

The Three Rivers Road Report

December, 2014

Volume 2; Issue 12



Supporting Those Who Support Us



On Saturday, November 22nd, we finally made it to CS3 (Calhoun Street Soups, Salads and Spirits) for dinner. The owner helped us out by providing a donation for EuroFest and we wanted to make sure and support them in return. It was a fun, relaxing evening with good friends, good food (Yummy fried pickles!!) and a chance to meet new members Jenine and Bob Burkhardt (in the forefront above). Welcome!





Some of our "Ladies of Mercedes":

Back: Mary Jane Hite, Diane Giannakeff, Amy Bogart and Janice Derek

Middle: Maxi Merkel

Front: Julie Bruggner, Suzanne Noblett and Lisa Long

Below: Janice and Bob Derek



Left: Mary Jane and Ron Hite



Right: Leon and Diane Giannakeff



Left: Amy and Jason Bogart



Above: Ralph and Maxi Merkel



Left: Bob and Jenine Burkhardt



Oh, The Year We've Had!

We're foregoing a couple of our usual features for the newsletter this month in order to do a "Year in Review". Look for "Extra Details" to continue in next month's issue. I'd also like to continue the "Who's Who" articles, but I'll need some audience participation. There are still quite a few of you left who haven't been featured and I'll be asking for your help in the very near future. So, be forewarned.

What would you like to see in YOUR newsletter? We're open to ideas. What have you liked in the issues from this year? What did you skip over? Send me your feedback; I'd really like to know. We received an "Honorable Mention" for our newsletter in the Communications Contest for MBCA (out of 32 sections that submitted), but my goal was not to win an award, but to make this newsletter something the members look forward to getting and reading.

In the meantime, check out the next few pages as we remember all the fun things we've done this year. As you do, make notes of the ones you'd like to repeat, or something you'd like to add for next year. We'll be starting on the next year's schedule before this one's done, so it's never too early to suggest something you'd like to do. There's time throughout the year to find events to fit everyone's interests. We just have to know what they are.

January:

New officers, President Julie Bruggner, Vice-president Jason Bogart, Secretary Janice Derek and Treasurer Suzanne Noblett, start the process of planning events for the year. They, along with members willing to brave the weather, met at Liberty Diner on January 12th and made a list of events to work on.



February:

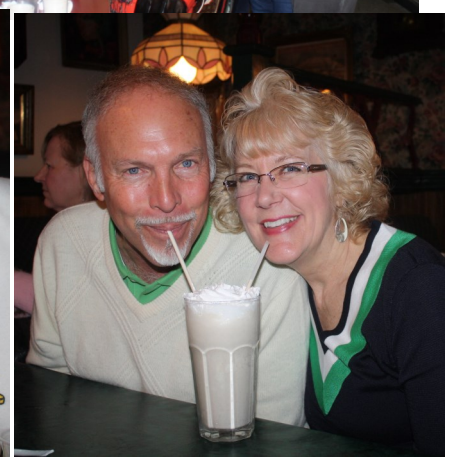
On February 23 we took a short drive West of Fort Wayne to Two EE's Winery. After the free tasting, we gathered in the private area set up for us. We enjoyed appetizers provided by club member and, of course, our selections from their fine wines.



March:

We had two events in March. On the 1st, we traveled to Goshen, Indiana to visit the South Side Soda Shop. Featured on Food Network's Diners, Drive-ins & Dives, it was a quaint diner with lots of memorabilia to look at.

Then on March 16th, we made our annual trip to Flannigan's for our St. Patrick's Day event. Obviously, everyone got into the spirit. Or, should I say "**spirits**"?



April:

On April 13th we headed to South Bend for a dual treat. Our first stop was Tippecanoe Place for their wonderful Sunday Brunch. When we were sufficiently stuffed, we headed to the Studebaker Museum and walked off some of the calories going through the 3 floors of cars.



May:

May 15th saw a small group of members took a road trip to North Carolina. We packed a lot of fun into this trip. We visited the Duke University Gardens and the Duke University Chapel, spent an afternoon strolling through the town of Wake Forest and several antique shops, and an evening sitting together at the beautiful Lions Gate Inn discussing, among other things, cars.



On a sadder note, we also mourned the passing of Bill Howard, seen here with Bob Derek, Jr., not long after we had stayed at the beautiful Bed & Breakfast he and his wife Louise had built.

June:

June 8th was EuroFest, the European Car Show sponsored by our section. The rain early in the day may have put a damper on the attendance at the IPFW campus, but we still had a good turnout and certainly great media coverage. We made the front page of the paper the next morning, and a spot on the evening TV news, and that says something about the potential for even better participation next year.



July:

July was another busy month, with 2 big events. First, on the 5th, Terry Kiwala, our National President, came to Fort Wayne, along with several members of the Indy 500 Section, to help us put on an autocross. One week later, on the 12th, we met downtown for our annual display in the Three Rivers Festival Parade.



August:

August also had two events to keep us busy. On the 9th, we drove to A Summer Place, a 1950's era town recreated in one man's back yard, including working diner and movie theater. Then on the 30th we made our annual foray to Auburn for the ACD Festival. We began with a picnic lunch, then everyone was free to go check out all the cars, vendors and memorabilia that abounds there every year.



September:

September 20th saw a group of us headed to Nappanee for the Apple Festival. It wasn't quite the same as Fort Wayne's Johnny Appleseed Festival, but more of a street fair, with plenty of walking, lots of vendors, and just about any kind of junk food you could possibly crave. Oh yeah, and apples.



October:

As the weather started to change and the "car season" was winding down, we took one last road trip, to Sauder Village in Ohio, on October 12th. Then on the 25th, we met for Breakfast & Benz. We hope that will be the first of many, but that's still in the works.



November:

Go back to the first 2 pages for this one.

December:

This one, still to come, will be our annual Holiday Party at Autumn Ridge Golf Club. Then it's time to start the planning for next year. Some events are already set; the annual ones seem to be some of the favorites. But there's plenty of time in the year for any ideas you may have. Come to a meeting, or contact one of the officers. All our contact information is on the last page of every newsletter. We're happy to have the input.

THREE RIVERS SECTION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS — 2014/2015

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.

April ?: ACD Museum: We'll be host to the Cincinnati Section and the Indy 500 Section when they come to visit the museum. Date and details to follow.

June 6: 5th Annual European Car Show

July 11: Three Rivers Festival Parade

2015: Ideas welcome

National Events Coming to This Area!

Next year, **June 12-14**, StarTech will be taking place in Cincinnati, Ohio. 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.

Another National Event, just announced, will be in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on August 20-22. Gemutlichkeit will include 3 days full of defensive driving, autocross, a driving experience on Pittsburgh International Raceway, Concours d' Elegance, rally, banquets and tours of the Pittsburgh area.

*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.

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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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

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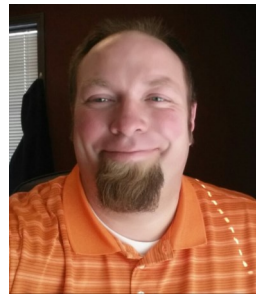


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