



Mercedes-Benz Club of America Texas Hill Country Section

Proudly Serving South and West Texas

3rd Quarter
August 2020



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Don Dionisi

I hope everyone is safe and healthy during this pandemic. There have been so many changes in our lives and daily activities that we would like to try and do a few things; like monthly drives through our beautiful Texas Hill Country and maybe a quick shopping event or two for our members to enjoy. It was suggested that we change from Burgers and Benz to Brunch and Benz. I'll still probably have a Burger before the run so take your choice...a Burger or Brunch! So

for the month of August we have a wonderful drive to Enchanted Rock State Park planned. We will have our masks and practice social distancing while on this outing. We are not going to climb the trails in August but might go back in November or December and check out the trails.

On August 22, 2020 we will meet at 12:45 pm at the CVS on Highway 281 North and Texas Highway 46 for a trip to Enchanted Rock via Llano, Texas which -

is about an hour and thirty minute trip and end the run in Fredericksburg, Texas. We will leave the CVS parking lot at 1 pm promptly and take Highway 281 North towards Marble Falls. We will turn on Ranch Road 962 West just before getting into the city limits of Marble Falls. There are some great vistas on this route. We will stay on Ranch Road 962 until we meet State Highway 71. We will turn left/west on 71 and head towards Llano where we will meet up with State Highway 16. We have a 'pit stop'

cont'd-on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Message	1
Section Officers	4
Member News—May	5
Member News—July	10
Classified Ads—1989 Mercedes-Benz SL560	13
Upcoming Events	15
New & Renewed Members	16
Member Benefits	17
Website Information	18



Enchanted Rock with it's many Legends...

ENCHANDED ROCK LEGENDS

C. Dove

There are several legends about Enchanted rock. One legend is that the Tonkawa Indians captured a Spanish conquistador who escaped and hid in the rocks. So this Indian legend talks of a 'pale man swallowed by the rock'. He was re-

born as 'one of their own'. The Indians believe he wove enchantments on the area.

Enchanted Rock opened as a state natural area in October of 1978.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Cont'd from page 1

planned at the Stripes/Sunoco station on the left just before the intersection of 16 and 71. You will have a chance to gas up, get something to drink and use the facilities. We will be there 15 to 20 minutes then head south on 16 to Enchanted Rock State Park about 30 minutes from Stripes.

A few miles down Highway 16 we will turn right on Ranch Road 965. There are several cattle guards that we will cross so we will travel the 55 mph speed limit unless we spot some cows then we will slow down don't want a bull to meet a Benz!! The park will be on our right side and we will turn in and stop at the gate and get a "Promotional Tag" from the ranger that will allow us to enter the Park area free of charge. We will circle around the entry gate and park in the trailer section for some pictures. We won't be hiking the trails in the August heat but will plan a return visit to visit and picnic in November or December.

We will spend 15 to 20 minutes visiting and taking pictures and then head out to Fredericksburg.

We will leave the park and head south on Ranch Road 965 towards Fredericksburg a 25 minute drive. On this route we will have an opportunity to pull off the road safely and take some pictures of a beautiful vista before we arrive in Fredericksburg. We can catch our Mercedes and the vista....should make a great snap shot. Once in Fredericksburg we go left on Main Street to Highway 16 and turn right/south until we arrive at the HEB grocery store where we will park and say goodbye. Everyone will be free to go shopping, sightseeing or wine tasting in Fredericksburg. You can take 16 to Kerrville or go to 87 and go through Boerne. If you really want to see more vistas take 290 to 1376 to Lukenbach, Texas. When you pass Lukenbach, take 1888 towards Blanco, Texas. Some great views and a nice scenic river drive.

We will be planning another Burgers, Brunch and Benz riding event for September and October so stay tuned....

There are a few other items to remind everyone about. You will be receiving an email survey about your opinions on the MBCA. Please complete the survey so we can plan better for you. Also the MBCA will be holding a Classic Pagoda Raffle this fall. This will be a first for the organization. The lucky winner will get \$150,000 to purchase their Pagoda or ??? of choice. So what does this mean? Well instead of the club picking out a certain color and interior, automatic or 4 speed the lucky winner will have many options. They can buy a red one with black interior an automatic or one with a 4 speed. In the past the raffle gave the winner a specific car and some addition funds to pay the taxes and shipping. This time it is the winner's choice. They can spend the entire \$150,000 on a Pagoda of their choice—

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Cont'd from page 2

and pay any taxes or buy a Pagoda of their choice at \$100,000 and pay any taxes- maybe pocket the difference. If they don't want the Pagoda they could simply pocket the \$150,000 and go toTahiti.This will be a first for the club and it is in response to many members' suggestions regarding offering a classic. Oh one more thing....the MBCA will offer a Pagoda expert to help you select a Pagoda that is in great shape and have your selected car inspected to help insure it is a good choice. As with any older classic there is always a chance that something will go wrong and there might be needed repairs. So the club is letting the winner pick and choose options. If I were to win the Pagoda lucky ticket I would buy one at around \$100,000 allow some tax money and a few \$\$\$ for possibly some repairs. This is really exciting to me because I could pick my colors and select my price range.

Pagodas range in price from \$50,000 to \$200,000 with a really good one available at \$150,000. We are hoping to have really good support for this Pagoda Raffle. Oh by the way....we have our very own Pagoda expert in our section and I am sure he would be able to do a much better job at helping you pick out a great Pagoda. He also has a Pagoda of his very own. So buy some tickets and have our Pagoda expert help you select your new classic.

Did you know that as a MBCA member you can enjoy Fleet pricing? Currently you can save \$5,500 off MSRP on a new S class. If anyone is interested in buying a new Benz just sign in to your MBCA account and go under the Membership Tab then select Membership rebates. It will take you to the current specials available to you. There is also an 800 number that's available and they will walk you through the process. Let me know if you need any help with this.

Don



SECTION OFFICERS



*Don Dionisi
President /
Board Member /
Activities Director*



*Charles Dove
Vice President /
Newsletter Editor
Board Member*



*Martin Rios
Treasurer /
Webmaster /
Board Member*



*Robin Schroeder
Board Member*



*Joe Aaron
Board Member*



*Dan Coburn
Secretary / Board
Member*



*Norm Glorioso
Board Member*

**We're all in this together
And We'll get through it together!**



The AMG GT—Powered by a 4.0 litre V8 and twin turbochargers The GT's are rated between 469 and 550 hp. The AMG GT coupe can hit 60 mph in 3.9 seconds. It is listed at around \$116,000. The GT C models get larger wheels and tires, and adjustable suspension with rear-wheel steering. In addition to that, the GT C is equipped with composite brakes, and increased power. With 469 to 550 horsepower it must be a remarkable car to drive. Mercedes will only build 750 examples of the GT R roadster and 150 examples of the GT R Pro, assuring their exclusivity.

OUR MAY EVENT— A COUNTRY DRIVE AND PICNIC

C. DOVE

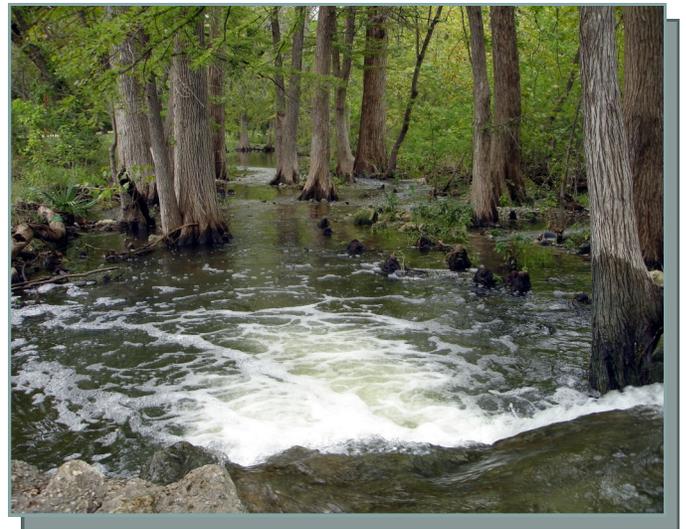
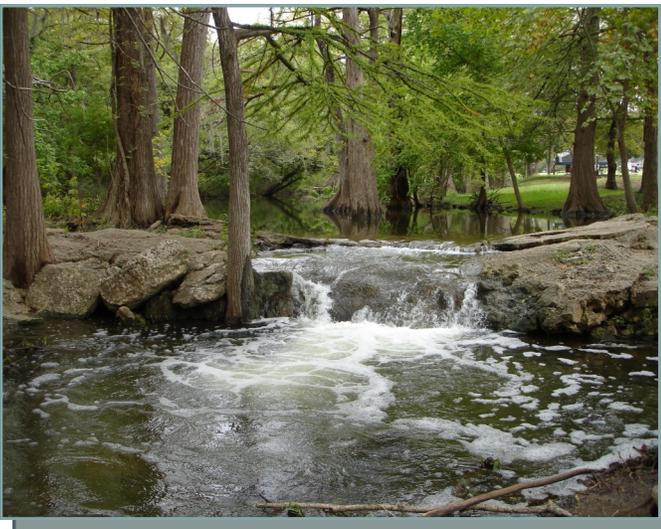
Due to the situation we are all facing with the Corona virus, we did not have events for the months of March or April. We were able to have a Board of Directors meeting that was conducted via ZOOM. And that worked out pretty nicely.

In May, we finally decided it was time to have an event and get together - keeping all precautions and social distancing in mind. 12 club members met up to caravan along a scenic route to Spring Branch, Texas and to Rebecca Creek Park. We drove along Hwy 46 and then to FM3351 to FM473. What a great day it turned out to be. A nice diversion from what we have been going through... a drive in the country and away from the city and leave all the quarantine routine behind... at least for a little while. The drive took us about an hour to get to Rebecca Creek. The park is in a small private com-

munity with gate access. I reserved a picnic site for our group near a little water fall. New members Kevin Shuble and his wife arrived a little later and met us there. Kevin is the very proud owner of a 2012 CL63 AMG that is drop dead gorgeous. Everyone brought a picnic lunch of their own to enjoy. We sat beside the Creek, talked and listened to the waterfall. We had our lunch as we caught up with what has been going on with our car club friends. It was so good to see all that were able to join together on this day. We will look forward to our next event - but things have changed so much in recent months, so we will take it slowly and make tentative event plans as we can.

After having lunch and visiting with each other, we packed up and drove back home. All in all this was a very nice day.

(Photos to the right and below)



Rebecca Creek Picnic— Continued



Rebecca Creek Picnic— Continued



Rebecca Creek Picnic— Continued



Rebecca Creek Picnic— Continued



OUR JULY 25TH EVENT— A BACK ROAD COUNTRY DRIVE

C. DOVE

Even though there were possibilities of rain due to the Hurricane Hannah approaching the Texas Coast, several club members met up in Boerne to caravan through the hill country. There were 6 Benz's, and 10 friends who made the drive. We met a couple of new club members this day too - and that's always nice. In these trying times, it is hard to socialize as much as we would like to get to know each other. But eventually things will normalize again and when it is safe for us all to be together, we will certainly do that again!

Our drive started out on Hwy 46 to the west. We drove through some scenic hills, and found our way to Bandera, Texas. We drove through town and on to Camp Verde which is outside of Kerrville. We stopped at the Camp Verde General Store.

The General Store has been in that area for 150 years. In the store, there are many items gathered from artisans and producers around the world. There are several areas in the store with many different gift items to give or to take home. There is also a restaurant that serves breakfast and lunch. From French Toast, to a variety of omelets, eggs your way, to breakfast tacos. Lunch offers salads, deli sandwiches and burgers. Want more than a sandwich - try the meatloaf, or chicken fingers... those who wanted, had lunch. After lunch, we continued on our drive through the winding roads.

We drove on to Com-fort, Texas for a stop at Love's Station and Store for a pit stop and to browse the store. Just a short rest stop...

From there—on to Hwy 473 and to Kendalia and Sisterdale and on to Hwy 281. We ended up at the Spring Creek Gardens Center and checked out their gift shop and greenhouses. After that, we were ready to head back home. It was a good day to get out of the house and drive in a Mercedes-Benz. We did have some rain off and on during the drive, but who cares? We need the rain and we'll take all we can get right now.



Back Road Drive— Continued



Back Road Drive— Continued



Camp Verde General Store
And Restaurant



Classified Section For Sale



For Sale: 1989 Mercedes—Benz SL560. The Mercedes-Benz R107 SL-Class was produced from 1971-1989 and is now settling into the role of an appreciating classic. Many of these still show modest miles, as many were used only seasonally and on pleasant days.

This 560SL is such an example: 18,500 miles, black exterior and convertible top, which has never been wet, with gray interior leather showing little if any wear. This vehicle since 2010 has been impeccably serviced by MB of SA to include annual maintenance and service with recent AC update. All service has been performed by the same senior technician who takes care of all of our vehicles.

Mercedes-Benz of Germany selected this 560SL to showcase in a special You Tube feature which was released in Germany, December of 2018. The focus of the show was to showcase an example of an original, unrestored, exceptionally well maintained example of the R107 SL class with the 560SL earning the reputation as the Star in the heritage of this M-B model.

(AUTO WEEK said this past year, that the 560SL is one of the five cars of the 1980s you should be buying right now...)

Bill Rasco

210-860-3400

Member of MBCA for over 40 years

Classified Section Continued



Contact Bill Rasco for more information about this 1989 SL560 - 210-860-3400

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. August ads should be received by July 10th. If possible, please include 1, 2 or 3 photographs to go with your ad. **Ads are offered FREE for Club Members.** Our newsletters are published quarterly – February, May, August and November.



Upcoming Events:

August 22, 2020—A drive to Fredericksburg, Texas and to Enchanted Rock. Meeting up at the CVS on 281 and Hwy 46 at 12:45. Additional details are in the message from the president. More on this even will come to your E-News inbox soon.*

September XX, 2020—A drive to Lost Maples. More on this to follow. *

October 24, 2020—~~Texas Clay Festival.*~~

November 2020—~~New Braunfels Christmas Market and Hill Country Gardens Holiday House.*~~

December 5, 2020—~~Holiday Party and dinner—Matamores Restaurant y Cantina.*~~

- All of our events are subject to change due to the health situation we currently are in. Events will be planned with social distancing and all health precautions in mind. We encourage face mask protection.
- Watch your E-News for updates and future upcoming events.



**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 News-
letter; host fun and unique Section Events; and bring you the latest technical, maintenance and general driving information about your Mercedes-Benz vehicle(s).

**Welcome
New Members!**

- Wade Arledge/bales
- Jarrett Edwards
- Steve Havel
- Scott Lively

Loyal Member Renewals!

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Steven Bennett | Daniel Coburn |
| Rojelio Garcia | Tim Pappas |
| Stephen McCaskie | Harold Brauner |
| Obi Isiguzo | Charles Honore |
| William Goodman | Elinor McCarty |
| Scott Foley | Charles John |
| William Rankin | Gail Kitowski |
| Clarence Cleveland | Stephen Serfass |



Mercedes-Benz

If you would like to order a Mercedes-Benz Club name badge, click the image here:



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.

Benefits 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. Dealership discounts will usually pay for a membership.



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.



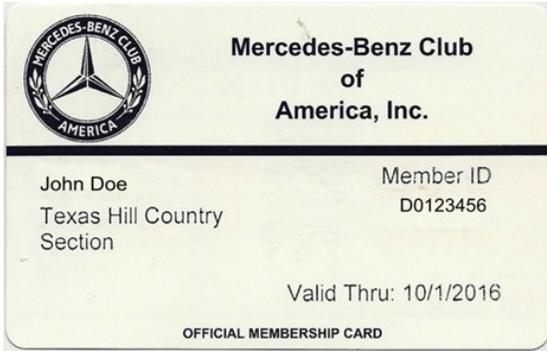
See all the benefits available to you as a club member at www.mbca.org/membership.



Click the Star to
renew your
membership!
Or go to:
mbca.org



If you know someone that owns a Mercedes-Benz, 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 lease, or purchase of a new or CPO 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

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)
- [Section Newsletters](#)

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.

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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 for our quarterly newsletter 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 November issue should be received by the editor by September 10th. If you have an interesting story about your Mercedes experience, we would like to hear about it. If you've purchased a new or new to you Mercedes, we like to hear about that too.



Mercedes-Benz



2016 S550 Coupe