



# Nickel City Star

SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

FALL 2009

[www.mbca.org/niagara](http://www.mbca.org/niagara)

**Coming Events:** See page 2

## New Member Reception A Huge Success

Niagara Section  
Mercedes-Benz Club of America

It was the rainiest summer since who knows when, but the Niagara Section saw the biggest turnout of any event ever held. The sky was black and clouds were bursting just to the south, and dark gray skies were just to the north, but in Clarence Center we got away with a few dry hours of great fun! Hosted by Hans and Janet Mobius, Pam and Jamie and Shelly and David Doherty, the Maple Row Farm became the mixing spot for our members, both old and new. All members are new, some newer than others, but we all had a moment to be introduced and describe our Mercedes-Benz vehicle (or “vehicles” in many cases).

A ride on the hay wagon gave us a good overview of a successful horse farm run by very enterprising people, engaging members of our section. Second-section members attended and it was delightful to meet them. Hopefully we will be able to get together again soon!



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## FALL 2009 EVENTS CALENDAR

- **September 15, October 20, November 17**—Monthly meetings, Buffalo Brew Pub, Main near Transit, 6:30 p.m.
- **September 19**—Oktoberfest car show in Hamburg - 3 to 10 p.m.
- **October 10 - Finger Lakes Section Genesee Valley Hunt Races** (see Page 3)
- **October 11 - Glenn H. Curtiss Air museum tour (See below)**
- **December 6 - Annual Christmas Party and Charity event at The Cabaret Restaurant\***

*\*Event details to be finalized. Watch for emails.*

These and other events are in the planning stages... watch for future announcements!

*Members of all sections and guests are always invited to Niagara Section events.*

*Details of most events will appear in future issues of this newsletter or sent via email and/or posted at [www.mbca.org/niagara](http://www.mbca.org/niagara). Or you may call Ed at 716-873-9226 for more information.*

Check The Star and [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) for national events listings.

### Event

## Glenn H. Curtiss Air Museum Tour & Dinner

Date: October 11, 2009 9:30 a.m. to approximately 5:30 p.m.

Where: Meet at Dunkin' Donuts, Main Street East Aurora

Itinerary: Travel to Olean, enjoying the fall colors, with lunch at the famous Library Restaurant in Olean (price less than \$20 per person). Then a self guided tour of the Glenn Curtiss Air Museum. Afterwards, you are free to browse local shops and other establishments (a local area brochure will be provided) or head home at your leisure.



To sign up, simply email [Lmrjmr60@verizon.net](mailto:Lmrjmr60@verizon.net) or call Mike Repko at 716-652-0374 ...

... **by October 5th.**

Guests are always welcome!



**T**here goes summer! It was rainy but good, and now that Fall is here, guess what... the weather is getting better.

A lot of Mercedes Club activity is still on the way. Check the list on page 2, and be aware that even more events are still in the works. We will notify all members in three ways: this newsletter, our website, and email from time to time. Please make sure we have your email address in our list. If you have not received an email from me in the past month, it means I don't have an accurate address for you. Send changes to me at [genelong@verizon.net](mailto:genelong@verizon.net). Thanks!

Thinking back to June - the car show at Sonnenberg Gardens was a big hit. In July, the joint event with the Chautauqua Antique Car Club proved to be very nice indeed, and finally August, our first-ever "New Members Meet & Greet" BBQ, a huge success. I was spending time with my "new" granddaughter and missed the Lewiston Jazz Festival car show... hope that was a good one, too.

We always need volunteers to help with organizing events, and committee members too. It's fun to get involved! Attend and bring friends! And remember, you don't have to own a Mercedes to be a member...

Lastly, it is not too early to start thinking about our election of officers coming up next month. Please consider a leadership position in the Niagara Section. The work isn't strenuous but it is rewarding! For more information, contact me or any other current officer.

## Niagara Section Officer Elections 2009

**Yes, it's that time again! Every two years the Niagara Section must elect officers. There will be vacancies this year, and we hope that other members will be willing to fill those slots. This is an opportunity for new leadership and ideas in the operation of your club, and the officers welcome your involvement! Please feel free to join us.**

**The election process will take place during the October 20th meeting, so consider bringing your talents and skills to benefit the club. The new officers will take their positions at the November 17th meeting. Positive change is good for the club!**

### Event

#### Finger Lakes Section Invites us to the Genesee Valley Hunt Races



There will be great picnic food, beverages, a demonstration of superior horsemanship, dog agility contests and fun for all ages including wooden horse races for the youngsters. For more info: [www.geneseevalleyhunt.org](http://www.geneseevalleyhunt.org)

Free parking is available, gate admission is \$10.00 per person (children age 12 and under enter free) the day of the event. Genesee Valley Hunt Races is an all weather event.

Picnic tickets are \$12.00 per person, children 12 and under eat free. **PICNIC PREPAYMENT IS NECESSARY** for planning purposes.

Reserved parking in our MERCEDES CORRAL in the infield BRONZE area is \$40.00 and includes admission for all occupants of the vehicle. **BRONZE PARKING PREPAYMENT IS NECESSARY.**

**DEADLINE** for all reservations is **MONDAY, OCTOBER 5<sup>th</sup>**. MERCEDES CORRAL tickets and parking instructions will be mailed upon receipt of your check to:

Judy Handzo, Treasurer, 5195 Canadice Lake Road, Hemlock, NY 14466

Picnic only tickets can be picked up at the CORRAL the day of the event.

For more information and time call Judy Handzo, 585-367-2815 ([handzo912@frontiernet.net](mailto:handzo912@frontiernet.net)) or Mort Polsky 585-548-4885.



# Star Track 2009

This year's national event in Pittsburgh was again held in conjunction with the annual Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. This event was well reported in the Star magazine, but a couple more pictures can never hurt! The weekend started off with a wonderful and expansive car show, followed by a banquet to present the prizes.

Then, we did a bit of track driving at nearby BeaveRun race track. Next time there is an event with driving instruction on a real track, you might consider joining in the fun. You learn an immense amount about your car's capability to avoid accidents, and more importantly, the role that you, the driver, play. What's more, MBCA track time is not very expensive - compared to commercial driving schools.



# Sonnenberg Gardens Car Show

Father's Day, June 21, 2009 was a gorgeous day! The show's theme was Wheels at the Movies. Can you find the star of "Men in Black II" which also featured a new E320?



Advertisement

## Mr. + Mrs. Dry Cleaners



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**20% DISCOUNT TO ALL MBCA MEMBERS**

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Gene Long 716-912-2902 [genelong@verizon.net](mailto:genelong@verizon.net)



**A New Way to buy a "Lion" — just tell us:**

- What vehicle — in full detail, or just the basics
- Price range (will be agreed upon before the sale)
- Fixed commission rate: 7% (capped at \$1,600)

*Second Hand Lions will do the rest: Locate, purchase, transport, register, inspect, and deliver. No hidden charges.*

Savings up to 25% !



## Loyalty Rewards Program News

Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA) is now including New AMG vehicles as part of the 2009 Loyalty Reward Program. As of August 1, 2009, club members in good standing of 12 months or more, who **purchase** a new AMG vehicle, are eligible for a \$1,500 MBUSA Loyalty Reward card. The amendment to the program will not be retroactive prior to August 1, 2009. For full details go to [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) or find the form in the Sept/Oct issue of the Star magazine. Or call MBUSA Customer Relations (800) 367-6372.

### WHEELS AND DEALS

**Wheels and Deals ads are FREE to all Mercedes-Benz Club Members, \$20 for non-members.**

Please note: ads will appear in one issue only, unless specifically requested. Submit ads and requests to Editor or email [genelong@verizon.net](mailto:genelong@verizon.net)

**1990 M-B 300SE** 97k miles, dark metallic blue, cold a/c, auto, p/s, p/b, p/w, cruise, all original, excellent cond.

**New:** Bridgestone tires, Bosch brakes, Bosch muffler (silver soldered), battery, Bosch radiator, A/C converted to new type refrigerant. Schmidt's chassis rust inhibitor applied. \$6,500 or best offer. Call Mike Repko 716-652-0374.



**Wheels:** set of four 18" polished Mercedes wheels, original equipment on 2007 E350 sport sedan. Center caps not included, one has very minor curb damage. \$1,350 for all. 716-572-3775 (days), [jonplail@gmail.com](mailto:jonplail@gmail.com)

**Silver fiberglass removable hardtop** for Mercedes-Benz 500SL, 1996 - 2002. \$1,500. Local delivery available. Call Bruce Cullens, 716-694-2405 (Niagara Falls)

**Engine & transmission for 450SL** contact Dick Sedlack, 716-665-5665.

**1989 M-B 300SE** Six cylinder, white, runs, make offer. Call Hans at 716-435-0616.





## Welcome New Niagara Section Members

**PATRICK BENEDYK, JOHN BOEHM, GENE CHAAS, JOSEPH CORIGLIANO, ELIAS ELDAYRIE, ROBERT FELSER, LILTON KELLEY, BOB KIRSITS, THOMAS MELENDY**

The Niagara Section Membership committee has launched new efforts to Recruit and Retain members. Our enrollment has been very steady over the past couple of years, but for 2009, we set a new Goal: to increase our roster by +10% and sustain the number, and we are already there! But let's not stop now... "the more the merrier!"

- "New Member Meet & Greet" Bar-B-Que, was a great success (see page 1).
- New member packets will be distributed to all current members. These will include introductory flyers to highlight our local activities and benefits. A great conversation starter, the flyer can be given to anyone with an interest in Mercedes, wherever you meet—in a parking lot, a party, or even a gas station.

## Advertising space is available for 2010!

Advertising in the Nickel City Star newsletter brings your commercial message to at least two groups. This award winning publication is distributed to and read by over 100 local Niagara Section members as well as others within the Northeast Region of the M-B club. Also, recruitment copies are placed at businesses affiliated with the club, and read by many of their customers in waiting rooms.

The Niagara section Website also has links to our advertisers at no additional charge. If you would like us to include your website URL, simply provide the link information. Your ad and link will remain active for four consecutive issues, then will be automatically renewed and billed. You may also opt to specify multiple consecutive years and lock in current rates up to three years. Ads may be prorated for partial years.

½ page size inside ad:	\$200.00	(Note: Ad copy may be modified between issues
¼ page size inside ad:	\$125.00	for special, promos or events.)
Business card size ad:	\$100.00	
Add your Web link to our site	No charge if ad is placed	

The Nickel City Star is published four times each year, and rates cover ads placed in all four consecutive issues.

Please contact Gene Long, Editor, [genelong@verizon.net](mailto:genelong@verizon.net) or call 716-912-2902 for more information.

***MBCA Membership Benefits - Please Renew!***

- Six big issues of The Star magazine every year
- Companionship with fellow M-B enthusiasts
- Locally sponsored events
- Local newsletter
- National driving, show, technical and social events
- Free classified ads, both local and national
- Free technical advice
- Reprints of recent and vintage articles
- Club Store online
- Raffle - new M-Bs



NIAGARA SECTION  
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB  
OF AMERICA, INC.

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Nickel City Star Editor  
8561 Falls Rd.  
West Falls, NY 14170

A photograph of a silver Mercedes-Benz sedan on a showroom floor. In the top right corner of the image, there is a black box containing the Mercedes-Benz logo and the text "Mercedes-Benz".

**Mercedes-Benz of Buffalo**

8185 Main Street, Williamsville, NY (716) 633-0088 [www.mercedesbenzbfflo.com](http://www.mercedesbenzbfflo.com)