



Finger Lakes Section

TRI-STAR

Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.

Fairport, NY Volume 3 Number 1 April/May/June 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 2ND QUARTER, 2014

When we decided to relocate to the Rochester/Finger Lakes area in early 2000 we noticed how few Mercedes-Benz we saw on the road. This past year – what a change! Lots of Mercedes were noticed. Is it smart people buying a prestigious, beautifully designed and built car? Is it the new dealership selling 30 cars a month, previously owned or new, from their Henrietta location? Could it be the camaraderie of belonging to FLMBCA? Maybe a bit of all of the above. We leave membership applications on the doors or windows of M-Bs we see in parking lots of the stores we visit in hopes that we might interest a potential member to join. Our membership has increased over 20% and it would be great to keep that percentage growing. If you need a few applications to attract those new owners, who might just live up the street from you, we'll be glad to send them to you. Don't forget to add your name or membership number to each of those applications – you'll earn an extra month of membership if they join.

The Sonnenberg Car Show in Canandaigua on Father's Day in June is a perfect way to show off your Mercedes be it old or new, meet new friends, share stories and enjoy the companionship that we have had with members for more than 25 years. We'll be picnicking with the Niagara Section in a special M-B area. It's a low key show with lots of other attractions included for the modest entry fee. And mark your calendars for the July 20th FLMBCA annual picnic and new member welcome (joined between 7/13 and 7/14) in Scottsville. Parking your sparkling car on the lawn may get you one of the prizes. There's food and drink, swimming, lawn games, wooded hiking paths, lots of unheated discussions and more prizes for all sorts of reasons.

Not long to wait now for roads without snow and salt, a little longer for no mud but I feel our diesel and his driver getting ready for some Spring workouts. Hmmmmm, maybe a convertible would be nice.

Hope to meet more of you at events this year.....

Bob

Welcome New Members, First Quarter 2014

Kevin Nicholas, Liverpool, NY

Robert Jacobson, Fairport, NY – 2014 S63 AMG

**Finger Lakes Section
Mercedes-Benz Club
of America, Inc.**

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Please send address changes to the National Business Office. 800-637-2360

FINGER LAKES SECTION - MBCA

UPCOMING EVENTS SCHEDULE 2014

APRIL 13th - Opening Day at Watkins Glen International Race Track.

APRIL 23rd to 27th - "SPRING CARLISLE", Carlisle PA Fairgrounds. Collector and classic car swap (buy/sell/trade), car corral, auction and lots more. Biggest on the East Coast.

MAY 4th - Tour of the George Eastman House and Gardens, East Ave., Rochester. If we have a sufficient number attending (more than 10) we will have a private tour of the photography galleries at 1:PM followed by the public tour of the house at 2:PM. Sign-ups will be necessary and admission will be \$10.pp. Check the website for the current exhibits included in this fascinating historic home and museum. eastmanhouse.org. More information will be made available next month.

Start of the car show season. Listing of area shows will be available.

JUNE 15th - Sonnenberg Gardens Annual Father's Day Car Show, Canandaigua. Let's get a group of FLMBCA members together to show as a group and share a picnic. Check out their website, sonnenberggardens.org. Sign up (cheaper if you pay your entry fee on line) then let Bob know you're in and we'll request a Mercedes only corral for FLMBCA. Lots of activities for the entire family are featured.

JULY 20th - Annual picnic at Red Kozinski's, Scottsville. 1:PM till ? Bring a salad or dessert, the club will supply all the rest. Wash your car, park it on the lawn for an impromptu car show, lawn games, swimming, hiking in the woods – you might win a prize for any of these activities.

AUGUST - TBD. Need ideas. Who has a favorite weekend day or evening drive that they'd like to lead?

SEPTEMBER -TBD. See above. Anyone up for plotting a rally?

OCTOBER 24th, 25th - FLMBCA and the Hudson-Mohawk Section are jointly sponsoring a 2 day Finger Lakes gathering for all members. Winery tours (by bus), a rally, social hour, dinner, breakfast, prizes and more. Headquartered at the Ramada Hotel in Geneva. Details to follow as we continue planning.

NOVEMBER - Annual meeting and luncheon

DECEMBER - Put the Mercedes away for the winter – no meeting.



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For Sale: 1995 E320 Cabriolet. Brilliant Emerald Green over Beige leather. Concours ready. New engine wiring harness, no head gasket leaks, harmonic balance replaced. Pictures available. 123K miles. Purchased in Vero Beach, FL with 90k miles. Make offer.

Roy O. Kuck (716) 549-1590 rojk67@msn.com

Do you have something to sell or something you want?

E-Mail Vickie at vpatriidge@netzero.com.



FLMBCA Annual Winter BAR-B-QUE February 23RD, 2014

Visiting malls has never been on my bucket list but I'm going back to Destiny USA in Syracuse, site of our 2014 annual bar-b-que at Toby Keith's "I Love This Bar and Grill". When I return it will be on a weekday so I can find a parking space within strolling, not hiking, distance to the closest entrance of this gigantic shopping/eating/amusement filled emporium.

I knew many of the restaurants and all the entertainment venues were on the third level in the newest addition to the former Carousel Mall. Two long escalators discharged Bob and me right in front of our restaurant where we met up with members Bob and Kathy Harradine, Don and Betsy Klug, Beulah Jackson with grandson Ray, Noal White and his irresistible 6 year old son Joshua. We were joined by Mel and Alice Dillon at our table after Mel had completed practicing his Glen skills on the amazing and impressive go cart track just around the corner from the restaurant. Note: he had his own helmet.

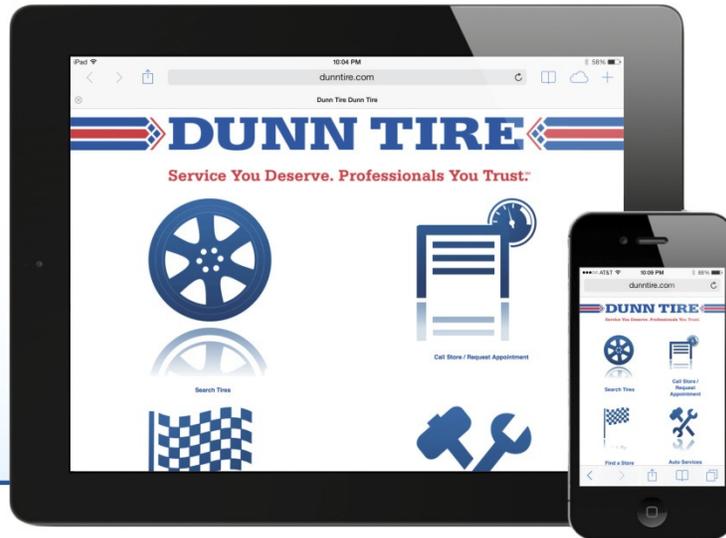
The bar is huge surrounded by TV and video screens with sports of every sort (it was Daytona weekend), and country entertainers. No band, we were glad to note as the restaurant filled up quickly. A large selection of beers and cocktails were offered. The menu offered a wide choice, small plates, sandwiches, salads, burgers, full dinners and bar-b-que items (Bob gave his ribs A+). The wait staff were friendly and helpful, dressed in cutoff shorts and tank tops that were more modest than what I had heard from friends who had visited the Las Vegas location of this chain. Whew!!

Lots of talk at our long table – it's amazing what you can learn from a group of Mercedes enthusiasts, and not just about cars. We bid farewell to friends returning home, off to shop the mall or, like Bob, Don, Betsy and me, to watch the go-carts. Very interesting – easy to see who knows what they're doing and who are the real novices on the track. Maybe we'll go back and give it a try..... or maybe we'll just explore the multitude of shops.

Don had e-mailed a notice to our Syracuse area members (including the Southern Tier) to remind them of our bar-b-que date and location and I'm sorry not more of those members joined us. We try to vary our gatherings to please members from every area we cover in our Section. We need feedback and suggestions and help in planning events to interest everyone.

Judy Handzo

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Newsletter to be available via e-mail to member

On Tuesday, February 18th 2014, a meeting with Executive Board members President Bob Handzo, Secretary/Treasurer Judy Handzo, Internet Coordinator Dave Kliment, Newsletter Editor Vickie Patridge and guest John Lamb was held in Victor to discuss having the FLMBCA newsletter available to all members via e-mail. There are approximately 10% of our members who do not have internet access and they would continue to receive a printed copy via USPS as well as any member requesting a hard copy, new members in their welcome package and our sponsor contacts.

Vickie will continue to design and print the newsletter in color on Word, send to Judy for any corrections or additions, before sending to Dave who will add a masthead, prepare the letter for e-mailing and distribution. Switching to this method of issuing the quarterly newsletter will save us printing and postage costs and enable us not only to switch to color photographs but to sharpen those images and to offer our current and future sponsors color in their advertisements. For the first time the newsletter will be available on our website and Facebook page for anyone interested in Mercedes or the Finger Lakes Section.

We will continue to offer full page, half page and quarter page advertising space. Mercedes-Benz of Rochester will continue to be our prime sponsor with a full page.

We will debut the “new” newsletter with the second quarter edition and will be looking for feedback from members and other readers. As always, we solicit member articles, photos, classified ads and ideas to help us to improve “TRI-STAR”.

NEED YOUR HELP!

Every May I make available a dated list of as many of the FLMBCA Section areas' car shows that I either know about or can find on other car club or sponsor sites. I know I'm missing many of them and I need your help in letting me know of any shows you attend or know about that I can add to this list. We all enjoy looking at what other people are driving even if we're not standing next to our prized M-B with a dust cloth in hand and it's good family entertainment too. I'll mail the finished list to you if you prefer otherwise it will available on our website: fingerlakesmbca.org.

Appreciate your input. Judy Handzo, 585-367-2815/handzo912@frontiernet.net.



This message is being sent to all MBCA Section Presidents

March 25, 2014

Hello. As President of the Cincinnati Section, I would like to personally invite you to join us for **StarTech 2015** on **June 12-14, 2015!**

We are an easy drive for many of you, but if you prefer to fly, our hotel (DoubleTree Cincinnati Airport) is so close that you don't even need to rent a car. We're planning a fun **Welcome Party** on Friday evening, a day of fully interactive and live-streamed **seminars**, a **Saturday Night Soiree** and an **Ask the Experts** panel discussion on Sunday morning.

We will have plenty of ancillary events for spouses and kids. Most fun of all -- we're partnering with the regional **Arthritis Foundation Concours d'Elegance** at Ault Park, which will have Mercedes-Benz as their featured marque for 2015. Our members will have the opportunity to apply to enter their cars in the Concours, or simply park in our expanded corral and enjoy attending the show.

Cincinnati has a long and illustrious **German heritage**, and we look forward to sharing it with everyone. It would be my great joy to welcome each of you, and I hope that you'll share my invitation with your members. The official StarTech 2015 website (www.StarTech.MBCA.org) *is not live yet* but will be soon (look for a separate announcement). Keep this link for your reference and for sharing with your members. You can follow us on **now** on facebook @ [facebook.com/MBCAStarTech 2015](https://www.facebook.com/MBCAStarTech2015).

Please let me know if I can answer any questions for you. We look forward to welcoming you to StarTech 2015!

Most sincerely,

Pam

Pamela Zelman
President
MBCA Cincinnati Section

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Invitation from Niagara Section MBCA

From time to time, individual section members develop an activity that is not scheduled as a club event. These activities are often of interest to other members when made known. The following is one such activity that has been planned by Art Bourget, an active member of the MBCA Niagara Section:

A museum tour and pleasure drive event has been scheduled April 11 - 13 to visit the Studebaker and the Auburn Cord-Duesenberg Museums in Indiana. The vision of these museums provides a view of the development of automobiles from the infancy of motoring innovation from their beginnings, through the early 1950's. Classics and auto's purchased as daily drivers are all on display. Please go to our website, <http://www.mbca.org/niagara> for additional information.

This activity is "pay as you go, on your own" and is not subsidized in any way by the Niagara Section.

Bill Fix, President, Niagara Section

Quick Links

[Thompson Speedway](#)

[Motorsports Park](#)

[Minuteman Section Website](#)

Interested in participating in the Autocross event?

Email John at 560sec@charter.net



Date: May 24, 2014

Place: The Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park | Thompson CT

Dear MBCA Member: The Minuteman Section is planning an Autocross for May 24, 2014 at The Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park.

What is an Autocross? An Autocross is run using rubber cones to lay out a course with the participants timed on each run. Speeds are usually less than 40 mph. This is a great way to use the safety and handling features of your Mercedes Benz. It will make you a better driver, it's a lot of fun, and the only thing to hit are rubber cones.

Modern Sporting Facility

Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, located just 50 minutes from Boston and 30 minutes from Providence and Worcester is the oldest Closed road Course in the country. Having undergone a major renovation during 2013 it has all the amenities of a modern sporting facility. For the golfers there is an 18 hole Championship Course on site and we can arrange Tee Times for the afternoon after the mornings Autocross.

Early Interest Registration Requested

Please email me at 560sec@charter.net if you are interested, I need 20 entrants to make this work, more is always better. The cost would be \$75.00 per person for the Autocross. Golf is extra.

Thanks, **John S Piekarczyk**

President Mercedes Benz Club America, Minuteman Section

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Clayton Antique Boat Museum

Left to right: John Fowler, Ginny Fowler, Judy Handzo, Bob Handzo, Don Klug, Rena Doud. Missing are Menzer Doud (he took the pic) and Betsy Klug (Not shown). Taken at the Clayton Antique Boat Museum from our 2013 1000 Islands autumn weekend tour.



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Tech talk and website forum with George Murphy, link on-line thru Star.

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