



Sept/Oct 2019
Volume 47 Issue 5



**ANNUAL FALL PICNIC
SHOW & SHINE CAR SHOW
Sunday, September 22nd
Chesterfield Central Park**

Mark your calendars on **Sunday, September 22nd** for our Annual Fall Picnic. Festivities will kick off at 1:00 pm and the food will be served around 2:00. Chesterfield Central Park is located at 16365 Lydia Hill Drive, Chesterfield, MO. Our lunch menu will be all-inclusive. Drinks will include water, tea, lemonade, and of course, beer and wine.

Whether old or new, clean up and shine your favorite Mercedes for our Show & Shine. Trophies will be awarded to the three cars that gather the most votes by attendees.

To attend, please mail a \$10/person check, made payable to: 'MBCA, St. Louis Gateway Section', to Alan Barker, 215 Kerruish Place, Webster Groves, MO 63119-3001. RSVP to Alan at alan-barker@att.net or 314-882.2445, **NO LATER** than September 15th, so that food and other arrangements can be finalized.

We look forward to seeing each of you at what always proves to be an afternoon of fun and camaraderie at one of our club's most well-attended events.



**FRENCH LICK, INDIANA
Friday, October 11th - Sunday, October 13th**

Please join your fellow Central Region club members as we enjoy an extended weekend together in and around the French Lick, Indiana area.

French Lick Springs is a classic American hotel, established in 1845, with the current spa wing built in 1901. With its most recent extensive updates, it now seamlessly blends its fascinating

history with modern amenities and services. Family-friendly activities and facilities make this an ideal destination for celebrations or relaxing getaways. French Lick has something everyone can enjoy; whether it's golf, spa, hiking, biking, swimming, or shopping.

We are planning some very enjoyable activities, including a driving tour of the area, breakfast and tour at the West Baden Hotel, and dinners together on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Lodging at the historic French Lick Resort is regularly \$304/night + tax at this time of the year, but our rate for the two days/nights is \$129/night + tax. We had a 40-room block, which is presently completely booked. We also have some rooms available at the adjacent West Baden Springs Hotel though.

Please contact Rick Siefert (rick.siefert@att.net or 314-435-1903) for further information and for the reservation phone number and booking code.



**ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING
Monday, November 4th
Mercedes-Benz of St. Louis**

This year's planning meeting will be held at Mercedes-Benz of St. Louis, located at 1048 Hampton Ave, St. Louis, MO.

The meeting will be on Monday, November 4th from **6:30-8:00 pm**. This is an important meeting where ideas for our 2020 events will be discussed and the events decided on. We had a great turnout last year and we encourage all of our Section members to attend. Coffee and Donuts will be provided. **If you have any questions about the planning process, please contact Frank Perry at frankperry401@msn.com. Come prepared with your ideas so that we can have another great year of excellent events.**

**2019 MBCA
SAINT LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION
Officers and Board Members**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This will be my last message to you as your Section President, as I am not going to be running for office in the upcoming election. Please see page 5 of this newsletter for the 2019 St. Louis Gateway Section of the MBCA Officer's Ballot. We have some great folks who are up for this election and I encourage each member to vote by using the website listed on the ballot or mailing in the paper ballot in the newsletter.

It was unfortunate that we had to cancel our July event due to the river flooding. It almost could have happened, as the waters were receding as the event date drew near. However, we did not want to have to cancel at the last minute.

We have some great events over the next three months which include our September Section picnic and car show, followed in October by our weekend in French Lick, Indiana. Also, November brings the important 2020 event planning meeting. These events and activities are the very heart of our Section's existence, so please bring your ideas and, more importantly, your willingness to host or co-host an event.

Being President of this great Section has been my distinct pleasure and I want to especially thank those members who have volunteered to coordinate and host our past events. Without their efforts our Section would not be the success it is.

Although I will not be running for President, I will continue to be active in our Section's events, so I will see you there. Thanks for the great memories.

Steve



OUR NEWSLETTER ADVERTISERS

Are you considering buying a new or used car? Are you looking for some place to get your car repaired or serviced? Are you considering having a protective wrap for your car or want to get your car detailed? Or maybe you are looking for financial help or a place to find good health care. If any of these items are on your list for the future, **PLEASE consider using one of the many businesses that advertise in our newsletter.**

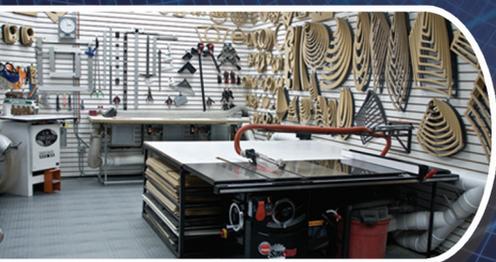
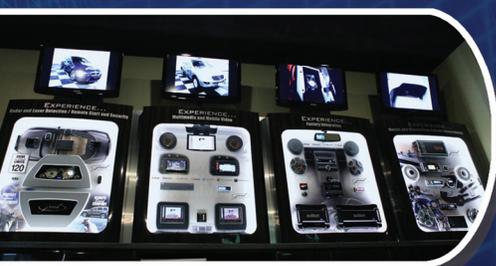
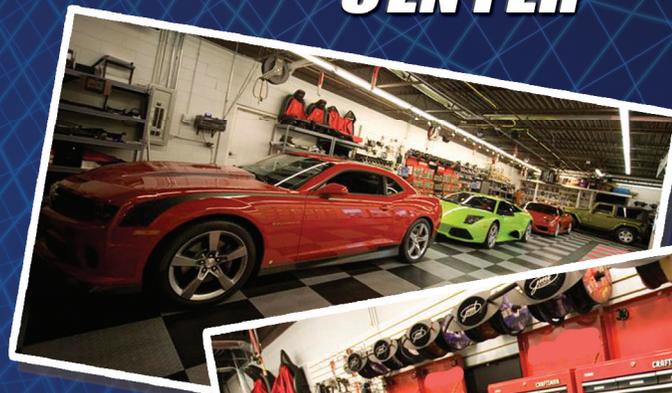
The Gateway News is an important part of keeping our Section membership engaged with Section activities. **The businesses that advertise in our newsletter provide the funding to allow the St. Louis Gateway Section Newsletter to be printed and mailed every two months.** So please consider doing business with them.



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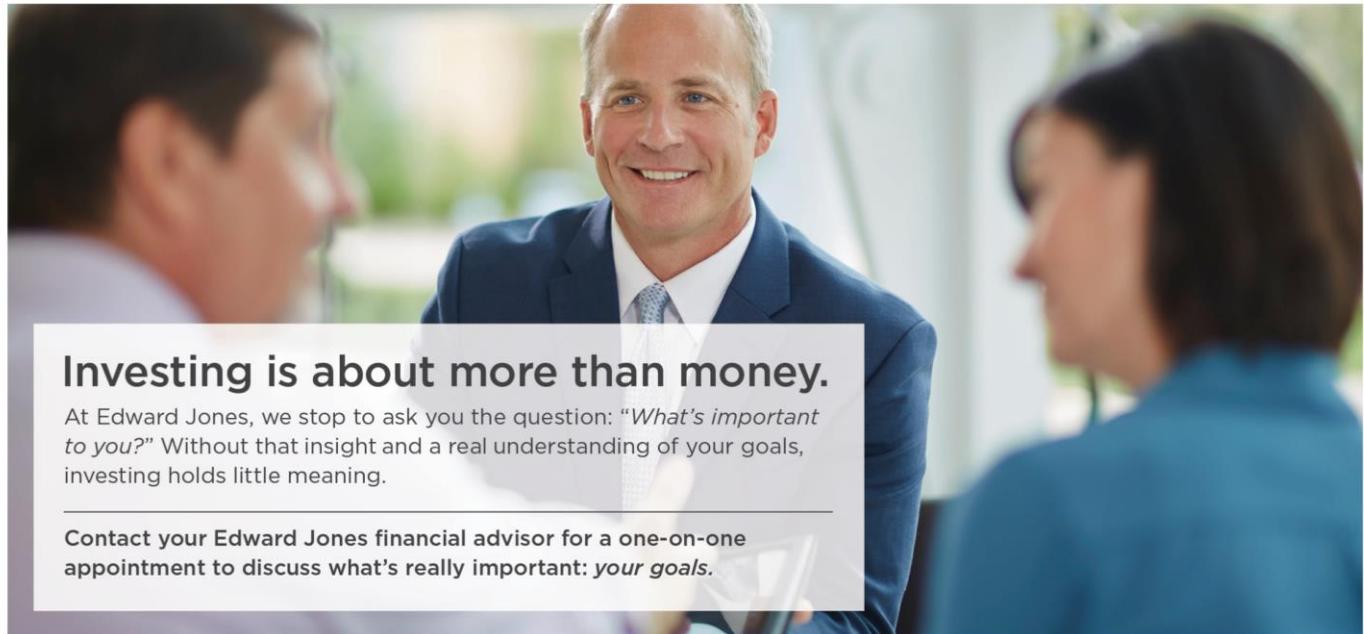
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2019 ST. LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION of the MBCA OFFICER'S BALLOT

Voting deadline is September 20, 2019. Please vote for whom you would like to see as President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. If you would like to vote for someone else, simply select the "write in" answer and type in that person's name.

To vote online, just click on this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YLM8D3L>

To vote by mail, fill out the ballot below and send it to:
Bob Frank, 17500 Garden Ridge Circle, Wildwood, MO 63038

1. PRESIDENT

- Frank Perry
- President (write in)

2. VICE PRESIDENT

- Luella Perry
- Vice President (write in)

3. TREASURER

- Dana Faerber
- Treasurer (write in)

4. SECRETARY

- Patti Siefert
- Secretary (write in)

Hofbräuhaus St Louis in Belleville – Saturday, August 10th

This event was an enormous success with over fifty Mercedes Benz club members and their guests in attendance. On April 18, 2018 Hofbräuhaus St. Louis, in Belleville opened its doors to the public. Hofbräuhaus was built on the love of beer. What started as a demand for better brew has turned into a 400-year tradition of pure flavor. They have taken four simple ingredients of barley, yeast, hops and water from Munich, Germany to across the world in what has become a true beer revolution. Today, the spirit of Hofbräuhaus lives on at Hofbräuhaus St Louis. As an exact replica of the original in Munich, Germany, you can feel Bavaria bursting through every inch; with 28,000 square feet inside and a seating capacity of 855, an onsite brewery and outside Beer Garden of 5,500 square feet and seating for 300, the 8th franchise in the U.S. is the largest to date. **A big “Thank you” is extended to Alan and Audrey Biby for hosting this wonderful event.**



We welcomed newer members Jim and Trudy Bruchas (l) and Kenny and Janice Lupardus (r) to this club event, seen below, and hope to see them at many more club events.



Hofbräuhaus St Louis in Belleville – Saturday, August 10th

Below left: Event Hosts, Audrey and Alan Biby



KNOWING YOUR TIRE PRESSURE

www.tirebuyer.com/education

Believe it or not, tire pressure is a pretty big deal—it can affect your gas mileage, ride comfort, tire life, and most importantly, your safety and the safety of everyone else in your vehicle. After the brakes, your tires are actually your vehicle's most important safety equipment !

How often do I need to check tire pressure?

Since tire pressure is so important, we recommend that you check your tires at least once a month, or even more frequently if you can. The good news is it only takes a few minutes. But before you can check your tires, you'll need to know your vehicle's recommended tire pressure.

WHERE TO FIND YOUR VEHICLE'S RECOMMENDED TIRE PRESSURE?

Every tire's sidewall identifies a maximum cold inflation pressure, but that's not necessarily the correct pressure to use for your vehicle. Vehicle manufacturers predetermine the best tire inflation pressure for each vehicle, so you should follow the manufacturer's recommendation. To find this, first check your vehicle owner's manual. In many cases, you'll find tire pressure recommendations here, and sometimes the manufacturer may also specify alternate pressures based on load and/or speed.

Another place to find tire inflation information is on the vehicle's tire information placard. Beginning in 2003, vehicle manufacturers were directed to standardize the format and placement of tire information placards.

On new vehicles, the placard must be located on the "B-pillar," which is the driver's side doorjamb. For vehicles that do not have a B-pillar, the placard should be attached to the rear edge of the driver's door, unless it's too narrow, in which case it should be placed on an inward-facing surface next to the driver's seat. On older vehicles, look for placards in these locations:

- The driver-side door or doorjamb
- Fuel filler door
- Glove box or center console door
- The engine compartment

The tire information placard will tell you the vehicle's weight capacity, the OE (Original Equipment) tire sizes (including the spare tire),

and the recommended inflation pressures for the tires.

CHECK TIRES WHEN THEY'RE CHILLY

Now that you've found the recommended cold tire inflation pressure and vehicle load, it's important to understand how temperature can affect the reading. Tire inflation pressure should be checked first thing in the morning when the tires are at their coldest—before the vehicle has been driven, before the tires have been in direct sunlight, and before the temperature rises.

EX-DAIMLER BOSS SAYS A CAR'S ENGINE IS NOT A DIFFERENTIATOR ANYMORE

By: Anthony Alaniz www.motor1.com/

MERCEDES IS NOW USING RENAULT ENGINES IN SOME MODELS !

Daimler CEO Dieter Zetsche stepped down earlier this year, departing after more than 40 years at the company, 13 of which were at Daimler's helm. In a wide-ranging post-employment interview with Top Gear, Zetsche makes a bold assertion that'll undoubtedly ruffle the feathers of enthusiasts – engines don't matter to customers today.

In the interview, Zetsche said the company partnered with Renault for engines and then Mercedes A-Class sales doubled. He added that engines are "not such a differentiator" anymore for most consumers. Enthusiasts still care, he noted, but they do not make up the majority of today's car buyers. Zetsche lumped autonomous driving and mobility services into the same category as engines – things most consumers don't consider. He goes on to explain that is why the company partnered with others for those ventures.

That's a bold statement from the former head of a major automaker where engineering has been and continues to be a pillar to its success. However, partnerships between automakers aren't new, and they're becoming more and more common as automakers attempt to distribute costs for new technologies, electric vehicles, driver-assistance systems, new mobility ventures, autonomous vehicles, and so much more.

Zetsche was quick to quell any idea engineering doesn't matter though. He said that he doesn't believe Mercedes makes simple commodities, adding that there are several "engineering proof points," and "A Mercedes is a Mercedes."

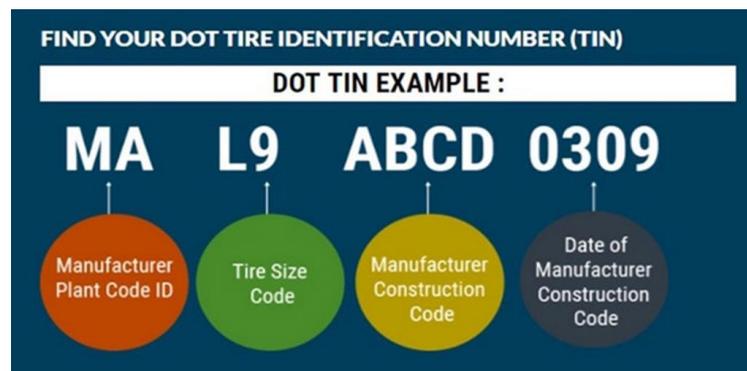
WHERE ARE TIRES MADE?

Identifying where your tires are made before you purchase them isn't always an easy question to answer. There are plenty of tire manufacturers with plants in the U.S. that also have plants across the globe. So while one brand's style of tire might be manufactured in a U.S.-based plant, that same style might also be made abroad. After you've purchased the tire, you can identify the country of origin by referencing the plant code that is printed on the sidewall.

In 2015, [Consumer Reports](#) fielded a study regarding tires and their country of origin. They researched where tires were made on the 72 cars they tested, and found 21 tire brands were built in 19 countries. While performance types are built around the globe, *Consumer Reports* found that 40% of the all-season tires were manufactured in the U.S., while only one of 23 winter tires were made here.

WHERE TO FIND THE TIRE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

The federally-mandated Tire Identification Number (TIN) molded into the sidewall has the code. The TIN will tell you the tire plant, the tire size code, the manufacturer's code and the date of manufacturer code. For tires approved for sale in the U.S., the code begins with DOT to signify it has met Department of Transportation regulations.



- In this example, MA is the manufacturer plant code for Zhejiang Zhongchi Rubber Co., Ltd. in Zhejiang, China. In 2016, the plant codes went

to three places, so you may have to add a 1 in front of a two-letter code get a result.

- The tire size code is L9. There aren't national standards for tire size codes – NHTSA allows manufacturers to determine their own codes.
- The Manufacturer Construction Code is also up to the discretion of the manufacturer. There is no standardized data coded into the number. It's usually related to the tire batch to help track it down in case of a recall.
- The final four digits are the date of construction. The first two indicate the week of the year out of 52, and the last two numbers are the year. So this tire was made in the third week of 2009.

The full number is required to be shown only on one side of the tire; the other side of the tire may have a shorter number.

ST. LOUIS GATEWAY SECTION REMAINING 2019 EVENTS

September 22nd

Club Picnic – Show 'n Shine
Chesterfield Pavilion

October 11th – 13th

Historic Hotel and Sites
French Lick, IN

November 4th

Annual Planning Meeting
Mercedes-Benz of St. Louis

December 7th

Holiday Party
Maggiano's, Richmond Heights, MO

January 2020

New Year's Brunch

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Hofbräuhaus St Louis in Belleville – Saturday, August 10th



Hofbräuhaus St Louis in Belleville – Saturday, August 10th



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280SL Roadster, 1970, white w/black interior. 33K miles, never driven on a wet road. VIN 11304412016150. \$90,000. For further details, please call **Katie at 618-973-0019**.

220 SE Fintail, 1964, Light Beige (181)/dark green leather (220), 4-speed, Becker radio w/ power antenna, factory air, brought to show condition by Bud's Benz. Nothing needs to be done - can be driven anywhere, any time. Previous owner took delivery at factory and ALL paper work since included with car. Wonderful and interesting documented history to support creditability as true classic. \$17,500. **Mike Marsh at mike_marshall@bellsouth.net**.

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SL Hardtop Rolling Dolly - \$40. **Larry Heugatter, larry_heugatter@gmail.com or 314-683-8515**.

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To the many of you who referred your family, friends, neighbors, and business associates to become a part of our Club, we thank you **VERY** much for contributing to the success of the St. Louis Gateway Section.

If you have ideas on how to encourage folks to join our club please contact any of the board members listed on page 1 of this newsletter, and pass along your ideas.

The success of our Club depends on the participation of the members to our scheduled activities. Guests are always invited to participate and get to know the club on our members.

The St. Louis Gateway Section Officers & Board Members

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<https://stlgateway.mbc.org/>

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Applicant's section preference (see list in magazine) _____

Sponsor's signature and member number (optional) _____

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St. Louis Gateway Section
17500 Garden Ridge Circle
Wildwood, MO 63038

Annual Fall Picnic - Show & Shine Car Show

Chesterfield Central Park

September 22nd

French Lick, Indiana

October 11th - 13th

ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING

Mercedes-Benz of St. Louis

November 4th

Gateway Section



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