

BADGER

Star

August—Sept 2024

mbca.org/section/wisconsin



MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA WISCONSIN SECTION

President's Message

I would like to open these remarks with a big Thank You to Jim Loseke. Jim has been a member of MBCA since January 2000, and has held multiple leadership positions over the years, including Vice President, and most recently, Webmaster. Whenever Jim and his wife Cathy said they would do something, an event or helping with someone's event, you could count on them to be there and doing an excellent job. They were always willing to pitch in and help wherever needed. Unfortunately, Jim is leaving the Wisconsin Chapter and MBCA for personal reasons, and both he and Cathy will be sorely missed!! We extend our sincere thanks to Jim for his past service and best wishes to both Jim and Cathy for the future.

I would also like to add a big Thank You to Mo Afshar for his service on the Board of Directors since October 2021. During his tenure, Mo has been a valuable addition to our board. In addition Mo and his wife Zhaleh have hosted each of our "Break-in-the-Weather" D-2-D events. Mo is stepping down from the board and the MBCA in mid-August.

Events

Since last issue your Chapter held three successful events. Our "Break-in-the-Weather" D-2-D, Starry Nights and our D-2-D at Gus's Drive-In in East Troy were all well attended. Read the

event reviews elsewhere in this issue for more details.

Looking ahead, mark your calendar NOW for:

Oktoberfest in Germantown on September 29th, and

Our Fall Color Tour along the Mississippi Great River Road October 19– 20. Refer to both the Event Calendar and individual announcements for more details on both events.

A final word on events. Please let me or any of our board members know what kind of events you would like to see us hold. This is your club and your input is what drives our event calendar.

Webmaster Wanted

With the departure of Jim Loseke, your Chapter is looking for an individual to serve as Webmaster for our part of the MBCA website. Experience with websites not needed, but a knowledge of Excel would be helpful. Please contact either Bernd Kampe or myself if you're interested.

Is your Membership Profile Current?

The implementation of a completely new membership database by MBCA National requires that all members update their membership profile to ensure that the new database is as accurate as possible. If you haven't already updated your membership information

you need to do so NOW. Read more about this change in the "Update your Membership Record" announcement elsewhere in this issue.

I close these remarks by thanking each and every one of you for being a member of the Wisconsin Chapter. It's our members who make this Chapter successful. I look forward to seeing all of you in person at an upcoming event.



Best regards,

Bruce Hamilton

bruce.hamilton@cpa.com

PS – don't forget to give us your 2024 event suggestions!

NEWSLETTER TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover	1	D-2-D Christy's Landing	5
Presidents Message	2	Recap	
Membership Benefits/ Membership Update	3	Starry Nights Recap	6
Board Meetings	3	Board Members Wanted	6
Contacts	3	Oktoberfest Car Show	7
Upcoming Events	4	Fall Color Tour Event	9
Gus' D-2-D Recap	4	Event Refund Policy	9
		Sponsors	8,10



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Subscription to "The Star", a bimonthly magazine published by Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Discounted price off a New Mercedes-Benz

Discounts on parts, service and accessories from participating Mercedes-Benz Dealerships

15% off parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

Expert technical advice to help you maintain, service, condition, restore and repair you Mercedes-Benz

And best of all, participation in the many events provided by your local Mercedes-Benz Club of America

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP RECORD

Recently MBCA made some major changes at the National level. Among them was the implementation of a completely new membership database. That new database requires that all members update their membership profile to ensure that the new database is as accurate as possible.

To update your membership profile, please go to www.mbca.org, log-in and then update your membership profile. You may have to re-register since membership details did not transfer from the old database to the new.

If you do not have access to the internet you need to call the National business office at (719) 633-6427 and ask Natasha to help you update your records. She is available Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Mountain Time.

If you go to voicemail, please leave a message; Natasha is very good about calling back, though it might take a day or two. She can then help you.

CLUB BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month. Meetings are held online using GoToMeeting. Attendees call in using a phone, tablet or computer.

We encourage participation from our members. If you wish to participate, and receive an invitation for a meeting, please contact Bruce Hamilton at bruce.hamilton@cpa.com or 608-754-6066.

Recommendations for new activities or comments on prior events are always welcome.



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Wisconsin Section Club Events 2024

Date	Event—Location	Host—Contact Information
September 29th	Oktoberfest in Germantown	Jan Miller- jandmiller4@att.net 262-352-8250
October 19-20th	Fall Color Tour	Bernd Kampe-- bkampe0@gmail.com ; 262-492-4441 (mobile)
December 8th	Christmas Party and Annual Meeting, Weissgerber's Golden Mast	

mbca.org/section/wisconsin

facebook.com/mbcawi

For the most current Events List visit our Website or Facebook Page

Gus's Drive-In Drive-to-Dine Saturday July 27, 2024 Recap

Thirty MBCA members and guests enjoyed great weather, good food and lots of Gemütlichkeit at our Drive-to-Dine at Gus's Drive-In in East Troy Saturday July 27th.

Members began gathering before 11:30 am, and were joined by folks from the Wisconsin Mercedes-Benz Facebook group. With introductions made amongst both groups, we admired each other's Mercedes, swapping stories and information. The mix of cars was a joy to see, ranging from a pair of AMG GT's to Todd & Terri's 34 year old diesel, found in a barn in Tennessee. Members drove from as far away as Seymour and Port Washington to enjoy the day. The conversations, fellowship and Gemütlichkeit continued well into the afternoon. What a great way to spend a sun-filled breezy Saturday!



Break in the Weather Drive-2-Dine Saturday June 8th Recap



CHRISTY'S LANDING
LOCATED ON LAKE WAUBESA

For the third year in a row, this event was held at Christy's Landing along the shores of Lake Waubesa this year. We had approximately twenty club members in attendance who brought their beloved Mercedes Benz cars out for everyone to enjoy and admire. This continues to be a very fun and casual gathering for our members to come together and talk cars and enjoy a good meal. The team at Christy's did an excellent job hosting us and delivered a memorable service and experience once again.



The only thing that continued to leave a lot to be desired was the weather itself. Mother nature has managed to disappoint us each and every year with rain, cool temps and high winds. Consequently we have been forced us to give up on the opportunity to be outside by the lake and have ended up dining indoors. The big joke among the club members was to rename the event to "Change in the weather" instead. We just don't seem to catch a break despite our efforts and high hopes for a nice, sunny calm day. We tried April the first year, May the second year, and June this year, but "No Dice".



Our thanks to all the members who were able to attend and for making this event another success.



“Starry Nights” Drive N’ Dine And Classic Car Show Recap

July 12--Sharon Lynne Wilson Center

It was a warm, beautiful night when we gathered to enjoy a potluck supper under the sunny blue sky. Everyone enjoyed all the beautiful cars on display. Some members put their cars in the show, but most come for the food, camaraderie and the entertainment. The Rockin’ Robins played all our favorite oldies songs.

As usual, the cars and music attracted a very large crowd. We certainly had a great time visiting with other club members. It truly was a night to put your top down on the convertible and take a summertime ride.

JoAnne Peterson/Nancy Pearson



WANTED – BOARD MEMBERS

The Wisconsin Chapter is seeking members who have an interest in serving on the Board of Directors. Three positions are open.

All three (3) positions are for regular three year board terms beginning in January 2025 and running through December 2027.

Board members meet once a month for between one and two hours to plan and direct Chapter activities and establish policies and procedures for Chapter 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 & events.

Board members DO NOT have to travel to attend board meetings; all meetings are conducted using the Chapter’s **GoToMeeting** web conferencing software.

Members who sit on the Board of Directors should be willing and able to:

- Attend a majority of monthly board meetings held throughout the year.
- Participate in periodic e-mail exchanges to achieve Board & Chapter objectives.
- Attend Chapter functions throughout the year.
- Be willing to host or co-host an event. An event can be as simple as hosting a Drive-2-Dine or as elaborate as planning and hosting a rallye.

Be a proactive and positive representative of MBCA and the Wisconsin Chapter

Serving on the board of directors is a great way to meet other members and increase your involvement in the Chapter. If you are interested in serving on the Board please contact either:

Secretary Dan Hellenberg at spatlese44@yahoo.com or

Bruce Hamilton at bruce.hamilton@cpa.com



OKTOBERFEST 2024



CAR SHOW!

Sunday September 29th, 2024

Dheinsville Historical Park

Registration 11:00 - Noon

Judging ends at 4:00

Categories:

- * Best Car**
- * Best Truck**
- * Best Hotrod / Other**
- * Best In Show**

Special Guest Showing:

The Mercedes Benz Club / Wisconsin Section

Registration is \$10 Cash

Register at show.

One FREE hotdog/brat and one FREE beer/Soda with every registration.



Updated— Fall Color Tour Oct 19-20, 2024

Join us on this fall color tour, Oct 19-20, exploring the many sights along WI Hwy 33 and the Great Mississippi River Road.

The starting point for our driving tour on Saturday will be the Log Cabin Restaurant located on Hwy 33 as you enter east Baraboo. Plan to arrive there between 10:00-11:00 AM to enjoy a late breakfast or lunch.

Depart on the fall color drive when you are ready, in small groups or single MB cars. This entire driving tour is self-guided and paced. Proceed west on Hwy 33 to Reedsburg. West of Reedsburg, is the most hilly and scenic part of Hwy 33, with over 10 miles of Amish farms located between Ontario to Cashton (see attached photos and info on driving this area). Drive at your own pace, stopping where you want, to see things of interest to you.

When you arrive in LaCrosse, Hwy 33 ends. You should explore sights in this area, esp driving up to the top of 500 feet elevation Grandad's Bluff Park, which offers incredible views for miles of LaCrosse and the Mississippi River. The Dahl Auto Museum on Hwy 35 near downtown LaCrosse is also interesting to see. It closes at 4:00 pm on Saturday. Allow at least half an hour to tour this museum.

Lodging and dinner in LaCrosse--

We have reserved a variety of 30 hotel rooms for \$149/double or single occupancy at the Gundersen Hotel & Suites (608-793-0200) under the "MBCA" name. Check in time starts after 3:00 pm. Recommend that you reserve a room soon if you are considering participating in this popular fall color driving tour. This is a peak fall color weekend in LaCrosse, so many area hotels are already booked.

We have requested 25 booklets on the WI Great River Road and the LaCrosse area from the LaCrosse visitors bureau be dropped off at the hotel for our members. We also have free use of a hotel meeting room for our group in the evening.

We have also made a group dinner reservation at 5:30 pm for up to 40 of our MBCA participants at the Freight House Restaurant in nearby downtown LaCrosse (www.freighthouserestaurant.com).

Sunday, you may want to continue your driving adventure by exploring the Great River Road on both WI Hwy 35 and MN Hwy 61 between LaCrosse, Lake Pepin and Red Wing. There is much to see and do along both of these scenic river roads. The total drive time is 3-4 hours. You may want to return to further explore more of this scenic area in future trips.

You can also drive about an hour south of LaCrosse on WI Hwy 35 to explore Prairie du Chien. Or just drive directly back home if you desire.

Send me an email or text msg if you are planning to join us on this Wisconsin Chapter, MBCA Fall Color Tour, Oct 19-20.

Bernd Kampe, bkampe0@gmail.com or 262-492-4441 (mobile)

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ySwia9hz4QovEtu26>

<https://explorelacrosse.com/highways-to-waterways/>

The Wisconsin Great River Road – An All American
<https://youtu.be/iHq5x5B55r0>



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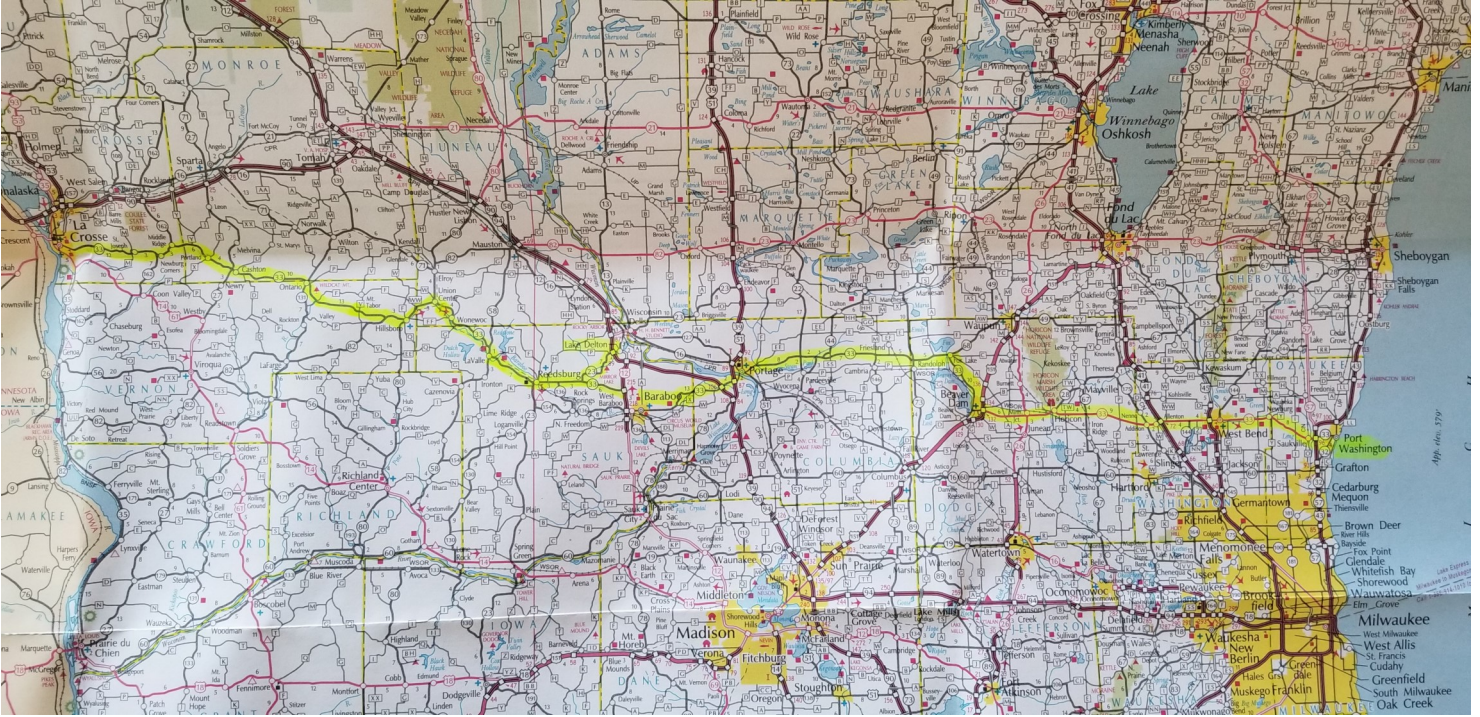
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Do you have club event photos, an event write up, a Journey article or advertisement (business or member for sale/to buy) for the next newsletter?

Please send information to Chad Winter, chad@crs-wi.com, (414) 303-9585 by July 15, 2024 to be considered for the October– November newsletter

Fall Color Tour Route



EVENT REFUND POLICY

For events which require advanced reservation and prepayment (Christmas Party, Valentine's D-2-D, Rallye, German-American Day and similar events) the following Event Refund Policy will apply.

Cancellations received before the reservation cut-off date will be eligible, at the request of the member, to a full refund. In the event the original payment was made using PayPal, the refund will be limited to the amount paid less the PayPal fees.

Cancellations made after the reservation cut-off date **will not** be eligible for a refund, regardless of the reason for the cancellation. This is because the Section is obligated to the event venue or the number of attendees reserved for the event.

All refunds will be made via a check mailed by the Section Treasurer to the member at their address of record as shown on the Membership Roster as maintained by the MBCA National office.

Policy adopted by the Board of Directors January 12, 2024

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