



The Bluegrass Star
A Publication of the
Bluegrass Stars Section
Mercedes-Benz Club
of America
March/April, 2009

NOTE: Saturday, April 11th - Convoy to Gerton Auto Sales in Mt. Vernon, Indiana! See Details Below!

Welcome!

We welcome new members to the Bluegrass Stars Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. Thank you **for joining or renewing** your membership. The success of any club depends on all members participating in the club's scheduled activities. Please make plans to attend as many events as possible. Your comments are important on how the club can improve in upcoming events.

Brian Bishop	Mt. Vernon, Indiana
Thomas W. Clark	Falls of Rough, KY
Chip Duncan	Louisville, KY
Hans Jurgen Hess	Radcliff, KY
Rod Maddux	Louisville, KY
Harry C. Stephenson	Prospect, KY
Caron Van Cleve	Mt. Vernon, IN

Science Fair Winners

MBCA-members Arthur Rupe and Larry Gettleman judged the two science fairs in Louisville March 14th for the MBCA-Bluegrass Section's Automotive Science Awards. The winners are as follows:

Louisville Regional Science Fairs: Joanna Tarullo, 8th Grade, St. Francis of Assisi School, "Does the Additive of Antioxidants Affect Biodiesel?" Teacher: Fred Whittaker. Category: Chemistry. Joanna won this award last year but she carried her project much further this year and was the best automotive project in our opinions.

duPont Manual High School Regional Science Fairs: Manpreet "Sahiba" Chopra, 10th grade, "A Comparison of the Effects of the Exhaust from Biodiesel and Diesel Fuels on Cytokines Secreted by Macrophage Cell Lines." Teacher: Bill Deines. Category: Medicine & Health.

Each winner was given a certificate of achievement, a check for \$100, and a letter saying that they would be invited to a forthcoming MBCA-BS meeting. Art and I thought that the Mercedes Night at the Bats on July 2nd would be a good time to invite them, their parents, and teachers, and for them to bring their science projects to show to our members.

President's Message

The Bluegrass Stars Section held a tech session at Autobahn Motors 1403 Hughes Avenue Louisville, KY., This is its new location. Club member Don McCoy, the owner of the shop with the support of several co-workers who volunteered their time, did a great job instructing the club members in the subject on preparing your car for summer and Spring Car Care. Snacks and coffee were provided, along with Rosie's Famous Chile. We had two special guests, MBCA Central Regional Director Ed Johnson and his wife Karen came from Nashville, Tennessee. Ed also brought door prizes to be given away during the drawing. In his talk to the club, Ed was happy to report that the Bluegrass Stars in Louisville came through again with 177 members, up from around 140 last year! We'll try

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to keep up the good work in 2009. Ed had also visited James Motors of Lexington, Kentucky, and signed up a new member for MBCA. Member Dana Ruthers of Lexington agreed to work with the dealership and to keep the recruitment and poster board updated. Nat presented Ed Johnson with the award-winning Dennis Adler book on the history of Mercedes-Benz, and gave Don McCoy a certificate of appreciation from the club, expressing its gratitude for the time and effort devoted to improving the club and recruiting new members.

TO GET YOUR BLUEGRASS STAR AND REMINDERS ONLINE, SEND US YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS

Also, take a look at the new website by Nancy Rece for up-to-date news:

http://www.mbca.org/bluegrass_stars

Calendar of Upcoming Events

The next scheduled event is April 11th, 2009. The Bluegrass Stars section will conduct a drive from two starting locations (New Albany and Corydon, Indiana), to Mt. Vernon, Indiana, to visit John Gerton Auto Sales (1024 E. 4th Street), an independent automobile dealer and Mercedes-Benz Club aficionado. John has agreed to host this event. Check out www.gertonautosales.com for more detailed information.

The Louisville contingent will meet at I-64 exit 123, at the corner of Spring and State Streets in New Albany, Indiana, to depart at 8 AM. We will take I-64 west approx. 18 miles to Corydon and stop at exit 105 to pick up the Elizabethtown / Radcliff contingent, which will meet us at 8:30 AM. We will all then convoy together 100 miles on I-64 west to exit 4 (Griffin). Take Route 69 south past New Harmony for ~17 miles to an intersection where route 69 takes a hard left turn. Continue straight for 2 more miles on Main St. to Courthouse Square. Turn left onto E. 4th Street (IN 62/69) for ¾ mile. Park in the McDonald's paved

lot across the street from Gerton Auto Sales at 1024 E. 4th Street. Total distance from New Albany to Mt. Vernon is ~140 miles.

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?city=Mt.+Vernon&state=IN&address=1024+E.+4th+Street>

We may make a side trip later to nearby historic New Harmony, Indiana, home of two 18th century utopian communities:

www.newharmony.biz

www.ulib.iupui.edu/kade/newharmony/home.html

The Cincinnati, 500, Gateway, Central Illinois, and Nashville Sections are invited. There will be 3 tech sessions on detailing, repair & maintenance, interior trim & soft tops, and a BBQ starting at 11 AM. **Reservations are a must.** Contact John and Jill Gerton at g5group@insightbb.com or (812) 838-2248.

Also, please contact Larry Gettleman at (502) 634-1461 to RSVP and let us know where you will join the convoy. Larry's cell phone on April 11th is (502) 727-7244.

Star Tech 2009 will be hosted by the Indianapolis 500 Section MBCA. www.startech2009.org
April 29-30 – National Board Committee Meeting
April 30 – President's Meeting
May 1 – National Board Meeting
May 2-3 – Star Tech 2009

July 2nd, 2009 – Mercedes-Benz Night at the Louisville Bats vs. Indianapolis Indians – We will rent a suite for the event this year. The MBCA Cincinnati and Indianapolis Sections are invited.

July 18th, 2009 – Keeneland Concours d'Elegance, Lexington, Kentucky. The featured car this year will be the Morgan. www.keenelandconcours.com

August 15th, 11:00AM – 1PM Lunch – Mercedes-Benz Club tours Huber's orchard and distillery. The cost is \$10 per person, for wine tasting and tour.



Two-time MBCA Science Fair award winner Joanna Tarullo with Arthur Rupe, MBCA Judge, posing with Joanna's project, "Does the Additive of Antioxidants Affect Biodiesel"?

Manpreet "Sahiba" Chopra, 10th grade with her exhibit, "A Comparison of the Effects of the Exhaust from Biodiesel and Diesel Fuels on Cytokines Secreted by Macrophage Cell Lines."
Teacher: Bill Deines.



Don Mc Coy given a book and a certificate of Appreciation by Nat Williams. Don has contributed much to improving the club and recruiting new members.



A decent crowd was in attendance as Don described proper practices on both old and new Benzes for “spring maintenance”-actually, there was good advice for all vehicles.

Ed Johnson said that he has been pleased with the increase in Bluegrass membership, and he specifically thanked Nat and Larry for their efforts.



The rarely seen Seth Burr, rarely seen in this newsletter because he is behind the camera taking photos for it at MBCA events!



Technical Manuals

MBUSA has a number of technical manuals, wiring diagrams, owner's manuals, and other technical information available for owners. CD-ROMs or technical manuals for your car (up to model year 1998) can be ordered from MBUSA at (800) 367-6372.

Discounted Parts

If you wish to purchase Mercedes-Benz parts, the dealerships and shops listed have agreed to reduce by ten percent (10%) the total price of parts purchased by a Mercedes-Benz Club member with a current MBCA membership card. Your Editor has already more than saved his first year membership by taking advantage of these types of discounts. Restrictions apply; call for details.

Discounts are available at:

TAFEL MOTORS

4156 Shelbyville Road (St. Matthews)
Louisville, KY 40207
(502) 896-4411

AUTOBAHN MOTORS LLC

1403 Hugh Avenue
Louisville, KY 40213
(502) 473-7858
(See Don)

www.autobahnmotorsky.com

JAMES MOTOR COMPANY

2440 Richmond Road
Lexington, KY 40502-1301
(859) 268-1150

The Trading Post: Cars, Parts, and Accessories

If you have a Mercedes-Benz or significant M-B part that you would like to buy, sell, or trade, just submit your ad to the Editor, *The Bluegrass Star*. All ads must follow the submission rules and the suggested format as found in the back of *The Star* magazine.

For Sale

Four 14" Bundt alloy wheels, nearly new, \$50 each.
Half-shafts for rear suspension R107, W115, W123 & others, used, \$100 each (price lowered).
Contact Larry Gettleman (see Section Officers).

Four wheels, 8x16in, with tires; fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$125each.

Four door pull closer handles: fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$50 each.

Grille, fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$225.

W220 Tail lamp Assembly, fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$125.

Cup holder ,center armrest (leather), fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$150.

Four-piece air vent for dash of 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$225. *Nat Williams (see Section Officers)*

Note: These ads in the Bluegrass Star are also available on the Web on the MBCA website. Members from other clubs read our newsletters, and some items have been sold due to the extra exposure!

MBCA Membership Drive

There have never been as many Mercedes vehicles on the road as there are today, and the sales figures for new Mercedes vehicles are up according to MBUSA. This implies that there are also many new potential MBCA members. MBCA has initiated a membership drive, in which current members can get one month of membership free for every new member enlisted via their referral! Forms and information are at the mbca.org website; if you are Internet-challenged, contact the editor (see officers) and we will send you some forms, or call the MBCA at **800-637-2360**.

Section Officers

You can contact the Section Officers by snail-mail, phone, or email.

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