



Third Quarter 2017



# Indianapolis 500 Section Star



Indianapolis, Indiana

## President's Message

Well, here we are entering the third quarter of 2017. As usual, summer has flown by and Sara's already back to school in, ostensibly, her last year teaching at Cathedral HS before she retires. On the plus side we'll have all year open to us to find great travel deals but on the minus side, her income will be dearly missed.

Summer has not been filled with events for the Indy 500 Section, but we are getting more on the schedule and hopefully 2018 will be a rebound year for us. We now have a planning committee working to schedule events that will be interesting to membership and increase participation. With Peter Emslander's help (I don't know how I would be able to get anything done without his help, we really owe a great deal to the president of the Cincinnati Section), Sara and I put together a survey to find out what would make our club more in line with what our membership would like to see. I'll be summarizing what we learned later in this newsletter. I am very grateful to two volunteers, Barry McClelland and Katherine Benedict, who will assist me in planning events that are what the survey says you would like to see. We've only met once, but already have many ideas to make 2018 an exciting year with several events which I think will be of interest and fun for our membership. I really want to thank my wife, Sara, who has also been a great help for me and in addition to planning all her lesson plans for her students, has taken on the role of secretary for our club. Kevin Williams, Dave Weaver and Roye Gaha are also instrumental in the positions they serve as officers and board members to help keep our Section going!

Looking back, this summer began with the monthly Cars & Coffee at Gateway Classic Cars on the northwest side of Indy. You can see great cars on display along with Gateway's large selection of consignment cars in their showroom every fourth Saturday of the month. The "Replay Rally" in July saw 2 other members and guests from the Cincy Section join Sara and me for a beautiful day driving in the country, lunching at the St. Paul Tavern, seeing the Moscow Covered Bridge and ending at The Sampler in Homer, IN. It was a fun day. The SVRA Car Show and races saw several of our members in attendance and ended with a great concert by Guess Who (no, I'm not asking you to guess, that's the name of the group!). They had folks dancing in the aisles. Our Show And Shine picnic brought out 23 members from our club and neighboring Cincy on a gloomy day to enjoy Kevin and Roye's burgers, dogs and brats. Despite all the complications Carmel's Mayor Brainard could add, everyone seemed to navigate their way to West Park, the rain held off and we all had a good afternoon. And there's more to come for 2017 and many plans for 2018!

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### Welcome New Members

- Samuel Feinberg
- John Garrison
- Brian McCoy
- Douglas McNeill
- John Reed

### Thank You, for Renewing Loyal Members

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## CENTRAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR

### Mercedes-Benz Club of America Central Regional Director

Rick Siefert  
367 W Manor Dr  
Chesterfield, Mo 63017  
rick.siefert@att.net  
(314) 435-1903

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

### Mercedes-Benz Club of America 500 Section Star Newsletter Editor

Ken Koehler  
6861 Ruthven Dr  
Noblesville, IN 46062  
(317) 669-2072  
email: skkoehler@att.net

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## 500 SECTION OFFICERS

### President

Ken Koehler  
6168 Ruthven Dr  
Noblesville, IN 46062  
(317) 669-2072  
email: skkoehler@att.net

### Vice-President

Kevin Williams  
11065 Spring Mill Ln  
Carmel, IN 46032  
email: rkevwil@mac.com

### Secretary

Sara Koehler  
6168 Ruthven Drive  
Noblesville, IN 46062  
(317) 669-2072

### Treasurer

Dave Weaver  
317-846-5409

## BOARD MEMBERS

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Kevin Williams  
email: rkevwil@mac.com

### Membership Chairman

Ken Koehler  
(317) 669-2072  
email: skkoehler@att.net

### Board Members:

Kevin Williams  
Ken Koehler  
Dave Weaver  
Sara Koehler  
Roye Gaha

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## Questions

Call your Section President Ken Koehler at: (317) 669-2072

Call your Central Regional Director Rick Siefert at: (314) 435-1903

Call the National Business Office at: (800) 637-2360  
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## 2017 EVENT SCHEDULE

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>JANUARY 2017</b></p> <p><b>New Member Breakfast</b> Jan 14th, 2017 10am Le Peep 8255 Craig St Indianapolis, IN 46250</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FEBRUARY 2017</b></p> <p><b>Valentines Day Brunch</b> Feb 12th, 2017 1pm George's Neighborhood Grill 6935 Lake Plaza Drive Indianapolis, IN 46220</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MARCH 2017</b></p> <p><b>March 4th</b> <b>Three Rivers Section</b> <b>Kokomo Auto Museum</b> <b>11am</b></p> <p><b>Tour &amp; Breakfast</b> March 18th 9am TBD Ray Skillman Museum Greenwood, IN 46143 Behind Ray Skillman Ford</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>APRIL 2017</b></p> <p>Cincinnati Section April 21-23 French Lick Weekend &amp; Poker Rally</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MAY 2017</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Open</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>JUNE 2017</b></p> <p><b>Cincinnati Section</b> <b>Defensive Driving</b> <b>Regional Event</b> June 23rd-24th N KY University</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SVGA</b></p> <p>Jun 8-11th, 2017 Open Wheel World Challenge, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, IN</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>SVGA</b></p> <p>Jun 11-18th, 2017 Brickyard Vintage Racing Invitational, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, IN</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>JULY 2017</b></p> <p><b>July 22nd</b> <b>Around the World Rally</b> <b>"Replay"</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>AUGUST 2017</b></p> <p><b>Show n' Shine</b> Aug 6th, 2017</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SEPTEMBER 2017</b></p> <p><b>German American Club Oktoberfest</b> September 7,8 and 9 German Park Greenwood</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>October 2017</b></p> <p><b>October 14</b> Drive And Dine Meet at McDonald's 96th &amp; I-69 Dine at Bubba's 33</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>November 2017</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>December 2017</b></p> <p><b>Christmas Party</b> Sunday December 3rd 1:00 PM George's Neighborhood Grill 6935 Lake Plaza Drive Indianapolis, IN 46220</p>

## Cincinnati Section's Defensive Driving and Autocross

On June 23, as the remnants of Hurricane Cindy swept across Indiana, Ken and I left our home near Indianapolis and battled speeding semis, ponding water, and construction delays to attend a Cincinnati MBCA event. We had been to another regional event sponsored by this active club and enjoyed the people and good roads in the area. This event would not involve driving on roads in the area, but would include a morning of learning defensive driving skills and an afternoon of practicing those skills on an autocross course set up at the University of Northern Kentucky.

The rain finally exited the Midwest and Saturday dawned bright and beautiful. Organizers David and Kimberly Hagood had planned a full day of fun that was enjoyed by 41 participants driving 30 cars. Many body styles and years were represented, along with an Audi, a Mini Cooper, a BMW, a pretty sweet yellow Mustang and a little red Corvette. One of the cars that got the most attention was a new AMG GT. The proud owners were Frank and Mary Alice Cozza, who happened to be our defensive driving instructors. We were lucky to be guided by this dynamic duo with over 20 years of experience teaching these valuable skills to help us navigate roads more safely.

Another car and driver we all admired was Joe Alexander in his SLK 4.3 AMG. He registered the fastest time of the day in the afternoon autocross. Each time he took his turn on the course, all eyes were on his car speeding around those cones. Joe is truly skilled, and he is passing his expertise to his co-pilot, his grandson, Jacob Stout. Jacob is only 16, but he has 10 years of go-karting under his belt, and that helped him when it was his turn to have the thrill of driving that fast car.

The events of the day were totally new experiences for me. I had told my husband I was interested in the defensive driving part, but would pass on the autocross. But after Frank and Mary Alice walked the course with us and I drove a couple of practice laps, I had to try a timed lap or two myself. I ended up really enjoying all three laps and only knocked over one cone! Now I'm looking forward to my next autocross experience.

The evening concluded with a delicious dinner at the Hampton Inn and Suites. The Hagoods arranged for BB Riverboats to provide a delicious buffet, which we enjoyed while watching pictures and videos of our day that Peter Emmlander, president of the Cincinnati MBCA Section, had taken throughout the day and projected for us on a big screen in our dining room. David handed out awards to the autocross winner, Joe Alexander and to the youngest participant, Jacob Stout, Joe's co-pilot, who had probably had one of the best days of his life.

Sara Koehler





# Regional Defensive Driving/Autocross

JUNE 24, 2017



## JULY 2017 RALLY REPLAY RECAP

After getting all excited about 8 cars saying they would make the Rally Replay with us, 4 cars cancelled the two days before the rally. The small 4 car rally still had a great time driving over scenic country roads of Rush County. Sara and I were joined by Barry McClelland and his wife, Katherine Benedict and a guest, and Judy and Dave Meno from the Cincy Section. It was a beautiful summer day and not too hot. Leaving from and finishing at the Indiana Grand Casino, we drove through Shelbyville and out into the country passing through tiny towns with international names! We enjoyed lunch at a quaint "old" St. Paul Tavern, visited the completely rebuild covered bridge in Moscow (after it was wiped out in a flood in 2009) and finished in Homer at The Sampler gift shop and custom cherry furniture.



## RECAP OF INDY 500 MEMBER SURVEY

I'd like to thank everyone who filled out our survey to provide some direction for the new Event Planning Committee. Nineteen members and officers filled out the questions, fifteen online and four at the Show And Shine. It seems the event members want to see the most is Car Show visits, followed closely by Road Rallies, Tech Sessions, and museum tours. We are looking at several of those events now for next year. In fact, we will be offering a new Drive and Dine event October 14 starting and ending on Indy's northeast side. One hundred percent of survey responders said 1 - 4 dinners and ninety percent said 1 -4 Touring events per year would be preferred. I was very surprised to see that 62% of responders were not interested in either the Valentine's Day Brunch or the Christmas Party -- usually two of our most attended events. Most of you prefer day long events to an overnight event. Some popular destinations were Gilmore Car Museum, Story Inn and Griot's Garage. We'll look into all three of these for future events. Lastly, since this survey was anonymous, would the three members (not including the one member, already an officer, who signed his survey) who said they would be willing to serve on the board email me? We would greatly appreciate some help and it really shouldn't take that much time -- unless, perhaps, you'd like to be president! Any takers? Thanks to all who took the survey.

**\*\*\*IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE A FULL COLOR COPY, PLEASE EMAIL ME AND I WILL SEND THE PDF!\*\*\***

## 10th Annual Show And Shine

August 6, 2017

On an overcast and rainy looking day, twelve Mercedes and two rainy day vehicles brought 25 members from The Indy 500 section and guests from the Cincinnati section through numerous detours to West Park in Carmel for our 10th Annual Show And Shine. Everyone brought great dishes, desserts and drinks to share and cooks Kevin Williams and Roye Gaha barbequed up more than enough burgers, dogs and brats for all to enjoy. I believe a few raindrops fell on us during the course of the picnic but I don't believe they dampened our spirits and we all seemed to have a good time.

I thought one of the highlights of the day was seeing Richard Huntzinger's perfectly restored 1968 230. I swear, it looked like a new car, not one that was almost 50 years old.

We did conduct a little business during the picnic and 4 more members filled out our section survey. I will summarize what we learned from that survey in this newsletter. The new "Planning Committee" made up of members Barry McClelland, Katherine Benedict, Sara and me will be looking at the survey results to plan more events next year that we hope will be more in line with what our members want and will increase participation and enjoyment for all.



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**MBCA 500 Section**  
6168 Ruthven Dr  
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## To the Mercedes-Benz Enthusiast:

### DRIVE & DINE

October 14, 2017

Meeting at McDonald's  
E 96th St and I-69  
37 Mile Drive followed by  
Dinner at Bubba's 33

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 7–9 American German Club is hosting its Oktoberfest at the German Park on SR 135 in Greenwood. If members would be interested in an informal club gathering let me know. We can try to arrange it. Admission is \$5.
- October 14 OK, people attending the Show And Shine indicated there would be enough interest for one more driving event. So, we are planning a Miata Club style "Drive And Dine". We will meet in the parking lot behind the McDonald's at E. 96th Street and I-69 at 5pm, Saturday October 14. After a brief drivers' meeting we'll head east on 96th Street (I hope, construction may close 96th St at Lantern Rd in which case I will devise a detour). After a fun and scenic 37 mile drive we'll end up back at 96th and I-69 for a great dinner at Bubba's 33 just north of the McDonald's. If at all possible, please RSVP to me at [skkoehler@att.net](mailto:skkoehler@att.net) so I can give Bubba's an approximate headcount.
- December 3 Our annual Christmas Party will be held at George's Neighborhood Grill at 1pm. George's is the same restaurant we had our Valentine's Day Brunch in February. For those of you who missed the brunch, the address is 6935 Lake Plaza Drive, Indpls, (E 75th and Binford Blvd). No up front charge this year, food and drinks are each member's responsibility. Again, an RSVP would be greatly appreciated.