



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

Proudly Serving South and West Texas

2018 Issue One

First Quarter

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President's Message

By Don Dionisi

Happy New Year to all our members of the MBCA Texas Hill Country Section!

I am really excited about our upcoming events this year. Our team has selected 12 events already this year. Many of you have also sent in suggestions; please keep sending them in to Maryann via email: maryannsanantonio@yahoo.com. We would like to have as many suggestions from you as possible. We will be planning some 2019 events as well.

Seems like detailed or specific "Tech Sessions" are popular with other clubs across the country and we plan on having a few of those this year as well. The ladies may not enjoy them as much but they are always welcomed to attend. I am sure they will enjoy the luncheon activities after these sessions.

Last year Dan Coburn arranged a dealership tour of the new Ferrari showroom and it was a smashing success. Thanks Dan for that suggestion. Working off that same theme we plan on repeating it again this year. It is always interesting to look at the Mercedes-Benz competition and compare other products to what we know well. I still love my Benzes though no matter how tempting the competition is! It's fun to look.....and that doesn't cost anything!

I am sure everyone realizes that being a member of MBCA Texas Hill Country Section has its perks and a lot of other benefits. The Star Magazine, advertising and dealer discounts of 10% on parts and service. These discounts more than cover the cost of membership. Many of you that attended this past December's Christmas/Holiday celebration remember that we had a drawing for many door prizes and one was a Free "A" service at Mercedes Benz of San Antonio. (Continued)

Section Leadership

- President – Don Dionisi
- Vice President – Charles Dove
- Secretary/Webmaster – Dan Coburn
- Treasurer – Martin Rios
- Director - Joe Aaron
- Director – Maryann Feldman
- Director – John Rothermel
- Newsletter Editor – Charles Dove
- Webmaster – Martin Rios

Next December we will have a drawing for a Free "B" service at our Christmas/Holiday celebration for one lucky member. The "B" service is a \$499.95 value. There is only one catch... in order to have your name placed in the pot; you will have to recruit one new member to our section. Remember the "B" Service is a \$499.95 value. Someone asked "what if I renew my membership, does that count?" Sorry, no that won't count. Yes, we want you to renew your membership but in order for your name to be in this drawing, you will have to sign up one new member. In fact, we are going to 'sweeten the pie' so to speak by challenging everyone to go out there and recruit more than one new member by offering to put your name in the pot each time you recruit a new member. One of our members said he is going to recruit at least 10 new members... good luck... Sak!

Here are some tips and some speaking points you may want to use in the recruiting process:

- Members enjoy 10% off on parts and service at our two dealerships
- New members can receive a \$500 bonus cash back after twelve months membership (They will have to renew once. So for a \$110 investment they can get back \$500 on a new Benz....not bad. Well worth the investment!!!)
- Members will receive 20% off on classic Benz parts (25 years or older)
- Members enjoy free advertising in the newsletter so you can sell Benz related items including your old Benz. Sorry we can't advertise your garage sale or the sale of your old refrigerator, but if you say that your old Benz is for sale this weekend in your garage sale we will allow that!!! We are also going to produce the newsletter 6 times a year and the free ad will include our Facebook posts.
- A new or current member is not required to own a Mercedes for membership they only have to like the brand
- We have events monthly and drawings at various times worth more than the price of a membership
- If someone owns an AMG the value of the "B" service certificate we have will go against the AMG service fee, so even AMG owners will benefit.

This year the officers of the section will also be going out there to recruit new members. The officers are working on getting companies to advertise in the newsletter and on our Facebook page. We have several potential advertisers that said they would give discounts for their services to our membership. I am working with one auto dealer that will also give a discount on a used Benz. Not quite there yet but hammering out the details. I am trying to structure the program so that once you reach your final negotiated price you can produce a coupon from our newsletter advertising and get an additional amount off on your deal but that amount has yet to be determined. This coupon can be used more than once. More to come as things develop!

Thanks you so very much to all our new member who have recently join our section and thank you so very much to all of our current and long term members. We have a lot of events planned this year and we always welcome your suggestions. When we meet at Dicks Garage we will have a short meeting before the tour so that anyone having any question or suggestions will have an opportunity to express them.

Sincerely,
Don Dionisi
President, Texas Hill Country Section

Section Officers:



Don Dionisi
President
Board Member



Charles Dove
Vice President
Newsletter Editor
Board Member



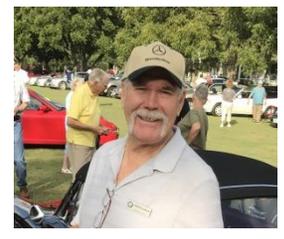
Dan Coburn
Secretary
Board Member



Martin Rios
Treasurer
Board Member



Maryann
Feldman
Board Member



Joe Aaron
Board Member

Keep up to date with all section information at www.texashillcountry.mbca.org or in our quarterly newsletter. If we do not have your email address, you're missing out on the majority of communications from the Club. Please go to www.mbca.org, log in, and update your personal profile to stay up to date with all club news. Be sure to add your associate member's email too.



*2016 S Class Cabriolet... standard 449 hp;
557 hp for the C63; or 621 hp for the C65*

November Event News – Rebecca Creek Park And Cypress Cove Lunch at Beefy’s on the Green

It's time for a fall drive through the hill country. We met together at the CVS parking lot on HWY 281 at HWY 46 at 10:00. After checking out cars in the parking lot, we caravanned down HWY 281 north to FM 311. From there we drove along the scenic back roads through winding hills and enjoyed the beautiful cool day. We drove into the Rebecca Creek area and into a small private park next to the creek that runs through the park. There are camp sites and picnic areas through the park. We stopped and took some photos before we drove on to our next stop that was a few miles further in to the Rebecca Creek/Cypress Cove community.



*Our group in Rebecca Creek Park.
A picnic in the park will be coming
up this spring.*





Norm and Cathy's SL550



*Ron and Maryann's SL550
50th Anniversary Edition*



*Above: Robin's C63 AMG
Below: Charlie and Martin's SL550 Silver Arrow*



Peggy and Troy's 300D





Charlie M. and Robert's CLK500 Cabriolet



Maryann and Martin try out the swing.



A great lunch at Beefy's on the Green.





Our Mercedes-Benz Club Group –
November 18, 2017,
Rebecca Creek/Cypress Cove
The Texas Hill Country Section

*For more photos of this event and a
video slide show: [Click Here](#)*

December – Holiday Dinner at Stone Werks Grill

The Texas Hill Country Section celebrated the Christmas and Holiday season with dinner at the Stone Werks Big Rock Grill. We had a nice turn out of about 22 members. We welcomed 2 new members from Clear Lake - Kathy Ley and husband Douglas Haberman. Although they live in Clear Lake, they prefer the service from the San Antonio Benz dealer where they purchased 2 vehicles. The most recent acquisition is Kathy's 2016 C300 that she absolutely loves. This was the replacement for her much loved 1998 C230 that met with an untimely demise.



Martin, Douglas and Ron



Louis and Kathy



Helene, Alex and Maryann



We were escorted into the private room at the Stone Werks Big Rock Grill where we were treated to some tasty appetizers before we ordered dinner. Club members enjoyed some time together and talked about the many events we have enjoyed together over the past year. We talked about future club events that we are planning for the new year. Some members offered some great suggestions that will be presented to the Board in January. We want to encourage anyone with ideas for future events to let us know about them.

As this was our Holiday event, we raffled off gifts and everyone was a winner. The top prize was an 'A' Service from MB of SA. We were given a special rate on the service coupon for our club. Other prizes included a Premium 12V DC Tire inflator air compressor pump, Mercedes-Benz insulated beverage tubblers, a remote control model Mercedes-Benz SLR, a nice canvas tote bag, Mercedes-Benz T-shirts and caps.

The manager and wait staff of this upscale rustic American grill were exceptional and took very good care of our group,. We ordered dinner from their main menu – dinner selections included anything from Pizza, Crafted Burgers to house cut Ribeye Steaks, Hickory Rubbed Rotisserie Prime Rib, Pork Loin, and a selection of seafood items that included Crawfish, Stuff Salmon, Alaskan Haliut, panko crusted Sea Bass, Jumbo lump crab cakes and Ahi Tuna Steak. There was something to please just about anyones discriminating appetite. All entees are prepared in house with fresh ingredients from local markets that they receive on a daily basis.



Amelia and Dave



Above: Danielle and Alton



Above: New member Kathy and her new found friend Robin... she fell in love with his C63 AMG Coupe... and now she wants one of her own. Maybe Santa will bring one???



Above: Don and Maryann begin drawing the raffle tickets





Robin



Yaeko and Dan



Above: Helene; Below: Dave & Amelia



Above: Louis; Below: Alton



January 2018 – Lexus LC500 at the Dominion

Mercedes Club members were invited to the new North Park Lexus dealership at the Dominion to check out the Lexus LC500. Those that were interested were offered a test drive. Don arranged this event through his friend and neighbor Jose Contreras, the sales manager. Alex Navarrete gave us a brief overview of the LC500 before the test drive. Our thanks to Jose and Alex for their hospitality.

Comments from club members: Norm Glorioso had this to say about his test drive. *'There are many "high end" luxury coupes available that compete with Mercedes - Ferrari, BMW, Audi, Porsche to name just a few. I have to admit the new Lexus LC500 was on my radar as one that I wanted to experience in person since it combines luxury and sport in a package that I find attractive. Driving the car was a chance to confirm what I have read on the performance of the car. Although it would take a closed track to really test the capabilities of this car, the dealer personnel put together a brief test drive route that allowed a chance to at least tease us with the cars potential. There were a few light curves that allowed chance to play with the multiple suspension and performance settings and a straight section on the I-10 frontage road to allow a brief hint of the acceleration available from the 471HP V-8. I was truly impressed with the LC500, but have to admit the ride home in our SL 550 was also impressive.'*



'Fun cars and fun people, it was great opportunity to get together with the Mercedes-Benz Club Texas Hill Country Section. Thank you to everyone that helped put this together.'

Alex DePeralta said: *'Driving the LC500 was an enjoyable experience. The fully adjustable and supportive seats were among the most -*

comfortable without being too firm. Firing up the V-8 made an authoritative yet subdued roar. Making the right turn out of the parking lot it was very easy to break the rear end loose with even modest acceleration. What a surprise! On the access road and on the low-speed twisties the LC500 was very smooth and quiet more reminiscent of a diminutive luxury limousine than a tossable sports car. Again and again the LC500 wagged its tail accelerating out of turns before our return to the dealership. The best of the LC500? The quiet and smoothness of a Lexus motorcar. The worst? The happy and loose rear end. The final take? A great car for luxury cruising.'

Ron Feldman's take on the LC500: I was excited to drive the LC500, as I love sports cars, and this one had high expectations. I was not disappointed! The car is sleek and beautifully detailed, but I'm not a fan of the grill. The interior was very comfortable and the dash and instruments were eye candy and well organized. I settle in, adjust the seat and mirrors, take a breath and off we go. Smooth and easy response on the pedals, especially the brakes. Handling was the best part, as the 4 wheel steering is barely perceptible, but hugs the road well. Power was adequate but, I wish it had a supercharger! All in all, I had a great drive!

For more photos and slide show video of this event: [Click Here](#)



After our test drive of the LC500, we drove down the road to Mimi's at the RIM for lunch where we had a nice visit and talked about the LC500. We had a good turnout of about 25 members.



Above: New Members, Ban Lean and his wife Sukanya. Also, Martin, Bebe, Sak and Yaeko.



Classified Section



Mercedes-Benz



For Sale: Do you have a car you want to sell? List it in our newsletter. Ads are free for members. Send us the information about your car, your contact information and a couple of photos. Your ad will appear here.

Just so you know; you can also list a car for sale in The Star Magazine. Log on to the [mbca.org website](http://mbca.org)

Mercedes-Benz Parts and Accessories For Sale



Do you have a Power Steering Pump to sell? Advertise it here.

Advertise parts and accessories for your Mercedes-Benz here. Wheels, mirrors, power steering pumps, emblems, Mercedes-Benz memorabilia etc. Member ads are free!

Classified ads for Mercedes-Benz automobiles, Mercedes-Benz parts and/or accessories can be placed in our newsletter. Ad content should be sent to: riopaloma@sbcglobal.net by the 10th of the month before the quarterly newsletter is published. May ads should be received by April 10th. If possible, please include 1, 2 or 3 photographs to go with your ad. **Ads are offered FREE for Club Members.**

Upcoming Events: (- 2 events in March -)

February 10th – Dick's Classic Garage in San Marcos. A tour of the classic car museum and hosted by club member Norm Glorioso. We will have lunch before the museum at [Fuschak's Pit Bar-B-Q Restaurant](#). Meet at Fuschak's between 11:30 – 12:00. [Dick's Classic Garage](#) between 1:00 – 1:30.

March 10th – A tour of the Sandy Oaks Olive Orchard in Elmendorf, Tx. We will take the tour, visit their gift shop and nursery and stay for lunch from the Kitchen. Watch for your next E-News for more on this event. [Sandy Oaks Olive Orchard](#)

March 31st – We are going to participate in a charity car show event at [Lester's Automovtive](#) in Boerne, TX. More on this event will be coming soon. Proceeds go to benefit the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation. A \$25.00 entry fee is required. The first 10 members to sign up will get the entry fee paid by the club. (application on next page) Contact Don for more on this. don.dionisi@yahoo.com

April – Picnic at Rebecca Creek Park. *

May 4th thru 6th – Keels & Wheels Concours d'Elegance - classic cars and vintage boat show at the Lackwood Yacht Club in Seabrook, Texas... just outside of Houston..This will be an over night event for us. More on this event will be coming to your E-News. Check out the Keels and Wheels website for more on this annual event. [Keels & Wheels](#)

June – Picnic & baseball game with the Missions. Group tickets include Burgers and hot dogs. Some nights feature a used car raffle.*

July – A tech session and tour of [Mark Motors](#) in Boerne, Texas. Lunch to follow nearby; location to be determined.*

August – A performance drive through devils Backbone & lunch at the [Leaning Pear](#) in Wimberley, Texas. *

September – [Painting with a Twist](#). Lunch at [Max & Louis New York Diner](#) . *

October 27th – [Texas Clay Festival](#). In Gruene, Texas *

November – [Real Ale Brewing Company](#), Blanco, Texas. *

December – Holiday Dinner at [The Stone Werks Big Rock Grill](#). *

January 2019 – Tech Session at MB of SA. *

February 2019 – Tech Session at MB of Boerne. *

March 2019 – Buying tips when purchasing a 20+ year old Mercedes-Benz and newer CPO Benzes. A panel of experts and club members will speak on this topic. It will be a lecture and walk around event. *

* More on these events will be coming to your in box. Watch for your E-News.

LESTER'S AUTOMOTIVE CENTER

32128A IH-10 West (Exit 543), Boerne, TX 78006

11th ANNUAL OPEN CAR SHOW & CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, March 31, 2018 ~ 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(Rain day: Sunday, April 8, 2018)

Food ~ Beverages ~ Music ~ Door Prizes ~ Raffles ~ T-Shirt for Each Entry

Professional Judges ~ Awards in Each Category ~ Best in Show Award

Staging: 7-9 a.m. ~ Judging begins: 9 a.m. ~ Awards immediately after judging completed

EARLY REGISTRATION: \$25.00

Checks payable to Dave Depriest
Mail to P. O. Box 1853, Boerne, TX 78006

SAME DAY REGISTRATION: \$35.00

Exact cash or checks payable to JDRF
(Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation)

* **OFFICE USE ONLY:**
* Date paid: _____
* Amount: _____
* Cash: _____ Check: _____
* Accepted by: _____
* Category: _____ Row: _____

Questions? Call Bob Perkins at (830) 249-2501 ~ or ~ Dave Depriest at (210) 241-0277

CATEGORIES (Circle one)

- A- Antique Car (1954 & earlier)
- B- Custom Car (1949-1972)
- C- Custom Car (1973-1990)
- D- Custom Car (1991-2017)
- E- Street Rod (Open)
- F- Street Rod (Coupe/Sedan)
- G- Street Rod (Radical)
- H- Chevle/Impala
- I- Camaro (1967-1969)
- J- Camero (1970-1992)
- K- Camro (1993-2017)
- L- Chevy (Original/Restored; 1955-1957)
- M- Chevy (Modified; 1955-1957)
- N- Corvette (1953-1967)
- O- Corvette (1968-1982)
- P- Corvette (1983-1996)
- Q- Corvette (1997-2013)
- R- Corvette (2014-2017)
- S- Mustang (1964 1/2-1973)
- T- Mustang (1974-1993)
- U- Mustang (194-2004)
- V- Mustang (2005-2015)
- W- Mustang (2016-2017)
- X- Shelby (1965 1/2-1970)
- Y- Shelby (2007-2015)
- Z- Shelby (2016-2017)
- AA- Mopar (1949-1972)
- BB- Mopar (1973-1990)
- CC- Mopar (1991-2017)
- DD- T-Bird (All years & models)
- EE- Ford/Mercury/Lincoln (All years & models)
- FF- Pontiac (All years & models)
- GG- Buick/Oldsobile (All years & models)
- HH- Antique Truck (1954 & earlier)
- II- Custom Truck (1959 & earlier)
- JJ- Custom Truck (1960-1990)
- KK- Custom Truck (1991-2017)
- LL- Rat Rod
- MM- Orphan

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

T-Shirt Size (Circle one): S M L XL XXL XXXL

Vehicle Year: _____ Color: _____

Make: _____ Model: _____

LIABILITY DISCLAIMER: I understand all entries are to remain until the car show is officially over. I accept all conditions, rules and decisions of event promoters and judges. In consideration of the acceptance to participate, registrant and accompanying persons, by execution of this form, release and discharge Lester's Automotive, their officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, and anyone connected with management of presentation of this event, of and from any known and/or unknown damages, injuries, losses, judgments and/or claims from any causes whatsoever, which may be suffered by any registrant to his person or property. **I UNDERSTAND AND ACCEPT THESE TERMS.**

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contact Don for more information on the Lester's Automotive charity event.
don.dionisi@yahoo.com

Willkommen And Dankeschon!

We want to thank everyone for being a member of this Club. Because of your loyalty and support, your yearly membership dues helps to support our section financially and we are able to produce and deliver a Section Newsletter; host fun and unique Section Events; Oktoberfest; and bring you the latest technical, maintenance and general driving information about your Mercedes-Benz vehicle(s).

Loyal Member Renewals

New Members

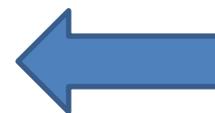
Audrey Booth	Joni Raba
John Evans	Jose Sanchez
Javier Fernandez	Robert J. Sullivan
Ban Lean	Mark Watson
Peter Maly	Scot Williamson
Teri McDowell	Thomas Yonker
Ross Miles	
Eduardo Romero Suarez	

Tutti Burkett
Hector Camarillo
Guy Clumpner
Charles Dove
Ronald Feldman
George Finley
Aaron Fox
Donald Garrido
Douglas Haberman
Luis Hernandez
Esther Hicks

Alfred Howell
Kathryn McCall
James McCannon
Barbara O'Connor
William Ohlemueller
Eduardo Paez
John Schrock
John Terry
Thomas Tredici
Eduardo Vidales
Alton Wilson



REMINDER: If we do not have your email address, you are missing out on the majority of the communications from the Club. Please go to www.mbca.org, log in and update your info to stay updated on all that we have going on. Also, please list your spouse/partner as an associate member on the mbca website.



Benefit with your Membership!

Dealer Discounts on Parts, Service & Accessories at Participating Mercedes-Benz Dealers - The presentation of your membership card may entitle you to 5%, 10% or (up to) 20% off parts, service and accessories from the U.S. and Canadian Mercedes-Benz dealers. Even if your vehicle is under warranty, not all service is covered. Call any of our local Mercedes-Benz dealers in advance to confirm their participation in the MBCA dealer discount program. You must present your MBCA membership card before having service performed or paying for parts.



Renew Your Membership – You do **NOT** need to wait until your renewal date before extending your club membership.



Refer a New Member – You will get an extra month added to your membership.

Mercedes-Benz Models & Chassis Forums - Mercedes forums include every model made by Mercedes from A class to GLK, the Sprinter, Smart Car, Adenauer, Gullwing, vintage and collectibles. Go to www.mbca.org and sign in using your membership card to participate.

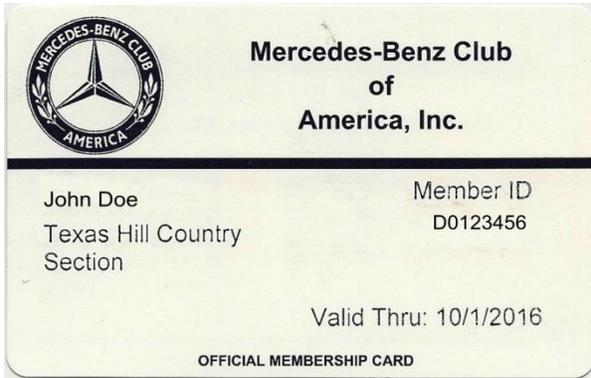


See all the benefits available to you as a club member at www.mbca.org/membership.

View all benefits - login in to www.mbca.org, click on the tab "Membership".



If you know someone that owns a Mercedes, please invite them to join our club. We have plenty of applications on hand for membership – just ask for a few at our next event. Keep them in your car. Let your friends know the benefits of our club – like the discounts on parts and service. And mention the **Loyalty Rewards Program**. Any member of the Mercedes Club that has been a member for 12 consecutive months or longer entitles you to receive \$500 towards the purchase or lease of any New Mercedes-Benz. The \$500 discount applies after you've made your best deal.



Can't find your Membership Card?

No worries! Just call the national business office at 800-637-2360 or go online at www.mbca.org to request another card.

Keep the card with you to enjoy dealership and other member discounts.

Texas Hill Country Section|MBCA Is On The Web!

- National website – www.mbca.org
- Section website - <http://texashillcountry.mbca.org>
- [http://www.facebook.com/pages/Texas Hill Country Section| Mercedes-Benz-Club-of-America](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Texas-Hill-Country-Section-Mercedes-Benz-Club-of-America)

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.

Trademarks - The trade names and trademarks "Mercedes-Benz", "Mercedes", and the three-pointed star in a circle are owned by DBAG and are authorized for use by its licenses which include MBCA, exclusively.

Reprints - Reprinting original material herein is permitted if a proper attribution (source, including date of issue) is shown.

Advertising - We welcome advertisers whose subject matter is relevant to MBCA or of interest to members of the Section. Advertising runs for one year (four issues) starting with the first issue. MBCA members may place a classified ad for free providing that ad is Mercedes specific. No inference should be made that products or services advertised herein have been approved by the MCBA/Texas Hill Country Section board of directors or this newsletter editor.

Articles and Submissions - Copy should be e-mailed to the newsletter editor (riopaloma@sbcglobal.net) by the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. For example, submissions for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 10th. If you have an interesting story about your Mercedes, we would like to hear about it. If you've purchased a new or new to you Mercedes, we want to hear about that too.