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Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Star Bulletin

San Diego Section Newsletter

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MAY 2016

EVENTS SCHEDULE AND SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS MONTH IN OUR MERCEDES-BENZ WORLD

* Thursday, May 19: Encinitas Cruise night 4:30pm at Charlie’s Foreign Service, 751 2nd St, Encinitas. Call Bob Gunthorp @619-993-0184 or badwrench@7@cox.net if attending by May 16, 2016. There is a wide selection of exotic, vintage and other automobile of interest at this very popular Cruise Night.

* June: SEE PAGE 4

* Saturday, July 16: American Heritage Rallye in the South County is planned. Stay tuned for details

* August, 19: Legends of the Autobahn Monterey CA

* September, 17-18: Speed Festival North Island Naval Air Station, Coronado, Ca

* October, 8 or 9: Joining Desert Stars Section for winery tour in Temecula

*November, 12-13: Palm Springs Concours

* Saturday, December 3: Coronado Golf Course lunch/dinner at 12:00pm

We have a mystery automobile in this issue. Join the fun and win a prize.

*November, 12-13: Palm Springs Concours
Hacienda de las Rosas Winery and Tasting Room.
Victoria Mazelli. Photos by Diana Kruse. Captions by S Ross

A leisurely drive through the winding roads of the back country in Ramona enticed our group to put the tops down, feel the sunshine and breeze, as we headed to Hacienda de las Rosas Winery and Tasting Room. The family owned winery and vineyards are just a few minutes north of San Diego and also feature a Peruvian Paso horse ranch. Our group enjoyed a relaxing wine tasting experience in the Mission-style winery under the ancient oak trees. The winery was built in the style of Mission San Diego de Alcala with succulent gardens and roses scattered across the property. So beautiful are the gardens and vineyards that this venue was featured in the 2013 Ramona Garden Tour. Speaking of tours, owner Tammy Rimes delighted us with her fun and informative walking tour through the garden paths and vineyards with amazing panoramic and picturesque views of the valley and mountains of Ramona. She educated us on the 5 different types of grapes growing on the property as well as weather, planting, growing seasons, and harvesting.

Learning about Peruvian Paso horses was another highlight of the ranch – they have some of the best bloodlines in the breed. A Peruvian Paso is the smoothest of riding horses - known for its natural 4-beat gait that provides a "no bounce" ride – no, they are not available to ride as they are show horses. However, a horse stall was built in the entrance of the winery building which gives all guests the opportunity to be greeted by one of these majestic horses while wine tasting. Their family motto is "Drink Fine Wine...Ride Fine Horses," with each of their wines named after a Peruvian Paso horse. Tammy is as proud her horses as she is of their wines... We all really had a fun time at the April 16th outing, from wine tasting, drinking, eating, and socializing to seeing the horses. Our "MBC family" members at this event ranged from 5 years of age to 83. Everyone agreed – it was a beautiful day and we definitely will return!

Tammy Rimes welcomes David Coomer and Michael to her world of fine wine and exotic horses.

Our brave group trudges off to see the grapes and horses. What rattlesnakes and poison ivy?!

Diana, our resident snake lady and only member to have ever actually been bitten by a real rattlesnake, keeps a watchful eye out for the merry band. No one encountered a snake but cannot speak for the Poison Ivy. If anyone was in the ivy there have been no reports.

The start of a fine wine.
The smiling group. Since several of the people in the photo are holding a wine glass picture must have been taken during the wine tasting.


All these beautiful people above arrived at the winery in one of these Mercedes-Benz automobiles.
WHAT IS HAPPENING ON JUNE 4, 2016

June finds us in Rancho Santa Fe where we will bring some automotive class to the Secret Car Club Cars and Coffee weekly gathering.

Here are the particulars: We will meet up at 17008 Avenida De Acacias, in the Bank of America parking lot, at 9 am where we will find a Mercedes-Benz Limo and President Michael serving Mimosas and Bellini’s. Coffee will also be provided.

In addition to viewing our clubs Star Cars we may also take in the Secret Car Clubs automotive selections of the day. One never knows what is going to show up at this weekly event but, it will be eye candy for automotive admirers. Photo shows a 300SL Roadster and a Ford Cobra at a recent Secret Car Club Saturday get together. Sometimes there are even celebrities stopping by to see what is happening.

After socializing, meeting folks, kicking tires and admiring a variety of automobiles we will mosey over to The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe for brunch.

A little history about the Inn. America’s Sweetheart Mary Pickford and Hollywood hero Douglas Fairbanks Jr, arrived as the area's first glamorous couple when they purchased a 3,000 acre property in 1926. Crooner (do we use that word anymore?) Bing Crosby was another stellar resident, who bought and remodeled one of the original Osuna family adobes as a hideaway from the fast pace of Hollywood. Crosby and his wife fell in love with the charming countryside as a safe place to raise their children. While living here, Crosby founded the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club with Fairbanks Jr. and several other movie stars. Besides horses, golf was Crosby's other passion and the singing legend could be found playing almost daily at the Rancho Santa Fe Golf Club. His famous Bing Crosby Pro-Am tournament (which he called "the clambake") paired jockeys and thoroughbred owners with Hollywood stars and pro golfers at the end of race season. This golfing event drew huge crowds and luminaries over the years as everyone loved Crosby's personal "clambake" hospitality. Other notable Ranch Santa Fe denizen's have included Norma Talmadge, Howard Hughes, Ann Blyth, Robert Young, Jane Wyatt, Janet Jackson, Phil Mickelson, Shaun White and Bill Gates. And now the San Diego Mercedes-Benz club may be added to the long list of notable guests.

WHAT MUST YOU DO TO TAKE PART IN THIS ONCE IN A LIFE TIME EVENT??

NOTIFY PRESIDENT MICHAEL AT 760-599-0629 MICHAELDENISE1212@GMAIL.COM THAT YOU PLAN ON JOINING US. WE GOTTA KNOW HOW MANY CUPS AND HOW MUCH COFFEE TO GET. WE WILL COLLECT $5.00 PER PERSON AT THE LIMO, ok.

I KNOW YOU ARE THINKING THIS MUST BE A COSTLY EVENT. WILL IT AIN'T! THE "INN" HAS A VERY NICE MENU FOR $20.00 OR LESS. CHECK IT OUT ON THEIR WEBSITE AT www.theinnatsrf.com
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2360 and talk to anyone at the MBCA Na-
tional Business Office.

WELCOME!!
New San Diego Section
MBCA Members

- Steven Bogle – Airstream
- Thomas Cassara – no vehicle listed on MBCA roster
- Christi Dahl – Airstream

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, plan-
ing, 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 driving passion.

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 name tag. 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 at-
tend. No repeat winners.

FOR SALE:

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 con-

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A LOOK BACK AT MERCEDES RACING AND THE INDY 500

By 1911, the 3.2 million paving bricks used to make the 2.5 mile Indianapolis Motor Speedway had been laid and the first Indianapolis 500 was held at the Brickyard on May 30, 1911. There were two white Benzs in the race and one Mercedes painted gray, the original Silver Arrow, driven by Spencer Wishart. At the tender age of 19, Wishart came in fourth in the 1909 Vanderbilt Cup in a specially modified Mercedes Grand Prix car, in a race where many older and more experienced drivers got caught up in the many accidents that occurred in that race. In the 1911 Indy 500, Wishart started 27th in a 40-car field but managed to get into the lead by lap 6, and ultimately brought home the Mercedes in fourth place in the first Indy 500; the Benzs finished in 18th and 19th.

In the 1912 Indy 500, Wishart was back with his gray Mercedes and Ralph De Palma entered another Mercedes and led for an incredible 196 of 200 laps, building a cushion of four laps, until a connecting rod let go on lap 197. De Palma slowed on the front straight and nursed the Mercedes for another lap until the car finally quit on the back straight, as the broken connecting rod had put a hole in the crankcase. To the cheers of the 80,000 people in the crowd, De Palma and his riding mechanic pushed the car back to the pits. But in the meantime, Joe Dawson in an American-built National, overtook the De Palma car and won the race. Interestingly, given Michelin’s return to Formula One racing next season, Dawson was on Michelin tires, the French tire supplier’s only win at Indy, although Michelin will get another opportunity in 2001 when the U.S. Grand Prix is run again at Indy. In the end De Palma finished in 11th and Wishart in 15th in the 1912 Indy 500.

For the 1913 Indy 500, Wishart and De Pal had abandoned Mercedes for Mercer and Mercedes was represented by Ralph Mulford, who some thought had actually won the controversial first Indy 500 in 1911. Mulford went 500 miles in his gray Mercedes on the same set of tires and finished 7th. In addition, a Mercedes-Knight was entered, which was a car with a gray and white Mercedes chassis and a 4-cylinder Knight engine; it finished 5th in the race. In the 1914 Indy 500, Ralph Mulford entered a white and blue Mercedes with a Peugeot engine that finished 11th in the race.
May 17 6:30pm at MERCEDES-BENZ OF ESCONDIDO
Located 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.

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

Presidents' Message

First off, I’d like to thank the members that attended April’s Hacienda De Las Roses Winery event. It was a fun, short drive through the beautiful countryside out to Ramona where we were treated to a winery tour and wine tasting. (As well as laughing and storytelling) It was a wonderful afternoon. We have a few things planned for you in May. We will be attending the Encinitas Cruise Night with the Pagoda Group (W113 cars. 230SL, 250SL, 280SL). Another fun event that the Long Beach-South Bay and Channel Islands Sections have put together is the “Southwest Regional Event” in Solvang. I hope you have signed up for this event. These Regional Events are always fun and memorable, so don’t wait too long to RSVP as space may be limited. As car event season is upon us we ask only a few things of our members. 1st, Come join us on a fun event. 2nd, Make sure your car is prepared for summer and extended driving. 3rd, Be careful and have some fun. That’s it for now. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Thank you for the support
Michael Cooper