



Nickel City Star

JANUARY 28, 2011

WINTER 2010-2011

www.mbca.org/niagara

Coming Events: See page 2

Niagara Section
Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Cabin Fever Reliever 2011 Wine Tasting Party

- By Bill Fix

We arrived at the Liesinger's for a wine tasting party full of enthusiasm and looking forward to the opportunity to share a few hours of friendship, good food and of course, anticipating tasting the many fine wines that were selected for sharing by those attending.



If you've never been to one of our wine tastings, the rules are simple. Select a bottle of your favorite wine or a wine that you feel you wish to taste and share, prepare a brief presentation to tell why you chose that particular wine. Then introduce the wine and share it



with those adventurous enough to try it with you. Along with the wine, each couple brings along an hors d'oeuvre to share. The hors d'oeuvres are almost always as diverse and exotic as the wines....uuuum, what a way to spend a winter afternoon. We could hardly wait to get started.



Just like last year, we had about 15 couples. That equals fifteen bottles of wine, surely enough to keep us warm all afternoon (we weren't disappointed). We started with the "whites" then moved on to the "reds", and we experienced some "berry fruit" wine in between. You really needed to be there to appreciate the tremendous variety of complex tastes. And the presentations were absolutely great...complete with facts and a lot of humor.



Along with the "regulars" (you know who you are), we also got to meet some members who hadn't attended any previous events, including a couple who drove all the way from Rochester (second section members). Everyone appeared to be having a great time and as usual, the time was all too short.

Our hosts, Fred and Maryann, were very gracious and we certainly appreciated their opening their home to us as David and Shelly have done previously. They are an excellent example of what this club is all about. Sharing, caring, fun, excitement, comradery - it just doesn't get any better than this.



And to show our appreciation we wrapped things up at the appointed hour, wished our hosts a fond goodbye and left them to clean up the mess that we had made. Happy New Year everyone....hope to see even more of you at the next event.



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2011 EVENTS CALENDAR

- **February 13—Sunday, 11:30 a.m. Valentine's Brunch at the Roycroft Inn, 40 Maple Street, East Aurora, please see invitation on page 3.**
- **February 15—Monthly meeting at Hirsch's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m., 8445 Main, Williamsville (east of Transit, near Harris Hill Rd.)**
- **February 18—Canadian International Auto Show excursion (day trip), meet at Tim Horton's, Main at Park Club Lane, Williamsville at 8:30 am, depart at 9 am, caravan to Toronto, dinner on the way home. If Tim Horton's is not on your way, just meet us at the Mercedes display inside the show. Bring your Mercedes key for preferred access to the display.**
- **March 15—Monthly meeting at Hirsch's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.**
- **March 27—Pancake Breakfast and maple sugaring tour, details to follow**
- **April 10—Dim Sum and shopping at Chinese Center, Mississauga, Ontario**
- **April 19—Monthly meeting at Hirsch's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.**
- **May 15—"Roy's" WNY Road Rally**
- **May 17—Monthly meeting at Hirsch's Restaurant, 6:30 p.m.**
- **June—Car Shows (to be announced)**
- **July 17—Chautauqua Antique Car Club joint picnic**
- **August—Weekend trip to Parry Sound and Tours watch for details to follow.**

Please see our website www.mbca.org/niagara for calendar information and details!

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.

*See www.mbca.org/niagara and click on Calendar, 2011 Events, or
call Dave at 716-688-0540 for more information.*

Also, check The Star and www.mbca.org for national events listings.



As I write this I can't believe it's 4 degrees outside and I have a picture of me sitting in an SL with the top down! —>
 Winter started in November this year so it has already been a long season... but I have it on good authority—Spring WILL come again. And with it, more fun events for our section. The events calendar is readily available—online—thanks to our webmaster, Art Bourget. Please visit www.mbca.org/niagara often. I set it as my browser's Home page.

As always, 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!

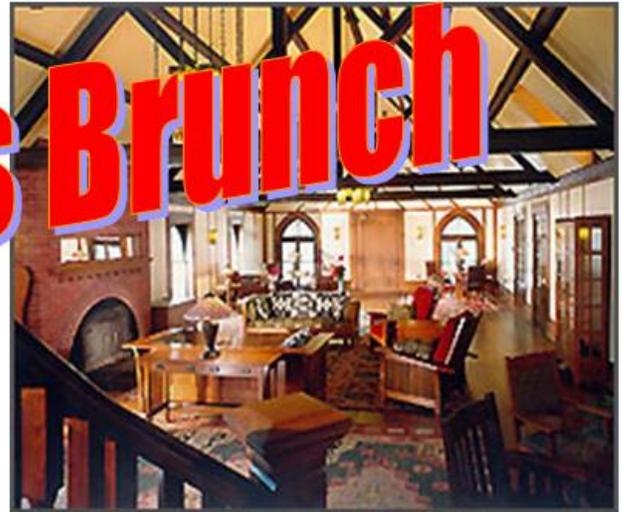
Please take advantage of the items for sale, as well as the products and services offered by our advertisers. Again, my extreme appreciation and gratitude goes out to officers and members constantly improving the Niagara Section! As always, we are looking for helpers on our committees, so if you have a few moments to help out, please let us know.

Announcing!



Niagara Section Annual

Valentine's Brunch



Sunday, February 13th 2011 at 11:30 a.m.

Historic

Roycroft Inn

40 South Grove Street. off Main
East Aurora, NY

Email Joanie for directions: joanelong@verizon.net
 See the website at: www.Roycroftinn.com
 Or call 716-655-4515

***Brunch includes full breakfast and lunch buffet, champagne, mimosas, & beverages and a variety of desserts.
 Prices include tax and gratuity.***

MBCA Members and associates: \$26 per person
 Non-MBCA members: \$28 per person
 Please indicate numbers of each with payment.

Payment due by February 9
 Please make checks payable to:
 Niagara Section MBCA
 55 Westport Court
 Williamsville, NY 14221

Christmas Party 2010

The Old Orchard Inn, a famous Western New York landmark in East Aurora was host to this year's Christmas Party. A great time was had by all who attended, including Santa Claus... Santa made a brief appearance on his way back to the North Pole, saying that he had a number of Mercedes Benz cars to detail as Christmas gifts this year. Santa presented each couple with a 2011 Niagara Section calendar highlighting photos of last year's events, too.

There was plenty of time to mix and catch up with other members, which was enjoyable considering the hectic time we all have just before Christmas. It was good to see some new faces, as well as the familiar people too.

Dinner was served with delicious choices for everyone! The party continued with much merriment and good wishes for the season and for the upcoming year as well.

This year's Member of the Year Award was earned by Judi Laird, and was presented to her at the first regular meeting in January. Congratulations to Judi, and if you have a chance, thank her for her active participation and her efforts at leading club events!

In addition, our 2010 Most Active Member Contest was won "hands down" by Art Bourget. His award was presented at the regular meeting as well, and his prize is a significant cash award. Congratulations to Art for his continuous participation in club events, as well as his expertise as our webmaster!

Plans are already underway for next year's party, and we hope to see everyone there. In the meantime, enjoy 2011's events!





VP's Corner— By Bill Fix

Wow....can you believe it? Here we are, jump started into a brand new year. And a really, really cold one to boot. But that's not going to deter us. In fact, the colder it gets the more we look forward to our monthly meetings and planned activities where we can enjoy new experiences with all of our friends/members of the club.

What's especially interesting this year, so far, are all the new faces we are beginning to see whenever we meet. Yup, it's happening. Our harping, cajoling and carrot dangling through our newsletter along with "word-of-mouth" is finally causing both old and new members to venture out to see if what we do merits all the hype we've created. And guess what? It does!

So, if you're reading this but still holding back....it's time to become part of the action. We have gotten so many new ideas and suggestions that we're actually running out of calendar space to fit things in. What a great problem to have. However, if you're thinking; "I guess they don't need me", wrong! We love to collect new ideas and suggestions and what we can't fit on to this year's calendar we can surely plan for next year. So don't hang back any longer. It's your club, these are your friends and the more we do together the more we come together.

Just a couple of examples; the Wine Tasting Party turned out thirty people on a very cold, blustery day. Two days later, at our monthly meeting at Hirsch's we had to keep adding tables to hold the 26 people who turned out to participate.

Now, check out the events calendar in this newsletter and mark your own calendar. *We can't wait to see YOU at the next happening.*



Go Kart Racing 2010

What fun, again! It was a cool day November 14 when we took over the indoor track at AJ's Grand Prix, and with head socks, helmets, harnesses and fast karts we began the competition. Using only our nicknames to protect the innocent, here are the results:



<u>Chrono</u>	<u>Driver</u>
26.220	Gene
27.254	Jordan
27.427	Bill
27.708	Fred
28.087	Justine
28.574	Jack
28.654	John
28.772	Mary Ann
29.003	Gary
29.196	Greg
29.673	Joanie
32.412	Deb
38.898	Josh

Welcome New Niagara Section Members



**GUY MARLETTE, JERRY KACZOR, ROBERT FELSER,
MONT STERN, DANIEL CENTINELLO, PETER SPITZER**

NEWSLETTER NOTE!

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

In order to ensure that we reach all members, black & white paper copies of this newsletter will be mailed to all members. 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. If you prefer the electronic version, please email or call Becky Reed (rlinnr@gmail.com or 716-652-4548) and your subscription will be sent by email notice only. Thank you!

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**NIAGARA SECTION
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB
OF AMERICA, INC.**

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8561 Falls Rd.
West Falls, NY 14170**

Advertisement



2010 E Class Cabriolet

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



Mercedes-Benz

The advertisement features a white 2010 Mercedes-Benz E-Class Cabriolet (convertible) on a reflective surface at an auto show. A blue banner at the top right identifies the car. The bottom left contains the dealership name and contact information, while the bottom right features the Mercedes-Benz logo and brand name.