

The Constellation



December 2005

Serving Selected Areas of Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and Utah

A Mile-High Welcome to Our New Members

- Gregory Brennan
- Todd & Rocio Keleske
- Donald & Lori Loyd
- Alex Natt
- Richard W. Rewey

Valentines Dinner at the Mount Vernon Country Club

Saturday, 11 February

Bring your sweetheart, lover, love of your life to the annual MHS Valentines Day Dinner to the Mount Vernon Country Club on Saturday, the 11th of February.



The Boardroom has been set aside for our exclusive use but, can only hold 32 people, so get your reservation form in early. Cocktails (No host) will start at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:00. The beautiful MVCC has one of the best views of Denver, their food is excellent and service is impeccable. Take Exit # 254 /Genesee Park exit off of I 70, and go north, follow the signs to the MVCC (303-526-0616). Need directions or information please call Randy at 303-799-4806. See you there.



Children's Miracle Network Radiothon

Please join us this February in this wonderful, gratifying experience manning the phones to take pledges for this great cause. This is a yearly charity event which is the children and the people manning the phone really benefit!

Please notify Max Townsend at 303-770-1128 to be included in this reward-

We're Cooking Now!



The second annual club gourmet cooking event will be at the Hotel Monaco Wine Room on March 11th. Only 35 seats will be available-so sign up early!

Our host chef will be Elise Wiggins of Panzano's. This is a unique opportunity. More information to follow but it will be an afternoon event and special rates at the hotel for overnight revelry will be available to those who wish to enjoy Downtown Denver.



On Track with Randy

*Randy Williams
President, Mile-High Section*

It is hard to believe that I have served as your President for a year. It has been a rewarding year, having the opportunity to work with such a great group of people and participating in some wonderful events. I want to thank the 2004 Board of Directors (BoD) for the excellent planning they did for the 2005 year. They established a balanced approach to the 2005 Events – Social, Technical, Driving and Car Shows, with a significant bent towards Charitable assistance. The MHS supported the Children’s Miracle Network, Cerebral Palsy of Colorado, Make-A-Wish Foundation, FACES, and the Aurora School System through Savor the Flavor. The MHS conducted/supported one Telethon, two Charity Car Shows, two Technical Sessions, four Rally/Tours, one Track/Drivers Education Event, four Dinner/Picnics – including a cooking demonstration



and introduced a New Members Introduction Event. A total of 16 formal events for 2005. In addition we held 10 Monthly Informal Socials.

For 2006, your BoD has planned a similar schedule of events and is exploring supporting a new charity event with support of our local Mercedes-Benz Dealers – the Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure. Also, 2006 is the MBCA’s 50th Anniversary and they have planned a Route 66 Tour for September 16th thru the 30th, followed by the MBCA Star Fest in Las Vegas, Nevada on October 1st thru 5th. In addition MBCA is planning on hosting 5 guided Tours in Germany – see the Star magazine for further details.

The Annual Holiday Party is scheduled for Saturday the 3rd of December 2005. It will be held at the Inverness Hotel, 200 In-

The Constellation

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

Mile-High Section, Inc. MBCA

Publisher

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Chapel Hill, NC 27514-6581

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Rodger VanNess.....

1.314.576.3647

391 Greentrail Dr. S.

Chesterfield, MO. 63017

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S t e v e

Dierks.....1.719.593.9557

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

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Vice President:

Kevin Miller.....303.691.6580

Secretary:

R e i n e r H a u - b o l d.....303.986.5035

Treasurer:

M a x T o w n - s e n d.....303.770.1128

Mile-High Section Board Members

R y a n

For the latest section information, be sure to visit

The Mile-High Section website @



www.milehighmbca.org



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Rally Ruminations

On October 1, 2005, the sun was shining and the skies were clear. The temperature topped out at 82 degrees. Why does this matter? Because that kind of weather was perfect for the Oktoberfest Rally and Barbecue.

About 30 or so eager folks met at Glauser Mercedes Benz and enjoyed coffee, doughnuts, bagels, and fruit before we were given the driving instructions and rally questions. With excited anticipation we headed northwest on Highway 36. The trip took us to Longmont, Berthoud, and Loveland. The drive along the Cache La Poudre river was lovely and the route included some fun mountain twisties as well as magnificent vistas. The leaves were changing color and this was especially evident in the yellow of the aspens wisping through the green backdrop of pine and fir trees in the higher elevations.

One of our stops was at a cheese importer located in Longmont, CO. This delightful place was like being in a market in France. The pungent aroma of cheeses made our mouths water. We had been driving for a few hours by then so we were hungry. Knowing that we would soon be enjoying a barbecue at Ron and Laura Lass's home was the only thing that kept many of us from buying a loaf of bread and a couple of hunks of creamy cheese to partake with others shopped.

Ok, some of us did buy bread and cheese to tide us over until the "real meal".

Here's something interesting. The cheese room was so large and refrigerated that they offered us jackets to wear so we wouldn't get too cold while perusing the fromages de la maison.

Our next stop was at the Left Hand Brewery where we were given a tour of the brewing process and were surprised to find that the owners were from European wine making families. There were many beers to sample, often with quite interesting names that escape me now. Additionally, there were a number of locals who were eager to talk with individuals from the roving group of Mercedes enthusiasts.

Finally, we all headed over to the Lass Resort where Chef Jerry Kappler donned his white jacket and toque to serve us an array of delicious brats, sauerkraut, and German potato salad. Mother Nature even graced us with a spectacular sunset. What an ending for a perfect Fall day.

Many thanks to Ron and Laura Lass for organizing the rally and opening their home to us. Much appreciation goes to Jerry Kappler and whoever else helped provide the great food.

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Members Meeting

Our annual membership meeting was held at Il Fornaio Cucina Italiana Restaurant on East Bellview. We had 21 members present and the meeting got under way shortly after 6 PM. Randy read the minutes from last years meeting and reviewed our last years events. He then proceeded to give this coming years event schedule, there should be no reason for anyone to sit home with boredom after reviewing the coming years events. Max Townsend gave the Treasurer's report and presented the 2006 budget for acceptance and review. The report was approved as presented.

We had an election for new directors and we'd like to welcome Mike Redel, Kevin Miller, and Ryan Bunn to the board. Kevin was also elected Vice President of the club. The remaining officers were all re-elected to another term in office.

Dinner was served after the meeting and I did not hear one complaint about the excellent meals served. Incidentally, the cocktails before dinner weren't to bad either. Everyone had a good time and we look forward to seeing you at the Holiday party on December 3rd.

The elections resulted in the following 2006 Mile-High Section Board of Directors/New Officers/Committees:

President/Director – Randy Williams

Vice President/Director – Kevin Miller*

Treasurer/Director – Max Townsend

Secretary/Director – Reiner Haubold

Director – Ryan Bunn*

Director – Bob Fletcher

Director – Dale Grace/Editor and

Publisher of The Constel-

lation

Director – Neils Haubold/Track Events Committee

Director – Mike Redel*

Director – Richard Thaemert

Director – Richard Thorpe/Technical Committee

Rick Kimmel/ Membership Committee

* New to the Board

MBCA National Board of Directors Meeting

The elections at the Fall Meeting of the MBCA National Board in Colorado Springs established the 2006 MBCA National Board of Directors as follows:

National President – Jim O'Sullivan

National Vice President – Roger Van Ness

National Secretary – Roy O. Kuck

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*Thoughts & Punder-
ing*

**If a parsley farmer is
sued,**

MBCA 50TH Anniversary Trips To Germany

Celebrate the Club's golden anniversary with a very special event. The Club is working with DCAG and Mercedes-Benz officials in Stuttgart to offer special MBCA 50th Anniversary Trips to Germany. These trips will feature unique, behind the scenes guided tours of DCAG facilities including the New Mercedes-Benz Museum opening in May 2006 as well as the new Mercedes-Benz Center Stuttgart.

Comprehensive guided tours of the AMG facility and the Classic Center in Fellbach, along with visits to Daimler's birthplace and workshop are included. Guided tours of the Sindelfingen facility and delivery center and the Unterturkheim factory, including the test facility and perhaps even the Maybach Center of Excellence, will be featured. A visit to DCAG corporate headquarters is also planned. These special guided tours are being arranged by DCAG especially for MBCA members and are not available to the public. A visit to the Technical Museum Sinsheim is also contemplated. After four days of intensive Mercedes-Benz tours, members will be free to relax and enjoy Stuttgart on their own after breakfast on Saturday. The MBCA Anniversary Trip concludes with a grand finale dinner Saturday evening.

The MBCA trips start on Monday evening with dinner at our Stuttgart hotel and conclude with the Saturday dinner. Six nights lodging at a five-star hotel in Stuttgart, six breakfasts, six dinners and four lunches are included. Ground transportation and all admissions are also included.

The currently scheduled dates for these tours are July 24, August 14, September 18, October 9, and November 13, 2006. The September trip is the same time as the Route 66 tour, but members wishing to tour Route 66 may choose another Germany trip date. The September 18 date gives participants the opportunity to visit Munich's Oktoberfest on their own before or after the trip.

These once in a lifetime trips will never be forgotten. The contemplated trip price is \$2500 per person, subject to change. Members will be responsible for their own airfare and personal expenses.

Since there is a maximum of 30 members per trip, please contact Jim O'Sullivan as soon as possible to indicate your interest and reserve a spot on a particular trip.

He may be reached at jimo@attglobal.net or (919) 401-9861.



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Reservation Form

Valentines at the Club

Feb. 11 / 6:00p.m.
Mount Vernon Country Club, Golden, CO.

Include me/us
Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Reservation Form

Cooking at Panzano's

March 11th / 1 p.m.
Hotel Monaco Wine Room, 1721 Champa, Denver

Include me/us
Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

MCBA 50th Anniversary Book

Please order your personal copy of the MCBA 50th Anniversary Book this month. All orders made prior to the end of December help increase the amount of historical data put in the Book by increasing the number of pages allocated by the publisher. The MHS short history including a listing of all award winners and past officers will be included in the book. See the Star Magazine for ordering information or call Randy Williams (303)799-4806.

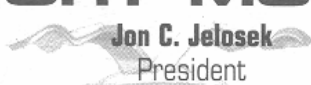
A Message from the Membership Chairperson

January rings in the new year and new events! We're working on a tech session for this month and will let you know when we do!

Coming in February will be one of our clubs premier fund raising efforts, the Children's Hospital Miracle Network Telethon. The date of our participation is not set but it is around February 8 to 10th. Afterwards the Club will have a tension relaxation get together. Max Townsend will have additional information. He can be reached at 303 770-1128. February also hosts our annual Valentines Day party. This year we will be frolicking at the Mt.Vernon Country Club.

Finally read the letter from President Randy. It provides info and insights you'll find useful. I hope all of you have had a safe and joyous summer. As we enter hunting season I hope you will also hunt for a club event to attend. As always I

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Please call: Casey Padgett
303.893.4815

- **For Sale...2001 CLK 320.** Brilliant Silver w/Ash interior. 22k miles. One (1) year Starmark warranty remaining. 6 disk cd , added value packages. Excellent condition!!! **\$29,000**



Please call: Bill Anthes
Home 303.740.8164

303.224.3530

- **For Sale...** 1973 450SL Red with Tan interior. 175K miles. Good mechanical condition. Garaged in winter



Price Negotiable **\$7,500**
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or: **janbart @**

comcast.net

- **For Sale...1976 300D (115 series)** Garaged for 2 year's, now doesn't want to start .Beautiful, Colorado beige exterior, 170k miles. Your opprotunity, **1st \$1000 takes**
Please call: Erhard Wiesner
303.670.3224

- **For Sale 1973 280 SE/ 4.5**
White exterior, Red leather

- **For Sale... 1987 190e 3.2**
Champagne exterior w/ tan interior. Great Condition. One owner. 149k miles. Always garaged



\$4700

Please call: Ron Pohl
303.689.9089

or
ronpohl@msn.com

- **For Sale... 1973 280SEL4.5,** excellent condition- California car. Black w/chocolate interior.64k original miles! Many new parts- Everything works! **\$ 11,975**



Please call: Tony Dudek
303.523.8521

hotmail.com or **tonydudek@**

- **For Sale... 55 AMG** grill with chrome bars. Fits any

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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 black & white 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.

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 black & white 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: Dale Grace, 3431 S. Pagosa Way, Aurora, CO 80013

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The Constellation

December

Have you moved or changed phone numbers recently? Call National Headquarters toll-free at 1-800-637-2360 to update your membership listing.

Calendar of Events

Events listed in boldface are for the Mile-High Section

For National Club news and shopping, visit the newly redesigned Club website:
www.mbca.org

December

3 **Holiday Party**
7:00 p.m.
(Jerry Kappler
303.757.6025)

17 Pikes Peak Annual Holiday Party
(Charlie Bennet 719.576.9737)

Happy
Holidays
to

January

!! HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

6 **MHS Board Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
(Randy Williams
303.799.4806)

February

3 **MHS Board Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
(Randy Williams
303.799.4806)

TBA Children's Miracle Network
(Max Townsend
303.770.1128)

11 **Valentine Day Party**
6:00 p.m.
(Randy Williams)