



# The Three Rivers Road Report

July/August 2019

Volume 7; Issue 4

## Testing Our Limits



On July 13, ten drivers, plus a few spectators, showed up in ten cars to participate in the Three Rivers Section Defensive Driving and Autocross. Some were advanced drivers and some had never done it before, but everyone gained experience with their car and learned what it could do when they pushed the limits. The morning started with the Defensive Driving lessons, with former National President Terry Kiwala as our instructor, and even the first-timers felt more comfortable after only one or two times through the course.

After lunch, the course was modified to put to use the skills we learned in the morning. Then the fun really started. Old cars and new, experienced drivers and novices, the combinations made for some fun competition. At the end of the day, Section Vice President Darrell led the pack and won the award. Second place went to National Treasurer Julie and coming in third was Three Rivers Member Ken. Thanks to everyone who participated or attended.



# The Pier at Oakwood Resort



Three Rivers Members had a great Sunday dinner at the Pier. Everyone arrived just in time to get inside before a big storm blew across the lake.

The Oakwood has graced the shores of Lake Wawasee for 127 years. Founded in 1893, Oakwood started as a Christian camp. Now it is a hotel, resort and restaurant on Indiana's largest natural lake. Lake Wawasee is in excess of 3,000 acres with thousands of visitors during the summer months.

Everyone had a great evening regardless of the weather. We should try another time.



# A Silver Star for My Old Car

Dave Gilbert

It all started when I bought my 1984 W123 230E (a.k.a. Goldie) and joined the MBCA. I knew right away that I was going to work towards a Silver Star Preservation award. I fixed the things that were broken and worn out, patched rust holes, painted wheels & body parts and of course cleaned washed and waxed. Sadly Goldie was destroyed in a crash that almost destroyed me too. So began my quest anew.

A couple of false starts later I found a 1986 W124 Nautical Blue 300E with low mileage (44K) at Derek Motor Cars. I liked it immediately and asked Bob about it. He told me the buyer was on his way from Kansas to pick it up the next week. Oh well, I kept looking for just the right car. Some time later I was visiting Bob and saw that the 300E was still there! It seems that the buyer wasn't able to complete the sale for some reason. More examination and some thinking it then had a new home with us.

This car really is a sort of time capsule. It must have spent most of its life indoors and rarely driven. Bob was able to tell me that it did spend many years in a car collection. The CARFAX report shows that it was serviced regularly for the first several years but not driven for a lot of miles, then driven almost not at all. A close examination of the paint, undercarriage, suspension, engine and interior show very little wear and no rust. All of the original stickers/decals are still on the car. It is a true survivor.

It is 33 years old so it still needed some repairs and various bits reattached. Some time in the past the original Becker radio had been replaced with a CD player. I had fortunately saved the Blaupunkt radio from the crashed W123 so this was installed. Cleaning, reconditioning the leather seats, polishing & waxing over the course of a few weeks and the car was where I wanted it to be.



In June I entered the Arthritis Foundation Car Show in Dublin Ohio. I arranged with help from Julie to have a Mercedes expert judge my car in hopes of getting enough points to qualify for the Preservation Award. It Passed!! You need to score at least 240 points out of a possible 400 to earn the award. The 300E scored **380!!** It lost 5 points for the non-original radio and 15 points for a spare tire that needs to be replaced. I was shocked and pleased. A few weeks later my Silver Star Preservation Award badge arrived and was installed on that awesome Mercedes Benz grill.



Recently I had my car parked by a valet. When I came back to get it several valets were clustered around the car admiring it and talking about the low miles and condition. One fellow said if it was his he would hide it in his garage and just keep it! Noooo!

So what is next? I'm going to attend as many cars shows as I can manage and I'm going to drive and drive it and enjoy that classic Mercedes Benz experience.

For more information on the Silver Star Preservation class see below or visit:

<https://www.mbc.org/enthusiasts/silverStar>



## Silver Star Preservation Program

### Which Cars Are Eligible?

This class is for cars, 25 years old or older that are largely original and have been unrestored since new. It is intended for driver-quality cars that have withstood the ravages of time, climate and daily driving.

### What Does Preservation Mean?

This classification is designed to formally recognize original cars that meet the defined set of standards by presenting the owner with a certificate commemorating the event and displaying a photo and pertinent data, suitable for framing. The certificate awards the owners who have treated their pride and joy gently over the years and have resisted the temptation to restore. As the saying

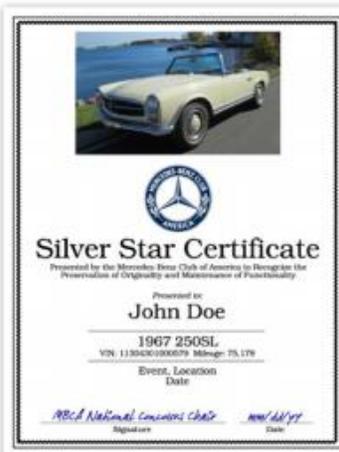
goes, "they are only original once" and as we all know, you cannot restore originality! This certificate adds measurably to the provenance and potential resale of your vehicle.

### How It Works?

Here's how it works. Your eligible Mercedes-Benz must be entered in a MBCA sanctioned sectional, regional or national concours or car show. It should be in good working order, driven under its own power to the event and be largely original. Your eligible car should have an **original engine and drivetrain**. There can be partial refurbishments of various components, but no complete restorations can be accepted.

### What Do You Need To Do and What Do You Get Once You Are Certified.

At each MBCA Sanctioned show, all Silver Star entrants are given a score sheet with instructions on how to submit their vehicle. The score sheet gives the owner the opportunity to inform the judges on which aspects of the car are entirely original and which aspects have been altered over time. A Preservation Class Judge, assigned by the Concours Chef Judge will review the completed form with the entrant. If the car has earned enough points to be certified, the Chief Judge and the Class Judge verify the findings and initial the form. A digital photo of the entrant's car is taken at the show and the completed classification form along with the photo is forwarded to the MBCA National Business Office. The NBO will create and send to the owner an official Silver Star Certificate formally declaring the car to have



met the standards of the Silver Star Preservation Class. The owner may also purchase a specially designed grille badge from the NBO.

If you would like to take advantage of the Silver Star Preservation Classification, talk to your Section event organizers or your Regional Director, they can guide you and advise when and where these events will be offered. You do not need any special training, just a willingness to have your car recognized by its peers and add measurably to its provenance. If you need further clarification you may also email the National Business Office at [silverstarpreservation@mbca.org](mailto:silverstarpreservation@mbca.org).

Further details can be found on the "For Enthusiast" page on the [mbca.org](http://mbca.org) web site. The Silver Star Preservation score sheet can also be found on the [mbca.org](http://mbca.org) website on the Resource page under Event Forms. There you will find all the concours forms. All these forms are downloadable and may be used at all MBCA sanctioned shows.

# Annual Picnic At The Lake



On June 1, 15 members attended the Three Rivers Section Annual Picnic. We had great weather, and enjoyed a delicious cookout as everyone shared their special dishes. Taking boat rides around the lake was a great way to spend the afternoon. Everyone showed up in their shiny Mercedes Benz and there was plenty of food & fun to go around.

Very special Thank You to our Vice President Darrell & his wife Marilyn for hosting the picnic at their lake home.







# Coming Up

It's time to kick off our annual toy drive to benefit Toys for Tots. I know It may seem early that we do this September to November but they need the donations in advance so they have time to distribute the toys to all the locations. We have done this the past several years and it is just awesome to give back.



Donations will be accepted starting [September 1st](#) You can bring them to an event or make arrangements with President Jason or Treasurer Amy to collect the items. If you are wanting to do a monetary donation please make payable to the **MBCA Three Rivers** and we will be happy to go toy shopping for you. Checks or money orders can be sent to our post office box. **Mercedes Benz Club of America, Three Rivers Section, P.O. Box 25571, Fort Wayne, IN 46825-0902**

## A Day at Auburn

**COST IS \$20.00 PER PERSON OR \$30.00 PER COUPLE** INCLUDES: GATE PASS, LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE CLUB

**PLEASE RSVP BY SATURDAY AUGUST 23RD**



*You can mail your RSVP & PAYMENT TO MERCEDES BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA THREE RIVERS SECTION P.O. BOX 25571, FORT WAYNE, IN 46825-0902.* Please complete the attached form.

***I must stress that you must arrive prior to 9:30 AM! YOU MUST BE IN THE GATE BY 9:30 AM, ARRIVING AFTER 9:30 AM YOU WILL BE FORCED TO PARK IN GENERAL ADMISSION PARKING.***

See e-mail for more details and the attached reservation form.

# GLENBROOK



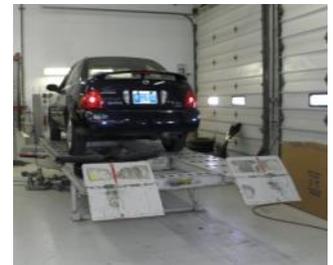
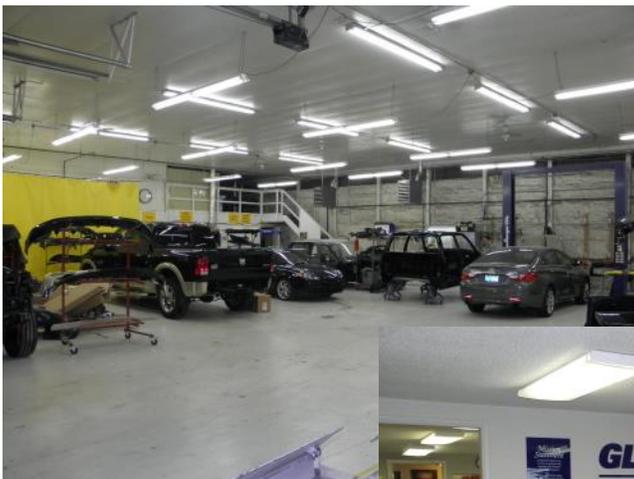
## COLLISION CENTER

200 Grandstand Way

Fort Wayne, IN 46805

(260) 481-2000

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5:30



Mercedes-Benz

The best or nothing.



PPG Automotive Refinish  
ENVIROBASE<sup>®</sup>  
HIGH PERFORMANCE





# Werner's Garage Inc.

7804 Fritz Road, Fort Wayne, IN  
(260) 489-9783  
Office@WernersGarage.Com



European Automotive Repairs Since  
1973

Specialize in Mercedes Benz  
Complete European Mechanical Re-  
pair



MERCEDES BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA ~ THREE RIVERS SECTION IS ON FACEBOOK. "LIKE" US AND GET UPDATES ON UPCOMING EVENTS, POST PHOTOS AND GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER.....

[www.facebook.com/MBCATR](http://www.facebook.com/MBCATR)



Note: You can log in and look even if you haven't joined Facebook. Click on the link above the picture to go check it out.





**Damaged  
wheels?  
Let us help!**

**"DON'T REPLACE, REPAIR FOR LESS"**



**@FortWayneWheelRepair**



**Tel: 260-438-0195**



**4121 Merchant  
Rd. Fort Wayne  
46818, IN**



## THREE RIVERS SECTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS — 2019

**August 31:** A Day at Auburn, our annual event at the Auction Park with a picnic and lots of great cars

**September 1:** The start of our annual Toys for Tots drive. Donations will be collected until November 16

**September 21:** Three Rivers Distilling Company, details to follow

**October 12:** Dinner/meeting, details to follow

**November 16:** Moose Lake dinner, 3:00, details to follow

**December 14:** Our annual Holiday Party. This year it will be held at Biaggi's, so save this date.

*More events will be added as they are scheduled and details for each event will be forwarded as needed. Ideas for events are always welcomed and encouraged. Contact any board member with suggestions.*



Are you interested in advertising in our newsletter? Does your business offer goods or services that would appeal to our members? Our newsletter goes to all current members & associate members, so if you want to promote your business, this is the place to advertise.

1/4 page ads are \$120/year or \$20/ Bi monthly

1/2 page ads are \$240/year or \$40/ Bi monthly

Full page ads are \$480/year or \$80/Bi monthly (includes monthly posting of your ad on our Facebook page.)

Are you looking to sell your Mercedes? Check out these two classified options below.



Mercedes Club of  
America Three Rivers



Visit us at:

[www.facebook.com/mbcatr](http://www.facebook.com/mbcatr) or

[www.threerivers.mbca.org](http://www.threerivers.mbca.org)

\*\*This is a classified ad in a newsletter/Facebook posting and is in no way guaranteeing the sale of your vehicle, no dealer vehicles allowed, this is an advertisement for a private seller. MBCA reserves the right to cancel the ad for false information

## Can we help?

If you're interested in showcasing your vehicle to the largest group of Mercedes Benz enthusiasts perhaps we could help, we are the Mercedes Benz Club of America. We would like to offer you a classified posting on our Facebook page as well as our monthly newsletter "The Three Rivers Road Report". Our Facebook page consists of 650+ followers. If you have purchased another Mercedes we would like you to consider joining Mercedes Benz Club of America.

- \$15.00 will allow two photos. One exterior photo and one interior photo will appear weekly on our Facebook page for 4 weeks with your contact information and brief description. It will also appear once in our monthly newsletter.
- \$25.00 will allow two photos. One exterior photo and one interior photo will appear weekly on our Facebook page for 8 weeks with your contact information and brief description. It will also appear two months in our monthly newsletter.

Please submit an interior/exterior photo of your vehicle, a brief description including mileage, your sale price and your contact information. MBCA Three Rivers will be displaying your information for people to contact you directly.

Please submit your photos and information to us at [silverstar560@gmail.com](mailto:silverstar560@gmail.com)

E-mail your ad to our newsletter editor, Julie Bruggner [juleslb@msn.com](mailto:juleslb@msn.com) or [silverstar560@gmail.com](mailto:silverstar560@gmail.com)

Please make payable to: **MBCA THREE RIVERS**

Payments can be sent to: **Mercedes Benz Club of America Three Rivers Section  
P.O. Box 25571  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825-0902**



## THREE RIVERS SECTION

### Board of Directors and Officers



**Jason Bogart**

President, Social Media  
Director, Webmaster  
silverstar560@gmail.com  
574-457-6541



**Darrell Post**

Vice-president  
dpost202@yahoo.com  
260-312-7681



**Amy Bogart**

Treasurer  
abogart74@gmail.com  
574-457-6518



**Lisa Long**

Secretary, Event Coordinator  
lisalong@frontier.com  
260-602-6006



**Julie Bruggner**

Past President,  
Newsletter Editor  
Co-event Coordinator  
juleslb@msn.com  
260-348-1369



**Laura Smith**

Membership Chair  
Laurasmith1398@yahoo.com  
260-433-6531