



# Das Kabel

## CAR SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

### Kickoff of the 2018 Show Season!

The first show event attended by CVS-MBCA members was the Williamsburg British Car Club's Annual British & European Car Show held at the High Street shopping center in Williamsburg, Virginia. It was a beautiful day of warm temperatures and plenty of sunshine, even if the wind and pollen were a little overbearing.

This was a new venue for this show and IMHO the best so far. The show field was a large parking lot adjacent to the shopping area and right off the main drag of Richmond Road/Route 60. There were several eateries within easy walking distance, including Revolution Golf & Grill, which provided a price-fixe lunch menu for show participants.

Seven Mercedes-Benz were on display, including your's truly's 1988 560SEC, a.k.a, "Johnny," and our fearless leader's 1958 190, for which he took 2nd Place in Class. First Place was awarded to Jerry Lester and his 300SL Gullwing Tribute, while the 3rd Place trophy was taken home by our own Will Milby

(below) and his 1971 280SL.

A good time was had by all and even though "Johnny" didn't drive away with any hardware in his trunk from his debut show we sure received a lot of compliments, comments and questions regarding his provenance.

*Ed.*



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## FEARLESS LEADER

My fascination with cars started about the time I started walking. After cars came farm tractors and bicycles. At age 15 we had a car with a load of water in the gas. I found that I could tear the carb apart in minutes, clean it and soon we were back on the road. In 1970 I started working in the shop at McGeorge Car Co., first working on Toyotas and then Mercedes. I specialized in burn restorations, automatic transmission rebuilds and customizing features for customers cars. Over the years I worked on everything from 300SL Roadsters to 600's and everything in between. I moved from the shop to other areas in the company and finally retired after 41 years. In 2012 I inherited a disassembled 1958 190. It remains a work in progress. I am fortunate enough to be married to someone who understands and appreciates my passion for cars. A few years ago we moved to a home that enabled us to construct my dream garage. You'll find me out there almost daily tinkering on Mercedes (and sometimes other cars) and spending time teaching others how to repair and restore cars.



Over the years I have owned 1965 190D, 1968 280S, 1970 220D, 1971 220D, 1986 300E, 1990 300TE-4M, 1993 E320A, 1994 E320S, 1995 E320A, 1999 SL500, 2000 SLK230, 2002 E320S-4M, 2004 E320S-4M, 2004 CLK 500A, 2006 C230

We currently own 1958 190, 2002 ML500 (my truck for towing a 16ft trailer), and my wife's 2000 SLK230.

Recently, I found a bargain I couldn't let go: A 1987 190E, which will become my Grandson's first car (when I'm finished with it).

My vision for the club is to present the members with something Mercedes- related to do on a regular basis. I realize that not everyone finds everything interesting but over time there should be something for all. I want to encourage everyone to be involved in the club, so if anyone has suggestions as to activities that might interest him or her please email or call and let us know. ([cvsmbca@gmail.com](mailto:cvsmbca@gmail.com) or 804-288-0885).

*Owen "Chip" Hughes  
President, CVS-MBCA*



## VICE SPEAK



I would just like to say that it had truly been a pleasure being a part of the club and involved with the section events, as well as one of the officers to help build our following. I hope that am able to continue my work with and for this great organization.

Please enjoy some of my photos (below) of our most recent outing to the Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum.

*Steven O'York, CVS-MBCA Vice-President*



# UNVERBLÜMT



Welcome to the first issue of *Das Kabel* (*The Cable* or *Wire*) the new newsletter of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America's Central Virginia Section. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Brad Purvis and I've been a "car guy" for as long as I can remember, especially German and British cars, although I once had a ten year affair with the Italian mistress *Alfa Romeo*. The first car I ever really remember being interested in was a 1959 VW Beetle that my father brought back from a "Med Cruise" when he was in the Navy. I was about four or five years old at the time. My father turned out to be a VW aficionado for quite a long period, so subsequently my first car was a 1964 Beetle, which my father bought when we were transferred to Spain in 1964. Seven years later

and four years after returning from our tour the VW was passed to me after a stint with my middle sister during her years away at college.

I'll elaborate more on my cars in subsequent issues; however, more of you may be familiar with my 1988 560 SEC "*Johnny*." I've posted several stories on the CVS' Facebook page in the past, but for those of you not in the know, "*Johnny*" was originally owned by none other than the King of Late Night himself, *Johnny Carson*. Yeah, that *Johnny*! There is a lot to the story of *Johnny*'s discovery, , rescue, resurrection and rebirth, but again, I will save that for another time.

My darling and long-suffering wife Avril and I also own two other Mercedes-Benz automobiles. My 2012 E350 Cabriolet, which I drive back and forth to Washington D.C. at least weekly to get to my day job flying airplanes and Avril's 2012 GLK 350, which hauls everything from plants, flowers and fertilizers in her role as a Master Gardener to rescued animals (all sorts) and anything and everything in between. So you can see we are a Mercedes-Benz centric couple. I do have two T-Series MG's as well, but their stories are better left to a subsequent issue or maybe even another venue.

My goal as your new editor is to bring the newsletter to you in an entertaining, pertinent and timely manner, so as to help you get the most out of your membership in the CVS-MBCA. As such, I will *always* be open to suggestions for improvement, types of articles you would like to see and most importantly, *your* stories. I know you have them out there just waiting to be told. Don't worry about how it looks or sounds, or spelling or sentence flow. I'll take whatever you send me and with the help of my very understanding and intelligent wife Avril, we will make you look like the next Bill Bryson. Okay, maybe not that good, but you have no fear of being embarrassed in print, unless, of course, the story itself is embarrassing

So there you have it. Volume 1, Number 1, Summer 2018 of *Das Kabel* is in your hands. Time to get out there and enjoy our Mercedes-Benz and come up with more stories for this tome.

*Remember, if you don't know where you are going, any road will take you there.*

*Brad Purvis, Editor*



## NEW MERCEDES-BENZ A-CLASS



Production of the new Mercedes-Benz A-Class began in Rastatt, Germany on April 19. This fourth generation A-Class includes integration of Mercedes-Benz User Experience or MBUX, which is Daimler's newest multimedia system which will eventually be installed in all Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

Markus Schäfer, Member of the Divisional Board of Mercedes-Benz Cars, Production & Supply Chain, drove the first unit off the assembly line.

Production of the A-Class series started with the W168 at the Rastatt plant in 1997 with the A140 & A160. The W168 became infamous in 1997 after flipping over during the traditional "Elk Test" performed by the Swedish automobile publication *Teknikens Värld*. According to the report, the W168 overturned when maneuvering to avoid a simulated "elk." Mercedes initially denied the problem, but then took corrective action by recalling all units (2,600) and suspending sales for three months. The instability was addressed by adding an electronic stability control system (ESC) and modifying the suspension to the tune of DM 300,000,000 or about \$268,078,204 in today's dollars.

The new Mercedes-Benz A-Class is equipped with the latest advanced driving assistance systems. Many tech elements found in the S-Class trickled down to the hatchback and some new items debuting in the W177 will "trickle up" to the the rest of the model range, eventually finding their way into the S-Class. The new A-Class front track has increased by 14 mm  
(continued next page)

while the wheelbase grows by 30mm, thus enlarging overall interior space. The new car is also 3db more quiet inside than the earlier models according to Mercedes. The MBUX contains a unique feature that lets the car learn from the preferences and habits of the driver, thanks to artificial intelligence. Its intelligent voice control is activated by simply saying “Hey Mercedes.” Not to be confused with “Hey Siri.”

*Ed.*



Top - First Generation A140 W168  
1997-2004

Middle - Second Generation A180CDI  
W169 2004-2012

Bottom - Third Generation A45 AMG  
W176 2013-2018.

*(Photos courtesy of M93)*





## TIME TO RENEW?

It's that time of year again. Is your MBCA membership due? Have you (inadvertently) allowed your membership to lapse? Then log onto <https://www.mbca.org/user/renew> and get 'er done! If you have any questions, please contact Membership Secretary Glen Pierce at [piercethewarden@aol.com](mailto:piercethewarden@aol.com).



## MEMBERSHIP & BENEFITS

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

CVS-MBCA welcomes the following new members:

Kenneth Andrews	Stafford
William Baker Sr.	Roanoke
Thomas Burgess	Abingdon
David Crigler	Moon
Jean Enroughty	Henrico
Austin Gregory	Vinton
Wanda Hall	Glen Allen
Ethan Hanny	Bristol
Scott Hilligsberg	Christianburg
Samuel Jackson, Jr.	Stafford
Daniel Naylor	Roanoke
Tad Weigle	Crozet
<b>Mercedes-Benz of Midlothian</b>	<b>Midlothian</b>

#### Your membership in the CVS-MBCA includes:

- Free subscriptions to the national club magazine, *The Star*.
- Free bi-monthly Central Virginia Section newsletter, *Das Kabel*
- Loyalty rewards program
  - If you've been a member of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America for 12 consecutive months or longer without lapse and are a *current* member now, you're entitled to receive \$500 off the purchase or lease price of any NEW Mercedes-Benz vehicle.
- Airstream Loyalty Rewards Program
  - Save \$500 off the purchase price of a NEW Airstream Autobahn® or Airstream Interstate®, both built on the award-winning Mercedes-Benz Sprinter chassis.
- Discounts on parts from participating Mercedes-Benz dealers and private companies.
- National discounts from retailers like Brooks Brothers.
- Collector car insurance discounts from Hagerty®.
- Annual MBCA sponsored trips to Germany.
- Access to the MBCA online forum.
- Access to technical experts via telephone, email, or forum.
- Free classified advertising in *The Star & Das Kabel*.
- Chapter events throughout the year.
- Many other benefits! For a complete list, see <https://www.mbca.org/member-benefits>.

This is one membership that pays handsome dividends, so give us a try! How to join? Visit the membership signup page on the MBCA site at [www.mbca.org/join-today](http://www.mbca.org/join-today).



## MBCA NATIONAL ELECTION

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America will conduct a national election this year to select four Directors at Large and six Regional Directors. The Directors at Large whose terms expire in 2018 are Julie Bruggner, Scott Sluts, Sr., Cliff Reyle and Frank Cozza.

Regional Directors in the six even-numbered regions will also be elected this year. Affected regions include: Mid-Atlantic Region (2), South Central Region (4), Southwest Region (8), Great Lakes Region (8), Southeast Region (10) and the Eastern Region (12)

Active members interested in running for office are encouraged to go online for information and petition forms:

1. Go to [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org).
2. Click on the *Login* button at the top right corner of the home page and follow the log-in instructions.
3. Click on the navigation tab titled *Community* then click on the drop down titled *MBCA Resources*. The printable petition forms are under the *Election* section.

Completed Nomination Petitions and Conflict of Interest forms were due at the Nation Business Office (NBO) by May 15, 2018.

If you need assistance, please call the NBO at: (800) 637-2360 between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:40 pm Monday through Thursday and 8:00 am through 4:00 pm on Fridays. The deadline for submitting valid petitions is close of business, Tuesday, May 15, 2018.



## PICTURES FROM THE WBCC BRITISH & EUROPEAN CAR SHOW IN WILLIAMSBURG APRIL 14



*Photos courtesy of Owen "Chip" Hughes*

## CLASSIFIEDS



Big Blue Car  
A/C needs a recharge  
TMU  
\$29.95 O.B.O.  
Call BR-549  
or email:  
[YGBKM@noway.com](mailto:YGBKM@noway.com)

Kiniplinger Pin  
Full size  
Fits any Mercedes-Benz built since 1954  
99¢  
-  
Framastat  
Like new  
For 600 Pullman and 560 SEC  
\$1  
Call 888-123-4567  
or email:  
[OMG@fraudster.net](mailto:OMG@fraudster.net)

**Das Kabel** accepts classified advertising from CVS members of Mercedes-Benz cars, parts and services and it's **Free!** to CVS members. Please send a picture of the car or item you wish to sell and a brief description including contact information and I will put it in the next issue.



**GORDEN WAGENER - CHIEF DESIGN OFFICER**

Gorden Wagener became Chief Design Officer of Daimler AG in 2016 after 19 years with the company. Herr Wagener joined Mercedes-Benz as a designer in 1997 after graduating from the University of Essen with a degree in Transportation Design and subsequently the Royal College of Art in London.

Gorden and his international team are responsible for the design of all brands and products within Daimler AG, including all cars as well as a “holistic” corporate design of all brands, with the focus on the Mercedes-Benz brand.

In 2009 Herr Wagener developed the design philosophy known coined as “sensual purity,” which he claims “defines a modern luxury.”

Wagener worked closely on such designs as the new E-Class, C-Class, S-Class models as well as the GLE Coupé and GLC. In addition, he was a principal on the Mercedes-AMG GT along with numerous show-cars such as the Concept EQ, the Vision Mercedes-Maybach 6 and the F015 Luxury in Motion.

Gorden Wagener was born on September 3, 1968, in Essen, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany.



*Photo courtesy of Daimler AG*



## ROAD TRIP

On Saturday, 5 May, the CVS rendezvoused at Mercedes-Benz of Richmond on Midlothian Turnpike for a Saturday drive, lunch and museum visit. In all 13 cars turned up for the event, our destination the Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum in Colonial Heights. After a few minutes of wandering around meeting and greeting and looking at the newest Mercedes-Benz vehicles on offer, we were off on a meandering drive through the Virginia backcountry. It was a beautiful route scouted out by our Fearless Leader, Chip Hughes and but for one missed turn (oops!) we all managed to make it safe and sound to the museum's parking lot.

Our first order of business was to grab some lunch at Sibley's BBQ, located inside the museum building. The BBQ was promised to be some of the best in the state and I can tell you Sibley's did not fail to deliver, and deliver they did. Each portion was enough for three people, so most of us "doggy bagged" some home.

After lunch we made our way into the museum proper and I, for one, was very impressed. The museum is quite large and full of big tractors, small tractors and in-between tractors. One of the tractors was reminiscent of my grandfather's Ford, which I spent many an hour on plowing between citrus trees while working the family farm during portions of my youth. There are also some rather large industrial/farm trucks and even some old cars, including three early T-Birds set up in a garage display. They even had one car near and dear to my heart, a pristine MG TD. Pretty cool.

Also on view were a number of display cases filled with models of all sorts of trucks and tractors. One could literally spend hours inside meandering around and taking it all in. Sadly, with some serious weather threatening, a number of us decided discretion was the better part of valor and chose to cut and run before the heavy stuff hit. That said, I will be back to the Keystone Truck & Tractor Museum in the future to spend some more time and ask some more questions of the ever obliging staff.

*Brad P.*







**HACK'S CORNER****Noun**

hack job

1. A job that was completed quickly and carelessly, possibly with one's mind on other things, or without using the correct tools, or parts, even if no mistakes were made.

**Synonyms**

- botched job, bodge job



If you have any hack techniques that you would like to share, please send them in along with a picture or two to the editor at: [bradpurvis@mac.com](mailto:bradpurvis@mac.com).



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## GRAB THE KEYS

**Fredericksburg AACA Antique Car Show****June 2, 2018 (Event)**

10:00 am to 3:00 pm  
700 Block of Caroline St  
Fredericksburg, VA 22401  
Contact: rdgjgb@aol.com  
(703) 725-7948  
Website: <http://hfraaca.org/>

**Cars & Coffee Williamsburg****June 9, 2018**

8:00 am - 10:00 am  
The Coffeehouse  
5251 John Tyler Hwy.  
Williamsburg, VA  
[www.carsandcoffeewilliamsburg.com](http://www.carsandcoffeewilliamsburg.com)

**MBCA Stuttgart Summer Tour\*****July 16-22, 2018**

Contact: Jim O'Sullivan  
[osullivanj55@gmail.com](mailto:osullivanj55@gmail.com)  
(843) 671-2079

**Annual 3-Section Mercedes Day at the Winery****August 25, 2018 - 12:00pm til...**

Shelton Winery  
Shelton, North Carolina  
Contact: Nick Pasquine  
[nickpasq@aol.com](mailto:nickpasq@aol.com)

**Legends of the Autobahn 2018\*****August 24, 2018**

Nicklaus Club  
Monterey, CA  
Contact: Allen Stephens  
[allen.c.stephens@gmail.com](mailto:allen.c.stephens@gmail.com)  
503-708-0397  
<https://legendsoftheautobahn.org/#faq>  
<https://mbca.org/legends>

**MBCA-Virginia Summerfest 2018****August 25, 2018 (Event)**

Dominion Raceway  
6501 Dominion Raceway Avenue  
Thornburg, Virginia  
The Virginia Section will host a High Speed Driving Event on Dominion Raceway's road course.

Contact: Don LaBar, [dlabar3@verizon.net](mailto:dlabar3@verizon.net)  
(757) 620-6772

Registration: [www.motorsportreg.com](http://www.motorsportreg.com/events/summerfest-2018-dominion-raceway-mbca-virginia-627958)  
events/summerfest-2018-dominion-raceway-mbca-virginia-627958

**Mercedes & Muskets****September 7-9, 2018**

Williamsburg, VA  
Hosted by MBCA Carolinas Section  
Contact: Nick Pasquine  
[NickPasq@aol.com](mailto:NickPasq@aol.com)

**MBCA Stuttgart Fall Tour\*****September 24-30, 2018**

Contact: Jim O'Sullivan  
[osullivanj55@gmail.com](mailto:osullivanj55@gmail.com)  
(843) 671-2079

**CVS MBCA Holiday Party****January ??, 2019 (Event)**

12:00 pm to 2:00 pm  
Bavarian Chef  
5102 S. Seminole Trail  
Madison, VA 22727

\* = MBCA Sanctioned Event

Dates marked with (Event) are the CVS event(s) of the month. Please forward any event information, including date, location and contact, to [bradpurvis@mac.com](mailto:bradpurvis@mac.com) for inclusion on this list.





Visit us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/Central-Virginia-Section-Mercedes-Benz-Club-of-America-652612551444306/>

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the MBCA is open to any Mercedes-Benz enthusiast regardless whether you own a Mercedes-Benz or not. For more information please visit <https://www.mbca.org/join-today>. To renew your current or lapsed membership visit <https://www.mbca.org/user/renew>. If you have any questions please Email our Membership Chairman Glen Pierce at: [piercethewarden@aol.com](mailto:piercethewarden@aol.com).

Visit us online at: <https://cva.mbca.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Central-Virginia-Section-Mercedes-Benz-Club-of-America-652612551444306/>



## SUBMISSIONS

We encourage our members to submit articles, stories and pictures for publication in *Das Kabel*. We kindly ask you follow the specifications listed below. To submit an article, please send to [bradpurvis@mac.com](mailto:bradpurvis@mac.com). Make sure you reference *Das Kabel* somewhere in the subject line.

### SUBMISSION DEADLINE

15th of the month preceding the issue month,  
i.e.,

Spring issue: 15 February

### SUBMISSION SPECIFICATIONS

Text: any Arial, Verdana or Helvetica

Font Size: 10-12 pt

Format: Word, Pages or Text file

Photos: max size 1MB, jpeg or gif  
(min 800 x 800 pixels)

**Membership Count ≈ 173**

*Das Kabel is the official publication of The Central Virginia Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America*

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## UND SO WEITER



DISCLAIMER: *Das Kabel's* purpose is to disseminate news, technical information and superfluous minutiae related to *Mercedes-Benz* automobiles. Any maintenance technique, modification or hack published in *Das Kabel* should be weighed against conventional, traditional, and generally archaic maintenance practices and procedures established by Trappist Monks. *Das Kabel* is not the authority on

maintaining or improving *Mercedes-Benz* automobiles. The views expressed are those of the author of the article or person quoted and not necessarily that of the Editor, CVS, MBCA, Mercedes-Benz NA, Daimler AG or any of their affiliated organizations (*although maybe they should be*). Owners should consider possible techniques or modifications in light of common sense and compromises involving economy, longevity, performance, reliability, drivability, legality, and resale value not to mention the affect on one's virtue, morality, integrity, dignity, honor, respectability, nobility, purity, ethics and good character. Any modifications possibly affecting emissions or safety are just silly and should not be attempted. Neither this publication nor this organization, Editor or his minions will assume any liability for ensuing consequences for your inept application of those techniques described herein. *So there.* (photo courtesy of Daimler AG)

- Editor

CVS-MBCA

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