



Second Quarter 2019



Indianapolis 500 Section Star



Indianapolis, Indiana

Inside This Issue

Message from our National President	1
MBCA Information	2
Calendar and member advertisers	3
Sara's Notes	6
President's Message	4
Pictures	5 & 7

Message from our National President

By Gene Jurick

MBCA has made significant progress during the last half of 2018 with the establishment of a new National Membership Committee. The committee is chaired by Masood Khan and is staffed with MBCA members. While there are many areas that the committee is working on, the core goal is to grow our membership base. This is not an easy or quickly accomplished task. While the committee is tasked with guiding this process the real and measurable results will take place at the section level.

Section Membership chairs (editor's note: which we need) and the leadership committee working together and with the National Membership Committee is the most important element in this process. Reaching out to every member and inviting them to be involved and to participate can go a very long way to retaining the members we already have. This is especially important in that we as a club currently have a reasonably strong new member sign-up. Our problem is membership retention. This is the area that only the section has a hands-on and face to face opportunity to encourage members to participate in club events and then renew their membership.

I suspect that as you read this you are thinking, sure I know that, but it's much easier said than done. You would be right, too. That's where the National Membership Committee can help. They are working to develop new tools and improve existing tools to help you reach your goals for your section. I encourage you to support them and not be bashful about communicating with them. They are in place to help you grow a healthy, active, progressive and vibrant section. 2019 is here now. In some parts of the country, our members have their classic and not so classic Mercedes safely tucked away in a safe place. Now is the time to prime the pump with information on why this is a wonderful time to be a member of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

Welcome New Members

- Daniel & Sabrina Starck
- Gijs Van Gelder
- Daniel Wheeler
- Steve Wynn
- Alan Halberstadt
- Rollin Rhea
- Mike Sweitzer

Thank You, for Renewing Loyal Members

INFORMATION NOT AVAILABLE AT PRESS TIME

NEWSLETTER NOTES

We ask our readers to support the advertisers appearing in this publication, however, no inference should be made that advertising in the 500 Section Star implies approval of products or services by the publisher, the 500 Section, its officers or members, or by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

We encourage editors of other Mercedes-Benz Club newsletters to reprint articles that may be of interest to their Section's members. We would appreciate credit being given to the 500 Section. Those articles reprinted in the 500 Section Star with permission from owners of copyrights on those articles may not be used without written permission from the original owners.

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

TECHNICAL RESOURCES

Classic Center

The Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California, is the ideal place for owners, collectors, and enthusiasts to connect with this legendary brand. In addition to meticulously restoring and selling classic Mercedes-Benz vehicles, the Classic Center offers appraisals, provides Genuine Mercedes-Benz Classic Parts, and can even host your special event.

Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

9 Whatney,
Irvine, California 92618
Tel: (949) 598-4850
Toll Free: 1-866-MB-CLASSIC
Mon - Fri 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. PST

www.mercedes-benz-classic.com

500 SECTION OFFICERS

President

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

Vice-President

Barry McClelland
Email: bapmail@iquest.net

Secretary

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

Treasurer

Dave Weaver
317-844-7020

BOARD MEMBERS

Donors & Sponsors Liaison

Dave Weaver
email: dweaver@amfam.com

Membership Chairman

Ken Koehler
(317) 669-2072
email: skkoehler2015@yahoo.com

Board Members:

Kevin Williams
Ken Koehler
Dave Weaver
Sara Koehler
Roye Gaha
Dave Swenby
Barry McClelland

ADVERTISE FREE

MBCA 500 Section Members can place free ads which will run for two issues. For additional information:

Contact:

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

BUSINESS ADS

\$50 - Business Card
\$100 - 1/4 Page
\$175 - 1/2 Page
\$200 - Back Cover
\$250 - Full Page
\$100 - Webpage ad

Contact:

Dave Weaver
Email: dweaver@amfam.com

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
M-F, 8am - 4:30pm MT

2019 EVENT SCHEDULE

APRIL: 28th, Sunday. Visit 1/8th scale Railroad near Bloomington with member Kent Bolerjack

MAY: Sandhills Motoring Festival, May 24 - 27. Sponsored by Triangle Section, MBCA; historic Pinehurst, NC

JULY: 13th Concours d'Elegance at Capshaholm in South Bend with a visit to the Studebaker Museum

13th Three Rivers Section Autocross, Ft Wayne, IN

20th Cincinnati Section's Autocross, Northern KY University, Covington, KY

AUGUST: 3rd SVRA Vintage Car racing event, Indianapolis Motor Speedway

4th Tentative date for Indy 500 Section's Annual Show and Shine picnic

SEPTEMBER: 2nd Labor Day Auburn Auto Auction hosted by Three Rivers Section, Fort Wayne

OCTOBER: 12-13th French Lick Weekend Event hosted by the St. Louis Gateway Section

IDEAS FOR NEW EVENTS? CONTACT KEN AT SKKOEHLER@ATT.NET OR BARRY AT BAPMAIL@IQUEST.NET



The MBCA 500 Section supports its member businesses

And sponsors!



COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE
QUALITY IMPORTS SERVICE
Serving Bloomington Since 1976

service@deutschautogroup.com

702 ½ North Fairview St.
 Bloomington, IN 47404

812-339-1776

FAX
 812-333-4614

AUTHORIZED PARTS
 service@deutschautogroup.com

MERCEDES OWNER

Save on specialized service for older Mercedes,
 from minor repair to complete restoration,
 by an ASE Master Tech and Mercedes specialist.
 Project cars accepted.

317-769-3536 • rksquires@mw.net
Quality Enterprises • Mon-Sat 10-6

AUTOHAUS DIEROLF

IMPORT SALES & SERVICE

Mon—Fri 7:30—5:30 p.m.

429 W. Carmel Drive

Carmel, IN 46032

Chris Dierolf

317-571-0800

AMERICAN FAMILY
INSURANCE

www.amfam.com

DAVID E WEAVER, CLU
DAVID E WEAVER AGENCY

581 S RANGE LINE RD STE B4
 CARMEL, IN 46032-2149

Office: 317-844-7020
 E-mail: dweaver@amfam.com
 Res: 317-846-5409
 Cell: 317-491-2263
 Fax: 317-581-1230
 Access Anytime: 1-800-MYAMFAM (800-692-6326)



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well, spring has been here and gone. Did anyone else miss it as I did? Fortunately, we didn't schedule any events for March as they probably would have been snowed or rained out. Weather hasn't been kind to us lately as both the New Member Breakfast and Valentine's Lunch were held in less than nice weather. Snow and freezing rain kept several members registered for the New Member Breakfast from attending. The new members and veteran members who were able to attend had a great breakfast and fun conversation at the Hotcakes Emporium on Indy's north side. The weather for the Valentine's Lunch wasn't a whole lot better with cold temperatures and continual rain. Again, those able to make it had a great lunch at the Blind Owl Brewery on the NE side. As our treasurer, Dave Williams did last year, flowers were provided for all our lady participants for Valentine's Day. Sara said not only were hers beautiful, but they lasted well over two weeks. Thanks, Dave.

Looking forward, we have a fantastic event planned (for those who like trains and great lunches on a lake - or just getting together with great people for a drive and new adventure) the end of April. Member Kent Bolerjack has offered to show us around a 1/8th scale model railroad he works on as a hobby northeast of Bloomington. From the pictures and videos on their website (newrr.com), it looks to be a very interesting sight to see and experience. As for lunch, members Larry and Sharol Laczkowski highly recommend the Port Hole Restaurant on the banks of Lake Lemon in Unionville. We're anticipating a fun event for all who can attend.

Our planning committee is working on another Poker Run for June and our treasurer, Dave, is putting together a trip to South Bend in July for the Concours d'Elegance at Capshaholm and a visit to the Studebaker Museum. Both should make for a fun day and of course, we'll have a great meal somewhere! Also in the works is our annual Show and Shine Picnic. Location should remain at the Carmel West Park. Moving to August this year is the SVRA Vintage Car racing event held at the IMS on Saturday, August 3rd. Many of our members have enjoyed this event in the past when it was scheduled in June. Continuing on the fourth Saturday of the month during late spring and summer is Cars and Coffee at Gateway Classic Cars at W 96th St and Mayflower Drive. It's always fun to look at Gateway's fantastic collection of classic cars for sale on consignment and talk to other car enthusiasts there to show off their wheels.

Our planning committee and board have decided to reduce the number of events offered this year in hopes of fitting in to members schedules as they get busier and busier all the time. We are still taking a look at the possibility of a Tech Session this summer but have decided to cancel plans for our own autocross. With both the 3 Rivers Section and the Cincinnati Section holding autocrosses in July, a third similar event was deemed too much for the area and a great deal of work for those who would host the event.

ST LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION HOSTING A WEEKEND IN FRENCH LICK!

Friday, October 11th - Saturday, October 13th

Please join your fellow Central Region club members as we enjoy an extended weekend together in and around the French Lick, Indiana area.

French Lick Springs is a classic American hotel, established in 1845, with the current spa wing built in 1901. It seamlessly blends its fascinating history with modern amenities and services. Family-friendly activities and facilities make this an ideal destination for celebrations or relaxing getaways. French Lick has something everyone can enjoy; whether it's golf, spa, hiking, biking, swimming, or shopping.

We are planning some very enjoyable activities, including a driving tour of the area, breakfast and tour at the West Baden Hotel, and dinner together on Saturday evening.

Lodging at the historic French Lick Resort is regularly \$304/night + tax, but our rate for the two days/nights is \$129 + tax ! We have a 40-room block, of which at least 30 of the rooms have already been booked at this fantastic rate !

Please contact Rick Siefert (rick.siefert@att.net or 314-435-1903) for further information or for the reservation phone number and booking code.

MBCA & Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance 2019

Head for Hilton Head with MBCA

The Mercedes Benz Club is returning to the Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance!

The event will take place November 1-3 at the Port Royal Golf Club. This year is going to be our year! MBCA has designated Hilton Head 2019 as a multi-regional event supported by the Eastern, Southeastern and **Central** regions. Join us for the Saturday Car Club Showcase and for the Sunday Concours d'Elegance.

We have been given a prime location on the field for up to 40 cars on Saturday, November 2, to display our cars in the Car Club Showcase. This should be a truly spectacular showing of a variety of Mercedes-

Benz models. We can have at least 6-8 cars in the Sunday, November 3, Concours d'Elegance.

What cars are we looking for? Early Sedans/Coupes, Roadsters/SLs and Convertibles. We will select up to 15 cars from the Car Club Showcase to tell the "Mercedes-Benz Story." Our plan is to begin the story starting with the early sedans/coupes, show the evolution of the Mercedes roadsters from the 300SL to the AMG GT roadster and finish off with a series of classic Mercedes Convertibles. These cars will be in the front row and be parked in sequence to tell our story. Front row cars cannot be late models, 2013-2018.

The Mercedes Story we wish to display in the front row:

- Early Sedans/Coupes: 1950s Pontons; 1980s 300SDLs.
- Roadsters: 1938 Roadster; 300SL Roadster; 300SL Gullwing; 121 Chassis - 190SL; R113 Chassis Pagoda; R107 Chassis; R129 Chassis; R230 Chassis; SLS; AMG GT Roadster
- Convertibles: W124 E-Class Convertible; 2011-13 E350 Convertible; 280SE Cabriolet; 2002 CLK AMG

The Concours d'Elegance. Cars will enter separately with the Concours selection committee to secure an invitation to the Concours d'Elegance. To be eligible, vehicles must be manufactured before 1974 and not shown at the Hilton Head Island event in 2017 or 2018. Nominations will be reviewed by the MBCA Selection Committee. Nominations will be accepted through mid-June 2019. If you have a truly classic Concours quality car, submit it to the Hilton Head Concours selection committee for consideration to be invited to the Sunday show. Register for the Concours d'elegance at <http://www.hhiconcours.com/register-a-vehicle.html>.

This will be a Mercedes weekend event. We'll have a club driving activity on Friday for those who do not participate in the Hilton Head Concours sponsored drive. On Friday night we are planning a club dinner at a local Hilton Head eatery for those who choose not to go to the Concours Gala at the airport. Events include:

- **Friday:** Mercedes Rally; Club dinner to socialize and meet members from other areas.
- **Saturday:** Car Club Showcase at Port Royal Golf Course; Mercedes-only Car Show; Silver Star Preservation; MBCA Tent; dinner at a local eatery to discuss the day's events and prepare for the spectacular Concours.
- **Sunday:** the Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance.

Lodging: We have a 20-room block at the Hampton Inn, our host hotel and headquarters, at \$149.00 per night. **The hotel is nearby Port Royal and will sell out fast! Call 843-681-7900 to reserve rooms and mention that you are with the Mercedes Club.** Rooms will be added if enough early reservations are made. The hotel has free parking, breakfast and plenty of parking space for those who are trailering their cars.



SARA'S NOTES



WHERE IS HITLER'S MERCEDES?

Recently, Ken and I watched a segment of a TV show called Biography on the Motor Trend Network. It told the story of "Hitler's Mercedes." Of course the Fuhrer promoted all things German, so he ordered several Mercedes to be outfitted with reinforced steel plating, bullet-proof glass, etc. After the war, the Allies confiscated these prized cars, and few have ever shown up on the open market.

According to the TV show, Tom Barrett, renowned car purveyor and collector, acquired one that many believed to be Hitler's personal car, a 20 foot, 5 ton, 9 passenger, model 770K. In the 1940's, when these cars were made, they were the vehicles of choice for world leaders, including Emperor Hirohito and Pope Pius XI. But as a result of the meticulous investigation of author Jan Melin in his book on World War II-era Mercedes Benz, the truth about this car was discovered.

It was true that Hitler had driven this particular car, but only because he had made a secret delivery of the car in 1941 to Marshall Mannerheim in Finland, in order to garner Finland's support for the war. Today, this storied Mercedes is owned by retired General William Lyon, who drove it in the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance in 2014, and upon completing the required 80-mile drive, the car won first prize in its class (no surprise there!).

Another model Mercedes, basically half-tank, half-car, was popularly driven by the highest German leaders in military parades during the war, the W31 Type G4. Only 57 were manufactured and fewer than 10 are known to exist today. If there is anyone who can find one of these for sale, it is Tom Barrett. General Lyon was alerted by Barrett that one of these cars was not only on the market but its provenance led Barrett to believe it was the car Hitler had ridden into Poland during the invasion that began World War II. This behemoth has been authentically restored only as much as needed, and it can be seen with its swastikas flying at the William Lyon Air Museum in southern California. If Ken and I ever visit that area again, this museum, which houses incredible World War II-era airplanes and vehicles will be one of our stops.



PICTURES FROM NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST & VALENTINE'S LUNCH



SANDHILLS MOTORING FESTIVAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION

MBCA CLUB SPECIFIC INFORMATION

- MBCA Members can select which events they would like to attend via Motorsports.org
- All members must be registered by May 15th in order to secure your place in each event.

Triangle Section MBCA - Host Hotel for the 2019 Sandhills Motoring Festival: Homewood Suites, Pinehurst, NC

Conveniently located 1.5 miles from historic downtown Pinehurst, the Homewood Suites has been chosen as our Section Host Hotel for the 2019. We have rooms blocked off for your reservation. When you call for your room reservation, please state that you are with the Triangle Section of MBCA and staying for the Sandhills Motoring Festival.

Address: 250 Central Park Ave, Pinehurst, NC 28374

Phone: (910) 255-0300

Visit Homewood Suites Online





MBCA 500 Section

6168 Ruthven Drive
Noblesville, IN 46062

NEXT SECTION EVENT

April 28th

Drive and Dine
New Unionville & Western RR
Unionville, IN



Hand-built by Mercedes-Benz in very small numbers, the 300Sc Cabriolet stood at the absolute zenith of exclusivity, luxury and power during the late 1950s.



UPCOMING 2019 EVENTS!

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH

Visit the New Unionville & Western 1/8th scale working railroad in Unionville, IN. Check it out at newrr.com. It should be a fun trip as member Kent Bolerjack and owner Pete Pedigo give us the grand tour and rides around the multi-acre layout. After our tour we'll have lunch on the banks of Lake Lemon at the Port Hole Restaurant. Meet up at McDonald's on South Harding Street and I-465 at 9am Sunday. We'll caravan down to the railroad around 9:15. Please RSVP to Ken at skkoehler@att.net.

SATURDAY, JULY 13TH

Concours d'Elegance at Capshaholm in South Bend, IN. We'll be leaving from a location TBD early in the morning to visit the Studebaker Museum and then the car show after lunch. Dave Williams is working on the details of this trip. More to follow.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4TH

Tentative date for our annual Show And Shine Picnic. Location and time TBD.

NON INDY 500 SECTION EVENTS

MAY 24TH - 27TH

Sandhills Motoring Festival sponsored by Triangle Section, MBCA in historic Pinehurst, NC. This promises to be an incredible event with an incomparable car show and MBCA Section events. More information and registration at MBCA - Triangle at www.motorsportreg.com.

JULY 13TH

Three Rivers Section MBCA (Ft Wayne) Autocross event. More information at <http://threerivers.mbca.org/>.

JULY 20TH

Cincinnati Section Autocross and Defensive Driving Event at Northern KY University. More information at <http://www.mbcacincinnati.org/>.