

# BADGER Star

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



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## Blitzen Benz (See article on page 4)

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 21, 2012  
Annual Meeting & Election of Board Members

Saturday, November 3, 2012  
Gyros West / Hands-On Garage Drive 'n' Dine

Sunday, December 9, 2012  
Christmas Party Brunch

Sunday, February 10, 2013  
2012 Chicago Auto Show Trip

Date to be Determined  
February, 2013 Fish Fry

**\* \* \* \* \*** Final Issue for 2012 **\* \* \* \* \***

## President's Message:

Frost warnings?! Really? The leaves are prematurely turning colors. That means it is time to enjoy some nice scenic rides. I'm hoping the color lasts about 3 more weeks. That would make the Drive 'n' Dine to Ferg's Bavarian Village an even more delightful event.

John Bell hosted the Tech Session at International Auto where we got some information on dent repair and detailing our Mercedes vehicles (along with some Sprecher beer tasting). If you enjoyed this program, you may also enjoy the tour of the Hands-on-Garage that Jerry has planned for us in November.

It would be great to have a large turnout for the annual meeting at the Silver Spring Country Club Le Par Restaurant. We've been there several times for brunches (some meetings, some not) and always enjoyed it. Speaking of brunches, JoAnne has a special one planned for the annual Christmas party at Maxwell's Restaurant in the Best Western Midway Hotel in Brookfield. She attends to detail, even to make sure it doesn't conflict with the Packers' game. We ended a rally to support veterans at Maxwell's several months ago, and those who attended enjoyed it. The owner, Scott, is a club member, and made it an excellent experience.

We have reserved the bus for the Chicago Auto Show in February. Bob is doing his usual fine job putting that together. There are only 54 seats, so sign up early; friends are welcome!

This time of year brings falling leaves which when wet can make driving treacherous, so be careful. We look forward to seeing all of you at future events. If you have not participated in any events, consider trying one. If you got your feet wet by going to one or two, consider trying a different type of event.

This is the last newsletter this year. I'd like to wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Joyous New Year.

Andy Stockhausen,  
President



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Last, but certainly not least, we possess an extensive inventory of original parts for Mercedes from the 1950s to the 1990s, and sources around the globe allow us to supply virtually any part currently or formerly offered for any model. Stocked items ship overnight to our Wisconsin customers.



Our 150-year-old facility is centrally located in Brooklyn, Wisconsin, just south of Madison.

*Photo: 1967 230S recommissioned at our facility in 2008, featured on the cover of The Star magazine, May-June 2009.*



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## *The Ohio Backroads Adventure Tour — August 5-9, 2012*

**By Don and Carol Velcio** — Blessed with perfect Ohio summer weather, fifty-one MBCA members and guests from around the country and Canada drove through east central and southeast Ohio on roads not often seen by the average Ohio traveler. These roads were specially selected for natural beauty, local charm, and technical challenge. Twenty-eight cars carried our tourists on their adventure through Ohio. Mercedes-Benz was the best-represented marque, with models ranging from a 230 SL pagoda to a 230 SLK; C 300 to E 350 Bluetec diesel and E 350 wagon to S 550 sedan; AMGs in SLK and M class trim; drop-top CLKs, SLKs and SLs – and more. Our guests rode in three Porsche 911s and a Cayman S, while American Iron was well-represented by a Mustang GT convertible. The tour was not a caravan or parade, but we turned quite a few heads as the friendly locals waved to us.

Good weather, nice roads and scenery, good food, and plenty of interesting places and things to see along the way all added to the participants' enjoyment. But the most common theme from the many comments above is the people. MBCA, while a "car club," is all about the people. Friendly people who enjoy socializing with old friends and making new friends are what these tourists enjoyed the most about their MBCA tour.

For example, one couple from Wisconsin arrived on the tour in a beautiful 450 SL. We'll affectionately call them Jim and Cathy Lucky from Radiator Springs, Wisconsin. Well, due to a malfunctioning original equipment thermostat, their radiator began acting like a Yellowstone hot spring. Jim wisely pulled into a local carryout store in a remote area of Appalachian Ohio where cell phone service was nearly non-existent.

The friendly locals helped Jim contact Mercedes roadside assistance who dispatched a tow from Columbus. And no fewer than a dozen of the cars on the tour stopped to make sure everything would be OK. Allan Pintner stayed with Jim for about three hours until the tow truck safely removed the SL. Allan and Jim missed the evening activities at The Wilds, but they shared a nice dinner and cocktails at the hotel. Cathy rode in a sedan for the rest of the day. Werner Heidemann hauled their luggage in his green 450 SLC (later named "The Frog" due to its distinctive color).

For the next two days, Jim and Cathy were chauffeured in a Mercedes diesel "taxi" with their luggage born in The Frog. The story ended happily with a repaired and beautifully cleaned and waxed 450 SL retrieved at the Columbus dealer. Jim and Cathy arrived at the final dinner in German Village under their own power. New friends and old friends helped make what could have been a not-so-good experience into a memorable one.

**By Jim Loeseke** — During the month of September we joined a hearty band of intrepid Benz owners and traveled the back roads of the Amish country in Ohio. The area traveled was south of Cleveland and east of Columbus with the group consisting of mostly Mercedes of various types with the oldest being a 60's pagoda model and the newest being delivered a week before the event. Cars came from as far as Oklahoma and Colorado for the event and we even had an SL from Canada attend. The idea behind the event was to experience the travel and sites on some back roads that were very engaging in a sporty car. The event covered 4 days with the average distance traveled per day around 80 to 150 miles.

Some of our discoveries during this trip were:

- Mercedes Benz cars can break down. We were enjoying the twisties when our car, a 32 year old SL, overheated and started spewing coolant onto the windshield. We limped into a small convenience store and called for help.
- Don't ever count on cell phone service when in Amish country. They don't have electricity, they don't have cell phone towers. We eventually had one driver who could get one bar if he stood in one spot and aimed his phone in the correct direction.
- MB USA, when we got in touch with them, couldn't seem to understand that our old car didn't have the same numbers in the VIN as the new cars. Once we worked that out they sent a tow truck for a one way trip to a Columbus dealership.
- MBCA members are all outstanding. Everyone in the group that saw our plight stopped and offered assistance. Despite our issues one member stayed with us for over 4 hours and gave up the main event for the day until the tow truck arrived. Two other members chauffeured us and our luggage for two days to finish the route while our car was getting worked on and even delivered us to the dealership to pick it up.
- Twisty roads are much more fun when you are driving rather than riding.
- Whomever was appointed to layout the roads in that part of the country needed to get their eyes checked. There was rarely a section of road that would be considered as straight with many blind hills. All of these, curiously, were listed at a 55mph speed limit but this would have put you either in a ditch, in the trees or in the back of an Amish wagon if you adhered to it.

We picked up our car after the dealer replaced the thermostat and we were off to the Sausage Haus in Columbus Ohio for the ending meal with the group. Overall a great time was had by all and many friendships were formed (even with the Porsche people). Next year there is a plan to get a group to circle Lake Erie and I would highly recommend this to anyone who would like to explore some parts of the country that are generally passed on the superslab. The Velcio's did a fabulous job putting together the route, researching the roads and scheduling events and I am sure that they will surpass themselves next year.

## ***Blackwolf Run Drive 'n' Dine — August 11, 2012***

The Wisconsin Section held a Drive 'n' Dine on Saturday August 11th at Blackwolf Run in Kohler. Twenty-seven members enjoyed viewing the golf course that hosted the Woman's Open the month before. Hosts Mel and Pat Mahlendorf provided the group with information regarding the other sites to be seen in this charming village. The stately Walderhaus could be viewed on entrance to the village main street. Many toured the American Club, along with the design center and museum. The shops at Woodlake, a unique shopping center adjacent to the lake, was also enjoyed. Great member cars, great food, great weather. What could be better!



## ***Milwaukee Masterpiece — August 25-26, 2012***

The Milwaukee Masterpiece has been held in Veterans Park on Milwaukee's picturesque lakefront for the past eight years. For most of those years our Wisconsin Chapter or the Mercedes Club has participated with member cars on display for the Saturday "Club Day" car show. This year we had fifteen cars along with the 1970 Mercedes Camper from Black Forest. The camper is a popular attraction for two reasons: most of the local spectators have never seen a Mercedes Camper and to the club members it means "refreshments"!

Mike McKinney of Black Forest is kind enough to serve Sub Sandwiches, Chips & good old German Beer to our club members at the event. They treat us right!!! Black Forest also puts on a mechanical display of the detail of a classic Mercedes suspension & engine components that features the Mercedes quality (and their restoration knowledge) for other car nuts to appreciate.

This year's theme for the Sunday Concours D 'Elegance of the Milwaukee Masterpiece was commemorating the cars of the Vanderbilt Cup race that ran in the streets of Milwaukee back in 1912. The race route ran along Burleigh Street (start-finish line), and wound around Fond du Lac and Hampton Avenues. Actual race cars that raced in the 1912 Vanderbilt Cup were on display on a partially rainy Sunday. The 1909 Benz Type RE200 PS "Blitzen Benz" racer was there on loan from the Mercedes Museum in California along with two racers from the Indianapolis Hall of Fame Museum: a 1908 Mercedes 90 Grand Prix racer known as "The Brookland" and a 1910 Fiat S-61 Racer (with double chain drive). The Fiat on display is the sister car to the actual winner of the 1912 Vanderbilt Cup race.

Hopefully you were there to experience the Masterpiece events and see the cars up close on either day. If not join us in 2013. It's always on the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in August and the week after Pebble Beach.

***Bob Turznik, Event Chairperson***

## ***The Vanderbilt Cup Race***

**(Picture of car on page one)**

The world-famous 200 hp Blitzen (Lightning) Benz racing car set world speed records of 212 kph in April 1910 and then 225 kph on April 23, 1911 at Daytona Beach, FL. The massive 590 cubic inch (21.5 liter), 4 cylinder engine generated 200 hp at 1800 rpm. The largest and most powerful racing engine at that time.

2012 also marks the 100th anniversary of the famous Vanderbilt Cup Race and Grand Prix being held in Milwaukee for the first and only time on Oct 2-5, 1912. Races were run on country roads just northwest of the city limits of Milwaukee in the Township of Wauwatosa. The race course consisted of 38 laps of 300 miles. All of the best American driving stars were here, driving the best and fastest competition cars of the time. The crowd was estimated at 60,000 enthusiastic spectators. The eight competitors included the famous Blitzen Benz driven by Italian-born Ralph DePalma who won the race finishing in 4 hours, 20 1/2 minutes at an average speed of 69 mph. Unfortunately, due to bad weather, poor roads, and bad luck, the financiers of the race incurred large financial losses and such national road races would never return to Milwaukee.

If you are interested in learning more about the 1912 Vanderbilt Cup Races or the Blitzen Benz, here are 2 website links to get you started.

[http://www.vanderbiltcupraces.com/races/story/1912\\_vanderbilt\\_cup\\_race](http://www.vanderbiltcupraces.com/races/story/1912_vanderbilt_cup_race)

<http://www.seriouswheels.com/cars/top-1909-Blitzen-Benz.htm>

## *Xcel-ent Tour and Snapper Vicks Drive 'n' Dine — September 8, 2012*



On Saturday September 8 Gary Matthies hosted a tour and Fahren Zum Essen contingent to one of his customers for a behind the scenes look at the beginning of many components we see every day. X-Cel Tool and Die provided access to their offices and production areas for an insightful look into something many don't get a chance to see – how some common metal components come about. Whether for a car or lawn mower or clothes dryer, many components start out here.

Lunch followed at Snapper Vicks with an extensive southwestern menu and fine Mexican offerings. We had twenty members and guests and a variety of models represented. SL's and SLK's had good top-down weather and it was a pleasant day for a drive for all. Some new faces and a few members that haven't been around for awhile joined with the rest for a good time and conversation. The camaraderie continued into the sunshine as we prepared to leave, with host Gary getting out his bugle and sounding a few bugle calls as cars departed.

## *Fall Tech Session at Int'l Autos — September 22, 2012*

Host John Bell, a client service advisor for Int'l Autos, started the program off with an introduction to their service department. Dent Wizard did a hands on demo of their paintless dent repair by first putting a dent into John's black E-class. An excellent lunch followed, a buffet with all the trimmings, enhanced by free beer samples from Sprecher Brewery. After lunch, Wisconsin Detail Services talked about the extensive detailing service that they offer, and at the end of the program they took orders for at least one member's car to be detailed. The Tech Session ended with a distribution of door prizes generously donated by Int'l Autos.



## *MBCA Wisconsin Section Schedule of Upcoming Events*

Annual Meeting & Election of Board Members (Ballot enclosed in this issue)	Nancy Pearson	Sunday, October 21
Gyros West/Hands-On Garage Drive 'n' Dine (Registration deadline November 1)	Jerry Zajicek	Saturday, November 3
Christmas Party Brunch (Registration deadline December 1)	JoAnne Peterson	Sunday, December 9
2013 Chicago Auto Show Trip (Registration deadline January 20 or when bus filled)	Bob Turznik	Sunday, February 10
February, 2013 Fish Fry	Frank Lubinski	To be determined

YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS THIS

# Sunday Brunch

Annual Meeting  
&  
Election of Board Members



Wisconsin  
Section

**Sunday, October 21, 2012 11:00 A.M.**



**Silver Spring Golf & Banquet Center**  
N56, W21318 Silver Spring Dr  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

The Annual Meeting is brief and will be held after the brunch at approximately 12:15 p.m.

We will be accepting nominations and electing three (3) board members, each for a 3-year term. The board meets in the metro Milwaukee area approximately once each month (currently the 2nd Thursday, 7-9pm) to plan activities and conduct other business. Board members that reside further away can attend via Skype connection.

If you are interested in participating on the board or nominating someone, please contact Andy Stockhausen at: ajs53151@gmail.com or 262-782-2286

## Members & Guests Welcome!

- LaPar Sunday Champagne Brunch
- Carved Prime Rib, Poultry, Beef, Pork, Fish, Smoked Salmon, Peel and eat Shrimp
  - Breakfast Potatoes & Potato of the Day
  - Vegetable of the Day & Mixed
  - Made to Order Omelets
  - Scrambled Eggs w/Cheddar
  - Eggs Benedict
  - Pancakes and/or French Toast
  - Belgium Waffles
  - Bacon and Sausages
  - Breakfast Pastries
  - Deluxe Salad Bar
  - Delicious Desserts
  - Chocolate Fountain featuring Strawberries and other Dippers
  - Coffee, Tea, Milk, Juices
  - Champagne

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, ST, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_

X \$25.00 = Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reservation deadline is 10/17/2012.

Submit a nomination or comment here

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For reservations please call or e-mail :  
Nancy Pearson  
Phone: 262-782-7960  
E-mail: npearson@wi.rr.com

Make check payable to:  
**MBCA-Wisconsin Section**  
Send check to :  
Nancy Pearson  
PO Box 650  
Brookfield, WI 53008-0650

## *Gyros West Restaurant Drive 'n' Dine — November 3, 2012*



Are there any Do-It-Yourselfers out there? Shade tree mechanics? This event is for you. We're going to do a Saturday morning breakfast at Gyros West in Waukesha, followed by a tour of the Hands-On Garage. Breakfast at 9:00 am, followed by a caravan to Hands-On Garage for an 11:30 am tour.

Hands-On Garage ([www.HandsOnGarage.com](http://www.HandsOnGarage.com)) is a service facility where you can work on your own vehicle, work with a trained mechanic, or let the certified mechanic do it for you. Bays are available for rent, with or without a lift. And one bay is dedicated to detailing/washing of vehicles. Working on your own car, especially in winter, has just been made a whole lot easier by Hands-On Garage.

Gyros West has been a top spot in Waukesha for breakfasts for years now. (<http://gyroswest.com>) They are located one block west of Hwy. 164 on Hwy. 18 (kitty corner from Boucher Nissan). Hands-On Garage is located at 5757 N. Lovers Lane Rd in Milwaukee (1 block North of the intersection of Silver Spring and Lovers Lane Road.)

Please contact host Jerry Zajicek ([jerome.zajicek@gmail.com](mailto:jerome.zajicek@gmail.com) (new e-mail address) / 414-305-3733) by November 1, so a headcount can be given to the restaurant.



## *Membership*

### **Membership Expirations —**

**October** – L. Nenn, J. Stevenson, P. Capelli, T. Wesenberg, M. Haberberger, L. Hyler

**November** – D. Evancho, K. Piehl, J. Stearns, T. Buestrin, J. Staab, A. Klawitter, D. Kolasinski, J. Fassbinder, P. Jentzsch, T. Krause, N. Laux, R. Wanke

**December** – G. Hall, S. Jonas, A. Wolfmeyer, J. Becherer, R. Kusch, R. Reinhardt, P. Fowler, R. Mennen, J. Milsagle, L. Sphaeris, S. Groddy

### **New Member —**

Bruce Kamradt — Milwaukee





# MERCEDES BENZ CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY



*Sunday, December 9, 2012 11:00 AM*  
*Underwood Banquet Rm. Best Western Midway Hotel 262.786.9540*  
*1005 S. Moorland Rd., Brookfield, WI 53005*



*Christmas Presents for WI Section Members*



*Come and join us for a delicious Champagne Brunch consisting of:*  
*Champagne, Juices, Coffee, Milk & Tea*  
*Eggs Benedict, Omelets & Waffles*  
*Soup, Salads, Potatoes & Pasta*  
*Chef Carved Roast Beef, Shrimp & Salmon*  
*Assorted Desserts*



**Please bring  
non-perishable  
food items  
which we will  
donate to a  
food pantry.**



*Make checks payable to MBCA-Wisconsin Section and mail reservations by  
December 1st to: JoAnne Peterson, 2525 N. 128th St., Brookfield, WI 53005*  
**Questions—Call JoAnne at 262.784.6088 or E-mail at [jojo2525@yahoo.com](mailto:jojo2525@yahoo.com)**

-----Reservation Form-----

**Number Attending** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25.00

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_



# Bus Trip to the **Chicago Auto Show**

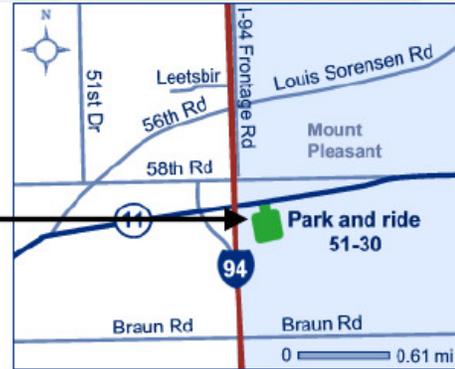
Wisconsin Section

## Sunday, February 10, 2013 McCormick Place

**The \$20 per-person registration fee includes one admission ticket for the auto show, bus costs, and snacks!**

Boarding is from 9:00-9:30am in Milwaukee and at 10:00am in Racine, regardless of the weather.

The bus leaves Chicago @ 3:45pm and is expected back in Milwaukee between 5:30pm and 6:00pm.



Pickup points

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

Racine Park n Ride: I-94 & Hwy 11

The Registration deadline is January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. There are only 55 seats on the bus and this trip has sold out for the last 17 years, so reserve early! Reservations can only be made with accompanying payment.

Mail check and reservation form to: **Bob Turznik, W165N9714 Chippewa Drive, Germantown, WI 53022** Home Phone: (262) 251-2243  
Email: [bobt@atpllc.com](mailto:bobt@atpllc.com) Cell phone: (414) 416-3375

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

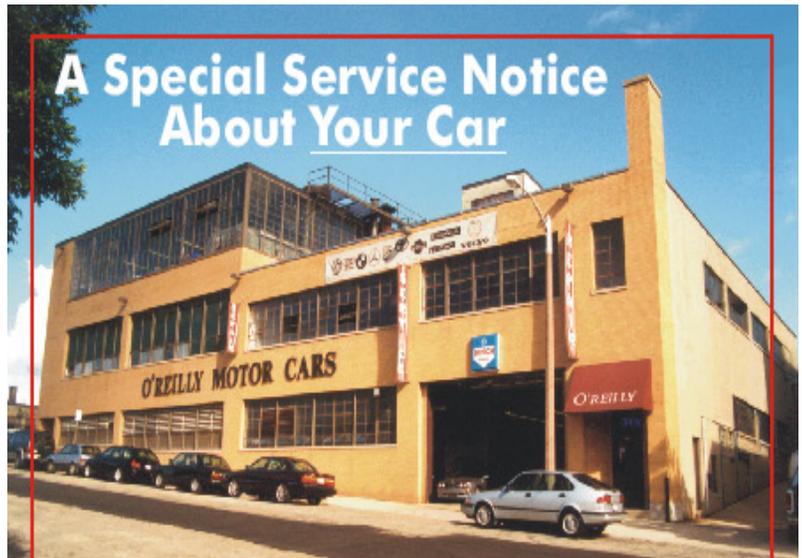
Email address or phone number for reservation confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_



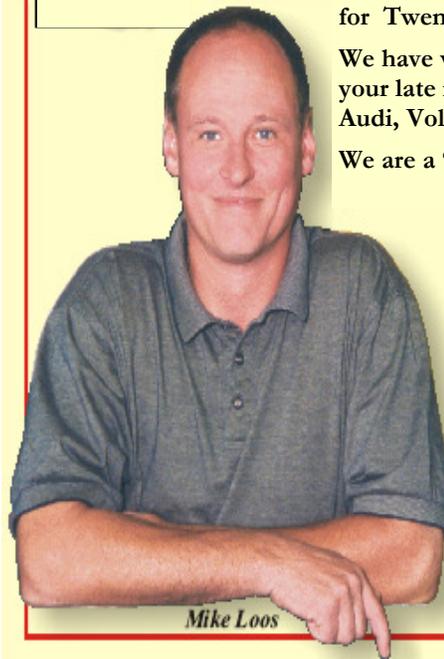
## 2012 Officers & Board Members

\* New e-mail address

President	Andy Stockhausen 262-782-2286 ajs53151@gmail.com
Vice President/ Past President	Jerry Zajicek* 262-549-4656 jerome.zajicek@gmail.com
Secretary	Dan Hellenberg 414-839-6995 spatlese44@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Frank Lubinski 414-352-2912 frank_lubinski@sbcglobal.net
Membership Chair/ Director	Ron Sdun 262-251-9287 rsdun@wi.rr.com
Director	JoAnne Peterson 262-784-6088 jojo2525@yahoo.com
Director	James Pittelkow* 262-236-0845 pittjim@att.net
Director	Pete Samolinski 715-573-1783 peteski@charter.net
Director	Wim van den Berg 608-345-1800 mygr8star@tds.net
Webmaster	De Murr 262-243-5008 demurr@wi.rr.com
Past President	Nancy Pearson 262-782-7960 npearson@wi.rr.com
Regional Director/ Midwest Region	Bill Denton wr Denton@trane.com



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All of our special tools and fixtures are designed and manufactured completely in-house from the concept stage through final machining, plating, and finishing.

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on [wisn.com](http://wisn.com)



Mercedes—Benz Club of America  
Wisconsin Section  
W223 N2349 Glenwood Lane  
Waukesha, Wisconsin 53186

Make sure  
this panel is  
outside. Affix  
45 cent stamp  
here.

JoAnne Peterson  
Mercedes—Benz Club of America  
Wisconsin Section  
2525 N. 128th Street  
Brookfield, WI 53005

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## How to Vote

Fold here

This year it's very easy to cast your ballot in one of two ways!

### Option #1

Complete the official ballot in this mailer. Then, fold it up, making sure that the mailing panel addressed to Mercedes-Benz Club of America is on the outside. Seal it with tape, affix a 45 cent stamp, and drop it into a mailbox. It's that simple. Please note that your ballot must be received before October 20, 2012 in order to be counted.

### Option #2

Attend the October 21st annual meeting of the Wisconsin Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America held at the Silver Spring Golf & Banquet Center, N56 W21318 Silver Spring Dr., Menomonee Falls, WI, 11:00 A.M. Cast your ballot during the meeting and enjoy the Champagne Brunch.

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Fold here

### Board of Directors (circle your choices –vote for only three)

#### Bruce Hamilton

Bruce is a CPA in Janesville WI. He and his wife Deb joined the MBCA in September 2009 and enjoy driving events, tech sessions and dine 'n drives. He drives an '08 CLK 350 and a '09 C300 4Matic

#### Dan Hellenberg

I have been a member of MBCA since 1994. My current car, a 2002' CLK320, is the fifth Mercedes I've owned. My wife Francesca and I hosted a rallye for the club and I was a member of the German Fest committee. I've served several terms on the board and I'm the current club secretary.

#### Jerry Zajicek

I've been a member of MBCA-Wisconsin for 18yrs; President, Vice President, and Secretary of this section, and also Member of the Year, and Officer of the Year (2010). I've been a board member for more than 6 years.

Write in choice \_\_\_\_\_