



# Western Reserve Section Mercedes-Benz Club of America

*Crier - Fall Issue 2021*

## Fall Leaf Tour

Jim and Barb Tullis planned and will lead this year's Fall Leaf Tour through the Ashtabula County Covered Bridges. Jim has researched the bridges and has chosen a route that will take us through 12 of them. Included will be the longest and the shortest covered bridges in the United States and a pedestrian covered bridge as well. Add to this adventure the beautiful leaves of Northeast Ohio in October and be prepared for a wonderful day. The date is Oct. 16. We will meet at the McDonald's at the Geneva exit of I 90 and depart promptly at 10:15. Lunch will follow the tour at Brennan's Fish House in Grand River. A flyer will be coming and the info will also be posted on the website: [www.benzclub.org](http://www.benzclub.org). Hope you will attend this fun, well planned event.



## Gervasi Cruise-In



Richard Self, member of the Western Reserve Section of the MBCA, once again made arrangements for our Section's participation in the Gervasi Vineyard Cruise-In in Canton, Ohio. Thank you, Dick, for organizing this event which has been on our calendar for many years, giving Section members a first-class venue for a weeknight car show in which they can enjoy good food, many special wines and a wide variety of classic cars.

Gervasi Vineyards features a different car club each Wednesday during the summer months and provides a special area along a brick drive adjacent to their vineyard which is reserved for club members. Section members enjoyed a great drive and evening. Please enjoy the collage of a small set of photos of cars shown at the Gervasi Cruise-

In July 14, 2021. We were told our photographers did not find any French vehicles this night because they were all in Paris Celebrating Bastille Day. Please enjoy the outstanding example of a 1935 Mercedes-Benz 170 4 Door Sedan (W15) proudly shown by Western Reserve Section member, Terry Thomas. When asked about this Bastille Day Cruise-In, Dick Self replied, "I think this was the most successful and fun Gervasi Cruise-In. I am very happy with the weather and our turn out. There were 28 vehicles pre-registered and a few more showed up!"

# National News

You still have time to vote for the Directors-at-Large for the National Board. You have received a US Mail ballot as well as one in your email. Deadline is Oct. 15. This is your chance to choose who will represent you at the national board meetings. National officers will then be elected from the group of DAL's.

Mercedes Freude, the newest national event will be held Nov. 2 to 7 in Hilton Head, SC. The committee has many activities, speakers, tours, and fun planned for those days. Either go to the national website: [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) or look at page 86 in the September STAR for more information and registration.

The annual National Board Meeting will be held virtually on Nov. 13. Any member may watch it. If you are interested in "attending," contact the National Board Office for the link which will be sent to you a few days ahead of the meeting.



## Anniversary Pins

As people began to feel more safe in public, a great crowd gathered for the return of the Spread Eagle Bunch and Ice Cream social hosted by Mary Alice Cozza and sponsored by Fred Martin Mercedes-Benz of Austintown on July 25. There was a moderate prediction of showers, but "it doesn't rain on the Spread Eagle event" was heard quoted as the participants enjoyed a beautiful day. After enjoying the usual good food at the Spread Eagle Tavern in Hanoverton, the group caravanned to the home of Mary Alice Cozza for more fun reconnecting with friends and meeting new ones as people enjoyed the array of members' cars and those brought to display by Fred Martin Mercedes-Benz. Ice cream with an assortment of toppings, cookies, and beverages were available as friends mingled. Door prizes were awarded throughout the afternoon, and longevity pins were presented. These are given at either the Spread Eagle event or the holiday party for those who have been members for a multiple of 5 years. Those at the event receiving their pins are pictured (left to right) Mary Mehwald-5 years, Morgan Taft- 35 years, John Morrison-25 years, Jim Tullis-15 years, Gary Goodman-30 years, Rod Thompson-30 years, and Ralph Stupka- 30 years. It was another great event, and a big thank-you to Mary Alice Cozza for her warm hospitality and hard work to make this such a successful event!

## Membership

### Welcome New Members

6-11-21 to 10-10-21

Bill Koebiltz

Janeen Clayton

Phillip Winton

Anthony Vespoli

Robert Warren

Joseph Lepera

Christian Lant

Richard Burkhardt

Linda Jordan

Mike Rado

### Renewals

6-11-21 to 10-10-21

Montz Haiss

Doug Seib

Jonathan Veres

Drew Schneider

Charles Hearn

Joe Wehrheim

William Gesell

Carl Sekulich

Jeffrey Noss

Taylor Hart

Don Velcio

Anthony Spena

Catherine Keith

Scott Rupert

Ronald Armenti

John Nottingham

Alex Von Saucken

Ryan Boyce

Jan Pesta

Norman Foraker

Don Negrelli

Howard Wilmoth

Ronald White

Stella Camuso

Frank Omerza

John Julius

Terry Donley

Harvey Kay

Harry Paul

John Michels, IV

Terry Thomas

Peter Medwid

Janice Sanborn

Don Schmidt

Kimberly Keller

Brent Hahn

Thanks for staying with us!



# Old Car Fun Day

Rod Thompson

On Saturday, August 14th twenty-four of our members attended our annual Old Car Fun Day luncheon and tech session at my home in Hunting Valley. It was a comfortable and sunny mid-summer day, and we perused the member cars in the front yard before moving to the backyard patio for our traditional pulled pork sandwiches and Oktoberfest beer.

Following lunch we enjoyed a technical presentation by Rick Basta (owner of Trans Colonial Auto Service in Chagrin Falls) and his veteran mechanic and transmission expert Mike Riley. They discussed the evolution of Mercedes transmissions during the postwar years and brought examples of transmission control units as they progressed from purely hydro-mechanical to electronic controls. The members were enthralled with the presentation and asked questions for half an hour, including seeking advice on the maintenance and reliability of current transmission versus the vintage units.

Our attendees typically represent members who take a keen interest in the mechanical aspects of their Mercedes cars, and their upkeep. I want to thank Ted Gottfried, our technical board member, Rick Basta, and Mike Riley for arranging this provocative tech session.





# Benz F1 Racing

Another Mercedes-Benz championship to get charged up about. It wasn't until the final round of the 7th season that the Fe championship was decided in Berlin. Formula E started with its 2014/15 season and became a FIA World Championship series for 2020/21. The Mercedes-EQ Formula E team will participate in the 2021/22 Fe series. Below are the standings for the top of 25 drivers and the top 5 of 12 teams of the 2020/21 season.

de Vries is quoted, 'It's extremely competitive. I've aged more, I've got grey hair!'

Driver Standing 9-12-2021				Constructor Savings 9-12-21		
Position	Driver	Team	Points	Postion	Team	Points
1	De Vries	Mercedes-EQ	99	1	Mercedes-EQ	181
2	Mortara	Rokit Venturi	92	2	Jaguar	177
3	Dennis	BMWi	91	3	DS Techeetah	166
4	Evans	Jaguar	90	4	Audi	165
5	Frijns	Envision	89	5	Envision	165

Formula 1 - Just a couple news items and top 5 standings as of 9/12/21 since The Star has been providing F1 articles.

The Mercedes-Benz F1 Team announced that 23 year old George Russell will replace Valtteri Bottas for the 2022 season. Bottas will drive for Alpha Romeo next season. From my perspective, he has been instrumental in Mercedes constructor championships by consistently putting points on the board. Russell, at 23 years old, has put on several great performances recently. Hopefully, he'll develop into a top driver for Benz as Lewis Hamilton is 36 years old and has a 2 year contract with the Benz F1 team.

Speaking of Hamilton, he survived a wreck at the Italian Grand Prix on the 12th. Photos show the rear tire of Max Verstappen's car on Hamilton's helmet. Lewis seems to be having neck problems at this writing. Max was penalized 3 grid positions for the next race at Sochi for the Russian Grand Prix on 9/24 through 26th. Both drivers were out of the race, but Bottas came from the back of the grid to finish 3rd and add constructor points for Mercedes once again.

Driver Standing 9-12-21				Constuctor Standings 9-12-21		
Position	Driver	Team	Points	Position	Team	Points
1	Verstappen	Red Bull	226.5	1	Mercedes	362.5
2	Hamilton	Mercedes	221.5	2	Red Bull	344.5
3	Bottas	Mercedes	141	3	McLaren	215
4	Norris	LcLaren	132	4	Ferrari	201.5
5	Perez	Red Bull	118	5	Alpine	95







# Seasonal Feature

## Bill Mulhausen



Dr. Mulhausen was born and raised on the East side of Cleveland (Nottingham/Collinwood area). At age 26 he married Kieran and moved to Wickliffe where they lived for 20 years and raised their 3 children. Jeffrey, Jason and Tracie are now adults and have given them 4 grandchildren (Vaughn, Liv, Bennett, and Brooke). Bill and Kieran have lived in Westlake for the past 31 years.

Dr. Mulhausen has spent 15 years of his life in college. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology from Western Reserve University, Master's Degrees in Sociology and Education from Case Western Reserve University, Post Master's Certification in School Psychology from John Carroll University, and a Doctorate in School Psychology with a specialization in Counseling/Consultation, Marriage and Family Therapy and Clinical Psychology from Kent State University.

For 10 years Dr. Mulhausen taught mentally disabled children for the Cleveland Municipal School System. He then worked for Cleveland as a School Psychologist

for 16 years.

In addition to his Master's degree in Education, Dr. Mulhausen has 5 permanent teaching certificates (Mentally Disabled, High School Sociology, High School Social Psychology, School Psychologist and School Social Worker. Dr. Mulhausen is the founder and owner of 10 businesses (eg. PsyCon, providing school psychologists to NE Ohio school systems; Comprehensive Educational Services, providing health aides and occupational therapists to NE Ohio school systems, etc.

Bill and his wife own Mulhausen Music (.com) founded in 1975, a full line music store specializing in band and string instrument sales, rentals and repairs. He is a certified band instrument repair technician for the past 46 years.

Bill also taught music privately (accordion, trumpet, clarinet, saxophone and guitar) in 3 music stores before opening his own store in 1975. Bill also tuned and repaired pianos.

Bill was the leader of the Bill Mulhausen Orchestra (.com) for 50 years, an all occasion band playing everything from polkas to rock and standards, big band, Latin, country and pop in between. He specialized in all types of nationality music and in addition to playing the accordion was the vocalist for the group singing in 6 different languages (English, German, Polish, Italian, Croatian and Slovenian). He has played all around Ohio including Radio, TV and even Blossom Music Center.

Dr. Mulhausen currently has a private practice in Westlake OH ([hypnosisohio.net](http://hypnosisohio.net)). He is a Hypnotherapist, Licensed Professional Counselor, Registered Addiction Specialist, Licensed School Psychologist and Nationally Certified School Psychologist. He has been in private practice for 40 years and is one of 15 practitioners in Ohio with the top certification in the country in clinical hypnosis. He sees clients for literally hundreds of problems from all across Ohio and the country.

He is a life member of the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis and MENSA (High IQ society). He is a fellow of the Cleveland Society of Clinical Hypnosis and was the president of that Society for 16 years. Dr. Mulhausen is also a member of the Cleveland Assn. of School Psychologists.

Bill has held a license in Real Estate for the past 49 years. Dr. Mulhausen and his wife, Kieran, enjoy travel often visiting their children in MN and TX and Columbus OH. They have traveled extensively in Europe. Dr. Mulhausen enjoys golf, bowling and bocce. He is an avid collector of German Beer Steins and wood carvings from around the world. Additionally, Bill enjoys reading, gardening, playing and listening to music.

Bill and Kieran own a 1984 Mercedes 380SL hardtop/convertible which they inherited from Bill's sister, Hedy, when she passed away in 2013. Bill and Kieran are both members of the Board of Directors of the Western Reserve Section of the Mercedes Benz Club of America for the past 6 years.



# Seasonal Feature

## Kieran Mulhausen



I'm Kieran Mulhausen, membership chair of the Western Reserve Section of the Mercedes Benz Club and have been a member for about 6-7 years.

Born in Columbus OH, I was raised in Northern Kentucky before moving to Cleveland after high school. I attended CWRU where I met Bill, my husband of 50 years, doing volunteer work in his classroom. My BA in Psychology was more valuable in 1971 than it is now so it was beneficial in securing several parttime jobs (preschool teacher, dental assistant, test proctor, etc) while we were raising our family of 3.

My older son is an Industrial Designer living in Austin TX with his wife and 2 kids. Vaughn is 11 and Liv is 9. These days having facetime is a blessing since we don't get to see them often in person. He and his wife both have their own design business and are kept very busy. Our last family get together was in Park City UT for a skiing vacation in 2019 along with our daughter and her family.

Our middle child, Jason, also has a degree in Industrial Design. He lives 8 mos. of the year in Croatia where he completed his MA in Fine Arts. He returns to Columbus OH each year to work and make enough money so he can live his dream in Europe.

Tracie lives in MN with her husband and 2 children. Bennett is 8 and Brooke is 5. Typical MN activities are prevalent in their lives – boating, ice hockey, and ice

fishing. She uses her business degree to work at General Mills, a very employee friendly company. We get to see her a few times a year.

I was fortunate to be a stay-at-home mom but returned to Tri C to get another degree in Occupational Therapy when the kids were in high school/college. I worked at St. John Westshore for about 20 years

We inherited our 1984 380SL Mercedes from my sister-in-law. This is our first and only foray into the world of collector cars. We take it for spins and enjoy driving in parades.

We have owned Mulhausen Music which Bill opened in Eastlake in 1975 and continue to rent band instruments to area school systems. Bill is the repair technician and keeps all the instruments in top condition.

I take part in several volunteer activities from leading an urban gardening group through our church to being a Playhouse Square Redcoat.

Our dog, Lucy, completes our family now, but being that the Benz is a 2-seater she can't get any rides in that car. She lets us know she is very disappointed when that happens.

## Holiday Party

## Save the Date

In our attempt to move the Holiday party around the section, we have contracted with the Hilton Garden Inn at the Akron Canton airport for Jan. 8, 2022. We will have a special rate for the sleeping room and other surprises yet to be seen. Mark the date on your calendar to join us. You will receive your "formal" invitation in December, but watch the website for updated information.





# DTJ Car Show





# Ohio Licence Plate History

In 1908, Ohio joined other states like Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Connecticut beginning to issue automobile license plates as a means of taxing automobile owners to pay for maintenance of roads. While the cities Cincinnati, Columbus, and Canton were already issuing some type of registration of motor vehicles, the state of Ohio decided to require automobile registration plates as other states like Massachusetts had begun to do in 1903, Connecticut in 1905, and Pennsylvania in 1906. Like in those and a few other states, the first Ohio license plate was a porcelain plate.

The first plate was issued with numbers running consecutively beginning in 1908 and continued running through 1909. It was white numbers on dark blue with a large "O" with an "H" on one side of the plate. The 1908 plates were issued from number 1 to 11,002 and were continued in 1909 from number 11,003 to 23,138 as it was a multi-year plate. The second Ohio plate was porcelain with white numbers on a wood grain background with Ohio vertically on the left side and 1910 vertically down the right side and the numbers began at "1" again. The third and final porcelain Ohio plate was a white porcelain plate with black numbers with Ohio vertically on the left side and the year "1911" on the right side.

Beginning in 1912 Ohio switched to flat steel plates. The format for 1912 and 1913 were the same as the last two porcelain plates. The 1912 plate was white with black numbers and the 1913 was white with maroon numbers. In 1914 Ohio changed the format again for two years on its painted flat metal plates. The 1914 and 1915 plates returned to a "O" with an enclosed "H" and "I" on the left side of the plate, with the numbers red in 1914 and black in 1915 on white background. In 1916 the plates were black with Ohio and 1916 on the left side of the plate and the numbers, that were now reaching six digits in white. 1917 plates again reverted to Ohio on the left side and Ohio down the right and were black on orange.

In 1918 the Ohio plates became embossed metal with another change in format reverting to the "O" with the small "H" and "I" enclosed on one side of the plate and this format was used from 1918 through 1921. The width of the plates was reduced to 4-3/4 inches but the length varied as long as 16 inches on a six-digit registration number. Finally, in 1922 an embossed Ohio plate solved the "length of registration number issue" by inserting a period between the third and fourth number, and in 1926 the period became a dash and thus standardized the sizes of Ohio license plates to lengths from 10 inches for shorter numbers to 12 inches for numbers five to six numbers and the width for both sizes was 6 inches. To handle long registrations above 999-999 at first, they placed a star on the left side of the plate and then in 1930 they began to insert a letter as the first character on the plates when the registrations exceeded 999 999.

In 1935, Ohio made two major changes to license plates. The first change was to issue the plates with the location of a letter or two letters to indicate the part of the state where the vehicle registration was purchased, The different areas of the state where the vehicle registrations were sold were as follows: a) a single letter followed by three or four numbers in the central part of the state; b) the reverse of three or four numbers followed by a letter, in northwestern Ohio; c) two letters followed by three or four numbers in northeastern Ohio; d) three or four numbers followed by two letters in southwestern Ohio, and e) one letter, three or four numbers, and a second letter generally issued in the central rural parts of the state excluding the Columbus area.

The second major change in Ohio license plates in 1935 was the Ohio Legislature also created a "Reserved Number License Plate" category of license plates often referred to as the "initial plates" that were issued only from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles office in Columbus at an additional fee and in essence became a sort of vanity license plate series. They were all issued as a 10 by 6-inch plate with a maximum of only one to four spaces, a single letter A to X except the letter "O" or the combination of only two letters except the letters "00" with only and one or two numbers 1-50 or the reverse of numbers 1-50 and one or two letters. In 1950 they added a three-letter series, AAA to ZZZ to the mix and subsequently added to the three letter

series the numbers 1-9 and the reverse of the numbers 1 to 9 and three letters still issued on a 10 inch by 6-inch plates. In 1956, the auto manufacturers were successful in lobbying the Federal Government to standardize the size of all license plates issue to be 12 inches long and 6 inches wide so the original Ohio Reserved Number Plates also were issued in that size.





# Ohio Licence Plate History

With the popularity of what were called “Vanity License Plates” in other states, Ohio in 1960 finally added a category of “Personalized License Plates” also only issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in Columbus at an additional registration fee above the reserved number series. They began issuing only four-letter plates in 1960, then made available five letter plates, and ultimately in the 1970’s permitted combinations of seven letters and numbers that are the true “Ohio vanity license plates” available today. (It should be noted that California and New York now permit nine space vanity plates!)

There are three other categories of Ohio license plates that are available and issued primarily from Columbus. They are the “Armed Service Veteran Series” that cover all service branches, the Environmental Series that began with the Lake Erie plate, Scenic Rivers, and Wildlife, and the organizational series that cover Ohio colleges, service organizations, and many school systems that require a given number of applicants before being issued. Today the process of using a type of computer designed sheeting that can be applied to aluminum or steel enable Ohio and other states to produce a variety of designs on a license plate as long as one is willing to pay an additional registration fee and meet a required minimum number of applicants.

## President’s Letter

*Rod Thompson*

I am thankful that our club has been able to schedule our monthly summer events successfully despite the pandemic. The strong attendance for our Spread Eagle Tavern, Old Car Fun Day, and Taborville Clambake events demonstrates our members’ continued support for our club and desire to socialize. In a couple of weeks we will enjoy our traditional Fall Leaf Tour, touring the covered bridges of Ashtabula County and culminating in a luncheon at Brennan’s Fish House in Fairport Harbor. For those of us who prefer not to dine inside, we can bring our own food and refreshments.

The Cleveland Car Show has been rescheduled for February 2022 and will return to the I.X. Center in Berea, where we will plan to have a meal event as in past years. We are also planning for our Holiday Party to take place in the Canton area in early January.

Thanks for attending our events this summer and keeping our club strong!

## Board Members

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## Schedule of Events

October 16	Ashtabula County Covered Bridges	Jim & Barb Tullis
November 9 (*Exception to First Tuesday due to Election*)	Membership Meeting @ 7:00	Brewser's in Twinsburg
December 7	Membership Meeting @ 7:00	Brewser's in Twinsburg
January 8	Holiday Party	Hiltion Garden Inn @ Akron-Canton Airport

Our section's website will be updated as things change. [www.benzclub.org](http://www.benzclub.org) Please check it often. We are hoping to do as much as possible electronically. You will learn upcoming events quicker by checking for updates and watching your inbox.

Please join us at the meetings at Brewster's in Twinsburg usually the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00. Your input is important to us. Check the web page for updates and address. Or contact any board member for info. Guests are Welcome! If you wish to view the meeting via Zoom, contact Rod Thompson at [renold.thompson@clevelandship.com](mailto:renold.thompson@clevelandship.com) for the link.

You may notice that we eliminated the Cleveland Auto show from the calendar. It was originally scheduled for Dec. 4 but has been cancelled and rescheduled for Feb. 25 to March 6 at the IX Center. We will be planning a club event for attendance at the rescheduled show.