordan
Terry Donley
John Collins
John Brodnick
Ralph Montalvo
Norm Crowe
Eric Butler
Don Woodard
Terry Kiwala
James Downing
Ronald Good
Richard Buys
Frank Nichols
Daniel Lieberman
William Zell
Edward Mehler

Gary Goodman
William Moore
Kent Marvin
George Daverio
Donald Michaelson
Richard Tashjian
Frank Daniels
Matthew Cozza
Craig Cozza
Frank Cozza
John Whatmough
Robert Hoover
Jeffrey Prulhiere
Joy Comey
Bert Reimann
Catherine Keith
Jonathan Veres
Raymond Caulk
Josephine Lesler
Bert Tomon
Hans Proemm
Samuel Delzoppo
Jeff Payton
John Kropolinsky
Frank Omerza
Rodney Tucker
Fredric Gwinn
Christopher Arn
Lawrence Shafer
Doyle Miller
Dawn Neff
Ron Mihalek
Raymond Vehovec
Charles Deeds
Louis Jaksetich
Willesa Orha
Mark Elisco

Leikin Motors, Willoughby

We are so fortunate in the Western Reserve Section to have sponsorship and cooperation from the various dealers. Thank you to Leikin Motors of Willoughby for sponsoring the Horse Country Tour. The tour will be June 26 with a new, exciting tour planned. Information on the tour can be obtained from Tom Barratt at 216-533-7192.

An Outstanding Regional Event in Columbus

Attend this family friendly MBCA Regional Event in Columbus, on Aug. 13 and 14. On Saturday, there are three "events" to choose from. You can take a provided van to Franklin Park Conservatory to enjoy the gardens, butterflies, and a lunch. Option two is learning about your Mercedes-Benz from **George Murphy** during an indoor morning seminar and an afternoon Q & A session at the autocross parking lot where he can explain things using the member's cars as examples. Or, you can partake in the defensive driving school and autocross events operated by **Frank and Mary Alice Cozza** and the Central Ohio Section.

Saturday evening we'll have dinner together and present awards for the autocross event.

Following brunch on Sunday, choose one of three social events, Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, play 18 holes at Safari Golf Club, or take sailboat lessons at Leatherlips Yacht Club.

The events and registration will be posted at www.mbcacos.org. If you have any questions, just contact **Rodd Masteller**, President, Central Ohio Section MBCA at 740-881-0159 or CentralOhioSection@gmail.com

**FRED MARTIN MERCEDES-BENZ, AUSTINTOWN
PRESENTS
SPREAD EAGLE TAVERN BRUNCH & ICE CREAM SOCIAL AT THE COZZA'S
SUNDAY, JULY 10, 2011**

Join us for our annual summer event. We will convoy or meet at the Spread Eagle Tavern in the historic canal town of Hanoverton, Ohio. Sunday is Hanoverton's annual Peddler Days, so we will meet at the tavern at 11:00 and have time to view the many craftsmen before brunch at 12:00.

After brunch, we'll convoy a short distance to the home of Frank and Mary Alice Cozza, for an ice cream social. Bring your swimwear for a dip in the pool. Casual attire. Bring the kids/grandkids. Boat rides, door prizes, ice cream, car talk and good fun. Section member anniversary pins will be awarded in 5 year increments. New members will be recognized as well.

SOMETHING NEW THIS YEAR: We are encouraging members to bring something you would like to sell or a collection you would like to display (please bring a card table or blanket to display items on the grass)

Fred Martin Mercedes-Benz will bring some of the newest offerings of our favorite marque for your review. Our thanks to Fred Martin Mercedes-Benz for their generous sponsorship of this most popular event.

Reservations are necessary. Please mail by July 5 to Frank Cozza 32312 South Lane, Hanoverton, Oh 44423. Make checks payable to MBCA Western Reserve Section or order online at www.benzclub.org. Contact Frank or Mary Alice at 330-222-1106 or fcozza@neo.rr.com with questions.

Because of Peddler days, parking will be in the back of the Tavern

_____ Drive directly to the Spread Eagle Tavern (10150 Plymouth St., Hanoverton, OH 44423)

Or

_____ Meet us at 9:15 at the Home Depot parking lot in Streetsboro, 1/2 mile east of turnpike exit 187 (9585 Ohio 14, Streetsboro, OH 44241) We'll convoy to the Tavern from there.

Menu selections:	Number
Sierra Salad – fresh field greens, Chinese noodles, roasted pecans & feta cheese, lime vinaigrette, with artichoke dressing.	_____
Sierra Salad with Chicken	_____
Harvest Pasta – Grilled chicken breast, sautéed spinach, roasted roma Tomatoes, artichoke hearts, red onions, extra virgin Olive oil and garlic tossed with penne pasta	_____
Open Face Roast Beef Sandwich – tender sliced beef on ciabatta bread With a rich brown sauce served with Steak fries and vegetables	_____

Total number of brunches _____ x \$25 each = _____ total enclosed

Name _____ phone _____ email _____

MBCA Schedule of Events

June 26	Leikin Horse Country Tour	Chagrin Valley
* July 5 7:00 p.m.	Monthly Membership Meeting	Brewsters, Twinsburg
	This is a new location—2681 Creekside Dr. Twinsburg Just north of the interchange of I 480 and SR 91	
July 10	Spread Eagle and Ice Cream Social	Hanoverton, OH
July 23, 24	Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix	Schenley Park, Pittsburgh
July 30, 31	M-B 125 th Anniv. & concours	Plymouth, Michigan
August 2	Monthly Membership Meeting	Brewsters, Twinsburg
August 13, 14	Summer Stars	Central Ohio
August 20	Old Car Fun Days	M-B Bedford
September 4	Oktoberfest Car Show	Berea Fair Grounds
September 6	Monthly Membership Meeting	Brewsters, Twinsburg
October 4	Monthly Membership Meeting	Brewsters, Twinsburg
October 15	Fall Leaf Tour	Amish Country

Flyers will be sent for our specific club events.

Check the website www.benzclub.org for more information and updates.



Check out the Western Reserve Section website at benzclub.org

Western Reserve Section CRIER

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

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