



Newsletter of
Texas Hill Country Section
Of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Proudly Serving South and West Texas

August 2012
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President's Message

By Bob Holbrook, President

Steve Dierks, National President of MBCA, wrote an article printed in the current edition of the STAR magazine entitled “*The Fun Side of the MBCA.*” In this article Mr. Dierks stresses the idea that Section membership should provide fun experiences; making friends and having fun is the essence of MBCA membership.

I and the Executive Committee of the Texas Hill Country Section share the values of Steve Dierks and believe the primary goal of Section events and activities should be to offer opportunities for our members to create new friendships and have a good time. Our last dinner meeting (July 26) at the Scenic Loop Café was exactly such an event – new members, old members, invited guests all came together, talked, laughed, had photos made with the collected cars, and had a good and memorable evening together. The same can be said of our June tour of the Nimitz Museum in Fredericksburg and our May picnic with the Lone Star Section in New Braunfels. My strongest memories are of the smiles on everyone's faces at these gatherings; good people, good times, and good cars.

For the remainder of 2012 we have other great opportunities planned for Section members to come together and share their passion for Mercedes by interacting with each other. Please plan to attend Section events, invite other members, and bring as guests new Mercedes owners who may enjoy joining MBCA. Enjoy our great Mercedes vehicles and enjoy each other's company! Have a wonderful summer.



New Club Members

Jose & Lydia Borrero
Daniel Briggs
Bruce Cauley
Charles Cleaver
Daniel Coburn
Gil Coronado
Helene Deperalta
Charles Dove
Laverne Fischer
Karen Grady
Michael Owens
Tom Phillips
Karl Ricker
Steven Rodriguez
John Volk

**Willkommen
And
Thank you!**

Member Renewals

John Dunn
R Fawcett
John Felinski
Thomas Grow
Ejaz Haroon
Charles Honore
Stan Keutz
Vernon Lew
John Lewis
James McCannon
Elinor McCarty
John Rothermel
Charles Sherman
David Snider
Morris Williams
James Williams

Thank you for your support in helping make the Texas Hill Country Section one of the best in MBCA!

Your yearly membership dues help to support our section financially. A portion of your dues is returned to the section. You have told your friends and co-workers about MBCA...some Mercedes owners do not know there is a Mercedes Club!

Thank you for your support and telling others of the many benefits of membership!



MBCA Members Tour Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas

Bryan Harter, President of the Lone Star Section, organized a tour recently of the Circuit of the Americas race track in Austin, Texas. Members of the Texas Hill Country Section joined Lone Star Members and Audi club members to talk with track officials and view the layout of the course.

The facility is under construction and will hold its inaugural event this November with a Formula One (F1) race; the first F1 race since the 2007 race at Indianapolis. We met in the construction trailer to listen to Sales Consultants discuss the types of events planned for the Circuit of the Americas. Construction plans and diagrams of the track were laid out on a large table for us to view. The consultants then explained the types of events Circuit of the Americas will be offering to the public before we all piled into a minivan and were driven around the track. Our guide stopped along the track to show interesting turns the track will take. One turn has an elevation of 130 feet. Some parts of the track were recently paved, some not. Construction is moving along 24/7.

Organizers will offer sports events including Formula One racing, the American LeMans Series, concerts and other business offerings.

The Formula One Race will be held on November 16-18, 2012. Practice will be shown on Friday, Qualifying on Saturday, and the race on Sunday. For more information, visit these websites: www.circuitoftheamericas.com, www.formulaone.com, and www.speedtv.com.



Above: Construction of Winners Podium

Beethoven Halle und Garten Maennerchor

In September, the Texas Hill Country Section will visit the historic King William District in San Antonio to enjoy the German event, Gartenfest. Gartenfest is an evening of German entertainment featuring the Maennerchor (men's choir).

This event will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012 at the Beethoven Halle und Garten located at 422 Perieda Street, San Antonio, Texas.

The Beethoven Maennerchor is part of a larger non-profit organization preserving the German language, song, and music. It is one of the oldest German singing organizations in Texas. On Friday, join us in the Garten located next to the Beethoven Halle. Though patrons may arrive as early as 5:00 pm, due to the warm weather the entertainment will begin at 6:30 – 7:00 pm until midnight.

For more information, view their website at www.BeethovenMaennerchor.com. The manager at Beethoven, Dewayne, will reserve tables for members so please RSVP to dieselbenz@wildblue.net. Parking in the King Williams district is tricky, but look for nearby parking lots or you may park along the street.

There will be German bratwurst, sauerkraut, imported and domestic beers. Beethoven will charge \$5 charge at the gate, which helps pay for their music programs.



First Section Oktoberfest to be held this Year!

All section members are invited to the home of Robert and Ana Holbrook this year to celebrate one of the world's iconic German celebrations: **Oktoberfest**.

When: Saturday, October 20, 2012

Time: 1:00 – 6:00 pm

Location: 8986 Cross Mtn. Trail, San Antonio, TX 78255

Enjoy some of the best German food, drink, and cultural festivities! We will have sausage, hot dogs, and side dishes for section members and family members. The Holbrook's will also provide table and chairs. Activities include a car show with a Best of Show award and door prizes. More event details will be forthcoming, but mark your calendar now to join us.

Any member who is interested in helping with any portion of the event, please let us know at dieselbenz@wildblue.net. We welcome your help!



November Becker Vineyards, Picnic and Pumpkin Chunkin'

The fall season is a great time to visit the Hill Country and this November the Texas Hill Country Section will be driving to Stonewall, Texas to visit Becker Vineyards. This event is scheduled for Saturday, November 10, 2012.

The vineyard is located at 464 Becker Farms Road, Stonewall, Texas 78671. The vineyard was planted on a site of native Mustang grapes much prized for winemaking by German neighbors and their ancestors. A few years later the owners planted a three acre lavender field reminiscent of the wine country of Provence, France. Red and white wines are available for sale as well as several lavender products.

We will begin the day at 11:00 am to park and socialize. Club member, Kathy Senseman, has organized a private wine tasting for interested members at noon. The cost for the wine tasting is \$10 per person. At 1:00 pm, we will gather on the winery grounds for a picnic lunch. You are encouraged to buy lunch on the way to the winery or to make a picnic lunch. Feel free to bring picnic blankets or chairs. Picnic tables are located on the grounds on a first come, first served basis.

After lunch, a tour of the winery will be available and a live band will be entertaining guests. Members will also enjoy watching the annual Fall Pumpkin Chunkin' as the vineyard launches pumpkins from a trebuchet. You don't want to miss this event as the Texas scenery yields to the fall season! For more information or if interested in leading a caravan, contact Kathie Steele at dieselbenz@wildblue.net.





BBQ, Good Company & Mercedes

We joined members of the Lone Star section for a BBQ picnic and car “show and shine” on Saturday, May 5, 2012. Section President’s, Bryan Harter (Lone Star) and Bob Holbrook (TX Hill Country) welcomed everyone. Together, we had a total of about 40 members, not including family and guests. Several members of the TX Hill Country section drove in a caravan from San Antonio.

We rented a pavilion in Landa Park located close to downtown New Braunfels, Texas. The pavilion was near Landa Park Lake with fantastic views of the surrounding park. Members walked to the lake to watch the ducks and swans and some fed bread to the birds. At noon, under the shade of the pavilion, we ate BBQ from nearby Rudy’s with all the fixins.

After lunch, we focused on the car “show and shine” while looking over the beautiful Mercedes parked in front of the pavilion. Bryan Harter handed out ballots so members could vote for their favorite car. We voted on Pre 1970’s, 1970’s, 1980’s, 1990’s, 2000’s and People’s Choice! Section members, Tom McCarran, Ned Davitt, and Jeff Brown, each won awards for the Texas Hill Country Section. We then drew names for prizes such as coffee mugs and koozies before members left at 2:00 pm to enjoy the rest of the day.

It was great event and a nice day. Lots of laughs and good food. We thank Bryan Harter, Charlene Casillas, and members of the Lone Star Section for the opportunity to be a part of this joint event.



Texas Hill Country Section Officers

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210-630-7495(c)/holbrook.robert@sbcglobal.net

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Treasurer Keith Steele
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Newsletter Editor Kathie Steele
512-497-9012/dieselbenz@wildblue.net

Refer a Friend or Family Member to MBCA and receive an additional month of club membership FREE!

The more folks you encourage to enroll in MBCA, the more **FREE** months you automatically receive. There’s no limit to the number of free months you can earn. Have them list your name when completing the membership application.

Birthdays, anniversary, and the holiday season are great opportunities to give your spouse, child or grandchild the benefit of membership.

Visit www.mbca.org/member-benefits for more information.



Section members Visit Fredericksburg, Texas and the Pacific War Museum

By Jeff Brown

The day's events started when 19 Texas Hill Country Section members and family gathered in Fredericksburg, Texas on Saturday, June 16, 2012. After lining up 9 Mercedes, we spent some time meeting new members and old friends. And what a group of motorcars – there were great looking E-classes, a classic 300CD, a beautiful SLK320, as well as V-12's and AMG's.

After admiring cars and getting acquainted, members walked across the Museum Campus for a brief walk-through of the Admiral Nimitz Museum. This small museum in the original building that was the Nimitz Hotel, houses a wonderful collection of early Fredericksburg area artifacts documenting life in this Texas Hill Country town in the mid-1800's. The second half of this section documents the early life of Admiral Chester Nimitz; born in Fredericksburg and one of only four, 5-star admirals in US history. We learned that Chester Nimitz left the Texas Hill Country for the US Naval Academy in 1901, and later rose to become the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific during World War II.

Outside, we viewed the Memorial Courtyard which features more than 2,000 plaques lining 100-year-old limestone walls honoring many of the military units, ships, and service members who served in the Pacific Theater. The courtyard area also contains a serene Japanese Garden of Peace. The garden was given to the Museum as a gift from the people of Japan and it symbolizes world peace through the good will of the two nations

For lunch, we walked a few doors down to the Der Lindenbaum restaurant for some authentic German favorites such as sausages, sauerkraut, and potato salad. And good, dark German beer! The conversations were lively and Owner/Chef Ingrid made sure we were all quite satisfied.

Afterward, we walked back through campus grounds to the entrance of the Main Gallery, which houses the Museum of the Pacific War. Heather Brown, a Military History graduate student, volunteered to be our tour guide through the 50,000 sq-ft museum. There were numerous full-size artifacts including, one of five Japanese two-man submarines that took part in the Pearl Harbor attack, a B-25 plane from the Doolittle Raid, and a 'Fat Man' atomic bomb casing.

Thanks to all the club members who joined us in Fredericksburg. We had a great time! And for those who couldn't make it, we hope to see you at the next event.





Hill Country Dinner for Section Members

Members gathered Thursday, July 26, 2012 at the Scenic Loop Café located in the rolling hills of the Texas Hill Country. We had the best member turnout to date! Twenty-one members joined us including several new members. Our evening began at 6:30 pm to socialize, but after the hugs and handshakes we realized time was flying by and we needed to begin the meeting. So, we took our seats as section President Bob Holbrook began the meeting.

Bob acknowledged our new members both to MBCA and also those who recently moved to our area. Kathie Steele then offered a "happy birthday" to our section. It was in August 2011 that our first section activity took place when we issued a newsletter. Kathie then talked about upcoming national events: Starfest this September in Phoenix and Startech next May 2013 in Alabama then summarized section events for the rest of 2012. There were questions about the November Formula One race in Austin, Texas and Mark Schwarz reminded members about a long ago F1 race in San Antonio. Who knew?

We ordered our food then held drawings for prizes. Kathy Senseman assisted Bob with drawing names – the first name out of the bag was her own! Six door prizes were given out which included an MBCA hat, four Mercedes-Benz key chains, and a bottle of wine and wine holder.

The staff at the Scenic Loop Café was outstanding by going out of their way to reserve a parking area for us and preparing the room so we had plenty of space. The service was excellent as well. We'll be back!! We realized the sun was going down so we walked outside to take a quick photo. Our members are some of the best in the MBCA! Hearing the amount of conversation going on, a great time was had by all.





— — — *Let's Ride*

Texas Hill Country Events:

August – Summer Vacation

September –Gartenfest
Friday, September 21, 2012

October – Oktoberfest
Saturday, October 20, 2012

November – Becker Vineyards
Saturday, November 10, 2012

December – Member Holiday Dinner
Thursday, December 13, 2012
Location TBA

For more information, visit our website at www.mbca.org.

Other Section Events:

Ft. Worth –

8/25 - Cavanaugh Flight Museum
10/13 – Texas History Drive to Jefferson
11/10 Auto Cross

www.mbca/ftworth

North Texas –

9/15 DIY MB Plano
10/6 Fall Driving Event

www.mbca-ntx.org

Lone Star –

9/9/2012 German Tri-marque
11/15-18/2012 Formula One Race Austin

www.mbca/lonestar.org

Always check with the section's website for the most complete event information.



Kerrville holds 14th Annual Hill Country Automobile Show

The Kerr County Courthouse was the scene of the annual Open Car Show on Saturday, July 7, 2012. The event is sponsored by the Hill Country Automobile club.

Over 130 cars were entered including an SLK Mercedes. Returning club member, Charley Cleaver, visited for the first time with his mint green 350SE (pictured left, middle).

BBQ from Buzzies restaurant in Kerrville was excellent and we were entertained with a live band. The courthouse lawn and side street was packed with viewers and show cars.

This is a fundraiser for the Hill Country Automobile Club which provides scholarships to local High School students. Their website is www.hillcountryautomobileclub.com.

The Club has invited the Texas Hill Country Section members to show our Mercedes next year. How about it?

How well do you know the Mercedes brand and its history? One question and answer will be posted in each newsletter (as space allows).

See how well you do and take the test, if you dare. The answer posted later in this newsletter.

You can be a Sponsor of our Section!

Club members and businesses are welcome to sign up and become a sponsor of the Texas Hill Country Section. An advertisement will showcase your business in our quarterly newsletter and on our website.

- ✓ MBCA has over 19,000 members,
- ✓ Section growth over 60 days, 2% increase,
- ✓ MBCA website gets 93,000+ hits per month,
- ✓ 67% of the website hits being new visitor, 32% returning visitors.

We offer reasonably priced ads and offer four size ads: business card, quarter page, half page and full page. Contact any of the section Officers for more information about being a Texas Hill Country Section Sponsor!



Who suggested the first Mercedes trademark design and what do the three points of the Mercedes-Benz Star represent?

- Power, Dominance, Perfection suggested by Karl Benz
- German Independence suggested by employees of the Manheim factory
- Land, Sear, Air suggested by Paul and Adolph Daimler
- Brilliance of the constellation Orion suggested by the Mayor of Stuttgart



Your Business Name Here

Advertise your business with the
Texas Hill Country Section
Help support your club section!
Business Card Size 2"x3.5"

Please welcome our club sponsor Dent Dawg in San Antonio.

Dent Dawg is a new paint less dent repair business founded by Chris Coker. Unlike many paint less dent repair businesses Dent Dawg has a furnished waiting room for customers.

You may contact Dent Dawg at 855/368-3294 or email chris@dentdawg.net and Dent Dawg also has a Facebook presence.

Remember that even though your garage queen or show car might not need this service your daily driver might!

If you visit Dent Dawg, please thank them for supporting your club through their advertising.

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PAINTLESS DENT REPAIR
Insured and Bonded

From minor dents and dings to large unsightly damage. If your vehicle can be repaired using Paintless Dent Repair, **"We Can Fix It!"**

50% OFF if you have 3 or more panels repaired.
(Cannot be used with any other discounts)

Before **After**

10651 Sentinel • San Antonio, TX 78217
www.DentDawg.net



**1950 Mercedes-Benz
170S (W136 IV Series)**
By Bob Holbrook, President
Texas Hill Country Section MBCA

Being a Section officer in MBCA can be a dangerous and expensive undertaking. For example, last fall Keith & Kathie Steele (Section Treasurer and Secretary), my wife & daughter and I visited Tom Hicks Mercedes dealership in Corpus Christi for a "Meet & Greet" session. A great trip and wonderful people. But – alas – Tom Hicks had a 1953 Mercedes Adenauer sitting on his showroom floor. Perfectly restored. Gorgeous. Intoxicating. And infectious. I returned home and could think of nothing else except the appearance of that classic Mercedes (the infection). Over the next month I would periodically check EBay and Craigs List to see if any pre-1960 Mercedes were listed. Amazingly, I located a 1950 Mercedes 170S being offered for sale here in Texas. I looked, I liked, I bought (the expense!). But there are no regrets, only smiles.

As John Keats wrote in 1818, "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever; its loveliness increases." I can think of no better words to describe my 1950 Mercedes 170S; pre-World War II style, classic beauty, simple design, clean lines.

It was a gorgeous November afternoon when the burgundy classic was delivered to my home on the back of a flatbed truck (courtesy of the previous owner). The entire transaction was more like an adoption than a purchase. The former owner also provided me with all of the maintenance records and history of the car that he had and that he had received from the car's earlier owner who imported it in 1988 from Yugoslavia where it had been used in the production of a World War II film. The feeling was like acquiring an outstanding work of art and an historic artifact at the same time.

The 170S has rear-hinged front doors ("suicide doors"), running boards, stand-alone headlights, and an accordion top that folds back to create a large sunroof. Very simple badging – the star on the radiator cap, one on the trunk, and on each hubcap. The name Mercedes-Benz only appears on the radiator badge beneath the cap. The model designation, 170S, is located beneath the Mercedes star on the trunk. The four cylinder engine starts easily and runs smoothly. The four forward gear transmission shifts with precision; the floor shifter has a very long shift pattern. My 17 year old daughter really enjoys riding in this car; she says it is like a time machine and that she feels in another era while riding.

Most things work on the car; some things don't. Oil pressure and temperature gauges are great. Fuel gauge works intermittently. Speedometer and clock not operational (perhaps time has stopped when in the car). Electrical system is so-so. But for a 62 year old vehicle, the 170S is excellent. I enjoy the challenge of having a project, of talking with other car folks about where to find parts or who can do quality repairs. I enjoy researching the history, reading about the production years, and have come across several good texts and repair manuals for the 1950 model. I purchased "declared value" insurance at a low rate and have registered the car as an "antique" with the State of Texas.

To be honest, I enjoy cleaning and polishing the 170S as much as driving it. Just to stand in the garage and survey the classic grill and outline always brings a smile. And yes, sometimes I even sit in the driver's seat or back seat and talk softly to the car; it doesn't answer, but I know it hears me and feels the pride and happiness I exude in being its owner. Crazy? Maybe – but you can understand if you're a car guy.

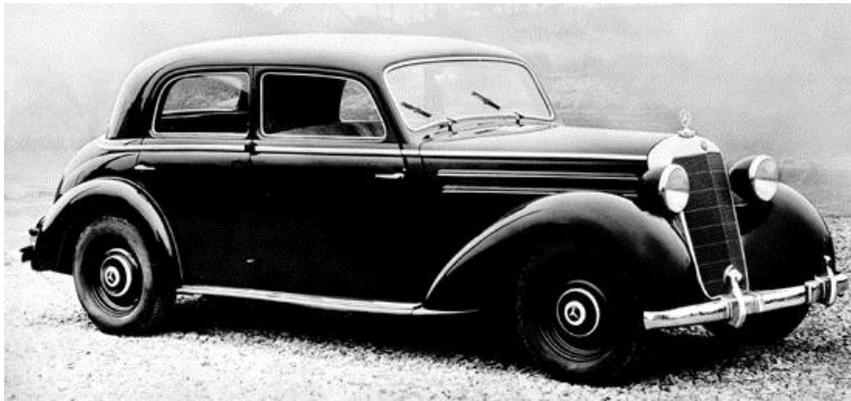


Mercedes 170 S Continued

HISTORY: Following the end of World War II most of German industrial production was in ruins, including most Mercedes manufacturing plants. The only remaining plant was one geared to production of 1938 models. During 1946-1948 the Allies limited Mercedes manufacturing to trucks, commercial vehicles, and ambulances. However, in May 1949 Mercedes was allowed to resume large-scale production for the private sector and introduced two passenger cars – the 170S and 170D - at the Technical Export Fair in Hanover. Each would play a strong role in the future history of Mercedes-Benz. The 170S (W 136 IV series, 1949-1953) represented the beginning of post-war private vehicle production, and the 170D (W 136 I D, 1949-1953) established the diesel engine into the passenger car segment.

The W 136 IV series, otherwise known as the Mercedes-Benz 170 S, was equipped with an improved front suspension and a modified 4-cylinder engine with 52 hp. These two features provided outstanding ride and performance qualities and immediately established the car as a competitor in the premier league of the international car world in 1949.

So for Mercedes-Benz and customers in 1949, the 170 S was a vehicle with great effect. With this model Mercedes very clearly demonstrated its return to membership of the automotive luxury class for the first time since the end of World War II, and expressed this membership with a letter S in the model designation. The S was intended to represent an abbreviation for 'special' or 'super' and is still the designation of Mercedes' top models.



Sober 170S sedan largely a pre-war design but led Mercedes-Benz post-war revival.



*Do you have a story to tell about your Mercedes?
Let us hear from you. Whether you have a newer
or older model – we want to hear about it. Email
your story to dieselbenz@wildblue.net.*

Newsletter Pop Quiz Answer:

It was Paul and Adolph Daimler, sons of founder Gottlieb Daimler, who suggested the star trademark representing land, sea, and air. And since 1910, the three pointed star has adorned the radiator at the front of the car. The Star symbolized Daimler's ambition of universal motorization "on land, on water, and in the air".

The trademark has changed little over the years (see five versions at right). It still adorns all Mercedes vehicles and has come to represent quality and safety.

Trademark: Three pointed star of 1909 (upper left). Trademark of Benz & Cie. Of 1909 (upper right). Three pointed Star in the circle of 1916 (middle left). The new Trademark of the merger of DMG & Benz & Cie in 1926 (middle right). Lastly, the actual three pointed star.



MBUSA Website offers much for enthusiasts

You have many options when visiting www.mbusa.com. The website provides information on all new Mercedes class vehicles on the main page. If you click on the bottom left side of the page where it says "for enthusiasts", the next screen will provide you with more resources than you can imagine.

One is the Classic Center where owners go for reliable information to anyone restoring a classic Mercedes. Mercedes-AMG, let's you into the world of high performance Mercedes. Did you know there was Mercedes-TV?

MBUSA offers a ton of resources including information on classic car clubs and associations including MBCA, Gull-Wing group, 190 SL group, and the M-100 group.

Racing icon, Mario Andretti has been named the Official Ambassador to the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas! Andretti will work with track officials to promote the awareness of Formula 1 and the Circuit's debut as a sports and entertainment complex.

Andretti will be making public appearances in the coming months. He is well known for his career racing in Formula 1, NASCAR, INDY just to name a few with over 100 wins.

Pictured below is Mario Andretti (right) with Formula 1 owner Bernie Ecclestone.



Got an Email address? We need it!

We are still in need of email addresses from some of our Members and we encourage you to submit the address or any change to your current address to dieselbenz@wildblue.net.

You may read how your address and the information attached to it is safeguarded by reading the Club's Privacy Statement. The statement is found at the bottom of the Home Page of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America's National Website www.mbca.org.

Providing your email address will allow us to send club communications electronically saving postage and copying costs.



Don't forget to renew your MBCA membership if yours is about to expire this August, September or October.

This will assure continuation of the many benefits MBCA offers, and enables you to maintain or establish your eligibility for MBCA loyalty rewards (requires 12 months of continuous membership - no lapses).



Make your reservation NOW for StarFest® 2012
 Hosted by the MBCA Desert Stars Section

Visit www.starfest2012.com
 or contact John Hutchison
 at johnhutchison@cox.net



More Than a Car. We're a Community.™

Starfest

Star Fest is the premier national event for all MBCA members across the US and Canada. The event is scheduled every two years and this year it will be in Phoenix, Arizona on September 28 – October 3, 2012.

Events include: Technical sessions, vendors, and three days of track sessions at Firebird International Raceway, trips, and tours of the Phoenix area for members, friends and family.

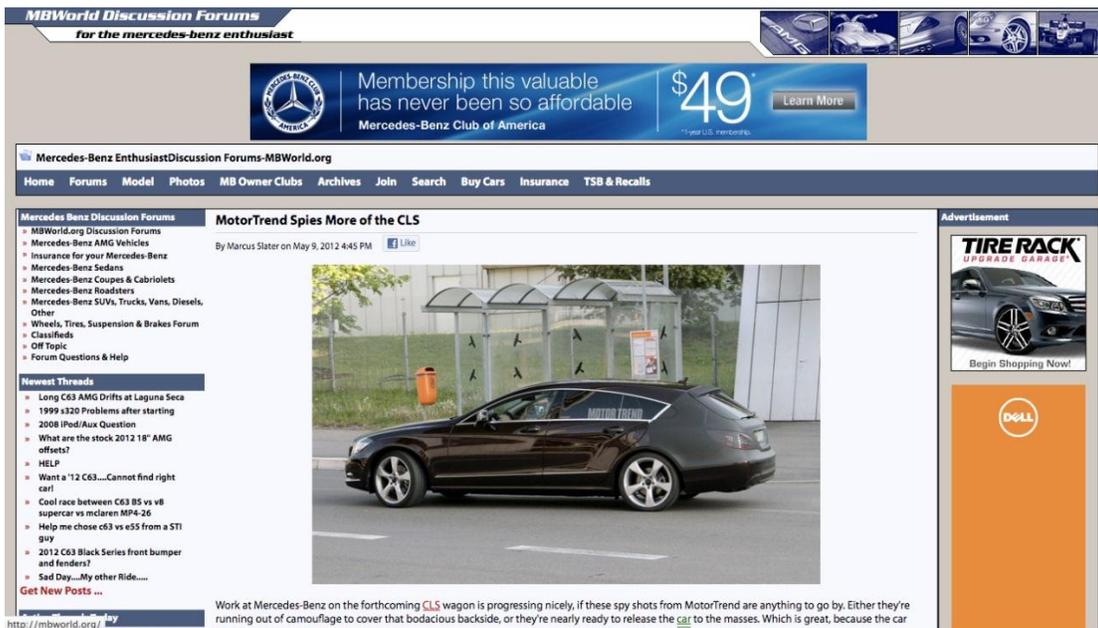
Register online for the group rate at the Biltmore Hotel. For more information, view the Starfest website at www.starfest.com.

If you are interested in driving to Phoenix with other MBCA members, email dieselbenz@wildblue.net. The Ft. Worth section will be driving 500 miles the first day to stay at the LaQuinta Inn in Ruidoso, NM before driving the remaining 500 miles to Phoenix. Refer to their website for more information at www.mbca.org.

MBCA IS TESTING ONLINE ADS --- Beginning May 1, 2012, the National Business Office launched a new advertising test on **Facebook** and on two Mercedes-Benz enthusiast websites: **eMercedesBenz.com** and **MBWorld.org**. eMercedes-Benz.com is an online magazine covering Mercedes-Benz, Maybach, and smart brands, a variety of products and lifestyle news. MBWorld.org is the place to go for discussion forums for every class of Mercedes.

Below is an example of the MBWorld .org web page with the MBCA ad. By the end of the test, the ad on Facebook yielded 29 new members (among male Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts, ages 45+ years of age). The ad on emercedesbenz.com yielded 22 new members.

The National Business Office continued testing with Phase II test in July. This time, the ad targeted a slightly younger male; 35-44 years of age. We'll see what the results will be.



MBWorld Discussion Forums
 for the mercedes-benz enthusiast

Membership this valuable has never been so affordable **\$49** [Learn More](#)
 Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Mercedes-Benz Enthusiast Discussion Forums - MBWorld.org

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Mercedes-Benz Discussion Forums

- MBWorld.org Discussion Forums
- Mercedes-Benz AMG Vehicles
- Insurance for your Mercedes-Benz
- Mercedes-Benz Sedans
- Mercedes-Benz Coupes & Cabriolets
- Mercedes-Benz Roadsters
- Mercedes-Benz SUVs, Trucks, Vans, Diesels, Other
- Wheels, Tires, Suspension & Brakes Forum
- Classifieds
- Off Topic
- Forum Questions & Help

Newest Threads

- Long C63 AMG Drifts at Laguna Seca
- 1999 s320 Problems after starting
- 2008 iPod/Aux Question
- What are the stock 2012 18" AMG offsets?
- HELP
- Want a '12 C63...Cannot find right car!
- Cool race between C63 RS vs v8 supercar vs mclaren MP4-26
- Help me chose c63 vs e55 from a STI guy
- 20 12 C63 Black Series front bumper and fenders?
- Sad Day...My other Ride....

MotorTrend Spies More of the CLS
 By Marcus Slater on May 9, 2012 4:45 PM [Like](#)



Work at Mercedes-Benz on the forthcoming CLS wagon is progressing nicely, if these spy shots from MotorTrend are anything to go by. Either they're running out of camouflage to cover that bodacious backside, or they're nearly ready to release the car to the masses. Which is great, because the car

Advertisement

TIRE RACK
 UPGRADE YOURS
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DELL

<http://mbworld.org/>

Spotlight On



Sprinter Van Sales Up

Sprinter Vans have “come a long way, baby” since Carl Benz built the first combination delivery vehicle in 1896. Today, the Sprinter is becoming a household name alongside other American vans.

Al Cardenas, Sales Consultant at Mercedes-Benz of Boerne, says sales of the Sprinter Van are up again this year. “More people are aware of Sprinters. Not just for their commercial use, but also use as a passenger vans”. Depending on the configuration you choose, the Sprinter is the largest van on the market today, reports US News.

Three styles are available in cargo, crew and passenger.

Sprinters are available in BlueTEC diesel sporting a Turbocharged V6 3.0L/182 with 188 horsepower. The torque is 325 @1400-2400 for the 144” wheelbase. A 170” wheelbase is also available.

The Sprinter can seat up to fifteen passengers and tow up to 5,300 pounds, though some reviewers found the van lagging in passing capability on the highway.

Options include an outside camera, hitch, and dual air. They offer plenty of towing capacity and power with the BlueTec engine.

Many purchases are by handicapped individuals who depend on a strong vehicle to support a heavy chair lift. Sprinter Vans are a proven design and have been used in Europe for many years. “It will run forever” says Mr.Cardenas.

Mercedes-Benz of Boerne is ready to refer customers who wish a more “RV” style to outside companies which will outfit a van to your specifications. For more information visit the Sprinter website at www.mbsprinterusa.com and www.mbboerne.com.



Mercedes-Benz of Boerne Sales Consultant, Al Cardenas





2012 Austin German Tri-Marque Concours & Show

Open to all vintages of **Audi, BMW, Mercedes-Benz** Automobiles

SUNDAY * September 9th, 2012

Cool River Cafe
4001 West Parmer Lane
Austin, Texas 78727

Check out this event...

Staging : 8:00 am
Rags Down : 9:00 am
Awards : 12:00 pm

Complete official registration form by visiting:

www.tejaschapter.org

Limit : 90 cars (30/Marque) for judged category
Deadline for registration is **September 1, 2012**

All Proceeds Benefit the Center for Child Protection



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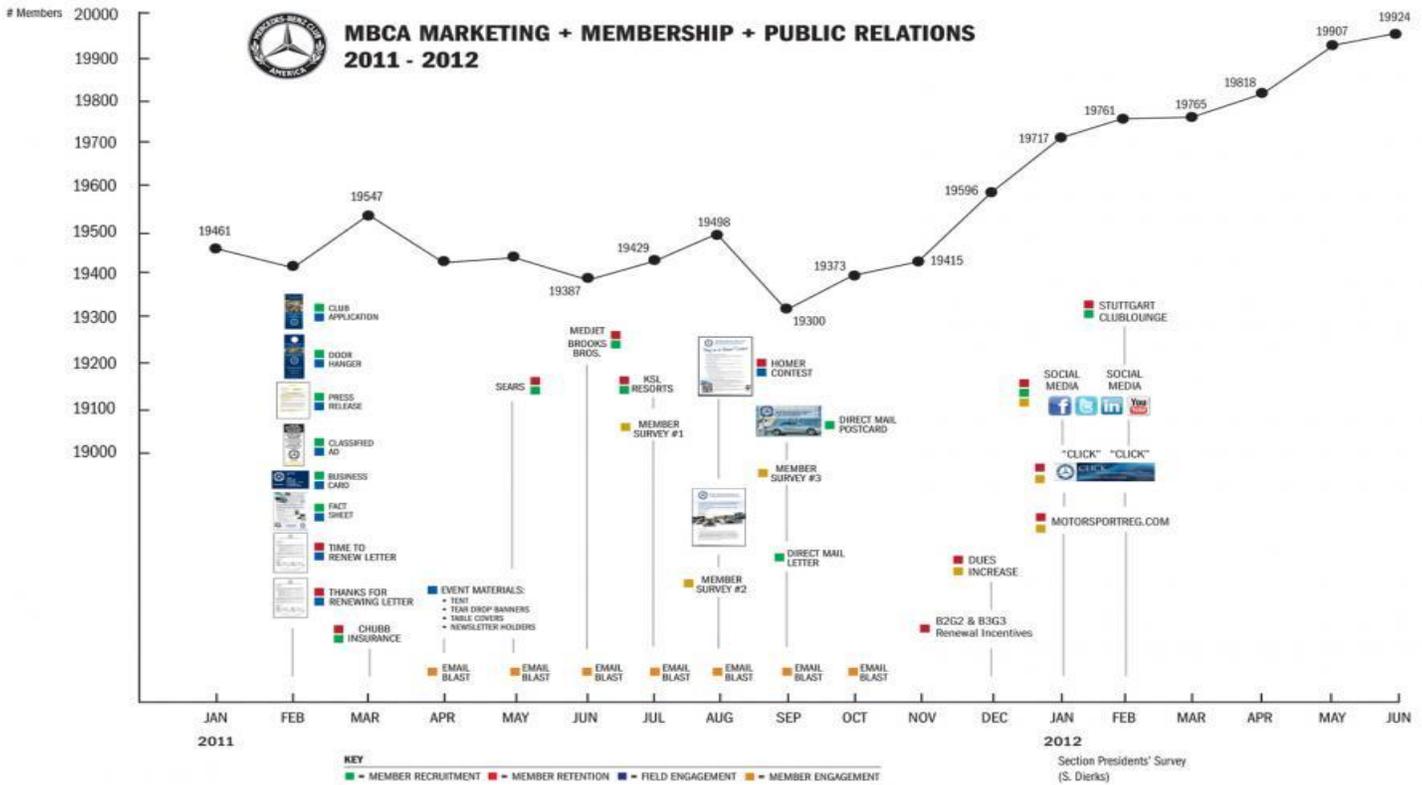
A True Car Enthusiast

MEMBERSHIP GROWS -

Your hard work, your dedication and your willingness to spread the word about the benefits of club membership continues to pay-off. For the seventh month in a row, MBCA membership is UP. At the end of July, the MBCA membership has grown to 19,961 members. Add in associate members and the total jumps to 27,949. As part of the South Central Region, at the end of July our region had a total of 2,390 members and adding in associate members provided a total of 3,278; an increase of 62 members.

YOUR DEALERSHIP'S "ON-HOLD" PHONE MESSAGE WILL SOON INTRODUCE MBCA -

The next time you call your Mercedes-Benz Dealership and are put on hold, you might hear a 30-second message that touts the benefits of becoming a member of MBCA. The National Business Office negotiated a special partnership with Applied Media Technology (AMT) to advertise MBCA through Mercedes-Benz Dealership that use AMT's on-hold messaging service. MBCA will be added to Dealerships' messaging systems FREE. The messages will run indefinitely.



MBCA Texas Hill Country Section Newsletter - published four times a year is the official newsletter of the Texas Hill Country Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

Opinions - Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of either MBCA or the Texas Hill Country Section. Neither MBCA nor the Texas Hill Country Section endorses products or services but may, as part of our informational activities, allow them to be cited in articles and notices.

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Articles and Submissions - Copy should be e-mailed to the editor by the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. For example, submissions for the November issue should be received by the editor by October 10th.