



Mercedes-Benz Club of America

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

Star Bulletin

March 2021

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Is your membership due for renewal? Don't let it expire and miss out on the fun we have in the MBCA- San Diego Section

Visit us on face book at
<https://www.facebook.com//MBCASDSection>

MERCEDES-BENZ OF ESCONDIDO IS NOW GIVING A 15 PERCENT DISCOUNT ON PARTS AND LABOR TO MBCA MEMBERS. PRESENT YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD TO GET DISCOUNT.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The San Diego Section welcomes you to our Mercedes-Benz world. Please join us ASAP and see how we have fun. Have a question contact me the membership guy at 619-508-3925

Glen Chapin William Harris

The San Diego Section welcomes you to our Mercedes-Benz world. Please join us ASAP and see how we have fun. Have a question

THANK YOU, OUR LOYAL MEMBERS FOR RENEWING

We sincerely thank you for renewing your membership and continued support of the San Diego Section and the MBCA

Keith Shelby	Ken Rockwell	Daniel Kremer
Michael Cooper	Robert Harvey	Robert Muzzy
Jeff Hollander	Weston Anson	Adam Mossmer
Miguel Koenig	Myron Reichert	Peter Lobner
Karl Keller		George Parsons

Your membership expiring soon? Please consider renewing as we do not want to lose you. Question contact Steve Ross at, inewsx@sbcglobal.net

101 TOUR

S. Ross

What a beautiful day in the neighborhood, on the coast of the Blue Pacific Ocean. Once again the Best or Nothing Automobiles hit the road to have some fun and let the rest of the world see the Mercedes-Benz drivers out and about having some fun. It was a bit overcast when we began our drive but the sun was shining brightly when we arrived at the Jolly Roger pier parking lot.



Brian Kruse, Rudy Hradecky and Mateo Antonio, all with hands in pocket waiting on something to happen.

Attending their first event with the club Mary and Chris Johnson driving their 1995 E300D, which once belonged to Mary's father. It is not unusual for the Mercedes-Benz to remain in the family



Patty Arnold and Mary Johnson



looking to the golfers? Charlie, Pete, and Arnold & Susan Torma



Doug and Stacey Paton arriving in their 1985 300TD. This was the first time they joined us for a Drive. Nice Mercedes-Benz

President Diana Kruse going over the directions while Jim Stewart, Stacey Paton, Brian Ostosh and Barbara Respond, Listen in.





Part of the Gang waiting to hit the road. The hat and car belong to Jim Stewart



Jen and Pete Lobner are ready to rock and roll

AND WE ARE UNDER WAY



Arnold and Susan Torma greet, as we pass by. Arnold is driving his E55 Kompressor



Charlie Rockwell waves, as Carol takes a photo



Charlie responds by taking Carol's photo



The Mercedes-Benz is Chris and Mary Johnson in their 1995 300D



Rudy keeping his eye on the road. Rudy is solo as Cheryl did not accompany him



This is the historic 400 foot tall smoke stack, a landmark for aviators and mariners since the 1950s is being dismantled



ARRIVING AT OUR DESTINATION, THE OCEANSIDE HARBOR

First on scene is Brian Kruse AKA Mr. B and appears to be settled in for the long haul complete with beach blanket ,food, and a serving table. Some of the attendees were not this well prepared. In fact, no preparations at all.



Diana on phone, Susan, Arnold, Michael Cooper and in the back ground Rudy and Rose



Lunch is served and eaten for those who were prepared



Poor Mateo, this is what happens when you come unprepared



Susan talks to Steve while Charlie, Jim Patty and Jen relax.



The hat is Jim Stewart, on the left is Patty, on right is Charlie



We believe there were thirteen Mercedes-Benz in attendance but not sure. Some came to the picnic and a few did not.

Tequila Rose 2015





Oasis Camel Dairy Private Tour

Oasis Camel Dairy is a family run business located in Ramona, CA. They have been hit hard as have so many other businesses by Covid-19 and are offering private group tours where no other guests will be on grounds during the tour. Learn about camels, the health benefits of camel milk, feed the camels and check out the many other animals on the farm and shop at the dairy's gift shop. I think they have a new baby camel too!

When: Sunday, April 11th
Tour Time: 1pm – 2pm
Cost of Tour: \$15 pp.

Please RSVP to Diana by April 1st and send a check payable to **MBCA-San Diego Section to Diana Kruse, 4654 Lucille Dr., San Diego, CA 92115**

There will be a picnic lunch prior to the tour. More details will be provided as it gets closer to the tour.

<https://cameldairy.com/home>

Also featured on Dirty Jobs w/Mike Rowe

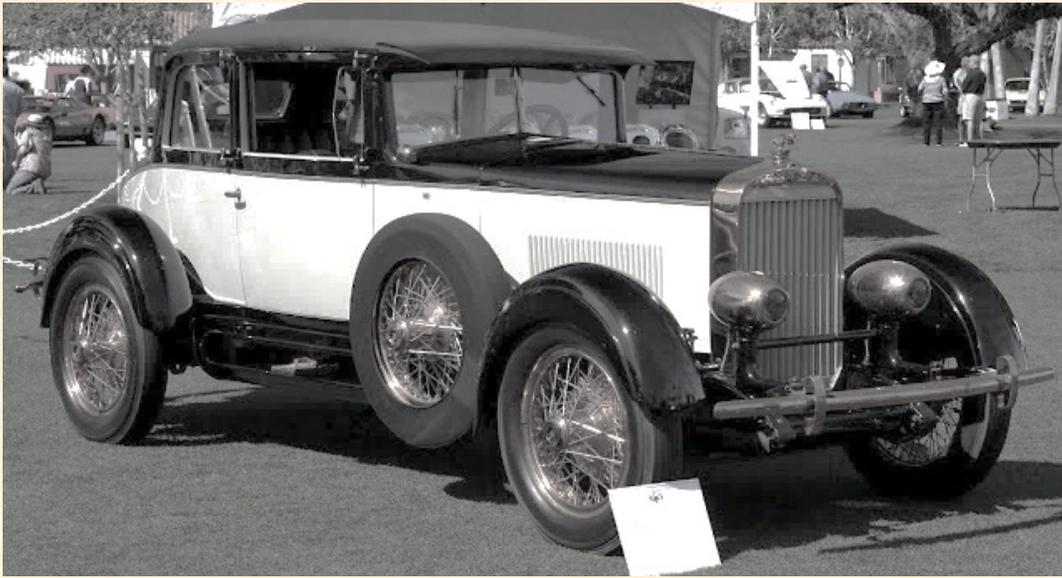
Please note: We are a small business trying to support our family farm through offering these private, COVID-19 compliant tours. We are required to follow state and county guidelines. Those guidelines include mask wearing and social distancing requirements. All guests over the age of two years are required by the county of San Diego and the Governor to wear masks while visiting our business unless a medical condition precludes the wearing of a mask.

Please know that these are not our rules, these are the rules imposed on our business and non-compliance can translate into very heavy fines and punishments for our business. Additionally, you agree that on the day of your groups visit, no one in your party present on that day will have had a fever of cough currently or within the preceding twenty-four hours. We appreciate your help through this strange and difficult time.

WIN A CHICKEN DINNER

ALAS, NO CHICKEN DINNER WINNER

1926 Rickenbacker Super 8 Sport Boat tail



HERE IS YOUR MYSTERY CAR MARCH



photo, S. Ross

Become a respected authority on automobiles in your house by winning the Chicken Dinner Award! Win this prestigious award by sending to Steve Ross the make, model, and year of this automobile

****CHICKEN DINNER RULES. CONTESTANTS MAY ONLY WIN 2 CHICKEN DINNERS PER CALENDAR YEAR**

*Even if you have won your allotted limit, please guess anyway...
and if you're correct, the editor will buy you a big orange drink at our next event*

FOR SALE

1973 Mercedes Benz 280C Coupe. One Owner. Runs and drives great. In mint condition inside and out. It has always been kept in the garage since purchased. It has been driven and treated as a classic since the early 1990s. Asking \$20,000.00. Contact Harold at 949-813-7766 for more information. Shown by appointment only



CYBER SECURITY

S. Ross

Hacking your computer, internet, financial accounts, cell phones etc. are on the rise and getting more blatant daily. In the news today, the state of California's unemployment and COVID relief fund was hacked for a few billion dollars, and numerous federal governments agencies have been compromised.

Most of us have heard about the Nigerian prince who needs help disposing of millions of dollars. We get scam calls from Social Security, Amazon, e-bay ,Pay Pal, credit cards, and the list goes on and on, and nothing is off limits. I have several close friends, including myself, who have had bank, and retirement accounts hacked for thousands of dollars. One does not always get the money back.

In our own Mercedes-Benz Club and the Mercedes-Benz world there is a scam going on as we speak. Bad guys have figured out a way to list a Mercedes-Benz for sale on what appears to be a legit website. I am told it looks legit. The person lists a car for sale and actually has photos and all the right stuff. Of course the car doesn't exist and the buyer finds out too late. As is usually the case the car is primo and way underpriced. The old adage, if seems too good to be true it most likely it is not.

The worst case I am aware of personally happened to a club member. The scammer had actually cloned the e-bay website and had an automobile listed. The buyer spoke with the person and nothing seemed wrong and appeared to be perfectly legitimate. A rather large sum of money changed hands and guess what? There was no car! Buyer contacted e-bay and of course they know nothing about it. I get anywhere from two to five messages a day either by cell landline or computer. All are scams. The time may have arrived when we can't trust anything.

ARE ELECTRIC CARS IN OUR FUTURE

S. Ross

Over this past year of uncertainty and other trials and tribulations, I have become accustomed to using Zoom, BlueJeans etc., video conferencing programs. A year ago I was saying there is no way I could ever function without face to face meetings. Well not only have I done numerous video conference meetings; I like them! I found that people who did not attend meetings in person, were attending the video conferences. This provided not only more input from members, but new and fresh ideas for events.

The Zoom meetings I attended this past year were car clubs. The average age of the members of the clubs are well past Social Security requirements. Without fail the discussion always got around to electric cars. The general comments and opinions were "no way in hell, never happen, if it does it will be at least 50 years, or not I my life time, which in some cases was the only true observation made. Self-driving automobiles were even less acceptable than the electric possibilities. I say all we have to do is look at history and, statistics (yeh those) to get a good idea how this electric car thing is going to play out.

The automobile was patented one hundred and thirty five years ago. Depending on interruption, the electric car was born about the same time. So why did the electric car catch on and the motor car languish? Probably because the combustion engine was NOISEY, dirty, stinky, difficult to start, difficult to drive, and expensive. The electric car on the other hand was silent, easy to drive, clean, did not smell and a lady could drive them, and many did. They were also relatively affordable. The electric car was popular and sold well, because the consumer wanted one! From the late 1880s to early twenties, electric cars were dominant in the market along with steam powered. At the turn of the century (1900), forty percent of the cars registered in the U.S were steam powered, thirty eight percent electric and twenty two percent were gas. Electric cars accounted for 33,842 of the registered cars. From 1886 to 1915 the gas powered guys had been working diligently to improve their product which resulted in the consumer recognizing the gas car was a better deal, stopped buying electric cars. Expanding and developing roads were also a big factor. One could say it took thirty four years for the gas engine to dominate. It will not take that much time during this transition. Today the electric car goes close to an average of 300 miles per charge. The latest Tesla goes over 370 miles, or LA to San Francisco. Charging time is about 6 hours at home or about 30 minutes at a supercharger station. The cost averages about \$4.40 per 100 miles. The gas car that gets 30 mpg and uses premium @3.49 per gallon is going to cost \$11.63 per 100 miles. Initial cost ranges from about \$32,000 for a Nissen Leaf to \$40,000 for an entry level Tesla. The IRS is still giving up to a \$7500 tax credit on purchase of an electric vehicle.

Today, in the eyes of many car folk, the electric car crowd are ramming the idea down their throats. Probably isn't that bad really, but perception is everything. In my opinion the electric car is here, and has been for some time. In San Diego there are Tesla's in abundance which we tend to recognize more readily than the Chevy Volt, Mercedes-Benz B class or others. How many of those are out there we didn't notice? Times are moving much faster than many of us can fathom. It is not going to take thirty four years for industry to catch up. How many? your guess. I think five to seven years. Henry Ford put the gas engine automobile on the road. In today's world who comes to mind as the Henry Ford of 2021. His initials are E.M.

Included in the electric car discussions are the self-driving vehicles. They are here as well, and increasing in numbers. In fact, these cars will arrive along with the transition to the electric.

Some facts; here in San Diego electric power units for eighteen wheelers are be manufactured. Self-driving trucks have been in use in Seattle for well over a year. Every car manufacturer is investing billions in developing electric cars and self-diving automobiles.

Dr Z, the former CEO of Daimler announced last year that they are investing 50 billion into electric car development, and 2020 was the last year that Daimler did any development or research on combustion engines. VW is spending about an equal amount. GM and Ford are changing their approach to the gas powered automobile. Dr Z further stated that in the future, Daimler is not in the business of selling cars but will be selling computers. When American and German industry decide to make something happen, it is going to happen. The governments are much more involved in change today than in the 1900, which will speed the process up considerably.

We have the privilege of living during the time when an historical, major event is occurring in the industrial world, the end of the gas powered automobile. We are much the same as those people who saw the demise of the horse and buggy and the buggy whip. We will have no more success in stopping this evolution than the buggy whip guys did.

Another concern is what about the collector car crowd? If the people want to continue to preserve and collect gas powered vehicles, they will do so. I have no doubt what so ever that the car folks will be around well past the 2020s. Parts will be available as they are today. Someone will be making chips, intergraded circuits boards, and whatever is needed to keep todays motor cars on the road. Where there is a demand, there will be a supply.

Think about it, we are living in those good ole days we are always referring to.



For Sale

1967 MBZ 250SL Pagoda

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Will fit the 560SL, 450SL and the 380SL

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Mention this ad and make an appointment in JUNE for the following prices:
107 Chassis tops:
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Sonnendeck canvas top \$895 One-day turnaround

**MBCA Board Meeting March 16 @ 6:30
PM**

Meetings may be on Zoom

**Note: Our regular Board meetings are
scheduled on the 3rd Tuesday of the month**

**The board has occasionally cancelled
meetings when there is a small amount of
business that can be considered adequately
by telephone or e-mail. If you are
considering joining us at a board meeting,
please call a board member first to make
sure the meeting will take place as
scheduled.**

**WANT TO JOIN THE SAN DIEGO SECTION OF
THE MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA?
IT'S EASY JUST GO TO MBCA.ORG
OR USE THE QR CODE BELOW.**



FOR SALE OR WANT ADS:

Personal classified ads (sale or wanted) are FREE exclusively for MBCA members. NO commercial or business sales allowed in the classified ad section.

Business advertising is available at competitive rates.

Please contact the Treasurer for latest ad rates.

If you want to place a personal ad in the "for sale" section e-Mail Steve Ross inewsx@sbcglobal.net

Please contact Steve every month to continue your AD

We are always looking for volunteers to help out with ideas, planning, and coordinating events.

If you would like to feature your Mercedes-Benz vehicle(s) in this Newsletter with an interesting story or photo, please submit in digital format via e-mail to:

inewsx@sbcglobal.net

We would love to get to know you & your Mercedes-B Come to an event and ask us how to obtain a



Can't wait to have a really "Cool" MBCA name badge? Here's how to order one: Go to the MBCA website www.mbca.org,

log on, click on Store, click on MBCA Event Equipment Store and scroll down and click on the Name Badge.

You are now in the order form.

Second method: Log onto MBCA website and enter Name Badge in the search box at upper right hand corner of screen, click on the Magnifying Glass icon and this will take you to the order form OR you may call 800- 637-2360, ask for Anna McBride. She will take your order.

1.

Change of Address, Phone # or e-mail

If you have a change-of-address,

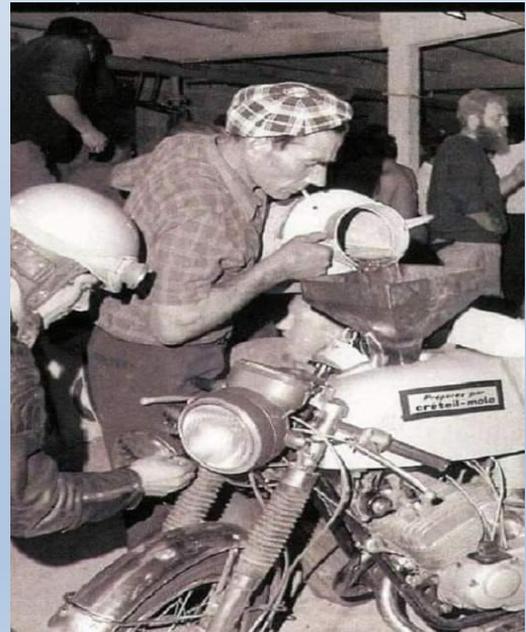
e-mail mbca.org

MBCA National Business Office.
1-800-637-2360

THIS SPACE MAY BE USED FOR YOUR AD OR FOR SOMETHING YOU, AS A MEMBER, NO LONGER HAVE A USE FOR. AS YOU MAY KNOW THE COST FOR A MEMBER TO RUN AN AD FOR THEIR ITEM IN THE STAR IS FREE. YEP WE SAID FREE.

IF YOU HAVE A BUSINESS AD OUR RATES ARE QUITE REASONABLE.

YOU COULD USE THIS SPACE TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT



Yes, that is a cigarette, yes that is gasoline, and no, I ain't fireproof

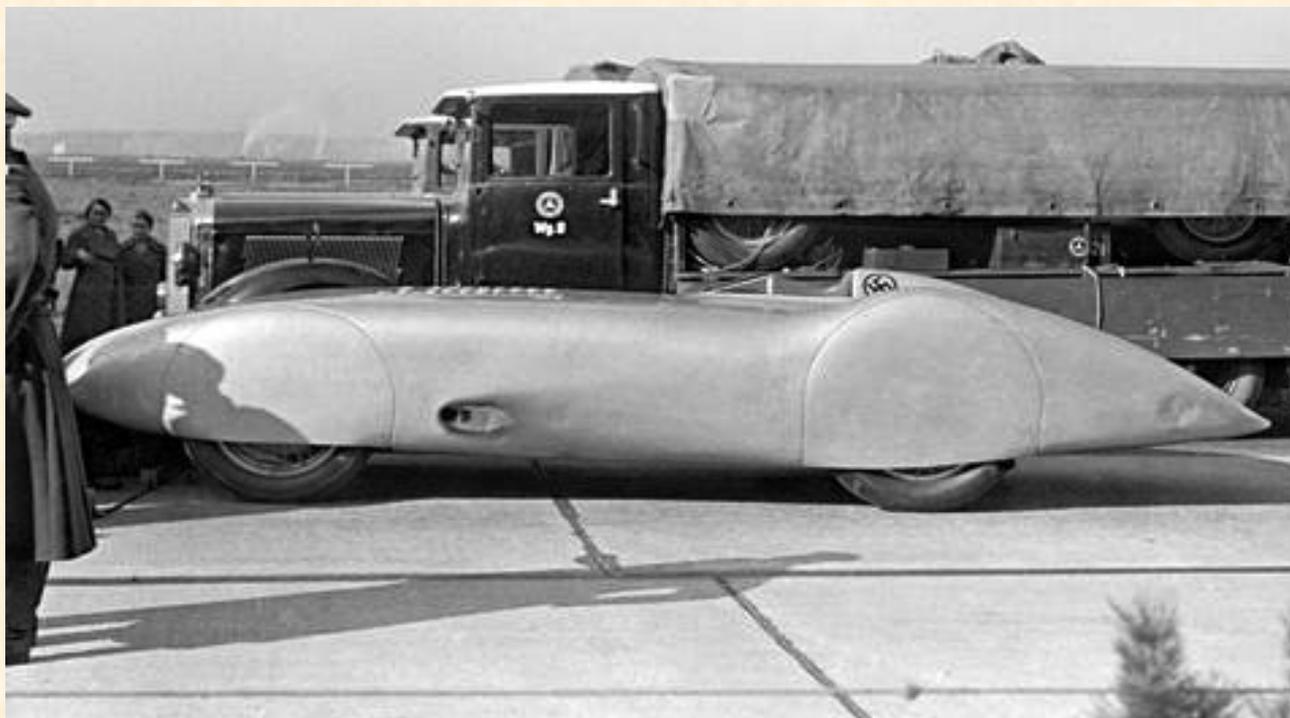
1 Schedule of Events

MBCA – San Diego Section

Our motto “Have it your way, as long as it’s FUN!” Always remember...this is YOUR club. Events highlighted in red are not official events but you may want to attend

**New ideas or changes please contact a Board Member!!!
Note: All dates may be subject to change**

EVENT DATE 2021	EVENT DESCRIPTION	EVENT CHAIR/COORDINATOR
March 26, 27	Tequila Rose Borrego Springs	Steve Ross and Board
April 11	Oasis Camel Dairy Tour	➤ Diana Kruse
April 25	Motor cars on Main Street, Coronado cancelled	
May 2	Rallye to the Stars	Steve
May 30	Fallbrook Car Show	
June 12	Gondola Excursion	Marjo Miller



Star Bulletin

16151 Fruitvale
Road Valley
Center, CA 92082



MARCH 2021

<http://sandiego.mbca.org>

MBCA San Diego Section

President's Message – March 2021



March brings Spring, Daylight Saving Time, Saint Patrick's Day, and the famous Tequila Rose! I am hoping for the much-needed rain so that we will have some desert flowers to enjoy at the event as we tour Borrego Springs.

Thank you all who came out for our last-minute Coastal Cruise last month. As you can see by the pictures and the recap, we had a fun time, casually cruising up the coast enjoying the San Diego coastline.

Again, I would like to invite all club members to attend our monthly Zoom board meeting and share ideas and thoughts for upcoming events or just to drop in and say "hi". The board meeting is Tuesday, March 16th at 6:30pm via Zoom and you can join the meeting starting at 6pm if you want to chat prior to the start of the board meeting. Bring your ideas and thoughts as we continue to plan events that will maintain our member's health and safety and allow us to socialize and share our love for the Mercedes Benz brand. Stay safe and drive with pride!

Diana Kruse is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: MBCA - Board Meeting

Time: Mar 16, 2021 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84661649594?pwd=dGhiY3VjY2NhckpvR2VoRFI1a1BTdz09>

Meeting ID: 846 6164 9594

Passcode: 997639



Drive safely. Diana Kruse, President - MBCA San Diego Section