



The Three Rivers Road Report

November, 2014

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One More Drive Before Winter



On Sunday, October 12, six cars headed out for the drive to Sauder Village, in Archbold, Ohio. It was a beautiful day for a drive with a bright blue sky and the Fall colors making for great scenery along the way. Pictured above, left to right, are Jason Bogart, Dave Shouweiler with his wife Maria and son Ehren, Julie Bruggner, Marilyn and Darrell Post, Leon Giannakeff, Suzanne Nobblett and Amy Bogart, before heading to the buffet at the Barn Restaurant. We took our time, chatting about cars, of course, and trips and adventures we've had in them, and then wandered around the Village before heading back home.



Holiday Party

December 12, 2014

Our holiday party will be at Autumn Ridge this year, starting at 6:30 with a cash bar & appetizers. Dinner will be served at 7:00. Watch your e-mail for more information and your invitation.



Left to right, top to bottom:

- On the way there
- Darrell & Marilyn Post
- Amy Bogart
- Jason Bogart
- A sign in the furniture store (appropriate for our Mercedes, I think)
- Jason Bogart & Suzanne Noblett

Heimatfest

By Julie Bruggner



Heimatfest this year, October 4-5, was centered around a two day track event at Barber Motorsports Track. With 17 turns in 2.38 miles of track, it was the most fun I've ever had in my car. As a novice driver, I had an instructor with me at all times. I'll admit my first few laps were rather intimidating, but there was no pressure to go any faster than I was comfortable with, and after a few laps I was having the time of my life. If you like to take those windy roads and have some fun driving your car, but always thought you could never do something like this, you're wrong. Next time you see a track event listed, you should give it a try. I highly recommend it.

Below: Julie Bruggner chats with her instructor, National President Terry Kiwala, and Event Coordinator Dr. Jim Roberts in between sessions on the track



Breakfast & Benz



By Janice Derek



Our first "Breakfast & Benz" (Our spin on cars and coffee), was at the Chrome Plated Diner on North Anthony. This was not an official meeting, just Great food, Great friends and Great cars. We enjoyed hearty breakfasts, as well as the company of our fellow Mercedes enthusiasts in a comfortable diner setting with car memorabilia all around!

My favorite saying on the wall: "Remember when your cup holder sat next to you in a poodle skirt?" See additional photos on our website: [Facebook.com/MBCATR](https://www.facebook.com/MBCATR) You don't have to have a Facebook page to view ours.

Where would YOU like to go for breakfast? Suggestions for breakfast, as well as any event, are always appreciated. Watch your e-mail, as well as the newsletter for the next "Breakfast & Benz", as well as other upcoming events.



Who's Who in the Club

By Ralph Merkel

THE MERKEL'S "MERCEDES" ADVENTURE

It started in 1981 with the purchase of a new S350 turbo diesel, Thistle Green, from Bob Derek Jr.; a story in itself. Ask me and I will tell you.

I joined the "Three Rivers Mercedes Benz Club" after that.

That car was great!



With many, many trips and 14 years later, in 1995, I decided to sell the car and thought of putting an ad in the Fort Wayne newspaper. It did not go as far as that, the lady from the ad department bought it and as I said, it never got into the newspaper.

In 1995 I purchased another S-350 turbo diesel which I still have today, with 210,000 miles... with help of Werner Niederholtmeyer and his crew, Lee. For instance, we traveled to Fort Myers, Florida many times, Branson, Missouri, Maine, also Arizona for our son's wedding, and Southern California. All trips were very memorable. We cannot forget the Club trip to Tuscaloosa Alabama to Commodore Jack Warner's Billion Dollar estate and the Mercedes Benz factory which was an absolute terrific and fun trip! We even stopped to "steal" some cotton wool at some field in Tennessee and got caught...

Maxi and I got married 10 years ago and this beautiful car served as our limousine on that day. We have many joyful memories together ever since. We enjoy our MB immensely.



"Fall" for Mercedes



Richard Benner's 2013 C300



Two pictures of Suzann Noblett's
1983 300 Turbo Diesel



Janice Derek's 2003
CLK430 Cabriolet

Thank you for the great pictures. If anyone still wants to send me more, I'll put them in the next issue.



extra DETAILS

By Jason Bogart

This section is dedicated to the upkeep and detailing of our wonderful German vehicles.

Plastic is supposed to be a durable and light weight material used in everything from cars to toys to appliances. But sometimes plastic will break! You may need to purchase a replacement part or it may be possible to repair the part with a cold weld.



The washer reservoir in my 560SEL was leaking. I would fill it with washer solvent and within minutes I would come back and find a puddle in the drive and the tank was low. I ended up pulling the tank and inspecting it only to find one of the tabs on the bottom of the tank had cracked. NOW WHAT?

I tried to find a replacement tank at the salvage yard and I found that either the tanks were worse than mine or they were not the correct fit. I decided to repair the current tank. I cut the tab off the tank and I used a rough grinding bit and scuffed/cleaned up the area where the crack was. This will clean the area but the scuffed plastic will allow the cold weld to bond with it better than a smooth surface. Once the surface was prepped and cleaned, I cleaned it off with some paint thinner so there was no grease or dirt that would cause the cold weld to separate. I have always used JB Weld (no, not because it is my initials :)). It comes in two parts.

One tube is the weld and one tube is the hardener. You squeeze out equal parts of each onto a paper plate and I use a tooth pick.



You will want to use all disposable items as this will harden and you just throw them away when your project is complete. Once you have the two chemicals on the plate, just start mixing them together with the tooth pick. Once they are blended together they start hardening. You want to make sure all gray hardener is blended in well and work quickly as they will set up. It will start as a runny consistency and within 10-15 minutes it turns into a hard plastic. I

placed a coating on the actual tank and then I used a cut zip tie to cover the opening on the tank as if it were a "band-aid" to reinforce the area. I applied another generous amount of the cold weld over the patch so it was well sealed.





Once you have applied the cold weld you can see that the runny consistency will smooth out. It will have a fairly smooth finish and a gloss but it will harden. I ended up placing the tank out in the sun and allowed it to set up. The cold weld got as hard as the plastic on the tank and it sealed the crack.

It doesn't look pretty and I could have painted over the cold weld but this repair is on the bottom of the tank and hidden in the firewall so it's not a visible repair. I just needed it to act as a seal. I am happy to say that it has been in the car since July and no leaks and I have a full tank and an empty drive way.

For the cost to replace this tank vs. the couple of bucks to buy a package of JB Weld, it was well worth it.



William W Hopper

I shared this on the **Mercedes-Benz Club of America** Page, and it is now one of the highest ranking posts ever! ROCK ON **Mercedes Benz Club of America Three Rivers** Thanks for the great posts!

5 hours ago · Like · 1 · Reply

Kudos to Jason Bogart for maintaining our Facebook page. Thanks Jason, for getting us out there!



The Three Rivers Section is collecting for Toys for Tots this year. Please open your hearts to help make a child's Christmas a little happier. Any new, unwrapped toys will be accepted, but if giving a cash donation is easier for you, that will be fine too. Ask your friends and coworkers to contribute and we can make a real difference this holiday season. Bring your donations to the next event, or call Julie (260-348-1369) or Jason (574-457-6541) to arrange a pickup. Mail checks, made out to MBCA, Three Rivers Section, to Jason Bogart, PO Box 533 Pier 28, North Webster, IN 46555. Deadline is November 30th.

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.



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Advertising

We have reinstated advertising in our newsletter. Newsletters go to all current members, so if you want to promote your business or maybe sell your Mercedes, this is the place to advertise. We'll keep it to the calendar year, so rates will be adjusted for the remaining months.

Business card ads are \$60/year or \$5/month
 1/4 page ads are \$120/year or \$10/month
 1/2 page ads are \$240/year or \$20/month
 Full page ads are \$480/year or \$40/month

Send ads and payment to:
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THREE RIVERS SECTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS — 2014

November: Still open. Got a suggestion? Let us know.

December 12: Christmas Party, Our annual Christmas Party will be at Autumn Ridge Country Club this year. Don your Holiday finery and join us for a festive celebration. Details to follow.

June 6, 2015: 5th Annual European Car Show,

2015: Ideas welcome

National Event Coming to This Area!

Next year, **June 12-14**, StarTech will be taking place in Cincinnati, OH. If you've never been to one, a national event takes all the things we love about club events and raises them to a whole new level. This year there won't be any driving events, but there will be lots of technical sessions (hence, the name Star**Tech**), social events, people from all over the country, and lots and lots of cars. In 2013, in Alabama, there were 230 registered participants. I strongly suggest you get these dates on your calendar now and plan to attend. I'll be there.

*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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