



Western Reserve Section

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

Crier - Spring 2024

The President's Letter

-Rod Thompson

We have finalized our 2024 summer schedule with our traditional events. Due to the efforts of our past president, Jim Tullis, we had a very successful private reception at Mercedes-Benz of Bedford on **April 24th**. A small contingent of us attended the rainy Zoar Maifest luncheon and German car show on **May 11th**.

Our next event is on Saturday, **June 15th**, where we will attend the Lady Caroline cruise and luncheon in downtown Cleveland. On Wednesday, **July 24th** our club will be the featured marquee at the Gervasi Vineyards car meet in Canton. On Sunday, **July 28th** we will attend our annual Spread Eagle Tavern luncheon and ice cream social in Hanoverton.



Many of our members plan to attend the annual Ursuline European Car Show in Pepper Pike on Saturday, **August 3rd**. Our Old Car Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday, **August 24th** at my home in Hunting Valley. We will conclude our summer with the DTJ Taborville Clambake and car show on Sunday, **September 15th**.

I hope to see you and your Mercedes at one or more of these outings. Happy summer driving!

Lady Caroline Luncheon



You are cordially invited to join other members of the Western Reserve Section of the MBCA as we take a luncheon cruise from the Cuyahoga River onto Lake Erie on board the Lady Caroline on Saturday, **June 15th**. There are 25 tickets available for our Section on a first-come basis. Guests are welcome!

Tickets will be distributed when you board the ship starting at 10 AM. Tickets are **\$60 per person**. There will be a **\$3.00 per car parking fee** which is payable when you arrive at the lot. Lady Caroline Boards at the West Bank of the flats by the Powerhouse (1153 Main Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44113).

Reservations are due June 1.

Media Attention

The R129 received heightened media attention in 1991 for two reasons.

Diana, Princess of Wales sold her Jaguar XJS to lease a metallic-red 500 SL and became the first member of the royal family to use a foreign car. This was not without controversy as it sparked a media storm as it questioned whether a member of the British royal family should drive a foreign car. Media pressure eventually forced her to return the car to Mercedes-Benz in 1992. It now resides in the Mercedes-Benz Museum.

Victor Chang, Companion of the Order of Australia and Australian of the Century (People's Choice Awards) was a pioneer of modern heart transplantation, fatally shot while driving his 500SL in Sydney.

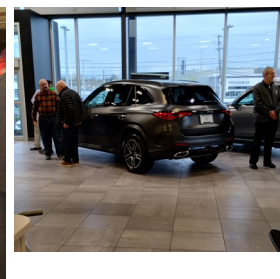
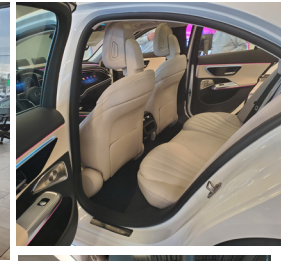
-Jan Pesta



Mercedes-Benz of Bedford

On April 24, the Mercedes-Benz of Bedford hosted a private reception for our section members to introduce the new E 350. Bob Laughton, General Manager, and Dave Klingenberg, New Car Sales Manager, mingled and discussed all things Mercedes with the 30 Western Reserve Section members present. Staff members of the dealership held multiple hands-on, small group sessions explaining and displaying the features of the E 350, which was on display in the showroom. Other staff assisted our members in test driving other Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Some of our members had never driven an all-electric vehicle prior to this event.

The private reception was very elegant with a variety of heavy hors d'oeuvres and multiple beverage choices, as well as fancy dessert treats. Mercedes-Benz of Bedford is a member of Penske Automotive Group, dedicated to serving all automotive needs and providing the best customer experience possible. Mercedes-Benz of Bedford is located at 18122 Rockside Road in Bedford, Ohio 44136. They were recognized in 2023 by Automotive News as being one of the best dealerships to work for.



Attend Gervasi 2024!

The MBCA Western Reserve Section is the featured car club on **Wednesday, July 24** from 5:00-8:00 PM (weather permitting) for the weekly cruise-in at one of Ohio's top destinations - Gervasi Vineyard Resort & Spa at 700 55th Street NE, Canton, OH 44721.

This cruise-in will feature our cars in the Vineyard parking lot. Come and enjoy Gervasi. They have added several new venues to the property. Come experience Gervasi outdoor patio dining, and the other luxury accommodation options, their three restaurants and coffee house featuring their award-winning wines and distillery offering bourbon, gin, and vodka.

Admission is free, but pre-registration is highly recommended so that we can reserve enough parking spaces. Contact MBCA member Richard Self (selfrich@sssnet.com or 330-546-5764) with the year and model of the Mercedes-Benz that you will be displaying. This allows Richard to plan the display in advance. We would like you to be there by 4:30 on that Wednesday.

-Richard Self

Welcome New Members! February 1 - May 25, 2024

Scott Radcliffe

Albert Jackson

Vassie Scott

James Bergstrom

Joseph Pluscusky

Nick Recker

Renewed Members:

While the National Board Office is reworking the website, renewals did not show up on the roster. We're sorry we didn't list you, but we're so glad you are back with us. We hope to be able to list all of you in the next issue of the Crier.

Zoar Maifest

The Zoar Community Association held its seventh annual Maifest “German Celebration of Spring” and German All-Marques Car Show on Saturday, May 11 in Historic Zoar Village. The families that founded Zoar over 200 years ago hail from the same area of southwestern Germany as Wilhelm Daimler and Karl Benz.

This year the event started on Friday evening with food, craft beers and music followed by our All-Marques German Car Show and more music, brews, and food on Saturday morning and afternoon. Once again rain “dampened” the car show, although the skies cleared in Zoar by noon for a very nice afternoon. A few Mercedes Benz, VW, and BMW owners braved the weather and brought out with their cars and several other members of the Western Reserve Section came out for the event without their show cars. Prizes awarded included Peoples’ Choice and Peoples’ Choice runner-up, Participants’ Choice, Newest Car, and Oldest Car. **Zoar Maifest 2025 will be held on Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10.** Mark your calendars for next year – and let’s hope for a beautiful sunny day!



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



June 15

**Lady Caroline Luncheon Cruise
Cleveland, OH**

June 16

**Stan Hywet Father's Day Car Show
Akron, OH
(Not an official club event)**

July 24

**Gervasi Cruise In
Canton, OH**

July 28

**Spread Eagle Tavern Brunch & Ice
Cream Social at Guilford Lake**

August 3

**European Car Show
Ursuline College
Pepper Pike, OH**

August 17

**Old Car Fun Day
Hunting Valley home of Rod Thompson**

September 15

**Clambake & Car Show
DTJ Taberville**

October (TBA)

Fall Leaf Tour

Harwood Motors in Macedonia hosts Cruise-ins the first Friday of summer months.

All events will have full descriptions and registration information on the webpage. Please be sure to check it often. Find us at <http://www.benzclub.org>

Board and Membership Meetings

The board meets the first Tuesday of each month at Brewster's. 2681 Creekside Drive, Twinsburg 44087.

We meet at 7:00 and enjoy good food as we conduct our meeting and often great conversations. We encourage you to join us for an informative evening and welcome any input you'd like to add!

The meetings for the remainder of the year are:

June 4, July 2, August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3.

Please check the web site to be sure dates have not been changed.