

BADGER

April/May 2018

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Section
Mercedes-Benz Club of America



Star

wisconsin.mbca.org



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RSVP Soon for These Upcoming Events!

Spring Tech Session	April 29
Road America	May 19
StarFest	May 14-21
Dine to Drive	June 9



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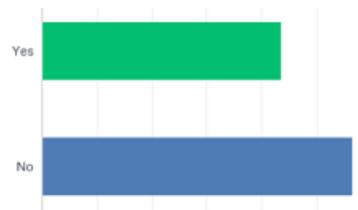
Newsletter Editor Bailey Hansen
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Survey Says:

Q1: Which of these events would you likely attend if the date was convenient? Check all that are of interest:

Picnic at Road America.	43.90%
Garage socials.	34.15%
Tour of a car collection somewhere in the area with dinner afterward at a local restaurant.	68.29%
Cars & Coffee gathering one Saturday per month, rotating to various locations.	46.34%
Driving events -- follow-the-leader tours, rallies, etc.	43.90%
Mercedes drive to dine.	51.22%
Tech Sessions New Car Related.	46.34%
Tech Sessions Classic Car Related.	65.85%
Tech Session Sub Genre Specific to various models (i.e. 190SL, Pontons, GullWings, AMG.....)	21.95%
Other (please specify)	9.76%

Q2: Would you be willing to work with another club member to plan and execute an upcoming event?



Q3: Have you attended an event in the last 12 months?
Yes - 29 No - 12

Q4: The main reason I am a member of MBCA and the Wisconsin Section is:

I like opportunities to be in my Mercedes and enjoy it with other Mercedes drivers.	63.41%
I am a member only to receive The Star, the national MBCA magazine.	14.63%
I like to gain technical tips and skills for self-maintenance of my car.	9.76%
Other (please specify)	12.20%

Q5: What could the board of directors do to improve the section?

I have ideas see below in the comments.	21.62%
I like the section the way it is. No suggested improvements.	78.38%



Survey results continue on page 8.



President's Message

I want to open these remarks by thanking Bob Turznik for hosting our 28th annual bus trip to the Chicago Auto Show, and by thanking Frank & Cathy Lubinski for hosting our March 16th Fish Fry and New Member Appreciation Event. Read more about both events elsewhere in this newsletter.



Bruce Hamilton

Survey Results

During the last month your Board of Directors conducted a survey of our membership to help determine what you want our Section to do for you. The initial results of that survey appear in this newsletter; and thank you to board member Andrew Opicka for preparing and managing the survey. Your feedback has helped the board plan and improve future events. For instance, upcoming tech sessions will focus more on older Mercedes, rather than new models, and we will try and incorporate more car collection tours in our Drive-2-Dine events. And we have two outings to Road America planned for this year.

We are also working on holding events outside of the Milwaukee metro area. For instance, we have a Drive-2-Dine in Green Bay planned for June 9th, and we're working on a Drive-2-Dine with a visit to a car museum in the Madison – Janesville – Beloit area. We are also exploring the possibility of joining the Chicago Section on a fall color tour to the Galena Illinois area.

Another new item for this newsletter is a direct response to your survey input. Beginning with this issue the Badger Star will have a "For Sale/Wanted to Buy" section. See the first example on page 9. This is the spot to place your ad to clean your garage of your old Mercedes parts, or to let your fellow members know there is something Mercedes related you want to buy. Ads can only be placed by Wisconsin Section members, and are limited to Mercedes-Benz items. Space may be limited. Send your information to John Ledbury, and contact John or myself for details.

Two last thoughts about the survey. First, the survey will remain open until April 30, so please take it if you haven't already done so. You can take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TDJFXXT>

Second, if you were one of those who responded "no" to helping plan an event, remember that working on an event doesn't mean a lot of work, and it's a great way to get to know your fellow members better, and to get more out of your MBCA membership. If you live outside the Milwaukee metro area it's also a good way to help us hold an event closer to your home. Remember, a board member is always willing to help you plan and stage your event!

Tell Us Your Story

Do you have a story to tell about how you got your beloved Mercedes? Did you travel across the continent to find the perfect Benz for you, or find it sitting a barn, awaiting a new home? Whether it happened last week or a decade ago, if you have an interesting story about "the journey," how you acquired your favorite Mercedes-Benz, we want to publish it. Contact our newsletter liaison John Ledbury with your story.

Upcoming Events

Our next event is Saturday, April 28, the 13th Annual Spring Tech Session, hosted by Black Forest. Black Forest always does an outstanding job, and it's late enough in the spring that you can take your baby out of storage for the drive to Glendale.

The full calendar of upcoming events appears on page 5 of this newsletter. Note that we already have two events planned outside of the Milwaukee metro area: June 9th in Green Bay and August 25th in Waupaca.

Other events are being planned as I write this. As much as we would like to have the full year's calendar of events ready by the February/March issue, that's not always possible as some places are closed in the winter, and some ideas don't hatch until warm weather gets closer. That's why I always close my remarks on upcoming events by saying...

If you have a suggestion for a Drive-to-Dine venue or an idea for an event, please contact myself or one of our other board members. We are always looking for feedback and opinions from our members.

Track Time for Your Mercedes?

Would anyone be interested in an event where you got to take your Mercedes out on a race track? Think Road America or Blackhawk Farms. If you have any interest in something like this please contact me.

Continued on page 8...



MBCA June 9th Drive-to-Dine - Noon Hosted by Dick and Nancy Kusch

St. Brendan's Inn (a sister property of the County Clare, Milwaukee)
234 S Washington St., Green Bay WI 54301
920-884-8484
saintbrendansinn.com



St. Brendan's is a Harp & Eagle Property started by Cary James 'Rip' O'Dwan-ny. The restaurant offers traditional as well as contemporary Irish dishes. Specialties include: Grilled Salmon, Sautéed Mussels, Shepherd's Pie, and "Grandma Flanigan's" Guinness Pot Roast. The dining room has a European feel, with wool carpet, eight large stained glass windows, and a bog snug with fireplace.



As a courtesy to the restaurant, **please let Dick know before Wednesday, June 6th if you will join the group for lunch.**

Call or txt: 608-630-1458
Email: kuschrichard@gmail.com

Other things to do on Saturday, June 9th near the restaurant:



The Automobile Gallery

Private rotating collection of William "Red" Lewis

400 S Adams St. Open: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
920-437-9024 - theautomobilegallery.org
0.2 miles from St. Brendan's Inn

The Automobile Gallery is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to educate, inspire and share the passion of the automobile with the community and car enthusiasts throughout the United States. The gallery and non-profit organization was the vision of entrepreneur and automobile collector William "Red" Lewis, who wanted to give back to the community of Green Bay.

Cost is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (62+)

Green Bay Farmer's Market 7:00 AM – Noon
Washington St, Green Bay

The market features 75% produce/processed food, 15% prepared food and 10% arts/crafts. Over 150 local food and craft vendors participate throughout the season with a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, breads, prepared foods and more.



Captain's Walk Winery

345 S Adams St.
Open: 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
920-431-9255 - captainswalkwinery.com
0.2 miles from St. Brendan's Inn

The winery is housed in a beautifully preserved Italianate Victorian home originally built by Elisha Morrow. A Green Bay winery started by the Von Stiehl Winery, Algoma





2018 Upcoming Events

Date Event	Host	Phone	Email
April 28 Spring Tech Session Black Forest	Black Forest	414-228-4899	www.blackforest.com
May 14 - 21 StarFest 2018, The Premier MBCA National Event for 2018 https://starfest2018.mbca.org/			Birmingham, AL
May 19 Outing to Road America Spring Vintage Races	John Ledbury	262-422-7715	jaled80@yahoo.com
June 9 Dine to Drive Downtown Green Bay	Dick Kusch	608-630-1458	kuschrichard@gmail.com
July 13 Starry Nights The Rockin' Robins (Classic Vehicle Night)	JoAnne Peterson	262.784.6088	jojo2525@yahoo.com
Aug 25 Dine to Drive Waupaca lunch/Boat trip on Chain of Lakes	JoAnne Peterson	262.784.6088	jojo2525@yahoo.com
Sept TBA*	Oktoberfest		
Sept 25 – 29 Silver Stars & Golden Aspens MBCA National Special Event https://www.mbca.org/silverstars			Telluride CO

**Date will be provided in upcoming newsletters. Other 2018 events will be announced, stay tuned!*

SVRA Spring Vintage Festival Elkhark Lake's Road America Saturday, May 19, 2018



Join the Mercedes Benz Wisconsin Section at Road America on Saturday May 19, 2018 for the Spring Vintage Festival. It's a great way to kick off the Racing Season at Road America and get to know us in the Wisconsin Section. We will also be extending an invitation to the Illinois Sections.

Tickets can be purchased at the Road America Web site, www.roadamerica.com/buy-tickets. Tickets are priced at \$20 if purchased before May 9th and will be \$30 at the gate.

We will have our booth set up on Turn 5. Turn 5 is one of the best places to watch the races. During the weekend, cars from the 1940's to recent vintages will be racing in different heats against the rivals of their era. If you have not been to Road America, this will be an opportunity to not only see the cars race, but you will be able to look at them up close and photograph them. Road America offers several eating venues and guests are welcome to bring a cooler with food and beverages of their choice in with them.

Hope to see you there!

Host: John Ledbury
262 422-7715 - jaled80@yahoo.com

Address for Road America:
N7390 State Hwy 67, Plymouth, WI



REVIEW

February Bus Trip to the *Chicago Auto Show*

This year marked our club's 28th annual trip to the Chicago Auto Show. The Chicago Auto Show is the nation's largest and longest-running auto show. With more than one million square feet of exhibit space, visitors will find more than 1,000 vehicles, technology displays, and hands-on driving experiences.



The day of our trip was marked with a 6-inch snowfall. It's good that someone else was driving ... in a 50,000-pound, 56-passenger bus no less. The bus had no problems and the roads had cleared, mostly. All of our registered members made it on time despite some members coming from the Madison, Oconomowoc and Fox Valley areas.



The Mercedes display on the auto show floor was located in a different area and slightly smaller than in past years but it did not disappoint. Two of the high-end two-door sports cars, the AMG-GT models in both coupe and convertible were on display. Even the new 2019 G-Class SUV was debuted at the show. Other debut Mercedes models such as the new 2019 CLS, a low profile 4-door sedan, and the 2018 E-Series Coupe were represented.

Upon closer inspection Mercedes is moving to 9-speed automatic transmissions and more advanced electronics. For example, the CLS display stated, "There's only one engine available, although a high-output AMG version is due in the near future. A 3.0-liter six-cylinder engine assisted by a 48-volt onboard electrical system produces 362 horsepower. The high-voltage system is called "EQ Boost", and it supplies power by means of high-efficiency recuperation similar to a plug-in hybrid drivetrain."

Each year this bus trip event sells out with a waiting list for last minute cancellations. If you missed this year's trip, look for the announcement to next year's bus trip in the November newsletter. We reserve a 56 passenger luxury bus that drops us so close to the entrance that attendees leave their coats on the bus. Register early to ensure that you have a seat.

- Bob Turznik - Organizer

Photos:

Top Right: *MBCA Wisconsin Section Bus Trip Group*

Right: *Green Mercedes-AMG GT R*

Lower Right: *Chuck Steinbach checks out new Mercedes-Maybach with its \$344,000 price tag*





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- Experience laps at Talladega Superspeedway
- Off-road track driving experience
- Concours at the Mercedes-Benz Factory
- Road Rallye's
- MBUSI plant tours
- Reception and dinner at the famous Barber Museum
- And much more...



Host Section: Mercedes-Benz Club of America Alabama

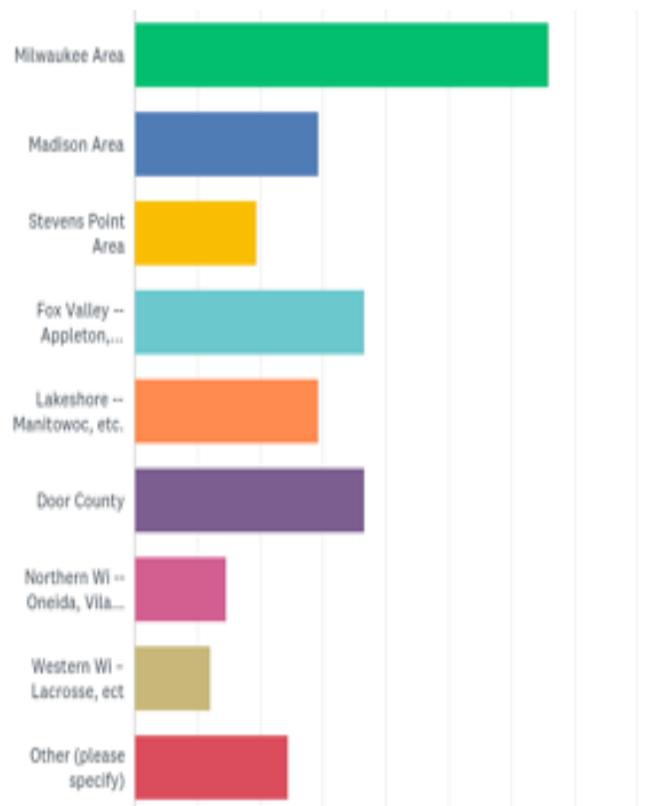
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Survey Says:

Q6: Section members live in a wide section of Wisconsin. Where would you like to see some more events?



President's Message continued...

PayPal Reminder

Remember that you can always use PayPal to pay for a Wisconsin Section event. This holds true even if the event announcement doesn't mention it. Just go to <https://www.paypal.me/MBCAWisconsin> to make your payment.

Please join with me in welcoming our newest members as of March 26th:

Christopher Colton	Jeff Coultrip
Spencer Marquardt	Michael Precia
David Pollock	

Finally, help me "welcome back" those 35 members who have renewed their membership since January 1 of this year.

THANK YOU to everyone for being a member of this Club. New member or long-timer, I'd love to hear from you; your comments and suggestions are always welcome. We couldn't exist without your interest and participation; it's what makes this organization successful. We are always looking to improve your membership experience and give you value for your member dues.

Looking forward to seeing you at upcoming Wisconsin Section event,

Bruce Hamilton

Q7: The section could host Driving Tours (follow the leader, stops at landmarks or other places of interest) starting somewhere in the State in spring or fall. Tell us which season appeals the most and your preferred length of the tour.

Spring tour -- a day trip with no overnight	26.83%
Spring tour with one overnight	19.51%
Spring tour with two overnights	7.32%
Fall tour -- day trip with no overnight	46.34%
Fall tour with one overnight	41.46%
Fall tour with two overnights	12.20%
I am not interested in driving tours	17.07%



Q8: The section is considering adding a "Wanted To Buy" and "For Sale" Section to the newsletter. Would you be in support of this addition to the newsletter?

Yes: 97.5%

No: 2.5%



REVIEW

March Fish Fry and New Member Appreciation



On March 16, 2018, nineteen members of the MBCA Wisconsin Section gathered for a Fish Fry at The Machine Shed restaurant in Pewaukee. Three new members were in attendance. All enjoyed a delicious dinner and brownie for dessert. It was an evening filled with good food and conversation.

Many shared their experiences about track driving, and information was presented about an upcoming casual road trip to visit car museums between Milwaukee and the Ford museum in Ann Arbor Michigan. More information will be forth coming.

The recent member survey showed that a majority of Wisconsin Section members would like to see Wanted to Buy/For Sale section in our newsletter. Current members interested in this advantage can contact John Ledbury or Bruce Hamilton for more details. See our first member ad to the right!!

Wanted2Buy

Andrew Opicka is looking for an **original 1969 Owners Manual for a W109 / 300 SEL 6.3**. He can be contacted by email at andrew@opicka.com.



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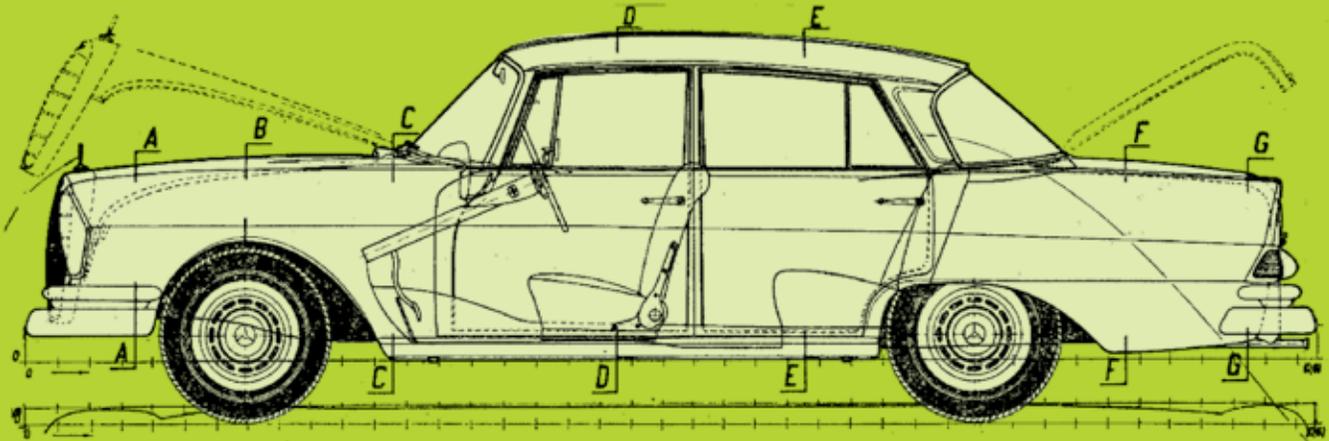
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Erv's '32 Ford



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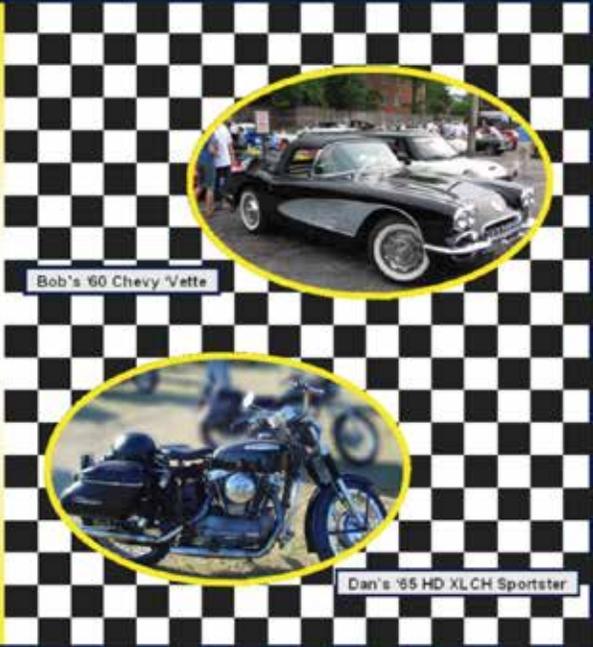
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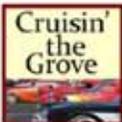
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