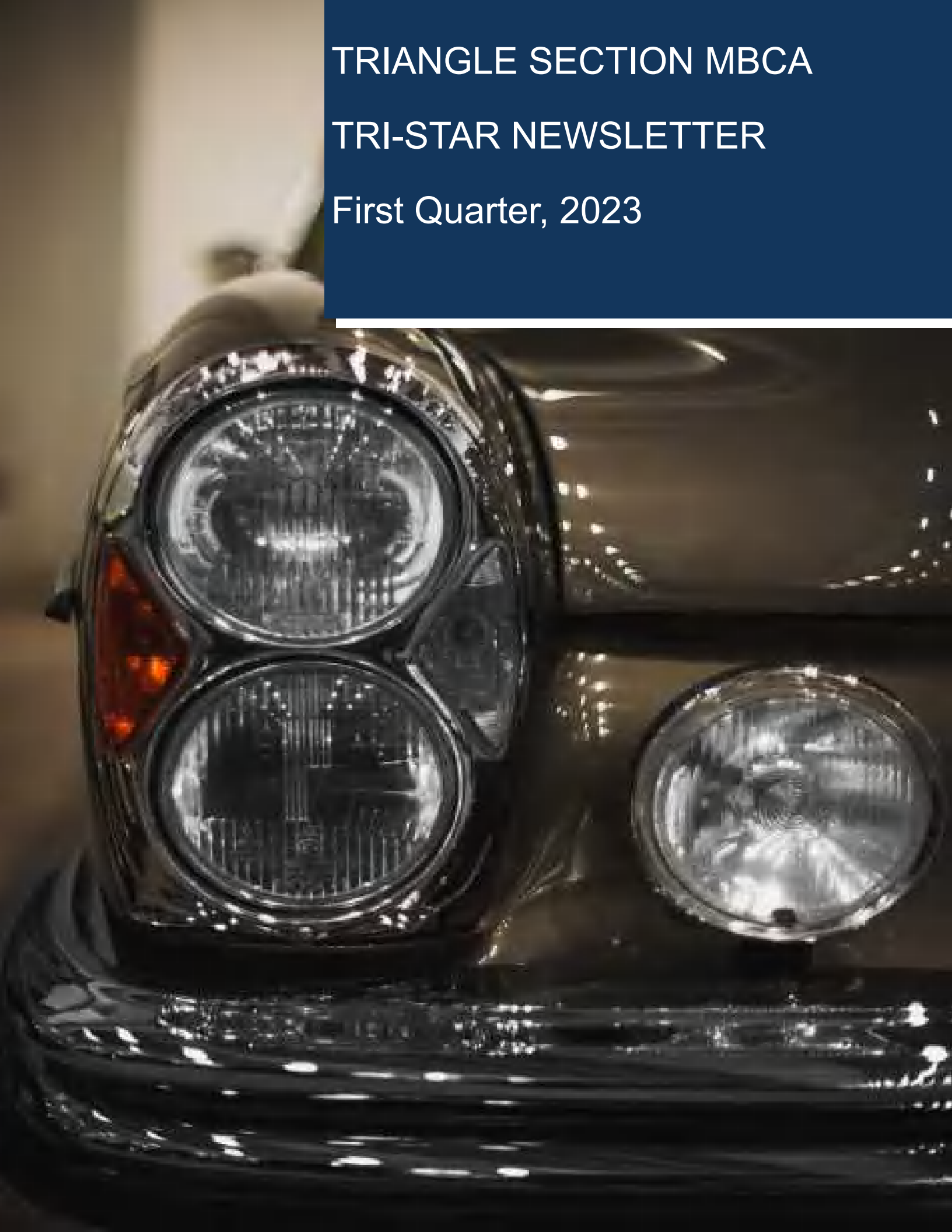


TRIANGLE SECTION MBCA

TRI-STAR NEWSLETTER

First Quarter, 2023



# TRI-STAR NEWSLETTER



First Quarter  
2023

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	President's Message
4	2023 Calendar of Events
5	Sandhills Motoring Festival Update
6	1st Quarter Business Meeting
7	A Firehouse Visit with Tom Lewis
8	Rally to Red Oak
10	My Mercedes
11	Mercedes Grande

### 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:** Christopher Smith

**Vice President:** Steven Robinson

**Treasurer:** Steven Hamelly

**Secretary:** Pam Redwine

**Past President:** Bill Faison

**Eastern Region Director:** Diana Quinn

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

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

### Tri-Star News, First Quarter, 2023

C.D.Smith, Editor-in-Chief

Tri-Star newsletter is a quarterly publication by the Triangle Section of Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc., (MBCA) provided to Triangle Section members. Explicit permission to copy or republish any article is given to all sections of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. The articles in the Tri-Star are the opinions of the writers and no authentication is given or implied as to the validity of any expressed opinions. Articles and photos are by the editor unless otherwise credited.

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

Questions? Contact [info@trianglembca.org](mailto:info@trianglembca.org) or our National Business Office at 1-800-637-2360 M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MT, or visit [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Christopher Smith

Section President



It is truly an honor to write my first official President's Message for the Triangle Section MBCA in the return of our Quarterly Newsletter. Since joining the Club back in May of 2017, I would not have guessed on that day that six years later I would be elected Section President.

When I first joined MBCA, it was with the sole intention of displaying my 1989 Mercedes-Benz 560SL in the previous Pinehurst Concours D'Elegance. Little did I know at the time 2017 would be the final year for that show. That bit of info was announced and verified by Steve Redwine at the very first section meeting I attended at Little River back in February, 2018. Instead of bailing out right then and there, I kept listening, and an announcement was made about a new show - the Sandhills Motoring Festival - and between the MBCA section members, we would have a car show in Pinehurst.

That convinced me to stay. I approached Steve after the meeting, and offered my support and assistance in the usual way - "You guys need a website? I build them." His exact response was "You're my new best friend." That settled that, I was in for the long haul and happy to be part of a great group of people. That moment set the pace for fine friendships that would come my way, and how by putting my best foot forward that day, opened my world up to a whole new realm of opportunities and adventures.

After building the new website, assisting with the Newsletter, heading up the Hagerty Youth Judging at the 2018 Sandhills Motoring Festival, Steve and Bill approached me about taking on more duties and responsibilities. I gladly accepted and the following year, I became Vice President to my esteemed predecessor (and our illustrious first Grand Poobah) Bill Faison.

Upon learning the ways of MBCA executive leadership through Bill over my four year tenure as Vice President, he decided it was time to focus more on Event Planning, in which he excels and exceeds, and I found myself elected as Section President. I will say once again it is a great honor to head up such a fine assembly of members who share a passion for Mercedes-Benz, the automobile, car events, and solid, long lasting friendships.

Looking back, this journey all started with a single thought - "How can I help out the section and club?" That is all it takes for your first step into a larger world. If you are reading this and wondering how you can help contribute, you've done the hard part, now all that is left is to get in touch with us and let us know where you would like to help out. This takes a team effort, and we have a team 200+ strong that can continue and improve upon the high standards this section strives for which is summed up very well in the Mercedes-Benz motto: "The Best or nothing".







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Call 800.637.2360

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[www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzClubofAmerica](https://www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzClubofAmerica)

[www.linkedin.com/groups/1196647](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1196647)

[www.instagram.com/mercedesbenzclubamerica](https://www.instagram.com/mercedesbenzclubamerica)

## 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*<sup>®</sup>  
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 are entitled to 7%, 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  
entitles 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.

**Mercedes-Benz Club of America**  
More Than a Car Club. We're a Community.™

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023

MBCA Event Calendar 2023	Event	Location and Notes
<b>April</b>		
Saturday, April 1, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
Sunday, April 2, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst
Saturday, April 15, 2023	Motors and Moore	Moore County Airport - Open House
TBD	Business Meeting and Luncheon	TBD
<b>May</b>		
Saturday, May 6, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
Sunday, May 7, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst
Friday, May 26, 2023	Sandhills Motoring Festival	Block Party - Pine Crest Inn, Pinehurst
Saturday, May 27, 2023	Sandhills Motoring Festival	Road Rally, Cars & Coffee, Hangar Party - Moore County Airport
Sunday, May 28, 2023	Sandhills Motoring Festival	Concours in the Village - Village of Pinehurst
<b>June</b>		
Saturday, June 3, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
Sunday, June 4, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst
Sunday, June 25, 2023	"Motors 4 Minds"	Lake Montague
<b>July</b>		
Saturday, July 1, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
Sunday, July 2, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst
TBD	Business Meeting and Luncheon	TBD
<b>August</b>		
Saturday, August 5, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
Sunday, August 6, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst
Saturday, August 19, 2023	Motors and Moore	Moore County Airport
August 25 - 26, 2023	Mercedes Showcase at Shelton Vineyards	Dobson, NC
<b>September</b>		
Saturday, September 2, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
Sunday, September 3, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Red's Corner, Southern Pines, NC
Saturday, September 16, 2023	Members Appreciation Cookout	Lake Montague
TBD	Coastal Tour and Lunch	TBD
<b>October</b>		
Sunday, October 1, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst
Saturday, October 7, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
TBD	2023 Planning/Business and Luncheon	TBD
Saturday, October 28, 2023	Festival D'Avion	Moore County Airport
<b>November</b>		
November 2 - 5, 2023	Hilton Head Concours	Hilton Head, SC
Saturday, November 4, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Morrisville, NC
Sunday, November 5, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst
<b>December</b>		
Saturday, December 2, 2023	Christmas Luncheon	Pinehurst Resort
Sunday, December 3, 2023	Cars and Coffee	Village of Pinehurst

## SANDHILLS MOTORING FESTIVAL



Christopher Smith

SMF Senior VP

Photo Courtesy of Tom Reedy, MBCA  
Member and SMF Secretary

The 2023 Sandhills Motoring Festival is fast approaching! This year's events take place May 26th through the 28th, culminating in the Concours in the Village on Sunday, May 28th from 9am until 3pm. SMF is pleased to report that not only did we have a record number of Concours applications this year, we also have a record number of fine automobiles for the Show Field. With 175 judged vehicles, plus special display cars, we are shaping up for a very impressive display on the historic streets of Pinehurst, NC.

SMF recently announced that Automotive Celebrity Ray Shaffer will be the Grand Marshal for this year's event!

Be sure to sign up for the other events before the April 15th Deadline!

Friday features the SMF Block Party at the Pine Crest Inn with BBQ, Bluegrass, and unique vehicles on display.

Saturday hosts the SMF Road Rally and Cars & Coffee - both hosted by the Moore County Airport this year. There is also the Pottery Tour and informal Car Show at Ben Owen Pottery in Seagrove. Saturday wraps up back at the Moore County Airport for the SMF Hangar Party.

Sunday features the Concours in the Village from 9am until 3pm, followed by the SMF Gala Dinner catered by Elliott's on Linden.

Sign up online via this link:

<https://www.sandhillsmotoringfestival.com/register/>



## 1ST QUARTER BUSINESS MEETING

The new year got underway with our 1st Quarter Business Meeting at Garibaldi's.

Our year began with a new slate of Section Officers – familiar faces in some familiar roles, some in new roles!

Our Section Officers for 2023 are:

President: Christopher Smith

Vice President: Steven Robinson

Treasurer: Steven Hamelly

Secretary: Pam Redwine

Events Coordinator: Bill Faison

On Saturday, January 21st, Garibaldi's hosted our section for our 1st Quarter Business Meeting and Luncheon. We had 20 members in attendance and we were joined by Hagerty representatives Carol Huff and Paul Kaperonis, who recently joined forces in the auto insurance industry. The food was fabulous and the camaraderie was outstanding as we discussed section events, national goings-on, and general club information.

We are also looking for content for our Quarterly Newsletter – if you have an article to share with us, or want to tell us about yourself, or your Mercedes-Benz, please reach out to me via email on ways to help!



## TOM LEWIS FIREHOUSE TOUR AND LUNCHEON

On Saturday, February 25th, Triangle Section member and Mercedes-Benz aficionado, Tom Lewis, invited us to tour his converted Fire Station in Moncure.

Ever the gracious host, Tom walked us through the history of his place, its former role as a Fire Station, the conversion to an automotive enthusiast garage and workspace, and regaled us stories of his automotive collection and upkeep of his one of a kind man cave. After the tour, members enjoyed a BBQ luncheon.





## RALLY TO RED OAK

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On March 18th, the Triangle Section embarked on a backroads journey Mercedes-Benz of Durham to the Red Oak brewery in Whitsett for a fun-filled day.

Members assembled at Mercedes-Benz of Durham at 11:00am and departed at 11:30am. The drive took about an hour and half and we arrived at Red Oak around 1:00 pm.

Thanks to our reserved seating in the Lager Haus BierGarten, we enjoyed some of Red Oak's brews. Food was available from their Wursthhaus with bratwurst, frankfurters, and pretzels rounding out the menu.

Photos courtesy of John Swansey, MBCA Member



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## MY MERCEDES



Contributed by:

William Parrish, Jr.

Well it started with hosting the Rock Barn EuroClassic in 2015. You see back in my working days as Executive V.P. of Beaver Sports Properties and Rock Barn Country Club, my neighbor, MBCA Tarheel Section officer Gary Swinkey approached me about hosting an European Car event at Rock Barn. After meeting with MBCA Tarheel Section board members, I felt like the classic cars that would be involved, especially the Mercedes brand, would be a good fit and representation of Rock Barn's brand. So arrangements were made and the very successful Rock Barn EuroClassic was staged with about 65 European treasures lining the 18th fairway of the Robert Trent Jones, Jr. Members Course.

Agreeing that the 1979 Silver over Red Euro 280SL in the photos on Swinkey's iPad were stunning, I still didn't know anything about the car. Wait - here comes the good part. "No problem", exclaimed the two of them at once. The man who owns it is here. "Hey Steve, can you come here a minute?", and up comes a third stranger, introduced as the president of the Triangle Section ('TRIANGLE' - fitting I thought since I was in the middle of one!). I was dutifully introduced to an alleged 'Steve Redwine', who claimed to own the car in the photos after feigning his surprise at Swinkey having photos of the car. I hadn't ordered seafood, but it was suddenly smelling very fishy!



But wait – I didn't have a Mercedes; likely the only Tarheel Section member presenting that affliction. It was then that I was exposed to the comraderie and family-oriented nature of Mercedes owners (although I will admit that at first I felt like I may have been a potential victim of a scheme. Let me explain, and the names have not been changed to protect those guilty of involvement.

Now some of you reading this know Steve Redwine (in fact his real name). And you know how engaging he is. Apparently he can recognize an easy mark. He gave the old, well-he-really-was-not-thinking-about-selling-it, but that I looked like a nice guy and he threw out a price. I leaned on my tough negotiating skills and said I'll take it. The deal was done! So where's the car I asked at this point in the bargaining. It's not here – it's at my home – in Cary. OK fine, I'll come get it next week, and does it come with a Rolex? So now my wife Tanya comes to the lunch table to get out of the sun and have a bite. As she is ordering, I'm thinking of how I'm going to break this to her. Well I've probably got a week or so to work that out I thought. Apparently word travels fast at car shows. Up walks a fellow from Gastonia and the Carolinas Section who owns a yellow SDL with over 400,000 miles on it and says, "Well Bill, you're really going to enjoy that 280SL. It is a real beauty", said Jim Love. I was about to laugh it off saying something creative and innocent like, Yeah sure – I wish! But before I could stage my vocal chords Tanya offered, "Is there something you need to tell me?" BUSTED! I, I mean WE, have had the car for seven years now. We had the above photos front & back on our Christmas cards that first year with the phrase, Oh What Fun! (Upon receiving his card, Redwine told a friend that he knew he had sold it to the right person.)



First, Gary Swinkey shared my word of malady with the then Tarheel Section president, who subsequently shared the sad story with his fellow Tarheel Section member Dierik Freed. Apparently Dierik had seen me and my wife Tanya (mostly me) ogling over the five or six R107s lining #18 fairway. Dierik approached me, having noticed my obvious admiration for the R107s. He explained to me that he had relayed my unfortunate condition Mr. Swinkey, and mentions an R107 somewhere in the Raleigh area, adding that it was a beauty. A few minutes later over lunch, Mr. Swinkey pulls out his iPad and says, "I just happen to have some photos of this car!" OK, so you already know the feeling I'm having at this point.) After all, I have been on the streets of New York City before, and I have even been on used car lots talking with plaid jackets. Heck, I even bought a 'genuine' rolex there once for \$20. And now I was beginning to have recollections of losing my bus fare playing three card monte in New York! And here I am again, talking with two near strangers, one completely bald and the other with a great shock of a well-coiffed white mane – but neither wearing a plaid jacket. I hadn't seen anything like this tag team before. It gets better...

Since then, we have added a 1989 560 SL to the family. We love to drive them both and we do it often, and we delight in meeting others who enjoy their Mercedes-Benz experiences.





*September 7th - September 10th*

The 2023 MERCEDES GRANDE in Indianapolis, Indiana is a celebration of all things Mercedes-Benz. Four days of Mercedes-Benz Culture, Causes, People, Lifestyle, Technology, and Cars Presented by the Mercedes Benz Club of America. Plan now to be a part of this exciting and extraordinary affair!

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Visit  
<https://www.mercedesgrande.org/>  
For Details!



# Motors 4 Minds

Presented by the  
Triangle Section MBCA

Open to all Car Clubs and all Car Makes and Models

The entry fee is \$100.00 per car

- All entrants receive the following with their entry fee:
- Event logo hat
- Lunch for the driver and one passenger from Wicked Link Sausage Company
- Beverages for the driver and one passenger from the NC Tap Truck
- Eligible for Awards
- The balance of the proceeds will go to the Alzheimer's Association

Additional donations for Motors 4 Minds will go to the Alzheimer's Association  
for care, support, and research

To Register, please go to <http://msreg.com/2023M4M>



**WHEN:**

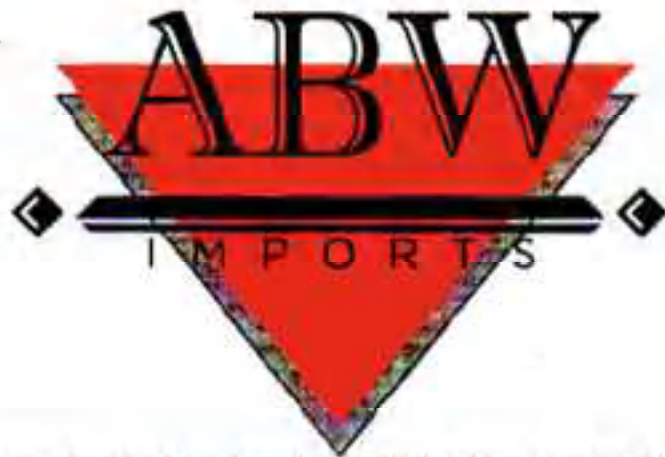
June 25, 2023 | 12pm until 4pm

**WHERE:**

Montague Lake | 10305 Penny Rd. Raleigh

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Call 800.637.2360 Mon-Fri 9am-4:30pm and Fri 9am-4pm Mtn Time or

Print and Mail this completed application to MBCA, INC 1907 Lelaray St. Colorado Springs CO, 80909-9959

## Primary Member Dues (U.S. residents) Associate Member\* FREE

☐ 3 Years \$157 **Best Value!** ☐ 2 Years ☐ \$107 ☐ 1 Year \$55

Canadian & International Member dues: ☐ 3 Years: \$187 ☐ 2 Years: \$127 ☐ 1 Year: \$65

Which MBCA section are you interested in joining?

### Primary Member

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Suffix Jr./Sr./III)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Is this: ☐ Home ☐ Work ☐ Cell

\*Associate (Spouse or Partner) Member. Anyone 18+ years of age living in the Primary Member's residence. Associates receive all benefits of the Primary Member minus an additional subscription to The Star and voting privileges.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ (Suffix Jr./Sr./III)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Is this: ☐ Home ☐ Work ☐ Cell

### Mercedes-Benz Vehicles You Currently Own/Lease (list years & models)

If you drive or own more than one Mercedes, please answer these questions for the Mercedes you drive most frequently

Do you: ☐ Own ☐ Lease ☐ I do not own a Mercedes-Benz but am an enthusiast!

Is your Mercedes: ☐ New ☐ Used ☐ Certified Pre-Owned

Where did you buy or lease your Mercedes?

☐ A Dealership that specializes in Mercedes-Benz

☐ A Dealership that specializes in vehicles other than Mercedes-Benz

☐ An independent Dealer

☐ Private sale

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe  
Please tell us how you FIRST heard about  
the Mercedes-Benz Club of America:

☐ Mercedes-Benz Dealer

Dealership name, city & state: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Independent Dealer

Dealership name, city & state: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Another MBCA Member

Please tell us their name and/or membership # so we can thank them

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Please be as descriptive as possible (i.e., was given a membership application at a San Diego car show)

### Payment Options

The MBCA has over 80 local sections, or chapters, throughout North America. You will be assigned to a single Section according to your postal code unless you request an alternate below. You may also join additional Sections for \$15/year each. Visit [www.mbca.org/local-club-sections](http://www.mbca.org/local-club-sections) or contact the National Recruits Office at 800.637.2360 for details.

Membership Fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + Additional Section Fee(s)\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = Total Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Associate Member FREE/NO fee for add'l section payment)

☐ Please auto-select my Section according to my postal code OR

☐ Please assign me to the following alternate Section: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Name(s) of add'l Section(s) I'd like to join: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ My check or money order (in U.S. funds) is enclosed payable to "MBCA" Check # \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Charge my ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amex ☐ Discover

☐ Check here to opt out of auto renew my annual membership

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