



The Bluegrass Star

A Publication of the Bluegrass Stars Section
Mercedes-Benz Club of America

2016 Volume 2, No 3

Upcoming Events

On Saturday October 29th we will going to the Schnitzelbank Restaurant <http://schnitzelbank.com> for lunch at 1:00 PM. The restaurant is located at 393 3rd Avenue, Jasper, Indiana 47546, which is about an hour-and-a-half drive from downtown Louisville. For those interested, we will be convoying from AWR Imports, 223 Adams St, Louisville, KY 40206. If you are interested in joining the drive, please arrive by 10:45 AM so that we can depart by 11:00 AM. Please RSVP before the event to Art Rupe. Contact information is on the back page.

Lunch on Saturday, November 19th at Proof on Main Restaurant in the 21c Museum Hotel at 700 W. Main Street in Louisville www.21cmuseumhotels.com/louisville/eatdrink/ followed by a visit to the Frazier History Museum, 829 W. Main Street, Louisville <http://fraziermuseum.org/> . We will be meeting at the restaurant at 11:00 AM, visiting the museum pieces in the hotel before sitting down for lunch. Admission to the Frazier Museum is \$12 for adults. Parking is available nearby at several city lots. Please call Jim West before the day of the event to reserve a space. Contact information on the back page.

Holiday Party on Saturday, December 3rd from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. We will be having our annual holiday dinner at Spring Street Bar and Grill at 300 Spring Street, Louisville, KY 40206 . We will be located in the back room of the restaurant for our event. Dinner will be a buffet setup with beer and cocktails available at additional cost. Parking is behind the building off of Payne Street. Price per person is \$13. Please RSVP before the event to Art Rupe. Contact information on the back page.

Welcome

As always, if there is anything you would like to see our club do in future events, any topic you would like to see written about in the newsletters, or anything you would like to contribute in general to helping our club, please feel free to contact any of our officers listed in the contacts. We love hearing feedback and any idea is greatly appreciated. There is opportunity for advertisement of both businesses and classified ads within the newsletter as well. Also, if you are not getting post or E-mail messages, or know of someone who should be in our section but for some reason isn't getting notice either, please let us know so we can correct it. Thank you all for your support. Coming up in our next series of issues we will be experimenting with format and content to try and better represent what we want and need out of our newsletter. As well as further exploration into our digital presence. If there is any questions, comments, or ideas please send your thoughts to our editor Chad Rupe. Contact information listed on the back page.

F1 Update

Great Britain

After the penalty assessed at the British Grand Prix, Nico Rosberg found himself with only a one-point lead over his teammate, Lewis Hamilton. The FIA decided to make clarifications to the rules to ensure that there are no further questions on the communication issues. An unlucky yellow flag in qualifying gave Rosberg the pole position but Hamilton overcame his qualifying troubles to take another win, his fifth in six races. Along with the race win, Hamilton took over the points lead.

Germany

Germany was next at Hockenheim. The home Grand Prix for Mercedes-AMG played out almost identically to the Hungarian race. A stellar qualifying performance from Rosberg was all for little as a shaky start had him quickly fall back to fourth where he stayed for most of the day. As with Hungary, Hamilton was there from second to pick up the race win and extend his championship lead.

Belgium

After weeks of strong showings by Hamilton, it was finally time for the car to get overhauled. Combining the earlier mechanical woes with another series of fixes between the race saw one of the largest penalties in history being assessed. Even though there are only 22 cars in a race, Lewis Hamilton was assessed a 60 grid place penalty to start the Belgian Grand Prix. Even with that handicap, the Brit put on a great performance to make it onto the podium. Rosberg, finally finding his way to capitalize on the qualifying performance he had been showing for weeks, once again found himself in the winner's circle.

Italy

With Hamilton's car in peak condition following the previous race's rebuild, pole position was easily gained at the Italian Grand Prix. But even the best car on the grid needs help getting off the line as another poor start from Hamilton saw him drop immediately back to sixth and yield the lead to his teammate. Rosberg pounced on this chance and had an easy drive to another win. Hamilton would have to settle for second.

F1 Update Continued

Singapore

Singapore's Yas Marina has always been a worry for the Mercedes-AMG team. The tight turns and relatively short straights oppose the design of these powerhouse vehicles. Even with this, the team found success at the night race and Rosberg and Hamilton found themselves on the podium in 1st and 3rd respectively. With the momentum on his side, Rosberg once again took the lead in points.

Malaysia

While a perfect season was out of the question early, the brutal speed of the Mercedes factory pair would have been enough to finish the season without another blemish. Unfortunately, this was not to be with an unforgiving Malaysian Grand Prix. Hamilton finally had a proper start from pole and was gearing up to cruise on, but a first turn incident involving the Redbull of Riccardo, the Ferrari of Vettel, and the Mercedes-AMG of Rosberg put the championship points leader to dead last. A strong push throughout the race would put him back to third, but only because of the problems Lewis Hamilton encountered after lap 40. The freshly rebuilt engine of the Mercedes-AMG expired in a ball of smoke, putting him out of the race. What could have been a constructor's championship day in Malaysia would have to be postponed.

Japan

Things were back to normal at the Japanese Grand Prix. The front row was all Mercedes-AMG once again with Rosberg on pole. As had happened on many races this season, Hamilton couldn't quite figure out the start and immediately dropped back to eighth. These issues off the grid are proving costly for the reigning champion.

Rosberg would take the win and Hamilton clawed his way back to the final place on the podium. This put Nico Rosberg 33 points ahead in the championship fight with only four races left in the season. The next race is October 23rd, here in the United States at Circuit of the Americas in Texas.

Rumors Abound for the Next Mercedes Hypercar

With a new class of hypercar on the rise, rumor has it that Mercedes-AMG is looking to make a grand return to the world's fastest. While the Mercedes AMG GT and SLS AMG have served as potent cars to lead the brand in the sports car world, a throaty V8 engine can only go so far in this world. Even the mighty Mercedes-McLaren SLR found it tough to show up in a world that was soon met with million dollar supercars and top speeds that could only be found on private test tracks. But the fastest Mercedes-Benz cars of the past have a racing lineage. World-beating power bred first for the track.

From the SSKL of old, to the legendary 300SL, and the modern classic 190E Cosworth and CLK-GTR, the best is found on the racetrack.

With that in mind, there are heavy rumors of a new hypercar coming just in time for AMG's 50th birthday coming up. Known under the code name R50, power is expected to come from a version of the dominant Formula 1 car. Horsepower numbers are thought to be exceeding 4 digits and a price in the millions. Just the kind of numbers and tech to bring a fight to the known kings of the hypercar class. 1

E-Class All Terrain

With a new E-class on the horizon, a surprise was announced for foreign markets at the Paris Auto Show. Following the sedan, wagon, coupe and, cabriolet forms that were announced earlier this year, a raised "All Terrain" version of the E-Class was shown. What this entails is a slightly raised platform and extra off road ready cladding for the E-Class 4-Matic Wagon. The extra ground clearance will give it an easier way across fields and snow but without going for the body shape found in the SUV range. At speeds, the vehicle can also lower it's suspension for a better ride and more stability. Hopefully, with the current popularity of the crossover, this niche vehicle will be considered for sale stateside as well. 2,3

Mercedes-Benz to Start New EQ Branded Electric Cars

The Paris Auto Show had a large focus on electric vehicles in general this year. Mercedes-Benz decided that the show would be a perfect time to announce its new line of EQ branded cars. Lit up in blue LEDs, a new crossover was the first to be shown at the show. Simply known as "Generation EQ" it has a projected power and range output very similar to that of the new generation of turbo V6-powered cars. The twin motors are expected to hit a respectable 400 horsepower and 310 miles of range in a package priced similar to a mid-range GLC.

The platform of the new concept is being made on modular chassis so that slight tweaks can be made to any number of body styles. With aluminum and carbon fiber playing bigger roles in the future, the efficiency and quality of these new cars should be great and give a good offering from Mercedes-Benz. 4,5

1
<http://www.digitaltrends.com/cars/mercedes-amg-r50-news-rumors-specs-performance/>

2
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/mercedes-benz-taking-wagon-more-152258936.html>

3
<http://www.motortrend.com/news/mercedes-benz-e-class-terrain-debut-2016-paris-auto-show-says-new-report/>

4
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/mercedes-bmws-electric-car-sub-190000033.html>

5
<http://jalopnik.com/the-400-hp-mercedes-benz-eq-is-how-mercedes-will-take-o-1787221960>

Visit to The German American Club

Pictures by Art Rupe and Matthew Mugs



With the weather cooperating nicely, the beer garden was held outside that afternoon.



Everyone gathered out front before dinner began.



Prices were reasonable and the food was all flavors of German feast.



The event was packed with the food line going out the door.

Game Night at the Louisville Bats

Pictures by Chad Rupe, Larry Gettleman



Club president, Art Rupe, presented our award to the three winners of the duPont Manual Regional Science Fair; Vishal Polepalli, Prajwal Vemireddy, and Mark Gomonuk



Members of several sections made it out to see the game. It was great to see people from all over.



Everyone made it inside to the patio and got to enjoy the buffet



While the weather looked promising for the start of the game, rains eventually came through to damper the event.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR CENTRAL REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Hello Central Region members from the Bluegrass Stars, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Memphis, Mississippi, Nashville, Smoky Mountain, and St. Louis Gateway Sections. Patti and I have been travelling extensively as of late, both personally and for the club. Late this summer we spent ten days in beautiful California, beginning our trip in San Francisco and then essentially heading south along the Pacific Coast Highway, spending time in Monterrey, Pebble Beach, Paso Robles Wine Country, LA, and Irvine. While in the Irvine area, I once again had the opportunity to visit my good friend, Tom Hanson, of the Classic Center and paid another visit to Fletcher Jones in Newport Beach, which is the largest M-B dealership in the country !



St. Louis Gateway Section President, Dan Valle, retires after two years of service, as Steve Jacquemin takes over the reigns for the next two years.



Mississippi Section Vice President, Scott Boone and President, Mike Marsh, after Mike was awarded the 2016 Central Region Officer-of-the-Year award. And no, I'm not that short ! Both Scott and especially Mike, are very tall !

The St. Louis Gateway Section had a very nice early Fall picnic recently at the Museum of Transportation, located in west St. Louis County. The setting was excellent for members and their families, where all dined on a wide-array of picnic food items, enjoyed viewing and selecting their favorites from the many beautiful cars on display in the Show 'n Shine, rode around the park on a miniature train line, and viewed the many fine exhibits within the museums.

Several St. Louis Gateway couples joined Patti and I as we traveled together to Historic Louisville, Kentucky, spending the night in the Dupont Mansion, which is now a charming bed and breakfast ! We all enjoyed visiting with Bluegrass Stars' members for dinner and then breakfast the next morning, before continuing our travels towards the Lexington area, joining the Cincinnati and other Sections for an excellent Bourbon Tour.

October 1st, marked the 9th anniversary of Renaissance Euro-Fest, in Ridgeland, Mississippi. Yours truly was fortunate to be there and participate in the many activities associated with this wonderful event.

Mississippi Section President, Mike Marsh is the Founder and Director of this all-European Show, which attracts exceptionally fine automobiles from across the country. At the conclusion of the award ceremony, I was honored to present Mike with the Central Region's Officer-of-the-Year award.

On the weekend of October 7th-9th, Patti and I motored to Cincinnati in the SEC for jam-packed events celebrating their Section's 55th Anniversary as part of the MBCA. President Peter Emslander and Vice President, David Hagood, along with a solid board, really outdid themselves, hosting wonderful dinners, a challenging road rally, award-winning car show, and many prizes and gifts, including beautiful drink glasses commemorating this special club event. Since taking

over the reigns as Section President a year ago, Peter has been the driving force in significant membership increase within the Cincinnati Section. Congratulations are heartily extended to Peter & his team !

As the holiday season approaches, Patti and I look forward to celebrating with you at your holiday events and parties. I encourage you to continue to embrace the interesting, fun-loving, and down-to-earth members within your Section and participate in the many Section, Regional, and National activities throughout the year. Please consider offering to volunteer as a Section Board Member, Officer, and/or Host of one of their monthly events. You'll be glad that you did !!



Frank & Luella Perry, Patti & Rick Siefert, and Dana & Ron Faerber enjoy an evening at the DuPont Mansion in Louisville, KY.



Cincinnati Section members pose in front of their Section's beautiful new tent ! And yes, Patti and I are in this photo. See if you can find "Waldo" and his wife !

Section Officers & Board of Directors

You can contact our club officers
by standard mail, E-Mail, or Phone

PRESIDENT

Art Rupe

9811 Stanalouise Dr
Louisville, KY 40291
Artrupe@yahoo.com
(502) 592-1805

PAST-PRESIDENT

Dana Ruthers

1133 Lantern Creek Court
Lexington, KY 40517
deutschebenz@hotmail.com
(859) 913-3440

VICE PRESIDENT

Jim West

202 Cherokee Dr
Jeffersonville, IN 47131
(812) 725 0885

TREASURER

& MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Larry Gettleman

1461 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40208-2118
Phone: (502) 634-1461
gettleman@louisville.edu

EDITOR

Chad Rupe

9811 Stanalouise Dr
Louisville, KY 40291
(804) 833-6005
Syaieya@yahoo.com

REGIONAL DIRECTOR

Rick Siefert

367 West Manor Dr.
Chesterfield, MO 63017
(314) 435-1903
Rick.siefert@att.net

Dana Ruthers
Lexington, KY

Albert Henley
Radcliff, KY

Nat Williams
Radcliff, KY

The Trading Post: Cars, Parts, and Accessories

1987 560SL, 92K miles. MBCA member. L.A. CA car from new until 2003, when moved to Newburgh, IN. Garage kept, new German canvas top. Only 250 miles driven in last 3 years. No rust. Very good condition. Never driven in snow. Must clear garage for new MB purchase.
\$11,500. Dan Hall 812-449-5425
hall.dan@jobcorps.org



After years of enjoyable ownership, I am selling my 1995 E320 Cabriolet. It is a limited production car with a distinct midnight blue/ tan color scheme. 110K documented miles garage kept. All original matching blue top and headliner, all services current and performed at Tafel Motors. Original alloy rims in nice shape on matching Pirelli tires with original tools, spare, manuals, and window sticker included. \$12,500
Call Robert Astorino: 502-718-7100



1984 380SL Champagne Metallic/Brown Leather. 72,300 miles. Soft top & hard top with storage rack. Excellent condition, rust free. Everything works, well maintained. All maintenance records. Garage kept, car cover. \$11,000.
Call Jerry: 502-245-7806
For Sale



- Four wheels, 8x16in, with tires; fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$125each.
- Four door pull closer handles: fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$50 each.
- Grille, fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$225.
- W220 Tail lamp assembly, fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$125.
- Cup holder, center armrest (leather), fits the 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$150.
- Four-piece air vent for dash of 2000 S500 Mercedes; \$225. Nat Williams (see Section Officers)

- Four 14" Bundt alloy wheels, nearly new, \$25 each (price lowered).
 - Half-shafts for rear suspension R107, W115, W123 & others, used, \$100 each (price lowered).
- Contact Larry Gettleman for details.

Discounted Parts

The following dealerships and shops have agreed to reduce by ten percent (10%) the total price of parts purchased by a Mercedes-Benz Club member with a current MBCA membership card. Restrictions apply; call for details.

TAFEL MOTORS **AUTOBAHN**
4156 Shelbyville Road **MOTORS LLC**
Louisville, KY 40207 1403 Hugh Ave
(502) 896-4411 Louisville, KY 40213
(502) 473-7858, See Don

JAMES MOTOR **AWR IMPORTS**
COMPANY
2440 Richmond Road 223 Adams St
Lexington, KY 40502 Louisville, Ky 40206
(859) 268-1150 (502) 749-1002
AWRImports.com