

BADGER Star

www.mbca-wi.org

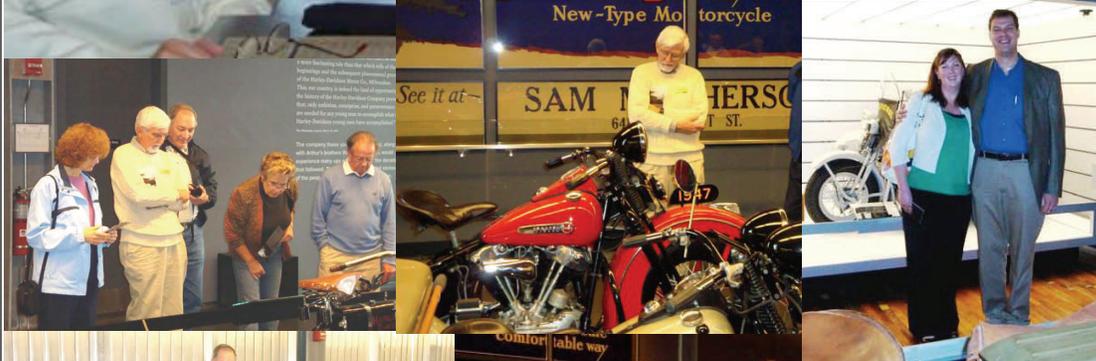
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2009 Events

Mark Your Calendars

Fahren Zum Essen (Drive to Dine) events are in italic

- *May 2 The Mineshaft - Hartford*
- *May 30 Popeye's & Lake Geneva boat tour*
- *Jun 6 Quaker Steak & Lube - Middleton + cruise to tour Botham Winery - Barneveld all with Ferrari Club for Charity*
- **June 28 Golf Outing**
- **July TBD Rallye**
- **Jul 15 WED Summer Tech Session @ Int'l Autos - West Allis**
- *Aug 2 Tour of Schwartz House - Two Rivers*
- **Aug 22 Masterpiece Car Show - Milw lakefront**
- *Aug 22 TBD - (Gathering after Masterpiece)*
- **Sep 17th THUR Tech Session @ Concours Motors - Glendale**
- **Oct 20-25 Great River Road Tour - LaCrosse to Red Wing, MN**
- **Nov TBD - Annual Mtg**
- **Dec TBD - Xmas Party**



Visit the National Club at www.MBCA.org

2009 Fahren Zum Essen (Drive to Dine) Events

Anyone (prospective member or guest) is invited to join our 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. Generally, 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.

- **May 2, SAT, NOON** At **The Mineshaft Bar & Restaurant**, located 22 N. Main St (just north of Hwy 60) in downtown Hartford. There is parking east of the restaurant accessible from the next street east. More info on their website: www.mineshaftrestaurant.com Contact Jerry Zajicek 262-549-4656 jzajicek@wi.rr.com
- **May 30, SAT, 11:30AM** At **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. More info on their website www.popeyesonlakegeneva.com We are also planning an optional boat tour on Lake Geneva, or a driving tour around the lake after lunch. Contact Bernd Kampe bkampe@tds.net or 262-534-5644 for details and optional tour fees and times.
- **June 6, SAT, 11AM** Eat at **Quaker Steak & Lube, in Middleton** and tour **Botham Vineyards & Winery in Barneveld**. We have been invited to participate in this is a charity event by the Ferrari club. Contact Jerry Zajicek 262-549-4656 jzajicek@wi.rr.com You can get directions at these web sites: www.quakersteak.com/madison_WI and www.bothamvineyards.com The address for the restaurant is 2259 Deming Way, Middleton. This is Hwy 14 (University Av) @ West Beltline Hwy (12/14). There is a raffle to benefit Gilda's Club with the drawing about 1pm. Around 1:30pm they will depart for the drive to Botham via back roads.

Your board could always use suggestions for other places you know of for "drive to dine" events. If there is something else of interest in the area to see or do, so much the better. Contact Jerry or Andy.

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

May Expirations: Soud Al-Mishwit, Troy Allen, Lothar Altman, J M Bartels, Frank Calfo, David Harrington, Louis Holm, Joseph Kochan, Oliver Kottke, Robert Lanterman, Richard Lenart, John Lewenauer, Linda Lyon, David Monengenburg, Thom Osenga, Art Phenice, Brian Roell, John Shimon, Pat Strabala, Gary Urban, and Gordon Westphal

June Expirations: Glenn Applegate, M Bennett, Brandon Blexrude, David Buckley, Dan Danbeck, Christopher Dannenmann, Gordon Ewy, Charles Fitzpatrick, James Garnero, Peter Gerhardt, William Guc, Dan Hellenberg, Thomas Hofbauer, William Klug, Benedict Kordus, Kenneth Komacki, Michael Mamayek, Michael McCutcheon, Arthur Meissner, Phillip Nicholas, San Orr, Robert Ozburn, Jim Schaffer, Robert Simpson, Robert Wirth and James Zitzelsberger

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	Pete Samolinski	715-573-1783	peteski@charter.net
Director	(open)		
Past President	Frank Lubinski	414-352-2912	frank_lubinski@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Marc Wolfram	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

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

Monthly Board Meeting
All Members Welcome
MAY 7th 7-9pm
@ Brookfield Library.
1900 N Calhoun Rd.
Contact: Jerry Zajicek, Pres for room location and date for the June meeting

President's Message...

Many of us in this club have "other brands" of vehicles in our garages. In the last 20 years, I've always had one, and sometimes two Volvos on hand. The longest one in our ownership was a 1996 850 GLT, which was roughly 13.5 years old on Good Friday (Apr. 10, 2009), when the car was totaled out in an accident (my wife driving). She was returning home from work via Wisconsin avenue, as a long line of slow moving cars trekked eastward to Miller Park for opening day. As the Volvo crossed the intersection at 63rd & Wisconsin, a small hatchback leaped out in front of it, as the driver tried to scoot across Wisconsin ave. after a long wait at a stop sign. His move was perfectly timed to get him T-boned at 30+ MPH, the impact carrying both cars over the curb and sidewalk, and the hatchback came to a stop on a front lawn. (My wife would be upset if I didn't tell you that she had the right-of-way, and the Police responding to the accident told me there was nothing that she could have done differently that would have avoided it. Neither driver remembers seeing the other until the moment of impact, as the line of cars going Eastbound provided an inconvenient screen, meaning vision was difficult for both drivers.) Everything in front of the Volvo's windshield was damaged, as was the passenger door. The hatchback was speared by the Volvo's front end, which protruded into the hatchback by approx. 18 inches. The hatchback unibody frame was bent into a smooth curve, and the passenger doorlock held, but the door was punctured so badly that if there had been an occupant sitting there, they would not be alive today. My wife has some minor injuries, most of them due to the violent explosion of two front airbags going off at once (side airbags not deployed). The hatchback had front airbags, but they did not deploy, probably because it was hit from the side. The driver also had minor injuries, mainly from getting slammed into the driver door by the impact.

I am thoroughly amazed that the Volvo's airbags deployed on cue after this car has been on the road approximately 5000 days through all kinds of weather. Airbags do save lives. Here was living proof, right in front of me.

So the next move was to replace the vehicle, but what kind, and what brand, at what price ? A few hours on the internet produced many candidates, from many different sources, but the Mercedes CPO cars (certified pre-owned) were the most enticing of the lot. Each Mercedes dealer has several cars, but Zimbrick Mercedes-Benz in Madison had an outstanding collection of 2006 and 2007 C-class cars available.

I called the dealer to check what I was seeing on their website was correct, and Star Certified Salesman Joe Santowski assured me all the cars shown were available at the prices shown. I told Joe of our first, second, and third choices, and we made an appointment to test drive several cars on Saturday morning. By the time we had been there 1-1/2 hours, we had test driven two cars, and settled on a 2006 C280 4 Matic, a silver one with only 11,800 miles (and 6 airbags). Two hours later, the financing was done, the car was washed and prepped, and Joe gave us a short course on all the controls and features of the car before we left.

Going the CPO route to owning a near-new Mercedes does have its advantages. You will get an extended warranty, 1.99% financing, and a 120+ point inspection, among other items. The CPO specification is very detailed, to the point that one very nice car was disqualified from the CPO designation because the replacement windshield was not a Mercedes part. That says alot about the Mercedes CPO cars. If you're in the market for a newer vehicle, now is the time to visit that local Mercedes dealer, before the summer rush. And who knows, one day you may also be astounded by the safety of these cars if you happen to T-bone a hatchback. It's too late at the time of an accident to think about buying a better, safer car.

Jerry Zajicek,

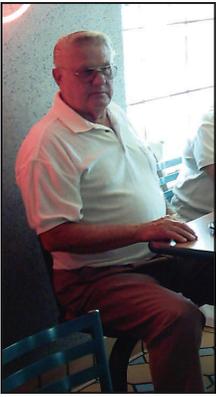
President

MBCA-Wisconsin Section Polo Shirts Remaining. If you are interested in purchasing club-branded apparel, please email Jerry Z www.jzajicek@wi.rr.com For available sizes and colors.

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

Michael Wenzel of Monona and Kurt Bechthold, Mequon

IN MEMORIAM



Long time member Gordon Woller passed away on March 26, 2009. Gordon joined the Milwaukee Section of the Mercedes Benz Club in December, 1985. He was a staunch supporter of our section and served on the board of directors for many years. Gordon and Gen were active until Gordon's illness a few years ago but the section was never out of their hearts.

They hosted the Club's Chicago Auto Show trip for 10 years, as well as, Christmas parties. Both served on the committees for the Club's Auto Show at Germanfest and they co-ordinated the volunteers, in addition to helping to put together the complimentary gifts to our members participating in the show. They hosted the Annual Meeting for 2 years and Gordon did a detailing seminar with Scott Lowry at International Autos. Gordon really knew how to detail a car. Gordon and Gen also attended the opening of the Mercedes Benz plant in Alabama.



Gen and Gordon Woller

As many of you will remember, Gordon won many trophies for his cars. The 1986 560SL, and 1999 Silver E430 were perennial winners. Gordon was seen for years in his banana-cream colored 1984 300SD at many events in the late 1980's and 1990's. After putting well over 200,000 miles on the SD, he sold it, but often talked about how he should have kept it. That car was impeccable!

Gordon was a Lieutenant with the Milwaukee Police Department, where he worked for 33 years. He also served in the Marine Corps from 1945-1946. He was also a member of the American Legion Police Post.

Special

Mid-Summer Technical Session

Wednesday, July 15th, 5:30pm - 7:30pm

at INTERNATIONAL AUTOS

**Test
Drives**

International Autos has remodeled their facility and wants to showcase their Mercedes-Benz area for us. Mark your calendars for this extra technical session on our schedule this year. You won't want to miss it!



Watch for flyer and sign-up in the July-Aug **BADGERSTAR**.

Jon Bell, Service Advisor and club member along with Nancy & Dean Pearson will host the event.

Jon is planning to have the new GLK and others available for test drives. The Chicago zone sales and service representatives will be invited. Of course, there will be refreshments and door prize drawings.

Harley-Davidson Museum

March 21st was a beautiful spring day in Milwaukee for our Fahren zum Essen as we met at The Motor, a restaurant attached to the Harley-Davidson Museum. The lunch group included: Jim & Linda Stowell with their neighbor David Moegenburg & his wife, Dean & Nancy Pearson, Jerry & Sue Zajicek, Gary Matthies and his friend Jerry, Al Toussaint, Sue & me. Bill Sirny ate in the Racer Café area so his son Jacob could have a foot long hot dog; then joined us for the tour. It was nice to meet new member, Randy Metzger and his friend Angie Anderson who joined in later in the lunch.

After dining at a long table which allowed many a view of the river, we headed across the street to the Museum for self-guided tours. We saw Harleys from many of the 105 years, including some bizarre bikes with jewel studding or multiple engines. There were both bikes and pictures of bikes used in racing, law enforcement, the military, films, and just for enjoyment. There were hands-on displays of engines and transmissions, memorabilia and interviews with groundbreaking men and women through the years, displays of mock-ups of new models, and finally several bikes on which we could sit. After about an hour and a half, we listened to an interesting presentation about the 'bricks and mortar' dealing with building of the museum buildings. We also learned the museum curator building houses another 300 Harley's not on display. This is a collection to make Wisconsin proud and well worth seeing.

Andy and Sue Stockhausen

Advertising Rates:	Number of Issues		
	6x	3x	1x
Ad Size			
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			

MBCA RAFFLE 2009

ENTRY DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2009
DRAWING: JUNE 30, 2009





Ticket requests must be received before June 15, 2009. Raffle rules and entry information are available at www.mbcaweb.org or on request from Raffle, 1907 Lelary Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909, (800) 637-2360 or (719) 633-9283 (fax)

First Prize: \$51,225 CASH EQUIVALENT TO A 2009 SLK300 (actual car not shown)

Second Prize: \$40,620 CASH EQUIVALENT TO A 2009 C300 4MATIC SPORT SEDAN
Third-Fifth Prizes: \$5,000 CASH EQUIVALENT TO A GERMAN TOUR, TRIP FOR TWO

Michigan Raffle license number R00611

MBCA GERMAN TRIPS: WOW! Guided tours July 20 or September 28, 2009. Please contact Jim O'Sullivan at jimmo55@comcast.net or for more info: www.mbcaweb.org/pages_r/german_trips/german_trips.htm

Spring Tech Session @ Black Forest

A huge success. Many things to learn, and see. We are indeed fortunate to have a service facility like this in our section. Please keep them in mind for service on your "baby." A big thank you to the entire team at Black Forest, LLC for their passion for M-B and their contributions to our section.



Chicago Section invites you to "A DAY AT THE RACES" Saturday June 20th. Get more info from: rroush@colum.edu 708-989-8130 May 20 deadline.

Name Badges + Membership

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.



Tenth Annual Golf Outing

Best Ball Scramble

Songbird Hills Golf Course W259, N8700 Highway 164 262-246-7050

JUNE 28, 2009 12:30PM

Tee-offs start at 1pm. Each team of 4 golfers will be given instructions and beverage tickets.
Prizes for 1st and 2nd Places, as well as, for Special Event holes

Directions from Milwaukee/Madison
I-94 Exit #294 County Hwy J. North for 9 miles.
(Hwy J becomes Hwy 164 at Capitol Dr.)

Directions from Appleton/Fox Valley
Exit Hwy 41 on County Line Rd (Hwy Q) go
west to Hwy 164; then south 1-mile to course.

Songbird Picnic Supper 4:30pm

In the Picnic Area

Not Golfing – Join the group for supper
Guests are Welcome

Your Hosts:
Pat Mahlendorf 920-458-5008 paddy@excel.net
Ron Sdun 262-251-9287 rsdun@wi.rr.com

Wisconsin Section MBCA Regional Driving Event Registration Form *Deadline Thurs June 20th*

Name: _____ MBCA # _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I would like to golf with:

9-holes of golf + cart & beverage	_____ @ \$29/75 = _____
Songbird Picnic	_____ @ \$10.25 = _____
TOTAL	_____

Make check payable to:
MBCA-Wisconsin and mail to:
Ron Sdun
N79, W13032 Country Club Dr

2009 SPRING TECH SESSION at **BLACK FOREST** LLC

For the Fourth consecutive year, Black Forest LLC hosted the MBCA-Wisconsin's Section's Spring Tech Session on Saturday April 18th. Over 90 members and guests enjoyed the warm, sunny spring day with all of the garage doors open.

We began the day with coffee & breakfast snacks well before the scheduled start time of 10 a.m. A number of W113 SL owners arranged their cars in an impromptu show lineup in the parking lot and were later joined by Albrecht Stachel's imposing 1952 300.



This year's guest speakers each gave two presentations so we could have smaller groups and more time for questions & answers. Our attendees sat in on one speaker's session before lunch and then the other speaker's for the afternoon.

OUR GUEST SPEAKERS



photo by Michael Malloy

M. Gregory Merrick lives and works in Mineral Point, Wisconsin and is recognized as the foremost expert in the field of Mercedes-Benz interior wood restoration. Gregory outlined the history of woodwork featured in Mercedes-Benz interiors over the years, describing the materials, methods of construction, and finishes used. After noting that an automobile interior is one of the most inhospitable environments imaginable for wood of any kind due to frequent extreme variations in temperature and humidity, exposure to sunlight, and subject to mechanical shock and vibration, he went on to discuss its inevitable deterioration and eventual need for restoration. With the aid of interior wood samples in various states of decay and repair, Gregory described his exhaustive and time-consuming restoration process from removing the damaged finish through the steps of repairing, re-veneering, sealing, tinting, and finishing, and how he employs modern materials to achieve a durable finished product while maintaining an original appearance that honors the intent of the craftsmen who first made it decades ago.

Tom Mitchell and Ed Ebel from Saddle Brook, New Jersey have worked as service technicians at Becker of North America for a combined total of more than 50 years. Their presentation followed Becker's history as Mercedes-Benz's preferred supplier of in-car audio systems since the early 1950s. Using examples from Black Forest's extensive inventory of factory-rebuilt classic Becker radios, Tom & Ed chronicled the trail of innovation from the 1953 vacuum-tube "Mexico" through the development and adoption of transistors, the introduction of in-car stereo and auto-reverse cassette players, and the first fully-microprocessor-controlled stereo radios. They also discussed our capabilities with respect to repair, restoration, and upgrading to incorporate newer technologies such as the ability to listen to your iPod directly through your car's original-equipment Becker without altering its performance or appearance.

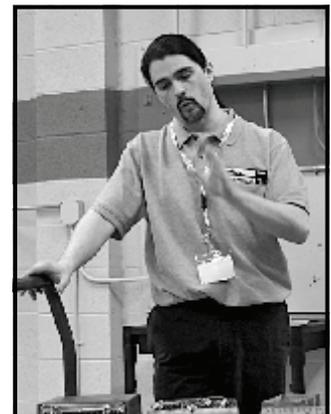


photo by Michael Malloy

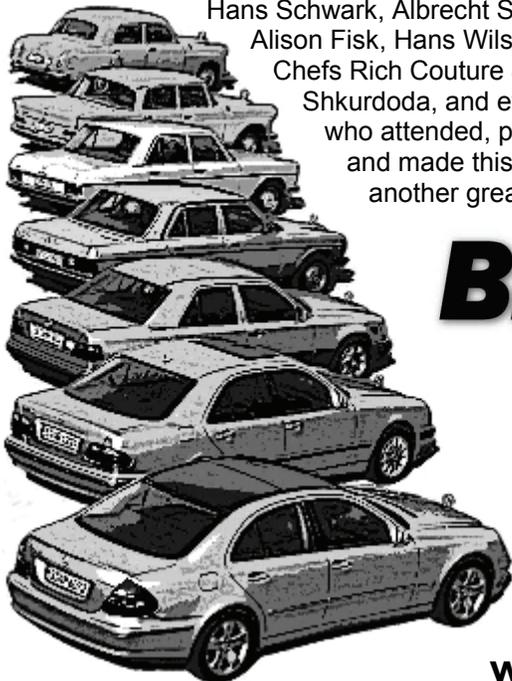
At lunch time, we enjoyed a buffet of German sausages and Russian specialties prepared in our own kitchen by our chefs of the day Rich Couture and Oksana Shkurdoda, as well as champagne tasting, wine, and great German beer on tap. Everyone had a chance to socialize and explore Black Forest's recently-completed remodeling and expansion, which has been in the works over a year. As break time ended, everyone gathered into the new customer lounge for the door prize drawing and answers to the tech & trivia quiz.



After the 2nd round of presentations by our guest speakers, Black Forest's shop foreman Nick Olson demonstrated the new Hofmann Geoliner alignment system on a 1970 280SL as a group of interested onlookers could see all the geometry measurements change in real-time on the computer screen as adjustments were made.

In keeping with tradition, this year's tech session continued well past its scheduled ending time due to the energy and interest level of those who attended and participated.

Black Forest wishes to express its gratitude to all of its special guests including Gregory Merrick, Tom Mitchell, Ed Ebel, Lothar Altmann, Karl Ebenhoch, Hans Schwark, Albrecht Stachel & Alison Fisk, Hans Wilsdorf, Chefs Rich Couture & Oksana Shkurdoda, and everyone who attended, participated, and made this event yet another great success.



BLACK FOREST 

six decades of
MERCEDES-BENZ
under one roof

2900 W Vera Avenue
Glendale, WI 53209

(414) 228-4899

www.blackforestllc.com