

# **GATEWAY NEWS**

# MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA SAINT LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION

"Serving the Greater St. Louis Area since 1972!"

**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2012** 

Volume 40 Issue 6

### GALA HOLIDAY EVENT! Hilton St. Louis Frontenac Saturday, December 1st, 2012

Last year's Holiday Party at the Ritz was certainly an evening to remember, but our hosts for this year's **Gala Holiday Event** are doing everything that they can to make this one just as nice, if not nicer! This year's Holiday Party will take place on Saturday, December 1st at the **Hilton St. Louis Frontenac**, which is located directly off Interstate 40/64 on South Lindbergh Blvd., across from Plaza Frontenac. Please join us for this **NOT TO BE MISSED** Event as we once again herald in the holiday season in grand fashion.

Cocktails, snacks, and our own music begin at 6:00 p.m. w/ dinner at 7:00 in the Frontenac Room.

The Holiday Dinner menu, especially prepared for St. Louis Gateway Section members, includes your choice of Steak/tenderloin medallions, Romano Chicken, Talapia, or a Vegetable Wellington. Also included with dinner will be a vegetable, a California Mix w/feta or a spinach salad, dessert (German chocolate cheese cake, by Hanks), coffee, or tea. The cost of this fabulous dinner is \$63 per person. There will be a cash bar.

Other special perks to attendants of this year's Holiday Party is complimentary self-parking and coat check service, dinner, dance, and holiday music, and for **ONLY** \$89 per couple (plus tax), an **overnight stay at the Hilton**, with a wonderful breakfast buffet on Sunday morning for an additional \$30 per couple!

For those interested in participating, we will be collecting items for needy families sponsored by the **St. Louis Crisis Nursery**. The Crisis Nursery is committed to the prevention of child abuse & neglect and provides emergency intervention, respite care & support to families in crisis. Watch your upcoming Section e-mail blasts for further details.

Please forward your check, made out to 'St. Louis Gateway, MBCA', to Rick Siefert, 367 West Manor Drive, Chesterfield, MO 63017. Also include your entrée choice and whether or not you are planning to spend the night. Checks must be received by November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Please make your reservations **NOW** for a wonderful **EVENING TO REMEMBER** with St. Louis Gateway Section friends to kick off the Holiday Season in Grand Style. **For more information contact your hosts, Rick & Patti Siefert at 314.825.1903 or siefertr@bv.com or Ed & Mimi Barutio at 636.273.9046 or edbarutio2@att.net.** 

### ST. LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION MEMBERS SOUGHT TO HELP PLAN 2012 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES November 12, 2012

All Members: The St. Louis Gateway Section's Annual Planning Meeting will be held at **Tri-Star Mercedes Benz**, one mile west of Clarkson on Manchester Road, at **6:15 PM, Monday**, November 12th. The St. Louis Gateway Section Officers and Board Members are seeking new ideas for our monthly get-togethers. Any member(s) interested in hosting or assisting in sharing an Event, are welcomed and encouraged to attend this important Club meeting. Please bring your very best thoughts and suggestions as to the type of events you'd like to see our Section hold in the next year. We'll have an informal pizza dinner and refreshments, so please join us and help make next year the most entertaining possible. Every idea will be considered, so be creative!

### Did You Know

In 1897, Austrian businessman Emil Jellinek, traveled from his home in Nice, France to purchase a car from the Daimler factory in Cannstatt, Germany. On his return to the French Riviera, his sporting Daimler Phoenix caused such a sensation that he decided to enter it into a local touring competition, under the name of "Mercedes" after his favorite 9 year old daughter. Realizing the business potential for the new car, he not only placed an order for 36 more, but also secured the franchise for selling them in several countries. Gottlieb Daimler also agreed to having them sold under the name of "Mercedes." Interestingly, although Gottlieb Daimler and Karl Benz were two of the major pioneers in the automotive industry, they probably never met, even though they lived only 100km (60 miles) from each other in Germany.

From: http://didyouknow.org

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# 2012 MBCA SAINT LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION

Officers and Board Members

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### - A Few Thoughts from the New Guy -

Writing the first President's Message as the brand-new president of the St. Louis Gateway Section is a bit intimidating, primarily due to the size of the shoes I've been asked to fill. Rick Siefert, the Section President for the last many years, has left a legacy of successful administration and leadership that anyone would find difficult to match.

I intend to extend the excellent work Rick, his wife Patti, Ed Barutio, his wife Mimi, and the officers and board members did in building, maintaining, and growing the St. Louis Gateway Section into the preeminent and often-praised organization it is today. Our events have been second to none in attendance, imagination, moderate cost, and most of all, FUN; Our publications, both in print and electronic media, have been highly-professional, informative, and FUN; Our website rivals the National Mercedes Benz Club's appearance, comprehensiveness, and professionalism, while conveying the FUN factor (are you sensing a theme here?); and recognition from other Sections and the national organization have followed.

This doesn't happen automatically, and Rick's leadership, with the highly-skilled assistance of the Section officers and Board Members, has made it possible.

Your new Vice-President, Frank Perry, the Board and I plan to continue the upward trajectory that your Gateway Section has shown over the past years by utilizing the skills of new and past officers and Board members, and continuing the FUN.

In that vein, I invite all Section members to joins us at the annual Planning Meeting on November 12th, at Tri-Star Motors (one mile west of Clarkson on Manchester Road), at 6:15 P.M. Tri-Star's management has been kind enough to allow our use of their conference facility, where we'll be laying out the next year's events, hopefully with YOUR input. Bring any ideas for trips, exciting drives, dining experiences, or anything else. All ideas are needed, in order to make the FUN part continue.

Don't forget the gala Holiday party, Saturday, December 1st, at the Frontenac Hilton Hotel, Clayton Road at Lindbergh Boulevard. Rick and Patti Siefert are our hosts, and good food, music, and FUN will be the order of the day. Please mark your calendar, and let Rick know you're coming as soon as possible.

Enough rattling on from me- Thanks for allowing Frank and me to serve the Section, and let's keep up the positive momentum.

John



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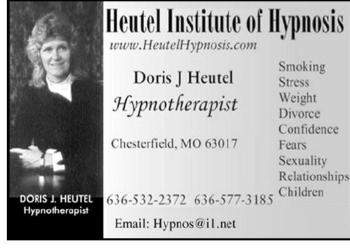




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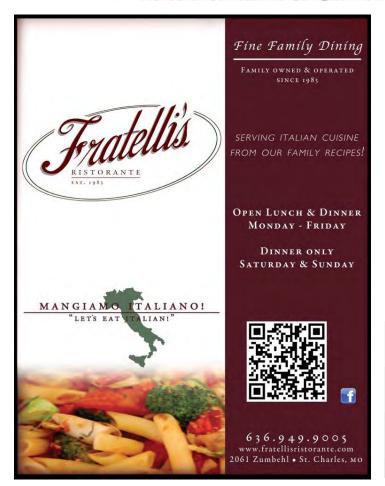


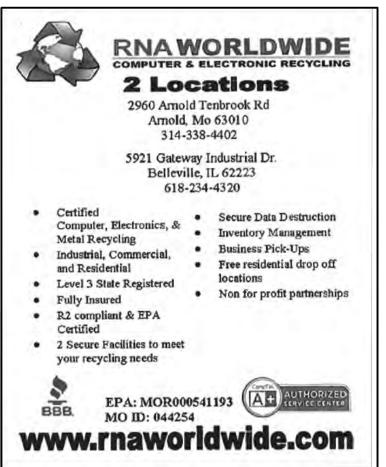


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# Autos on Valhalla – Annual Club Picnic Sunday, September 30th, 2012

About 62 members of the St. Louis Gateway Section enjoyed beautiful weather for the Autos on Valhalla car show and our annual club picnic. Several members were directing a wide variety of cars which showed up for the car show including an original Model T Ford, several 1950s American cars, a 1947 JEEP with a Chevy LS V8, and many others. Our club was well represented, with 16 Mercedes among the 51 cars in the show and about half of the cars in the Show owned by SLGS members. Although none of our Mercedes won an award at the auto show, three of our members did receive trophies for the non-Mercedes cars they had entered. Rick Nelson won the "Car You Wouldn't Be Caught Dead In" trophy for his 2013 Smart Car; Bob & Grace Bennett won the "Living Legend" trophy for their 1956 Jaguar XK140M; and Elmer & Carol Sterthman won the "Car You'd Like to Inherit" trophy for their 1966 Oldsmobile Delta 88 Convertible. The car show supports "Ride on St. Louis" (ROSL), which is a non-profit public charity impacting the lives of disabled children in our community by using horses as a therapy treatment. ROSL brought two beautiful animals to the event, a pony and horse, which were the center of attraction. Marita Wassman, Program Director, stopped by our tent and told us about the program and how riding horses works as therapy. The car show generated \$1,400 for the charity and our club

----- continued on p. 7

#### PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Please help our membership grow. Member referrals are the best way to recruit new members. And, for each referral, you, as an existing MBCA member, will receive a FREE month of club membership, simply added on to your current membership period.

To the many of you who referred your family, friends, neighbors, and business associates to become a part of our Club, thank you so much for contributing to the success of the St. Louis Gateway Section.

Since the last publication of the Gateway News we are proud to announce and WELCOME the following new members:

Al Sedlacek
Marion and Jan Sims
Ron Martin
Craig Noble
Daniel Kombrink

Welcome to the St. Louis Gateway Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. We have nearly 250 members within a 200-mile radius of St. Louis & invite you to join us at our Events.

The success of our Club depends on the participation of the members to our scheduled activities. Thank you for joining. We look forward to seeing you at our next event.

The St. Louis Gateway Section Officers & Board Members

#### **Autos on Valhalla**

#### ----- continued from p. 6

president, Rick Siefert, presented Marita with a check for an additional \$200 from the St. Louis Gateway Section. For more information on Ride on St. Louis see their website at www. http://rideonstl.org.

At midday our club had lunch and dessert, then held a short meeting where Rick introduced four new members, Ed and Tina Knoll, and Don and Mary Margret Hirsch. Then our current President, Rick Siefert, and Vice President, Ed Barutio, turned over the reins (no pun intended) to our new President, John Prater, and Vice President, Frank Perry. John and Frank presented Rick and Ed with plaques expressing the club's appreciation for their work and dedication during their terms. In addition, Rick gave his wife Patti a bouquet of flowers for her support of his presidency, and the club gave Patti a facial kit and a vase and flowers as the "Outstanding Assistant to the President".

This was another great club event and our thanks go out to Dodie and Jerroy Frank for organizing the event. Pictures from the event are on pp. 11-12. Also visit our website at <a href="http://stlgateway.mbca.org">http://stlgateway.mbca.org</a> for larger size pictures.

### **MBCA Membership Form**

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**E320 Sedan, 1994**, Black with black leather seating. 54K miles. New front brakes & tires. Maintenance work performed at M-B dealer and Erwin Schwarz. Very good condition. Asking \$6,900. *Gary Gray at Gtgray@sbcglobal.net*.

**450SL, 1976**, Astral Silver w/ red interior. 72,500 miles. Hardtop with rolling stand, original soft top in A-1 condition. This gem is original and has been properly maintained by Legend and Machens Mercedes-Benz in Columbia, MO. It is ready to drive anywhere/any place. Asking \$15,500. *Michael Koch at cedarcrestvineyards@gmail.com* or 573.230.6497.

(5) 230SL Wheels, with re-chromed beauty rings and hub caps. Also other miscellaneous parts (bumpers, alternator, etc.) Alan Barker at 314.962.6857 or alan-barker@att.net.

Bosch left side headlight assembly (US version) for W123 model (from a 1984 300D) 123-820-9461 and 0 302 653 002. \$65. Also, Bosch right side European model headlight assembly (including turn signal housing) for W126 models (from a 1985 280SE). 0302 050 007/8 \$100. robert\_nauss@umsl.edu or 314.954.2879.

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# Reflections of the recent Autos on Valhalla and St. Louis Gateway Section Car Show/Picnic.

Entering Harry's new BMW (Yes, we do have a beautiful E Class Mercedes!) into a car show was not something we would normally have thought of doing, but being together with St. Louis Gateway friends to benefit the Ride on St. Louis horsemanship therapy group was worth participating in the show.

We listened as the awards were announced for the different categories. Then admired each Winner's beautiful trophy as they passed by our spot surrounding the lake. Hearing a few of their stories it occurred to me there were not just the several category winners but everyone that participated in the event has a unique story and is a winner for participating.

The '77 Blue Corvette parked next to us was owned by a man, who as a young boy, attended a car show and had fallen in love with this car at first sight. He had dreamed of owning it since he first saw it and followed the car for several years, then lost track of it for a time. After 26 years of "chasing" after it, by an incalculable chance coincidence, some might call a God Wink, he drove by a house in a neighborhood he didn't frequent and saw the '77 Corvette parked in the carport with a for sale sign on it. The car had been in Texas for many years and only recently been returned to a grandson in St. Louis as part of an estate. Not surprising, he bought it on the spot.

Earlier that day Harry watched a young boy in a wheelchair stop to admire the now patina blue Corvette. I'm sorry I don't know the owner's name, but he graciously invited the boy and lifted him into the driver's seat. He then showed him features, rolled up the windows, closed the door and let the boy have a few moments to start his own dreams. Later when we complimented him, he commented, That's what it's all about.

I had walked back from the tour of the Mausoleum with a woman who had entered her bright Yellow Porsche convertible into the show. She told me her story. It was a gift to her from her young husband shortly before he passed away suddenly about a year ago. In her matching yellow enameled jewelry she spoke so lovingly about him, his love for her, for cars, for life itself and in whose memory she had entered the show. Surely, another winner. I looked around at all the cars and people and realized a beautiful story could be told about each entry and everyone participating. Though some took home lovely trophies, there were no winners versus losers. We were all Winners.

Valhalla Cemetery, an unusual place, and an unusual event, but used to celebrate the Love of Life, Friends, Cars and Helping Others.

Jauneta Hosmer

Autos at Valhalla Cemetery

Marion Hughes & Judy Barker

Frank & Luella Perry and Ron Faerber

New
Members:
Don & Mary
Margret
Hirsch, and

Ed & Tina Knoll



Stephen Zell, (Valhalla) Marita Wassman, (ROSL), Gail Warren, Rick Siefert

Kitty Mollman, Tina Knoll & Melanie Hancock

Patti Siefert, Dana Faerber, Harry & Jauneta Hosmer



















## AUTOS ON VALHALLA - Annual Club Picnic September 30, 2012

Ed Barutio,
Rick Siefert,
Frank Perry,
VP, John
Prater,
President
"Changing of
the Guards"

Paula Prater & Patti Siefert

Bob & Grace Bennett won "Living Legend" trophy (Jaguar)

Rick Nelson won "Car You Wouldn't Be Caught Dead In" trophy (Smartcar)

Elmer & Carol Sterthman won "Car You'd Like to Inherit" (Oldsmobile)

Rick Siefert & Ed Barutio

Russ Hughes & Rick Siefert talking to Bill Marsden

Jonathan Fine

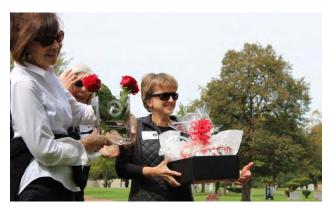
Marita Wassman Program Director " Ride On St Louis"

Michael & Melissa Seymour

Valhalla Organisers: Dodie & Jerroy Frank

Judy Barker, Cathie Wille, Luella Perry, Patti Siefert & Kay Frank





























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