



# Nickel City Star

Summer 2006

Niagara Section  
Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Coming Events this summer:

Chautauqua Vintage Car Club ... July 16

Various Car Shows ... See page 4

Plan Now for MBCA's 50th Anniversary Events

(and much more... See Calendar on Page 6 for complete listing of events)

Our *new* Niagara Section website is on line:

"Check it out"  
[www.mbca.org/niagara/](http://www.mbca.org/niagara/)



## President's Message

By Gene Long

Last Issue I reported that our website, [www.mbca.org/niagara/](http://www.mbca.org/niagara/), had been updated with a photo gallery. Now, you will be newly excited and proud of our entirely redesigned and expertly crafted website. Once again, from the officers and members, thanks go to Art Bourget for his expertise and enthusiasm in taking over the task of webmaster. Art says that being the webmaster is an ongoing effort, and he appreciates any and all feedback about the site. Please take a look and let Art know your comments.



I am also happy to report that our membership is again growing. We are seeing the results of our "R & R = Renew and Recruit" campaign, and we welcome our newest members! Very few memberships have expired, and we have a significant number of new ones. Also, take a look at the Star to see the details of the membership drive program which rewards members with a free month extension for every new member that signs up with your sponsorship.

Once again, please take a look at this issue's calendar of events column, your copy of The Star magazine, and check our local website to see what events might interest you. We will be very busy this summer season with lots of fantastic events. Participate in locally sponsored car shows, driving events and other get-togethers here in WNY.

If you would like to know more about anything club-related, give me or one of your officers a call. Lastly, even if you haven't attended before, I urge everyone in the club to put our monthly meetings on your calendar - which will resume September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Eagle House - 5578 Main, Williamsville - attend, bring a friend!

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### Check out these Web sites:

Mercedes-Benz Club of America  
[www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org)

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

Mercedes-Benz of America  
[www.mbusa.com](http://www.mbusa.com)

Mercedes-Benz of Buffalo (advertiser)  
[www.mercedesbenzbflo.com](http://www.mercedesbenzbflo.com)

With the rising cost of fuel, here are some interesting sites:  
[www.fuelcostcalculator.com](http://www.fuelcostcalculator.com)  
[www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov)  
[www.gasbuddy.com](http://www.gasbuddy.com)  
[www.gaspricewatch.com](http://www.gaspricewatch.com)

## News and Notes

**MBCA Club Store:** Looking for a gift for a favorite person (or car) in your life? Support the club by purchasing fine merchandise at the club's store. Go online at [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) and shop to your heart's content.

**Membership:** It's working! We are gaining new members, but we always need more. Contact anyone you know who has interest in Mercedes-Benz whether they own one or not, and ask them to join - or rejoin.

**Remember... R & R!**  
Renew your subscription!  
Recruit a new member!

## Welcome New Niagara Section Members!

Dave and Noreen Giancarlo, East Aurora  
Michael And Julia Worczak, Williamsville  
Dr. Samson Adegbite, Grand Island  
Terry Brosius, N. Tonawanda  
Jack and Patricia Gimlin, Clarence

# Buffalo Transportation Museum Tour

The Finger Lakes Section invited our Niagara Section to join with them for a private tour of the Transportation Museum (commonly known as the Pierce Arrow Museum) on Saturday, April 22nd. Jim Sandoro, co-owner, was our tour guide and raconteur extraordinaire. He told of his passion for collecting automotive memorabilia, especially Pierce Arrow items, since he was but a youngster. This passion, ever present, consumed him and his blushing bride at one unexpected moment on their honeymoon. Having only \$300 remaining, they stumbled upon an embroidered



jacket from the bygone era.

The price tag on the well kept jacket was \$300. After some explanations and haggling, the then owner agreed to lower the price to \$250. Jim and his bride spent the remainder of their honeymoon sleeping in their car and eating hamburgers. Such is the devotion they have to artifacts of the Pierce Arrow Motor Car Company.

Although there are beautifully restored Pierce Arrow automobiles on display, there are also Thomas automo-

biles, license plates, badges, signs, baseball uniforms, and even the precursor of all - an ice box.

We were told of his encounter with the gentleman who did the modeling for the hood ornament for the Pierce Arrow automobiles. And perhaps the most notable transaction of all, at least from the standpoint of our club, was Jim's acquisition of 10 old gasoline pumps in trade for a Mercedes SL!

After this thoroughly fascinating stroll down memory lane and the history of Buffalo, the 30 of us walked the block down Seneca Street to Chef's Restaurant for a delicious meal and some camaraderie. Many thanks to Bruce Rawls for his work in putting this event together for all to enjoy.



# Paint Medic Tech Session

Mr. John Lindsey took the Finger Lakes and Niagara Sections on a tour of the facility, with details of professional paintless dent removal, frame straightening, and car painting techniques presented by his manufacturers representative. Our numerous questions were answered and the group will no doubt be frequenting the two Paint Medic locations in the Buffalo area in the future!



# You Can Join... This Summer's Events

Post this page on your bulletin board...

MBCA Niagara Section supports and participates in local events sponsored by other clubs. Feel free to join us at:

## Euro Car Show

Organizer: British Car Club

When: June 11, 9 a.m.

Where: Rose Garden

Register by: June 9, or at the event

Contact: Dave Kray, 633-4586 or  
Rick Magro, 773-9479



Presents...  
**EUROCAR DAY  
2006**

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 9:00 a.m. TO 3:30 p.m. Rain / Shine

At the Rose Garden Restaurant Grove 2753 Wehrle Dr., Williamsville, NY  
(Grove is behind restaurant) (716) 633-9271 Restaurant



All European Marques Welcome	Awards in all Classes	Popular Vote & Peoples Choice Award	Well Drained Grassy Show Area	
Over 130 European Cars shown in 2005	FREE Spectator Admission	FOOD AVAILABLE ALL DAY	2 Hrs. from Toronto	1.5 Hrs from Rochester

## Car Show and Picnic

Organizer: Jag-Buffalo Car Club

When: July 23, 10 a.m.

Where: Rose Garden

Register by: July 19, or at the event

Contact: Cliff Schultz 634-7667, Dennis  
Murphy 683-5953, or Dave Nowak 694-0106

Web: jagbuffalo@yahoo.com



**JAG-BUFFALO** PRESENTS: SPORTS CARS  
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27TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW & PICNIC  
RAIN OR SHINE - REGISTRATION 10 AM - 12 NOON  
SUNDAY, JULY 23, 2006  
Rose Garden Restaurant - 2753 Wehrle Dr.

DASH PLAQUES FOR THE FIRST 135 ENTRANTS (had 118 in 2005)  
PRE-REGISTRATION -- \$ 10.00  
AFTER JULY 19TH, 2006 -- \$ 15.00

## Classic/Vintage Car Show & Jazz Fest

Organizer: Jaguar Afficionados of Greater  
Buffalo

When: August 26, 27 (Jazz Festival)

Where: Lewiston NY

Register by: August 6



CLASSIC JAGUAR & VINTAGE  
CAR SHOW  
at the Historic Lewiston Jazz Festival

Sponsored by  
**WESTHERR**



Co-hosted by  
The Jaguar Aficionados of Greater Buffalo



"Our Jaguar Club has been part of the Jazz Festival for the past three  
years. Great food, great entertainment and great hospitality.  
I wouldn't miss it."  
Dennis Murphy, Past President

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM  
Dash plaques for the first 150!!!  
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For more information call (716) 754-9500

## *Even more...* Events

MBCA National Events - For details see the Star magazine  
50th Anniversary Events

MBCA Sponsored Tours of M-B facilities in Germany

Chicagoland Section Route 6 Trip and Events (see below.)

Historic Route 66 Trip and Classic Center Tour

StarFest '06 in Las Vegas, October 1 - 5

### Chicagoland Celebrates 50 Years of History

Chicagoland is hosting a once in a lifetime event – a TRIPLE 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – the MBCA, Chicagoland & the New Jersey Section are converging HERE to celebrate this historic event.

When: September 15 – 17, 2006

Where: Oak Brook, Illinois

#### Planned Happenings:

Friday Sept 15 Welcome Reception

Saturday Sept 16 National Concours D'Elegance

Saturday Evening Gala 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet

Sunday Sept 17 Start of the Historic RT 66 Tour



With the merger of the Chicagoland & New Jersey Sections in 1956, the Mercedes-Benz Club of America was born. This historic moment will be honored during the weekend of September 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> when the Northern New Jersey Section will complete its RT 6 journey westward, the Chicagoland Section will celebrate its Golden Anniversary and the MBCA will begin its Historic RT 66 Tour to the west coast. Be a part of history. Meet Brigadier General (ret.) Walter G. Vartan, the oldest, living National MBCA President who has been an active Chicagoland Section member since 1958.

For more Information contact: Chicagoland President Wendy Brown 630-323-4090 or e-mail [wab6750@att.net](mailto:wab6750@att.net)

\*IMPORTANT: For a RESERVATION PACKET visit the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary web site at: [www.mbca50th.org/chgo50th.html](http://www.mbca50th.org/chgo50th.html)

# Casino, Brunch and Relaxation

The Jaguar Club of Buffalo graciously invited the members of the Niagara Section to join with them for a trip to the Southern Tier on Sunday, May 21st.

The trip included a leisurely drive and appropriately, a poker run, through the countryside to visit the Seneca Alleghany Casino. Starting off with a delicious and varied buffet meal, then taking advantage of the casino action, one or two of us were fortunate to actually increase our funds (at the expense of the others!).

Following such spirited financial entertainment, joint members Dave and Eileen Nowak hosted everyone at their beautiful home in Ellicottville for an afternoon of cars, relaxation, wine, and chocolates. Thank you, Nowaks, for your wonderful hospitality!



## Niagara Section Calendar

- Monthly meetings - 6:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month, resume September 21, attractions and details to be announced.

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- June 4 - "Gute Marken" Car Show and Charity event, Holtz BMW, 3883 W. Henrietta Rd, (Rochester), NY. Contact Tom Migliore at 585-227-9694 for information.
- June 4 - Sports Car and Vintage Auto Festival XXXV, sponsored by MG Car Club and Victor Lions Club. Farmington NY Town Park, for information visit [www.mgcarclub.com/wny/carshow.asp](http://www.mgcarclub.com/wny/carshow.asp)
- June 11 - Euro Car Show, Rose Garden, Wherle Drive. See article on p. 4 for details.
- July 16 - Chautauqua Vintage Car Club Tour and Display event, jointly sponsored with Niagara Section. Details to follow.
- July 23 - Jaguar Club Car Show, Rose Garden, Wherle Drive. See article p. 4 for details.
- Date to be determined - a day trip to Ontario\*. A shopper's paradise, several of our members are organizing a day trip. More to follow.
- August 27 - Lewiston Jazz Festival and Car Show, Lewiston, NY. See page 4 for details.
- September 10 - "Schlachtfest" Celebration and M-B Car Show, Spring Garden, Elma

\*Details will appear in future issues of this newsletter or sent via mail or 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

Note: Guests are always welcome to events

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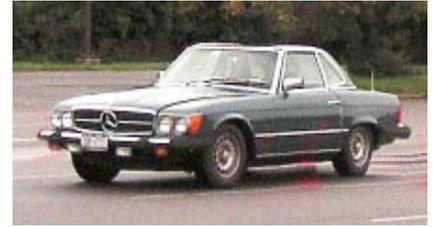
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North Buffalo  
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## Wheels and Deals

1980 450 SL, a Georgia car which has absolutely no rust. Green teal exterior/tan leather interior, V8 rebuilt engine, and body is restored with fresh paint. Only 93,000 original miles and 1,000 miles on the rebuilt engine. For more information, please call Zeki at (716) 481-2301 or write to zena.int@adelphia.net for photo album.



**Wheels and Deals ads are FREE to all Mercedes-Benz Club Members**



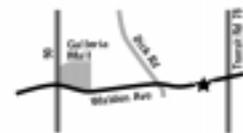
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8185 Main Street, Williamsville, NY  
(716) 633-0088  
[www.mercedesbenzbflo.com](http://www.mercedesbenzbflo.com)



2006 ML-Class

### 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



PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

NIAGARA SECTION  
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB  
OF AMERICA, INC.

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