

# BADGER *Star*

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Section  
Mercedes-Benz Club of America



[wisconsin.mbca.org](http://wisconsin.mbca.org)

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### *Upcoming Events*

IL Railway Museum	Aug 7
Show & Glow	Aug 27
Oktoberfest	Sept 10
Fall Tech Session	TBA
Fall Tour GRRT	Oct 6-9
Christmas Party	Dec 11



### *Starry Nights' Classic Car Night*





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Serving on the Board of Directors is a great way to meet other members and increase your involvement in the Section. If you have an interest in serving on the Board, or have further questions about what is involved in being on the Board, please contact myself or any other board member.

Please welcome the following new members as of July 21:

James Black, Jr. Kristian Hennum Gregory Lewis  
Robert Puetz Joel Roehrig

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

Looking forward to seeing you an at upcoming Wisconsin Section event.

*Bruce Hamilton, President*

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## President's Message

I want to open my remarks for this edition of the Badger Star by saying "Thank You" to our advertisers. Their support of this publication helps your Section defray the costs of publishing, printing and mailing, and we ask our members to support our advertisers whenever possible. Be sure and tell them you're a Club member when using their services!

The past few weeks have seen your Section hold two very successful events. June 25th saw members gather at the newly renovated Bavarian Bierhaus for a Drive-to-Dine featuring authentic German food & beer. Thanks to Bernd & Christine Kampe for organizing.

Our traditional gathering at Starry Nights was July 8, and once again, members enjoyed great food, excellent weather and camaraderie while rockin' to the music under the stars. JoAnne Peterson was once again our host for the evening. Read more about both events elsewhere in this newsletter.

Looking ahead, August brings a Drive-to-Dine coupled with a visit to the Illinois Railway Museum for their annual Vintage Transport Extravaganza. Three weeks later on August 27, our Club will again be showing at Show & Glow by the Lake, formerly known as Master-piece.

September brings our Oktoberfest celebration and our Fall Tech Session. The Fall Tech Session will incorporate a Member Appreciation Event. More details to follow! October brings our fall color tour which returns to The Great River Road October 6-9. And December 11 is the date for our Christmas party.

More information on future events can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. Some events have seating limitations and/or reservation deadlines, so I encourage you to put all these events on your calendar NOW and join us for as many of our upcoming functions as you can. You will have a good time, meet new members, renew old friendships, and take maximum advantage of your membership.

Got any ideas for an event? It can be as simple as a Drive-to-Dine, a Benz & Breakfast, or a trip to Road America. If you have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to get them to myself or one of our board members.

Your Board of Directors has been busy over the past several months experimenting with ways to meet effectively without the need to travel to the Brookfield Public Library. With Board members living in diverse locations such as Sheboygan, Green Bay and Janesville, not to mention dealing with the zoo interchange construction, getting to a board meeting has been a challenge for some, especially in inclement weather.

After investigating a lot of online meeting options your Board decided to invest in the GoToMeeting online meeting software. Our first experience using GoToMeeting was the July board meeting, and overall things went very well. All of us could hear each other very clearly, and sharing documents (like a meeting agenda) was easy.

The Board will still meet "face-to-face" periodically, but the investment in GoToMeeting makes it significantly easier to attend board meetings from afar.

Speaking of Board Members, please consider serving on your Wisconsin Section's Board of Directors. The board meets once a month to plan and direct Section activities and establish policies and procedures for Section events. Among other things, the Board is responsible for developing and maintaining a running twelve-month calendar of events, and capturing requests from members for activities and events.



*Bruce Hamilton*

*Continued on page 2*



## *Review* Starry Nights' Classic Car Night

A warm and windy night was the setting at the Sharon Lynne Wilson Center in Brookfield for our Drive-to-Dine on July 8<sup>th</sup>. About 100 beautiful classic cars and music from the Four Guyz in Dinner Jackets made the night memorable. We had about 15 people attend the concert and potluck supper under the stars. Overall, there were about 3000 people in attendance, as the outdoor concerts on Friday nights bring out more and more people each year. Music from the 50's and 60's made for an easy listening night for our members as they chatted with other club members and enjoyed the outdoor supper. Viewing the many classic cars was an added bonus for the night. It was a very enjoyable evening!

*JoAnne Peterson*



JoAnne Peterson and Nancy Pearson setup a nice dining selection for members to enjoy



Club members Dean & Nancy Pearson, Fred Kier and Bob Turzник



Full House (3,000 in all) listening to the concert



Harley Davidson Motorcycle  
Pre - WWII vintage on display with  
wicker sidecar



## Upcoming Events

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Host</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Email</i>
Aug 7	IL Railway Museum	Bernd Kampe	262-492-4441	bkampe@wi.rr.com
Aug 27	Show & Glow by the Lake	Frank Geracie	262-825-7496	fgeracie@wi.rr.com
Sept 10	Oktoberfest	Bernd Kampe	262-492-4441	bkampe@wi.rr.com
TBA	Fall Tech Session*	John Bell	414-543-3000	xjab007@gmail.com
Oct 6 - 9	Fall Tour GRRT	Bernd Kampe Jerry Zajicek	262-492-4441 262-549-4656	bkampe@wi.rr.com jerome.zajicek@gmail.com
Dec 11	Christmas Party	Jan Miller	262-352-8250	jandmiller4@att.net

*\*Note: Fall Tech Session is tentative. Information on this event will be forwarded when it becomes available.*

### Illinois Railway Museum - Sunday Aug 7

Enjoy the Illinois Railway Museum with your fellow members. We will initially have lunch at 12:00 noon on Sunday August 7 at the Checkers II restaurant in Union, McHenry County IL, located in rural farm country about 55 miles NW of Chicago. This restaurant specializes in American and German cuisine. Directions to the restaurant are at [www.eatatcheckers.com](http://www.eatatcheckers.com), phone 815-923-2000.

After lunch, we will drive less than 2 miles to the Illinois Railway Museum for their 26th Annual Vintage Transport Extravaganza. Admission costs \$14 per adult and \$10 per child. Website: [www.irm.org](http://www.irm.org)



Phone: 815-923-4000. The museum is the largest railway museum in the US. It has a collection of vintage steam, diesel-electric, electric trolleys, Pullman railway passenger cars, many other types of rolling stock and even a huge display of signaling lights. Register for the event by contacting Bernd Kampe at [bkampe@wi.rr.com](mailto:bkampe@wi.rr.com) or 262-492-4441.

*Bernd Kampe*



## 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.

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.

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.

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



*Photos from Club Day 2015*

### Oktoberfest - Bavarian Bierhaus Brewpub Sept 10



Celebrate Oktoberfest on Saturday, Sept 10 at the Old Heidelberg Park at the Bavarian Bierhaus Brewpub. Address is 700 W. Lexington Blvd, Glendale WI. We have reserved two large picnic tables #57 and #58 just left of center and back from the stage in the enclosed shelter for our MB Club's exclusive use anytime between noon to midnight. German beers and food will be served while Oktoberfest music is performed by local German-American brass bands and other performers.

[www.thebavarianbierhaus.com](http://www.thebavarianbierhaus.com)



You can register for this event by contacting Bernd Kampe, event coordinator at [bkampe@wi.rr.com](mailto:bkampe@wi.rr.com) or 262-534-5644 home/262-492-4441 cell. Please provide

Bernd with attendee names and a contact email address and phone number.

*Bernd Kampe*



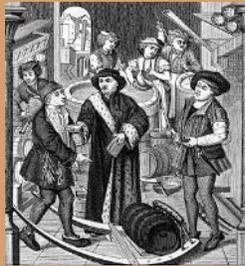
### ***International Auto - West Allis Tech Session, Date TBA***

A Fall Tech Session is in the planning stages for International Auto in West Allis.

The day and time of the event and topics of discussion are still under review. This event is tentative and information on this event will be forwarded to members when it becomes available.

Host and location: International Auto, 2400 S 108th Street, Milwaukee WI

Event Contact: John Bell, Phone: 414-543-3000  
Email: jbell@iamilwaukee.com



### ***REVIEW***

### ***Bavarian Bierhaus Brewpub Drive-to-Dine***



For lunch on June 25, 13 members of our club enjoyed visiting the former Bavarian Inn which has been newly-renovated into a bierhaus with a micro brewery, biergarten, restaurant, bar room, etc. Everyone enjoyed the camaraderie and sampling a variety of choices of authentic German food and beer.



The adjoining outdoor Old Heidelberg Park will be used for many summer outdoor events, in addition to continuing its famous Oktoberfest celebrations on (4) weekends in September.

Don't forget--plan to join your Wisconsin Chapter, MB Club at the Old Heidelberg Park for the Oktoberfest celebrations on Saturday, Sept 10 anytime between noon to midnight. We have reserved two picnic tables (#57 & #58) for our MB Club, seating up to 16 people near the band in the pavilion.

*Bernd Kampe*





## *2016 Fall Tour - The Great River Road*

### *Oct 6 - 9*

Tour Hosts:  
*Bernd Kampe*  
&  
*Jerry Zajicek*

Our MB club is planning a scenic driving tour along the Great River Road (GRRT) (designated as a National Scenic Byway) on both Wisconsin Hwy 35 and Minnesota Hwy 61 alongside the Mississippi River. The dates will be October 6-9 (Thursday-Sunday). You can choose to participate for all 4 days or less, depending on your time schedule. This tour will be similar to the tour we did 6 years ago.

### *Tour Itinerary*

**Thursday** Initial MB Club Tour Meeting at River Road Tour website: [www.wigreatriverroad.org](http://www.wigreatriverroad.org)  
Arrive Prairie du Chien 6:00 at Buckhorn Grill & Pub located in Carlson Country Inn & [www.prairieduchien.org](http://www.prairieduchien.org)  
PM (overnite) Suites Overnite Lodging \$84-\$94 [www.countryinns.com/prairieduchienwi](http://www.countryinns.com/prairieduchienwi)  
Tour area before meeting if time permits +11% tax  
(608) 326-5700

**Friday AM** Wyalusing State Park-Overlook, [www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/wyalusing](http://www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/wyalusing)  
Prairie du Chien WI Fort Crawford Historic Site, Historic Villa Louis Mansion [www.fortcrawfordmuseum.com](http://www.fortcrawfordmuseum.com)

Drive north on Wi Hwy 35 to La Crosse (58 miles) Explore La Crosse [www.explorelacrosse.com](http://www.explorelacrosse.com)  
Overlook La Crosse-Grandad's Bluff, Visit City Brewery (Old Style Beer) [www.citybrewery.com](http://www.citybrewery.com)

**Go west on I-90/I-94 over Mississippi River to MN Hwy 61 North (the Great River Road)**

**Friday PM** Explore Winona sights [www.visitwinona.com](http://www.visitwinona.com)  
Winona, MN (32 miles) Winona County Historical Society [www.winonahistory.org](http://www.winonahistory.org)  
(overnite) MN Marine Arts Museum [www.minnesotamarineart.org](http://www.minnesotamarineart.org)  
Friday miles – 90 6:00 pm-meet for dinner at Brewski's Pub & Grill in hotel Overnite-Riverport Inn-\$90+11% tax [www.riverportinn.com](http://www.riverportinn.com)

**Saturday AM** **Take Hwy 43 across the Mississippi River to WI side and go north on Hwy 35, on the Great River Road to next town...**

Fountain City WI Tour Elmer's Auto & Toy Museum [www.elmersautoandtoymuseum.com](http://www.elmersautoandtoymuseum.com)  
(9 miles) Bluff Park-Overlook Alma & River [www.almawisconsin.com](http://www.almawisconsin.com)  
Alma WI (17 miles) 12:00 Tour of Danziger Vineyards & lunch [www.danzingervineyard.com](http://www.danzingervineyard.com)  
Nelson WI (8 miles) Cheese Factory (ice cream) [www.nelsoncheese.com](http://www.nelsoncheese.com)  
Laura Ingals-Wilder's birth cabin, [www.pepinwisconsin.com](http://www.pepinwisconsin.com)  
Winery & Vineyards-Villa Bellezza [www.villabellezza.com](http://www.villabellezza.com)

Pepin WI (8 miles)



**Saturday AM continued**

Stockholm WI (7 miles) Stockholm Pie Co. [www.stockholmwisconsin.com](http://www.stockholmwisconsin.com)  
 Maiden Rock WI (6 miles) Overlook-Lake Pepin along Hwy 35 [www.maidenrockwinerycidery.com](http://www.maidenrockwinerycidery.com)  
 Maiden Rock Winery & Cidery  
 Bay City WI (8 miles)

**Turn west onto Hwy 63 across the Mississippi River to downtown Red Wing MN**

**Saturday PM**

Red Wing MN (8 miles) Explore Red Wing area [www.redwing.org](http://www.redwing.org)  
 Historic downtown; home of Red Wing Boots  
 & Pottery  
 1870's St. James Hotel, 1920's Amtrak Station &  
 Visitor's Center  
 Scenic Bluff overview of Red Wing & River  
 The American Queen Paddlewheel Steam boat  
 will be traveling north along the river between  
 Prairie du Chien and Red Wing during this tour-  
 look for it



Lake City MN (17 miles) Sailboats on Lake Pepin, Apple orchards [www.wildwings.com](http://www.wildwings.com)  
 Wild Wings Art Collection  
 Wabasha MN (14 miles) National Eagle Center [www.nationaleaglecenter.org](http://www.nationaleaglecenter.org)  
 Grumpy Old Men Movie site  
 Kellogg MN (6 miles) Lark Toys & Carousel [www.larktoys.com](http://www.larktoys.com)

**Saturday evening**

6:00 pm - Dinner at Heroes Bar & Grill [www.dayshotellacrosse.com](http://www.dayshotellacrosse.com)  
 (La Crosse WI) 608-783-1000  
 Saturday miles - 170  
 Overnight at Days Inn Hotel - \$101+11% tax  
 (location I90 at exit 2, French Island)

**Sunday**

La Crosse WI 11:00 am - 1:00 pm, Sunday brunch option [www.lacrossequeen.com](http://www.lacrossequeen.com)  
 on the riverboat La Crosse Queen for \$30 per [www.explorelacrosse.com](http://www.explorelacrosse.com)  
 person, continue tour of La Crosse area or de-  
 part for home 608-784-2893

Recommended scenic route to/from the Madison & Milwaukee area:  
 Just south of La Crosse, take Hwy 33 east thru Amish farmlands, Wyalusing State Park, Baraboo (Circus World  
 Museum), Devil's Lake State Park and Merrimac (free car ferry boat across the Wisconsin River), then onto I-90/94.

- 1) Trip maps and informational literature for the GRRT route will be provided for each vehicle
- 2) Three hotels are listed that offer MB club members low corporate rates. Participants must make their own reservations ASAP directly to each of the motels where we have reserved 20 various types of rooms until all are booked by no later than Sept 6 (30 days prior to start of tour). Free breakfast for two are included with each room rental.
- 3) Optional informal group dining opportunities are offered each evening at 6:00 pm to share experiences and plan next day's adventures
- 4) All entries in this itinerary are "a la carte" - you may choose which you want to see and use your map or GPS to drive at your own pace
- 5) You do not need to participate for the full 4 days, but are welcome to join the GRRT anywhere along our route as your time permits
- 6) If you have any questions, contact either Bernd Kampe 262-534-5644 (home)/262-492-4441 (cell)/email: [bkampe@wi.rr.com](mailto:bkampe@wi.rr.com) or contact Jerry Zajicek 262-549-4656 (home)/414-305-3733 (cell)/email: [Jerome.zajicek@gmail.com](mailto:Jerome.zajicek@gmail.com)

**See next page for 2016 Fall Tour sign-up procedure**



## 2016 Fall Tour - The Great River Rd Sign-Up Procedure

Members planning to attend the 2016 Fall Tour along the Mississippi River, please make your motel reservations early and email or call the information requested below by August 6 to Bernd Kampe [bkampe@wi.rr.com](mailto:bkampe@wi.rr.com)/262-634-5644 home/262-492-4441 cell.

- 1) Names of participants
- 2) Contact email address and phone number (include your cell number if you plan to use this during the tour)
- 3) What days do you plan to join and depart the GRRT tour if you will not be participating in the entire 4 day/3 night trip?

The tour starts on Thursday, Oct 6 with your drive to and arrival in Prairie du Chien in late PM; the tour ends after the river-boat farewell brunch trip returns to the La Crosse docks at 1:00 pm Sunday, Oct 9.

*Bernd Kampe*



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