



# GATEWAY NEWS

## MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

### SAINT LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION

*"2013 MBCA SECTION OF THE YEAR"*

Gateway News – March April 2016

Volume 44 Issue 2

#### TRAIN DISPLAY & GATEWAY CLASSIC CARS

Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>  
Belleville, Illinois

Join us for an event at Sonny Sterthmann's friend, Tom Germann's home, for the most spectacular train display you will ever see. Tom is a member of the National Train Collectors Association and has received their highest honor of winning first place for his display.

Viewing this wonderful train display will begin at 1:00 p.m. Afterwards we will travel to Gateway Classic Cars, which houses a large collection of vehicles, all of which are for sale. A BBQ lunch buffet is planned at this location and will include beef brisket, pulled pork, turkey, potato salad, baked beans and coleslaw. Cost is \$11/person, which includes soft drinks and tip.

The address to Tom Germann's home is 53 Dianne Drive, Belleville, IL 62220. Tom's house is located on the left hand side of the street. Watch for a sign that will help you find his house. Detailed directions from Tom's house to Gateway Classic Cars will be provided.

If you will be attending this event, please mail Sonny a check for \$11 per person, made out to "MBCA, St. Louis Gateway Section". Checks are to be received by March 7<sup>th</sup> so that lunch reservations can be finalized. Address is: Sonny Sterthman, 310 E. Hwy 50, Ste. 1, O'Fallon, IL 62269. Circle your calendar NOW to save the date for March 12, 2016 !

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#### MAEYSTONE VILLAGE – DREAMLAND VILLAGE

Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Waterloo, Illinois

We start by touring the quaint little village of Maeystown, Illinois. There will be a guided tour of this historic town by David Braswell, who is a longtime resident. The tour will start at 1:00 p.m. at the UCC's church parking lot. The address is 1301 Franklin St., Maeystown, IL 62256. You will have the choice of doing a walking or driving tour. There will be many stops along this tour to take a break.

When the tour is complete, we will drive back to Foster, Pond, Illinois where we will have an authentic German dinner at Dreamland Palace, 3043 State Route 156, Waterloo, Illinois 62298. Please see page 4 for the menu that is being served to us. We ask that you cut out the menu and put your first name next to your food selection and your first and last name at the top of the menu, mailing this along with your check. It will assist the restaurant in getting the correct dishes to the right person. Name tags, with your dish of choice, will be at the front door.

Call in your RSVP to Sonny before April 15<sup>th</sup> so that Dreamland Palace has time to organize our dinner. The charge for this eventful day is \$31/person. Please make checks out to "MBCA, St. Louis Gateway Section" and mail it along with the menu to Sonny Sterthman, 310 E. Highway 50, Ste. 1, O'Fallon, IL 62269. If you have any questions, please call Sonny at 618.628.0476.

If you would like to email your menu choices to Sonny, you can do so at [paula.stamper@countryfinancial.com](mailto:paula.stamper@countryfinancial.com)

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#### THE JIM WEDDLE CAR COLLECTION

Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>  
St. Louis, Missouri

Please join us on Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m., as we explore the vast car collection of Jim Weddle. Jim has amassed one of the finest collections of rare and interesting automobiles in the area. These are some of the most desirable autos that you'll see outside of Pebble Beach or Amelia Island's Concours d'Elegance.

Jim and his wife Stacey have graciously invited us to view their collection, while treating us to wine, beer, and snacks. If you're a lover of cars, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity ! We will meet at their warehouse, although calling it a warehouse doesn't do it justice, which is located in Brentwood, off of Manchester Road. As we get closer to the event date, Dan will provide the address to those that have RSVP'd. Do not delay! Space is limited. RSVP now to Dan Valle at [dvalle1@earthlink.net](mailto:dvalle1@earthlink.net). If you have questions, please call Dan at 314.495.7276.

**2015 MBCA  
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*Officers and Board Members*

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***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE***

I received some sad news today. Long-time member Marion Hughes has passed away. The world was a sweeter place with Marion in it. Our condolences go out to her husband, Russ. Our club will not be the same without her.

Also of note, former St. Louis Gateway Section President, John Prater, will be stepping down from the board effective March 1, 2016. I want to thank John for his many years of service to this club. Under John's leadership, we were awarded Section of the Year 2013 by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. Don't worry; you'll still see John and Paula at events throughout the year.

John's stepping down is a good reminder to all of us that this club only functions because of volunteerism. Most of our officers and board members have graciously served in their positions for several years. As an organization, we must plan for our future. We must identify individuals willing to volunteer their time and expertise. My goal for the year is to identify at least one person, for each of our key roles, should the role be vacated. Please let me know if you have any interest in learning more about the roles within our club. If you're curious about what each role entails, I could connect you with the current officer to learn more.

I look forward to seeing you soon !

***Dan***

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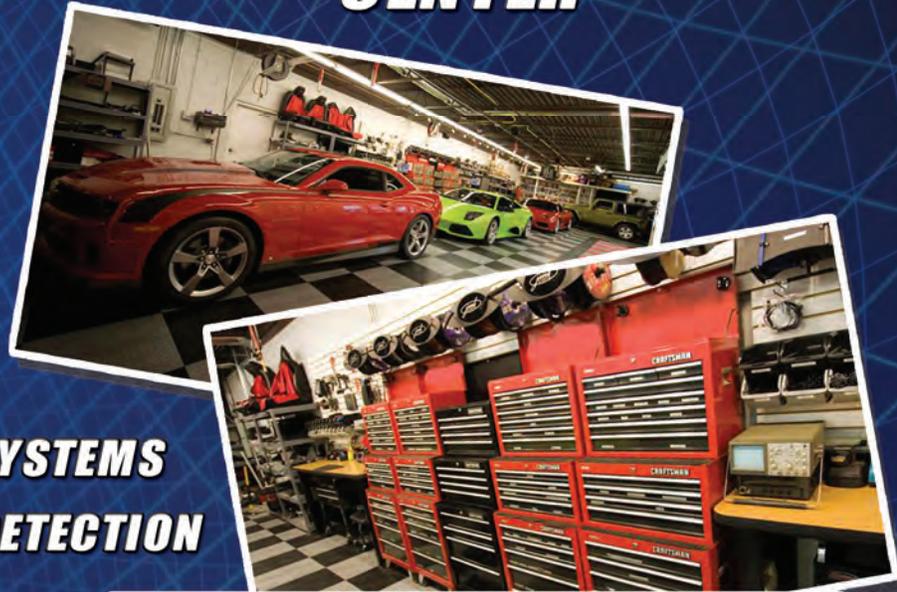
**OUR MISSION** - The mission of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, and specifically the St. Louis Gateway Section, is to provide the owners of Mercedes-Benz automobiles a higher level of ownership. This is accomplished by affording club members a unique opportunity to participate and share with fellow members the wonderful experience of owning and driving, what is universally recognized as the first, and continues today, to be one of the finest luxury motorcars in the world.



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## MEMBER APPRECIATION RECEPTION

Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

Plaza Motors West, O'Fallon, MO

Over 55 members of the St. Louis Gateway Section met at Plaza Motors West for a look at some new Mercedes vehicles, as well as a tour of the Plaza West service area by Service Manager Herb Williams. We were shown how the Mercedes Star Diagnosis System can be connected to any Mercedes-Benz vehicle to provide a tremendous amount of information collected by the many computers which control most of the features of these vehicles.

We were then treated to a demonstration of a precision wheel alignment on the Plaza West Hunter System, which uses lasers to accurately measure the various wheel alignment data. Several of our "car guys" (and gals) were also very interested in seeing the underside of a new AMG GT-S, which was up on a lift for some maintenance. Our Plaza West hosts, Sales Manager, Matt McGoogan and Dealer Concierge / Section member, Ed Trujillo provided some great food and drinks, along with "Door Prizes" for everyone in attendance. This really was a fine event and we owe a special thanks to Marti Jacquemin for coordinating and hosting this activity. (See photos on pages 15 & 16)

## DREAMLAND PALACE MENU

### \_\_ D1 Dreamland Platter

Grilled bratwurst and knockwurst, served with sauerkraut and potato pancakes with applesauce

### \_\_ D2 Black Forest Schnitzel

Tender chicken breast schnitzel, topped with ham and melted Swiss cheese served with green beans and German potato salad

### \_\_ D3 Gefullter Paprika

Two stuffed green peppers, with seasoned ground beef and rice topped with tomato sauce, served with mashed potatoes

### \_\_ D4 Schwienebraten

Tender roast pork, served with sauerkraut and mashed potatoes

### \_\_ D5 Schwieneschnitzel

A tender pork schnitzel, lightly breaded under a mushroom gravy, served with spaetzels and a potato pancakes

### \_\_ D6 Kasseler Rippchen

Two tender smoked pork chops served with green beans and potato pancakes

### \_\_ D7 Sauerbraten

Tender beef marinated in a spiced brine, served with red cabbage and potato pancakes

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## Ladies Holiday Breakfast, December 21st, 2015

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On Monday, December 21, 2015, a group of the Mercedes Ladies gathered at Mimi's Cafe in Chesterfield Valley, for a fun and relaxing holiday breakfast with no "car talk".

Each of the ladies brought a \$10 wrapped gift and shared another adventurous journey with the "Wright Family", with everyone taking home a different gift from the one that they brought.

A big thank you goes out to Patti Siefert for once again organizing this great event.



## New Year's Lunch, Sunday January 10th, 2016

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On Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, members of the St. Louis Gateway Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club gathered at Cardwell's in Plaza Frontenac for our annual New Year's lunch. We had a great time reviewing our New Year resolutions and looking forward to what 2016 may bring. After a little wine and talk we sat down to a fine meal and continued our conversations. This event was a fine start to the New Year and we thank Liz and Reid Vann for coordinating and hosting this event.





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2016 FIA Formula One World Championship contender, the Mercedes-Benz F1 W07 Hybrid, was unveiled at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya last week.

power unit and chassis concept”, confirms Head of Mercedes Benz Motorsport, Toto Wolff. The regulations have remained mostly stable for another year, so the development curve has naturally started to level out slightly. But as a group of competitive racers, this is the sort of challenge we love – to find every last bit of performance.



On the surface, a second consecutive winter of minimal regulatory change may appear to ease the pressure on the Formula One community. The reality, however, is quite the opposite. Progress under such conditions is a game of diminishing returns – making the quest for every millisecond of performance ever more crucial. “The biggest challenge for the team over the winter has been finding how we can extract more performance from what was already a very strong

In the cockpit, the Brackley squad maintains an unchanged driver line-up, with reigning World Drivers’ Champion Lewis Hamilton once again paired with two-time title runner-up, Nico Rosberg. Having locked horns for the Championship in each of the past two campaigns, this intra-team contest is sure to provide a fascinating plot line once more in 2016. “The battle between Lewis and Nico is both interesting and challenging for us”, confirms Toto.

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Keep an eye on our website for upcoming news and events:

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We were introduced to the club by some friends a couple of years ago and then got to know some other friends in the club who worked with our son-in-law. Small world! Our initial leap into the Mercedes Benz world was with our SLK 320 that we bought when my wife retired. Then, with the addition of our first granddaughter Evie, she needed to get “A Little Bigger”. Interestingly enough, the club members who worked with our son-in-law were looking to sell their ML350 so we shook hands and the rest is history.

We are planning to get more involved in the club in coming years and meeting more of you on a personal level. If you are interested in letting my team and I assist you, you can reach us at 636.534.2027. Our office is located in Chesterfield at 14755 North Outer Forty, Suite 500, Chesterfield, MO, 63017. I look forward to the days ahead and assisting in any way I can.

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New Year's Lunch, Sunday January 10th, 2016



# Member Appreciation Reception, Saturday February 20th, 2016



# Member Appreciation Reception, Saturday February 20th, 2016



## CARS AND PARTS FOR SALE

**500SL, 1992**, Silver w/black leather interior & soft top. 73K miles. Hard top, very nice condition, clean CarFax. Many maintenance updates, including radiator, brake pads/rotors, belt tensioner/tensioner rod, tires/alignment, windshield latch activators, hood pad, hydraulic suspension, ADS suspension valve, battery. \$9,900. **Rick Siefert at 314.435.1903 or rick.siefert@att.net.**

**CL550, 2010**, Black w/upgraded black interior. 70K miles. Original owner. Immaculate! AMG Trim Package. Both summer and winter tire sets with rims and sensors. All service records and maintenance by Mercedes St. Louis. \$37,500. **Bill Decker 314.578.1340 or whdeck@aol.com.**

**SLK230 Kompressor, 2000**, Black w/Salsa 2-tone interior, Sport AMG Package, 37,5xx miles, 2-passenger coupe with folding metal roadster roof, new factory correct size Michelin Pilot tires, original keys with valet, floor mats, books, window sticker. \$11,900. **Mark Sherman at 314.920.2804 or msherman4487@gmail.com.**

**450SL, 1973**, White w/ black interior. 150K miles. Hardtop w/ pulley system included. Good condition. Extra set of M-B sport wheels and headlights. \$5,990 OBO. **Cathie Hutcheson at hutche@siu.edu.**

**450SL, 1976**, Astral Silver w/ red interior. 72,500 miles. Hardtop with rolling stand, original soft top in A-1 condition. This gem is original and has been properly maintained by Legend and Machens Mercedes-Benz in Columbia, MO. This M-B is ready to drive anywhere/any place at your leisure. Your Dream Car for \$15,500. **Michael Koch at cedarcrestvineyards@gmail.com or 573.230.6497.**

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## St. Louis Gateway Section 2016 Events

March 12th  
**Viewing of a Private Model Railroad  
Gateway Classic Collection**  
Belleville, IL

April  
**Lunch at Dreamland Palace**  
Waterloo, IL

May  
**Tour of the Jim Weddle Car Collection**

June  
**Car Show**  
Wine Country Gardens - Defiance, MO

July  
**Christmas in July**

August  
**Great River Road And Ferry Crossing**  
Alton, IL

September  
**Club Picnic**  
The Museum of Transportation

October  
**Overnight Stay At  
Pere Marquette Lodge**  
Pere Marquette State Park, IL

November  
**Annual Planning Meeting**  
Moolah Shrine Center

December  
**Holiday Party**

January 2017  
**New Year's Brunch**



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**Train Display  
& Gateway Classic Cars**

**Belleville, IL**

Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

**Visit Maeystone Village  
Lunch At Dreamland Palace**

**Waterloo, IL**

Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Jim Weddle Car Collection**

**St. Louis**

Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>



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