



The Constellation

Newsletter of the Mile-High Section • Mercedes-Benz Club of America

APRIL 2011

OVER 500 COPIES DISTRIBUTED MONTHLY IN COLORADO, WYOMING, AND UTAH

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NOTICE NEW DATE — APRIL 16, 2011

SPECIAL SATURDAY DRIVE AND TOUR OF STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES AT THE ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

Meet at 9:15 a.m. at the Caribou Coffee Shop, 13700 E. Colfax Ave. in Aurora

MHS Member Michael Davidson has planned and scheduled a special guided Saturday tour of the University of Colorado Cancer Research Center, the historic Fitzsimmons Hospital including the preserved medical suite occupied by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in the 1950's, and other facilities as available on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. **We will meet at 9:15am in the Caribou Coffee shop located in the small shopping center at the corner of Colfax and Potomac St. (Potomac St. is one block west of I 225 on Colfax).** We will caravan from there over to the Ignacio parking lot on the Anschutz campus.

After the tour we will go to Helga's German Restaurant & Deli for lunch (cost of lunch is on your own). Maps/directions will be provided at the coffee shop. Reservations are **required** and **must** be provided no later than **April 12th** to ensure that guides are available. Attendance is limited to the number of guides available. **Call Randy Williams, 303-799-4806 for information and to reserve your spot.**



YOU AND YOUR BENZ ABOUT TOWN

APRIL MONTHLY SOCIAL

April 20, 2011
6:30 p.m.

Las Brisas

6787 S. Clinton St.,
(Target Shopping Center
Arapahoe & I-25
Just off of Clinton St.

www.lasbrisacolorado.com

Las Brisas was established 23 years ago, and has long been one of Greenwood Village's best kept secrets. Renowned for their world famous Las Brisas Margarita, they specialize food inspired by the coastal cuisines of Mexico, the Caribbean and Spain. We look forward to seeing you there!

SEE YOU AT THE SOCIAL!

WOO HOO! It's Time for the ANNUAL NEW MEMBER PARTY

April 30, 2011- 4:30 pm

All new members since Jan. 2010 are invited !!

No cost for new members

\$25 for MHS members who would like to attend,
but who do not qualify as new members



Spring is just about here and it's getting close to Rally and Car Show season. It's also the time of year your Mile-High Section Board gets together to wine and dine our new members. **On Saturday, April 30th,** your Board will host a Welcome New Member BBQ at the home of Randy and Phyllis Williams at 9704 N. Heather Drive, in Castle Rock. Each year, your MHS Board looks forward to getting to know our new members, discussing our upcoming events, and getting input as to how the Mile-High Section can best serve you — All while having a GREAT TIME!

The event will start at 4:30 p.m. with dinner being served around 5:30 p.m. Dinner will consist of a Santa Maria-style BBQ with tri-tips and chicken as the main course. Soft drinks, wine, and beer will be served. The only thing better than the guacamole dip, the tri-tips and the wine is the laughter and great company of your fellow MHS members! Members not qualified as "new" members are also welcome to attend—Cost \$25 per person.

This is the spring party that your Board looks forward to putting on all year! Please RSVP using the registration form to ensure sufficient food is available. We look forward to meeting each of you. If you have any questions, please call Randy Williams at 303-799-4806. Registration deadline is April 27, 2011.

REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 7

In Gear

With Harvey LeCato,
President, Mile-High Section

Spring is finally here! Get your prized possession ready to drive, show and compete. Be sure to check out all of the great forthcoming events.



A strong liaison is being built with the New Mexico Section, and promises to be a source of some great future events. Our 2010 trip to Santa Fe really started the ball rolling, and their new Section President, Debra (D.K.) is really seeking to warm things up. She has invited us to join them for the 2011 ALBUQUERQUE BALLOON FIESTA, on October 1st and 2nd. Look for details on page 7 in this issue. It will be a great trip ---and look for more to come.

I went to the Club's National Business Office (NBO) Store a few weeks ago to pick up a few items. If you haven't checked out the ad in Star Magazine – the Store is carrying some very nice new items; new jackets, key chains, etc. I was the first to own the newest key chain – the club logo on a pink heart – very nice. If you ever thought you might want to fly the Club “flag” that attaches to your window on a 12-inch white plastic post – there are around ten left, and they won't be reordered. BY THE WAY, if you order something from the store, and aren't in a hurry to get it – save on shipping – I'll pick it up and bring it to you at a club event! See you – “on the road”.

Enthusiastically,
Harvey

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

Executive Board Officers

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Rocky Mountain Regional Director

Julie Nelson.....719-634-7522..... ottobahn2@gmail.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!!

- ◆ **Chris Davis**
- ◆ **Ron Nickel**
- ◆ **Craig Smith**
- ◆ **Renee Thompson**
- ◆ **Tristan Wardell**



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR NEXT EVENT!

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

If you have not received your New Member Packet, or if you have questions about your membership, please contact MHS Membership Chair Laura Lass by phone at 303-776-8276 or by email at laurawlass@gmail.com.

The Constellation

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

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Mark your Calendar for the 28th Annual Exotic Sports Car Show & Concours d'Elegance

Benefiting United Cerebral Palsy of Colorado

Sunday, June 12, 2011

9:00 am –3:00 pm

Arapahoe Community College
5900 S. Santa Fe Dr., Littleton, CO

It's time again for the annual United Cerebral Palsy (UCP of Colorado) Exotic Sports Car Show and Concours d'Elegance. The show is June 12th at Arapahoe Community College on Santa Fe Drive. This exciting event will feature nearly 400 vehicles of almost every marque imaginable.

Last year this event made over \$100,000.

If you are interested in showing your car, in either the NON-JUDGED or the JUDGED category, you can register your car, on-line at: <http://www.cpcoc.org/concours/registration.htm>. Pre-Registration Fee is \$40.00 per car through May 27, 2011. After registering, please send an email to mbca@comcast.net letting me know you plan to attend.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! As usual, the Mile High Section provides a great deal of help to make this event a success. If you aren't showing a car, gain free admission by volunteering 3-4 hours to help with judging, routing cars, timing the judges or other necessary tasks. Contact me via email: mbca@comcast.net. Also, we will again judge the Mercedes entries. Please let me know if you will be able to judge our entries.

— *Harvey LeCato*

MHS SPRING RALLY— May 22, 2011

It's Spring when a car enthusiast's thoughts turn to DRIVING. And what better way to get out and drive, that to do an interesting and challenging car rally. If you haven't rally'd before, it's a fun few hours of driving and answering questions followed by a social of food, drink and comparing answers. Dash plaques will be provided and prizes will be awarded.

The Spring Rally will be on Sunday, May 22nd. The departure place and time will be published in the May Constellation.

Cost to attend the rally will be \$50 per car. If single with one car—cost is \$30.00. The rally will have a special ending spot, which will include food and beverages (included in the registration fee).

Your reservation to participate in this event is needed by May 6th. Reserve via an email to mbca@comcast.net.

*Never rallied before? Want some helpful tips?
Email Harvey LeCato at mbca@comcast.net.*

SHINE 'EM UP at the MHS DETAIL SESSION JUNE 5, 2011

Centennial Leasing & Sales, 67 Inverness Dr. East, #100

The car shows are coming! The car shows are coming! The Mile-High Section and Centennial Leasing & Sales are hosting a Detail Session on June 5, 2011. Bring a clean car (there is no actual car washing allowed on the premises), and your favorite detailing supplies. We will gather in the showroom at Centennial Leasing & Sales located at 67 Inverness Dr. East, Suite 100, Englewood, CO, 80112 and prepare our cars for the upcoming summer car shows. This is a great opportunity to socialize, learn new cleaning tips and secrets, and just "hang" with other enthusiasts. Perhaps you're residence does not allow for on-site car maintenance, and you need somewhere out of the sun to "git 'er done". Come on down if you just want to look at the cars and have some refreshments as well. Start time and more details in the May newsletter. **Cost to attend \$5.00. Reserve Now—Reservation form on Page 7.**

THE HAPPY CAR COLUMN **By Niels Haubold**

Warmer spring weather gets us all thinking about summer fun!! Let's not forget to give our cars a spring cleaning too! It is important to take your car to a self serve carwash at least once in the spring. The high pressure water is imperative in removing as much of the de-icing chemicals applied to the roads before they have a chance to corrode and damage important components. Many of the suspension parts and their related bushings as well as any junction of aluminum and steel can take a beating by these chemicals.

Make sure and wear clothes that won't be ruined by water and splatter, and don't be scared to get a little wet. Be generous and thorough, making sure to get the dirt behind badges and moldings and in any crevices. Spray as much as you can reach underneath and pay special attention to any areas that look to be prone to corrosion.

When you are all finished and you get to the windows, clean the inside in a vertical motion and the outside horizontally. This will allow you to quickly identify where any remaining streaks may be and take care of them quickly.

Happy Cars = Happy Drivers



A GREAT TIME HAD BY ALL AT AUTO WEAVE UPHOLSTERY

No matter what the age of the vehicle, the work at Auto Weave will bring the interior to better than new – at least that’s what we saw at the March tech session. Ron and Nate presented an extremely informative event for us, starting off with the traditional but extra good breakfast sweets!

The first vehicle we saw was a Jaguar XJS having a replaced soft top for around \$2,500. The owners felt this was a great value, rather than replacing the whole vehicle. Next was an incredible sample of Auto Weave’s quality workmanship – a Ford 56 Fairlane, 2dr coupe. It was being totally restored, and so far, Auto Weave had done around 1500 hours of work at \$55 per hour. They estimated that the total amount of work done on this vehicle was around \$300,000. You had to see it to understand how gorgeous it was. A gorgeous leather interior, to include a nice rear set from a Thunderbird.

Auto Weave used to do a lot of Mercedes restorations; 230/250SL Pagodas, and 380SLs, but not very many Porsches. A number of years ago they did one Porsche 356, word spread, and now they do around 12 a year.



The most interesting part of the morning was seeing Ron’s collection of fabric and carpet books. With these, he is able to order the exact replacement of carpet for your vehicle. He had a complete set back to 1970, with a few special books from the mid ‘50s. These he doesn’t even let anyone handle. It was a great morning for the 15+ attendees; everyone came away amazed. **YOU should’ve been there!** — *Harvey LeCato*

**ANNUAL MHS TRACK EVENT
AT HPR
SET FOR JULY 23rd & 24th**



Our annual driver education event is coming! The 23rd and 24th of July is our reserved weekend at **High Plains Raceway**. These events are great because everyone drives their own vehicle in a controlled environment to learn how to take corners, make emergency avoidance maneuvers, and panic stops among other things. One does not need to be a track junkie to make these events valuable. Most of what you will learn will become almost second nature over time, so that you will react correctly in a real emergency situation. Drivers at all skill levels are encouraged to attend. Please bring your younger drivers as well! Please don’t think that you need an AMG vehicle either. Members have brought their diesels out and had a blast with them. Helmets are required but are available to rent if needed. Cost for both days is \$400 or \$250 for one.

Please contact Ryan Bunn at rebunn@comcast.net with questions!



**MHS Helps Raise a Record \$1.6 Million
Children’s Miracle Network Radiothon**

On February 16, 2011, Mile-High Section members Ron and Laura Lass, Randy and Phyllis Williams, Richard and Patricia Thorpe, and Patricia’s friend Bonnie Franks volunteered as phone bank operators for the Alice 105.9 FM 36 Hours for Kids Radiothon, taking and recording donations.

This year’s event, benefitting The Children’s Miracle Network, raised a record \$1,650,922.

Max Townsend volunteered on February 16, 17 and 18 and deserves SPECIAL recognition for serving for the past ten years as the volunteer controller, providing a daily accounting of the donations. — *Randy Williams*

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Glenwood-Grand Junction **HOT** Summer Run and Rally JULY 22-24, 2011

Get ready for our 2011 Summer Premier Event! The MHS plans to set out on a two night HOT Summer Run to the Western Slope! **Start your engines Friday morning, July 22nd**, with a fun rally that will take us through all kinds of new scenery to destination Glenwood Springs! There we will be staying at the famous Hotel Colorado (www.hotelcolorado.com) The Hotel will provide the MHS with our own blocked off parking area – AND, Friday evening promises a great time for all with our (always popular) hospitality room, special dinner, awards and surprises.

Saturday, July 23rd we start with Breakfast at the Hotel Colorado. After breakfast participants can relax in the Hot Springs Pool or take the short drive to Gateway to visit the fabulous car collection there. In the afternoon, we will be off to Grand Junction for a very special museum tour at Allen Unique Autos (www.allenuniqueautos.com), where we will enjoy seeing over 60 world famous cars valued at over \$6.5 million, including a really hot '57 pink Cadillac, Nicolas Cage's Rolls Royce, Zsa Zsa Gabor's Rolls Royce, Sonny And Cher's '60 Mustang, and MUCH MORE. You won't want to miss this great auto museum tour. After our tour we'll return to Glenwood Springs for dinner, hospitality, stories and more fun.

Sunday, July 24th participants can take an optional tour to Redstone, then Aspen (Independence Pass) and back to Denver, or participants can elect from other options to be announced later.

Hotel Colorado has offered a special room rate, which we are able to pass along to participants. **Cost for this event is \$325.00**, which includes two nights at the Hotel Colorado, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and entrance fee for the museum tour. Cost is based on double occupancy at the hotel. For single rates contact Don Vollmer. **Your PAID reservation must be in by May 16, 2011 to receive this rate.** After May 16th the cost will be \$405.00. **For more info contact Don Vollmer at 303-835-2505 or oxyvollmer@comcast.net.**

RESERVATION FORM ON PAGE 7

The German Car Shoppe

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- ▶ Volkswagen



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*The Trapani Families in association with
The Mile High Down Syndrome Association*



Invite you to the 3rd Annual Golf Outing to benefit

Jack Madigan

Monday, May 16, 2011
The Club at Pradera
5225 Raintree Circle, Parker, CO 80134

Golf supporters
Shotgun 11 a.m. – \$250 per golfer – Premiums & Appetizers
Non-Golf supporters
\$65 – Appetizers & Drink tickets

Cocktail hour begins at 4 p.m.
R.S.V.P. kathleentrapani@hotmail.com or 303-328-1881 by May 2nd
If you are unable to attend the event, and would like to make a donation,
you can send a check payable to The Jack Attack and mail to:
Kathleen Trapani
c/o The Jack Attack, 18 Whitehaven Circle, Highlands Ranch, Co 80129

"He will evoke the kindness that will keep you human. Treasure him!"
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The Back Lot

Sales and Services for MBCA Members by MBCA Members



FOR SALE: 1989 560SL Only 80,000 miles. Good shape inside and out. No rust or cracks. **\$12,000**
Matt Woempner
303-898-0072
10/10



WANTED: I NEED A USED ENGINE FOR A 1983 240-D (with 4-speed manual transmission). We've owned since it was new. As an alternative, I'm also looking for a reliable place to have my engine rebuilt, or a complete car with a good engine that we can buy and take the engine from.
Jeff Hart, (c) 303-907-4664, jeffshart@comcast.net

FOR SALE: Four Davinci rims for Mercedes CL or SL series cars.

Approx. 40% of lifespan left + there is an extra spare tire. The rims have black center spokes and chrome rims. Small bend in inside surface of one rim – still usable. The car these rims were mounted on had the original rims re-installed back before that car was sold. The tires are Yokohama Advan Sport 255/30 ZR20 so these are large rims. This wheel/tire set-up is estimated to be worth \$4000 new. **I'm asking \$1,600.**



Please contact Jim Sheridan at 303-877-3916 or by email at jimsheridan123@yahoo.com 12/10

FOR SALE: 1982 MERCEDES-BENZ 300 CD. Excellent condition; concours quality! Dark blue with tan interior; 235k miles. 3rd owner. Have all mechanical records. All work done by Star Tech. How many turbo diesel coupes do you see? **\$5,795. David Hester 303-933-7610. 12/10**



FOR SALE: 1970 MB 300 SEL 6.3. No rust, color blue, no dents, new tires, 140,000 miles, complete spare parts car, lots of parts including spare engine. Asking \$10,000 for all **303-343-1297 or Squirt147@Comcast.net**. Ask for Don. 2/11

FOR SALE - MUST SELL THREE SL'S DUE TO MOVE: **1989 560SL** 64K miles, black/black very nice inside and out. New transmission installed in Denver, September 2010.; **1984 380SL** 75K miles, dark blue/light blue very good condition great paint. Runs great.; **1984 380SL** 135K miles, med blue/light blue needs ov relay and muffler. Paint is poor and has dents -- great parts car. Tops in great shape on all. **Asking \$25K obo for all three.** Also have top holder and cheap hoist. **Contact Robert Deming at 2bob@tradesmart.net**. 1/11

FOR SALE: A set of Mercedes winter floor mats: Black (front and rear) for Mercedes 2005 C240. These mats only used for one winter. Asking **\$75.00** for the set. **Contact John at 303-469-5798 or cell 303-941-0289 e-mail at jnord1146@comcast.net**. 3/11

FOR SALE: Partially Restored 1963 Mercedes 300SE. Only 630 produced. Project car; Air suspension; Four on the floor 3Liter engine fuel injected six; 4 wheel independent suspension; 4 wheel disc brakes. 87,000 km. Moving to Fresno and have no place for it. **Asking \$5,000.** For pictures or more information **Contact Hans 970-290-8739. 2/11**

FOR SALE: 1990 MB 300SEL. White. 216,000 miles. Excellent mechanical condition (engine, transmission, drive train), gray leather interior is very nice. Body has original paint in good condition--no rust. Recent work includes R134a conversion, alternator, coolant system rubber and plastic replaced. Michelin X-Ice tires. Passenger side seal control, front shocks. Early documentation available. **\$3,500 OBO.** Please call **Paul at 303-841-4050** days or evenings and leave a message. 3/11

MHS Advertising Manager Wanted



Is there someone in the Mile-High Section who would like to get into advertising and PR work, and make a little money on the side as well? No experience necessary but an outgoing personality is a plus. The Mile-High Section needs someone to visit Mercedes dealers, repair shops and other related businesses to work with these companies on their current advertisement and/or future advertisement in *The Constellation*. **Contact Harvey LeCato at 719.302.2900 or mbca@comcast.net.**

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.

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

Mail ads to: Deborah Hokanson, PO Box 27825, Denver, CO 80227-7825
or Email to: dhokan@comcast.net

EVENT RESERVATION FORM /INSTRUCTIONS

The treasurer will no longer count anyone in an event until he receives a check (if there is a cost) for that event.

Your name will be put on the roster, but you will not have a reserved spot until the check is received.

If you will not have time to mail the form before an event registration deadline, contact the event coordinator listed.

- NEW MEMBER PARTY— April 30, 2011 4:30 pm Deadline to Register April 27, 2011**
Attending _____ @ \$25.00* per person = \$ _____ *(**no cost for new members**) *Randy Williams 303.799.4806*
- DETAIL SESSION CENTENNIAL LEASING — June 5, 2011 — Time TBD Deadline to Register June 1, 2011**
Attending _____ @ \$5.00 per person = \$ _____ *Niels Haubold -303.949.7673*
- HOT GLENWOOD SUMMER RALLY — July 22-24, 2011 Deadline for early registration May 16, 2011**
Register by May 16, 2011 — # Attending _____ @ \$325.00 double occupancy = \$ _____ *Don Vollmer- 303.835.2505*
Register after May 16, 2011 — # Attending _____ @ \$405.00 double occupancy = \$ _____

Name(s) _____ Total Enclosed for event(s): \$ _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____ CELL 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, Centennial, Colorado 80112-3043



Champagne and Propane / Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta / September 30 to October 2

If you've been, you know how awesome it is. If you haven't been – it's awesome! Come join us. Hot air balloons are beautiful --- and over 400 of them are incredible. We'll leave Friday around 10 to travel to Albuquerque. Saturday morning we'll drive out to the dealership -- Performance Mercedes - to watch the Mass Ascension and party. They are located at a strategic part of town, so we can enjoy the balloons going up while sitting at their showroom! Perhaps a return visit to the Unser Museum will be in the offing. And, for those of you who may be "members" of the Casa Rodena winery – some afternoon delight could be in store.

Sunday we can caravan out and show our vehicles on the grassy balloon field during the Fiesta of Wheels Event that starts at 9 am. They escort all vehicles onto the field and we set up our chairs, cabanas, flags, etc. and enjoy the show -- all roads are paved. We sit around in our lawn chairs enjoying the balloons and burritos! We can leave around 2 or 3 pm or earlier if we want but too much fun is to be had hanging out with so much shopping and sightseeing! Last year they had over 300 vehicles lined up and have room for over 600 on the field. After that we'll head home.

If you think you'd like to join us on this exciting and view-filled trip, you must let Harvey LeCato know by April 15th (mbca@comcast.net). Lodging is very tight for this world-class event, so reservations are imperative now. Costs for this event and lodging will be made available to interested parties, but basically figure on your gas (900 miles RT), two nights hotel, food and fun. — *Harvey LeCato*

Update Your Membership Profile!

The National Business Office has announced that with every email and address update received at the NBO, (either by website, phone, email or snail mail) they will send a **10% Off Coupon for one item in the Club Store.** One coupon per member will be **sent electronically** (you must provide a valid email address). Send these updates to Geni at geni@mbca.org. Having your email address helps the club save money and increase services to our members!

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THE CONSTELLATION

MILE-HIGH SECTION MBCA

Deborah Hokanson, Editor

P.O. BOX 27825

DENVER, CO 80227-7825

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Calendar of Events

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

- Apr. 2011** 7th — Monthly Board Meeting
16th — Saturday Drive — Cancer Research Center/Anschutz Medical Campus—*article on page 3*
20th — Monthly Informal Social—Las Brisas, 6787 S. Clinton St., Greenwood Village
30th — New Member Party - *See article on page 3*
- May. 2011** 5th — Monthly Board Meeting
18th — Monthly Informal Social, The Golden Europe, 6620 Wadsworth Blvd.
22nd— Spring Rally— *See Article on page 3*
- June 2011** 2nd — Monthly Board Meeting
5th— Detail Session Centennial Leasing -*See article on page 3*
12th — 28th Annual Exotic Car Show & Concours d'Elegance benefitting UCP
18th— Saturday Drive to the Air Force Academy



COMING SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2011
MHS HEADS TO SOUTH DAKOTA



WATCH *THE CONSTELLATION* AND WWW.MILEHIGHMBCA.ORG

EDITOR FOR *THE CONSTELLATION* NEEDED

The MHS is looking for an Editor for the Club's monthly newsletter, *The Constellation*. The Editor works with the Board, members, advertisers, and others to prepare articles, photos, ads and event information. Though you don't need to be a professional, you must have the knowledge, ability, and appropriate software program(s) to prepare the newsletter and mailing list, and provide both in a suitable format to the printer for monthly printing and mailing. **Contact Harvey LeCato at 719-302-2900 or mbca@comcast.net.**