



Western Reserve Section

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

Crier - Fall 2022

The President's Letter

-Rod Thompson

We have concluded our outdoor summer and fall events with strong attendance, and luckily, fine weather. These events included the Gervasi Vineyards Cruise-In, the European Auto Show, Old Car Fun Days, Brunch at the Spread Eagle Tavern with the Ice Cream Social at Mary Alice Cozza's home, the DTJ Taborville Clambake and Cruise-In, and the Fall Leaf Tour. Next up, get in the holiday spirit with A Celebration of Christmas performed by The Brass Band of the Western Reserve on Saturday December 17th at 7 p.m. The concert will be held at the Medina Performing Arts Center (851 Weymouth Rd., Medina, OH 44256). For those interested, we will meet for dinner at the 'On Tap' restaurant on the south side of Rt 18 just east of I-71 (2736 Medina Rd. (Rt 18), Medina) at 5 PM. Everyone should meet at the Performing Arts Center no later than 6:40 to receive your tickets. Our **Annual Holiday Party** is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 7th at the Galaxy Banquet Center (201 Park Center Dr., Wadsworth 44281). Appetizers are at 6:00 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner at 7:00 p.m. In addition to our member recognition awards, we will have a very special and fun-filled performance by violinist and entertainer Mary Beth Ions. Reservations are \$65 per person. I look forward to seeing you soon.



Gervasi Cruise-In

-Richard Self

The Western Reserve Club met at Gervasi Vineyards as the featured club at the Cruise-In on a hot and steamy night Wednesday, July 20th. We were looking to continue our reputation of displaying great cars for guests to review that night. We had over twenty-five Mercedes Benz club members and a few "drive-in" cars from non-members. Gervasi did not permit the vineyard pathway to be used this year, so we had the prime spots in the parking area. Cars of our members ranged from newer SLs, CLs, C's, E's and performance cars, to Mike Schiltz's original 1954 Gull Wing. Members enjoyed dining in the new and expanded outdoor patio, and wandering the beautiful grounds of Gervasi.



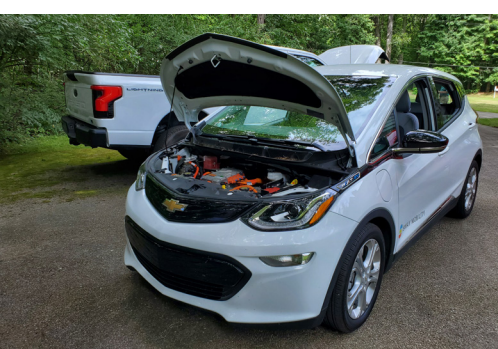
Saturday, August 13th was a sunny, mild summer day with temperatures in the mid-70's at my home in Hunting Valley. The event was attended by 24 club members and 4 speakers who discussed the future of electric vehicles following a luncheon of pulled pork sandwiches, potato salad, fruit, and Oktoberfest beer.

Club Vice President, Allan Pintner, handed out a history of automobile propulsion and gave us a concise chronology of vehicle energy sources

since the 1880's. Next, Michael Peters, a Shaker Heights native, Treasurer of the national Electric Automobile Association, as well as, CEO of the Ohio-based electric vehicle car share company Sway Mobility, presented his view of the e.v. industry and its adoption rate in our nation. Following Michael's highly professional presentation, I presented my less optimistic opinion on the topic, based on the scarcity of the raw materials necessary to produce electric vehicles at scale. Finally, club board member Gary Goodman, who has worked in the automobile industry his entire life, gave a practical review of e.v. ownership based on his experience owning one for the past couple of years. Although the presentations lasted only an hour, the Q & A period continued for a further 90 minutes. Obviously, our membership is extremely interested in the future of both electric and internal combustion vehicles.

Three of our attendees brought electric vehicles to the event, an early Chevy Bolt, a new Chevy Bolt and a new Ford Lightning electric pickup truck. We crawled all over them, with their owners showing us their features. We will need to update this topic a year from now as developments are quickly occurring. Pictures of the three electric vehicles are included in this Crier. There is a white Chevrolet Bolt EV, a red Chevrolet Bolt EV, and a white Ford F150 Lightning.

-Rod Thompson





European Auto Show

Members of the Western Reserve Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America participated in the European Auto Show on August 6, 2022. This show was organized by the Jaguar Club of America, and was held at Ursuline College in Pepper Pike, Ohio. Eleven Club members participated, and Ted Gottfried won the trophy for the best of the Mercedes-Benz class with his 1958 190SL.

Congratulations, Ted!



Welcome New Members! June 18 - October 4, 2022

Arthur Pickering
Al Nimer
Bryce Custer
Tam Taylor
Gregory Eytchison
Adam Bernard
Jeff Misco
Victor Nemeth
Kevin Zelher
Sue Rinehart
Kelly Carr
Sara Sapochak
James Marks
William Kennedy
James Smekal
Dale Weir

We're happy you renewed:

Richard Michelson	Stella Camuso	Harvey Kay
Peter Thomas	John Gertenaler	Don Velcio
Patricia Seifert	Terry Donley	Austin Barnes
Leon Wieber	Mark Rose	Ronald Armenti
David Wade	Fred Abraham	John Julius
Paul Balciar	Carl Sekulich	Nicholas Wanachik
Dan Schmidt	Hans Proemm	Werner Heidemann
Janeen Clayton	Tom Young	Jeffrey Noss
Terry Thomas	Richard Barkhart	Joseph Horvath
Terance Stahl	Don Negelli	Charles Hearn
Joseph Lepera	Richard Buys	John Tuck
Linda Jordan	Beverly Ulrich	Joe Oberle
Harry Paul	John Buckingham	Gary Goodman
	Jonathan Veres	Bill Koebnitz

Brunch At Spread Eagle Tavern

On a beautiful August day, over 50 members and friends gathered at the Spread Eagle Tavern in Hanover, Ohio for a brunch. We mingled on the brick street, enjoying the array of Mercedes-Benz cars lining both sides of the street in front of the historic tavern. David Johnson, owner of the inn, met us at the front door and gave a talk about the history of the town and the tavern. We then entered the building and enjoyed a wonderful meal before car-avanning to the home of Mary Alice Cozza. Cars were arranged around her yard, including several cars from Fred Martin Mercedes-Benz, event sponsor. The beautiful outdoor living area of Mary Alice's home was the perfect setting to enjoy visiting, ice cream and toppings, watermelon, cookies and beverages. Dan and Betsy Marcin of the Pittsburgh section joined us, as did Mary Alice's son, Frank Cozza from San Diego and son Craig, his wife Sherri, and daughters Alex, Gabriella, and Siena also from Pennsylvania. Thank-you to Mary Alice Cozza for again opening her home, and for her gracious hospitality on such a wonderful day.



As is the practice at the Holiday party and at the Spread Eagle event, longevity pins are awarded in multiples of five years. Receiving pins this year were:
Jay and Kathleen Michels-- 5 years
Anneliese Nefos--15 years
Congratulations!



At the Spread Eagle event, glasses were given to members attending their first event. We welcomed Sherri Cozza, Alex Cozza, Gabriella Cozza, Ruth Ann Rinto-Gillis, David Gillis, Rod Kalkman, and Chris Lant. We hope you'll attend many more events in the future!



DTJ Taborville Clambake and Cruise-In

The 7th annual DTJ Taborville Clambake and Cruise-In took place on Sunday, September 18, 2022, in Auburn Township of Geauga County, Ohio. Forty-eight members and their guests took part in this year's Cruise-In and Show, as well as, enjoying the excellent food and gorgeous, sunny fall like day. The DTJ grounds and facilities were pristine and well maintained as always. The traditional stenciling on the DTJ Hall looked splendid in the bright sunshine. Many new picnic tables, recently built, enabled tables to be positioned adjacent to the Show Area for our members to enjoy.



In addition to the chicken, sweet potato, corn on the cob, chowder and broth over 300 dozen clams were consumed and enjoyed by guests at the 2022 DTJ Taborville Clambake. Thank you to Bruce Marek of DTJ for permitting us to join in their annual clambake. Thank you also to Sue Morrison, and Allan B Pintner for their work in administering the show and prizes. Twenty-nine interesting vehicles were displayed at this event. These vehicles included a record number of trucks and vans including a 1977 Chevrolet C330 Dump Truck owned by the DTJ Organization. The oldest vehicle was a 1972 Triumph owned by Warren Plesmid. The newest vehicle was a 2022 Ford Expedition owned by Holly Hasman of Brecksville, Ohio. Prizes were awarded for 1st and 2nd place in the Peoples Choice Award, the Furthest Drive to the Show and the Highest Mileage. Prizes included a Plaque for the 1st place in the Peoples Choice voting and car care products for the other winners.



The 1st place winner of the 7th Annual DTJ Taborville Clambake and Cruise-In was a 1973 Jaguar E Type 2 + 2 Coup V12 owned by Dominic and Irene Perri, from Macedonia, Ohio. Second place winner was David Gillis's 2012 Mercedes-Benz SL 63 AMG. David Gillis also won for the Furthest Drive. Highest Mileage Award went to Ted Gottfried.



Fall Leaf Tour

The annual Fall Leaf Tour was held on Saturday, October 15th. Drivers departed at 11:30 am from Rick Basta's Trans Colonial Auto Service facility, located 8228 E. Washington Street in Chagrin Falls. The route included a cruise along the Chagrin River valley to Kirtland. At approximately 12:30, participants arrived at The Kirtland Country Club, 39438 Kirtland Road, where they enjoyed a luncheon on the enclosed west porch and patio of the main clubhouse. A salad bar and sandwich bar awaited them. After lunch, the tour continued southward through the Holden Arboretum, and participants stopped to do a walking tour of the garden and mineral exhibits under the geodesic dome at The American Society of Metals (ASM International) headquarters, located at 9639 Kinsman Road, Novelty, Ohio. The tour came to an end in downtown Chagrin Falls at 3:00 pm.

Schedule of Events

December 6, 2022

Membership and Board Meeting 7:00 pm
Brewster's Twinsburg

December 17, 2022

Concert and dinner Information coming

January 7, 2023

Annual Holiday Party

Our section's website will be updated as things change. www.benzclub.org. Please check it often. As mentioned before, 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 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, too.

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