



Western Reserve Section

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

Crier - Fall 2024

The President's Letter

Because of several medical issues, we have given our President, Rod Thompson, a "pass" on writing his President's letter. We're wishing him a speedy recovery. Other board members have been dealing with health problems and other things pulling on their time. We could sure use some help with planning and overseeing events. You do not have to be a board member to attend the meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at Brewster's in Twinsburg. We meet at 7:00 pm, have dinner while we have our meeting, and have great conversations. We would love to have you even if it's not every month. Thank you.



Gervasi Cruise In

July 2024 turned out to be a month with many rainy Wednesdays. Our scheduled date to be the featured car club on Wednesday, July 24th turned out to be no exception. About 4 PM when we were scheduled to arrive a severe thunderstorm passed through Canton forcing Gervasi Vineyards to cancel our cruise-in date. Many thanks to Dick Self who organized the event; we look forward to a dry date in 2025. Members arrived from three different states and joined several of our local Section members for dinner at other Canton establishments. Five of our members ate dinner at one of the Gervasi restaurants and another group of five also went to a different Canton restaurant. We also thank Jim Marks from Kempthorn Mercedes-Benz in Canton who drove a new Mercedes-Benz that had just been delivered to Kempthorn that day hoping to excite our attendees. Jim has always been helpful to our club by bringing stellar examples of the Mercedes-Benz marque to our events.

Cruisin' the Chapel Car Cruise

As a result of the necessity to cancel our event originally planned for August 24th, three of our board members participated in the Cruisin' the Chapel Car Cruise in Hudson, Ohio. Over 400 cars were on show at this cruise-in. It is the opinion of those board members that attended that we should consider participating in this event next year as a club event if we are able to coordinate the dates with our other normally scheduled August events.



THE 1956 GULLWING AND ME

As many club members know, I lost Brigitte on December 16, after more than 53 years of marriage. From that date onward until July 14, when I hosted a celebration of life for her, time stood still. Following that date and the tremendous outpouring of respect for Brigitte's contribution to making our world a better place, I became reborn. More importantly, I found myself alive again and progress has been exponentially fantastic day by day.



On Saturday August 3, Larry Davis, the collections manager of the Crawford Auto Aviation Museum, attended the European Auto Show at Ursuline College (Pepper Pike). Larry drove up in a 1972 Mercedes Sedan. While discussing this car's opportunities for improvement, Larry made a very wild guess that I very likely could help the Museum. The following Tuesday, I went to the Museum's workshop in Macedonia and discovered the assignment, "Have a 1956 Gullwing, which had been in storage for many years, drive under its own power on and off a trailer to attend the Molta Bella Kidney Foundation Fund Raiser Car Show at Hale Farm and Village on Sunday, September 22nd". This was a very tight time schedule.



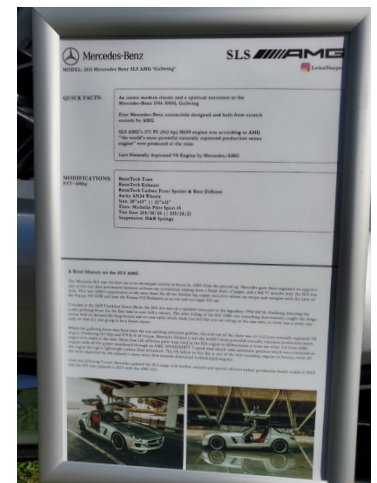
The Moss Green 1956 Gullwing had been donated to the Crawford Collection by Walter Halle, the scion of Halle Department Stores nearly 70 years ago. Fortunately, all of the gasoline had been drained out of the car when it was put into storage. However, all of the car's coolant and brake fluid had not been drained. Thus, the brake system from the master cylinder to each of the four wheels had to be renewed completely. The radiator had been recored but all other components using coolant had not yet been addressed. Big challenge.



However, through yeoman-like effort and extremely good fortune, the car met its target goal and was one of the most important fund raisers on display. I was proud beyond words and received numerous accolades for my financial, technical, and expert contributions.

The timing and importance of this accomplishment to my own mental health is priceless. During the coming months and years further restoration will be ongoing, only limited by the amount and availability of funds. Please enjoy the pictures of the 1956 Gullwing and the 2011 Mercedes-Benz AMG Gullwing which were on display at the Molta Bella car show! I am extremely excited to be an integral part of this very worthwhile effort.

-Ted Gottfried,
Technical Director





SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



October 1

Membership and Board Meeting
Brewsters, Twinsburg
7:00M

December 3

Membership and Board Meeting
Brewsters, Twinsburg
7:00M

November 5

Membership and Board Meeting
Brewsters, Twinsburg
7:00M

January 24

Holiday Party

*More events could be added, and specific details will be updated when they are available. Check you in-box and the website often for further updates. **Remember, we will not be sending flyers in the US mail!**



-Renewed members and new members were not available on the date of publication.

Spread Eagle Brunch & Ice Cream Social

On a beautiful sunny Sunday, 40 people gathered from many directions at the historic Spread Eagle Tavern in Hanover, TN for the annual brunch and ice cream social. Adorning the street, in addition to the members' cars, were several new models from Fred Martin Mercedes-Benz in Youngstown, a long-time supporter of the event. Once everyone had time to enjoy the meal and tour the building if desired, we headed to the Guilford Lake home of Mary Alice Cozza. Cars were placed around the yard, and guests enjoyed the wonderful outdoor living space at Mary Alice's home. Doug Kimble, Fred Martin Mercedes-Benz Sales Manager, spoke about what's new with Mercedes-Benz and also brought great door prizes. Paul Bailey was awarded his 30-year membership pin. And, of course, we enjoyed ice cream with a variety of toppings and other goodies. As usual, it was a fun, successful day with friends, cars, good food, and great weather.



Paul Bailey awarded 30-year membership pin



Regina Health Center Car Cruise

Regina Health Center's Annual Car Cruise-In fundraiser was held on Wednesday, September 4th at their facility in Richfield, Ohio. Five of our members attended this show. The live music, popcorn machine, and food & ice cream trucks all contributed to making this show enjoyable for all that attended. The residents were dancing in the street showing their appreciation for the special event made possible by many collector car owners. Please enjoy the pictures representative of the cars shown.



DTJ Clambake

The 9th Annual DTJ Taborville Clambake and Cruise-In took place on Sunday, September 15, 2024, in Auburn Township of Geauga County, Ohio. Forty-one members and their guests took part in this year's Cruise-In and Show, and enjoyed 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. Special thanks to Taborville resident, George Senft, for his efforts to provide the tables close to the show area!

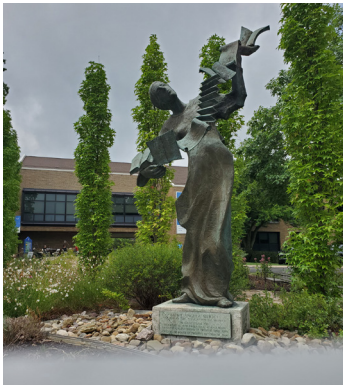
In addition to the chicken, sweet potato, corn on the cob, chowder, and broth, almost 300 dozen clams were consumed and enjoyed by guests at the 2024 DTJ Taborville Clambake. Thank you to Bruce Marek of DTJ for permitting us to join in their annual clambake. Thank you also to Sue Morrison, David and Ruth Ann Gilliss, and Allan B. Pintner for their work in administering the show and prizes.

Twenty-seven interesting vehicles were displayed at this event. In addition to the plethora of Mercedes-Benz vehicles, there were 4 Lotus', 2 Porsches, 2 Ford Trucks, a Jaguar, a Cobra Replica, a Pontiac, and an Oldsmobile on the show field. The oldest vehicle was a 1973 Jaguar E Type 2+2 Coupe V12, owned by Dominic and Irene Perri of Macedonia, Ohio. The newest vehicle was a 2024 Ford F150, owned by Bruce and Kris Marek of Bainbridge Township, Ohio. Prizes were awarded for 1st and 2nd place in the People's Choice Award, and the Furthest Drive to the Show. Prizes included a Plaque for first place in the Peoples Choice voting and Turtle Wax car care products for the other winners.

The first place winner of the 9th Annual DTJ Taborville Clambake and Cruise-In was the 1957 Oldsmobile Convertible, owned by Joe Myroniak of Broadview Heights, Ohio. Allan and Phyllis Pintner of Brecksville, Ohio took 2nd Place with their 1999 Mercedes-Benz SL 500. David and Ruth Ann Gilliss won for the Furthest Drive from Winona, Ohio in their 2012 Mercedes-Benz AMG SL 63.



European Car Show at Ursuline College



Board Members

Rod Thompson, President
renold.thompson@cleveland-
ship.com
216-374-6419

**Allan B. Pintner, Vice
President**

abpintner@mhmltd.com
216-548-9077

Jan Pesta, Secretary
jnkpst@gmail.com

330-659-4956

Gary Goodman, Treasurer
ggood100167@aol.com
440-670-4203

Sue Morrison
slm2teach@aol.com
330-673-7885

Ted Gottfried
tbgfried@yahoo.com
330-650-0751

Dr. Bill Mulhausen
drbillmulhausen@outlook.com
440-899-1570

**Kieran Mulhausen, Membership
Chair**

kieranann@aol.com
440-899-1570

Dave Gillis
dg2u22@gmail.com
408-812-7727

Ruth Ann Gillis
roo.rinto@gmail.com
408-812-7727

Mary Alice Cozza
macozza7@neo.rr.com
330-222-1106

Monica Pesta
heartmender@roadrunner.com
330-659-4956

Crier Editors: Celia Hasman,
Allan B. Pintner, and Sue
Morrison