



# Western Reserve Section

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

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## President's Letter

By: Rod Thompson

Having completed our 11th event for 2019 with our annual Fall Leaf Tour, I want to thank Jim and Barb Tullis for arranging this year's impressive tour of The Age of Steam Roundhouse in Sugarcreek, Ohio and an Amish luncheon in Charm, Ohio. The last event for the season will be our Holiday party which we have scheduled for Saturday, January 11th at The Avalon Resort in Warren, Ohio.

Your board is busy finalizing our 2020 calendar of events, and I encourage you to recommend an event that you think our members would enjoy. We need new ideas to keep our club vibrant, whether they appeal to the technical side or are purely social in nature. Also, any member should feel free to attend any of our monthly dinner / board meetings which are held the first Tuesday of the month at Brewsters in Twinsburg, Ohio at 7:00 PM.

I hope to see many of you at the January Holiday Party!

## Fall Leaf and Roundhouse Tour

On Oct. 26, a group of 39 people (and 20 cars) left Montrose for a drive through Wayne and Holmes Counties to the **Age of Steam Roundhouse** in Sugarcreek. The rain held off until we were in the building so the leaves along the scenic drive host **Jim Tullis** chose (and **Ted Gottfried** led) were beautiful. Our knowledgeable docent told us about the history and restorations done on each of the 23 steam engines in the collection—the largest private collection of steam engines in the country. We also toured the workshop and saw the tools used for the extensive work done on the engines. After the 90 minute tour, we then drove to the **Chalet in the Valley**, a Swiss oriented restaurant, for a lunch and visiting among friends. Later, those who chose to do so, went across the street to visit **Guggisberg Cheese Factory**. By then, the rains had arrived, but they had not stopped the group from having a great day.



# Holiday Party

Our annual holiday party will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2020, at the Avalon Inn, 9519 East Market Street, Warren 44484, Ohio. We will have a buffet banquet in one of their private party rooms and also have a block of rooms for those staying over. The price of the room will include their breakfast buffet the following morning. Invitations will be mailed early in December with the reservation form and specific information. We've had previous events at the Avalon, but it has been remodeled since our last time there. We hope you'll join us for this event!

We have moved our meeting night back to the **first Tuesday** of the month at **Brewsters, 2681 Creekside Dr. Twinsburg, Ohio**. Please note there will be no December or January Board Meeting. We meet at 7:00 and have a working dinner meeting. We encourage membership to join us and add some new thoughts.

As we've done the last few years, we will include the 2020 calendar in the invitations for the holiday party. Be sure to refer often to our web page—[benzclub.org](http://benzclub.org)—for updates. You should always receive an email or printed notice of the events. Please be sure your email address is up-to-date. You can do this either by logging onto the national website and updating your profile; or email our Web Master, Gary Goodman, at [wrsection@gmail.com](mailto:wrsection@gmail.com). Please send your name and email address. These are the quickest and surest ways to receive changing information and information on new events.

## Winter Storage Tips

By: *Ted Gottfried*

If your **battery** is more than five years old, plan on replacing it in the spring.

Older car: Disconnect negative cable

Newer car: Connect trickle charger to large main battery, usually found in the trunk.

Secondary battery under the hood is in series and one charger for entire car is sufficient.

**Tires:** Inflate to 40 PSI unless car is suspended with no load on tires.

**Motor Oil and filter:** Change in the fall. No feel good additives are required.

**Plastic Ground sheet:** Place under car if garage is unheated. This creates a moisture barrier for the spring thaw and keeps your garage floor beautiful.

**Air Intake/Exhaust outlet:** Cover with aluminum foil held by rubber bands to keep mice and varmints out of your engine.

**Gasoline:** Fill tank to maximum and add only Stabil and Techron to tank; no other additives are M-B approved.

**Passenger compartment:** Open a box of baking soda to absorb moisture and odors. Bounce brand dryer sheets: (no other brands are as effective). Scatter in the engine compartment to deter mice from gnawing on wiring harnesses.

**Victor brand 60 degree angle mouse traps:** Place one trap next to each tire baited with peanut butter. Monitor traps weekly. I have stored my cars in some very fancy, expensive garages, and I have never failed to catch mice!!!

**Dream about fun next spring when the weather breaks.**



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# Happy Birthday Paul!

Congratulations to Western Reserve Section Vice President Paul Bailey who recently celebrated his 90th birthday at the Salem Golf Club. In addition to greeting and speaking with all in attendance Paul demonstrated he still has his musical talents by serenading the partygoers. Past National MBCA President Terry Kiwala attended and spoke about Paul and their friendship.



## New Members 8-21-19 to 11-2-19 Welcome!

Joyce Leighton; Anthony Spena; Carl Skulich; Dirk Schluter

## Renewals 8-21-19 to 11-2-19 Glad you're back!

Charles Hearn; Tim Conway; Mike Hohlakis; Doug Seib; Eric Butler; Gary Goodman; Harvey Kay; Hassan Abbass; John Tuck; Jeff Payton; James Bright; James Tullis; Lewis Sawitzke; Moritz Haiss; Richard Bird; Don Velcio; Jonathan Veres; William Gesell; Taylor Hart; Robert Young; Anil Parikh; Dennis Puening; Anneliese Nefos; Jerry Vanaskey; Judith Caruso; Kenneth Coyne; Warren Ledsky; Joseph Horvath; Raymond Hensel; Victor Troha; Joe Wehrheim; DB Zimmerman; Karen Carson; Richard Self

Would love to see you at some events! Please join us!

# National News

In an effort to improve communication and collaboration among the Regional Directors, a private Facebook group was recently created. RDs will use it to share their experiences, challenges, and ideas related to performing their role. For example, how to help inexperienced sections host Regional Events, how to help sections with leadership challenges or turnover, how to help sections attract and retain members, or how to build relationships with section leaders who are geographically far away. The test may determine Facebook is not the best medium for the collaboration, and the National Board will determine the next direction. If Facebook works well, then the National Board will look at creating private Facebook groups for each section officer role. This way, all the section presidents across the country could collaborate in one group while all the section treasurers could collaborate in another, and so on. Properly moderating the groups and keeping the right people in the right groups as their roles in The Club change are examples of the organizational challenges the Board will need to resolve. But, hopefully social media or other technology will soon make it easier for leadership at all levels to work together and make The Club stronger. Your National Board of Directors is always looking to help improve The Club. Remember, you can always reach out to your Section President or Regional Director with suggestions.

# 2019 DTJ Taborville Clambake and Cruise-In

On Sunday, September 15, 2019, 56 members of the Western Reserve Section of the Mercedes Benz Club of America participated in both the Clambake and the Cruise-In on the meadow next to the DTJ Hall. This was the Fourth Annual Cruise-In and Car Show held in conjunction with the DTJ Clambake.

The Cruise-In was organized by Allan B. Pintner who also showed his 1986 Mercedes Benz 560 SL. The informal, unjudged car show featured 26 vehicles. In addition to the many pristine Mercedes Benz vehicles the show also included a Triumph, a Rolls Royce, a Jaguar, multiple Oldsmobile convertibles and a Mercedes Benz diesel sedan whose owner drove from Pittsburgh to be able to enjoy the clambake and participate in the car show. The oldest cars shown included a 1957 Oldsmobile 88 Convertible and a 1957 Ford Skyliner, a retractable hard top convertible.

Printed ballots were available for people that viewed the show to pick their favorite vehicle. The first prize winner of the People's Choice Award received a plaque, and the second and third place winners received engraved Mercedes Benz plates. The Peoples Choice top award went to Western Reserve Section President Rod Thompson of Hunting Valley, Ohio for his 1973 Rolls Royce, Silver Shadow, the second place winner was Dominic and Irene Perri, of Macedonia, Ohio, for their 1973 Jaguar XLE 2 + 2 Coupe V 12, and the third place winner was Ted and Brigitte Gottfried, of Hudson, Ohio for their 1958 Mercedes Benz 190 SL. Dennis O'Keefe of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania also received an award for driving the greatest distance to the event.

The members of the Western Reserve Section of the Mercedes Benz Club of America are grateful to Bruce Marek for his cooperation in making our Fourth Annual Cruise-In and car show event a success. Our members and their guests always enjoy the food and the fine, friendly people at the DTJ Clambake.



**Western Reserve Section  
CRIER**

Mercedes-Benz Club of America  
7783 Diagonal Road Kent, Ohio 44240



**Western Reserve Section of MBCA Schedule of Events**

No Board Meeting in December or January

January 11,  
2020

Holiday Party, Avalon Inn

Warren, Ohio

Our section's website, [www.benzclub.org](http://www.benzclub.org), will be updated as things change. Please check it often. As mentioned before, we are hoping to do as much as possible electronically. You will learn about upcoming events quicker by visiting the web site for updates and checking your email often.

Please join us at the meetings in Twinsburg, Ohio at Brewsters, usually the **first Tuesday** of each month at 7:00 PM. Your input is important to us. Check the web page for updates, or contact any board member for information. Guests are welcomed, too.