



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

Next Event: Tech Session – Tafel Motors - Saturday, October 24th, 2009 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM!

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.

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| George Moore | Louisville, KY |
| Andrew Brown | Lexington, KY |
| Christopher Olinger | Huntingburg, IN |
| Robert James Peterson | Hopkinsville, KY |
| William M. Pillischafske | Louisville, KY |
| Timothy Acord | Louisville, KY |
| Charles R. Butler III | Louisville, KY |
| Mark D. Imel | Evansville, IN |

President's Message

**Outing at Huber Farm and Winery
Saturday, August 15th, 2009
Borden, Indiana**

The Bluegrass Stars Section couldn't have picked a better day to travel the wandering and scenic country roads to Joe Huber Family Farm and Restaurant. We had lunch at 12 Noon and at 1:30 PM, formed up in the restaurant parking lot and convoyed to the Starlight Distillery at Huber Orchard and Winery. After the 2 PM

guided tour, we visited the loft where each member could partake in a complimentary sampling of up to six of Huber's famous wines. The tour would not have been complete without sampling the delicious home made ice cream at the parlor, also located at the winery (see attached photos). We had many members making their first appearance at this club event as well as many guests from out of town. Most of all, the weather was superb, the food was good, and the wines were out of this world! We had a great time!

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

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

http://www.mbca.org/bluegrass_stars

Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Tech Session – Tafel Motors
Saturday, October 24th, 2009
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM!**

Our most talked about event of the year is the Tech Session and snacks at our regional dealer, Tafel Motors of Louisville, KY. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 24th, 2009, 10 AM – 2 PM. The Bluegrass Stars Section members, joined by the Cincinnati Section members, will invite several special guests and friends to join us at Tafel Motors service shop area for a tech session

The Bluegrass Star, September/October, 2009

and snacks. B.J. Smith, the shop foreman and assistant service manager will again be the primary instructor. If you would like your Mercedes-Benz to go up on the lift to check out an existing problem, please contact Nat Williams (phone number and e-mail address are listed in the Section Officers list at the end of this newsletter. Due to the limited time available for the tech session, service time is first come, first served. Bring concerns and questions to ask the instructor or his assistants about your vehicle. Snacks, including a meat and vegetable tray, and (we hope) Rosie's Famous Chili, will be provided by Bluegrass Stars Section Members.

Details on the Tech Session at Tafel Motors are as follows:

Place: Tafel Motors/Service & Shop Area
Address: 4156 Shelbyville Road (St. Matthews) Louisville, KY 40207
Telephone: (502) 896-4411
Time: Tech session & Snacks 10 AM – 2 PM
Date: Saturday, October 24th 2009

Holiday Party 2009

Our annual holiday dinner will be on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at

Erika's German Restaurant
9301 Hurstbourne Park Blvd.
Louisville, Kentucky
(502) 499-8822
7:30 – 9:30 PM

Holiday Party Menu

Jungschweinebraten: (tender pork roast with garlic and spices)
Jagerschnitzel: (tender breaded pork loin in a creamy mushroom sauce)
Wiener schnitzel: (pork loin breaded with fresh lemon),
Bratwurst plate: (three German bratwurst with potato salad and sauerkraut)
Sauerkraut with dinner salad and German bread

Side dishes: spatzel, German potato salad
Dessert: chocolate mousse cake, drinks, coffee, tea and soft drink Cash bar also available

Members of the Bluegrass Stars Section, family, friends and guests are invited. Cincinnati and other Section members and guests are also invited. The cost is \$15 per person. **Payment should be made prior to November 25, 2009.** The Bluegrass Stars Section subsidizes this event (the actual price is \$26.00 per person). Your check payable to the Bluegrass Stars Section, MBCA will serve as your RSVP. Please mail your check to the club treasurer, at the following address:

Larry Gettleman
1461 South 4th Street
Louisville, KY 40208-2118
Tel: (502) 634-1461
E-mail: gettleman@louisville.edu

The Holiday dinner at Erika's German Restaurant, provides MBCA members with a great opportunity to get together for a fun-filled night of camaraderie with fellow club members, new members, and members of other Mercedes-Benz Clubs. This is definitely an event to attend.

Directions

Drivers should note that the Hurstbourne Park Blvd. is a short street just off S. Hurstbourne Parkway and can be a bit difficult to find. If you are driving east on I-64, take the local access ramp at S. Hurstbourne Parkway, exit No 15B, not exit No. 15A, the main ramp for southbound Hurstbourne Parkway, or you'll miss Erika's. Watch for Erika's on the right before you reach the traffic light. If you are driving west on I-64, turn left on S. Hurstbourne Parkway and look for Erika's on the right.



Some photos from the Huber farm and winery.

As usual, there was plenty of conversation between bites...



No word on whether or not there were actually 99 barrels (not that it would matter – it wasn't beer).

Photo Credits: Nathaniel Williams, Seth Burr

W107 "Brightwork" Part II

Removing Brightwork for Replacement or Painting

The proper way to remove many of the pieces of brightwork on a 107 is inobvious, and very difficult to do in many cases without damage to the part or the finish underneath. The MB shop manual is STRONGLY recommended in order to do these tasks successfully. I have found vinyl wedges – not the junk you find at a parts store, but equivalents to the MB tools, found in a professional body shop – to be invaluable in interior and brightwork removal. You do not want to damage either the part or what is underneath it.

New Vs Refinished

Most, but not all brightwork parts on the 107 are still available. Many parts can be rechromed. I've found that you can find platers with fast, good, and inexpensive qualities – but you will rarely find more than one of those qualities in the same company! If you are in a smaller city, you will have to send your parts out, and generally, they will quote only upon examination of the part. My advice is to insure all shipments, and Google the company to make sure that they have a good reputation and has been in business for some time. You do not want your (potentially irreplaceable) parts to disappear! Check to see how long you will be without your parts –sometimes this can stretch to months. I have actually purchased cores with poor plating so that I can drive while getting parts plated. Then I have the other parts plated as spares to keep or sell.

Don't Forget Body Seals

When you remove certain pieces of chrome or brightwork (door handles, trunk lid, license plate light assembly), you will find hard plastic body seals underneath. These are not expensive at the dealer, and will be the finishing touch to your restoration.

2009 MBCA Loyalty Reward Program-EXPANDED

As of August 1, 2009, club members in good standing of 12 months or more, who purchase a new AMG vehicle, are eligible for a \$1,500 Loyalty Reward card. The expansion of the program from other Mercedes-Benz models will apply to AMG vehicles purchased after August 1, 2009 from an authorized U.S. Mercedes-Benz dealer.

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.

Roadside Service

Mercedes-Benz USA offers free roadside service for the life of the vehicle. This applies to any Mercedes, new or old. 1st owner or 5th owner, no matter about the mileage of the car.

Call 800-FOR-MERC-367, you'll need to be with the vehicle to give location and vehicle identification number.

Roadside assistance includes:

- -Flat tire change
- -Jump start battery
- Vehicle battery replacement (Customer pays for battery)
- Out-of-fuel service

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**.

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.

WANTED:

1971 280SL Roadster, manual transmission, unrestored (except paint), any upholstery, wood. Convertible OK, no rust. Will pay \$1000 finder's fee. Contact Jan Bordewick (541) 999-9999.

New: 1979 450SL. Silver/Blue interior and top, high mileage. This is a project car, 90% completed. Runs, Looks and Rides GREAT. Medical situation forces sale. \$5000. Larry Krissinger (270) 319-9118 (lkrissinger@live.com).

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; \$125 each.

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, with increased exposure!

Section Officers

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

President:

Nat Williams
1123 Sherwood Drive
Radcliff, KY 40160-1154
Phone: (270) 352-5410
natw4889@msn.com

Treasurer & Membership Chair:

Larry Gettleman
1461 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40208-2118
Phone: (502) 634-1461
gettleman@louisville.edu

Editor:

Steve J. Loboyko
528 Lanarkshire Pl.
Lexington KY 40509
Phone: (859) 232-5173
560mbsl@gmail.com