

April/May 2016

# BADGER *Star*

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Section  
Mercedes-Benz Club of America



[www.mbca-wi.org](http://www.mbca-wi.org)



*MBCA -WI Club Members Attend 2016 Chicago Auto Show*

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## *Upcoming Events*

- Spring Tech Session - April 16
- New Member Reception - May 15
- Starry Nights - July
- Show & Glow by the Lake - Aug 27
- Oktoberfest - Sept 10
- Fall Tech Session - Sept 24
- River Road Tour - Oct 6 - 9



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<b>Vice President &amp; Webmaster</b>	Jim Loseke 920-412--5822 jimloseke@charter.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Dan Hellenberg 414-839-6995 spatlese44@yahoo.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Frank Lubinski 414-352-2912 frank_lubinski@yahoo.com
<b>Director</b>	Andy Stockhausen 262-782-2286 ajs45@wi.rr.com
<b>Director</b>	Bernd Kampe 262-491-4441 bkampe@wi.rr.com
<b>Director</b>	Richard Kusch 608-288-0614 rkusch@charter.net
<b>Director &amp; Newsletter Editor</b>	Frank Geracie 262-825-7496 fgeracie@wi.rr.com
<b>Past President</b>	Nancy Pearson 262-782-7960 npearson@wi.rr.com
<b>Regional Director Midwest Region</b>	Jason Burton 312-224-1787 jasonburton@thejohnhancock.com

### Board Meetings

Board meetings are typically held in the Brookfield library on the second Thursday of every month starting at 7:00 pm. We encourage member attendance at these meetings and welcome any assistance that can be provided in the planning of club events. Recommendations for new activities or comments on prior events are always welcome.

### Advertiser Support

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## *President's Message*

Ahhh, spring! Have you taken your baby out of storage yet? If you're like me, you're counting the days till the cover comes off and you start her up for the first time in months.

Spring also means your Wisconsin Section 2016 calendar of events is in full swing. We've already had two successful events this year, our 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Bus Trip to the Chicago Auto Show and our Spring Fish Fry held March 18. You can read about both events elsewhere in this newsletter. Thanks goes out to Bob Turznik and Frank & Cathy Lubinski for arranging those events.

Your Section also conducted an audit of the Section's financial records on March 5. The audit report is published in this newsletter. Many thanks to the audit committee of Dean Pearson, Jim Loseke and Frank Geracie, and thanks also to our Treasurer Frank Lubinski

Other spring events include the Spring Tech Session and a New Member Reception.

The Spring Tech Session will be held April 16, hosted once again by Black Forest.

May 15<sup>th</sup> your Section is holding a Drive-to-Dine New Member Reception. This event is open to all members but FREE, as in no charge, to any member who has joined since January 1, 2014 according to the WI Section roster maintained by the MBCA National Office. Jason Burton, our Midwest Region Director will be in attendance, and Terry Kiwala, MBCA National President has also been invited to the event.

More information can be found about the reception elsewhere in this newsletter, but regardless of your join date I heartily encourage you to join us May 15. It will be a great way to meet new members and renew old friendships. And again, the event is FREE to anyone who has joined the WI section since January 1, 2014.

We don't have an event scheduled for June at this point. Got any ideas? It can be as simple as a Drive-to-Dine or a Benz & Breakfast, or a trip to Road America and the June Sprints.

There is a lot happening this season beyond our local section events. On Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Jason Burton, Midwest Region Director and Rick Siefert, Central Region Director are hosting a Leadership Meeting of Section Presidents within the Central and Midwest Regions in St. Louis. Vice President Jim Loseke will represent the WI Section at the meeting as I am unable to attend due to prior commitments.

Don't forget about the Spring Raffle. This year the grand prize is a 2016 Airstream Interstate RV + \$20,000 cash. Find out more about the raffle in either *The Star* or online at the National Club's website.

Take a look at the Upcoming Events List for all the information on upcoming events, including a return of our Fall Tour Along the Great River Road. Other events not yet on the calendar are also being planned, including some D2D events and a museum tour.

Finally, don't forget about StarFest 2016, the national event held August 3 - 6 in Uncasville, CT.

Put all these events on your calendar NOW and stay tuned as more information follows.

If you have an idea or suggestion for an event, please contact either myself or any one of the other officers and directors. Whether it be a Dine-to-Drive venue, perhaps a golf outing, or other event, please don't hesitate to contact myself or any of the other board members with your thoughts. We're always looking for new event ideas.

Please welcome the following new members as of March 20:

Dean Breul • Adrian Duszynski • Michael Pulido • Mark Winter

I look forward to meeting all of you at our New Member Reception May 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for being a member of this Club. I can't say it enough, our membership is what makes this organization successful.

*Bruce Hamilton, President*



Bruce Hamilton



## Annual Bus Trip to the Chicago Auto Show

Sunday February 14, 2016 was not only celebrated as Valentine's Day but the day that we made our 26th annual migration to the Chicago Auto Show. This year weather started out as mild & closed out with a "wintery mix" of snow, a little sleet, and some rain all mixed by the Chicago winds. In all a good day for a bus trip with someone else paying the gas, tolls, & navigating the downtown Chicago traffic ... where else would there be a traffic jamb on a Sunday afternoon?

As per usual the Mercedes-Benz display did not disappoint us. Many new & refreshed models were on display including the 2017 E-class, the re-shuffled deck of SUV's now all labeled GL models from the GLA, the GLC (the redesigned GLK), the GLE (the redesigned ML), and the larger GL. Not to mention the G-Wagon in an AMG configuration of course. For those who play the lottery the Maybach S600 long wheelbase sedan and the AMG-GT on display to dream over.

The Mercedes vehicle display and the VIP lounge areas were changed in layout but the lounge this year offered fresh coffee, Latte's, or Cappuccino made to order. A real treat from the past few years. This year Mercedes had two separate vehicle display areas, one for the growing line of Mercedes trucks & vans and the other for passenger automobile models as previously mentioned.

This years auto show had a lot of opportunities for high tech interactive driving experiences and racing simulators on the show floor. Ford Mustangs, Dodge Challenger Hellcat, a Dodge Viper, and the Jeep lineup offered hands-on driving experiences on the show floor.

Our return trip took almost an hour longer as the inclement weather slowed downtown Chicago traffic while we watched the full length movie "Rush" on the buses DVD system. Rush is an automotive and racing classic covering some excellent Formula One competition.

Sadly this is the first year in a long time that we did not sell out the bus trip with just two open seats. So do plan on joining us for next years trip as I heard from some who have gone with us in the past and thought we were sold out as usual.

*Bob Turznik  
Host for this event*





## *Upcoming Events*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Email</i>
April 16	Spring Tech Session	Michael McKinney	414-228-4899	michael@blackforestllc.com
May 15	New Member Reception	Nancy & Dean Pearson	262-782-7960	npearson@wi.rr.com
July	Starry Nights	JoAnne Peterson	262-784-6088	jojo2525@yahoo.com
Aug 27	Show & Glow by the Lake	Frank Geracie	262-825-7496	fgeracie@wi.rr.com
Sept 10	Oktoberfest	Bernd Kampe	262-491-4441	bkampe@wi.rr.com
Sept 24	Fall Tech Session	John Bell	414-543-3000	xjab007@gmail.com
Oct 6 - 9	River Road Tour	Bernd Kampe Jerry Zajicek	262-491-4441 262-549-4656	bkampe@wi.rr.com jerome.zajicek@gmail.com
Dec	Christmas Party	Bruce Hamilton	608-754-6066	hamiltonCPA@sbcglobal.net

Note: The dates for Starry Nights and the Christmas Party will be announced in the next newsletter.



### **“Starry Nights” Drive-to-Dine July 2016**

**Sharon Lynne Wilson Center  
19805 W. Capitol Drive, Brookfield**



#### **Join us for a night of music and classic cars**

The band, day and time of this event have not yet been announced by the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center. The particulars of this event will be in the next newsletter.

**Join us for a wonderful night of music and dining under the stars. Please bring a Salad or hearty Hors d' oeuvre to share. Also, bring your own lawn chairs and beverages (alcohol is permitted). Dessert, paper plates, napkins, etc. will be provided. Please contact JoAnne Peterson by July 1 (jojo2525@yahoo.com) to register for this fun event!**

**Hosts: JoAnne Peterson 262-784-6088 & Nancy Pearson 262-782-7960**



## *Show & Glow by the Lake Saturday August 27*

Masterpiece Club Day will continue this year under the new name “Show & Glow by the Lake”. Show & Glow by the Lake is sponsored by The Masterpiece Ltd and it will be held Saturday, August 27, 2016 at Veterans Park on Milwaukee’s lakefront, situated between the Milwaukee Yacht Club and Milwaukee Art Museum. Show and Glow by the Lake is expected to have approximately 300 entries on display, representing more than 40 regional and local clubs as well as many individual entries.

Our car club will be showing at the event. Last year we had about 40 cars on display from our Wisconsin chapter and Chicagoland chapter. We hope to have more cars participate this year. Club members can also attend the event without showing their cars by purchasing an admission ticket the day of the event.

Black Forest will be bringing their hospitality van to the show as in years past, and will be offering club members sandwiches, refreshments and shade under their tent. Thank you Black Forest.

We encourage our members to sign up early. Registration to attend the event and show your car is now available on-line. Advance registration on or before August 12 is only \$15. Late and day of event registration is \$25. Registration provides two, 2-day admission tickets (includes admission to Milwaukee Concours d’Elegance), a \$70 value and a program guide.

You can register for the event at [www.milwaukeeconcours.com](http://www.milwaukeeconcours.com) and selecting “Show & Glow by the Lake” at the top of the screen.

Show & Glow by the Lake will be followed by Milwaukee Concours d’Elegance on Sunday, August 28 where 200 unique motorcars, motorcycles and even boats are selected from all over the world for display. Attendees can expect to see award-winning vehicles that placed in other major shows such as Pebble Beach and Amelia Island.

*Host for this event is Frank Geracie  
262-825-7496/fgeracie@wi.rr.com*



*Photos from Club Day 2015*



# MBCA WISCONSIN SECTION SPRING TECH SESSION

Saturday April 16 ♦ 10am - 3pm

**Get Ready for everyone's favorite annual event!**

Join us at Black Forest for our 11<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Tech Session. Enjoy a fun and informative day of car talk, presentations, food & drink, door prizes and plenty time to socialize.

**Starting time: 10:00 am  
Lunch served at 12:00**



**Speakers & Topics  
to be announced...**

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**Kindly observe our registration deadline of Monday April 11, 2016**



# New Member\* Welcome and Drive-to-Dine

**Wisconsin Section**

**Sunday, May 15th, 2016 @ 11:30am—1:30pm**



**N71W12980 Appleton Ave, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051**

The Drive-to-Dine is for all members and guests. Be sure and come join-in and bring friends as we officially welcome our newer members. Have lunch, drinks, and/or dessert as we talk over a myriad of topics. (It's not all about cars, all the time.)

We're extending a special invitation to dealer personnel and our new members to come out and socialize and experience a fun club event.

If you are new to the club it's a great time to meet some members that have joined the club for a variety of reasons; just like you.

**New Members\* eat FREE this time.**

MBCA (national) President, Terry Kiwala, and our Midwest Regional Director, Jason Burton are invited. Section President, Bruce Hamilton, will briefly discuss benefits to the 'local' connections in the club and upcoming events.

The concept of the *Fahren Zum Essen* (Drive to Eat) has always been to provide a destination that can be shared with others from the club. No pressure. No planning, just get out the Benz and show up. (although sometimes it is good to let the host know how many to expect. Like this time.)

**Please respond by Sunday, May 1st.**

## **Reservation Form**

Send to: [npearson@wi.rr.com](mailto:npearson@wi.rr.com) or call Nancy @ 262-782-7960 or register online (below)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ member# \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

- New Members from 1/1/14—present Receive A Complimentary Lunch. Bar drinks are not included.

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Qty Attending \_\_\_\_\_ **PLEASE RESPOND BY Sunday, May 1st.**

**ON-LINE REGISTRATION FORM:** <http://goo.gl/forms/Hmzkb3y7cc>



## MBCA - Wisconsin Section Financial Audit 2015

*By Jim Loseke*

The financial records of the Wisconsin Section of the MBCA were audited on 3/5/16 for the Calendar year 2015. Present were:

Frank (Francis) Lubinski – Section Treasurer (Member #L004700) for the 2015 Calendar year

Dean Pearson - Member #P001366

Jim Loseke – Section Vice President (Member #L007668)

Frank Geracie – Section Board Member (Member #G013109)

All members are stated to be members in good standing.

The audit consisted of examination of the bank account statements (checking, money market) for the 2015 calendar year. The bank statement expenses were compared with documented receipts and deposits. All cash withdrawals and deposits were audited. Overall the audit demonstrated good documentation and there were no discrepancies discovered between the statements and the actual fiscal standing of the Section. There were a few observations and recommendations as outlined below:

- March 15, 2015 check 2050 for \$345 to the Machine Shed restaurant did not have any documentation that demonstrated that the tip was included in the amount paid. The final amount for the meal was \$286. It is recommended that all amounts included in any payment demonstrate adequate documentation.
- Check 2060 for \$26.28 from June 15, 2015 did not have a supporting invoice.
- The annual Section registration fee for the State of Wisconsin (\$10) was paid by debit card but no receipt was available to demonstrate the payment. It is recommended that any expense paid by the Section through their debit card have adequate documentation through receipt(s) to demonstrate that the payment was for a club related expense.
- It is recommended that all deposits of checks from members have a supporting copy of each check made to demonstrate the source of the funds being deposited.
- It is further recommended that supporting documentation from any club sponsored event be available to demonstrate that the amount of the deposit matches the amount of funds generated from the event through a headcount of the people that actually participated in the event. This information was available for some events/deposits but not all events.

Overall the audit team felt that the accounting and the organization of the financial records were in order and generally followed good accounting practices.

The audit was approved by Jim Loseke, Dean Pearson and Frank Geracie



### Fish Fry Dinner at the Machine Shed - 3/18



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