



Finger Lakes Section

TRI-STAR

Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.

Fairport, NY Volume 3 Number 4 October/November/December 2014

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 4TH QUARTER 2014

The latest issue of *THE STAR* featured a four page guide on "How to Purchase a Classic Mercedes-Benz". And this reminded me of several e-mails I've received from members and non-members for advice on selling their Mercedes. I've advised them to use our Classified Column to help determine collectability and fair value. Most recently, I've conversed with Jonathan Gates from Nunda, NY in his quest to sell his Father's 1967 250S. Photographs are available. Check the Classifieds for more information. Do you have an automobile (doesn't have to be a Mercedes) for sale or are you looking for a particular model? Put an ad in the Classified Column. In fact, if you have a vacation house you'd like to sell, rent or purchase use this conduit to get the message out. How 'bout a boat, snowmobile, household treasures or model car collection, it will sure to be viewed by the 121 members of the FLMBCA.

The August tour of Elmira focusing on Mark Twain history with lunch at the popular Red Newt Winery and the Saturday, September 27th cruise on Canandaigua Lake were great ideas, planned by and carried out by members and enjoyed by all who attended. However, we need more attendees for all our events. Members have commented that cars aren't the only thing that bring us together but it's the people they meet – it's your club- help us grow – plan to attend a gathering.

Don't forget that November 16th is our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers at Belhurst in Geneva, NY. Awards and kudos will be handed out and plans for 2015 will be discussed. Reservations are required for the luncheon. Hope to see you there!

Bob

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS, FOURTH QUARTER 2014

Robert Falcone, Baldwinsville, NY
Simon Pontin, Shortsville, NY
Charles and Irene Searles, Pittsford, NY- '13 GL350 Blue Tec, '13 C300,
'89 560SL
Dan Goodman, Horseheads, NY – SLK230
James Halpin, Odessa, NY
John Mezzalingua, Skaneateles, NY
William Terwilliger, Durhamville, NY

FINGER LAKES SECTION - MBCA
UPCOMING EVENTS SCHEDULE 2014



OCTOBER 24TH, 25TH, 26TH – Hud-Mo and Finger Lakes Sections host the Fall Rally and Winery Tour weekend. Headquartered at the Ramada Hotel in Geneva. See additional information in this newsletter.

NOVEMBER 16TH – Annual Meeting and Election of Officers at Belhurst, in Geneva, 1:30PM. Reservations for the club hosted luncheon will be necessary . See additional information in this newsletter.

DECEMBER- No meeting. Enjoy the winter holidays. Your Mercedes needs a winter vacation in Florida or possibly Arizona.

JANUARY 2015 – No meeting.

FEBRUARY 2015 – Annual winter Bar-B-Que. In Rochester this year.

MARCH 2015 – Need some new ideas – send us your suggestions, something indoors please.

THANK YOU

Greetings from your local FLMB Section. I hope this message finds you well. I've come to the conclusion that I don't thank you for your membership and support as often as I should. It's easy to get so wrapped up in the day-to-day, that common courtesies like a simple "thank you" can sometimes be forgotten. So I wanted to write you today and personally thank you for being a member of this Club. Because of your loyalty and support, our Section is able to produce and deliver a Section Newsletter; host fun and unique Section Events; and bring you the latest technical, maintenance and general driving information about your Mercedes-Benz vehicle. You truly make our volunteer efforts worthwhile and for that, we thank you.

Before leaving you to conquer your day (recent membership survey statistics remind us that 60% of you currently work full- or part-time), I want to take a moment to remind you of just a few of the benefits your MBCA membership entitles you to:

\$500 off the best negotiated price of a NEW Mercedes-Benz

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

15% off parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

\$500 off the best negotiated price of a NEW Airstream Interstate® or Autobahn® luxury touring coach

45% off plus FREE ground shipping on car, boat, furniture covers and more from EmpireCovers.com

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

Defensive driving classes, performance driving courses and technical seminars for every level of driver — beginner to advanced

- **"Safe Drivers, Safe Families" driver education** for teens and novice drivers taught by experienced members of MBCA's Educational Foundation
- **Online and on-call resources for enthusiasts** — from a comprehensive listing of Mercedes-Benz book authors to a directory of pre- and post-war brand experts available to assist you at mbca.org

With Thanks,

[Lisa Juhl the National Marketing Manager](#)

On behalf of MBCA's Finger Lakes Section



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CLASSIFIEDS:



For Sale by Owner:

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 roj67@msn.com

FOR SALE: 1967 250S. Has been in the same family since new. Recently driven and suspect valve wear. Some rust. Interior in good condition. Owner unable to provide time and mechanical interest in restoration. A fair price is requested. Pictures and further details are available. Jonathan Gates, Nunda. C:412-513-6524 or wanso@frontiernet.net.

Do you have something to sell or something you want?
E-Mail Vickie at vpatriidge@netzero.com.

ANNUAL PICNIC AND NEW MEMBER WELCOME, SUNDAY, July 20th, 2014

The annual picnic has always been our favorite FLMBCA gathering. Sure, there's lots of planning, shopping, setting-up and worrying over the details but the resulting fun and comraderie is all worth it. This year, our proverbial "host with the most", Red Kosinski, had a huge prime rib roasting on the rotisserie of his unique hand-made grill. Bah! –on plebian hamburgers! Although all the hot dogs



Finger Lakes Section signage!



Red hosting the picnic!

and brats had disappeared by the end of the day they were certainly 2nd choice. Salad selections were limited but dessert choices were overwhelming this year. Really, what more could one want but a big slice of tender prime rib, perhaps a glass of wine, followed by a big wedge of heavenly chocolate mousse cake – real picnic fare!

But eating is only half of the fun. Although the day began with a few sprinkles by the time everyone arrived and the M-Bs were lined up on the grass for our casual “people’s choice” car show, the sun was shining and the temp was perfect. A very hard choice for first place. Just like the Sonnenberg Car Show a month earlier, the convertibles ruled. It was definitely a top down afternoon. The ballots



Three versions of Mercedes!

were counted by our accountant, Betsy Klug, and the results were overwhelming for first place to Doug and Bea Archer, new members from Pennsylvania, for their gorgeous new bright red SL550. Truly eye candy, just the kind the State Troopers love. Larry and Jan Driscoll, also new members, took second place with their 1993 300CE Cabriolet in champagne – an elegant machine. Third place went to Don and Betsy Klug with their “spoiled” ruby red CLK320. I say “spoiled” because Don dotes on this car almost as much as his new grandson. Betsy knows who comes first, however. The only

sedan in the lot was Noal White's green E320. Carl Prouty, another new member, brought his shiny, tiny white Smart and the remaining superlative garage queens were all ragtops.



The line up!

Suitable prizes were awarded to the car show winners and to the newest members (the Driscolls), the longest membership (Red) and the longest distance driven to the picnic (the Archers). Most of the prizes were donated by West Herr's Mercedes-Benz of Rochester who have been very generous to the Section.

We honor our newest members, one year or less counting from July 1, 2013, at the picnic. Seven attended this year and made off with a majority of the goodies - as it should be. But they also made new friends, learned about our Section offerings and certainly seemed to have enjoyed themselves.

A huge "thank you" to Red for turning over his home to us once again and providing the ultimate picnic food and to all of those who donated edible goodies and gave up their Sunday afternoon to join the fun of belonging to a group that understands the love of a single marque.



Bill Clune always drives something different to the picnic. This year it was a new electric Cadillac.

(In the background is Bob Handzo's 350 – that's Ford, not Mercedes!)



FINGER LAKES SECTION, MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA
Annual Meeting-Sunday, November 16th 2014 at 1:30PM, Belhurst,
Geneva, NY

The election of Officers for 2015 will be held.

The slate is: President.....Bob Handzo
Vice-President.....Don Klug
Secretary/Treasurer.....Judy Handzo

In addition to the presented slate nominations for any position can be made from the floor as long as the nominee has agreed and is present for voting. MBCA Member or Associate Member status is required to vote.

Planning for 2015 monthly activities will be discussed. Member participation is sought and suggestions encouraged.

Mercedes-Benz membership anniversary pins, in 5 year increments, will be awarded to those members having 10 years, or more, of continued membership.

The Club will host luncheon following the meeting. The menu will be e-mailed in late October with menu choices. Reservations are necessary one week prior to 11/16.



2014 FALL RALLY AND WINERY TOUR WEEKEND

OCTOBER 24, 25, 26 GENEVA, NEW YORK

HOSTED BY HUDSON-MOHAWK AND FINGER LAKES MBCA

Friday, October 24th gather with the group at our weekend headquarters, the Geneva Ramada Lakefront Hotel, 41 Lakefront Dr. (Routes 5 & 20) at 6:PM for a Meet and Greet with hot and cold appetizers and a cash bar.

After breakfast on Saturday the rally begins at 9:AM from the hotel and concludes at approximately 11:30. Box lunches will be distributed at noon and you may eat at the hotel or on the tour bus which will leave at 12:30 for a Seneca Lake winery tour. We will stop at four excellent wineries for tastings and purchases. Return to the hotel at 5:PM for some relaxation with your new friends and freshen up for the 3 course dinner and light-hearted rally awards at 6:30.

On Sunday morning Hud-Mo will host an expedition to the Waterloo Premium Outlets after breakfast.

COST: \$150. per car (\$75. for each additional person over two). Includes Friday night's gathering, Saturday's rally, box lunch, winery tour (but not tasting fees), dinner and awards. To register contact Ron Tanner at 518-822-1664 or exqqme06@yahoo.com. Deadline is Friday, October 16.

Ramada room charges are not included and you must make your own reservation. A limited number of rooms have been blocked for MBCA with the special rate of \$150 inside and \$160 lakeside per night for double occupancy. Call 315-789-0400 for reservations.

Join us! This weekend promises to be another wonderful Mercedes event in the lovely Finger Lakes region of our state.



MARK TWAIN COUNTRY TOUR, AUGUST 23RD, 2014

Passing the exits for Elmira on Route 86/17 traveling back to NJ or PA we never realized what a historic and beautiful city was hidden from us. I'd always wanted to visit Mark Twain's study but time never allowed a tourist stop. So when Sally McFarland offered to plan a visit to Mark Twain country for the club to enjoy, I jumped on it. Not only did I get to visit the study, but the trolley tour we took gave us a complete look at the history of Elmira and its beautiful 19th century buildings and sites. The Twain study is on the grounds of Elmira College (originally on the property of Crane Farm which belonged to Twain's wife's sister and her husband and where The Twains summered every year) is kept as close as possible to the original condition. I was surprised at the comforts – large desk for writing, surrounding windows that opened and disappeared into the roof, a fireplace for warmth if necessary and entry ports for the house cats to visit. It was indeed a place to let thoughts and words flow away from family matters. Cowles Hall, the first building on the campus is adjacent to the study and features Twain family history and memorabilia. Next on our tour was a viewing of Woodlawn Cemetery where Twain and his family are interred in a mausoleum built into one of the many hills. Included in this cemetery are hundreds of graves of both Confederate and Union soldiers who died at "Helmira", the notorious Civil War Prison Camp located along the banks of the Chemung River. It's quite a moving site. Elmira has the distinction of having the largest concentration of Victorian homes in New York State and we continued our tour by visiting several Historic Districts with gorgeous Victorian homes in the various styles of the period. We enjoyed the trolley tour.

Our Mercedes then took us to Hector on the East side of Seneca Lake for lunch at the Red Newt Winery and Bistro. One of the Finger Lakes best wineries, they are also promoters of serving locally sourced foods. We all found happiness in our food choices and in the wonderful Riesling, not to mention the company.

Many thanks to Sally McFarland who planned our adventure from start to finish.



Mark Twain's Study



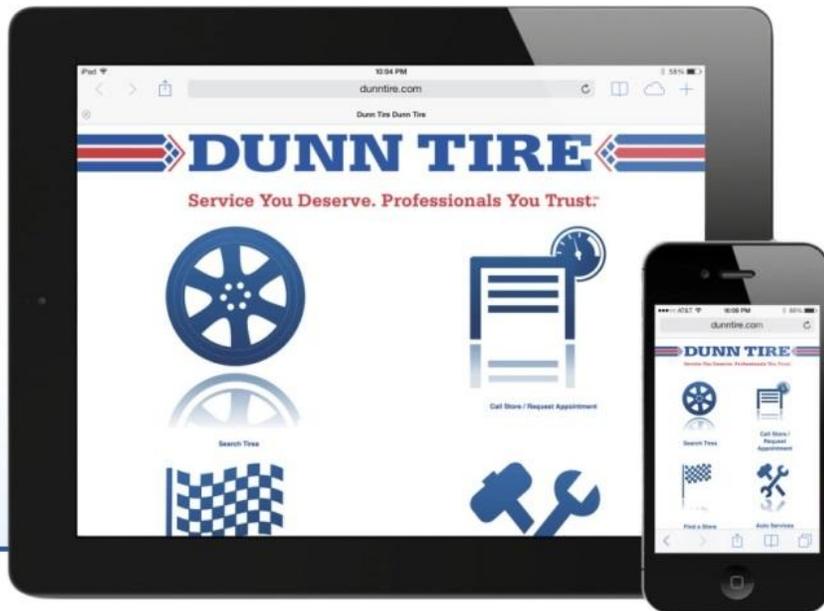
The Canandaigua Lady

Afternoon Excursion

It was fun for all aboard on the boat. The weather was perfect, 78 degrees, not a cloud in the sky, it was so blue. The water was very smooth except when another boat passed by. It felt more like summer than fall. We saw the changing leaves on the east side of the lake. The reds, oranges, and yellows were very bright. There were the cottages from the very large home, to the smallest that were kept up to there best. The boat Captain did the narration, and he said that 97 % of the land around the lake is privately owned by the people of the cabins around the lake. The captain, the boat crew, and the ticket agent were very cordial and answered the questions from the people. It was a wonderful day!

Carl Prouty

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