



# Mercedes-Benz Club of America Texas Hill Country Section

Proudly Serving South and West Texas

3rd Quarter  
August 2021



## Message from the President

Don Dionisi

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It has been quite a year for us all since the pandemic started. We are now beginning to get back to some of our normal activities since the development of the vaccine against the Covid virus. The board of directors and officers of the Texas Hill Country Section have decided to follow CDC guidelines that sometimes differ from the State of Texas guidelines. To avoid confusion due to mixed messages coming from these entities we suggest that members might want to strongly consider going the vaccination route since it is proving to have a positive effect on controlling the spread. We recommend masks whenever possible especially since the Delta Variant and possibly other variants of the Covid Virus could infect a vaccinated individual. We also respect the individual's right to choose to get vaccinated or not. Since the Delta Variant can cause a breakthrough infection in vaccinated individuals and could cause hospitalizations, ICU admissions, etc. we are asking members to mask up during our activities if not vaccinated where social distancing cannot be done or when inside a confined space until further notice. I will continue to mask when in close contact with other members inside or out even though I am vaccinated. Some members are comfortable participating in driving events since social distancing practices would prevent exposure to these new variants, other members are comfortable in attending dining activities as well. The activities we have set up will allow each member to choose the level of participation that makes them comfortable. If you want to join the drive and not attend any dining event we welcome any level of participation you feel comfortable with. Please come join us in the next few months of activities. See the upcoming events section of this newsletter for more details of what we have planned. (page 12)

## 2022 MERCEDES-BENZ SL—RAG TOP ONLY

C. Dove

Model year 2021 will be the last year for the SL to have a retractable hard convertible top. Beginning in 2022, the SL will only be available with a rag top—but it will also have rear seating. A complete redesign of the interior space that will fea-

ture 2+2 seating. The cockpit will focus on the driver with an adjustable center display on the console. Using state of the art technology, the new SL will utilize a combination of the analog world and the digital world making it clear, the new SL is an—



2022 Mercedes-Benz SL

# 2022 MERCEDES-BENZ SL RAG TOP

2022 Mercedes SL Cont'd...

Icon for the modern era.

The configuration of the 2 + 2 seating will be something not seen since 1989 with the SL560.



The adjustable and symmetrical instrument panel is designed for the driver. The MBUX infotainment system offers several unique display options.



*Bid Farewell to the Retractable Convertible Hardtop for 2022.*



## SECTION OFFICERS



*Don Dionisi  
President /  
Board Member /  
Activities Director*



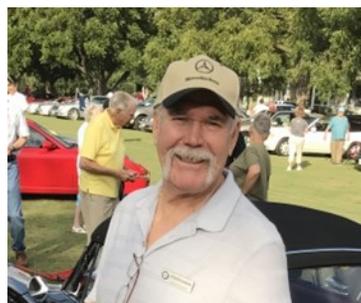
*Charles Dove  
Vice President /  
Newsletter Editor  
Board Member*



*Martin Rios  
Treasurer /  
Webmaster /  
Board Member*



*Robin Schroeder  
Board Member*



*Joe Aaron  
Board Member*



*Dan Coburn  
Secretary / Board  
Member*



*Norm Glorioso  
Board Member*

## The 2021 Mercedes-Benz SL550

*The last year for the Retractable Convertible Hardtop*



# MAY 2021— MERCEDES-BENZ OF SAN ANTONIO C. DOVE

Our May drive to the Singing Water Vineyard turned out to be an exceptional event. Although predictions of rain posed a damper on the day's itinerary, we decided to go on with our plan. Due to road construction on the interstate, I found a great alternate route and bypassed the interstate altogether. Everyone took their own route to Boerne where we all met up.



We arrived in Boerne and met the rest of the group. The rain was gone and the day looked more promising. Club members greeted each other and we talked a bit – and a highlight of this day was that we had the honor to be joined by the National MBCA Club President Julie Bruggner. She came to Texas from Ft Wayne, Indiana to visit her longtime friends and club members John and Trisha Briggs.

Turns out the construction weekend was cancelled due to rain. But none the less, we didn't have long to travel on the interstate before we got off the main road and on to a more fun drive through the hills. Sky Line Dr. is a really scenic drive. It takes us through several miles of hills and curves and on to the Vineyard. What an impressive ride in a Mercedes-Benz – especially in an SL. The SL's really straighten out the curves in the road. Now this is the kind of road that makes you really appreciate a great car and a great driving experience.

Arriving at the Vineyard, we were greeted by the many resident goats, a donkey, and a llama that were corralled behind a white wooden fence –plus two white Labrador Retrievers who watched over the herd. All of the animals were friendly and looking for pets on the head, and maybe a hand out of food, which could be purchased at the Bistro.



We could hear the live music of Chuck Wimer as we walked closer to the pavilion and the Vineyard courtyard.



Making our way into the courtyard, we sat together at tables shaded with umbrellas. The weather was perfect! Cool with a light breeze. Most of us ordered food from the Bistro and of course some tried a sampling of the wine from the Vineyard. We sat and talked about cars and experiences of the past.



Before we knew it, it was after 5:00 and time to say our good-byes until the next time. We wished Julie a safe trip home. What a pleasure and an honor it was to have her join us for this event. We hope she will join us again.



It was a great day and so good to see the friends we have missed for such a long time. As we are now getting the health situation under control, we will begin planning more events together. We will continue to be cautious and follow CDC recommendations –So please watch for your Texas Hill Country E-News in your inbox for upcoming events.



MAY 2021—  
SINGING WATER VINEYARD C. DOVE



*Kathy and Sak along with Martin and Douglas*



*John, Louis and Don*



*Charlie with Julie*



*John, Trisha and Martin*



*Bebe, Sak and Yong*



*Shirley and Gary*

# JULY 2021— MERCEDES-BENZ OF SAN ANTONIO C. DOVE

Mercedes-Benz of San Antonio invited us to participate in a Classic Car show at their Dealership - on Wednesday July 21, 2021. Regrettably we were only offered Wednesday as the day to display and show our cars. In spite of that several club members met up at the dealership to show their cars and talk to visitors to the dealership. Alfonso Cavasos, the General Manager helped set up the day's event' Don arranged with Alfonso to have the classic car show. With our club. Mercedes-Benz of San Antonio sent out emails to customers telling them about the event. We had many visitors from the show room come out and talk to us about our cars and the car club. We handed out many applications for MBCA club. There are still so many people with a love and an interest in the Mercedes-Benz brand.. We hope we will see a few new faces in the near future.



*Our sincere thanks to Johnathan Mohler, our host and liaison for the day, and our thanks to Mark Woods for allowing us to have this event.*

# JULY 2021— MERCEDES-BENZ OF SAN ANTONIO CAR SHOW





**Mercedes-Benz Club of America**  
More Than a Car Club. We're a Community.<sup>SM</sup>



[www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzClubofAmerica](http://www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzClubofAmerica)



[www.linkedin.com/company/mercedes-benz-club-of-america](http://www.linkedin.com/company/mercedes-benz-club-of-america)



[www.instagram.com/mercedesbenzclubofamerica](http://www.instagram.com/mercedesbenzclubofamerica)

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**or**  
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Experience It**



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or  
Call 800.637.2360

See Member's Cars at  
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- [www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzClubofAmerica](http://www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzClubofAmerica)
- [www.linkedin.com/groups/1196647](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/1196647)
- [www.instagram.com/mercedesbenzclubamerica](http://www.instagram.com/mercedesbenzclubamerica)

## MBCA Membership Road Map of Benefits

As a MBCA member you will enjoy these benefits plus many more.

**The Star Magazine**  
Club membership includes a subscription to our award winning bi-monthly Star® magazine which features classified advertising.

**Local, Regional & National and selected International Events**  
Club members are invited to attend and participate in exclusive Mercedes-Benz activities including driving events.

**Section Newsletters**  
Local Club Sections produce and send Club members a fun and informative newsletter which features classified advertising.

**Discounts on Parts, Service & Accessories at Participating Mercedes-Benz Dealers**  
As a Mercedes-Benz Club of America member you may be entitled to 5%, 10% or (up to) 20% off parts, service and accessories from U.S. and Canadian Mercedes-Benz dealers. **Check with your dealer first.**

**Germany Trips**  
Several times a year, MBCA invites its members to go on an exclusive trip to Germany which features guided tours of Mercedes-Benz factories, its headquarters and museum! Club members are treated like Mercedes-Benz royalty.

**15% Discount on Parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center**  
Being a Mercedes-Benz Club of America member may entitle you to 15% off hard-to-find parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California.

**Membership Rebate**  
Save as much as \$3,000 on the purchase or lease of a new Mercedes-Benz.

**Club Raffle**  
Win a new Mercedes! Up to twice a year, the Mercedes-Benz Club of America conducts a raffle for its Members.

## Mercedes-Benz Club of America

More Than a Car Club. We're a Community.™

# Classified Section

## - For Sale -



### ***1989 Mercedes-Benz SL560***

*A Beautiful example of an R107 chassis...  
With less than 20,000 original miles.*

**For Sale:** 1989 Mercedes—Benz SL560. The 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. This car has both the soft convertible top and the removable hardtop.

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 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...) - [More photos and a link to a short video of this car on the next page](#)

Bill Rasco

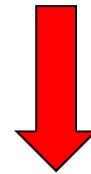
210-860-3400

Member of MBCA for over 40 years

## Classified Section Continued-



See a short video of this car on our utube channel—click the link below...



[1989 SL560 Video](#)

Contact **Bill Rasco** for more information about this 1989 SL560—Call: 210-860-3400  
Or email at: [billrasco@me.com](mailto:billrasco@me.com)

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](mailto:riopaloma@sbcglobal.net) by the 10<sup>th</sup> 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.** Our newsletters are published quarterly – February, May, August and November.



## ***Upcoming Events:***

**August 21, 2021**— We will be meeting at the [Lemongrass Thai Restaurant](#) for dinner together. The restaurant is located at 16666 San Pedro Ave. (Hwy 281 and Thousand Oaks) from 6:30 to 10 pm to enjoy some of their wonderful Thai cuisines. Lemongrass has always been a favorite rendezvous site for our section in the past years. Come hungry!

**September 25, 2021**— We will be meeting in the parking lot of the [San Antonio Botanical Gardens](#) at 555 Funston Place at 11 am September 24, 2021, to take in the Frida Kahlo Oasis Exhibit. Tickets are \$15.00 and you can purchase them online or at the gate. After the exhibit, we have been able to secure 12 inside seats, first come first served, at the [Jardin Mediterranean](#) restaurant in the Botanical Gardens complex. The inside seats fill up quickly so if you care to sit inside call soon or you can choose outside seating, but it might be a little warm we suggest you make your reservations soon. After lunch, you can walk the Botanical Gardens at your leisure and leave when you choose.

**October 20, 2021-** Lester's Automotive has invited us to come out and exhibit our Mercedes at their annual charity car show again this year. The car show has been an annual event for many years with proceeds going to the juvenile diabetes foundation. It will be held again at the Singing Water Winery and Vineyards in Comfort, Texas. There are a lot of very interesting categories of cars being exhibited every year and we are hoping that we can help support the charity by having the section pay for the first 8 section members cars, so if you want to show your car and have the section pay the entry fee, plan on responding as soon as the Google response form appears in your E-News communication. Watch each month for the Google Forms to RSVP for our events. The car show starts at 10 am but our cars need to be there by 9 am. The Winery has a large Pavilion and outdoor space so bring a lawn chair and enjoy the day checking out all the cars! Last year some members stayed Friday night in Boerne or Comfort. That way it wasn't a long distance drive to Comfort which is about 50 miles from San Antonio. There are many good restaurants in Boerne and Comfort for a Friday night treat before the car show on Saturday.

**November 6, 2021-** We will have a driving event and lunch at the [Altstadt Brewery](#) at 6120 US HWY 209 East in Fredericksburg, Texas. We will meet on Saturday, November 6th at 10:30 am for a one-hour drive to the brewery at the CVS Pharmacy on Highway 281 North and State Highway 46 in Bulverde, Texas. We will leave the CVS at 11 am and head north to Blanco, Texas. In Blanco, we turn left on 1623 (River Road) and hook up with 1888 to Luckenbach, Texas. From there we head north to 290 and turn right, the brewery is on the left a few blocks after turning. At the brewery, those who would like to check out the Tap Room, or visit the restaurant may do so. We will have a driving event and lunch at the Altstadt Brewery at 6120 US HWY 209 East in Fredericksburg, Texas.

*Continued on next page*



## Upcoming Events:

*Continued from page 12...*

**December 4, 2021**— Plan on celebrating your favorite holiday of the season at the [Matamoros Restaurante y Cantina](#) at 12844 Interstate 10 in San Antonio, from 6 to 9 pm. We will be sitting in the area outside the large party room away from other guests. We can only accommodate the first 40 members signing up so watch for the Google Form RSVP in November. The Section directors and officers will be treating the first 40 member guests to appetizers, stuffed Jalapenos with cream cheese, Spanish Ravioli, Flaquitos, Beef, and Chicken Quesadillas, Guacamole, and sour cream. The menu for this night will have three options to choose from, see below. ***\*If you would like a vegan or fish entree please let us know when you RSVP on Google Forms and we can take care of that.***

**(1) Border Platter**

*Beef and chicken fajitas with a cheese enchilada. Served with guacamole, pico de gallo, Spanish rice, and beans. \$16.99*

**(2) Pollo Cilantro**

*Marinated and grilled chicken breast topped with our delicious cilantro white wine cream sauce. \$14.99*

**(3) Carne Guisada Plate**

*Beef tips simmered to tender perfection in a delicious sauce. Served with Spanish rice and beans. \$14.99*

***\*Fish or vegan options are available, so just let us know in advance so we can let the restaurant know.***

**Well, that's it for 2021 and we hope to see you very soon.**

**Best,**

**Don Dionisi**

- Watch your E-News for updates and future upcoming events.

*All of our Events are subject to change following CDC guidelines. Events will be planned with social distancing with health and safety in mind. We encourage face mask protection.*



**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; and bring you the latest technical, maintenance and general driving information about your Mercedes-Benz vehicle(s).

**Welcome  
New Members!**

Kenny Aguilar  
Patrick Cook

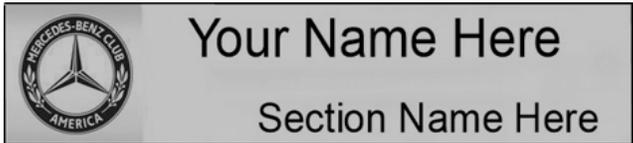
**Loyal Member Renewals!**

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| William Thornton         | Richard Taylor |
| Steven Bennett           | Carolyn Ruble  |
| Cleofas Garza            | Fred Egloff    |
| Joseph (Josef) Lancaster | Charles Honore |
| Elinor McCarty           | Alex Quiroz    |
| Ralph Williams           | G. Green       |
| Walter Pace              | David Snider   |
| Marjorie Gillette        | Sidney Broyles |
| Bill Ghedi               | Alton Wilson   |
| Charles John             |                |



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](http://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](http://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](http://www.mbca.org/membership).



Click the Star to  
renew your  
membership!  
Or go to:  
[mbca.org](http://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.

