



Mercedes-Benz Club of America Texas Hill Country Section Quarterly Newsletter

Proudly Serving South and West Texas

2019 Issue Four

November 2019

Forth Quarter

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President's Message

By Don Dionisi

Seems like this year has come and almost gone too quickly and soon it will be time to plan our activities for 2020. If any of our members have any suggestions for activities next year or suggestions regarding restaurants please email one of your officers or directors. When we select a restaurant we have to evaluate its ability to accommodate large groups. We have experienced restaurants that have not been too successful with larger groups and remember getting late and cold food so we want to avoid those places. Please send us any suggestions and we will start evaluating those establishments. The 2020 calendar will list one year's worth of activities month by month. We are going to try and get the list emailed to you by mid-January. We will not have all of the restaurant's names initially but will indicate that a dinner or lunch is planned and will have TBD or to be determined. Once we check out the restaurant and determine that it can handle our group we will send out an email notifying you where and when. Speaking about emailing, we have some members that have not given us their email address. Those members are currently receiving USPS mailed letters regarding news and events. You are missing out on a lot of things. If you have an email address, please send it to us. We don't share that information with anyone else. This year we have decided to have the holiday event dinner at my home. When we contacted the restaurants we found that a dining room fee of \$250 to \$1000 would be required of the club and a minimum food and spirits amount of \$2000 to \$3500 in addition would also be required. We could not afford to take on an obligation of this amount so we looked at having the gathering at another less fancy restaurant. One of our directors came up with several suggestions to this dilemma one being having the gathering at someone's home and so I volunteered since my home is centrally located to most of our members. We also had suggestions to have a White Elephant gift exchange. We need some input from our members...

Section Leadership

- President – Don Dionisi
- Vice President – Charles Dove
- Secretary/Director – Dan Coburn
- Treasurer/Director – Martin Rios
- Director - Joe Aaron
- Director – Robin Schroeder
- Director – Norm Glorioso
- Newsletter Editor – Charles Dove
- Webmaster – Martin Rios
- Membership Chair – Louis Forrai

President's message continued...

let us know an amount....say \$15 to \$25 gifts? One member had suggested that the gifts be Mercedes Benz related? We will also have some neat door prizes for a few lucky members. We are working on a big surprise for everyone, just hope we can get it all worked out before the party. More details on the gift exchange will be coming.

So when and where? When...December 7, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Where ...Don and Louis's house. More information will come on this event with your RSVP. Dress...Business casual. Parking...we have a large area for parking on our street as it is a cul-de-sac. Members will be asked to park head in style and not block any of the neighbors drive ways or not block the fire hydrant. There is also parking up and down the street as well as the driveway. The driveway can accommodate about 8 to 10 cars depending how many of you bring your SL's.

We will be dining with an array of Mercedes-Benz vehicles in the lower 2700 square foot garage so we can celebrate the holidays with our Benzes. There is a new addition to the group that you will need to check out as well.

We will be serving Barbeque brisket, pork loin, ribs, turkey and sausage with sides of BBQ beans, loaded potato salad and slaw. Drinks of water and tea will also be provided. No spirits will be provided but members may bring their drinks/spirits of choice. We are going to limit the number of members attending to 60 so it will be the first 60 section members and associate members only. We will also have **non meat** dinner selection available as well so let us know in advance. Also some members asked about bringing a dessert. If you would like to bring your favorite dessert please let Charlie know when we send out the notice in the E-News.

So save Saturday December 7th on your calendars. See you then!

Don Dionisi



*Don's latest garage resident.
Story below...*

Section Officers:



*Don Dionisi
President /
Board Member /
Activities Director*



*Charles Dove
Vice President /
Newsletter Editor
Board Member*



*Martin Rios
Treasurer /
Webmaster /
Board Member*



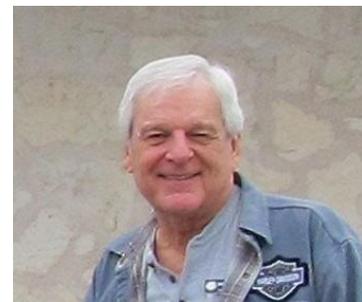
*Robin Schroeder
Board Member*



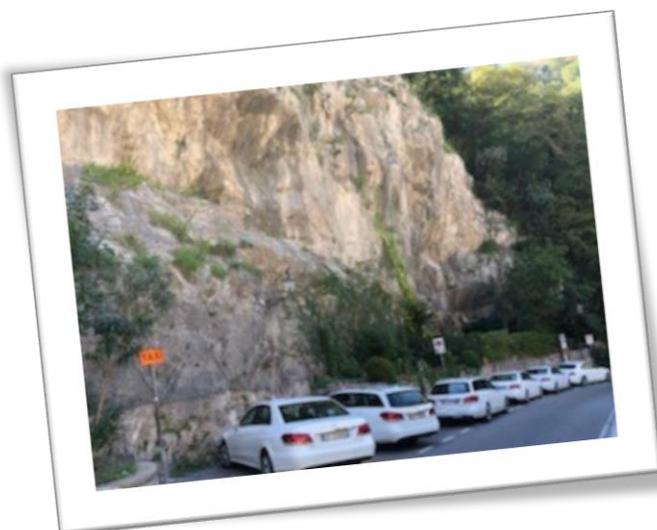
*Joe Aaron
Board Member*



*Dan Coburn
Secretary /
Board Member*



*Norm Glorioso
Board Member*



While on a trip to Positano Italy recently, club member Kathryn Ley spotted a row of E-Class Mercedes-Benz vehicles. It seems the E-Class is the automobile of choice for the Taxi Cabs there.

The election for our Board of Directors is on for this year. Every two years, we ask members for nominations to serve as a Director.

There are seven board positions, and of those, four will be elected, by the Board, as officers. Please read more about the election below on this page.

In accordance with our by-laws, the Texas Hill country Section is conducting an election of members willing to serve on our Board of Directors. There will be seven director positions to be filled. The Directors will serve a term of two years beginning on November 1, 2019

Voting for nominees will take place during September. Below is a list of the current Board Members who are willing to serve an additional two year term. If there are no additional nominations, no membership voting is required to take place.

Don Dionisi

Dan Coburn

Charles Dove

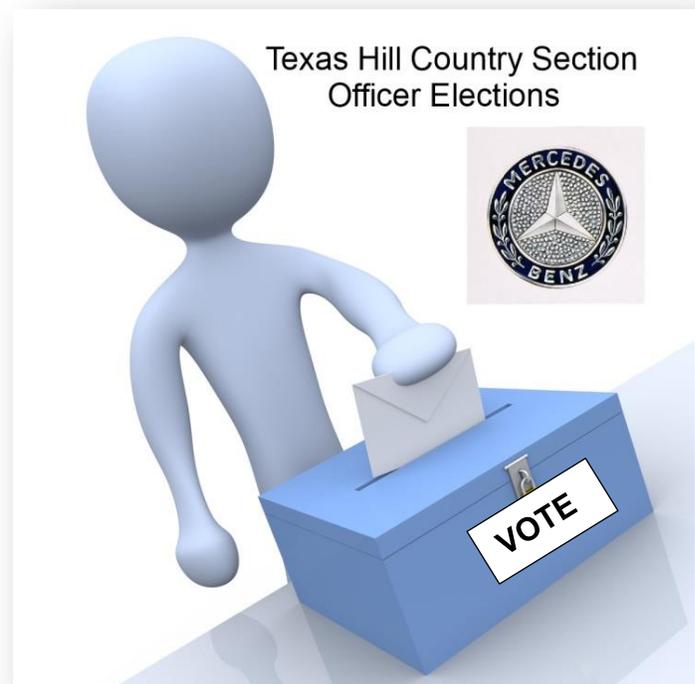
Martin Rios

Norm Glorioso

Joe Aaron

Robin Schroeder

The newly elected Board of Directors will meet in October to elect the section officers (President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer) from among the ranks of the Board of Directors.



There were no nominations received from the membership. So the current officers will remain in their respective positions. A new position of Member Chair and Event Coordinator has been assigned and accepted by Louis Forrai. His new role will begin the first of the year. We welcome Louis as a team member.

October Fall Event The Wimberley Glass Works

By: C. Dove

We had a great turn out for our October event at the Wimberley Glass Works. What an incredible art studio this is. We got to enjoy an amazing demonstration of how the artisans create these beautiful pieces of blown glass. We were invited to watch as these professional craftsmen create their works of art. We watched from the beginning of the melted glass, to adding colors, blowing air into the piece to shape into the various designs, and finally to the cooling oven. Each piece has to cool very slowly – about 14 hours to prevent breaking. The gallery is filled with a large selection of pieces for sale. Members browsed and made purchases from the collection before we drove on to San Marcos to the Centerpoint Station for lunch.



Members browse the collection



The Hot Shop – where it all begins...



The Glass Studio



Stadium style seating to watch the artisans create their works of art.





Robin Schroeder drove through west Texas recently and ran across this interesting work of art near Marfa... And the Benz wore Prada.

Prada Marfa – a permanently installed sculpture by Elmgreen and Dragset. Located northwest of Valentine, Texas off U.S. Hwy 90 about 26 miles from Marfa.



Don found another beauty! As you all may know, Don travels around to other states with his part time job. He always checks out cars in the vicinity. There are a couple of R107 chassis Mercedes that caught his eye. This particular one was located in the Houston area. He looked at a red SL in Oklahoma. A 280SL with a standard transmission. That would have been fun, but after checking it out in person, it was not in the condition it appeared from the photos.

What's New?



The one he found and brought home is this 1983 Euro 500SL in very nice condition, with only 98k on the odometer. The car was originally purchased in Germany by a doctor. Now it resides at Don's house.



**MERCEDES-BENZ
THE BEST - OR NOTHING**

2006 Mercedes CL65 AMG

Texas Hill Country club member Mark Luketic recently acquired this incredibly beautiful 2006 Mercedes CL65 AMG. He found the car online for sale in Florida. I asked Mark if he would send us a little write up about his experience with this purchase...



By Mark Luketic:

As an individual seeking a stablemate for my small collection of mid-two-thousands Mercedes-Benz vehicles, this 2005 CL 65 AMG was discovered by an internet search engine last summer. Interesting cars are seldom found nearby and such was the case for this low mileage, twin-turbo V12 coupe available near Daytona Beach, Florida. A car savvy friend that lives in the area was able to evaluate the vehicle and quickly determined that it was worth pursuit.

A deposit was placed, a flight to Florida soon followed and the Cubanite Silver, AMG coupe was acquired. The plan was to drive the 1200 miles back to Fair Oaks Ranch the next day, however, hurricane Barry made landfall around that time frame which delayed the journey a few days. The CL preformed perfectly on the road it is a pleasure to drive.

The folks at FCPEuro.com (an excellent parts supplier for DIYers) probably described the CL 65 best in a quote from their website:

"About Mercedes-Benz CL65 AMG

Unquestionably the most expensive of the Mercedes Benz branded vehicles; the **Mercedes CL65 AMG** is the height of unmatched luxury and performance. With the exception of some Bugatti models, the Mercedes Benz has one of the fastest 0 - 60 mph ratios. It can get to 60 mph in just over four seconds and is an incredibly powerful automobile that also handles with ease and an unmatched level of precision that makes it stand out above all other vehicles. Loaded with technologically impressive stock options such as DVD based GPS navigation, DVD player, iPod input, power everything and so much more, it is easy to see why the **Mercedes Benz CL65 AMG** is held in the highest regards by Mercedes enthusiasts and others around the world."



604 HP biturbo V12, with 738 ft lbs of torque; 5-speed touch shift automatic, 0-60 in about 4.0 seconds.

For more on a similar 2006 CL65 AMG and a 2005 that is sure to tantalize any Mercedes-Benz enthusiast – check out these links...

[V12 CL65 AMG Black](#)

[V12 CL65 AMG Silver](#)

Classified Section For Sale



Mercedes-Benz



For Sale: 2002 Mercedes-Benz S430. Well maintained, dealer serviced. A San Antonio car originally purchased from MBofSA. Always garaged. All options work as they should. Gold exterior, Saffron leather interior. Excellent driver. No disappointments. Low miles, 106k. 2nd Mercedes Club member owner. \$4800 OBO. For more information, call (210) 551-9191.

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:

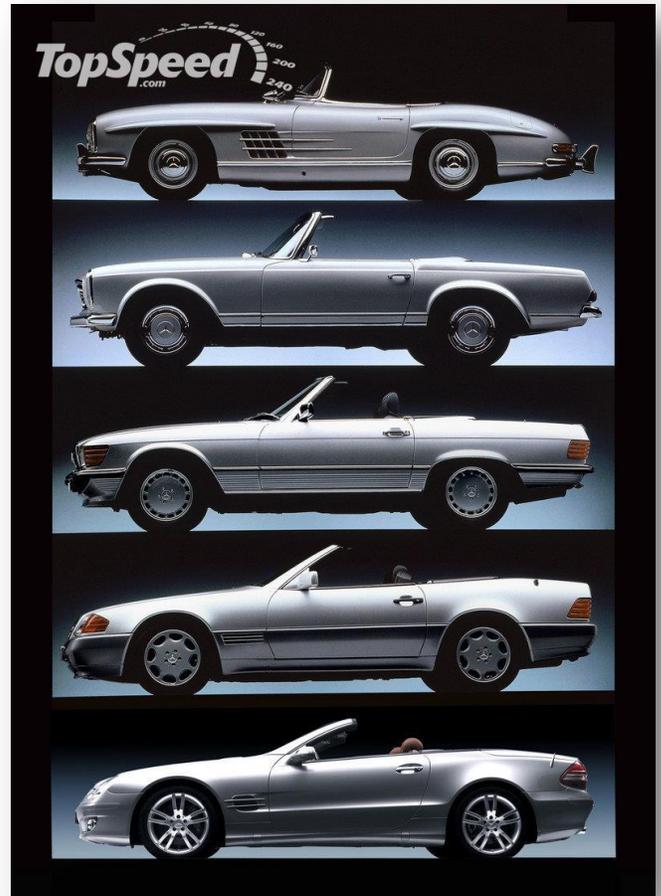
November 16th 2019 – 10:00 a.m. A & E Classic Cars. 6401 IH 35 towards New Braunfels. Exit 180. Lunch at the Alpine Haus in New Braunfels at 11:30. 251 S. Seguin Ave.

December 7th 2019 – 6:30 p.m. Holiday Dinner. This year we will celebrate the Holiday season at Don and Louis's house located off 281 outside Loop 1604. The club will provide BBQ brisket, pork loin, turkey and sausage along with all the sides. We will provide water and tea. If you would like something else to drink, please bring it along and any other food item you would like. More on this event will be coming to your inbox via our E-News.

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

Do you have an old photo of yourself with a 1st or favorite car from the past that you would share with us? We would love to put it in the newsletter and see if anyone can guess who it is. Send it to: riopaloma@sbcglobal.net

Subject: Photos from the past.



Willkommen And Dankeschon!

Welcome New Members!

John Valdivia
Darcy Frownfeller
Herman Koster
Albert Garcia
Michael Hood
Jeffrey Feinstein

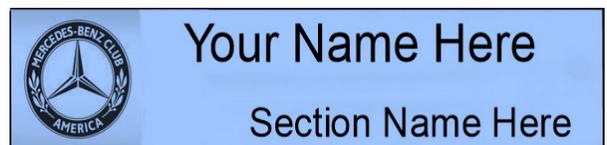
We want to thank everyone for being a member of this Club. Because of your loyalty and support, your yearly membership dues helps to support our section financially and we are able to produce and deliver a Section Newsletter; host fun and unique Section Events; and bring you the latest technical, maintenance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

Loyal Member Renewals

Douglas Habernan & Kathryn Ley
Brent Saba
George Dixon
Mark & Bettina Luketic
Richard Frey
Clarinda & Ken Miller
Ronald Cormier & Bruce Sebree
Ronnie & Sallieann Swanner
Eugene & Sone Brandon

David Shulman
William Goodman
Charles Wade
Harold & Betty Brauner
Charles Honore
Robert & Patricia Morris
David & Gail Snider
Helene & Alex DePeralta
William Morris

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



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.

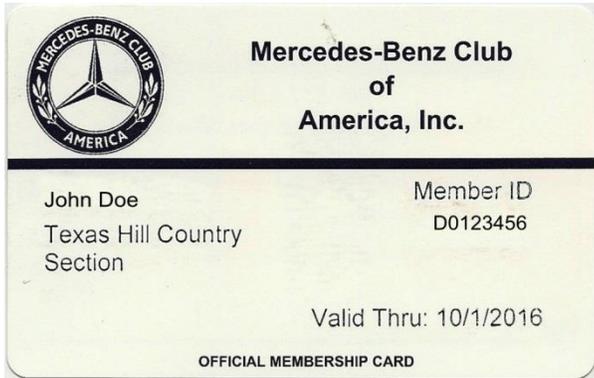


See all the benefits available to you as a club member at www.mbca.org/membership.

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



If you know someone that owns a Mercedes-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 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.

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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 January issue should be received by the editor by December 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 like to hear about that too.