

TRI-STAR NEWSLETTER



First Quarter
2021

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About Us

The MBCA Triangle Section serves the greater Raleigh, Central Carolina, and Sandhills area of North Carolina. We also host a number of events throughout the year including car shows, road rallies, charitable events, tech sessions, and section socials.

Section Officers

President: Bill Faison

Vice President: Christopher Smith

Treasurer: Steven Hamelly

Secretary: Pam Redwine

Past President: Steve Redwine

Eastern Region Director: Doug Geganto

For information about the MBCA Triangle Section, please go to:

<https://www.trianglemc.org/>

Tri-Star News, First Quarter, 2021

C.D.Smith, Editor-in-Chief

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Send your information to the editor. Deadlines for submitting materials are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1.

Questions? Contact info@trianglemc.org or our National Business Office at 1-800-637-2360 M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MT, or visit www.mbc.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First Quarter, 2021



Bill Faison
Section President

Finally, it's Spring!

With vaccines now more available and government restrictions being lifted we are starting to return to a state where a lot of our members are feeling more comfortable about participate in club events in 2021.

Plans for 2021 are still in limbo at this time but coming in May our first event of the year will be Sandhills Motoring Festival over Memorial Day weekend May 28th to 30th, 2021 in Pinehurst.

On a sad note over the past few months we have lost a couple of great section members.

Jack Van Stavern of Raleigh was a long standing member that was willing to support our club in any way he could. You may have never met Jack but I know a lot of us know "Roscoe" his 1938 170V Roadster he often shared with us for our events.

Jim Carter of Durham lost his long battle with cancer in January. Jim relished participating in club events with fellow members. He was always the first one to volunteer his help for our section; Jim will be surely be missed.

Personally what I have missed most over this past year is going to club events, car show and Concours and most of all not being able to spend some time with the friends I have made over the year. I'm tired of "Virtual" meeting, shows, tours, auctions and what have you; I can't wait till things become "Real" again.

The safety of our members, and our community in which we live, is my primary consideration. I hope and pray that what we are now seeing is the return of our lives to normal going forward.

Stay safe hope to see you all very soon.

In Memory of Jim Carter

"A Toast to You My Old Friend, You Will Be Missed"



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to experience the kickoff of Legends of the Autobahn-East,
as well as the renowned HHI Concours d'Elegance.**

Dates:

Mercedes-Freude - Tuesday, November 2nd - Friday, November 5th, 2021

Legends of the Autobahn East - Saturday, November 6th (@Port Royal Golf Course)

Hilton Head Island Concours d'Elegance - Sunday, November 7th (@Port Royal Golf Course)

**Enjoy the comraderie of being together with old and new friends alike!
Mark your calenders NOW for a NOT-TO-BE-MISSED event!**

Further details coming your way in the near future!
Rick Siefert - National Events Chair - rick.siefert@att.net



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SANDHILLS MOTORING FESTIVAL UPDATE



Christopher Smith
Section Vice President

The Sandhills Motoring Festival for 2021 is right around the corner! After a tumultuous 2020, SMF is finally taking place in the heart of the historic Village of Pinehurst, May 28th through 30, Memorial Day Weekend. The events are already starting to sell out and the entrants are eager to attend the one of kind Concours in the Village. SMF Weekend kicks off Friday night with an Informal Car Show and BBQ at the Pine Crest Inn, located in the heart of Pinehurst and formerly owned by golf legend Donald Ross. Saturday starts off with the SMF Road Rally which pits entrants against a very tough hunt through the country roads of Moore County. Also taking place Saturday morning, is the Pottery Highway tour, which will visit Ben Owen Pottery, along with other local potteries through the Seagrove, NC area. Saturday evening brings the SMF Hangar Party, taking place with refreshments and entertainment at the Moore County Airport's Main Hangar.

Sunday is the main event - the "Concours in the Village" which will feature over 125 automobiles in sixteen classes, along with special display cars from Foreign Cars Italia, and other private collections. The historic streets of the Village serve as the backdrop to this event and spectators will be in for a treat while practicing safe measures and social distancing. SMF is also boasting the new Car Club Showcase with over 80 cars less than two blocks away from the main event across from the Pinehurst Brewery. Transportation services will be available courtesy of SMF sponsors. Awards will be announced at 2pm with both show fields clearing after 3pm. Sunday evening caps off the weekend at the renowned Country Club of North Carolina (CCNC) in Pinehurst for the Awards Banquet Dinner.

If you have not registered for the Festival yet, there is still time to do so, please go to: <https://www.sandhillsmotoringfestival.com/>



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FALL IN LOVE WITH MBCA

Reprint from The Star, article by Meg Lea

Congratulations to Triangle

Section member David Tseng on his win and his engagement!

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America Social Media Committee hosted a fall photo contest on the club's Instagram page, with the promise that the winners would appear in The Star Magazine. The Fall in Love with MBCA (#fallinlovewithmbca) photo contest allowed both members and non-members to submit their Mercedes-Benz while highlighting the natural beauty of the season. We asked for their best magazine-worthy shots, and the results did not disappoint! The submission time ran from October 1st to 23rd with no limit on how many submissions could be posted. The MBCA-SMC narrowed the submissions down to the top five. That was no easy task! The five winners were featured daily on the club's Instagram page from October 26th-30th.

The winners

David Tseng from the Triangle Section in North Carolina nabbed some picturesque shots of his Cubanite silver 2008 CL63 AMG while out for a sporting drive along the Blue Ridge Parkway from Boone to Asheville. David knew that the scenic views, precision handling and AMG comfort would provide the best day to propose to his girlfriend, and he was ecstatic to report that she said yes! This CL63 holds great sentimental value as it was the car of his high school dreams. He's the proud third owner and won't be looking for a new AMG anytime soon.

Ryan Newhall is part of the New Mexico Section, and he's on a mission to show all Mercedes-Benz owners that these beauties aren't garage queens, but rather masters of the road. Ryan submitted his SLS Black Series and we cannot decide which is more stunning, his tree-lined driveway or his low-production SLS. Obviously it's the SLS, which is one of 132 shipped to the United States. Ryan has been prepping his car for an upcoming 4,000-mile rally through the Southwest in

early November. He is excited to keep adding to the miles and the memories.

Bradley Harris hails from New Brunswick, Canada, which is northeast of Maine. Bradley has dreamed of owning a Mercedes-Benz since he was a child. He came by his passion honestly, as all his family, including his grandparents, drove Mercedes. When the opportunity came along to get his C63 AMG in obsidian black, he didn't bat an eye at driving 2,200 miles to bring it home. These stunning photos were taken along route 175, at a pit stop on the way to Lepreau Falls Provincial Park. This drive is filled with coastal views, sweeping turns, and stunning water features. It's a drive everyone should add to their list!

Kiki Rigas is another Canadian from Ontario with a newfound love of classic Mercedes. She is a member of Mercedes-Benz Club of Canada as well. While hunkering down due to COVID, she purchased her first Mercedes-Benz. It was a 300TD painted in champagne. She quickly learned how to do an engine and transmission rebuild! She was out taking advantage of a perfect fall day when she stumbled across a tree farm in the Durham region. Not willing to let this picturesque moment pass, she nabbed a few stunning shots.

Janet Shields is a double Mercedes-Benz owner from the sunbelt in Atlanta, Georgia. Even though her cars have never seen the snow, she takes pride knowing the safety and handling could handle any snow or icy conditions. Janet and her husband took their 2005 CLK320 Cabriolet, painted in obsidian black metallic with stone leather interior, out for a sporting drive to celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. As many women can attest, driving a cabriolet with the top down can wreak havoc on your hair. Janet confirms that's not an issue in a Mercedes with the windscreen up. They cruised the Blue Ridge Parkway from Asheville into the mountains but also into many more blissful years of marriage.

The MBCA-SMC would like to thank everyone who participated in the photo contest! Thank you again for following along with us on Instagram and stay tuned for more events to come!





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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.

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A SIXTY-FOUR YEAR LOVE AFFAIR



Steve Redwine
Past President

This love story began in 1955, when Jack Van Stavern, a 25-year old Army Captain from West Virginia, was stationed in Munich Germany. That was the first time that he had ever laid eyes on the 1938 Mercedes-Benz 170V Roadster and immediately fell in love with it. Jack and the owner of the car, a fellow officer became friends while stationed there. Jack loved the car and got to drive it on occasions. He offered to buy the car when it was time for his friend to return to the States. The owner wanted \$500.00 for the car and after a few days of haggling, they settled on \$250.00 and a promise that Jack would drive him to the train station the day he was to leave Munich.

When it was Jack's time to leave Munich, he started looking for ways to bring the car back with him. There was no way he was leaving Germany without that car! As he was getting all of the paperwork together to ship the car and talking to other officers, he found out that if he brought the car to the loading dock with all of the correct papers and left two cartons of cigarettes on the seat, that miraculously, the car would be loaded! When the day came to load the car on the ship, Jack was there early in the morning, paperwork in hand and two cartons of cigarettes resting on the seat. He watched as they unceremoniously loaded the car until it disappeared from his view.

He would just have to wait to be re-united with it again. A few days after arriving back in the States, Jack was once again driving the 170V roadster. Upon seeing the car for the first time, Jack's wife, Doris, promptly named it "Roscoe" because it reminded her of a school mate they knew. So, "Roscoe" it was and "Roscoe" it will always be according to Jack's niece, Susan Van Stavern, who inherited the car from Jack.

It was Jack's daily driver until 1960. It was looking kind of sad and just needed too many things done to it to keep it running safely. It sat in several borrowed garages of family members until the early 80s when Jack decided to have it restored and painted back to the original colors.

Jack loved driving "Roscoe" to car shows and MBCA events and even bragged one time about beating a fellow member who owned a Gullwing!

Now Jack's passion for "Roscoe" has been taken up by Susan, who is in the process of getting "Roscoe" to his new home in Virginia and is joining the MBCA! She can't wait to drive and show "Roscoe". Now it is her time to love and care for her prized possession.

Meet "Roscoe" (1938 Mercedes-Benz 170 V Roadster)

Owner: Jack Vanstavern
Year: 1938
Model: 170 V 2-Door Roadster
Engine: M136, 1,697cc Inline 4
Wheelbase: 112 inches
Length: 168 inches
Width: 62 inches

The Mercedes-Benz W136 was Mercedes-Benz's line of inline-four cylinder automobiles from the mid-1930s into the 1950s. The model 170 V made its public debut in February 1936. Between 1936 and 1939 it was Mercedes' top selling model. Between 1936 and 1942 over 75,000 were built making it by far the most popular Mercedes-Benz up till that point.

However, the 2-door roadster was very rare with only 271 built between 1936 and 1940 and is now one of the rarest Mercedes-Benz models available for collection. In 1938 only 73 were built, one of which was Roscoe. It is an excellent example of the beautiful workmanship that went into these classic roadsters. In its day the roadster was an attractive, light automobile, which was much in demand by the members of high society and especially young ladies.

The 1.7 liter 4-cylinder engine provides a moderate 38 hp and as a lightweight car the roadster performs well with a top speed of over 60 mph. Roscoe is a true sports car, easy to handle, and uncomplicated. It has been used for outings in near vicinity and with friends at local rallies.

The cockpit amazes with its fine details like the instrument-panel and the fine quality of trim. The handling is very light and agile. It is a lovely, high-quality motorcar. The extremely rare 170 V with roadster coachwork is a very precious item within Mercedes-Benz automotive history. After 1940, it never returned in that form and represents one of the most charming members of the German light sports car. Roscoe may be the only one you will ever see.





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CLASSIC MERCEDES-BENZ

Reprint from The Star, by Sam Addison



Classic Mercedes-Benzes have always interested me. About 15 years ago I began a casual search for a car to buy. That search ended in 2015 when I bought my first classic Mercedes-Benz, a 1990 300GE imported from the Netherlands, sight unseen. I like it so much I am never planning on selling it! I was pleased to receive a second-place award for my picture of it in the 4x4 category in the first virtual car show).

Knowing about my growing passion for Mercedes-Benz, in February 2017, my cousin Daniel called me to tell me about a Mercedes-Benz he had come across. Daniel builds custom furniture, and was talking to a couple living about 20 minutes from my house who wanted a custom kitchen. They mentioned to him that before moving forward with the project, they needed to sell the "old Mercedes in the garage."

Daniel got the details that it was a 1985 380SL roadster for sale for not a lot of money, and immediately called me to see if I was interested. Knowing it was an R107, I was expecting it to be neglected like a lot of them have been.

But it was close to my house and I'm always up for seeing an old Mercedes. My girlfriend Liz and I went to see the car, money in hand in the unlikely event it panned out. The owner opened the door to his garage, and among the boxes and disused workout equipment was a dusty but immaculate Diamond-Blue Metallic 380SL. The gentleman told me that he had bought the car almost three years earlier for his wife's 50th birthday present, and she had driven it only once or twice since. It was on only its second tank of (ethanol-free) fuel since they had it. For its condition and only 64,000 miles on the odometer, the price was more than fair, so I immediately offered him cash for what he was asking.

My plan at the time was simply to fix a few things and flip the car; I just wanted to help my cousin get the job! Liz had the honor of the debut drive back to my house.

Liz enjoyed the drive home, so I had to drive it myself. We went to my parents to show them. My mom knew of my original plan to flip it, but when she looked at our smiles, she said, "Don't name it or you will get attached to it." It was already too late for that. Within 24 hours, I named the car "Mary Ann" after my grandmother, who taught me that class never goes out of style. I knew a few things that would need some attention. After all, the car is more than 30 years old and it had been sitting for three years. In addition to replacing all fluids, we also replaced the shocks, motor mounts and subframe mounts mostly because of worn bushings, but in all other respects Mary Ann has been completely reliable.

I'm a little bit obsessive about the appearance of my cars, so I also removed the headlight surrounds and other trim pieces to restore the original luster. I carefully detailed the engine and replaced the discolored coolant bottle with a new white one. I even carefully painted the dark blue around the laurel on the original hood emblem. I also made some subtle changes in the styling, tucking the big U.S. bumpers back two inches and reworked the rubber bumper ends so that they wouldn't extend past the wheel opening. Most people think it's stock, but I think it looks better than other U.S. R107s.

I'm just lucky that a couple who owned one of these cars wanted a custom kitchen instead and called my cousin.



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Please tell us their name and/or membership # so we can thank them _____
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Please be as descriptive as possible (i.e., was given a membership application at a San Diego car show)

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