



# Nickel City Star

DECEMBER 31, 2009

WINTER 2009

[www.mbca.org/niagara](http://www.mbca.org/niagara)

**Coming Events:** See page 2

## Christmas Party 2009 at the Cabaret

Niagara Section  
Mercedes-Benz Club of America

What a great holiday party... Christmas at the Cabaret! The owners and staff once again outdid themselves for the Club, and opened the establishment just for us. We had our choice of entrée and they were all outstanding thanks to Chef Craig's culinary expertise.

The Section's annual charity event was voluntary donations from members, and a section donation as well, to Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Several of our members have been patients at Roswell and we are all grateful for their efforts in finding and curing cancer.

As you will notice in the pictures, Santa seemed to be everywhere!



## NIAGARA SECTION OFFICERS

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## WINTER 2010 EVENTS CALENDAR

- **January 19** — Monthly meetings resume at the Buffalo Brew Pub, Main near Transit, 6:30 p.m.
- **January 24** — **Sunday Wine Tasting Party 2 to 5 p.m.** at the Doherty's. See below.
- **February 14** — **Valentine's Brunch at the Roycroft Inn** (details to follow by mail/email)
- **February 16** — **Monthly meeting**
- **February 19** — **Annual caravan to Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto\***
- **March 16** — **Monthly meeting**
- **March** — **Glenn H. Curtiss Air museum tour\***

*\*Event details to be finalized. Watch for emails.*

These and other events are in the planning stages... watch for future announcements!

*Members of all sections and guests are always invited to Niagara Section events.*

*Details of most events will appear in future issues of this newsletter or sent via email and/or posted at [www.mbca.org/niagara](http://www.mbca.org/niagara). Or you may call Dave at 716-688-0540 for more information.*

Check The Star and [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) for national events listings.

*Event*

## Wine Tasting at the Doherty's

Date: Sunday January 24, 2 p.m. to approximately 5 p.m.

Where: 55 Westport Court, Williamsville, NY 14221

"Admission": Simply bring an appetizer and a bottle of your favorite wine, and share samples with the members.

(Must be 21 or older to participate.)

*To sign up, simply email [ddoherty1966@aol.com](mailto:ddoherty1966@aol.com) or call Dave and Shelly at 716-688-0540 to let them know how many will attend.*





**H**appy New Year! It's 2010 (not sure yet how to say 2010... twenty ten or two thousand ten, but I think officially "they" will tell us that either way is fine.) Winter is upon us and in full force as this is written. Please drive safely!

A lot of Mercedes Club activity is on the way in 2010. Check the list on page 2, and be aware that even more events are still in the works. We will notify all members in three ways: this newsletter, our website, and email from time to time. Please make sure we have your email address in our list. If you have not received an email from me in the past month, it means we don't have an accurate address for you. Send changes to Dave Doherty at [ddoherty1966@aol.com](mailto:ddoherty1966@aol.com). Thanks!

Thinking back to September - the car show at the Hamburg (NY) Oktoberfest was a big hit. In October, the club traveled to Olean NY to have a spectacular brunch at the Library Restaurant then on to Eldred PA to witness the very complete and interesting WWII museum. This year's Christmas Party was super, and we all had a great time once again.

I am very happy to report that our section founder and former treasurer, Herb Fischer is recuperating successfully after a strenuous treatment cycle at Roswell. With that in mind, we chose to donate to Roswell as our club charitable event for 2009. Best of luck, Herb, on your recovery, and we hope to see you at a meeting and/or event very soon!

## Niagara Section Organization 2009 - 2011

**Positive change is good for the club! Our new slate of officers are taking to their new roles and we are experiencing great event planning and entertaining some new fresh ideas! Please feel free to contact any officer with questions, concerns or suggestions about the Niagara Section or the club in general.**

*Congratulations to the officers for 2009—2011 term:*

President: Gene Long    Vice President: Bill Fix    Secretary: Becky Reed    Treasurer: Dave Doherty

Committees:

**Membership** - a team which addresses recruitment and retention of members – Jim Norris, Roy Kuck, Bill Fix, Karl Hutchinson, Becky Reed, and Gene Long

**Newsletter** - a team which composes, edits, publishes, and distributes the quarterly newsletter, Nickel City Star – Jim Norris, Gene Long, Roy Kuck, Karl Hutchinson, Mary Rollinger, Nick Tzetzto

Other positions:

**Webmaster** - composes and maintains the section web site (hosted by national business office) – Art Bourget

**Events Coordinator** - assists members in planning and executing our trips, tours, dinners, etc., throughout the year – Dave Doherty

**Events Communicator** - maintains the email and mail lists, sends out email and postal mail to advertise events – Dave Doherty

**Meeting Coordinator** - establishes meeting place and works with establishment on menu and other arrangements for monthly meetings. Arranges guest speakers when available. - Mike Repko.

## VP's Corner

As your newly elected VP, I wish to thank the club members who voted me into office. Having been a club member since March 2002, my wife Hilde and I have enjoyed meeting all of the active members of the club through the various activities that the club continuously offers.

We believe that our/your club is unique because of all of you. Our monthly meetings, diverse activities and events provide us many opportunities to come together to create and nurture friendships that might not otherwise be available to us.

The added experience of owning, driving and showing-off our Mercedes-Benz automobiles is indeed a pleasurable and significant part of the club's purpose. But we would be remiss if we failed to recognize that the club could not exist without each of you. So, regardless of your motivation to have become a club member, whether for the excellent Star magazine, our informative quarterly newsletter, or our outstanding fun activities and events; we encourage each and every one of you to expand your enjoyment of the club by coming to our meetings and our events as often as you can... and bring your friends and/or relatives, you don't need to own a Mercedes to be a club member (although you may get tempted to buy one after you've been around us for a while).

We're looking forward to seeing all of you soon.

Bill Fix



# AN ADVENTURE TO REMEMBER —

## WWII MUSEUM ELDRÉD PA

Not too far from Western New York lies a small town named Eldred, Pennsylvania. Previously unknown to most of us, Eldred is home to a very important and well run historical museum filled with wonderful artifacts, explicit dioramas, startling documents, stunning photographs and spellbinding stories about World War II. An excursion was planned expertly by Mike Repko so that we could experience this little known treasure.

Niagara Section members and guests embarked on a cool Fall day from our rendezvous point in East Aurora and made our way south to Olean to enjoy a first class brunch at the famous landmark Library Restaurant. The food was of course, wonderful.

A short drive further into Pennsylvania found us parking near a somewhat non-descript building. We entered to find a very fascinating museum and listening to a short talk by its curator, and we were then released to explore the building and the fantastic exhibits inside.

Room after room awaited us and it felt like we were traveling through time—living the hardships and ultimate joy of the WWII years. There were models of war vehicles, ships, tanks, air-planes, with labels to describe everything.

We got a real sense of what it was like to be in Europe, the Pacific theater, and at home in the US during the big war. Local residents have donated much of the material, so there were many local ties to the displays. A bunker complete with sights and sounds of battle was a real eye-opener for all.

Even those of us who are too young to have lived through that war found connections to places we have visited or served in since the war years. Truly a great place to visit, spend some time and savor quotes such as “Those who cannot remember history are bound to repeat it.”



# 2009 Membership Awards

## Member of the Year: Dave Doherty



The 2009 Award presentation ceremony was held after dinner at our Christmas party. Congratulations this year go to Dave Doherty, who heartily deserves the 2009 Member of the Year award. Dave recently assumed the role of Treasurer and also serves as our Events Coordinator and Communicator. Dave has worked hard on previous projects and co-hosted our very successful New Members BBQ last August.. Dave was also instrumental in planning and facilitating the Christmas Party itself.

## Officer of the Year: Gene Long

Northeast Regional Director Doug Dees presented his regional Officer of the Year Award to Niagara Section President Gene Long. Doug insisted it was well deserved, and Gene, totally surprised by the award, accepted congratulations from everyone at the Christmas party!



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## Club News from our National Business Office

### Please update your personal profile!

*With every email and address update that we receive at the NBO, (either by website phone, email or snail mail) we will send a 10% Off Coupon for one item in the Club Store. One coupon per member will be sent electronically \*so it must include a valid email address). Please send these updates to Geni at [geni@mbca.org](mailto:geni@mbca.org). Remember, incorrectly mailed items cost the club money!*

Use any of these: Website: [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org)

Phone: (800) 637-2360

Email: [geni@mbca.org](mailto:geni@mbca.org)

Mail: MBCA, 1907 Lelaray Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909-2872

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Also...

*Please don't forget to renew your membership.*

**We need you!**



**2ND HAND  
LIONS  
AUTO  
BROKERS**

2NDHANDLIONS.COM



8561 Falls Road, West Falls, NY 14170

**Tim Farnham** 716-863-3502 [sales@2ndhandlions.com](mailto:sales@2ndhandlions.com)

**Gene Long** 716-912-2902 [genelong@verizon.net](mailto:genelong@verizon.net)

**We are Club Members!**

**A New Way to buy a "Lion" — just tell us:**

- What vehicle — in full detail, or just the basics

*Second Hand Lions will do the rest: Locate, purchase, transport, register, inspect, and deliver.*

*Full disclosure of all costs, no markups.*

*Fixed commission rate: 7% (capped at \$1,600).*

*Trade-ins accepted at fair values*

*Full registration and plate transfer service included*

As Brokers, we work for the buyers, not the sellers, to insure that you get the fairest deal possible!

# Mr. + Mrs. Dry Cleaners



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AMHERST, NY 14228

“SAME DAY SERVICE”



**20% DISCOUNT TO ALL MBCA MEMBERS**

716-691-9595

## WHEELS AND DEALS

**Wheels and Deals ads are FREE to all Mercedes-Benz Club Members, \$20 for non-members.**

Please note: ads will appear in one issue only, unless specifically requested. Submit ads and requests to Editor or email [genelong@verizon.net](mailto:genelong@verizon.net)

**1990 M-B 300SE** 97k miles, dark metallic blue, cold a/c, auto, p/s, p/b, p/w, cruise, all original, excellent cond.

**New:** Bridgestone tires, Bosch brakes, Bosch muffler (silver soldered), battery, Bosch radiator, A/C converted to new type refrigerant. Schmidt's chassis rust inhibitor applied. \$6,500 or best offer. Call Mike Repko 716-652-0374.





## Welcome New Niagara Section Members

RENEE EVANS, DAN RUCKER,

RUDOLPH FROELICH, FRANCIS MAJEWSKI

The Niagara Section Membership committee launched new efforts to Recruit and Retain members. For 2009, we set a new Goal: to increase our roster by +10% and sustain the number, and we were successful! Let's not stop now... "the more the merrier!" Your Membership committee will be meeting soon to plan the 2010 activities. Please join us... all assistance is appreciated.

- **Current plan: New member packets will be distributed to all current members. These will include introductory flyers to highlight our local activities and benefits. A great conversation starter, the flyer can be given to anyone with an interest in Mercedes, wherever you meet—in a parking lot, a party, or even a gas station.**

## Advertising space is available for 2010!

Advertising in the Nickel City Star newsletter brings your commercial message to at least two groups. This award winning publication is distributed to and read by over 100 local Niagara Section members as well as others within the Northeast Region of the M-B club. Also, recruitment copies are placed at businesses affiliated with the club, and read by many of their customers in waiting rooms.

The Niagara section Website also has links to our advertisers at no additional charge. If you would like us to include your website URL, simply provide the link information. Your ad and link will remain active for four consecutive issues, then will be automatically renewed and billed. You may also opt to specify multiple consecutive years and lock in current rates up to three years. Ads may be prorated for partial years.

½ page size inside ad:	\$200.00	(Note: Ad copy may be modified between issues
¼ page size inside ad:	\$125.00	for special, promos or events.)
Business card size ad:	\$100.00	
Add your Web link to our site	No charge if ad is placed	

The Nickel City Star is published four times each year, and rates cover ads placed in all four consecutive issues.

*Please contact Gene Long, Editor, [genelong@verizon.net](mailto:genelong@verizon.net) or call 716-912-2902 for more information.*

***MBCA Membership Benefits - Please Renew!***

- Six big issues of The Star magazine every year
- Companionship with fellow M-B enthusiasts
- Locally sponsored events
- Local newsletter
- National driving, show, technical and social events
- Free classified ads, both local and national
- Free technical advice
- Reprints of recent and vintage articles
- Club Store online
- Raffle - new M-Bs



NIAGARA SECTION  
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB  
OF AMERICA, INC.

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Nickel City Star Editor  
8561 Falls Rd.  
West Falls, NY 14170

A photograph of a silver Mercedes-Benz sedan, likely a C-Class, shown from a front-three-quarter view. The car is parked on a reflective surface in a dark, modern setting with blue ambient lighting. In the upper right corner of the image, there is a black rectangular box containing the Mercedes-Benz logo and the text "Mercedes-Benz".

**Mercedes-Benz of Buffalo**  
8185 Main Street, Williamsville, NY (716) 633-0088 [www.mercedesbenzbfflo.com](http://www.mercedesbenzbfflo.com)