

BADGER Star

www.mbca-wi.org

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2009 Events

Mark your calendars

Fahren Zum Essen events are in italic

- ... Feb 22 SUN Chicago Auto Show Bus Trip
- ... Mar 13 FRI Fish Fry Wis. Machine Shed - Waukesha
- ... *Mar 21 Harley Museum Tour- Milwaukee*
- ... Apr 18 Tech Session Black Forest - Milw
- ... *May 2 dine & tour of Schwartz House - Two Rivers*
- ... *May 30 Popeye's & Lake Geneva boat tour*
- ... Jun 6 / 13 Spring Rallye TBD
- ... June 28 Golf Outing TBD
- ... Jul TBD - Summer Tech Session
- ... Sep TBD - Fall Tech Session
- ... Oct 20-25 Great River Road Tour - LaCrosse to Red Wing, MN
- ... Nov TBD - Annual Mtg
- ... Dec TBD - Christmas Party

2008 Christmas Party
 held at the Oconomowoc Lake Club by Linda Stowell and Colleen Lowry



(1) Jeff & Donna Klinzman came-in from IA. (below) WI Section Members of the Year Dean & Nancy Pearson. Award presented by Past Pres. Frank Lubinski & '09 Pres. Jerry Zajicek



J. Loseke - very happy...



"Sue, are you sure we turned at the right place?" "Yes, then Dean's rallye sheet says 'proceed due North to Washington Island'." "But, did you check the last page? It probably says to disregard the Washington Is. direction!"



Visit the National Club on the Web at www.MBCA.org

2009 Fahren Zum Essen (Drive to Dine)

Anyone (including prospective members and guests) is invited to join club members around the state at these informal "Drive to Dine" events. Even if you don't attend a lot of other club events you'll find others, just like you, enjoying the opportunity to learn more about each other and our common love for the MB brand & heritage. Join us as we go 'riding to eat'. Bring your spouse, partner, children or friends along, too. Enjoy a low cost lunch (off the menu) and plenty of gemütlichkeit. Please try to call or email the host/hostess so they have an idea of number of attendees. However, if you decide to go, but it's too late to contact them, come anyway.

Event Schedule on front page has a list of locations. Watch for details here in the next issue.

May 30, SAT Bernd Kampe is planning a drive to dine at the Popeye's Restaurant, located across from the boat docks in downtown Lake Geneva. No, this is not related to the infamous Popeye's chain restaurants, but is a unique 1972 nautical-theme restaurant. Their website is www.popeyesonlakegeneva.com

We are also planning an optional boat tour on Lake Geneva as well as a driving tour around the lake after lunch.

Suggestions for 2009 Fahren Zum Essen locations? Contact: Jerry Zajicek jzajicek@wi.rr.com or 262-549-4656

We'd like to offer a reminder that the following memberships are coming up for renewal and hope you can spend another year enjoying your club...

January Expirations: Ed Dauer, Howard Davis, Daniel Harkness, Jeffrey Hintz, Donald Reidy, Phillip Richio, Janice Strampe, Chris Surges, Sharan Weickelt, and David Wright.

Renew memberships on the national website: www.mbca.org or check the STAR magazine.

February Expirations: David Block, Alex Blok, Hugh Carver, Robert Cramer, Ron Darling, Janet Ehlers, Robert Ekholm, Steve Gering, Daniel Helman, Donald Hinkle, Stephen Kness, Ray Laufenberg, Robert Lehmkuhl, Lynn Pearson, Frank Peterson, Robert Powers, Ruth Sauter, Jed Schleisner, Gerald Stein, Lyle Vander Wyst, Gordon Woller

2008 -2009 Officers & Board Members:

President	Jerry Zajicek	262-549-4656	jzajicek@wi.rr.com
Vice President	Andy Stockhausen	262-782-2286	ajs45@wi.rr.com
Secretary	Dan Hellenberg	414-839-6995	spatlese44@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Frank Lubinski	414-352-2912	frank_lubinski@yahoo.com
Membership	Ron Sdun	262-251-9287	rsdun@wi.rr.com
Director	James Pittlekow	262-236-0845	jimpittelkow@yahoo.com
Director	Bill Sirny	262-783-1893	nara@wi.rr.com
Director	(open)		
Director	(open)		
Past President	Frank Lubinski	414-352-2912	frank_lubinski@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Marc Wolfgram	262-367-8800	marc@mbca-wi.org
Newsletter	Dean Pearson	262-782-7960	BadgerStar@gmail.com
	Nancy Pearson	262-782-7960	npearson@wi.rr.com



Chicago Auto Show group '08 in spite of the bad snow in Wisconsin.

Next Board Meeting

All Members Welcome

**January TBD 7-9pm
@ Brookfield Library.**

**Rotary Room,
1900 N Calhoun Rd.**

**Contact: .Jerry Zajicek, Pres
262-549-4656**

jzajicek@wi.rr.com

President's Message...

If there are any members in this club who have attended every event we put on this past year, they must admit it was a very good year for the club's members. We had the usual lineup of the tech sessions, the rallies, a golf outing, a March fish fry, and several drive-and-dine events, not to mention the Chicago auto show trip and others. But several events really stand out for their total success and large participation.

The latest event to reach top shelf status was the Fall Rally in Door County on Sept. 20th, thanks to the efforts of the Pearson family and Dee Murr. We had over 20 cars on the roster, including MBCA members from Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa. We had great weather, good food (and drink), and a nice day to tour the Maritime museum and run the rally. Sunday we concluded with a wonderful brunch/award session at the Cherry Hills resort.

In June, Pete Samolinski hosted an excellent drive-and-dine up in Wausau, where members had a nice lunch at a steakhouse, and then dessert at Karl Middlehauve's place. Karl is one of the top Mercedes restorers in the U.S., and was recently written up in the Star magazine.

In May, Nancy Pearson and Bill Sirny put on an Autocross event at State Fair Park, and everyone who attended had more than a few runs through the cones, to compete for prizes in several divisions. Again, we had more than 20 cars show up.

And at the March Fish Fry at Meyers restaurant, Concours Motors awarded one of our members a brand new C300 4-Matic Mercedes to use for a weekend. That event was also

well attended with close to 30 people.

In April, Mike McKinney of Black Forest put on a top notch tech session, with George Murphy giving us a slideshow lecture of the finer points of Mercedes servicing and care. George is one of the top service consultants in the U.S., and writes a column for each issue of the Star magazine.

Why am I telling you this ? Because many of you are missing these events.... It's too late to read about these fine events in the Badger Star, and then do the head slap - " I coulda had a great time at that event !"

My Thanks to the members of the board for a great year, their efforts paid off well with some really nice events during 2008. Frank Lubinski did an excellent job guiding the board this past 2 years, and he now will serve as Treasurer. Dan Hellenberg will continue as board secretary, Ron Sdun will continue as Membership chairman, and Bill Sirny as a director, and Andy Stockhausen will step up to be vice president. Jim Pittelkow will join the board as Jim Loseke and Jim Stowell retire from the board.

We are already sorting through a bunch of ideas for 2009 events, and it will be difficult to top the events we had last year. But we will give it our best efforts. Stay tuned for more fun this next year.

Jerry Zajicek, President

We'd like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Scott Mertens and Richard Kusch



Chicago Auto Show

Sunday, February 22, 2009
McCormick Place

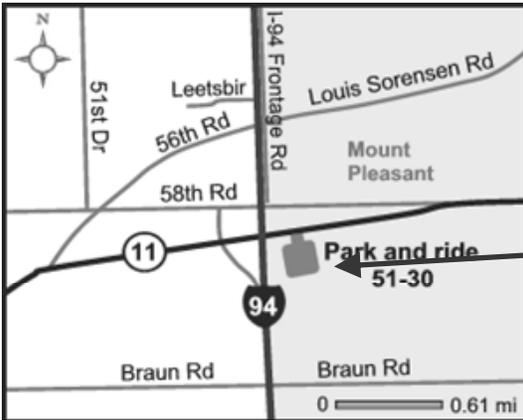
Free Show Admission
M-B Hospitality



Boarding the Coach from 9 – 9:30am in Milwaukee
and at 10:00am in Racine.

The bus will run regardless of weather!

The Bus leaves Chicago @ 3:45pm. Expected time back in Milwaukee is between 5:30 and 6 pm.



Racine Park n Ride: I 94 and Hwy 11



Milwaukee Park n Ride: I 43 and Hwy 45 (Hales Corners)

Pickup points

The Registration deadline is February 13th, 2009. There are only 55 seats on the bus and this trip has sold out for the last 15 years. **Reserve early!** Reservations with accompanying payment will get first consideration. Any open seats after January 15th will be offered to other car clubs.

Mail check and reservation form to: Cathy or Jim Loseke, 2150 Cumberland Dr. Green Bay, WI 54311.
Email: dasbenz@new.rr.com

Phone: (920) 468-2024
Cell phone: (920) 412-5822

Please make checks payable to: **MBCA – Wisconsin Section.**



MBCA Chicago Auto Show Reservation Form



Name: _____ City: _____ Date: _____

Number of people attending: _____ Amount included @ \$20 per person: _____

Cell phone number in case of delays: _____ Pickup site (check one): _____ Milwaukee _____ Racine

Email address or phone number for reservation confirmation: _____

After several years of putting on this show we are looking for a new chaperone to pick up next years event. This is an event that almost runs itself! All of the hard work is already done. We will be happy to show someone 'the ropes' at the next show event.

If interested please contact Jim/Cathy Loseke or any Board member.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America
Wisconsin Section

FRIDAY FISH FRY



Friday, March 13th, 2009
Social hour 6:30pm, Dinner 7:00pm

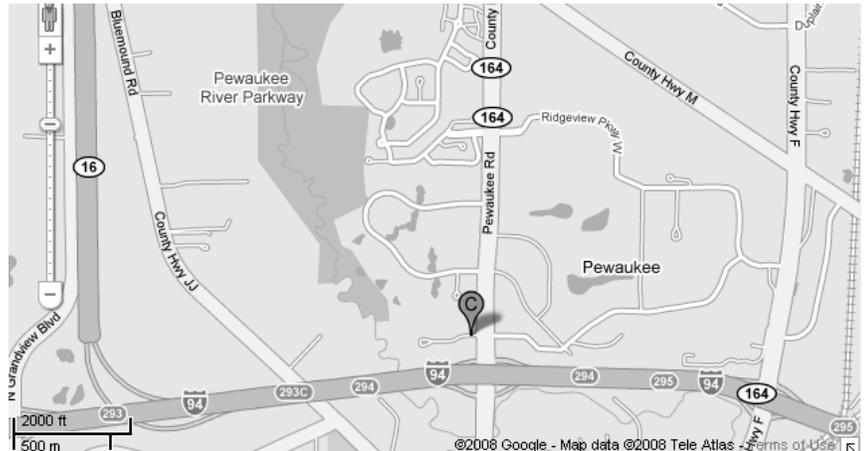


Your Hosts:

Frank & Cathy Lubinski
414-352-2912
frank_lubinski@yahoo.com

Wisconsin Machine Shed Restaurant.
I-94 @ Hwy 164 Exit 294
N14, W24145 Tower Rd. Waukesha, WI

Featuring: Fried or baked cod served with veggie of the day and your choice of potato. Also includes family style coleslaw, cottage cheese, roll or bread and butter. (Special meals can be had off the menu.)



FRIDAY FISH FRY RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Reservation Deadline: Tuesday, March 10th
Make checks payable to MBCA-Wisconsin Section

Qty _____ Dinners@ \$14.00ea:
Total Enclosed: _____

Mail to: Frank & Cathy Lubinski
1007 E. Glenbrook Rd.
Bayside, WI 53217

Meet James Pittelkow, Board Member

Jim is a native of Wauwatosa, and has lived in Ozaukee County for most of his adult life. His hobbies are volunteer work, automobiles and sailing.

He purchased his first M-B in 1970, a 1960, 190SL... He said it was "an absolute mess; floor rust was so bad you could see the road under your feet." Then he got a '71 280SL which he still owns. He's had several other M-B's including a European 300SEL 6.3, which he recalls as "the fastest vehicle I have ever driven." Since 1983 he has had a 1972 280SE 4.5 in the same Tobacco Brown as the 1971 SL. Jim says: "It is my understanding these two vehicles are the last SL and S-class that were hand-built before the M-B factory converted to robotics for the 350SL and the 450S. I have owned both of those also. And prefer the W113 and the W108 bodies to the W107 and W116.)" He is currently looking for a used C-class 4-matic as an every day, year around car.

Jim held offices of Secretary, Treasurer, VP, and President in the section over 25 years ago and is looking forward to resurrecting his involvement.

Welcome back, Jim.

"Great Lakes Mille" (from the SL Market Letter, Vol II, No. 085)



1200 miles around the lake, including some of the most famous destinations. Seventy people from 15-states participated in October. Many are already asking "what's next? Lake Erie? Lake Superior?"

Most drove the entire route starting in South Bend, Indiana and motoring clockwise around the lake. The wide photo above is 24 of the 37 total cars at the world headquarters of Tire Rack on day #1 en route to Chicago. Six decades of Mercedes were represented.

A few highlights included Chicago's Magnificent Mile, Kohler Design Center, a Door County fish boil, a night on Mackinac Island, and the quaint old village of Allegan, Michigan.

Advertising Rates:

Ad Size	Number of Issues		
	6x	3x	1x
1/8 Business Card	\$100	\$ 50	\$ 25
1/4 Page	\$150	\$ 75	\$ 40
1/2 Page	\$200	\$100	\$ 50
Full Page	\$300	\$150	\$ 75

Member Classified are Free, Non-member are \$5.00
Classified ads are subject to available space

Name Badges & Membership Pins

For name badges, please visit the On-line Store at www.MBCA.org or call 719-633-6427. Badges are offered in different fastener types and colors (most prefer Gold.) They are approximately \$8.00 for the 2-line badge to list your name & Wisconsin Section.

Membership pins are awarded FREE to all club members beginning with their 10th Anniversary and every 5 years thereafter. If you have a club anniversary that qualifies and would like a pin, please contact Ron Sdun at rsdun@wi.rr.com or call 262-251-9287.

Mercedes-Benz USA has announced that it is extending its support for the Mercedes-Benz Club of America Membership Loyalty Reward Program through 2009. The Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) offers over 20,000 Mercedes-Benz owners in North America benefits that range from organized track events to social gatherings.

The 2009 Membership Loyalty Reward Program offers MBCA members a \$1,500 reward gift card for purchasing or leasing a new Mercedes-Benz vehicle between January 3, 2009 and December 31, 2009. The \$1,500 reward gift applies to all new 2008, 2009, and 2010 models, excluding AMG models. MBCA members who purchase a Mercedes-Benz Certified Pre-Owned vehicles purchased in 2009 including AMG models are eligible to receive a \$750 reward gift card. There is also a \$250 card available for members that purchase a pre-owned Mercedes-Benz from a licensed independent US Dealership. The reward gift cards are redeemable towards parts, service, personal accessories and vehicle accessories at any authorized U.S. Mercedes-Benz dealership.

The membership loyalty program is of-

fered exclusively to current MBCA members in good standing – those whose membership has not lapsed at any time during the 12-month period preceding the purchase. This offer is based on the purchase or lease of a new or pre-owned Mercedes-Benz vehicle through an authorized U.S. Mercedes-Benz dealer or on the purchase of a pre-owned Mercedes-Benz at a licensed independent U.S. dealership.

In addition to the Membership Loyalty Reward Program, members of the MBCA enjoy access to select Mercedes-Benz merchandise, dealer and vendor discounts, and a subscription to The Star Magazine, which offers exclusive in-depth news of Mercedes-Benz vehicles and Club programs. The MBCA also offers regional events including organized defensive driving classes and travel opportunities.

“As the oldest car company in the world, Mercedes-Benz takes great pride in supporting the Club and its members,” said Adam Paige, public relations manager of MBUSA. “The Loyalty Reward Program is a wonderful benefit that we encourage MBCA members to take advantage of throughout 2009.”

M-B Blue TEC Models Qualify for TAX CREDITS!

The EPA has certified to the IRS that the Mercedes-Benz, Blue TEC cars meet the strict emission requirements required for the Credit which has previously been granted only to hybrid-electric vehicles.

IRS has granted Daimler, Blue TEC diesel vehicles the “*Qualified Alternative Motor Vehicle Credit*” qualifying the ML320-BlueTEC for \$900, R320-BlueTEC for \$1550, and GL320-BlueTEC for \$1800 in tax credits to the purchasers (according to the IRS website.)

Thank you *BLACK FOREST*

The Wisconsin Section’s display of fine Mercedes Benz vehicles at The Masterpiece Club Day car show on Saturday, August 23rd was greatly enhanced by the refreshments and sandwiches served by our good friends at BLACK FOREST; our local seasoned Mercedes specialists. They served from their vintage Mercedes Camper-Bus.

Our club owes a vote of thanks to Michael McKinney and his crew (Becky, Keith, Nick, and Steve.) Other clubs were outspokenly jealous of what Black Forest provided our members in the way of ‘free’ refreshments. Thank you, Michael and crew. We appreciate your support of our club and members.

Robert Turznik

dare to compare

	<u>Dealer Price</u>	<u>Black Forest</u>	<u>You Save</u>
A-Service	\$250.00	\$165.00	\$85
B-Service	\$450.00	\$315.00	\$135
Labor rate per hour	\$ 115.00	\$ 90.00 <small>Lowest in the industry!</small>	\$25

Complimentary inspection on your first visit • Mercedes-Benz loaner vehicles available
10% discount on scheduled maintenance for Mercedes-Benz Club of America members



BLACK FOREST
www.blackforestllc.com

Industry News (from Andy Lincoln, President of Chicagoland Section)

“Mercedes-Benz is an iconic global brand that is steeped in history, innovation and countless accolades. It is the most recognized brand in the world.

Yet, even Mercedes is not immune from the extraordinary circumstances surrounding us all. As the auto industry continues to gyrate from downturns in the economy, Mercedes has taken steps to mitigate risk by managing down its current inventory through production stops, incentives, and overall cost reduction programs.

The current challenges come at a time when Mercedes is emerging from its merger and acquisition

decisions and attempting to re-design the overall look, feel, and quality footprint of its models – needless to say, it is not good timing.

There are huge bright spots on the near horizon. Mercedes will soon be launching a newly designed E-class which promises to be a significant leap forward in technology and design. The GLK is out of the box, the McLaren/Mercedes team is a significant and emerging star on the F1 racing circuit, and the overall focus on building the brand image is priority number one for global Mercedes marketing – “*The Star Always Shines From Above*” is the new and enduring mantra behind the brand.”