

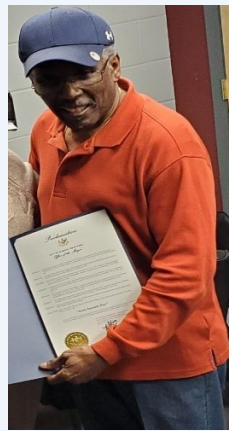


HUDSON-MOHAWK SECTION

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

WINTER + NEW YEAR EDITION
2022-2023

Club Photographer Completes Year of Community Service Recognitions



Kirk Daniels, Club Board Member and Photographer, has had a year of recognition for his professionalism and the tireless efforts he makes to give back to the community. Kirk, a 2014 **MBCA Member of the Year**, is a Capital District native recently inducted into the Albany City School District Hall of Fame and was honored at the 4th Annual Black Expo Scholarship Gala, receiving the Annette De Lavallade Award. Annette was a community minded women who created a monthly newspaper publication providing information and uplifting stories about people in the Capital District.

Kirk had a career at the ABC affiliate, Channel 10, spanning 45 years where he honed his audio /video skills in camera, lighting, production, and editing. During his television station career, Kirk and his team received a Telly Award, equivalent to an Emmy, for program production. After retirement, he became a board member of Grand Street Community Arts and participated in the creation of community radio station, WCAA-LP 107.3AM, serving the urban area of Albany.

Earlier this year he completed 8 years as Studio Coordinator of Channel Albany, a public access channel. Kirk worked guiding high school students and community members by teaching, assisting, and producing topical weekly and monthly on-air programming. Kirk received tokens of appreciation and a proclamation of Kirk Daniels Day from the City of Albany.

He continues to volunteer as Video Director of his church, Israel AME, oldest African American church in Upstate New York.

Kirk enjoys and is diligent in his role as **HUDMO** Section Photographer, working on the newsletter and attending events.

—Saundra Griffin, Secretary and Vice-President of HUDMO

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JIM WRIGHT, PRESIDENT HUDSON MOHAWK SECTION



. It is almost getting around to Spring. It's time to start preparing your vehicle for the driving season. If you store your Benz for the winter, an all point check for everything from car inspection to tire pressure to battery charge to oil change to engine tune up may be in order. If you've been driving all winter season, the mechanical workings may be fine, but your exterior may need serious

cleaning and waxing, rust spots scratches and dents repaired lights checked, and .interior detailed. We are looking forward to seeing you at all of our events now that we have learned how to safely meet during the remnants of THE COVID PLAGUE, so all our activities will include the necessary pre-cautions. Many of our members are retirees like me. We need to encourage and recruit younger members before OUR ages cause the club to age out and disappear. We need ideas and suggestions to let young people know they are welcome even if they have not moved up to their first Benz yet. They can attend meetings, volunteer to assist in driving events and maybe even become Board members.

Jim



CONGRATULATIONS DREW WEBB

Drew Webb has served as our Northeastern Regional Director and has been attending many of our activities and HUDMO Board Meetings. He has gotten to know us quite well. We are pleased to announce that he has been elected to the MBCA's National Board as Vice President. Congratulations Drew! Our previous Regional Director, Ernie Fancy, also serves on the National Board as a Director at Large, so we are very well represented within the national club, and if you have any suggestions or ideas, both are amenable for discussing ideas with you. Their contact information is in the STAR Magazine that all members receive.



MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBER, RAYMOND BURTON

My name is Raymond Burton, I am semi retired restaurateur. I still have an interest in restaurants in DC. Most of my professional career I was employed by InterContinental Hotels Group UK out of the Atlanta office. I was one of the senior Food and Beverage consultants over -seeing the start up and operation of over 60 hotel restaurants. This gave me the privilege to travel extensively, which I greatly appreciated. During this time I also had the honor of sitting on the Advisory Board of Directors for the Las Vegas Nightclub and Bar Show for almost two decades.

My addiction, so to speak, is CARS. I have owned several Mercedes Benz autos as well as many other brands. I currently enjoy my CLK500 immensely.

My desire is to help promote MBCA thru my association with our local club. Please feel free to reach out to me. Sincerely, Raymond Burton CHE

NOTE: Ray jumped right in and volunteered to oversee our club's presence at Keeler's fall car show since **HUDMO** had a previously scheduled activity, the Longshadows Picnic event, on the same date. Ray has also "jumped in" to recruit new members and suggest new activities. We welcome more interested members to become active in our club and join our Executive Board.

ANNUAL CHARITY DONATION

Each year **HUDMO** donates to a charity of their choice. This year, the charity is the Rensselaer County Chapter of the Parkinson's Association called **Hope Soars** which supports awareness, education and research to combat Parkinson's. Their slogan is: "Curing Parkinson's is our goal. Living fully with Parkinson's is our approach." They support the research done by Albany Medical Center and develop physical and mental programs for those with Parkinson's including boxing, biking, yoga, exercise, and dancing.

PERFORMANCE DRIVER EDUCATION DAY

SPONSORED by the LOTUS LPD AND MERCEDES BENZ CLUB USA FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN RACING OR JUST RUNNING YOUR CAR ON A PROFESSIONAL TRACK OR TALKING TO PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS. THEY HAVE VINTAGE RACE CARS/RACES, SO BRING YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS CAR AND HAVE A GOOD DAY.

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 31st 2023

PLACE: WATKINS GLENN INTERNATIONAL RACETRACK

COST FOR THE DAY WILL BE ANNOUNCED. There is no charge for novice drivers to run the track with certified instructors and all will have a chance to run the track. However there is a charge for the day with classroom instruction and lunch. Check on the Lotus Club, MBCA, OR Watkins Glenn website for more details and information.



TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD

JUNE 14, 2022 PROCTOR'S THEATER

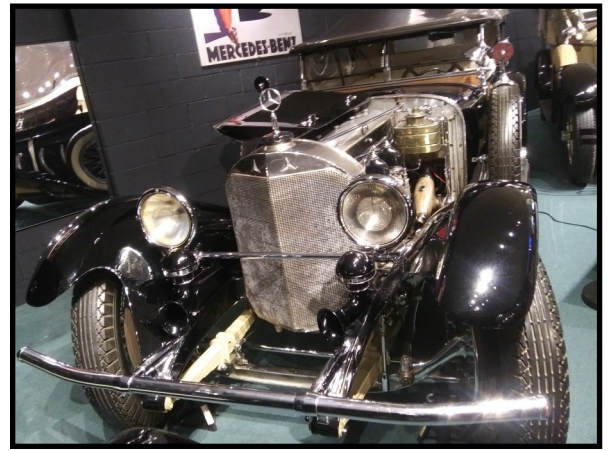
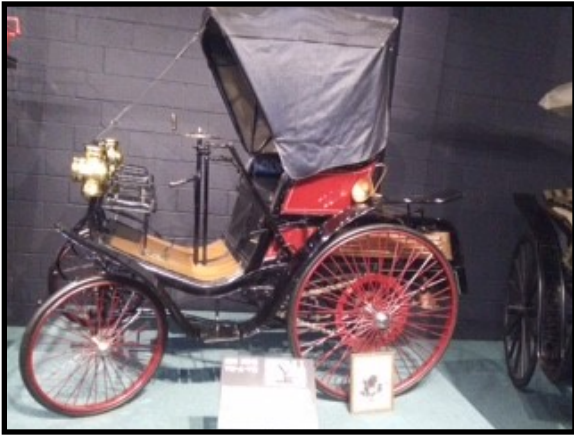
Vice President, Sandra Griffin, hosted an evening at the theater which turned out to be a new version of a beloved play and book.



THE LONG SHADOWS HORSE FARM

What a beautiful day to take a ride, have a picnic, meet friends, see horses, and help raise money for disabled horses and humans to enjoy riding these extraordinary horses. There was food, a member car display, tour of the facilities, demonstrations, pony rides for the children, and radio station WHAZ broadcasting.





AN UNEXPECTED FIND

When traveling back to NY from North Carolina, Manuela & I decided to stop at Luray, Virginia overnight and see the caverns. The caverns were spectacular and as part of the admission ticket you could enter the adjacent Car and Carriage Museum. The Museum contains a stunning collection of “conveyances” from the late 19th thru early 20th centuries. The collection has about 75 articles on display from a royal Portuguese horse drawn coach to a 1920’s Rolls Royce built in Rolls’ Springfield, MA factory.

The collection is arranged more or less in chronological order, and when entering the gasoline powered brass era section, the 1st automobile you see is this 1898 Benz *vis a vis*. This is the oldest automobile on display in the USA. Though not the 1st auto made, it was the 1st to be built in quantity for retail sale vs. special single order. Yup, it’s real! It has 5 HP and I guess it may have done a steady 15 mph with driver and 2 passengers and was even faster downhill.

As you progress through the collection you come upon this 1929 MB touring special. It has a 220HP super-charged straight 8, but weighs 5511 lbs. I imagine there was no problem accelerating but imagine it was a beast to stop with its mechanical brakes. With only 146 made, I can hardly wait ‘till it comes up on E-bay.

If in NW Virginia the Caverns are a worthwhile stop. They’re kid friendly and have other on site attractions.
—George Moses, Board Member

CABIN FEVER LUNCHEON

Sunday March 13, 2022

Vice President Sandra Griffin hosted a tasty luncheon located at Crossgates Mall. It was a wonderful get-together plus a nice break from the winter doldrums.



**LADIES OF MERCEDES (AND GENTLEMEN TOO)
TRIP TO HOWE'S CAVERN AND DINNER AT THE
BULL'S HEAD INN**



KEELER'S MERCEDES ANNUAL PARTY

Every end of September or October Keeler Mercedes has a fantastic party for their customers and for **HUDMO** members with a live orchestra, fantastic food, drawings, and lots of style. It's a one of a kind event.



**INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING YOUR BUSINESS CAR
OR CAR PARTS FOR SALE IN OUR NEWSLETTER?
IT'S EASY.....**

ALL MBCA AND HUDMO MEMBERS ADVERTISE FOR FREE!

ALL NON-MEMBERS: BUSINESS CARDS \$100

1/4 PAGE \$125

1/2 PAGE \$200

1 FULL PAGE \$350

ALL ADS AND NEWSLETTER ARE ALSO ON OUR WEB PAGE!

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY 2022

And what a party it was! We had a private room at The Barnsider Restaurant in Colonie with a beautiful buffet featuring prime rib and salmon plus all the goodies one could ask for and then some including choices of dessert. The decorations were awesome, and we have Lew Decker and wife Velise to thank for the arrangements and Sandra Griffin for decorations, raffles, and organization of the program which included Ray Burton running an auction and a slide show of the year's events by Kirk Daniels.



Holiday Party Continued



CABIN FEVER PARTY

Speaking of parties, We held another Mid-Winter party in March to give everyone a chance to re-unite after the COVID regulations were relaxed and to shake the doldrums out of our systems from the grey winter weather. We had the private room at The Standard Restaurant at Crossgates and choices of meals as arranged by Vice-President Sandra Griffin. Our numbers were large and conversations were plentiful about future plans for bringing out the Benz's in warmer times.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Your Executive Board has been hard at work planning activities for you throughout the 2023 year. Mark our activities on your calendar now so you don't "double book" all the fun planned for driving those Benzes, old or new. If you don't know us yet, try one activity to get to know who we are and what we do. We're a bunch of people of all personalities who like to see new things, talk and drive cars, laugh and eat (do you notice there are lots of activities centered on food?) and even exercise playing lawn games. Come join us!

Sunday, March 26, 2023 1 p.m.-3 p.m. CABIN FEVER PARTY at the New Metro 7 Diner -right across from Keeler's Mercedes Benz Dealership. Bring your appetite and family.

Sunday, April 25, 2023 for the downstate members and anyone who wants to take a spring ride SPRING FLING at The Shadows on the Hudson for their fabulous brunch, 11:30-2:00p.m. 176 Rinaldi Blvd, Poughkeepsie.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2023 THE LION KING at PROCTOR'S THEATER 7;30 p.m. orchestra tickets \$95/ per person. More Info TBA.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13,2023 FAMILY PICNIC at Cook Park THE SHARON DRIVE PAVILLION WITH GAMES, CAR SHOW AND MORE TBA.

OCTOBER 13-15, 2023 FARBER RALLE IN SARATOGA SPRINGS FOR ALL MBCA NORTHEAST SECTIONS AND GUESTS ORGANIZED THIS YEAR BY HUDMO WITH GEORGE MOSES AND LEW DECKER being point people. THERE WILL BE A TIMED (SERIOUS RALLY) AND A FUN RALLY FOR PARTICIPANTS PLUS AWARDS and other events. DETAILS TBA

PLUS– There will be many more activities scheduled throughout the year. All members are asked to give Jim Wright a text suggesting what you would like to have added to the list.



It is with much sadness that we announce the passing of **Cornelis van der Wouden**, an active and dedicated **HUDMO** member. Born in Rotterdam, Netherlands, Cornelis and his new bride Cornelia came to America ten days after they were married to pursue the American Dream and settled in Chatham where classmates who immigrated earlier were already settled. In 1962 they relocated to Guilderland. During his career he worked for the Shaker Museum, operated a Gulf Gas Station, and drove a dump truck during the Empire State Plaza construction. His favorite job was being a truck driver for Sysco Foods where he made many friends delivering to restaurants and businesses and developed a keen interest in food preparation. Throughout his 33 year career he was known for his reliability to get the job done no matter what the challenges. Cornelis loved working on cars in his garage, growing geraniums, woodworking, and collecting Dutch delftware. His education was cut short because of WW2, but he read the Wall Street Journal every-day and became an avid investor in the stock market. He joined the Mercedes Benz Club of America and HUDMO and owned numerous models including his 1982 240D Mercedes that won Best of Show in 2012. He enjoyed teaching his children and grandchildren auto repair and visited the Mercedes Benz factory and Museum in Germany. He was an avid member of our local club and we will miss seeing him at our car shows and enjoying his advice and automotive knowledge on mechanical issues.



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