



# Mercedes-Benz Club of America | International Stars Section

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanks to all of you who have made the year fun. Our Section is stronger than ever.

## STARS News, December, 2010 The inside scoop on the MBCA | International Stars

### 2011 Coming Attractions

#### Mercedes-Benz 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Did you know that next year is the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mercedes-Benz? Yes, it's true. MBCA along with MBUSA will be celebrating. Did you know that the DIA is also celebrating 125 years?

Here's what we know so far... MBCA will celebrate with special articles in the STAR. Mercedes Financial (formerly Daimler Financial) is exploring the possibility of a very large, action-packed anniversary event... and your MBCA International Stars section will participate. From what we have heard, if their event gets approval, it will be a stunning, fantastic, high class event that should not be missed. **Stay tuned on this one for the summer!**

#### MBCA National Spring Board Meeting

We are preparing a bid to be the host for our National MBCA Spring Meeting which is taking place at the end of April. There are two other sections (New Jersey & Florida) who are in the running. Of course, being somewhat biased toward our Section, I think we will have the winning bid. Mike Salemi, Adam Lumsden and I are on the committee.

We have received feedback from the Detroit Convention and Visitor's bureau and are going to select the best combination to propose. We have to submit our bid as soon as possible for consideration.

If our bid is selected this will count as a national MBCA event. Members from all over the country will be here. We will need your help to run some of the events. There are a couple of receptions as well.

As I've said many times before, this area is unique and has a lot to offer our visitors from other MBCA Sections as well as the National Board Members and NBO folks. After all, we ARE the MOTOR CITY! **Stay tuned on this one!**

#### Coming Events

- **January: Dinner – Dining with the STARS**
- **February: Antique show – Southfield with food**
- **March: Lunch / Tech Event (George Murphy?)**
- **April: Tech Event or Spring Driving Tour. If we get the bid for the Spring National Board Meeting the tech event will be rescheduled.**
- **May: Driving Event: Nichols Arboretum**
- **June: Car Show Participation (Cars R Stars) Possible Mercedes Financial 125<sup>th</sup> MBUSA Celebration events.**

- **July: MBCA Regional Event 2 days in Plymouth area July 30: Defensive Driving / Auto Cross, July 31: Mini car show in the parking area of the Concours D' Elegance of America (formerly Meadow Brook) at the new location.**
- **August: Ann Arbor Antique Show & Lunch**
- **September: Show / Shine / New Members party at the Shooting Club – Auburn Hills**
- **October: Pumpkin Color Tour with other car clubs**
- **November: Pre Thanksgiving Pot Luck**
- **December: Progressive Holiday Party**

If you have any event ideas, let us know.

#### Full Disclosure

I have been elected as President of the VMCCA-Detroit Chapter. (Veteran Motor Car Club of America) (The cars are the veterans – it is not a military veteran group.) They meet on a different day of the month than MBCA does.

The group specializes in car tours. Nationally they sponsor the "Glidden Tour" (really old cars ending with 1935 vehicles), "Chrome Glidden Tour" (1935 up to 25 year old cars) and a "Muscle Car Tour". There are other tours as well. They also have club events much the same as our section does. (food, shows, museum tours, plays, etc.)

Rest assured I will keep both groups separate unless there is an event that both groups would like to attend. I am fortunate to be able to balance and budget time for each organization. (something about being retired helps)

#### New MBCA Website?

##### What's out there right now?

Have you looked at the new MBCA website yet? [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) It's got a lot of new things in it. Did you know you can pull up and read the STAR as soon as it has been released from the Publisher. If you want to buy a M-B from the STAR member ads, this will give you a jump on your competitor.

Under the STAR tab on the [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) website you will find the following categories: Current (Star) Issue; Back (Star) Issue; Star Advertisers (links to advertiser web pages); Classified Ads; Place Classified Ads from members and non members; Display Advertising; Submit Event – where we can promote our events for all to see... including flyers; Star Interest Group – which includes a forum for members under one of the tabs.

We are currently using it to house our events. Both upcoming event information and previous events reports will be housed there. <http://www.mbca.org/upcoming-events>

## Pre Thanksgiving Pot Luck Party – A Goldilocks Event

Our November Pre Thanksgiving Pot Luck Party was a very nice intimate event. Our hosts, Trish and John Briggs, opened their home in Brighton to 18 MBCA members for the event. We started with refreshments upstairs and then moved down the wide, sweeping staircase to the dining area.

Many of the guests traveled a significant distance and were rewarded with a sumptuous meal. The turkey (that we ate – more on that later) was delicious. All of the other typical Thanksgiving meal foods were also delectable. Dessert was either a berry pie or pumpkin pie topped with a custard sauce made by Trish.

While this was a traditional Thanksgiving experience for most of us, our hosts who hail from the United Kingdom, where they don't have a Thanksgiving holiday, were able to help us celebrate the event.

Our President, Pete Williams, wore celebratory head gear. He might have been mistaken for the main course – a turkey. It showed that he believes in having fun and poking fun at himself. [Check out the pictures to see if you can identify our President / the turkey.](#)

It was a Goldilocks event in that there wasn't too much of anything... It was just right. There were hardly any left-overs.

It was a lot of fun. The food was fantastic. We should do it again next year.

We would like to thank our gracious hosts for all their hard preparation work and for the use of their wonderful home.



Ad: 4 Snow Blizzak LM-25V tires. Size 225/45 R17 94V Believed to be Z rated. Two winters of travel. Complete set of 4 wheels and tires (wheels are 5 spoke AMG) included. Over \$1,800 invested, Will give a good deal to new owner – Jim Schuster via email [jim@jimschuster.com](mailto:jim@jimschuster.com) (248) 353-3327

Membership roster issue: As MBCA national is updating the membership roster database, local sections have not been able to get information on their members to ascertain if they are new, renewed or their membership has expired. This has been an issue since September.

## Progressive Holiday Dinner Party

As of the STARS News publication date, we have 31 members registered for our Progressive Holiday Dinner Party.

We will start with wine tasting and appetizers at Fieldstone Winery in Rochester, Mi. Then we will proceed to Ann and Scott Lumsden's home for the main course. Finally, we will travel to our last destination for dessert. **We will sample the dessert you bring.** The final course is going to be a surprise because you never know what someone else will bring.

The date will be December 4, our closure date for responding to our well publicized event was Monday, November 22, 2010. The reason for the hard deadline is we wanted to give the team sufficient time to obtain supplies so we would have the right amount of food for our guests.



## New MBCA Website –Event Reports

The following event reports are posted on the MBCA website. Please click on the direct link below to read the article and see the pictures.

1. Pre Thanksgiving Pot Luck dinner  
<http://www.mbca.org/event/2010-11-20/pre-thanksgiving-pot-luck>

***Did you find a picture of yourself there?  
If not, then you need to come to our events.***

### **Officers**

**President:** Peter Williams [pwmmbca@aol.com](mailto:pwmmbca@aol.com),  
**Vice President:** Adam Lumsden [adam@lumsdenlive.com](mailto:adam@lumsdenlive.com)  
**Treasurer:** Steve Mahac [keyunfrm@flash.net](mailto:keyunfrm@flash.net) ,  
**Secretary:** OPEN,  
**Benz Scene Editor:** Mike Salemi  
[mdsalemi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mdsalemi@sbcglobal.net) , **Hospitality:** Mike & Mary Ann  
Mountain [mikesradioshop.plymouth@yahoo.com](mailto:mikesradioshop.plymouth@yahoo.com)  
**Parliamentarian:** Charles Hiller [chiller26@juno.com](mailto:chiller26@juno.com)  
**Membership:** John Briggs [johnrb@comcast.net](mailto:johnrb@comcast.net)

This issue's content was provided by Pete Williams. Want to participate? Send your article to [pwmmbca@aol.com](mailto:pwmmbca@aol.com).

Want to help? We need a Secretary. Drop me an email...  
[pwmmbca@aol.com](mailto:pwmmbca@aol.com)

## **January– Dining with the STARS**

We will send out an email with the location and time for the event in January. Watch your email. Our plan is to have the event toward the end of the month... January 29<sup>th</sup>. Do you have a favorite place you'd like us to dine at?



## Mercedes-Benz Club of America | International Stars Section STARS News

### International Stars Section MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Go to this link: <http://www.mbca.org/section/international-stars>

The monthly board and membership meetings are usually held at **6:30 PM** the first Tuesday of every month at the **Crash Landing Restaurant**, **2010: December 7**. **2011: Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, Jun 7, Jul 12\*, Aug 2, Sep 13\*, Oct 4, Nov 1, Dec 6.** (\* = 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday Meeting)

Please forward any agenda items to: Pete Williams, President, MBCA International Stars: via email, phone or by mail: 1-586-293-0935 or 15561 Sherwood, Fraser, Mi. 48026 **Location:** Crash Landing Restaurant - 26620 Dequindre Rd, Warren, MI 48091-3938, 586-751-4444 (Just North of 696)

Any current, new or prospective member is welcome to attend. We usually have a business meeting which is interrupted by a short dinner. We have always had a policy which allowed our attending members to either order – or not – a meal at our monthly board / general meeting. In order to promote attendance a motion was passed at our March board meeting to initiate a Spring Special Meeting Dinner Raffle. At the end of our May meeting a motion was passed to extend this event for the rest of the year. The way it works is that a member is given a ticket when they arrive. If their number is drawn, their single dinner will be paid by the club. Not transferrable to a future meeting. Must be present to win. The drawings will be at the end of the meeting. November. was won by Resi Feil. **Come to a meeting, have some fun, and maybe you'll be the one to win. This is the last month for the raffle.**

**STARS TECH QUIZ** Pick one or more answers per question – Answers Next page

<p>1. Steering components are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Tie rods</li> <li>b. Idler arms</li> <li>c. Steering gear box</li> <li>d. Steering wheel</li> <li>e. Universal joint</li> </ul>	<p>7. The first Mercedes-Benz diesel truck was produced in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1923 with 50 HP</li> <li>b. 1920 with 25 HP</li> <li>c. 1924 with 15 HP</li> <li>d. 1919 with 40 HP</li> </ul>
<p>2. Front suspension components are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Springs</li> <li>b. Shocks</li> <li>c. Guide Rods</li> <li>d. Brake Pads</li> </ul>	<p>8. What major world event that caused the push toward diesels?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Franco-Prussian War</li> <li>b. Twenty years war</li> <li>c. Economic conditions post WWI</li> </ul>
<p>3. Match dates with people or events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. 1834 – 1900</li> <li>b. 1844 – 1929</li> <li>c. 1886</li> <li>d. 1867</li> <li>e. 1872</li> <li>f. 1888</li> </ul>	<p>9. STAR Power – a 1930 SSK was owned by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Gary Powers</li> <li>b. Clark Kent</li> <li>c. Zeppo Marx</li> <li>d. Milton Berle</li> </ul>
<p>4. In 1898 what was considered appropriate garb to wear while driving?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Rain Aprons</li> <li>b. Dusters</li> <li>c. Gloves</li> <li>d. Goggled veils for ladies</li> <li>e. Goggles</li> </ul>	<p>10. What car companies did not produce a rear engine car for the masses?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Mercedes-Benz</li> <li>b. Renault</li> <li>c. Volkswagen</li> <li>d. Ford</li> </ul>
<p>5. In early racing there were two people in the cockpit. One was the driver the other was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Fred</li> <li>b. Mechanic</li> <li>c. Trainer</li> <li>d. Navigator</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Attributions:</b></p> <p>Q 1 &amp; 2 – Roy Hunter</p> <p>Q 3 thru 10 – <i>The Star and Laurel, The Centennial History of Daimler, Mercedes and Benz, 1886 – 1986</i> by Beverly Rae Kimes... Subject matter in this book suggested the questions and provided the answers.</p>
<p>6. Early racing tires</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Were robust</li> <li>b. Had deep tread</li> <li>c. At times slipped off wheels</li> <li>d. Were prone to fail</li> </ul>	



# Mercedes-Benz Club of America | International Stars Section STARS News



## Pre Thanksgiving Pot Luck Party

L – R:

Row 1: Our Hosts John and Trish Briggs with our President , Pete Williams, with his seasonal hat. John Briggs contemplating the turkey hat... Words cannot describe...

Row 2: Refreshments before dinner... Trish Briggs, Chuck Hiller, Erica & Adam Lumsden, Wally & Lynn Semrau



Row 3: Dinner for 18 (composite picture) – back row: Trish, Wally, Mary Toriello, Bob Zinke, Delia, Rick Schell, Shirley & Chuck Hiller, Mike Salemi. Front row: John, Lynn, Pete Toriello, Bev, Erica, Marcy & Gina Salemi,



Row 4: Left picture: Lt-Wally, Mary, Bob; Rt- Pete Toriello, Bev; Right picture: Lt- Delia & Rick, Shirley & Chuck, Rt- Adam & Erica, Mike



So is our President wearing an appropriate hat?  
What your picture caption be?



## STARS TECH QUIZ ANSWERS:

- |   |   |     |   |
|---|---|-----|---|
| 1 | a, b, c, d                                | 8.  | c |
| 2 | a, b, c                                   | 9.  | c |
| 3 | a = l , b = k, c = j, d = i, e = j, f = h | 10. | d |
| 4 | a, b, c, d, e                             |     |   |
| 5 | b   |     |   |
| 6 | c, d                                      |     |   |
| 7 | a   |     |   |