



The Three Rivers Road Report

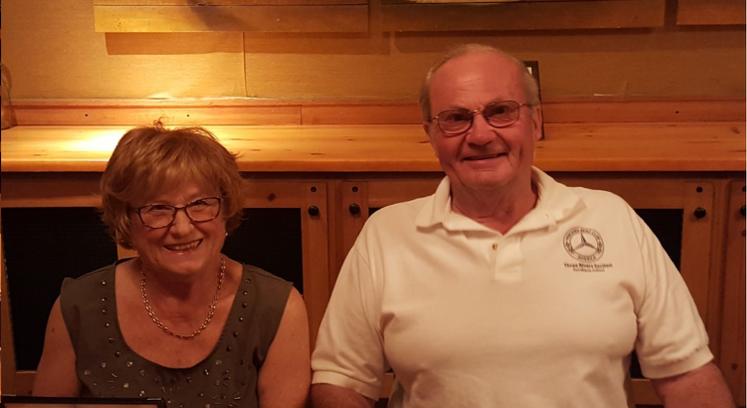
November/December, 2017

Volume 5; Issue 9

45 Years and Counting



What a GRAND EVENING! On September 23, seventeen members gathered to celebrate the beginning of the MBCA Three Rivers Section 45 years ago. The evening started off with drinks & hors d'oeuvres followed by our President Jason saying a few words. We were happy to have Irma & Werner joining us this evening as they were some of the original members who signed the charter for this section 45 years ago. Irma also held the position of Section Treasurer for many years. Irma & Werner are still current members today. We all had a great evening reminiscing about the past, sharing stories, and discussing more events for the future. Our server Matt did an excellent job with our group. The Wine Room at Biaggi's Jefferson Pointe was an excellent choice for this event. Some members even enjoyed fireworks after dinner.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.

NATIONAL BUSINESS OFFICE

Commonly referred to as "NBO", this office is located in Colorado Springs, Colorado. The staff that works there is what keeps 85 sections in the MBCA running strong. They are a great group of people working very hard to help us obtain our success at the section level. Over the years I have communicated with them for various things either over the phone or through e-mails.

As members of the MBCA you get to see The Star, newsletters, photos & Facebook posts of all the section leaders, directors, members, etc. Unfortunately, we may not always think about the people who are there to support us. I wanted to take a minute to call out the efforts of the NBO staff.

Mike Regennitter is the Executive Director and keeps all the pieces of the puzzle together for the MBCA. Mike is the consistent one that keeps things going even when we change leaders at the national level. He keeps our relationships with MBUSA and other partners working and manages all the day to day operations of the MBCA. We appreciate his hard work making this club great.



Cindy Tumbleson is the Business Administrative Manager. Cindy always responds immediately to e-mails, whether it is something about our sections taxes or a general question. I quickly got the impression at the Fall Board Meeting that they depend on Cindy a lot and she really knows her stuff.



I recently met Mike & Cindy at the National Fall Board Meeting in Kalamazoo, Michigan. It was really great meeting them in person!

Marcus Norwood is the Web Project Manager. Marcus barely had time to get his desk set up at the NBO and I was e mailing him and bugging him for help. Marcus had just started with the MBCA and I was having some issues with our section's page on the national web site. He was able to help me move a few things around and really make the Three Rivers Section page look awesome! I bugged him a few more times and he really pointed out some things with the national web page that made it easier to understand. He also added a button to go back to the main MBCA page and our sections page. If it's anything to do with the MBCA.ORG site, he takes care of it. I will be updating our page soon, now that 2017 is almost over.





Geni Wallen is the Administrative Assistant & Bookkeeper.

She is responsible for handling our all the sections quarterly rebates. She sends out e-mails to the section leaders notifying them of when the funds will be deposited in our accounts. She also handles the German trips. She has always been very helpful and always willing to answer questions. Thank you!

Ryanne Dias is the Membership Specialist. I was able to work with her when she first started at the NBO. I was in the process of ordering our section's banner and table cloths. The person that was previously handling it left, and Ryanne came in during the middle of our order. We got it figured out and we received our items with no issue. Way to hit the ground running! I have also contacted her when we were ordering name badges for the section board. We will soon be updating the members information with the new addresses we obtained from our return mailings. Ryanne was going to help me with updating our member records.



Anna McBride is the Membership Coordinator and is in charge of applications, event materials, event certificates, business cards and general membership information. Anna was helpful with my request of getting photographs of all the NBO staff and forwarding the information to me. I originally e-mailed Cindy and asked her to send me photos and I did not give a good explanation as to why. I promised it was for a good reason.

Everyone appreciates recognition for their efforts. Positive feedback from their employers, peers and co-workers really makes a difference. It makes it difficult when the people that are helping you are in another state. We don't see them in person all the time and may overlook that they help coordinate the events we put together. Their time and efforts make the MBCA look amazing. The Three Rivers Section thanks you for all your help you have provided to us. We look forward to many upcoming years working together.

Thank You! Mercedes Benz Club of America ~ Three Rivers Section



Tricks....

On October 28, eighteen members gathered to celebrate All Hallow's Eve by having dinner at Triangle Park! Things got a little "scary" but our members had a great time..

Our secretary & co-event coordinator Lisa & her husband Ken arrived in style! NO BONES ABOUT IT!! We also had new members Dave & Nancy join us for the evening. It was a great evening. Thanks to all the Three Rivers members who attended.



And Treats

Over dinner at Triangle Park, we made the discovery that it was National Chocolate Day! There was an impromptu fleet of Mercedes Benz headed towards Auburn Road to visit the best place in the city of Fort Wayne, DeBrand Chocolatier! This evening ended on a very sweet note... HAPPY NATIONAL CHOCOLATE DAY!!!



Breakfast & Benz

MOE'S
RESTAURANT

MBCA - Three Rivers

On November 11, seven Benz and 14 members traveled to Huntington, IN to have breakfast at Moe's. President Jason was not able to attend so Section Treasurer Amy ran the meeting..



PRESIDENT'S

MESSAGE

Jason Bogart

November is over & we have our Christmas Party coming up soon! I am very excited as we have more guests attending this year. This will truly be an evening to remember. Make sure to check out the gift table this year. We have some really cool items for this year's games & door prizes.

As I think back over this past year, I think about all the fun we've had in the Three Rivers Section. We are club members, friends & family! I want to thank all of the Three Rivers Members who continue to support our section & participate in these events. I look forward to seeing all of you at events & it's nice to see some new members attend as well.

The Three Rivers Board Members are working on setting up new & fun events for 2018. Please look over the calendar and if you have not attended we would love for you to come out and join us!

Something new this year, Fort Wayne Fantasy of Lights. We will be meeting at 7:00 PM on December 16th and traveling through Franke Park as a group to see all the Christmas lights. Immediately following we will need to warm up with some hot chocolate at DeBrand's on Coldwater Road. I will get an e-mail out after the party.

The 2018 MBCA Three Rivers Calendars should be ready shortly and I am excited to see how they have turned out! Our Section Treasurer worked hard on them to make sure we had a great looking calendar.

I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope that you enjoy this holiday season with your family & loved ones.



GLENBROOK



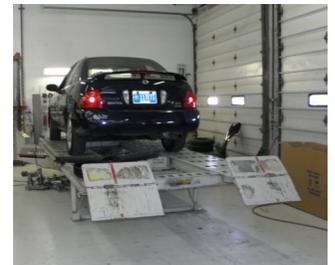
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Treasurers Report

By Amy Bogart

As we wrap up 2017, we currently have a balance of \$1,483.44 (12-2-2017) in our Three Rivers account after our Christmas Party expenses. This amount is not the final numbers for the year end, but I project that we will be about even with what we started the year with or possibly a little more. We have had approximately \$5,100.00 in transactions this year and still maintain our initial balance of 2017. I think we have had a good strong year financially and we had a lot of fun.

This year we have had several things contribute to our success. We held our clubwear fundraiser earlier this year, classified ads, new advertisement in the newsletter and our quarterly rebates. The income generated in these areas have allowed us to contribute towards the Three Rivers Picnic, 45th Anniversary Dinner at Biaggi's, our annual tailgate luncheon at Auburn and the door prizes at the upcoming Christmas Party! We have also covered office expenses such as printing, postage and the recent membership postcards that we sent out to try and get past members to re join the club.

Increased membership will increase our quarterly rebates that we receive from national. But we also need to generate income on our own, so we can continue to support our events. I am pleased to announce the Three Rivers Section has received our first new membership because of the "GLOVE BOX PROGRAM" This is a program set up by MBCA national that has put MBCA brochures in the glove boxes of all new Mercedes-Benz when the vehicles arrive at the dealerships. I know it's only one but it's working!

2017 has been a good year – here's to a great 2018!



2017 Board Meeting

By Julie Bruggner



Our National Fall Board Meeting was held from November 9-11 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Fortunately, the weather cooperated and there was no snow impeding the arrival of the board members. The meetings began with the Budget Committee meeting on Thursday night where National Treasurer, Julie Bruggner, presented the proposed budget for 2018. The remaining committee meetings were held the next day and there were proposals made for upcoming events and next years meeting. That evening there was a welcome reception at the local Mercedes-Benz dealership, where everyone gathered to enjoy a light drink and some appetizers. Along with the fun of meeting and talking with fellow enthusiasts, of course.

The Business Meeting the next day was held at the Gilmore Museum, a beautiful venue for the car lovers gathered there. The first order of business for the new Board of Directors was to elect the officers for the coming year. Gene Jurick was elected as President, Steve Ross remains as Vice-President, Dr. Jim Roberts takes over as Secretary, and Julie Bruggner retains the position as Treasurer. We send a heart-felt "Thank you!" to Terry Kiwala, our past president and, hope we continue to see him at so many events again this year.

The banquet that evening was also held at the Gilmore and included a presentation by Terry of a Lifetime Achievement award to Jim Luikens. Thank you to Jim for all he has done for the club, and to so many others who have given so much over so many years. Without all of the volunteers willing to commit their time, we wouldn't be here. The weekend certainly ended on a high note, and we look forward to all the wonderful events coming up.



Exclusive Member Invite

to Mercedes-Benz New Safety App Pre-Launch Program



Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) is excited to partner with Mercedes-Benz to offer members a look behind the scenes at one of their latest digital products under development, through participation in their Mercedes-Benz Collision Guardian pre-launch program. This offer is limited to the first 1,000 participants in the United States, and MBCA members are receiving an opportunity to learn about how to participate before it's released to the general public. The trial phase will start on December 4th, 2017.

Mercedes-Benz Collision Guardian is a safety app that automatically detects if you are involved in a collision through sensors in your smartphone and provides you immediate emergency help.

No matter if you are the driver or the passenger, it protects you - including when you are ridesharing (e.g. with family, friends, taxis, Uber) and using a car rental.

Your feedback will be highly valuable in shaping the future of Mercedes-Benz Collision Guardian.

The only requirements are that participants must live in the United States and have an iPhone. VISIT >>>> <https://www.mbc.org/safety-app>

Newsletter Wins 2nd Place

CONGRATULATIONS! Three Rivers Section won 2nd place for it's digital copy of the newsletter "*The Three Rivers Road Report*", at the MBCA National Board Meeting. Second place out of 85 sections is not bad! Newsletter Editor Julie & President Jason work very hard to keep you well informed. Thank you for the recognition! Great job guys!!





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

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.



THREE RIVERS SECTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS — 2017

December 9: Christmas Party, Our annual Holiday party will be held this year at Geoglein's Homestead. Cash bar and appetizers start at 6:30. With Jason setting up the games again, it's sure to be a fun evening.

December 16: Festival of Lights, Meet at 7:00 at the Foellinger Theater, 3411 Sherman Blvd. Fort Wayne. \$10 per car, cash only. We'll drive through Franke Park's annual winter wonderland and afterwards we'll head to DeBrand's Chocolates for some of their famous hot chocolate to warm up.

January 14, 2018: Planning meeting, Meet at Ziano's, 702 E. Dupont Rd, Ft. Wayne, at 1:00 for lunch and to discuss plans for events for the coming year. Bring your ideas for new events.

January 20-21: North American International Auto Show, Join us for an overnight visit to Detroit to see the latest and greatest in automobiles, have a nice dinner out, and head back the next day. Details to follow.

February 9: Chocolate Fest, John Chapman Kiwanis sponsors this event as a fundraiser for Riley's Children's Hospital and other children's charities. It starts at 6:00pm at Turnstone, 3320 N. Clinton St, Ft. Wayne, and includes dinner, desserts (chocolate!) and a silent auction. More details to come.

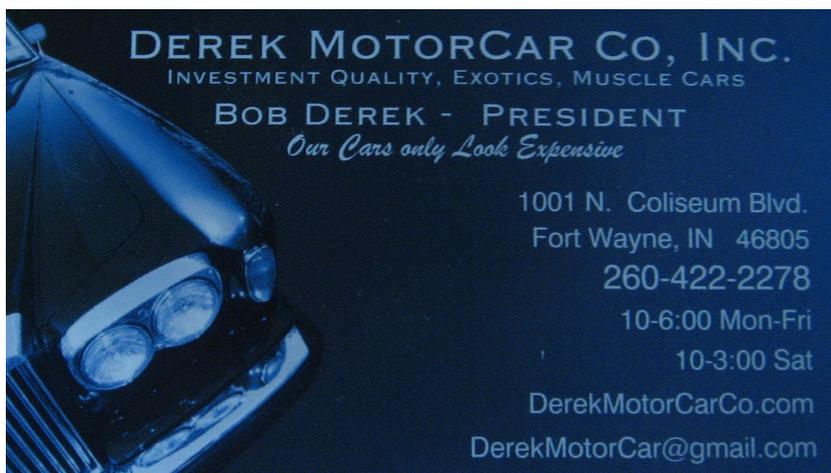
May 14-21: StarFest, This **National Event** takes place in Birmingham, AL and includes autocross & acceleration runs at Talladega, a track event at Barber Motorsports, rallies through the Alabama countryside, a Concours, and many social events. Visit mbca.org for details and to register.

August 4: Dinner, Dixie, and Ski Bees in North Webster. Details to follow.

September 1: A Day at Auburn, our annual event at the Auction Park will turn into a multi-section event this year as other sections have expressed an interest in joining us.

*Please consult your current issue of **The Star** magazine for listings of upcoming National, Regional and Sectional events throughout the country. Or log on to the National website at mbca.org and check out what's coming under the "Our Community" tab.*

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.



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The Three Rivers Section is looking for an enthusiastic member who wants to be on the Three Rivers Board of Directors. We are looking for someone to fill the Membership Director position. We would like to expand our section and we are looking for someone who thinks outside the box and has new and creative ideas to develop a membership recruitment program.

Job Responsibilities

- ◆ Call the current membership list and welcome members to Three Rivers events. Make new member welcome calls. Follow up on expired memberships for renewal.
- ◆ Coordinate members for our monthly newsletter article Who's Who.
- ◆ Minor sales calls to vendors, repair shops, & specialty car related businesses that would want to advertise in our newsletter.
- ◆ Membership recruitment and some mailings.
- ◆ Assist members with updating their information on the current list, i.e. address or phone number changes and current e-mails.
- ◆ Assist Three Rivers President & Vice President with membership related tasks.
- ◆ Have Fun!

Thank you,

Jason Bogart

President ~ Three Rivers Section

Advertising



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 or

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

E-mail your ad to our newsletter editor, Julie Bruggner juleslb@msn.com or 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**



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