Mercedes- Benz Club of America

Star Bulletin

San Diego Section Newsletter | More than a Car Club. We're a Community. TM | March 2017

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IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUE FOR RENEWAL? DON'T LET IT EXPIRE AND MISS OUT ON ALL THE FUN WE HAVE IN THE MBCA

EVENTS SCHEDULE AND SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS MONTH IN OUR MERCEDES-BENZ WORLD

OUR WORLD, OUR HERITAGE

March 24-26 Join the Packard Club for an overnight in Palm Springs. Page 4

April 23 Lunch Hacienda de las Rosas Winery. Bring a lunch, page 5

May open for ideas

June 2-4 Southwest Regional Event. Hosted by the Orange County Section. Page 6

July 8, 2017 American Heritage Rallye and Independence Day Celebration. Page 4

August we are going to the Buttonwillow Raceway located at 24551 Lerdo Hwy, Buttonwillow , CA.

Membership Pizza Party, Membership Meet and other stuff

R. Hradecky

Twenty members of the club met at Giovanni's Pizza on Clairemont Blvd. on Friday evening, February 24th at 6:30PM. Among the attendees were Mike Cooper, Victoria Mazelli, Brian and Diane Kruse, Joanne Barnard, Gary Jarvis and Bobbie, Del and Mary Baumgartner, Ed Masucci, Bob Gunthorp and Jeannette Hay Radu, Amber and Elizabeth Alexandru Mort Mirmontazera, Carlos and Zulmia Munoz, and Rudy and Cheryl Hradecky. Delicious pizza, salad and drinks were provided, and a delightful, collegial evening was had by all.

Members circling and selecting a table

Gary Jarvis, Bobbie and Cheryl Hradecky

Del and Mary Baumgartner. Our president appears to have as halo

Foreground Ed Mascussi

Brian and Dianna Kruse

Pizza, salad, bread and wine

Carlos and Zulmia Munoz

Carlos Munoz, who is the Mercedes of Escondido European Delivery representative gave a very detailed talk on the benefits of European delivery. Discounts of from 7% or greater from MSRP with destination charges waived, concierge service, free airport and hotel transfers, 15 days automobile insurance (extendable at extra cost), manufacturer's warranty fully extended from actual date of delivery state-side, all freight costs, and Factory restoration and preparation upon delivery stateside are among the benefits of European delivery--along with the wonderful benefits of the ability to travel in Europe in one's brand new, customized Mercedes Benz were outlined by Carlos. There are a greater number of other benefits that can also be made available, depending upon one's length of stay.

Rudy Hradecky discussed the forthcoming Parkinson Disease Tremble Clefs Car Show On March 4th at the Palisades Presbyterian Church in Allied Gardens, and provided some insight into the disease's complications, as well as information on the efforts being expended in the running of the organization and car show by the actual members of the Tremble Clefs, a chorale group comprised of PD sufferers.

Additionally, Rudy moderated a discussion about the benefits of the Performance Driving Clinic at Button Will Raceway on August 12th, 2017, from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM. The cost is $195

per driver, which includes lunch and a 15 dollar credit at the Button Willow driving store on merchandise, clothing and related speed gear. Driving helmets are required and can be rented for $15. Importantly, the fact was brought out that the instructors stress safety and proper technique, and encourage driving skills that optimize technique without adverse impact on tire wear. The track is located 28 miles northwest of Bakersfield. Depending on the number that sign up, a club event can be planned at the nearby Motel 6 for those staying overnight on Saturday. For further info, contact the raceway park at buttonwillowraceway.com or Rudy at sdrudy@earthlink.net.

Jeanette Hays and Bob Gunthorp

Our president brings us up to date on future happenings

COMING SOON TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

The Mercedes-Benz Formual 1 power unit that powered Mercedes-Benz to their third Formula 1 manufacturers Championship.

Technoloigy in these power units are already appearing in the S Class Vehicles. Have you noticed that we don't refer to engines anymore. They are now called power units or power package.

This is a 1.6 litre V-6 capable of producing over 650 HP and the electric power unit can give an additional 160 HP when needed.

WE ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE PACKARD CLUB FOR A Spring Tour to Palm Springs

March 24-26, 2017

Join your friends in the Packard Club for a trip to Palm Springs March 24 (Friday) through March 26 (Sunday), 2017! Back by popular demand we will once again visit the Triada Hotel Palm Springs at a nightly rate of $200/night plus tax, with a two night minimum. Built in 1929 and formerly known as the Spanish Inn, Triada has historical significance because it was frequented by the rich and famous in Hollywood's heyday and was once owned by actor Alan Ladd (you can visit Liz Taylor's room). Triada is located in the historical Movie Colony neighborhood. The room rate is held for Packard Club members for a limited number of rooms. Interested parties are urged to respond quickly. *This weekend promises to be an excellent opportunity for all of us as it coincides with the Antique Car Club of America's Western Meet for 2017. Several hundred cars are expected in town for that Meet, according to their national office. More on that as the weekend approaches.*

The plan is for everyone to arrive at Triada Friday afternoon March 24, 2017. Check-in time is 4:00. Members wishing to go are urged to call Triada direct to secure a room. Caravans are encouraged, and are always enjoyable, but certainly not required. Triada has a secured underground garage to house our Packards, and owners once again will be allowed to park their cars.

The weekend schedule is intentionally flexible, as it was last year. Everyone will receive a map of the Movie Colony section of Palm Springs, which is a self-guided walking tour commencing right outside the Triada Hotel or you can drive and take in more of the stars' homes. After the walking tour lunch will be at Billy Reed's Restaurant, famous for its chicken pot pie and Boston Cream Pie. Dinner will be at Melvyn's, former home of the owner of the Pierce Arrow Automobile Company now a restaurant and conference facility. We see another fun weekend event!

Checkout time is 11:00 am Sunday.

PLEASE DO NOT DELAY! To make reservations, please contact Weekend Coordinator Tim Pestotnik (email:tim@pestotnik.com) to let him know, and whether you will bring your Packard or other notable car. Be sure to make your reservation directly at the Triada by phone with JESSICA RUIZ - SALES ASSOCIATE

Phone Number for Jessica 760-844-7000. When operator answers ask for Jessica

(760)424-3701
jruiz@pacificahost.com

Be sure to ask for the Packard Club Room Rate of $200/night.

RALLYE RALLYE JULY 8, 2017

Mark your calendar (does anyone use a calendar anymore what with smart phones?) for July 8, 2017 for a fun filled, Exciting, breathtaking rallye on some scenic back roads of San Diego County. While motoring and looking for clues the driving teams will be given the opportunity to learn fun facts about our American Heritage. I can feel the excitement now. You may win priceless trophies and other accolades for your powers of observation and eighth grade knowledge of your American History and our heritage.

MBCA Wine Tasting & Picnic Buffet

Hacienda de las Rosas Winery

Sunday, April 23 at Noon Bring Some Goodies to Share

18011 Bluegrass Road, Ramona, CA, 92065 619-840-5557

Come join the MBCA - San Diego Section for our 3rd annual visit to Hacienda de las Rosas. Enjoy a relaxing wine tasting experience and picnic buffet in the Mission-style winery under the ancient oak trees. This family owned winery in Ramona is unique as it features fine wines and a Peruvian Paso horse ranch with vineyards … and just a few minutes north of San Diego.

The gardens and vineyards were featured in the Ramona Garden Tour. Tammy Rimes, owner, is proud of her family's goal in creating a beautiful setting for the winery, horse ranch and hacienda style home. You're invited you to wander the garden paths through the vineyards and enjoy the comrade of our group while enjoying the picturesque valley and mountains vistas of Ramona. The vineyards reflect the seasons – green and full of grapes during the summer and colorful autumn leaves in the fall. Succulent gardens and roses are scattered across the property.

The Peruvian Paso Horse is the pride of the ranch, with some of the best bloodlines in the breed. This smoothest of riding horses is known for its natural 4-beat gait that provides a "no bounce" ride. Babies are born gaiting, so this proud stepping action is naturally inherited. In addition, their Spanish heritage gives them full manes and tails, with a majestic and proud look. These horses are show horses, and they are available for viewing when at the ranch. A horse stall has been installed in the winery building, so guests can be greeted by one of our horses when wine tasting. Our motto is "Drink Fine Wine…Ride Fine Horses," with each of the wines named after a Peruvian Paso horse. We are especially proud of our horses, as much as our wines.

Directions: **DO NOT** use Google Maps – it will take you the wrong way… see our Map. Take 67 toward Ramona. Turn on Highland Valley Road. Travel 2 miles and turn left on Traylor Street (tree-lined street). Take next left on Greenbelt, which ends at Bluegrass Road. Turn right and then quick left on 1st long driveway. Travel up to Mission-style winery building

Mercedes Benz Club of America
Southwest Regional Event
June 2 - 4, 2017
Hosted by the Orange County Section

Join us in Orange County, CA for a fun-filled weekend. Bring your Mercedes and enjoy the wonderful area of Orange County.

Host Hotel: Embassy Suites Hotel Santa Ana,
1325 East Dyer Road, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Amenities included are:
- Gated parking with 24-hour attendant
- In-room internet
- Complimentary cooked-to-order breakfast buffet
- Complimentary managers reception Friday & Saturday

Highlights include:
- Welcome reception Friday evening Co hosted by OC Section
- Rally after Saturday breakfast
- Lunch break after Rally
- Awards Banquet at a local restaurant
- Awards for Rally
- Raffle drawing with prizes

This weekend also has free time to visit the following nearby attractions:
- Shopping at Fashion Island and South Coast Plaza
- Visit to Rogers Garden
- Crevier Classic Cars
- Sherman Library and Gardens
- Lyon Air Museum
- Newport Beach

To make your reservation with Embassy Suites
Call 714.241.3800, select 1 for reservations and tell the receptionist you want to reserve a room under the MBZ Southwest region group June 2-3 event.

We have a limited number of rooms reserved at a special rate of $117 per night (approximately $140 with tax and parking) but **you must make your reservation directly with the Embassy Suites before May 1, 2017**. Reservations made after this date are subject to room availability and prevailing room rates. When you make your room reservation, or if you plan to attend without staying at the Embassy Suites, fill out the entry form below. Sent the completed form along with a check for $97 per person or $194 per couple to cover trophies, lunch, Saturday banquet etc.
For any questions contact Lynn Hern at lynn.hern@sbcglobal.net or 714-998-1684

Orange County Regional Event June 2-4, 2017

Name(s)registering_____No._____at $97 each

Address_____
_____

Phone No._____ Day/night E-mail_____

Awards Dinner Entree Choice & No. Beef_____ Chicken_____ Fish_____

BUTTONWILLOW DRIVING EVENT
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12,2017
8:30 AM to 4:00PM
S. Ross

Fast facts about Buttonwillow

Buttonwillow Raceway Park is a motorsports park in Kern County, California, 10 miles (16 km) north of the town of Buttonwillow and 28 miles (45 km) northwest of Bakersfield. Constructed during World War 1 by world famous racing driver Dario Resta, it is now owned and operated by the California Sports Car Club, a region of SCCA, Buttonwillow is the "flagship" track of Cal Club, and is also the location of the Club's administrative offices. (Courtesy of Wikipedia) You can visit the Buttonwillow Raceway website : buttonwillowraceway.com.

Although this event is being held at a racetrack and is referred to as performance driving this not what our primary reason for going to Buttonwillow is about. We will be given the opportunity to learn to drive our Mercedes-Benz more safely and competently by being taught by a professional driver. We will learn about speed, cornering, braking, and more importantly the capability of our Mercedes-Benz or other automobile as well as our own driving capabilities. After instruction, you may if you want take to the track solo and see how you do.

THE POINT IS DO NOT BE INTIMIDATED BY THE TERMS RACE TRACK, PERFORMANCE DRIVING ETC. THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFE TIME TO LEARN ABOUT YOUR CARS PERFORMACE, SAFETY FEATURES AND HOW TO USE THEM SAFELY AND EFFECTIVELY. ANYONE WHO HAS PARTICIPATED IN THESE EVENTS HAS LEFT A MUCH BETTER DRIVER AND HAD A BARRELL OF FUN LEARNING ABOUT THE SAFETY FEATURES OF THEIR CAR. LADIES HAVE ALWYS DONE VERY WELL IN THESE EVENTS AND WE HOPE TO SEE ALL OF YOU THERE WITH US HAVING SOME FUN!

The first time I went to one of these events I was very apprehensive but after 2 laps I was hooked. OH, and I learned I was NOT nearly as good a driver as I thought I was.

Since the event is a one day event, a suggested schedule would be to arrive by Friday late afternoon, plan on staying overnight Saturday at one of the local motels, and leaving Sunday morning at your leisure. Lodging is available about 10 miles away at Motel 6. Phone 661/764-5121.

Reservations for these events can fill quickly. Please feel free to contact Rudy Hradecky by e-mail (sdrudy@earthlink.net) or by phone (619/246-2094) as early as possible so that we could reserve some slots. The cost is $195.00 for the one day, and helmets can be rented at the track for $15.00. Rag top convertibles are not allowed, but SL models with the roll bar are allowed.

GOOD "OL" DAYS

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Bedtime with Iver Johnson pistols

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Change of Address Phone # or e-mail

If you have a change-of-address to send to the club please go to www.mbca.org, click on MEMBERSHIP, then click on ADDRESS CHANGE and fill in the form. As an alternative, you can call 1-800-637-2360 and talk to anyone at the MBCA National Business Office.

Offering a 10% discount on parts and labor for MBCA members

New San Diego Section MBCA Members

A hearty welcome to all our new members. We hope to meet you soon at one of our upcoming events. Please feel free to contact any of the Board Officers (listed on the front page of this Newsletter) with any questions, comments, or concerns.

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 us at

(Michaeldenise1212@gmail.com)

We would love to get to know you and your Mercedes-Benz

Ask us how to obtain a FREE name tag to wear at all of our events

Identify the make, model, and year of this automobile and win a free nametag. First correct answer sent to the editor will receive a name badge. If you have a name badge, you will receive a beverage of your choice at the next event you attend. *No repeat winners*

FOR SALE & 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. E-Mail Steve Ross inewsx@sbcglobal.net if you want to place a personal ad in the "for sale" section. *Please contact Steve every month* to continue to run the AD

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Attention Advertisers: Any changes? E-Mail Steve at inewsx@sbcglobal.net to send a file.

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MBCA San Diego Section http://sandiego.mbca.org

Board meeting

March 21 - 6:30pm at

MERCEDES- BENZ OF ESCONDIDO
Locate at 1101 W 9th Ave, Escondido CA 92029

Please Note: 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 for a board meeting, you might want to call a board member first to be sure the meeting will take place as scheduled.

Presidents' Message

Happy March Everybody! Is it just me? Or does everybody love March? It starts to warm up outside. Daylight Savings Time begins. Flowers are starting to bloom. I ask you… what's not to love? I'm hoping that these seasonal changes allow us to put the tops down on our cars and cruise down the coast with someone you enjoy spending time with.

It was really great seeing everybody at the pizza event this month. (Thank you Rudy for arranging this event) We have a couple of events planned in March, namely the Tremble Clefs car show as well as the Palm Springs overnighter with The Packard Club. I think both will prove to be a fun time for all. The future looks bright as well, as we have an upcoming regional event hosted by the Orange County Section and another event with the Los Angeles Section.

Lastly, those of us on the board know that all of you have busy lives, have families, hobbies, other events and other affiliations that take up your time. We just want to say Thank You to everybody for sharing your valuable time with us. We will never take that for granted.

As always, thank you for your support
Michael Cooper