



Nickel City Star

AUGUST 2, 2010

SUMMER 2010

www.mbca.org/niagara

Coming Events: See page 2

Niagara Section
Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Glenn Curtis Museum and Wagner Winery Tour



Our day began with a driving excursion to Hammondsport NY, home of Glenn Curtiss, a world famous inventor, pilot, and industrialist. After tearing ourselves away from the antique engines on display outside, the museum proved to be a classy, well done tribute to Curtiss' achievements too numerous to mention in this short article!



The displays feature his contributions to early aviation, war efforts, engine design, travel trailer, motorcycle speed records, and much more. A complete restoration shop is part of the museum experience. Here are just a few of the 100+ pictures we took...



And then it was a leisurely drive to the Wagner Winery (they make beer, too!) for a comprehensive tour and complimentary private tasting session.

Important

New Member Picnic and Party to be held August 14.

Please see invitation on page 3 and let us know how many in your party.



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2010 EVENTS CALENDAR

- **August 14—New Members Picnic Event, see page 3 for details**
- **September 12—Schlachtfest party and car show at Spring Garden, Elma** *Free admission if you arrive before noon in your Mercedes. Check in at the entry booth and proceed down the hill to the meadow below to join us for our M-B display during the celebration.*
- **September 16—Monthly meetings resume at Elma Towne Grille, Bowen at Clinton**
- **September 25—Oktoberfest in Hamburg town park, German car show***
- **October—Dim Sum feast & shopping in Mississauga Ontario***
- **November—(to be determined)***
- **December 12—Sunday afternoon Christmas Party at the Old Orchard Inn, East Aurora***

**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. Or you may call Dave at 716-688-0540 for more information.

Check The Star and www.mbca.org for national events listings.

NEWSLETTER NOTE!

This newsletter is available online at our website: www.mbca.org/niagara

We are working to decrease mailing costs, so if you have provided the club with an email address, the Nickel City Star link will be delivered electronically. Please feel free to print it out, in full color, and read it at your leisure. Otherwise, black & white paper copies will be mailed to members. If you prefer a paper copy, please call Becky Reed (716-652-4548) and your subscription will be mailed regardless. Thank you!

Note: This issue is being mailed to all members, due to timing of the New Member Party - see facing page.



Hope you are enjoying Summer as much as Joanie and I! It's great to see all the "toys" on the road again! This issue of the NCS was a bit delayed due to my activity and work schedule, but hopefully future issues will be more timely. Check out the Calendar and we hope to see you at all of the listed events, and any others that may come up.

A lot of Mercedes Club activity is 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 Dave Doherty in the past month, it means we don't have an accurate address for you. Send changes to Dave Doherty at ddoherty1966@aol.com. Thanks!

Recent events have been very well attended and a lot of fun. Take a look at the articles in this issue, and please take advantage of the items for sale, as well as the products and services offered by our advertisers.

Again, my extreme appreciation and gratitude goes out to officers and members constantly improving the Niagara Section! As always, we are looking for helpers on our committees, so if you have a few moments to help out, please let us know.

Event

New Member Picnic and Welcome Party

Date: Saturday August 14, 2010

You and your guests are invited to the second annual Mercedes-Benz Club New Member party!

We use this opportunity to welcome new members get acquainted with current ones. It's great to learn each other's interests, business, and benefit from their experiences... both personal and car-related. We have chosen a very interesting venue this year which will entertain everyone, old and young alike. For more information on the Hidden Valley Animal Adventure, check out www.hiddenvalleyadventure.com.

Important

Please email ddoherty1966@aol.com or call 716-688-0540 with the number of attendees in your party. Thank you!

Itinerary:

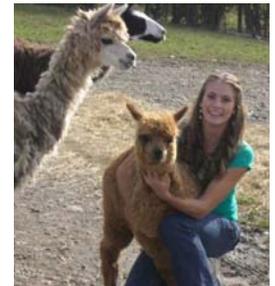
9 to 9:30 a.m. – (Optional) Gather at Tim Horton's in the Walker Center, Main Street and Park Club Lane, and caravan to the event

10:30 a.m. - Arrive at Hidden Valley Animal Adventure, 2887 Royce Rd. Varysburg, NY 14167. There will be a designated parking area for our club, in a separate parking lot.

11 a.m. 12 Noon – Trolley Tour

12 to 2 p.m. – Lunch and Member introductions

2:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Wine and dessert at Judi & Paul's



Admission:

Adult age 11 and up is \$11.00 each. Children ages 3-10, \$7.00 each

The trolley tour takes approximately 1 hour and it covers 2.5 Miles and 63 acres. Tours still run in light rain but may be canceled if there is thunder.

Food:

Will be available for purchase at the Trailside Grill, including Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chicken Fingers, Salads etc. Prices range from \$2.65 to \$10.85. Food is not included in the price of admission.

Program: Following the tour, the club will have our own area to eat lunch, Meet and Greet. Afterward, members Judi Laird & Paul Gusmann will host us for wine and dessert at their nearby shop following the adventure event, approximately 1 mile from the park.

We hope you will take advantage of this second annual event and meet our new members and of course, get re-acquainted with everyone in the club!



Westward Ho!

Event and article by Bill Fix

We were gathered around the parking corral (lot) of Dunkin Donuts in East Aurora; some of us replete in straw cowboy hats, colorful shirts, kerchiefs, blue jeans, and yes, even some authentic cowboy boots. There was a spirit of high adventure in the air and we were just itching to get on the trail south to the “Cowboy cookout” that was awaiting us in Little Valley, about thirty five miles away.



After appointing a trail guide we saddled up our Mercedes-Benz wagon train consisting of seven very handsome coaches and headed out. And just as in the days of old, although we had maps from map quest and GPS guides, we just followed the nose of the trail guide (you see, we like authenticity.....anybody can follow a map).

Following a very scenic route south under a beautiful blue sky laced with filmy white clouds we arrived at The Crosspatch ranch in about an hour's time. Had we been an actual wagon train that same trip may have taken up to five days (hooray for technology).



We were met by our hostess, Dolly Little, who took us over to the authentic 1800's “chuck wagon” that they had restored, and introduced us to the “cookies” that were already busy cooking up our meal using iron kettles and pots over actual wood camp fires. Even the biscuits were made right there in a Dutch oven (Iron pot set on coals with coals on top of the lid for an oven effect). The chuck wagon carried all of the food and all of the cowboys’ gear and always ran ahead of the cattle drive in order to be set up and ready to feed the cowboys when they arrived. The cookie was paid twice what the drovers were paid. That’s how important his job was.

The “facilities” were reminiscent of days gone by too, except for one modernization. The “one holer” emptied into a septic system to ensure that the water table under the land was not contaminated.

When our meal was ready, we were instructed to pick up our utensils and put them in our back pocket (or the pocket of the person in front of you if you didn't have a pocket) to keep our hands free to carry our chow tray without spilling it. If you needed a knife, you had to make a second, separate trip to the chuck wagon. The meal was probably as close to an authentic chuck wagon meal as you might expect today. It wasn't gourmet but it was tasty and filling.



After our meal, Jim Little, our host, brought up a restored 1800's cover wagon bed driven by a beautiful team of black horses. Twelve of us boarded for an approximate 30 minute trail ride around the ranch. Once again, there was a slight modification to the equipment. The iron strapped wagon wheels had been rubber encased for ride comfort, and were we ever glad. We learned too, that the stage coach using coach trails could normally cover about fifteen miles per day and that if you measured, you would find that small towns and villages in the open country side are located about fifteen miles apart.....coincidence?

Soon after we piled off of the wagon we got on the road once again to head off to the Salamanca Antique Mall about eleven minutes away. As we started down the road we could almost hear the wind whispering “Happy trails to you....until we meet again.....”



All I can say about the Antique Mall is, “it's Huge”. Most of us wandered around in there for two hours, some even longer.

And believe me, there is no way to have seen everything even if your feet could carry you for a longer period. I personally only saw about half of the mall.....cowboy boots weren't made for walking. And so partner.....it was a good day, it was fun and it was different. We wish all of you could have been there. Adios Amigos!

Annual Chautauqua Antique Car Club Picnic and Car Show



This year's Chautauqua adventure began with another delightful experience... a lake cruise and tour aboard the Summer Wind. Breakfast buffet was served on board in airconditioned comfort, with plenty of on-deck conversation and sightseeing. On our return, we gathered nearby to mix and mingle both our selves and our cars at the Lakeview Rod and Gun Club and enjoyed an excellent catered lunch. Right next door, a huge car show was in progress to further enhance the day. Photos continue on the next page...



Chautauqua

...Continued



Membership News



Welcome New Niagara Section Members

JOHN BURGESS, SCOTT DEROSE, JOHN FLOSS,
ROSEMARIE GALLERT, GEORGE GREENWOOD,
BRUNO MORETTI, ALPHONSO O'NEIL WHITE,
NORBERT WITT

See also:

*New Member Picnic
and Party (page 3)*

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

1984 M-B 380SL This silver show-quality SL has only 30,000 original miles and has been babied all its life. A show winner at local shows, it is also a beautiful responsive driving car. Interior color is light gray and the car has a dark blue original canvas top. Hi-res digital photos are available, but you have to see it to believe the near perfect un-restored original condition, with no damage or body-work ever. Price reduced to \$19,500. Serious offers considered. Call Mike Repko 716-652-0374.



1989 560SL Signal Red/Palomino Leather/Brown Soft Top/Red Hard Top. 37,000 miles. Original Owner. This car has been in our family since new. New Soft Top, 2 years ago. Stored Winters. Summer Use Only. Very Well Maintained. Everything works, Just checked by Mercedes Benz of Buffalo. Runs beautifully. Please email sderose@ntcmktg.com or call 716-400-3418 for more details. \$ 26,900/offer



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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.**

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8561 Falls Rd.
West Falls, NY 14170**

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

You are invited!
**New Member Picnic and Party
to be held August 14.**
Please see invitation on page 3 .

New! 2010 E Class Cabriolet

Mercedes-Benz of Buffalo
8185 Main Street, Williamsville, NY (716) 633-0088 www.mercedesbenzbfflo.com

Mercedes-Benz