



The Constellation

NOVEMBER 2007

SERVING OVER 400 MEMBERS IN COLORADO, WYOMING, NEBRASKA AND UTAH

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AND MUCH MORE !!

**November
Monthly Social
Nov. 14th—6:30 pm
The Golden Europe
6620 N. Wadsworth**

This informal get-together is always fun and *usually*** the third Wednesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm. Generally someone is there till at least 8, so you can even come late and have dessert. Call Jay at 303-935-8270 for directions, or if you would like more information.

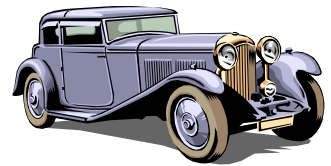
The December social will be at **Hacienda Real**, 8896 W. Bowles, Ave., Littleton. The January 2008 Social will be held at **The Bonfish Grill**, 10438 Towncenter Dr., Westminster.

** To avoid conflict with Thanksgiving this month only the Social is on the 2nd Wednesday.

**SEE YOU AT
THE SOCIAL!**



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FORNEY MUSEUM TOUR AND POTLUCK NOVEMBER 17, 2007 12:30



On November 17th at 12:30 pm the Mile-High Section will hold its annual Members Meeting at the **Forney Museum of Transportation, 4303 Brighton Blvd in Denver**. The museum is just south of I-70 and the Coliseum Complex on Brighton Blvd. We will start with a Potluck meal, followed by a general members meeting and Section elections for MHS Board of Directors. **Following the election, the Museum is open for touring.**

A short meeting of the Board of Directors will follow the election where the Board will choose its officers for the 2008 year from among the current and newly elected Directors.

The cost is \$12.50 per person and includes admission to the Museum. Please bring a potluck item to share. The MHS will furnish table service, beer, wine, soda and water.

There are several openings on the 2008 Board of Directors. Board members are elected for two year terms. The Board meets monthly to plan Section events and fulfill the requirements of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. If you are interested in joining the Board, or you know someone who you think would be a great Board member, please contact me via email at jhokanso@comcast.net or 303-935-8270. Ballots will be distributed at the meeting. Board membership is completely voluntary and no member will be "railroaded" into serving on the Board. If you would like to help guide the MHS through 2008 we welcome you to run for one of the available positions. — Jay Hokanson **REGISTRATION FORM ON BACK PAGE**

The Pikes Peak Section Presents:

"Mercedes-Benz Maintenance & Repair - A Systems Approach"

Featuring George Murphy, MBCA Technical Director

Saturday, November 3, 2:00 p.m.

M-B of Colo. Springs, 730 Automotive Dr., Colorado Springs

This popular seminar is aimed at both the new car buyer and one who has purchased a used M-B with an uncertain history. George will discuss non-routine maintenance items, such as degradation of rubber parts, changing fluids, and common problems that can occur as your car ages. **After the formal presentation, George will be available for "tire-kicking" in the parking lot**, answering questions you have about your car. Don't miss this excellent opportunity! **After the tech session, please join us for no-host dinner at a local restaurant.**

George Murphy is a 27-year member of Mercedes-Benz Club of America, a current director-at-large on the national board, national technical director for the Club, and regular feature columnist in The STAR Magazine. **Registration fee is only \$10.00 per person. Contact Julie Nelson, 719-634-7522, or by email, at ottobahn2@netzero.com to register.**

— Julie Nelson, PPS



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO
ALL OUR MEMBERS, READERS
AND SUPPORTING ADVERTISERS**

Behind the Wheel

With Jay Hokanson,
President, Mile High Section



MHS members, including your President, spent a lot of time ‘behind the wheel’ in the past few weeks. A trip to Salida to see the great cars in the Colorado Grand was followed by a drive to Steamboat Springs for the Heart of America tour, and we topped off the month with a day of driving in the Oktoberfest Rally. Deb and I really enjoyed the road time in our 450SL and I think our 33 year old SL really enjoyed the time on the road as well. It was nice to see so many of you at one or more of these events.

The November social (by popular demand) will again be held at **The Golden Europe**. If you remember the last time we tried going to the Golden Europe the owners had decided to go on vacation. In September we stretched the capacity of **Café Prague** with 18 members enjoying dinner after the Colorado Grand drive.

On November 17th, please plan to attend our annual members meeting and Board of Directors election at the **Forney Museum of Transportation**. Please come to the meeting and vote for Board of Directors candidates — and let us know what you would like to see in the way of future events. If you are considering running for a position on the board we still have room for you.

The Board is busy working on the schedule of events for 2008. We’re starting off the year with a cooking demonstration and fine dining at **Le Central**, a French restaurant. We have a couple tech sessions planned for the colder months —and don’t forget our annual Valentines party on February 16th.

— Jay

Mile-High Section, Inc. of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Executive Board Officers

President:

Jay Hokanson.....303.935.8270..... jhokanso@comcast.net

Vice President:

Mike Redel.....303.637.0219.....mikeredel@comcast.net

Secretary:

Reiner Haubold.....303.986.5035....reinbold1@comcast.net

Treasurer:

Max Townsend....303.770.1128.....diandmaxt@aol.com

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Ben Carter.....303.670.3828.....bcarterjr@comcast.net

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Dale Grace.....303.680.7517.....dale.grace@comcast.net

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Randy Williams303.799.4806.....ranphil39@aol.com

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Rocky Mountain Regional Director

Steve Dierks.....1.719.593.9557 / sdierks007@cs.com
8560 Candleflower Cir., Colorado Springs, CO. 80920

If you’d like to be added to the list of members receiving email updates, email Jay Hokanson at jhokanso@comcast.net.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!!

- **Mark Bogani**
- **Charles Thompson**
- **Mark Molyneux**
- **Peter Lyon**
- **Patrick Bunting**
- **Grant & Judy McAllister**
- **Dave Jennings**



If you have not received your New Member Packet, please contact Laura Lass at 303-776-8276 or lwlass@hughes.net.

Please feel free to contact any member if you have questions, or would like more information on club activities!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR NEXT EVENT!

The Constellation

Newsletter of the Mile-High Section, Inc., Mercedes-Benz Club America, Inc.

Mile-High Section, Inc. MBCA, Publisher

Deborah Hokanson, Editor

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Phone: 303-935-8270 /Email: dhokan@comcast.net

We ask our readers to support the advertisers appearing in this publication. However, no inference should be made that advertising in *The Constellation* implies approval of products or services by the publisher, the Mile-High Section, its officers or members, or by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. We encourage editors of other Mercedes-Benz Club newsletters to reprint articles that may be of interest to their Section’s members. We appreciate credit being given to *The Constellation*. Those articles reprinted in *The Constellation* with permission from owners of copyrights on those articles may not be used without written permission from the original owners. Members are welcome to submit articles. Deadline for submission is the 10th of the month prior to the month the issue comes out. Articles should be relevant to the interests and activities of MBCA and its members. The Publisher reserves the right to edit or reject any article.

WHAT IS THIS MAN DOING?



That's Ron Lass puttin' on the dog getting ready for the MHS Holiday party. Actually, that's Ron with one of the wonderful toys he and Laura donated to FACES at last year's holiday party. It's time again to get your festive on and get ready for the Mile-High Section's Annual Holiday Party. **This year's party will be held at the Aurora Summit.** Locally owned and operated since 1977, the Aurora Summit is known for mouth watering USDA Prime steaks and seafood. See article at right for more!



Holiday Party Set for December 8, 2007 7:00 PM Aurora Summit Restaurant

Be sure to set aside December 8th for our annual Holiday party. This year we will be at the **Aurora Summit Restaurant, 2700 S. Havana St. in Aurora** with a private room just off the dance floor. The \$10.00 price of admission includes one complimentary well drink. **Cocktail hour starts at 7 pm, followed by dinner at 8.**

This year we are trying something new — everyone will have an opportunity order off the menu and pay by separate check. So, whether your appetite is large or small—you can choose what you want. From salads to soups, to steaks to seafood, to scrumptious desserts—you'll have a huge selection of items to choose from. Check out their many menu items at www.aurorasummit.com

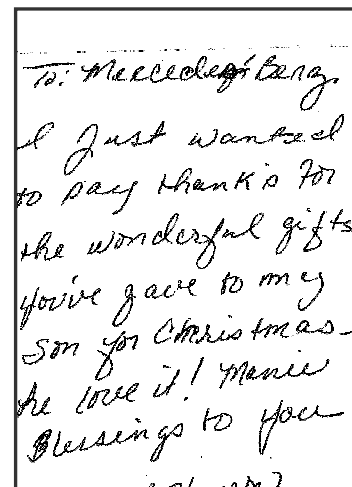
After dinner our closed doors will be opened for dancing. The Aurora Summit has excellent food and the dancing afterward will be a new treat that we haven't had available in the past. Put on your holiday togs and dancin' shoes and get ready to party on December 8th. —Max Townsend

REGISTRATION FORM ON BACK PAGE



In keeping with the MHS Holiday tradition of giving to children of FACES, **Please bring one or more NEW, unwrapped toys to be donated to children served by this outstanding organization.**

The mission of FACES is to help prevent child abuse, neglect and family violence. FACES provides assistance to a wide range of families in the Denver Metro area.



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MONDAY-FRIDAY, 7:30AM-6:00PM • CONVENIENT SATURDAY HOURS, 8:00AM-4:00PM
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HAT TOUR STEAMBOAT

Good Fun, Good Food, Great Friends

Thanks to all of you who met the Mile-High Section in Steamboat Springs for the second half of the Heart of America Tour. The drive took us over the beautiful Snowy Range from Centennial, Wyoming over to Saratoga, Wyoming. From there only Rabbit Ears Pass stood in the way of our destination for the evening. The Sheraton Resort was a few miles South of town and had some great views of the valley below. It was enjoyable to see the village in the off season and even a majority of the restaurants and shops were closed in anticipation of falling white flakes only a few months away. As we gathered in the hotel bar eagerly awaiting the night's meal we were told that, despite our dinner reservation, the restaurant was unable to serve our group. Not to worry! The hotel concierge was very helpful in locating another nearby restaurant that could accommodate our numerous rumbling tummies. The food and service at The Butcher Shop was top notch and arguably better than the meal that we would have had at the hotel. The night air had turned brisk by the time we headed back to the hospitality suite hosted by the Pikes Peak Section in Julie and Andrew Nelson's room. We talked and laughed for a good while before retiring to bed. Luckily in the morning the hotel restaurant was prepped and made sure that we all left fat and happy.



Special thanks go out to Reiner Haubold for helping to plan the route, Max Townsend for arranging things at the hotel for us, and to Jay and Deb Hokanson for helping to hold us all together when we had to switch to plan "B" at a moment's notice. I hope that everyone enjoyed the drive as much as we enjoying having you join us! — *Ryan Bunn*

COMING IN JANUARY 2008

COOKING DEMONSTRATION AT LE CENTRAL

112 E. 8th Ave., Denver • January 19, 2008

You won't want to miss the fun and fabulous food and wine when we gather at Le Central for this unbelievable cooking demonstration and meal. Le Central prides itself in fine food, outstanding wine and cuisine. Bringing the casual bistros of Toulon France to Denver— Bienvenue au Central! Watch the December newsletter for more information!

TECH SESSION AT AUTO WEAVE UPHOLSTERY

2613 w. 64th Ave., #A, Denver • January 26, 2008

With over 25 years' experience, Ron Nelson will give us the inside scoop on classic and antique vehicle restoration, leather work, convertibles and covers, and more. Don't miss this fun and informative tech session. More info will follow in the December newsletter.



WHAT IS IT?

Is it a Mercelexus, or a Lexcades?

Rick & Pam Wettstein joined the MHS with their MB-LE (Lexus Edition) on our Octoberfest Rally

One thing for sure—it proves that there's only two kinds of cars:

— those that ARE Mercedes

...and those that WISH they were!

**Photos from the Colorado Grand
September 19, 2007 - Salida, Colorado**
Watch the MHS website at www.milehighmbca.org for more.



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Oktoberfest Rally 2007

On Saturday, September 29, we enjoyed a beautiful fall day for our annual Oktoberfest rally. Twenty-nine people gathered at Mercedes-Benz of Westminster where we started the day with bagels, muffins, donuts, and coffee. Directions were distributed along with water, granola bars, and apples. Then everyone drove off on the 209 mile rally which took about 4 ½ hours to complete.

Because of the CU game in Boulder, we had to make last minute changes to the original plan so we headed east on 104th to I-25. We drove north past Ft. Collins and then took Hwy 287 to West Hwy 14. The drive wound through Poudre Canyon and up to the Cameron Pass summit, providing beautiful views of yellow aspens with just some orange and red peeking through. Near the top of Cameron Pass, the wind blew ferociously, the temperature dropped, and snow flakes dusted those with their tops down.

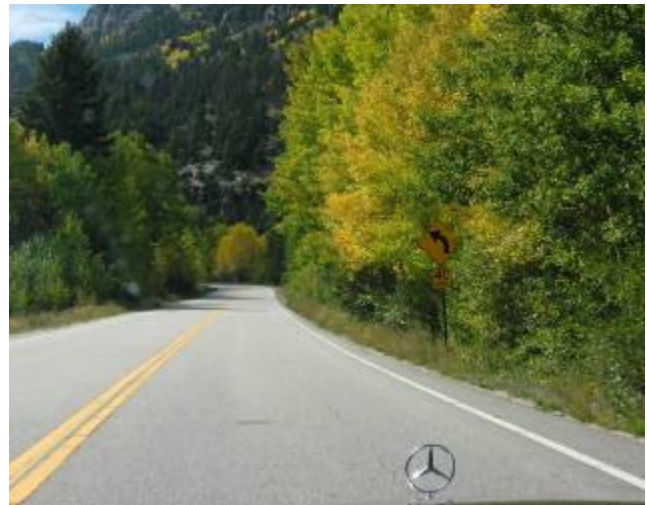
For the drive back, we came down Poudre Canyon then took Larimer County Road 27 over Stove Prairie to Masonville. We wound our way on country roads along the foothills through Larimer County and around Carter Lake, ending at Ron and Laura Lass's home for a barbecue. We experienced some roads and saw some sights we had not experienced or seen before. It was good to get out of our cars and dive into the food and drink.

We drank German beer, German wine, ate lots of chips, dips, nuts, and fruit while Ron grilled the bratwurst and chicken. Jerry Kappler made the delicious hot German potato salad, red cabbage, and spaetzel. For dessert we had cherry and blueberry pies along with the Black Forest cake made especially for us by Schmidt's in Loveland.



Phyllis Williams and Laura Lass tempting everyone with this delicious Black Forest Cake

Ron made a special presentation of leather pouches containing wheel bolt alignment tools that he made on his lathe. He presented one to Reiner Haubold and one to Ryan Bunn for his appreciation of their work on the Mile-High Section's part of the Heart of America Tour.



*Photo courtesy of MHS Member Susan Melton
(Notice the M-B Hood Ornament in the bottom of the picture)*

Laura then read the rally questions and answers and then let the winners select their prizes. There were lots of prizes including an original oil painting by Laura Lass, a \$100 gift certificate from Mercedes-Benz of Westminster, many shirts, model cars, hats, key chains, and other things to choose from.



First place went to Jan Phillips and Jerry Kappler who chose Laura's original oil painting named *Autumn Foliage, Yukon Territory (after Carl Rungius)*. Three people were tied for second place so straws were drawn to determine who chose their gift first. Jody Haubold chose the \$100 gift certificate then the other winners chose their gifts. Four people were tied for third place and several were tied for fourth place. All winners got to choose a gift.

After eating, Jay made announcements about upcoming events and asked for our continued and additional support. He asked that people volunteer to participate as directors on the Board and members of committees. He also encouraged all of us to come up with ideas for events. — *Laura Lass*



The Back Lot

Sales and Services for MBCA Members by MBCA Members



FOR SALE: Four Stock Wheels in nice condition, and used tires (30k miles) from a 2001 E320 AWD—\$500. Also, 4 like new wheels from a 2006 S500—\$600.
Call 719-599-8834.

FOR SALE: 1964 220S
Pearl White with red leather interior. 65k original miles. All literature. Always garaged. Only two owners. **\$15,000.**
Molly Myer 303-698-9695

FOR SALE: 1971 280SE Sedan. Cream, black leather interior. 97,000 miles. Great looking car. AC, PS, PW, Becker Europa. 2nd Owner. Many new parts. MBCA member. Call or e-mail for photos. **\$5,000 obo.** **Brian 303-882-0202** or **sanchez_brian@hotmail.com**

FOR SALE: 17x8" 5-spoke Miglia wheels
Like New! With 235/45 HR 17 MS Dunlop Winter Sports for 01 E430. Only 5,000 miles total. **\$900; \$1300 new.**
Lyn 970-949-4436.

FOR SALE: 1959 190 4door sedan. Rust free, 4 speed tran. Silver with grey cloth interior. Great car to finish restoration. **Runs well. \$6,995 obo.**
Call Pete @ 719 599 7100

FOR SALE: 1986 300SL. Red w/grey interior. 6-cyl, Euro model, both tops, new tires. Includes new radiator in box. Runs, drives great. Ready for summer fun.
Brian Madinger 303.840.0939
Or email brian@optimumrelationships.com

FOR SALE ... 1976 280 SL. 76,000 miles. Blue/tan interior. Comes with hard top and soft top, but needs new soft top. Trunk lid faded. **For more information and to discuss price, Call Jack Swisher at (970) 468-6361**

WANTED – Garage Space, hopefully warm, with electricity to store my SL during the upcoming cold months. The car will have a cover. Will pay \$125 per month. Prefer a location on the west side of the Metro Area, including Lakewood, Golden, and/or Evergreen. **Call Ben at 303-670-3828 or bcarterjr@comcast.net.**

FOR SALE: 2005 SL500. Mars Red with ash interior (17K miles). HRE custom wheels. Always garaged. Mint condition. **\$60K**
Mike.hess@lockton.com

FOR SALE: 1979SLC
Brown w/saddle leather interior. 57k original miles. Excellent condition inside and out. Garaged, summer driver. Purchased new at Murray Motors. 2nd owner since '92. All options, including sunroof. **\$15,000 obo.**
Todd Kelske 970-390-0070 or: toddmbez@msn.com



FOR SALE: 1991-2002 SL-Class Hardtops
Charcoal, Silver, White, or Black. All in pristine condition! Will deliver to you if you are within 100 miles of us. Over 100 miles will be shipped at purchaser's expense. Call for pricing / questions. **Tony Cota 303-679-7908** or tonycota@murraymotors.com

FOR SALE: FACTORY SERVICE MANUALS
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Please call Dale Grace 303-680-7517. For even better results, email your want list to dale.grace@comcast.net

PARTING OUT. . . 1979 300TD wagon. Lots of good parts — doors, bumpers & more! Front doors forward will fit any 123 chassis car. **Richard Thorpe. H) 303-547-5103 C) 303.778.1191** or email pthorpe660@msn.com

FOR SALE: PARTS BOOK FOR 300 SEL 6.3
Contact Randy Black 303.841.2978
or email zema@juno.com.

FOR SALE: 1979 450 SEL 4.5 l-o-n-g wheelbase. Power train sound (torque converter etc 12K ago). 217K. Rusted hood, rocker panels. Used weekly 1994-2003. 3 Local owners. **\$5K obo.** Documented repairs & more info: **Tom, 303.425.9293 DocTOC@BestResultsPlus.com**

FOR SALE: 2004 ML black all season mats
and black rear cargo tray with divider for **\$150.**
In excellent condition. **Call 303.738-3108.**

Classified Advertising in *The Constellation*

Members of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. may advertise in *The Constellation* to buy, sell, or trade Mercedes-Benz automobiles and related items at no charge, provided no commercial venture is involved. Ads may include a photo. Copy for the classified advertising must be received in writing by the 10th of the month prior to the month of issue. Ads will be published one time. To re-run, the ad must be resubmitted. **Current membership number must be included for free ads.**
LET US KNOW IF YOUR ITEM SELLS—MAKE ROOM FOR ADS FOR OTHER MEMBERS.

Non-member and commercial venture advertising will be published at the rate of \$10.00 for 3 lines per issue, plus \$10.00 for a picture. Advertising in this category may run one, two or three times as requested and paid for in advance by the advertiser. Copy for the ads must be received by the 10th of the month prior to the month of issue and must be paid in advance, payable to Mile High-MBCA.

Mail ads to: Deborah Hokanson, 1015 S. Newland St., Lakewood, CO 80226
or Email to: dhokan@comcast.net

The publisher reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.

EVENT RESERVATION FORM

I/We want to attend

- THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING/POTLUCK** # Attending ___ @ \$12.50 person = \$ _____
November 17, 2007 Forney Transportation Museum 12:30 pm (includes entrance to museum and drinks)

I'd like to bring _____ to serve at the potluck.
We need easy main dishes, and some side dishes, salads/veggie trays, and desserts)

Board members up for re-election this year are:

Mike Redel, VP; Richard Thorpe; Ryan Bunn; Reiner Haubold; Niels Haubold; Dale Grace; Randy Williams

- THE MILE-HIGH SECTION HOLIDAY PARTY** # Attending _____ @ \$10.00 person = \$ _____
December 8, 2007 7:00 pm, Aurora Summit (dinner on your own) (\$10.00 includes one well drink)
Please plan to bring at least one new, unwrapped toy to the Holiday Party to be donated to FACES!

Name : _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Send check for total due for all event(s) made payable to Mile-High Section MBCA and completed form to:
Max Townsend, 6088 E. Otero Drive, Englewood, Colorado 80112-3043

Take the MBCA Web Site Survey— 12 Easy Questions—Get a 10% Discount

On www.mbc.org, you'll find a member survey asking you about the national club's web site. An MBCA task force has been planning a redesign/restructure of the web site and is seeking your comments and suggestions on the club's web site. The goal is to create an outstanding experience for members. Your comments and suggestions will be used to make improvements. There are just 12 easy questions. The survey will also appear in the November/December issue of *The Star* magazine. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey (either on-line now or in the upcoming magazine issue). When you take the survey, you'll receive a 10% discount at the MBCA club store.

Calendar of Events ALL EVENTS ARE MILE-HIGH SECTION EVENTS UNLESS NOTED AS PPS

- Nov.** **1st** — Board Member Meeting (location TBA)—7:00 pm—Jay—303.935.8270
3rd — PPS Tech Session w/ George Murphy, M-B of Colo. Springs, 2:00 pm—Julie Nelson, PPS
14th — Monthly Social 6:30 pm. — The Golden Europe—Jay
(This month only—held 2nd Wednesday to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving)
17th — Annual Membership Meeting & Election—Forney Museum — 12:30 pm— Jay
- Dec.** — **No Board Meeting in December**
8th — MHS Holiday Party—Aurora Summit —Jay
16th— PPS Holiday Party—Pepper Tree Restaurant in Colo. Springs
19th — Monthly Informal Social at Hacienda Real, 8896 W. Bowles Ave. 6:30 pm—Jay
- Jan.**
2008 **3rd** — Board Member Meeting at the Hokanson's 7:00 pm — Jay
16th — Monthly Informal Social—Bonfish Grill, 10438 Towncenter Dr., Westminster—Jay
19th — Cooking Demonstration—Le Central—Randy Williams—303.799.4806
26th — Tech Session—Auto Weave Upholstery, 2613 W. 64th Ave. — Jay

FOR THE LATEST SECTION INFO VISIT THE MILE-HIGH SECTION WEBSITE AT WWW.MILEHIGHMBCA.ORG.

HAVE YOU MOVED, CHANGED YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS RECENTLY?

Call National Headquarters toll-free at 1-800-637-2360 to update your listing.