



Holiday Party at Lockkeepers Inn

The annual Western Reserve Section Holiday party was held at Lockkeepers in Independence on Jan. 6, 2018. The air was cold, but the fellowship and good food warmed all those who attended. The hors' d'oeuvres and cocktails were served in our private room followed by a wonderful buffet



dinner and dessert bar. **Bob Durante** of Zap Entertainment presented magic and comedy to the delight of the crowd. After



his performance, President **Rod Thompson** presented the Member of the Year Award to **Allan Pintner**. Allan has been on the board for 2 years and has served as secretary, hosted the 2 clambakes at DTJ Taborville, and was the tourmeister for the Kentucky Driving Adventure. Allan is always willing to step in where needed and has been great

asset to the club! Also, longevity pins in increments of 5 years were presented to Kurt Von Leyser, 15 years; Don Brehm, also 15 years; and Brant Schnackenberg, 10 years.



Message from President...

By **Rod Thompson**



It has been a long winter for those of us living in northeast Ohio, and I hope we can enjoy driving our favorite cars to the Oberlin event on Saturday, April 21st. This will be a cultural outing with a private tour of one of our nation's finest college museums followed by a luncheon at a quality restaurant specializing in locally

sourced organic produce. There will be plenty of safe parking along the street in front of the museum with a fine view of the Oberlin quadrangle.

In May we will have a private tour of a 75 car personal collection in Tallmadge, with a special presentation from an automotive forensics authority. In June we embark on a Nautica cruise and luncheon.

Hope to see you soon at one of these spring events.

Board of Directors

Rod Thompson, President
renold.thompson@clevelandship.com
216-374-6419

Paulailey, Vice President
paulbailey@neo.rr.com
317-502-8595

Allan Pintner, Secretary
apintner@mhmltd.com
216-548-9077

John Morrison, Treasurer
gobenzing@aol.com
Sue Morrison
slm2teach@aol.com
330-673-7885

Gary Goodman, Webmaster
ggood100167@aol.com
440-670-4203

Ted Gottfried, Tech Advisor
tbgfried@yahoo.com
330-650-0751

Brian DiPasquale
Tracy DiPasquale
brian@vecmar.com
440-953-1119

Fred Gwinn
fred@reverselogic.us
216-235-8584

Lee Kalessis
lkalessis@yahoo.com
330-461-0422

Dr. William Mulhausen
drbillmulhausens@outlook.com
440-899-1570

John Tuck
John.Tuck1@gmail.com
216-408-8454

Frank Cozza, Director-at-Large
(National)
Mary Alice Cozza
fcozza@neo.rr.com
330-222-1106

John Briggs, Great Lakes Regional
Director
johnrb@comcast.net
810-299.1165

Crier Editors: Mary Alice Cozza,
Priscilla Gwinn, Sue Morrison

National and Regional News....

by **Frank Cozza**



Now is the time to sign up for STARFEST 2018 to be held in Birmingham, Alabama May 14-21. There are activities to interest every participant including the performance driving school, tours of the factory, Talladega track laps, Councours at the MBUSI factory, autocross and school at Barber, banquets, road rallyes and much more. Log on to www.starfest2018.com for more information and registration info.

The next raffle is in process. First prize is a 2018 Mercedes-Benz S560 Cabriolet. Tickets are \$50 each, and there is no limit to the number you can purchase. See <http://raffle.mbca.org> or the latest STAR for more information.

Remember that if you have been a member with 12 or more consecutive months of membership, you are qualified to receive the Loyalty Rewards

Membership Update

Welcome New Members

December 1, 2017 – April 5, 2018

Sean Fead	John Marino	Clifford Klein
Peter Bottar	Piotr Szlamas	Mallik Khaleq
Joel Scheer	John Nottingham	James Roder
Scott Baltusnik	Amy Goodson Fess	Harrison Sapir
Lynn Fete	Todd Huckabone	

Welcome Renewals

Laurie Tall	Nicholas Brown	Dr. William Mulhausen
Ellis Lovell	Nancy Lewayne	Neil Weimer
Dick Gortz	Karen Jasien	Charles Deeds
Edward Mehler	Kurt Von Leyser	Timothy Graziano
Noor Fattah	Eugene Pallas	Walt Stashkiw
Stan Burson	Patrick Kirk	Ralph Johnson
Scott Schulick	Mark Botham	Frank Huemmer
Beverly Stewart	John Krystowski	Carl Wennerstrom
Sandra DeCerbo	Klaus Kitzler	Bernard Naworski

Myron Vernis Collection

Our section has been invited to view the private collection of Myron Vernis on May 26 from 1:00 to 4:00. His forensic expert, Lyn Smith, will be available as well. Mark your calendar for this exciting event. More information will follow in a flyer.

190E 2.3 Mercedes 16 Valve Sheet Metal

By Ted Gottfried

Thus past September with a load of top soil on my truck, I decided to back my Toyota truck backwards down my driveway in a driving rain storm. Unfortunately I forgot that I had parked my Mercedes 190E 2.3 16 Valve Cosworth in my truck's usual parking spot.

WHAM!!!!!! I took out the left front headlight unit and buckled up the hood and left front fender. What an opportunity to finally get into repairing the body. I drove the car the next day down to Gene Blackford's Red Lacquer Room in Cuyahoga Falls. Gene's first impression was that we needed a new or used replacement hood. I told him I would much rather pay him the \$500 cost of a used hood for his expertise and time to repair my hood. Thus he said he would try to save my hood. Which he did. Fantastic. Good job.

So he opened up the front end and determined that he needed several structural steel stampings from Mercedes. Gene straightened out the hood as well as the left front fender after disassembly. The entire interior area was painted as well and rust preventative applied. New steel supports were all welded in and the hood and fender were refinished and reinstalled.

Because Gene is such an outstanding technician and body man as well as an accomplished artist. The entire front end looked fantastic with a new headlight bezel (not cheap!). I had supplied a new under hood insulation pad, but Gene had actually repaired the hood without touching the pad. I was able to return the pad to Ganley Mercedes in Akron for a refund.

Because Gene and I are both advanced seniors we had miscommunicated about what other areas needed repairs.

Both rear fender wheel arch openings were pretty rusty, thus we agreed to address them. I priced out Mercedes repair Sheet Metal, but Gene noticed that the fender flairs looked to him to be the same as his Ford pickup truck. Sure enough!

Gene bought Ford pickup truck bed fender Sections from Triplet Auto Wrecking Salvage Yard in Akron and Voila. Actually old American truck Sheet Metal is heavier gauge than the original Mercedes Sheet Metal. How about that?

As a result the welded in repairs for both rear quarters of my car are actually much stronger than they were when the car was first built.

Simply fantastic results, only someone with Gene's perceptiveness can come up with this kind of solution.

Now then the next phase of bringing my car up to a higher standard will be concentrated in the interior. Rebuilding the seats will be on my list too.

I enjoy driving this 16 Valve as much as any Mercedes that I have ever owned. Mechanically the car is refurbished, but cosmetic challenges remain. Ever onward. Later



Our Deepest Sympathy



Joseph Adamcik

We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of long-time section member **Joe Adamcik**. Joe and his wife **Jean** served on our board of directors for many years and were quite active in our section events. Joe especially loved our driving events and was always willing to lend a helping hand to organize track days and to volunteer as an instructor.

In addition to his Mercedes-Benz, Joe enjoyed driving two other toys--his MR-2 turbo and his Corvette. Joe was a great friend to many of us and he will be missed. Our thoughts and sympathy go out to Jean and the family.

Philippe Gottfried

Our section was also saddened to learn of the passing of **Philippe Gottfried** in Charlotte, North Carolina in February. Philippe is the son of **Ted** and **Brigitte Gottfried**. Ted, our longtime board member and technical advisor, served as Tech inspector for national events. Philippe would often assist his dad with these duties. Our sympathy to Ted, Brigitte, and Philippe's family in North Carolina.

Steps necessary to rehabilitate an Automobile

By Allan Pintner

On Saturday, March 24th the Western Reserve section of the MBCA attended a presentation by **Jim Capaldi**,



of Capaldi Enterprises in Wickliffe, Ohio. Jim had prepared a slide presentation for our club members and their guests

which demonstrated in clear detail all of the necessary steps to rehabilitate an automobile. Jim took questions during his narration of the slides and this added significantly to the interest of the presentation. After the presentation we were able to tour both shop areas that Capaldi utilizes. The tour enabled us to see the car which was the main feature of the



presentation. (Red Car in the attached pictures.) One of the slides in the presentation showed a simple

device made in house by Capaldi personnel to paint wheels and in the case of the featured automobile, spoked wheels. Fruit, cheeses and snacks were provided by Jim Capaldi. Thank you



to **Ted Gottfried** for setting up this informative and interesting technical session at Capaldi's. (Bright red car

with yellow spoke wheels was the car featured in Jim Capaldi's presentation; maroon car a Packard; red and black a 55 Ford; blue and maise with tan top a 31 Lincoln;)



Cleveland auto show and dinner

By Allan Pintner

On Saturday, February 24 Members of the Western Reserve Section of the MBCA had lunch together in Berea where tickets to the 2018 Cleveland Auto Show were distributed. Tickets for our members were provided by **Ganley Mercedes Benz of Akron**, and **Mercedes-Benz of North Olmsted**. Following lunch most of the members who had attended the lunch made an unscheduled stop to the shop of our Club's Member **Jim Jaworski**. We were treated to seeing many vehicles in the process



of being returned to life including Club President **Rod Thompson's** Rolls Royce which was in for engine repairs. Once at the Auto Show our members enjoyed a plethora of new Mercedes-Benz vehicles, a comprehensive representation of the vehicles available from Mercedes-Benz as well as some idea of future vehicles. Pictured is a 1932 Cadillac which was on loan from the Canton Auto Museum to the Auto Show. Our club toured that museum several years ago in April.



MBCA | Western Reserve Section

Allen Art Museum--Oberlin Private Tour and Luncheon

Saturday, April 21st, 2018
11:00 AM—2:00 PM

On Saturday, April 21st our club will meet at 11:00 am at **The Allen Memorial Art Museum** (87 N. Main Street, Oberlin, OH 44074). We will attend a private tour of the collection. This museum is one of the oldest and best endowed college museums in the country.

At 12:30pm we will walk one block to enjoy a luncheon at The Hotel at Oberlin's **"1833 Restaurant"**. This facility was totally rebuilt and completed last year, and was previously named the Oberlin Inn.

We will be seated together in reserved tables and will order and pay for our entrees separately.

Our tour and luncheon will end at 2:00 pm, providing time for leisurely exploring the lovely Oberlin campus after lunch.

The cost for the tour is \$10.00 per person.

Questions?? contact Rod Thompson at renold.thompson@clevelandship.com; phone 440-247-2853.

Mail your registration by April 15th to Rod Thompson 3175 Roundwood Rd., Hunting Valley, OH 44022.

Or register and pay online by April 18th at www.benzclub.org

Name: _____ Phone _____

Email: _____

attending _____ x \$10 = \$ _____ Total enclosed

Make your check payable to MBCA Western Reserve or register online at www.benzclub.org



Western Reserve Section

CRIER

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

7783 Diagonal Road

Kent, Ohio 44240

MBCA Schedule of Events

April 21	Allen Art Museum & Lunch	Oberlin OH
May 1	Membership Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Brewster's Twinsburg
May 14-21	Starfest 2018	Birmingham AL
May 26	Tour Myron Vernis Collection	Tallmadge OH
June 5	Membership Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Brewster's Twinsburg
June 9	Nautica Lunch Cruise	Cleveland
July 3	Membership Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Brewster's Twinsburg
July 18	Gervasi Cruise In	North Canton
Aug. 4	Old Car Fun Day	Hunting Valley
Aug. 7	Membership Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Brewster's Twinsburg
Aug. 18	Huron Yacht Club and Car Show	Huron OH

Our section's website will be updated as things change. www.benzclub.org Please check it often. As mentioned before, we are hoping to do as much as possible electronically. You will learn upcoming events quicker by checking for updates and watching your inbox.

At our next meeting, we will be planning the 2018 calendar. If you have input, please join us or contact one of us. We are always looking for events YOU will enjoy.