



International Stars Section

Quarterly Newsletter



Third Quarter Newsletter 2023



International Stars Section

Welcome to the following new members to our section

Craig Burnette, Jodee Sparks, Liz Johnson, Buck Cutlip, Bill Zehnder

Thank you to the following members for renewing their membership

Gary Bayrakdarian
Sunil Bhatia
Alan Darbe
Ellen Dickman

Kerry Holmes
Ronald Ishimoto
Steven Lewis
Robert Mahle

Ramotsumi Makhene
Donald Marriott
Christine McGee
F Meraw

Ervin Partain
John Stoner
Dan Tolly
Drew Webb

The year so far

Right Anniversary pins for the members.



Above Benzes at Cars and Kettles.

Left spring dust off drive



International Stars Section

Upcoming Event !

Join fellow International Stars members for a color tour

Save the date, Sunday October 22nd for an enjoyable autumn drive with fellow club members. The plan is to start about noontime in Detroit allowing time for everyone to trickle in and chat. The first destination is Belle Isle for photo opportunities and some snack time and/or a late lunch. The drive will resume and move on to Grosse Pointe.



More details on the way soon.



The cost for the event is \$15 per person which includes snacks and lunches.

RSVP to Dan Tolly, dantollyaa@gmail.com (734) 358-5234, by October 16 so we know how many people will be attending.



International Stars Section

Upcoming Event !

Holiday Dinner

Initially planned for December 2nd the date had to be moved to Saturday December 16th so update your calendar if you already had it written down as the 2nd. The holiday dinner will be at Roadside B&G [1727 S. Telegraph Rd Bloomfield MI. 48302](https://www.google.com/maps/place/1727+S+Telegraph+Rd+Bloomfield+MI+48302). More details will come out closer to the event.

The dinner will include

- Appetizers
- Soup or salad
- Three entrees to choose from
- Dessert
- Non alcoholic drinks.



RSVP to Don MacDonald, don.macdonald1@gmail.com (248) 647-8430, by December 9 so we know how many people will be attending.



International Stars Section

Board Elections

Join the board!

The International Stars Board of Directors is elected every two years. The next term will run from January 2024 through December 2025. The board can consist of up to twenty members including officers (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) so there is plenty of room for members to become a more active voice in steering the club. Outside of the officers whose duties are defined other board positions are very free form and can be what you want them to be. Also since the International Stars section is the home of the raffle that brings in money for MBCA National the Michigan State Gaming Commission requires 7 board members.

Anyone interested in joining the board please send a note to current Secretary James Fancy jfancy@att.net by October 20th. Include a short paragraph about yourself that can be published in a special newsletter that will go out later in October. International Stars will have the election through November. The club is always looking for volunteers to help make the MBCA International Stars section a great place to belong. If you have additional questions feel free to reach out to any of the officers below.

Don MacDonald President don.macdonald1@gmail.com (248) 647-8430

Nicholas Bissoon-Dath Treasurer nbd001@comcast.net (734) 717-3408

James Fancy Secretary jfancy@att.net (248) 410-4964

Some things of interest in the car world.

- Saturday October 7th, 8am-5pm, The Armor Great Pumpkin Classic Car Show, 3480 W Grand River Ave Howell, MI 48855
- Sunday October 8th, 8:30am start, 10th Annual MMAC Fall Color Tour, Ram's Horn, 1990 S Rochester Road Rochester Hills, MI 48307
- Saturday October 14th, Stahl's Auto Museum Trunk or Treat, Stahl's Auto Museum 56516 North Bay Road, Chesterfield, MI
- Every Sunday 2pm-6pm, The HUB Stadium Weekly Car Cruise, 2550 Innovation Drive, Auburn Hills, MI
- Every Saturday 8am-10am Parking at Pasteiners, 33202 Woodward, Birmingham, MI.
- Every Saturday 6:30am-11am Rochester Ram's Horn Breakfast Club, 1990 S Rochester Road, Rochester Hills MI.



International Stars Section

Greetings from the Great Lakes Regional Director

It is hard to believe that autumn has arrived here in the Great Lakes Region. Where did the time go? I hope you had the opportunity to take your Mercedes-Benz to one of the many events offered this summer throughout our sections in the Region.

One of the events that I was looking forward to all summer was Mercedes Grande. I had registered for Mercedes Grande in Indianapolis and entered my 1997 SL320 in the Roadster/Cabriolet Class of the *Artomobilia Monumental Car Show* scheduled for Saturday, September 9. That was the plan until the SL sprung a gushing fuel leak the Friday before Grande and instead of heading to Indy was on a back of flatbed truck heading to the repair shop.



I did get to Indy late Friday night (thanks to a rental Toyota) and had a wonderful time at the *Artomobilia Monumental Car Show* on Saturday. I was asked to be one of the concours judges. There were over eighty Benzes lining the streets of Carmel, Indiana along with the many other makes and models of beautiful cars. The *MBCA Best in Show Award* went to

Dave Steingas and his 1951 220b Cabriolet. Second Place went to Bill Walsh and his 1961 300d Limousine. The *Best Preservation Award (Artomobilia)* went to Jim Johnson and his extremely clean 1999 SL500. The SL320 – minus the fuel leak - would have had a hard time competing against Jim's SL. It was immaculate and had won many awards to prove it.

We ended Saturday with the President's Dinner and Award Ceremony at the Downtown Hilton - Indianapolis. This event capped off a wonderful Grande experience.

There are discussions already planning for the next Grande event. Looking forward to that. Kudos to Roger Brummett (Indiana Crossroads Section President), Ken Koehler (MBCA Central Regional Director), Katie Carruth (MBCA Executive Director) and the staff, volunteers, and sponsors who worked tirelessly to put on such a successful event.



International Stars Section

Greetings from the Great Lakes Regional Director

If you have a question or just want to chat about Benzes, please contact me at MBCAGreatLakesRD@gmail.com.

BTW – The SL320 is back home with a much tighter fuel line connection...

Godspeed –

Jeff Hirst
MBCA Great Lakes Regional Director

To the right Matthew Short (Western Michigan Section President), Sara Koehler (Central Region), and Katie Carruth (MBCA Executive Director)





International Stars Section

2023 Schedule of Events

- **May 20th**: Spring Dust Off Drive
- **July 8th**: Deutsche Marques at Gilmore Car Museum - Hickory Corners MI. (Western MI MBCA)
- **July 29th**: Cars and Kettles
- **August**: MB Financial car show
- **September**: Concours d'Elegance / Detroit Concours
- **October 14th**: Deutsche Marques Oktoberfest at Gilmore Car Museum - Hickory Corners MI. (Western MI MBCA)
- **October 22nd**: Fall color tour
- **December 2nd 16th**: MBCA International Stars Holiday Dinner

The board would like to hear from the members on activities they feel are fun and what they would like to help with. Take an active role in making your club what you want it to be. Any small task however minor it may seem adds up to a greater list of things we can enjoy together. What do you want the club to do in 2023?



International Stars Section

2023 Board of Directors

President:

Don MacDonald

don.macdonald1@gmail.com

(248) 647-8430

Photography:

Don Marriott

dpmarriott@aol.com

(248) 375-2629

Vice President:

Rich Godfrey

richgodfrey60@gmail.com

(734) 377-7644

Director at Large:

Dan Tolly

dantollyaa@gmail.com

(734) 358-5234

Treasurer:

Nicholas Bissoon-Dath

nbd001@comcast.net

(734) 717-3408

Director at Large:

Adam Lumsden

Secretary:

James Fancy

jfancy@att.net

(248) 410-4964

International Stars is an inclusionary group, and we welcome, encourage and support all of our members to step into leadership positions at the officer or board level.