

The Bluegrass Star

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

Spring 2025

President's Message

Hello Stars and Happy Spring!

The first and constant issue on my mind as we begin the second quarter of 2025 is membership.

First, let me say we are not the only Chapter that finds ourselves in the same dilemma: dwindling membership. I attended a ZOOM MBCA Chapter President's Meeting on February 18th, and the continually decreasing number of members was a main topic, along with the MBCA budget.

I was disappointed to learn that many other Chapters had little or no Board of Directors participation, let alone a full roster of executives – one Chapter was being supported by ONLY ONE member. There are some very large, active Chapters – Atlanta, North Texas, and St. Louis, to name of few, but, obviously, they are the exception.

Parallel to this challenge is the decline in membership. Our Chapter consists of 65 current members, with several of those memberships having expired in February 2025. This is down from our previous roster of 114 just a couple of years ago.

Good news? YES! We have had three great events this quarter – all repeats from previous years – but, all well received. Read more about these events below and on Facebook. And, we have an exciting calendar of events planned for the next nine months, many in conjunction with our neighbors and good friends in Cincinnati. We are even in the process of planning a weekend Mini-Regional Event in the fall. Stay tuned!

I look forward to seeing lots of Stars at our next event, The Second Annual Derby Party at Tony Yorks in Glendale, Kentucky on April 26th . Until then, I am always available if you have any questions or concerns.

Best wishes, J. Anne Gilliland President

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

On January 25th, we kicked off the new year at Martin's Bar-B-Que Joint for our 2nd annual Members' Meeting and Movie night. The barbeque was excellent, as usual, and Martin's always accommodates us with a free room and video setup.

Our members had a chance to discuss and select some of the events they would like to see on our 2025 calendar.

"C'etiat un Rendez-vous" called the Holy Grail of Auto Racing!"

We then watched a 1976 film, "C'etiat un Rendez-vous," called the Holy Grail of Auto racing! We also saw "The Truth About the Shooting of "C'etiat un Rendez-vous" and "C'etiat un Rendez-vous, the Original street Racing Video—'LIVE AND LET DRIVE.'" These are amazing films. If you haven't seen them and have read this post, you can click on these links and watch: C'etait un Rendezvous (1972) Claude Lelouch, The Truth about the Shooting of "C'était un Rendez-vous" by Claude Lelouch, https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=hmdR6B1DPac&authuser=1

BAR-B-QUE * * JOINT * *

Saturday, March 22nd, the Bluegrass Stars and the Cincinnati Chapters took a beautiful drive to Shaker Village in Harrodsburg, KY for a second visit in three years, and we are so glad we returned.

The meal, ambiance, and the service were lovely and gave the 23 members from both Chapters a chance to enjoy a leisurely and delicious meal at the Trustee's Table and have a chance to catch up after the long winters months with good friends who share our love of all things Mercedes.

After lunch, we visited the various gift shops before taking a beautiful, although windy, stroll through parts of the village itself.



Collection21 again proved to be an ongoing favorite place to tour and view 270 vintage automobiles of all makes and models. Members from the Bluegrass Stars and the Cincinnati Chapters visited again on Saturday, March 29th. The collection has grown so large that the owner has purchased another building next door to store another 30 cars. Cars are the main attraction, but there are other interesting items that the owner has a soft spot. There is a huge miniature model train exhibit that has thousands of detailed moving parts with a volunteer train conductor manning the switches. There is a collection of kids mini cars, and now the owner is collecting and mounting hundreds of neon signs from the past. You can even listen to 45 RPM "oldies but goodies" on the vintage juke box.

The entrance fee is \$15 (or more if you choose) which 100% goes to an amazing charity called Housing Opportunities of Northern Kentucky (HONK). More on that can be found on their website. Click on this link: http://honkhomes.org/. Our own members, Nancy and Bob Rece volunteer at this great attraction and have become very knowledgeable of the history of this beautiful collection.

After the tour of Collection21, members went five minutes away to MacKenie River Plaza, Grill & Pub where the food and service were outstanding.

Future overnight excursions were discussed which will result in a September event.

Jim Keith was presented with a new MBCA name tag which honors him as our Bluegrass Stars Past-Vice-President. Jim is a genuine supportive member who continues to attend and support all of our events. Thanks again Jim.

Our next event will be on Saturday, April 26th at noon at Tony York's on Main in Glendale, KY. This will be our annual Derby luncheon, so, ladies and gents, wear your most festive Derby outfits. If you want to RSVP from here, click on https://forms.gle/Ey6KgJR6BaTk3L65A. Deadline to RSVP is 4/21 @ 5PM.



REMAINING 2025 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

April 26 @ Noon Tony York's Derby Lunch

Glendale, KY

May 10 Dust Off with Cincy

June 8 Cincy Concourse

Cincinnati, OH

June 14 Cars and Coffee

2nd Sat. each month Captain's Quarters

Louisville, KY

June 21 To be determined.

July 19 (All day) Keeneland Concours d'Elegance

August (TBD) Cars and Coffee; James Motors; Pot Luck @

Paige & Ken Kikuchi's; Lexington, KY

September (TBD) Overnight Event

October 11 Tech Talk & Pizza

Picky & Todd Ryan's

Frankfort, KY

November 9 @ 11AM Fall Meet @ Churchill Downs

Louisville, KY

December 7 @ 5PM Holiday Party @ Hurstbourne Country Club

Louisville, KY

MBCA MERCHANDISE

The MBCA on-line store now has various items that you may be interested in. Click here

Home | Mercedes-Benz

Club of America to see everything that is available and instructions on how to order.

MBCA MERCHANDISE

License Plates



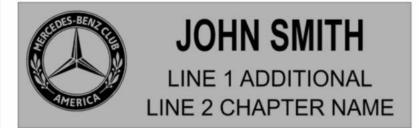
MBCA Metal License Plate Cover Black- Single (1)

MBCA Metal License Plate Cover Black-Single (1). The dimensions are 11.25 inches by 6.25 inches. Shipping is included....

\$20.00



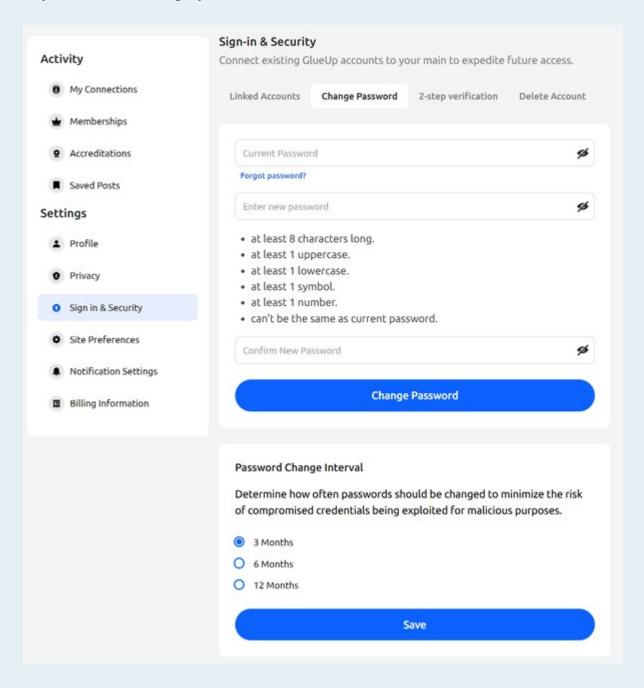
Order Your MBCA Name Tags Today!



Name Tags

SECURITY

As with everything, it is recommended to change our passwords in order to keep our passwords secure. MBCA.org is reinforcing that suggestion with instructions on how to do that. Please see and follow the illustration below if you want to change yours.



DERBY LUNCH AT TONY YORK'S ON MAIN

April 26, 2025 @ Noon

201 East Main Street Glendale, KY

pring

Be in your Derby best to enjoy a wonderful lunch with your Stars friends at a Chapter favorite. The familiar entrée favorites remain country ham, fried chicken, or meat loaf. Included are delicious sides and cobbler for dessert for \$25. Tony always gives an update on what is going on around Glendale. Please RSVP here:

https://forms.gle/Ey6KgJR6BaTk3L65A

Deadline to RSVP is 4/21 @ 5PM.



MBCA Bluegrass Stars Chapter









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