

**EASTERN OKLAHOMA SECTION
OF THE
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA**

**TULSA STAR NEWS
January - February 2021**



**John Kushnerick
President**

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Happy Holidays to all our members in Eastern Oklahoma. 2020 has been a challenging year for everyone across the globe and I hope the vaccine will allow us to get back to a sense of normalcy by midyear.

We closed off this year with an event that I look forward to each year. The Marine Corps Toys for Tots fun drive is a driving event that culminates in a gathering at Jackie Cooper Imports. I would like to thank Steve Canada social director for the Cimarron section of the Porsche Club of America for his planning efforts and Kristen Doyle and Steve Lujan at Jackie Cooper Imports for their support of this annual tradition. Due to COVID-19 protocols the dealership found a way to hold the toy delivery in a safe environment.

With COVID-19 19 cases rising, it still becomes difficult to plan activities. I will keep you informed in emails should we put together events in which we can safely participate.

I want to thank Ben and Sharon Cunningham for their section leadership and participation. Ben and Sharon have relocated to Edmond OK. Ben is our current section Vice President and newsletter editor. The Cunningham's will continue to be section members and I am sure we will see them though not as much due to the distance.

I seek your help in filling Ben's shoes for the balance of his term as Vice President (9 months). Also, Ben has filled in as a transition newsletter editor for the past 2 issues. Anyone seeking to act as Vice President or serve as our newsletter editor for 2021 is welcome to call or email me your interest. The newsletter is a vital part of our communication. Ben has set up a template that will work for anyone who is willing to plug and play. The stories and images are provided to the Editor. All we ask is that you help put it together and make it pretty and follow national MBCA guidelines.

This organization survives with the work of a few dedicated members. I ask you to help support our efforts in any way you can. Member Richard Toler stepped up and planned the visit to the Auburn, Cord, and Duesenberg factory which all attendees agree was a great visit to an undiscovered gem in Eastern Oklahoma. If you have an idea, the section will support you if you take the ball and run with it.

Finally, we were awarded the Section of the year award at the recent national MBCA meeting. I am proud of all the efforts of our officers and board who helped us achieve this honor. (See more details in this newsletter).

There is light at the end of the tunnel. 2021 will be an opportunity to try and get our club back to normal.

Please be safe and have a blessed holiday season.

Our Face Book Page – Web Site <http://easternok.mbca.org>



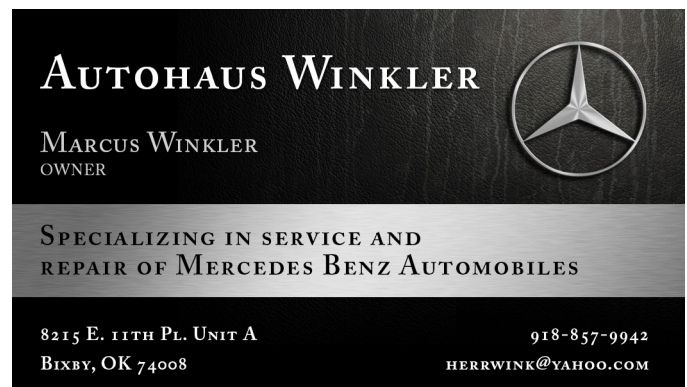
We continue to see increased activity on our Facebook Page and encourage everyone to like our page as an easy way to keep updated on the club activities.

Please encourage your friends to like us on Facebook

Place an Ad in our Newsletter

- | | |
|------------------|-------|
| 1. Full Page | \$175 |
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| 3. Business Card | \$65 |

Price is for a year – 6 Issues



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NEW SPRINTER CENTER OPENS AT JACKIE COOPER MERCEDES BENZ

Jackie Cooper Mercedes Benz opened their new Sprinter Shop in late November. The new service center is home to six service bays and can handle anything from engine management (gas or diesel), drivetrain, electronics, and all other needs.

The first thing you notice in the new building is the brightness of the walls and ceiling. With the tall walls and bay doors, the vans can be placed on the lifts and never have to worry about having the vehicle top out.

The new full service center will have three technicians and can handle all Sprinter motor homes and commercial vehicles.

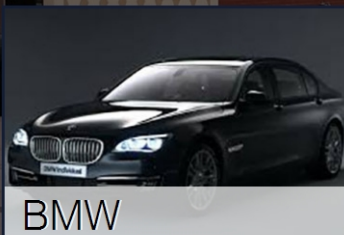
They also are there to help you with authorized “up-fitting” services to help customize your Mercedes Benz Sprinter.

If you are looking to purchase a Sprinter see Greg Gleason in the showroom.



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Not Goodbye, Just a Little Distance

Long standing loyal members Ben and Sharon Cunningham have sold their home recently and will be relocating to Edmond OK. Members for the past thirteen years, Ben and Sharon were always active in section events and leadership. Ben served as section Vice President and newsletter editor twice during his tenure. They will remain with our section and we hope to see them at upcoming events whenever possible.



National Award

EASTERN OKLAHOMA SECTION WINS NATIONAL AWARD

On Saturday November 14, the Eastern Oklahoma section was named 2019 Section of the Year at the national MBCA annual board meeting. This is the first time that our section has achieved this award since its founding in 2006. This award is the highest award any section can achieve for its overall performance. The award recognizes sections that demonstrate excellence in operations, member services, and community engagement. Ten criteria are used in the evaluation process:

- Membership gains vs the prior year
- Newsletter
- Co-sponsored events with other partners or MBCA sections
- Social events
- Membership promotion
- Charity events
- Advanced planning
- Financial integrity and control
- A general statement of why the section should be considered for the award.

The section will receive an updated banner with the designation as Section of the year, a plaque, and recognition in the January-February Star magazine.





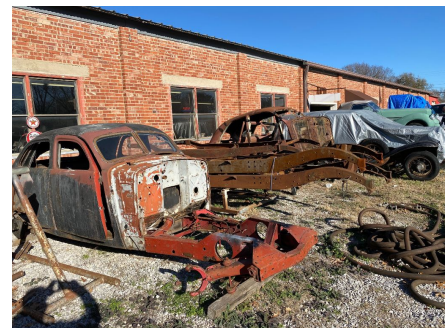
Tour of the Auburn, Cord, Duesenberg factory

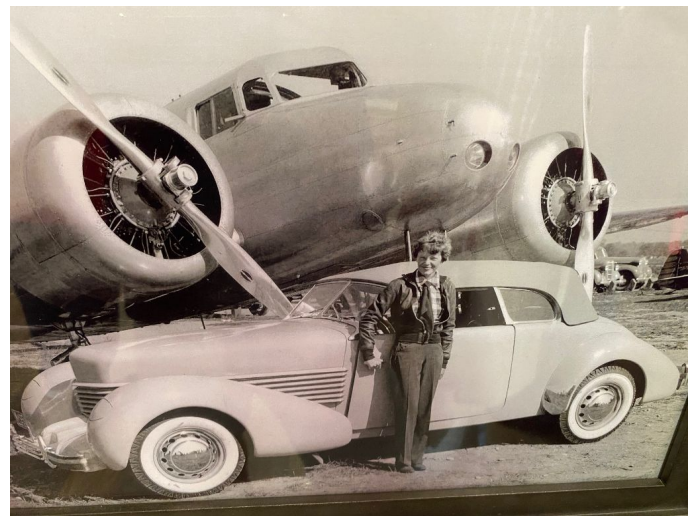
On Wednesday November 11, 2020, nineteen members of the Eastern Oklahoma section visited the Auburn, Cord, Duesenberg factory in Broken Arrow, OK.

The Auburn Automobile Company closed its doors in 1937. The Company and its remaining parts inventory were purchased by Dallas Winslow, a Detroit entrepreneur in 1938 for \$85,000 plus an additional \$25,000 for the Auburn administration building. This newly acquired company was renamed the Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg Company. Buying up bankrupt manufacturing companies was Mr. Winslow's forte. Dallas Winslow would eventually own over 300 such companies. Mr. Winslow would continue to operate these old businesses as parts suppliers. The Auburn-Cord-Duesenberg Company (ACD Co.) would not only offer replacement parts to the now orphaned car owners but would also offer service work. Later, restoration work would be available at the original Auburn, Indiana factory by former Auburn employees.

The ACD Co. would continue to operate in this manor until an Oklahoma industrial arts teacher and Cord restorer, Glenn Pray, offered to buy the ACD Co. With financial help from friend Wayne McKinley, Glenn would eventually strike a deal with Dallas Winslow. The remaining inventory of ACD parts were packed up and moved to Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. According to Glenn Pray's estimate, he thinks that they transported 700,000 pounds of parts. Glenn Pray had purchased much more than just parts. He now controlled the trademark names, Auburn, Cord and Duesenberg.

Once the ACD Co. was moved to Oklahoma and set up, it began offering parts and restoration work again. It was not long after the move that Mr. Pray had thoughts of putting the 1936-1937 Cord back into production. He did just that... A newly engineered front wheel drive Modern Cord 8/10 was available from the ACD Co. in

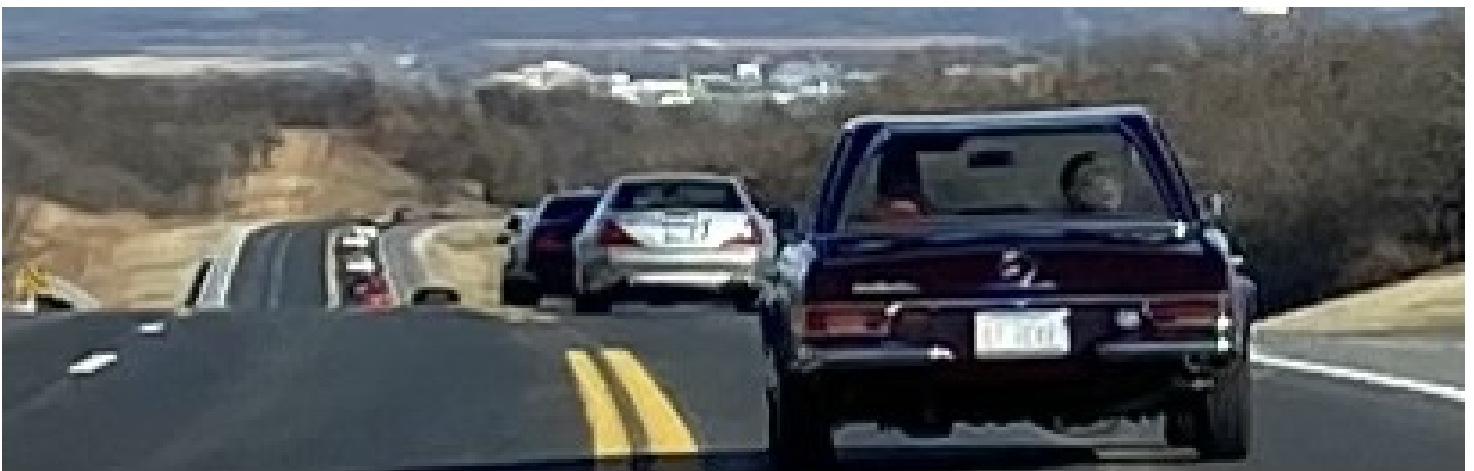




Marine Corp Toys for Tots fun drive, always a success

What a great December morning for a drive through the Osage hills of Oklahoma. Twenty-six cars from the Eastern Oklahoma Mercedes Benz Club of America and the Cimarron section of the Porsche Club of America participated in our annual Marine Corp Toys for Tots toy drive through Osage and Washington counties on Saturday December 5, 2020.

The driving "elves" started their day at the Tulsa Super Target store at 8:30am and ended just before noon delivering loads of toys to the Jackie Cooper Mercedes Benz dealership and the awaiting US Marine Corp. This event is sponsored by Jackie Cooper Mercedes Benz and all participants enjoyed a socially distant, mask wearing, cars and coffee in the new Porsche service center after the drive. Special thanks to Kristen Doyle, Steve Lujan, and Steve Canada for helping to bring this event to life. Our section had 27 members who either drove the 130 mile scenic route or donated unwrapped toys for the Marine Corp annual toy drive.





In December, members donated canned goods for “Arms around Broken Arrow,” a local charity supporting neighbors in need. Thanks to member Jim Rice who coordinated this event for the section.



Membership Information

New Members

- None

Expired Membership

- JOHN FERRANTE
- MARK CUNNINGHAM
- ROBERT FRYE
- SETH FAHRIG
- BRAD HUMPHREY

Renewed Members

- KRISTIN DOYLE
- CURTIS FARRAH
- EUGENE STARR

Thanks for Renewing

Mercedes-Benz Club Member Benefits

Member Rebate (U.S.)

Your U.S. membership with the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) comes with special privileges, like rebates toward monthly Mercedes-Benz USA listings. To qualify, you must be a *current* primary Member of MBCA in the USA. To access rebates, visit the MBUSA Rebate page. Then generate your Control Number at the bottom of the page when logged in. To give to your participating dealer.



[Read More](#)

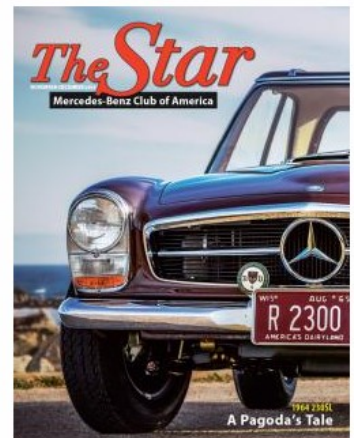
Benefits

The Star® Magazine

Your membership to the Mercedes-Benz Club of America includes a subscription to our bi-monthly magazine, The Star. In 2012, The Star was awarded 14 "best of" medals from the International Automotive Hall of Fame for excellence in writing, design, production, graphics and photography.

Available to Members by mail and online.

[Read More](#)



Discounts on Parts, Service & Accessories at Participating Mercedes-Benz Dealers

As a Mercedes-Benz Club of America member, the presentation of your membership card may entitle you to 5%, 10% or (up to) 20% off parts, service and accessories from U.S. and Canadian Mercedes-Benz dealers.



15% Discount on Parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

Club members receive 15% off hard-to-find parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California. Learn why they say in the end, they're not just restoring cars ... they're reviving dreams.



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Secretary: Harriet Kushnerick
918-740-7624 or hkush@cox.net

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Fritz Winkler	918-369-2513
Jim Rice	918-812-3193
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