

BADGER *Star*

Oct—Nov 2024

mbca.org/section/wisconsin



MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA WISCONSIN SECTION

President's Message

The days are getting shorter, football season is upon us (my beloved Iowa State Cyclones beat the Iowa Hawkeyes!), and Halloween is close. Welcome to the October – November issue of the *Badger Star*.

MBCA National Election

Voting is open through October 15 on a proposed change to the MBCA National by-laws.

The proposal calls for sweeping changes to the by-laws, including the elimination of Regional Directors, and the consolidation of power of MBCA National leadership into the hands of fewer individuals. You should have received an e-mail from MBCA National containing a link to the proposed by-laws as well as a link to cast your vote.

Recent Board Actions

Your Board approved subsidizing the Christmas Party and Annual meeting at their August meeting. The cost to members will be \$20.00/person with the Club picking up the remainder.

This decision would not have been possible without the generous support of Mercedes-Benz Milwaukee North Shore. If you're shopping for a new Mercedes, a CPO or used vehicle, parts or service please patronize them whenever possible.

An Event Hosting Policy was approved at the September meeting. The policy appears in full elsewhere in this newsletter.

2025 Board Composition

Your Board of Directors is presently one member short of its normal compliment of nine (9) members, and recent calls for new board members have been unsuccessful.



Consequently, it appears that your Club will continue to operate with less than a full slate of board members during calendar 2025. This deficiency in Board headcount creates problems in the efficient and normal operation of the Board, and by extension the Club, and can pose a problem if a controversial issue confronts the Board.

The Call for Board Members appears elsewhere in this newsletter. Please read it, and consider volunteering to serve as a Board member. Experience is not needed, and it's a wonderful way to meet other members and increase your involvement in the Club.

Recent and Upcoming Events

Read about our participation at German-American Day at Carl Schurz Park and our Drive-2-Dine at the Mineshaft in Oshkosh and Oktoberfest In Germantown elsewhere in this issue.

Looking ahead, we'll participate in our Fall Color Tour along the Mississippi Great River Road on October 19th & 20th.

Finally, we return to the Golden Mast for our Christmas Party and Annual Meeting on Sunday December 8th. Announcements for both the Color Tour and Christmas Party can be found elsewhere in this newsletter, and as always check out the Event Calendar for all upcoming events.

Event Planning Session

An Event Planning Session will be scheduled for later this year, probably sometime in November. The Planning Session will be online, interactive, with the goal of helping to plan and schedule events for 2025. The Planning Session is Open to All Members, so please consider attending! This is your club and your input is what drives our event calendar, and this is a great opportunity to let us know what kind of events you would like to see us hold. You won't need a computer to join, you can call in. A separate e-blast (or postcard for those without email) will be sent out closer to the date with

instructions on how to join the planning session.

Wisconsin Chapter Name Badges

Your Wisconsin Chapter has made arrangements for you to purchase name tags personalized with the Wisconsin Chapter logo.

The name tags are 1.5"x3.25" in size with rounded corners and feature a light gold background and the Wisconsin Chapter logo laser etched in black. Up to 3 lines of text are available, and come with a magnetic backing. An optional pin clutch backing is available for those where a magnet is not suitable for health reasons. Please see the order form elsewhere in the newsletter for a picture of a sample and an order form.

Is your Membership Profile Current?

The implementation of a completely new membership database by MBCA National requires that all members update their membership profile to ensure that the new database is as accurate as possible. If you haven't already updated your membership information you need to do so NOW. Read more about this change in the "Update your Membership Record" announcement elsewhere in this issue.

I close these remarks by thanking each and every one of you for being a member of the Wisconsin Chapter. It's our members who make this Chapter successful. I look forward to seeing all of you in person at an upcoming event.



Best regards,

Bruce Hamilton

bruce.hamilton@cpa.com

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Subscription to "The Star", a bimonthly magazine published by Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Discounted price off a New Mercedes-Benz

Discounts on parts, service and accessories from participating Mercedes-Benz Dealerships

15% off parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

Expert technical advice to help you maintain, service, condition, restore and repair you Mercedes-Benz

And best of all, participation in the many events provided by your local Mercedes-Benz Club of America

UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP RECORD

Recently MBCA made some major changes at the National level. Among them was the implementation of a completely new membership database. That new database requires that all members update their membership profile to ensure that the new database is as accurate as possible.

To update your membership profile, please go to www.mbca.org, log-in and then update your membership profile. You may have to re-register since membership details did not transfer from the old database to the new.

If you do not have access to the internet you need to call the National business office at (719) 633-6427 and ask Natasha to help you update your records. She is available Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Mountain Time.

If you go to voicemail, please leave a message; Natasha is very good about calling back, though it might take a day or two. She can then help you.

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Milestone Anniversaries and New Members

June – November Milestone Anniversaries

Member	Years
Al Toussaint	49
Ed Blomstrom	25
Bruce Hamilton	15
Linda Nenn	15
Paul Sachs	15
David Lefeber	10
Jim Maderski	10
Marty Challenger	5
Greg Johnson	5
Robert Kaupie	5
Walter Neumann	5

New Members March 26 – September 21

	Join Date
Jason Stormowski	September 4
Phillip Nicholas	July 17
Andy & Susie Knauf	July 6
Brenda Yagla	June 27
Dale Schmidt	May 30
Edward Land	April 18
Dave & Diane Sparr	April 18
Ronald Ruhnke	April 8
Don Peters	March 31
Steve Walters	March 26

The above information is obtained from the MBCA National Database. If you feel any of this information is in error, please contact the MBCA National office at (719) 633-6427 or info@mbca.org. Please DO NOT contact the Wisconsin Chapter to update your information. All updates/changes/corrections must be made through the MBCA National office.

CLUB BOARD MEETINGS

Board meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month. Meetings are held online using GoToMeeting. Attendees call in using a phone, tablet or computer.

We encourage participation from our members. If you wish to participate, and receive an invitation for a meeting, please contact Bruce Hamilton at bruce.hamilton@cpa.com or 608-754-6066.

Recommendations for new activities or comments on prior events are always welcome.

Saturday, August 31, 2024 Drive-to-Dine Mineshaft Oshkosh Review

It was a beautiful Summer day on Saturday, August 31st for a Drive-to-Dine at The Mineshaft restaurant in Oshkosh. We had 20 attendees with an assortment of Mercedes Benz vehicles. Not a cloud in the sky and a great day top down motoring for the 2 cabriolets that were present in the grouping.

The spacious Mineshaft venue made room for our group in one of the main seating areas of the restaurant. Our next door neighbors in the restaurant was a local motorcycle club with about 30 individuals at their luncheon. It's a popular location in the Fox Valley area.

Our Drive to Dine was well attended; considering that we only promoted the event for 2 weeks prior. Overall; everyone enjoyed the food and the Gemütlichkeit! And, our lead waiter, Jackson, was polite and very efficient for a larger group. I hope everyone had a leisurely drive back home with plenty of blue sky!



Dick & Nancy Kusch



German American Day at Carl Shurz Park



<https://photos.app.goo.gl/bPM4CcVcrgVCuz4r9>

We all enjoyed a perfect warm sunshine day for this event. We had 8 MB cars and 14 MBCA, Wisconsin Chapter members in this parade.

All of our members enjoyed the German music, foods and drinks as well as viewing all the various folk "trachten" outfits people were wearing.

Thanks to all of you who joined us there today.



Wisconsin Section Club Events 2024

Date	Event—Location	Host—Contact Information
October 18-20th	Fall Color Tour	Bernd Kampe-- bkampe0@gmail.com ; 262-492-4441 (mobile)
December 8th	Christmas Party and Annual Meeting, Weissgerber's Golden Mast	
Feb 9, 2025	7th Annual Valentines D-2-D Fox and Hounds Restaurant	

mbca.org/section/wisconsin

facebook.com/mbcawi

For the most current Events List visit our Website or FacebookPage

WANTED – BOARD MEMBERS

The Wisconsin Chapter is seeking members who have an interest in serving on the Board of Directors. Three positions are open.

All three (3) positions are for regular three year board terms beginning in January 2025 and running through December 2027.

Board members meet once a month for between one and two hours to plan and direct Chapter activities and establish policies and procedures for Chapter events. Among other things, the Board is responsible for developing and maintaining a running twelve-month calendar of events and capturing requests from members for activities & events.

Board members DO NOT have to travel to attend board meetings; all meetings are conducted using the Chapter's **GoToMeeting** web conferencing software.

Members who sit on the Board of Directors should be willing and able to:

- Attend a majority of monthly board meetings held throughout the year.
- Participate in periodic e-mail exchanges to achieve Board & Chapter objectives.
- Attend Chapter functions throughout the year.
- Be willing to host or co-host an event. An event can be as simple as hosting a Drive-2-Dine or as elaborate as planning and hosting a rallye.

Be a proactive and positive representative of MBCA and the Wisconsin Chapter

Serving on the board of directors is a great way to meet other members and increase your involvement in the Chapter. If you are interested in serving on the Board please contact either:

Secretary Dan Hellenberg at spatlese44@yahoo.com or

Bruce Hamilton at bruce.hamilton@cpa.com

MBCA Wisconsin Chapter Fall Color Tour

Join us on the Wisconsin Chapter's fall color tour, Oct 19-20, exploring the many sights along WI Hwy 33 and the Great Mississippi River Road.

The starting point for our tour on Saturday will be the Log Cabin Restaurant located on Hwy 33 as you enter east Baraboo. [Click for map](#) Plan to arrive there between 10:00-11:00 AM to enjoy a late breakfast or early lunch. [Click for menu](#)

Depart on the fall color drive when you are ready, in small groups or single MB cars. This entire driving tour is self-guided and paced. Proceed west on Hwy 33 to Reedsburg. West of Reedsburg is the most hilly and scenic part of Hwy 33, with over 10 miles of Amish farms located between Ontario and Cashton. Drive at your own pace, stopping where you want, to see things of interest to you.

When you arrive in La Crosse, Hwy 33 ends. You should explore sights in this area, particularly driving up to the top of the 500 foot elevation Grandad Bluff Park, which offers incredible views for miles of La Crosse and the Mississippi River. [Click for more information](#)

Lodging in La Crosse

We have reserved a block of 15 hotel rooms for \$149/double or single occupancy at the Gundersen Hotel & Suites (608-793-0200) under the "MBCA" name. A variety of rooms are available. [Click for hotel website](#) October 8 is the cut-off date for the room block, so be sure and reserve your room now if you are considering participating in this popular fall color driving tour. This is a peak fall color weekend in La Crosse, so many area hotels are already booked. We have requested 25 booklets on the WI Great River Road and the La Crosse area from the La Crosse visitors bureau be dropped off at the hotel for our members.

Group Dinner in La Crosse

We have also made a group dinner reservation at 5:30 pm for up to 40 of our MBCA participants at the Freight House Restaurant in nearby downtown La Crosse [Click for website](#)

Sunday, you may want to continue your driving adventure by exploring the Great River Road on both WI Hwy 35 and MN Hwy 61 between La Crosse, Lake Pepin and Red Wing. There is much to see and do along both of these scenic river roads. The total drive time is 3-4 hours. You can also drive about an hour south of La Crosse on WI Hwy 35 to explore Prairie du Chien, or just drive directly back home if you desire.

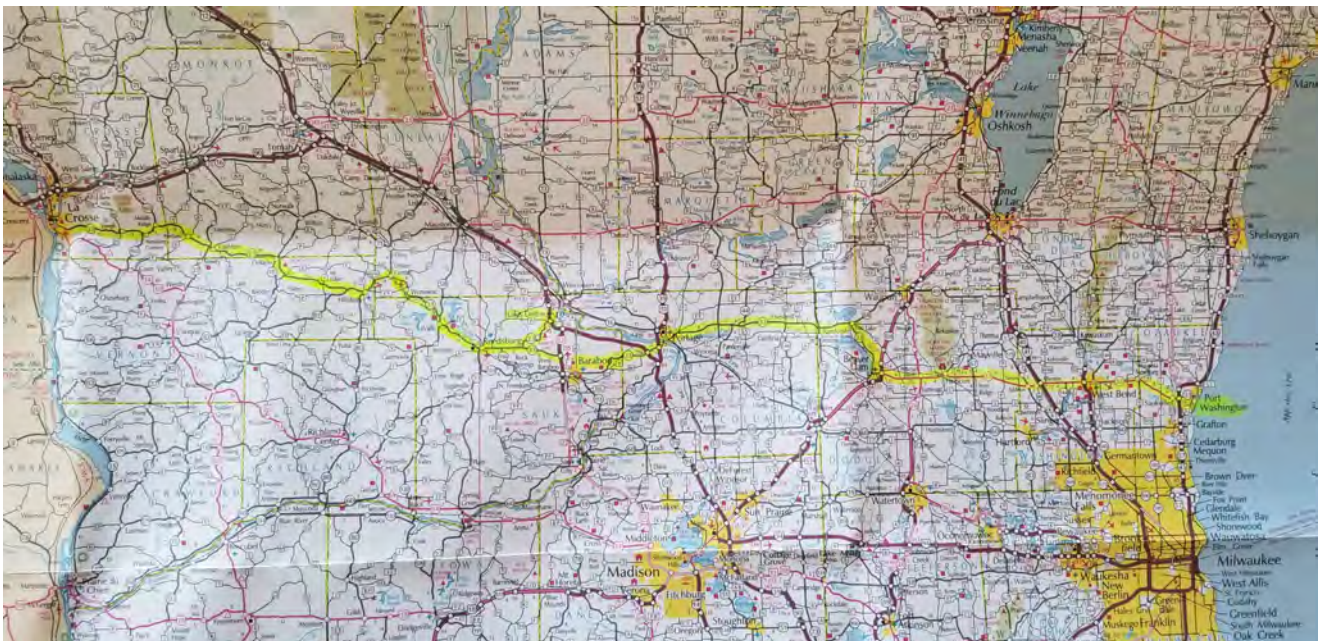
Please email or text Bernd Kampe at bkampe0@gmail.com or 262-492-4441 (mobile) if you are planning to join us on this Wisconsin Chapter, MBCA Fall Color Tour, Oct 19-20.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/yswia9hz4QovEtu26>

<https://explorelacrosse.com/highways-to-waterways/>

The Wisconsin Great River Road – An All American

<https://youtu.be/iHg5x5B55r0>



MBCA Christmas Party December 8th, 2024

Join us Sunday, December 8th for the Wisconsin Chapter's Christmas Party and Annual Meeting. We are returning to the Golden Mast for their wonderful Champagne Brunch. Enjoy great food, holiday cheer and Gemütlichkeit while a slide show recaps all of our 2024 events.

Christmas Party and Annual Meeting Details:

Date: Sunday, December 8th, 2024

Time 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM Brunch at 12:15

Location Weissgerber's Golden Mast Inn, W349 N5293
Lacy's Lane, Okauchee WI 53069
[Click for Map](#)

Cost \$20.00 per person. The club is picking up the remainder! Adult beverages on your own

RSVP By Sunday November 24th to Bruce Hamilton at
bruce.hamilton@cpa.com or 608.754.6066

PayPal is the preferred payment method, <http://www.paypal.me/MBCAWisconsin>. If you prefer to pay by check, make your check payable to "Wisconsin Chapter, MBCA" in the amount of \$20.00 for each person attending. Mail your check to:

Bruce Hamilton
4225 Southwyck Dr



7th Annual Valentine's Drive-to-Dine



Sunday, February 9th, 2025

Where: The Fox & Hounds Restaurant & Tavern

1298 Friess Lake Rd

Hubertus WI 53033

Time: 12:00 noon



Join fellow Wisconsin Section members at our 7th Annual Valentine's Drive-to-Dine. It may be the Sunday before Valentine's Day, but you can still bring your sweetheart (and I don't mean just your MB!).

Enjoy a great Sunday brunch and gemütlichkeit at the Fox & Hounds Restaurant & Tavern, 1298 Friess Lake Rd, Hubertus. [Click for Map](#)

Pricing and event details will be announced in the December 2024-January 2025 *Badger Star*

Section Name Badge Order Form

Order New Wisconsin Name Badges

Badge #1 ☐

Badge #2 ☐ (please print clearly)

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

3rd-line option (for current or past club officers)



Standard badge fastener is magnetic. If you prefer a Safety Pin fastener check box ☐ next to badge number above

Badge Price is \$9.50each. Mail form and your check to:

House of Engraving, LLC 4411 N. Oakland Ave. Shorewood, WI 53211

From: _____ Return Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____



Oktoberfest & Car Show at Dheinsville Historic Park in Germantown, Sunday,

Our Wisconsin Section/Chapter had 21 MB cars of various models, spanning 5 decades at this annual Oktoberfest and car show at Dheinsville Historic Park in Germantown. The weather was fantastic and they had excellent participation on both days. You can view all the photos of our cars in the attached Google Photos album link. Thanks to all of our MB club members, spouses and families who joined us there.

Thanks also to club member Jan Miller for organizing our MB club's participation in this year's car show. Plan on being there again next year on the last Sunday in September.

Submitted by--

Bernd Kampe

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/P9aZefcnPLexMJKU9>

Click the link below for a video from the event:

[https://www.facebook.com/reel/521279867519269?_cft__\[0\]](https://www.facebook.com/reel/521279867519269?_cft__[0])



Event Hosting Policy

As a means to getting more people involved with running events, Wisconsin Chapter MBCA (the Club) will give one event admission for hosting or co-hosting an event. If there is a single host, one event admission will be given; if there is a co-host, we will give one additional admission to event. The term "host" is defined as a member and their spouse/significant other.

For area car rallies the Club will give a \$75.00 driving allowance and one event admission. If the rallye is outside of the Milwaukee, Madison or Green Bay metro-areas the Club will give a \$100.00 driving allowance and one event admission.

For each type of major event (Christmas Party, Valentine's Day Brunch, Car Show & similar) the Club will budget an amount of club support to run the event. This will be beyond monies charged for the event.

The Wisconsin Chapter MBCA exists to plan events that the members will enjoy. We do not exist to make money, we want to come out even (break even overall). In some instances this will result in the Club subsidizing an event (examples: Christmas Party, Car Show).

Event Refund Policy

For events which require advanced reservation and prepayment (Christmas Party, Valentine's D-2-D, Rallye, German-American Day and similar events) the following Event Refund Policy will apply.

Cancellations received before the reservation cut-off date will be eligible, at the request of the member, to a full refund. In the event the original payment was made using PayPal, the refund will be limited to the amount paid less the PayPal fees.

Cancellations made after the reservation cut-off date **will not** be eligible for a refund, regardless of the reason for the cancellation. This is because the Section is obligated to the event venue or the number of attendees reserved for the event.

All refunds will be made via a check mailed by the Section Treasurer to the member at their address of record as shown on the Membership Roster as maintained by the MBCA National office.

Policy adopted by the Board of Directors January 12, 2024



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608.455.7441 · www.brooklyn300.com

Do you have club event photos, an event write up, a Journey article or advertisement (business or member for sale/to buy) for the next newsletter?

Please send information to Chad Winter, chad@crs-wi.com, (414) 303-9585 by July 15, 2024 to be considered for the August– September newsletter

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Ahmad Aref

Platform Manager

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