

BADGER *Star*

APR-MAY 2023



MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of AMERICA



MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA WISCONSIN SECTION
FROM MBCA FISH FRY

WISCONSIN SECTION

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I write these remarks the day after a very successful March Fish Fry and White Elephant Auction. Read more about the event as well as our 5th Annual Valentine's Day Drive-to-Dine elsewhere in this newsletter.

The April – May issue of the Badger Star brings at least two things to my mind: we are heading into the busiest part of our event calendar, and it's almost time to take the CLK out of winter storage 😊.

Events

Mark your calendars and register NOW for the April 29th Tech Session at Black Forest. This always popular event is back after a hiatus since 2020. Those of you who have attended past tech sessions know that they are a highlight of our year.

Find all the details on the event announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.

Black Forest goes to considerable effort and expense to hold a tech session, and needs at least 50 attendees to make the event successful for both our Section and Black Forest. Consequently I encourage you to sign up as soon as possible. PLEASE NOTE: You need to both register and pay Black Forest directly.

If you have a specific topic or question(s) for the Tech Session please send them to Bernd Kampe. Bernd's contact information can be found in the list of Officers and Directors.

May 13th is our Break-in-the-Weather event and June 4th we are back to the Corners of Brookfield for our Car Show.

Announcements for these events are elsewhere in the newsletter as is our full 2023 Event Calendar.

Remember that events don't just happen, your thoughts and suggestions are vital to ensure that the Section holds the kind of events would you like to see, and where you would like to see them held. So please don't be shy, if you have an idea or suggestion speak up!

Thinking about an event but unsure how to go about it? Make it a team effort; ask one of our board members for help.

Membership Highlights

Please welcome our newest members and congratulate those members celebrating membership milestones during April and May. They are all listed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thank you to each and every one of you for being a member of the Wisconsin Section. You are what make this organization successful. New member or long-timer, I'd love to hear from you; your comments and suggestions are always welcome. We are always looking to improve your membership experience and give you value for your member dues.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in person at upcoming Wisconsin Section event,

Bruce Hamilton



Bruce Hamilton

Let's remember that our Section won the National Communications award.



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EVENT IDEA SUBMISSIONS

If you have any ideas or suggestions for Drive-to-Dine, Tech Session, Concours, Rallye or Social Event venues or other events, please don't hesitate to contact Bruce Hamilton or any other board member. We are always looking for feedback and opinions from our members on events or other club related business. Contact information for all board members is listed on page 3 of this newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Subscription to "The Star", a bimonthly magazine published by Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Discounted price off a New Mercedes-Benz

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

15% off parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

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

And best of all, participation in the many events provided by your local Mercedes-Benz Club of America

CLUB BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month. Meetings are held online using GoToMeeting. Attendees call in using a phone, tablet or computer. We encourage participation from our members. If you wish to participate, and

receive an invitation for the meeting, please contact Bruce Hamilton at bruce.hamilton@cpa.com or 608-754-6066.

Recommendations for new activities or comments on prior events are always welcome.

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WISCONSIN SECTION CLUB EVENTS 2023

Date	Event - Location	Host - Contact Information
Apr. 29	Tech Session at Black Forest, 10am-3pm, Food at Noon, \$15/person Glendale/Milwaukee, Wis.	Black Forest 414-228-4899
May. 13	Break in the Weather D-2-D, Christy's Landing, Madison, Wis.	Mo Afshar moafshar430@gmail.com
June 04	Car show at the Corners of Brookfield, Brookfield, Wis.	Dean & Nancy Pearson nancypearson431@gmail.com/262-782-7960
July TBA	Starry Nights, Brookfield, Wis.	<i>Events with a TBA are in the works. Check future newsletters and e-blasts for more information and registration materials.</i>
July TBA	Summer Picnic	
Aug. 12	German-American Day Carl Schurz Park	
Sep. 09	D-2-D, Gus's Drive-In East Troy, Wis.	Bernd Kampe bkampe0@gmail.com
Sep. 24	Oktoberfest and Car Show at Dheinsville Park Germantown Wis.	Bernd Kampe bkampe0@gmail.com
Dec. 3	Christmas Party and Annual Meeting Start time 12:00	Bruce Hamilton bruce.hamilton@cpa.com/ 608-754-6066



For the most current Event List visit our Website or Facebook Page

wisconsin.mbca.org facebook.com/mbcawi

SPRING TECH SESSION 2023



**SATURDAY APRIL 29
10AM - 3PM | \$15**

OPENS @ 10AM | FOOD @ NOON | WIN 'GUESS THE CLASSIC' | LIVE ART

IT'S BEEN A LITTLE WHILE BUT WE'RE GETTING THE CLUB BACK TOGETHER. COME ON OUT FOR A DAY OF DRINKS, DOOR PRIZES, MERCEDES-BENZ AND A TOUCH OF TUTELAGE.

CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

BLACK FOREST

2900 W VERA AVE. GLENDALE WI • 414.228.4899

REGISTRATION DEADLINE : MONDAY, APRIL 24

Print this form, detach, and mail to:

Black Forest LLC - 2900 W. Vera Avenue - Glendale, WI 53209

Make checks payable to: BLACK FOREST LLC

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY - ST - ZIP _____

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS _____ x \$15=total enclosed: \$ _____

March – April Milestone Anniversaries

Member	Associate	Years
Gordon Westphal		30
Lawrence Katz		15
Benedict Kordus		15
Jaweed & Abar Mohiuddin		10
Ghassan Majdalani		10
Richard & Jane Sem		10



NEW CLUB MEMBERS AS OF MARCH 17

Members	-	Start Date
John Mortrud		2/13/2023
Michael Ledbury		2/18/2023
Martin Hedrich Jr		3/13/2023

MB FRI DAY FISH-FRY MAR 17, 2023

On St Patrick Day a group of 25 MBCA Wisconsin Section members and friends gathered for a fish fry at the Machine Shed Restaurant in Waukesha.

The fish fry was held in the side room and was served buffet style. The dinner was delicious and enjoyed by all. During dinner you could hear lively discussions.

Following dinner, we started a White Elephant sale. This was a sale of new or used items. The items could be Mercedes or non-Mercedes. Our auctioneers were Todd Knutson and Bernd Kampe. The auctioneer's had some interesting items to auction off. Items ranged from a Wisconsin Blue Book to a Mercedes Benz car care kit from the 80's. Many were intrigued by 3 mystery wrapped packages. Many thanks to those who donated items and our auctioneers and bidders. We had many laughs and raised \$189 and received a \$20 donation toward MBCA Wisconsin Section administrative expenses.

Please join us for future events.





Wisconsin Section

M-B Shine & Show

Mercedes Car Show

Sunday, June 4, 2023 12-3:30pm

At **The CORNERS** of Brookfield, WI

I-94 Exit #297 Barker Rd + 20111 W. Bluemound Rd

What to Expect...

Here's a club event with a lot to offer anyone. A friendly car show at The Corners of Brookfield on Sunday June 4, 2023. Two other car clubs have previously held club car shows at The Corners and they were well attended by their members. <https://thecornersofbrookfield.com/> is a vibrant work-live-shop-entertain community. There are over 200 apartments and a slew of attractive stores (not found everywhere) as well as, numerous restaurants and more. Important to the car show is the availability of private interior streets that management blocks-off to provide safe space to display our Mercedes-Benz vehicles and for visitors to walk around out-of-doors. Bring family and friends. In addition to exhibiting and viewing cars there are many unique shops, services, and food or drink to sample. Participants will have take-out lunch options among the nine eateries on site.



We expect Mercedes-Benz dealer(s) will display new vehicles and provide door prizes.

Show Cars need to be in place by 11:55am. Bring your own folding chairs. Pre-Registered Vehicle Entry Fee is \$35.00. Add \$10 at Event. Cars may be either displayed only or judged.

Send Registration form below by mail w/check or email and pay w/PayPal link: <https://www.paypal.me/MBCAWisconsin>

MBCA Wisconsin Section Car Show Registration Form

Pre-Registration Deadline is May 20th.

Name: _____ MBCA # _____ Car Yr: _____ Model: _____

Address _____ Email: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____ Display only Judge my car (mark one)

Cell Phone: _____ Bring It Along! Checks payable to MBCA-WI Section can be mailed c/o Nancy

Pearson, PO Box 650, Brookfield, WI 53008-0650

Email: NancyPearson431@gmail.com 262-782-7960

Fifth Annual Valentine's Drive-to-Dine FEB 12, 2023

A record turnout of thirty-five members and guests enjoyed great weather and an outstanding brunch at the Wisconsin Section's 5th Annual Valentine's Drive-to-Dine, Sunday, February 12th.

Members began gathering at the Fox & Hounds in Hubertus well before 12:00 noon. We had our own private room and lots of space, which was a welcome change from last year. Everyone enjoyed the Fox & Hounds exceptional brunch, great conversations, fellowship and lots of Gemütlichkeit. And judging by the number of repeat trips (this writer included) to the brunch's many food lines, everyone had enough to eat.

Members drove from as far away as Green Bay, Oshkosh and Janesville, and it was great to see a mix of both long-time and newer members, including one of our newest members, Jorge & Emily Benavente.

As the event wound down, Frank Lubinski talked about our upcoming March Fish Fry and White Elephant sale, and Patrick Brinkman passed out reservation forms for the April 29 Tech Session at Black Forest and the March Fish Fry.

The weather was outstanding for February, with the temperature in the upper 40's with clear skies. Members lingered to chat in the parking as we departed, wishing each other a safe drive and hopes of seeing each other at future events. What a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon in February.

Bruce & Deb Hamilton



As outlined in the President's Remarks in the December 2022 – January 2023 issue of the *Badger Star*, your Section has not received any financial support from the National Organization since January 2021.

That means the Section has had virtually no source of income to support our Section's activities for over two years.

One of those activities is the printing and mailing of a paper copy of the *Badger Star* to all members who prefer a paper copy of the newsletter over an electronic version.

The costs of paper, printing and postage have all risen significantly in the last two years. It now costs our Section approximately \$500.00 per year to print and mail paper copies of the *Badger Star*. This is a cost that up to now has come from our dwindling cash reserves.

For that reason, the Board has decided to request members who receive a printed newsletter to pay for the cost of that printed newsletter, i.e. to reimburse the Section for the paper, printing and postage costs.

About 9% of our membership will be affected by this policy.

This new policy will go into effect with the December 2023-January 2024 issue. Those affected by the policy will be notified no later than October 17, 2023 what the amount will be to continue to receive the *Badger Star* in printed form. The amount may change annually based on costs at the time.

The reimbursement is entirely voluntary. However, those members who do not wish to reimburse the Section will no longer receive a printed newsletter but instead will receive an electronic version if we have their email address. Members who do not have an email address and do not reimburse the Section will no longer receive the *Badger Star*.

This decision was made with great reluctance, but we feel we don't have a choice given the current circumstances. National leadership has told all Sections not to expect any financial support in the future, and short of finding someone willing to sponsor an event or advertise in the *Badger Star* we have to live with the cash we do have.

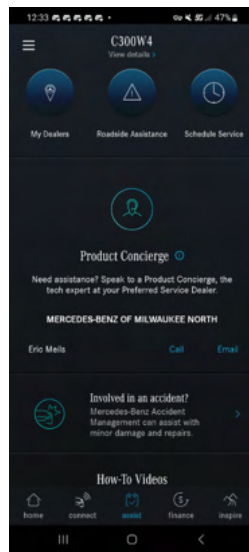
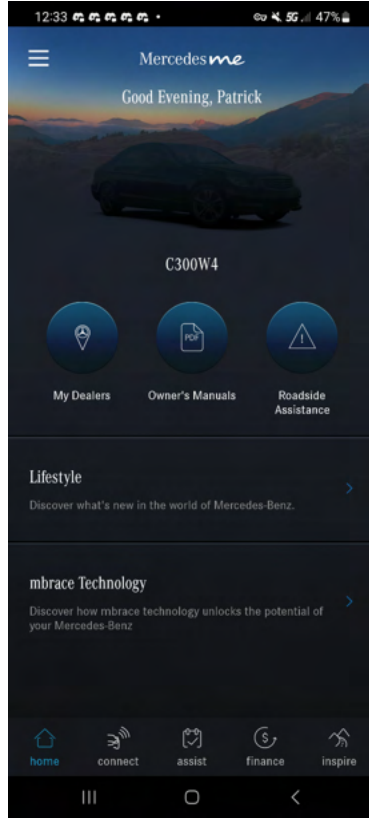
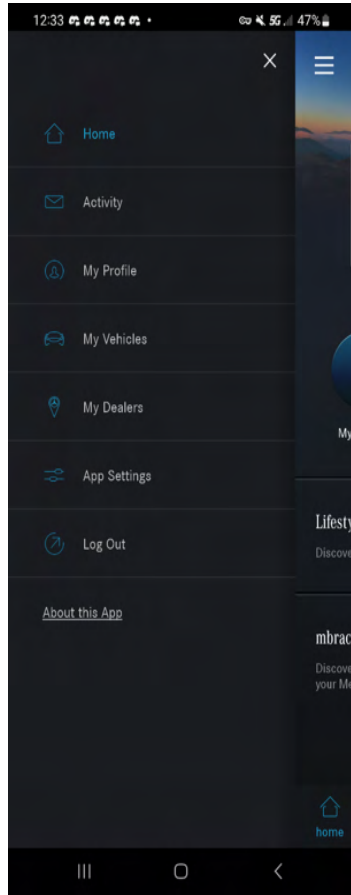
If you have any questions about this new policy please direct them to Bruce Hamilton, Section President, at either bruce.hamilton@cpa.com or (608) 754-6066.

Mercedes Me or Mercedes Me connect

Have you ever bought a new Mercedes and lost the owner's manual or maybe purchased a used one that didn't have the owner's manual? As you know, the Mercedes-Benz dealerships are more than willing to help you with any request you have. Most people just stop there, so let's drive further down the road a bit to look at some modernized Mercedes-Benz options available to owners. While looking at the 2022 marque, we should investigate the mini-computer devices we call smartphones. Mercedes Benz has two apps in the Android and iPhone app stores available. One app is called "Mercedes me" and the other "Mercedes me connect" for 2018 and newer vehicles. These two apps have a vast amount of knowledge about your vehicle or multiple vehicles. My own personal vehicle is shaded gray because it is not connected, but it still gives me a list of dealers and all Owner's Manuals that were created. The Owner's Manuals can be downloaded to your smartphone, emailed to others, or even shared to your home computer. After emailing them to your home computer, you could print it out if you want a paper copy too. The apps even provide you with direct contact information for Roadside Assistance! After Roadside Assistance, the app gives more access to the Mercedes Benz Lifestyle which gives you direct access to Mercedes AMG gear and other items from the Mercedes-Benz Lifestyle Collection. You can then live the Lifestyle by seeing what is new in the world of Mercedes-Benz accessories, gear, and merchandise. The app will also give you access to the "mbrace Technology of Mercedes-Benz". At the bottom, you can command access to other apps like 'connect' and 'finance', and other departments. The 3 lines or 3 bars at the top give even more access in list format. Activity is where Mercedes-Benz can send you information about all updates to your vehicle. 'My Profile' is where you edit and add your personal vehicle information. 'My vehicles' are where you see a list of your Mercedes-Benz vehicles that you can add/remove or edit the information. 'My Dealers' is where you can save your favorite dealers. 'App settings' allow you to control the notification, pass-code, and vehicle data, and so much more.

We all love our Mercedes vehicles and many of us wear our Mercedes gear proudly, but why not download all the Mercedes-Benz apps to your smartphone for easier and quicker access to Mercedes information?

Patrick Brinkman



Do you have club event photos, an event write-up, a Journey article or an advertisement (business or member for sale/to buy) for the next newsletter?

Please send information to Patrick Brinkman (contact info on page 3) by May 15, 2023 to be considered for the June-July newsletter.

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- Concours grade restorations
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Our historic facility is located in Brooklyn, Wisconsin, just south of Madison. Enclosed or open vehicle transport readily arranged. We ship parts Monday through Friday.

Service, Restoration, Parts & Appraisals for Mercedes-Benz

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