



INDIANAPOLIS 500 SECTION STAR

The Newsletter of Central Indiana's Premiere Mercedes Benz Owners' Group

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Well, it seems another quarter has come and gone. This one not quite like any other I've ever experienced. And, I hope the experience ends very soon. After having two of our best ever turn-outs for our Christmas Party and Valentine's Lunch, all of a sudden the country and our section came to a screeching halt. Our first event since February got off to a fairly slow start as I believe many people are cautious about resuming their "new" normal lives. We have almost a month until our next event, which has also been impacted by the times. Larry and Sharol are not comfortable yet hosting a pool party and pitch-in BBQ at their home and have cancelled that portion of our event. However, Pete at the New Railroad is still OK letting us visit his outside 1/8th scale railroad so I have restyled our event. For those members interested in seeing the fantastic railroad and riding the trains for the first or second time, we will be conducting (get it -- conductor/conducting -- like on a train?) a modified event very similar to last year. After visiting the New RR, we'll head to the Port Hole Inn on Lake Lemon for lunch and then I will devise a scenic rally route home to Indy on the back roads. Should still be a fun event.

Then, only two weeks later will be our Show and Shine. This year we will try out a new location -- **Dr. James Dillon Park in Noblesville.** Located just across the street from Carmel, this is a huge park with a big shelter to accommodate all members attending. On the NW side of 146th St and Cherry Tree Rd, I trust everyone will find it a beautiful and spacious location. Looking past August to what I consider will be the year's "premier" event will be our weekend in West Baden/French Lick. I've included all the details inside the newsletter of the exciting weekend we have planned. Please make your reservations directly with the Resort. The only event I would like you to contact me about is if you'd like to go to the dinner show "Twist the Night Away" on Friday night. If we have enough interest, I might be able to get a group price.

We are working to reschedule the IMS Museum/Lunch/Go Karting event but the Museum doesn't open until July 1st. As soon as Dave W. can get some information we will get a Blast out to all members, so keep an eye on your email. We did have a good registration for this event and hope we can find a good date for everyone. Since our event schedule has been severely hampered by the current situation, we are working hard to get the wheels turning again soon. In our calendar I have added several events that may be of interest to our members in the nearby Cincinnati Club. I am still waiting to hear from the Three Rivers Section (Ft Wayne) of their updated calendar and if/when the Auburn Auto Auction visit will be held.

I'd like to welcome our five new members this quarter and say a big "Thank You" to all the current members that renewed. I'm confident we'll be getting our pre-shut down momentum rolling again very soon!!



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Welcome New Members

-
- Thomas Ernst
- David Young
- Paul Schafer
- Nick Kaplan
- Derek Beamon

Know Your Benz???

.....
What year did MB develop the now common Anti-lock brakes?

- 1984
- 1962
- 1978

Answer on page ...3

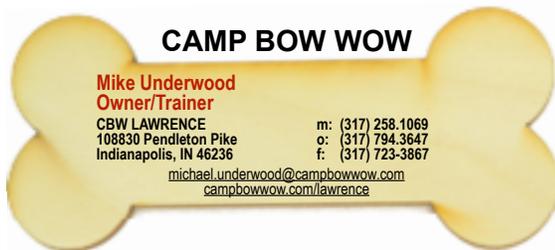
Ken

Upcoming Calendar Events

- Jul 26 Railroad, Lunch, & Scenic Drive**
 Visit to the 1/8th scale New Railroad in New Unionville, IN - followed by lunch and a scenic drive back to Indy.
Meet at 9a - McDonald's at I-465 and Harding St. to caravan south.
- Aug 9 Annual Show and Shine**
 Held at **Dillon Park in Noblesville**. This year our BBQ and pitch in will try a new location - North of 146th and East of Cherry Tree Rd. We will still start at 1pm w/ a beautiful/larger venue than last year!
- Sep 25-27 Indy 500 Section to French Lick**
 West Baden Resort - one or two nights at the "8th Wonder of the World" for fabulous food, fun, and a Poker Run through the scenic southern Indiana countryside. **Register early to get a room at the group rate of \$100/night off standard rates!**

NEARBY Cincinnati Section Events

- Aug 22 - Driving Event - Cars & Coffee**
- Sep 19 - Tour of Ky Speedway**
- Oct 10 - 8th Spring Classic Driving Tour**
 30 group combined driving event.
 Info/registration at www.springclassicdrivingtour.org
 \$25/vehicle now until 14 days prior
(For more info on these and other Cincy Events please visit: mbcincinnati.org)



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MEMBER CLASSIFIED ADS

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Silver/Blue; 58,000 miles. Silver w/ blue leather and blue soft top. Hard and soft tops in excellent condition. Until 2020 always registered and garaged in Florida. Clean Carfax. No dents or scratches. \$20,000 OBO. joeharrick@gmail.com call/text (941) 441.6924



Anti-lock brakes were created specifically for the S-Class in 1978



KNOW YOUR BENZ...

Brakes that don't lock up under full pressure on the pedal are now ubiquitous. They've helped save countless lives by allowing the driver to continue to steer the car – and, hopefully, avoid a collision – while braking hard. Mercedes-Benz first refined the technology with Bosch in the '70s, then added the technology to the S-Class in 1978. Soon after, anti-lock brakes became standard on all M-B models.



**Yummmmm....
 German
 Restaurant in
 French Lick!
 Details on pg. 6**

500 SECTION NEWSLETTER NOTES

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 \$175 - ½ page
 \$200 - Back Cover
 \$250 - Full Page
 \$100 - Webpage Ad
 Contact Dave Weaver
dweaver@amfam.com

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MBCA 500 Section Members can place free ads which will run for two issues. For additional info, contact Ken Koehler skkoehler@att.net

Questions??

Contact your local president, regional director, or the National Business Office at (800) 637-2360 M-F 8A-4:30P MT

TECH SESSION - Lessons Learned

Unfortunately our first event after the CRV-19 shutdown was a bit of a disappointment to me. Not sure if it was just people being slow to return to normal activities after the closure or what. Four of our club members joined Sara and me (Sam Mishelow, Katherine Benedict, Gerald Zore and new member Nick Kaplan).

I had also invited my "other" club, Indy Miata Club to attend and they also had four of their members attend. Alas, our interior repair vendor did not show, this after confirming he was OK with our date change from the 13th to the 20th. I'm concerned about him as I have worked with him since the 80's and he has repaired many of my interiors. As of today's writing, I have still not heard from him.



Above: Ken, our eager president, tries to wave participants in to our Tech Session - We think it's the yellow shorts that kept them away...



Add to that our lunch truck not coming (but Steve Dare, our host, graciously stepped in and grilled hot dogs and had drinks for everyone).

All who did attend seemed to have a good day with several people staying until we closed up around 12:30 after everyone's repairs were done. Alloy Wheel Repair had a good day and remained busy the whole time while others were able to get minor dents removed and schedule appointments for full auto details. Steve volunteered to host another tech session this fall, but I will wait to see what the interest level might be. Many thanks to those who attended.

MEATBALL 10,000

It felt like bears emerging from hibernation. On a lovely May morning, hundreds of car enthusiasts came out to support two worthy causes and take their cars out for a spin. Over 750 cars registered for the Meatball 10,000, with proceeds (over \$15,000 raised) benefitting restaurants who needed the business, and their food delivered to hungry healthcare workers at IU Hospitals. After spending about an hour driving through Hamilton and Madison Counties, an impromptu car show developed at

IU Saxony Hospital, with hundreds of fancy cars on the roads and around the parking lots.

Some groups took advantage of newly reopened restaurants afterwards. Our Mercedes Club group of five enjoyed a delicious lunch at Ford's Garage, keeping with the automotive theme of the day. The success of this event leads one to believe it will be repeated next year -- hopefully for a different cause!

Look for pics later in the newsletter!

REVISIT THE NEW RAILROAD, LUNCH & DRIVE

On Sunday July 26th, Indy 500 Section is planning on revisiting the 1/8th scale New Railroad in New Unionville, IN. Everyone who participated in this event last year enjoyed seeing the railroad and riding the trains. After our railroad visit we'll be heading over to the Port Hole Inn for lunch.



The inn sits on the shore of Lake Lemon where we all enjoyed a great lunch last year. For those of you up for a scenic drive I will be planning a back roads return to Indy. I'm looking forward to a fun day as we start getting our lives and events back to the new "normal".



INDY 500 TRIP TO WEST BADEN/FRENCH LICK

Please join us when we have what I predict will be our **"premiere" event of the year!** Stay one or two nights at the "8th Wonder of the World" -- The West Baden Springs Resort! We have arranged for group rates at this incomparable resort for about \$100 savings per night. Stay on the inside of the domed hotel to overlook the atrium or on the outside. Your choice. We still have plenty of rooms held at our group rate but those rates disappear 15 days before our stay (Sept. 10th). So please, book before that to get our special rate. Here is our tentative schedule for the event:

Friday the 25th

4pm check-in time at the resort
 We have 3 options for Friday evening:
 1) Dinner at one of the exclusive resort restaurants
 2) Experience the fabulous Italian food and wines at the French Lick Winery
 3) Enjoy a great dinner and a rockin' 50's and 60's Branson style musical production of **"Twist the Night Away"** in Larry Bird's old garage (*it's a theater now*) from when he lived in French Lick. *We've attended several of these shows and they are a lot of fun!*



Saturday the 26th



Breakfast on your own or join Sara and me at the Denny's in French Lick.

10am meet at the back parking lot of West Baden for a Poker Run scenic drive.

There will be first and second prizes for the top two hands and probably our 50-50 Raffle!

At the end of the drive we'll have lunch at **Legendz Bar & Grill** in "downtown" French Lick.

The rest of the afternoon will be yours to explore French Lick, the two resorts or the casino at the French Lick Resort.

But --- be sure to save a lot of room for dinner.

At 6:30 we'll be enjoying an incredible "family style" German meal at the German Restaurant, again in downtown French Lick. \$30/person includes all the great German food you can eat! There is also a full bar if you'd like a drink with dinner.

For those of you who attended the regional event here last year, you'll remember how great this dinner was!!

Sunday the 27th

Breakfast on your own and check out time is 11am.

Registration for West Baden: 888-936-9360 Group Code **0920MBC** (MBCA Indy 500 Section)

Rates: Balcony Single/Double: \$289/night

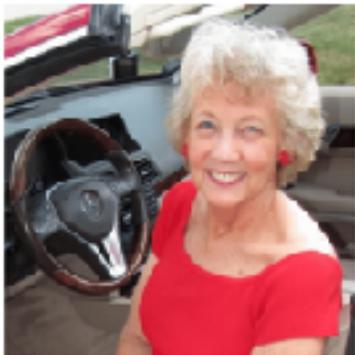
Outside View Single/Double: \$239/night

MORE PICS FROM AROUND FRENCH LICK



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MEMBERS' SON PUBLISHES FIRST BOOK

It's been quite a while since the Valentine Lunch, but I have a story from that day. Those of you who attended may remember that right before we left The Blind Owl Brewery, Charlie and Debi Fehrman encouraged us to watch their son, Craig, who was going to be interviewed on C-Span that evening. Ken and I tuned in to hear Craig's recounting of the 10-year process he went through researching and writing his first book, *Author In Chief*. No one had ever attempted to do the exhaustive research required to document the books and other writings of the men who have led our country. (There are 43 pages of chapter notes at the end!)

To make all this history enjoyable to read, many fascinating stories are included, making the men we know so little about come to life in these pages. It is interesting to learn that most presidents relied on ghostwriters to bring their works to fruition. John Kennedy and his associates always denied that *Profiles In Courage* was ghostwritten, especially since it won a Pulitzer Prize. But Craig lays out the evidence and the true author convincingly. Craig also interweaves a history of the American publishing industry, which has drastically changed in just the past few years, due to technology.

While I was reading *Author In Chief*, my book club was reading *My Dear Hamilton*, Stephanie Dray's account of the life and work of Alexander Hamilton's wife, Eliza. Craig's book covers the controversies surrounding the authorship of the Federalist Papers and of Washington's Farewell Address. These stories truly come to life in Dray's book, as we read about Eliza's famous friends and enemies, as well as her complex relationship with Hamilton.

Recently, I have been enjoying the PBS series, "The First Ladies". Some things I remember from Craig's book come back to me as I hear about the times and trials of the presidents from their wives' points of view. I encourage you to check out all these sources. They are an enjoyable way to learn about the fascinating history of our presidents and the people who helped put their works into print.



MEATBALL 10,000 Fun!

