



HUDSON-MOHAWK SECTION Mercedes-Benz Club of America

2017 LATE FALL EARLY WINTER

Fall and winter doesn't mean that HUDMO members shut themselves in their garages with their prized Benzes until the first signs of spring. Many Benzes are driven all year round, and many members stay active throughout the long, cold winter. The HUDMO club offers outings in all seasons that appeal to many interests. If we don't offer something that you want, just make a suggestion to the officers or Board members. They welcome your input to bring varied programs to be enjoyed by all. The last three months have been a good example of some of the many options open to members.



Bonnie Fancy and President Jim Wright



Board members in their Benz hats, present from President Jim Wright



Fall Car Rally



Rally Participants



Keeler 50th Anniversary Party

**NORTHEAST
REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

Ernie Fancy
fancyer@cox.net

Section President

Jim Wright
26 Crystal Lane
Delmar, New York 12054
518.281.3406
HUDSONMOHAWKMBCA@gmail.com

Vice President

Chuck Trimarchi
61 Mordella Road
Albany, New York 12205
518.869.6542
chucktrimarchi@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor

Vickie Parker

Treasurer

George van der Wouden
230 Central Avenue
Schenectady, New York 12304
thevanderwoudenfamily
@yahoo.com

Membership Chairperson

Sandra Griffin

Photography

Kirk Daniels

Board of Directors

Chuck Frigon
Sandra Griffin
Vickie Parker
Herb Sodher
Chuck Trimarchi
George van der Wouden
Brett Kroopf
Jim Wright

Past Presidents

Ron Tanner
Ginnette Maslanka

Technical Advisors

Rick Walker
rick.walker@keeler.com
Dan Rothstein
drothstein@keeler.com

Website Address

MBCA-HudMo.com
Website Coordinator
Tim van derWouden
bigtrucksbigtires@yahoo.com
Webmaster Brett Kroopf

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JIM WRIGHT, PRESIDENT HUDSON MOHAWK SECTION



SEASONS GREETINGS TO EVERYONE! As 2017 comes to an end we can look back on all the great activities we had, but 2018 will be more fun and more informative. With your participation and cooperation we are on track to exceed our most ambitious expectations. More members are sharing their ideas. We are incorporating them to expand HUDMO'S reach to the membership.

We encourage you to share your thoughts too. Your suggestions are very important to us to make the club as much fun as it can be for you and your family. We had an extended driving season so many of you are still preparing your vehicles for their long winter nap. Make sure that you place them on a trickle charger or remove the battery. There are many other things that you can do. Check with your mechanic, an expert friend or the manufacturer.

We are very fortunate to own and enjoy our wonderful cars. We have shared gifts with some charitable organizations for the less fortunate during this holiday season; Jezreel International, the Double H Ranch and Dress for Success.

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Call the Cops! Someone stole my car! "BAH HUM BUG". IT WAS KEELER MOTOR CAR!! I tend to be very cynical and a little grumpy, so I am not the most enthusiastic person you'd meet during the holiday season.

Here's what happened. Some of us who own "S" BENZ's are very snooty and feel that the only BENZ's are of the "S" variety. If you are fortunate enough to own one, new or used, you feel very, very special. When something goes wrong, you are heart broken, for two reasons: First you know that while they rarely break down repairs are very expensive; Second while your car is being repaired, you will have to drive a lesser vehicle. If your parts come from Germany that will take a long time. My parts were in Germany.

So, I was very sad. But then the **Christmas Miracle** happened. Santa Claus appeared in the form of Peter Connolly, the general manager. He said, I have good news and bad news; your part has to be ordered from Germany and we are not sure when we will receive it. The good news is that you will be forced to drive a brand new 2018 S450 until your car is repaired.

I was ecstatic. It's a spaceship, (talk about customer service!). This car has every driving convenience you can think of and others you can't imagine. It has a cockpit that you would expect in a vehicle going into outer space and it's so comfortable you don't want to leave it. This car is so amazing that we are going to have a special feature on it in our next newsletter.

THANK YOU, KEELER.



Jim's loaner 2018 S450
A Nice Christmas Treat!

HOLIDAY PARTY

The Century House in Latham was the venue for the annual Holiday festivities on Saturday, December 2nd. We enjoyed a lovely, decorated private room, a tasty meal, good company, and entertainment, not to forget raffles led by Saudra Griffin, awards given to the Member of the Year and Board Member of the Year by President Jim Wright, and a peek at upcoming National Events by our Northeast Regional Director of MBCA, Ernie Fancy. We are honored that Ernie and his wife Bonnie are often at our gatherings, especially since they have quite a long drive to visit us.



Tim



George van der Wouden



Vickie Parker



Saudra Griffin



Singer Victoria Gayle led us in songs and entertained us.



Members of the Year Bill and Enni Dufur



Bob McShane



Brett and Deborah Kropp



Board Member of the Year Vickie Parker

President Jim Wright

Brenda Motley

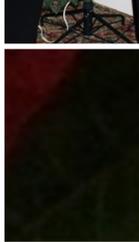


James and Jennifer Prazak

HOLIDAY PARTY 2017

at the

CENTURY HOUSE



FALL FOLIAGE CAR RALLY 2017



Saturday, October 7, 2017 - 11:30am

Staatsburg, New York

On an overcast Fall day 27 cars and 57 MBCA members gathered at the Dinsmore Golf Club in Staatsburg, NY. The CT/Westchester Section joined host Hudson-Mohawk Section for their annual Fall Foliage Rally. The route was both challenging and spectacular as the cars made their way through the hills and valleys of Eastern New York and Northwest CT, passing beautiful horse farms and fields of goats and sheep. Most of the large group stopped at least one scenic overlook along the way for pictures to remember the day. In total there were cars from five Sections including one from Seattle WA. Following the great drive, everyone retreated to the Eagles Nest II restaurant for a late afternoon luncheon and tales of a fun day. Prizes were awarded for most accurate results of the challenging questions along the route, and we all left knowing we had had a great day and made many new friends.

We would like to thank Ron Tanner and Bob McShane. Rally Masters, for all their hard work in planning the entire day's activities and especially for planning and testing the rally route that all enjoyed.

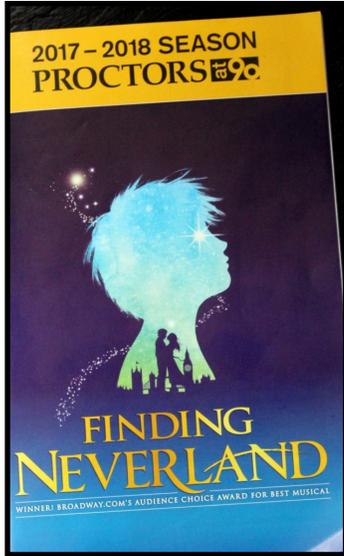
KEELER'S 50th ANNIVERSARY PARTY

October 19th was the celebration of Keeler Mercedes Motor Car's 50th anniversary, and a celebration it was. Keeler is noted for its annual parties to thank their customers for their patronage, and this year's party was even more elegant than in past years as it celebrated their 50th year in business. Valet parking was available to swoop your Mercedes away for the night while you walked into a beautifully decorated showroom, registered for door prizes and had your picture taken with your friends. There was a live full piece band playing dance music, a huge spread of appetizers, beverage stations, servers touting hors d'oeuvres, a full buffet, and beautiful lighting. Keeler proved that they not only sell beautiful autos and have an excellent service center, but they also know how to throw an awesome party.





“FINDING NEVERLAND” at PROCTOR’S



Members were treated to an energetic show filled with dance and music. The story line was interesting, but the actual staging and lighting in this show took the spotlight. This was Broadway in Schenectady. The performance was in early December midway between Thanksgiving and the Holidays, and people were tired and stressed. Fifteen minutes into this play and viewers became energized. Good choice of plays Sandra Griffin, Membership Chair.



Sandra Griffin Vickie Parker Bill and Enni Dufur Chuck and Barbara Frigon





“TIS BETTER TO GIVE”...



It is the Season of Giving, and at this time HUDMO chooses to contribute \$200 each to three worthwhile charities in our area.

Jezreel International supports the **Veterans Miracle Center** whose mission is to offer veterans and active duty military personnel solutions that will enhance their lives. They seek to provide clothing, personal care and hygiene products, houseware items, ambulatory equipment, toys for their children and much more as well as specialists available in counseling for personal needs, jobs, housing or financing. All goods and services are available free of charge to veterans and their immediate household. The VMC is open by appointment only to veterans certified through reputable veteran organizations such as VFW, VA, Soldier On, Albany Housing Coalition, Patriot Hills or other qualifying organizations.

Double H Ranch co-founded in 1992 by Charles R. Wood and Paul Newman provides specialized programs and year-round support for children and their families dealing with life threatening illnesses. The Ranch's purpose is to enrich their lives and provide camp experiences that are memorable, exciting, fun, empowering, physically safe and medically sound. In addition to the summer camp experience Double H Ranch also offer an adaptive winter sports program for children ages 6-18 with chronic and life-threatening illnesses the opportunity to participate in winter sports including alpine and Nordic skiing, snowboarding, and snow shoeing. It also provides the venue for weekends sponsored by a number of family- based support programs throughout the year to serve families coping with the loss of a child or parent or life threatening illnesses.

Dress for Success, Albany provides each client with professional attire to secure employment, but are more than about simply providing a new outfit. The program furnishes women with a confidence that she carries forever with the knowledge that she can actively define her life, the direction she takes and what success means to her.

Announcing a New Feature for the Newsletter

Beginning with the next newsletter, HUDMO will include a page or pages called **The Market Place**. **HUDMO** members will be able to advertise Mercedes related items that they wish to sell in the newsletter for free. **Only HUDMO members** are eligible to advertise in the newsletter. Please email your ads to www.newsletterlady5@gmail.com. Make sure you have details about your item, price, and contact information so interested buyers can contact you directly. These items can include cars, parts and memorabilia.



The GLC300 4MATIC Coupe

Capable of captivating.
Driven by desire.

Starting at \$45,950*^{MSRP}



* Excludes all options, taxes, title registration, \$925 transportation charge and dealer preparation fees.



Keeler
MOTOR CAR COMPANY

Rte. 7, Latham, New York
(518) 785-4197
www.keelermercedesbenz.com



HUDSON-MOHAWK SECTION
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

James Wright, President
P.O. 38294 Albany, NY 12203

Need Roadside Assistance? Call: 1-800-FOR-MERCEDES
Please renew your membership. HUDSON-MOHAWK SECTION