



The Three Rivers Road Report

September/October, 2017

Volume 5; Issue 8

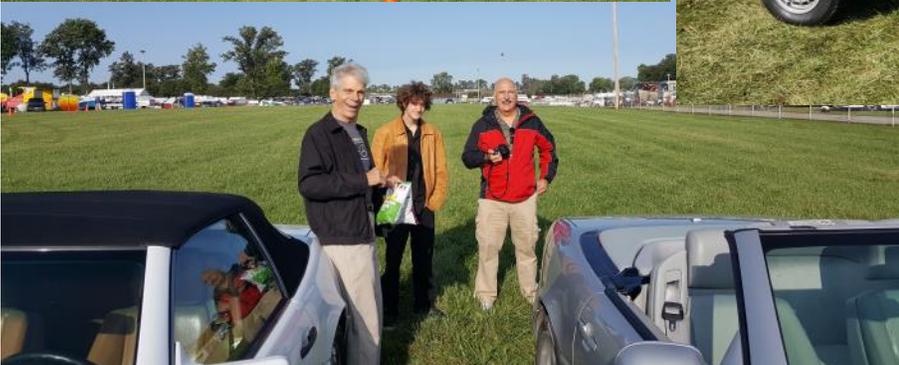
Another "Day at Auburn"



On Saturday, September 2nd, 24 members in 12 Mercedes Benz's enjoyed "A Day at Auburn". It was the 61st Auburn fall car collectors auction. Three Rivers Section is the only car club set up on the auction grounds. Members enjoyed a casual tailgate style lunch at our club tent and after lunch members ventured out on the auction grounds to check out the cars for sale in the Car Corral or ones being sold across the auction block. With the many vendors selling products too, there was a lot to check out. This is an annual event and it just keeps getting better each year. Thank you to all who attended.







PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jason Bogart



It's fall, but it sure hasn't acted like it just yet. We have had all this warm weather to continue to enjoy our outdoor events.

Our annual Labor Day event "A Day at Auburn", The Fall Car Collectors Auction was perfect. The weather was great: the cars were the only things that were hot! The Three Rivers Section has a great board of directors that work behind the scenes to make sure we have successful events. I appreciate all the work put into these events by Vice President Darrell, Treasurer Amy, Secretary & Co-Event Coordinator Lisa and Co-Event Coordinator Suzanne, along with our past President & National Treasurer Julie. Please thank them at one of our upcoming events.

We have a unique section that I think is "small but mighty". We are based out of the second largest city in Indiana and it has always been my goal to grow our section, include new members and promote our section. I do what works for us, what keeps our members interested and attract new members. It may take us a little bit but we have a great board in place and the drive to make this happen. As everyone knows I am very adamant about getting MBCA brochures out in the Fort Wayne community. Over the past several years that I have been involved with the Three Rivers Section we have made progress.

At a recent event there were members giving Julie, our Past President, & me accolades for the progress we have made in our section. I appreciate the kind words and it is good to hear that the group that I now lead appreciates what we are doing. I too appreciate Julie's leadership in the past years as I think the two of us, as "mighty" as we are, made a positive impact on this section.

The MBCA brochures states "More Than a Car Club. We're a Community." That is 100% accurate! I now have a new group of friends in many cities & states all over the country. Whether it is in person, texting each other or communicating all over the country through Facebook, we are all brought together as friends & family because of a car. It's not just a car! It's a brand new AMG, it's a fully restored roadster, it's a daily driver. It's one star that has brought us all together. A brand & lifestyle that has spanned many years just like our friendship.

Now, get out there and get some leaf blowing done.



Breakfast & Benz



MBCA - Three Rivers



On August 26, 17 members attended our Breakfast & Benz at the Sunrise Café, including new member Jim from Goshen. He drove his new CLS550. We discussed upcoming events, such as the Auburn auction, a Labor Day tradition, and our involvement in the annual Toys for Tots drive. National Treasurer Julie Bruggner spoke about upcoming National events. It was another great Breakfast & Benz for the Three Rivers Section.



2018 MBCA THREE RIVERS CALENDARS

I mentioned at the last meeting that we were possibly doing the Three Rivers Section Calendar. Unfortunately, we did not do a calendar for 2017. There was little to no response from the members so we canceled it. This is a fundraiser for our section and a fun way to get your car on the page of the calendar.

Take your best photo of your Mercedes or, if you have several, you can have them all in one photo. One photo per member. The photo's need to be vehicles only (no people in the photos) If your interested in doing this please reply back right away. If there is not enough interest then we won't proceed. If we have a minimum of 12 people then we can proceed.

You will have till November 1st, 2017 to submit your photos. Calendars will sell for \$21.00 each and we would shoot for mid to late December to have the calendars completed.



GLENBROOK



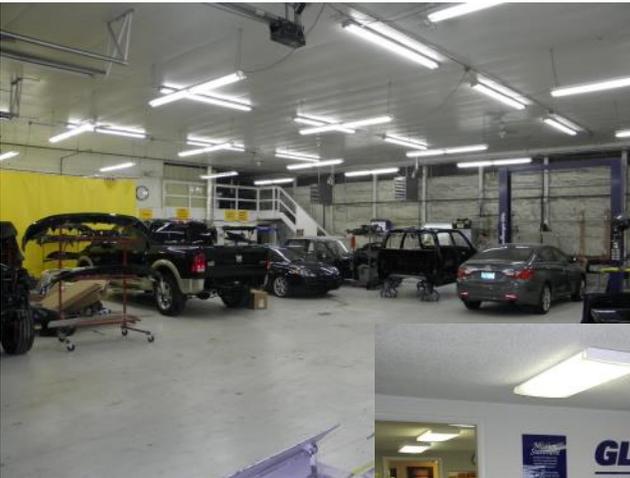
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Mercedes-Benz

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tech report

By Jason Bogart

Owning a foreign car does have its challenges. Specialty tools may be required to make certain repairs, or you have to pay a premium to have the repair shop do it for you. Some of you may be a "tinkerer" like me. You like to know what makes your Mercedes tick. You get satisfaction out of repairing your own vehicle.

If you have ever had a dash light burn out, it is very frustrating. If you are like me, it bothers you to see that bulb burnt out. Just like it may bother some of you to have a check engine light on and not know why? I usually don't have my 1986 560SEL out much in the evening hours in the summer. I recently was driving it at night and was annoyed that my center shifter lamp was burned out and my heater controls had one side burnt out. I went and got the micro replacement bulbs at the dealer. Let's get started putting the car back the way it should be. I like for everything to be working in my cars. This may not be a beginner do-it-yourself repair but it is fairly easy.



Let the fun begin by pulling the heater controls first. It is a three-step process. The ashtray needs to come out first by taking two screws out inside the ashtray and then unplugging the ashtray lamp and power cord. One thing to keep in mind is if you're going to take the time to dismantle your dash to do this and your car is 30+ years old you may want to consider having 4 to 5 of these micro bulbs to just replace them all. The bulbs are old and nothing is more frustrating than getting the bad bulb replaced and the car all back together and another one went out because of disturbing all the mechanics inside the dash.



Now you want to pull the radio. There are two silver tabs hidden under the radio and they pull down and you can slide the radio forward. It is good to have a helper to pull the radio while you have the tabs both pulled down. I avoid unplugging the radio so that you won't have to have the security feature reset by the dealer. Once the radio is out, there are two screws under the wood for the heater controls. The remainder of the heater controls will slide downward and you unplug the remaining wires from all the top row of switches and the heater controls.



NOW WHAT? What a mess. Like I said this may be a little more advanced than a beginner repair but once you learn the process it is a piece of cake. Mercedes makes each plug a specific design so it is fairly simple to match up the switches to the wire harness. Now that you have the dash all pulled apart you can separate the heater controls from the back of the wood. There are a couple screws on the back of the controls that allow them to separate.





There are two bulbs inside the heater controls. HOW CAN I GET TO THEM! Remember earlier when I said, "specialty tools"? Well in this case that specialty tool is an inexpensive piece of fuel line. You simply insert the hose into the opening for the



light bulbs and push. The hose actually slides down over the bulb and allows you to pluck the bulb out of the heater controls. Once you have plucked the old bulbs out it is time to re-install the new bulbs that bring your older Mercedes Benz back to life.



Holding the heater controls facing up carefully drop the new bulbs in the holes so the bulb lines up with the socket. I found it was easy to use a thin retractable pen tip to push down on the bulb and re install it into its socket. I re-attached the wire harness to the heater controls and verified that both lights are working before re-assembling the dash. Mercedes utilized this type of heater controls for many models and years so it is a common design in a lot of the earlier 80's models. Like I said this may not be for everyone but if you like to tinker, save some labor costs and hate that you're driving around with burnt out dash lights this is a way to make your Mercedes really shine (inside at least). Now it's time for nightfall and see all those little lights shine.





It's that time of year to start the MBCA Three Rivers Section Toys For Tots. I believe that we really needed to step up and do our small part to help out this organization. I appreciate all the donations made on behalf of the MBCA Three Rivers Members in the previous years. Let's make this year even better.

We do fun stuff in the club that puts smiles on all of our faces. What about the children that don't have that opportunity? They don't have anything to look forward to? Let's do our small part to put smiles on their faces. I know everyone has their own families to consider this holiday season but I appreciate everyone's continued support and getting involved.

Donations will be accepted September 15th thru November 18th. You can bring them to an event or make arrangements with myself or our Treasurer Amy to collect the items.

If you are wanting to do a monetary donation 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 Please make payable to the MBCA Three Rivers Section.

We try not to wait till the last minute to get the items to Toys For Tots as they need time to sort and process the items. Remember new un wrapped toys for a girl or a boy. If you don't want to shop,

Thank you,

Jason Bogart
President
Mercedes Benz Club of America ~ Three Rivers Section





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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

October 28: Callithumian Festival, Meeting at 1:00pm at the Carmike Theater, 3930 E Dupont Rd, Ft Wayne to caravan to Decatur. Costumes encouraged.

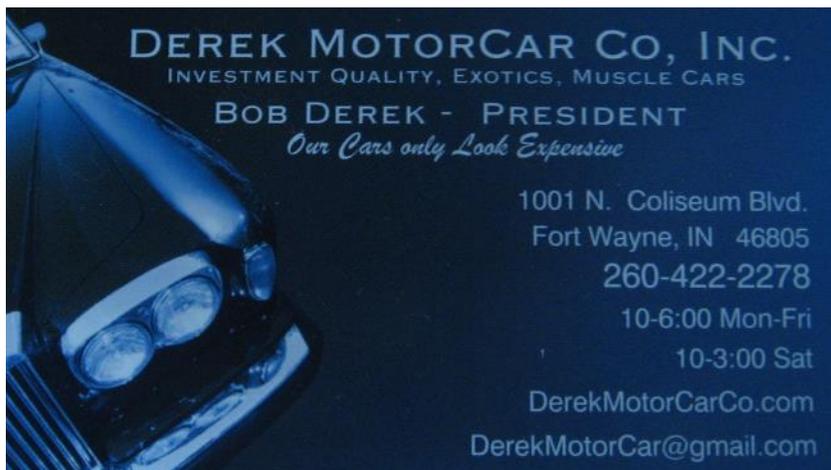
November 11: Breakfast & Benz, Moe's Restaurant, 2990 W Park Dr, Huntington, IN Meet at the Walgreen's (closed) in the Village of Coventry, 9030 US24, Ft. Wayne at 9:00 to caravan to Huntington

December 9: Christmas Party, Save the date for our annual Holiday party at Autumn Ridge. Details coming soon, so watch your e-mail.

December 16: Festival of Lights, Meet at the Foellinger Theater, 3411 Sherman Blvd, Ft. Wayne, at 7:00 pm to travel through Franke Park as a group. Cost is \$10/car (cash only) After, we will head to DeBrand's Chocolates to warm up with their decadent hot chocolate.

*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

Vice 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**

CLASSIFIED AD

AMG rims are off a C32AMG, They were used on a 2003 CLK 350.
Asking \$850, tires only have 500 miles. TIRE SIZE 225 / 45R17



Another set of 225/45/ZR17 245/40/ZR17 staggered AMG rims w/General tires for Autocross

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CONTACT KEN SALTER IF INTERESTED ksalt@hotmail.com

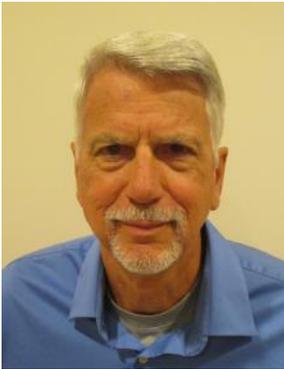


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