



Das Heimatblatt

Sternblick
(Star View)

March 2021

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President's Message

Thanks to all attending our 2021 coming out party at Seasons 52 restaurant last week. Still observing all the "recommendations" and following the "science" we accomplished our first indoor event since way back before the plague.

Now that spring is attempting a return engagement, we may mix in a few of these even with the appeal of outdoor dining at our many fine area restaurants.

Some club events coming up promise to enhance the fellowship aspect of your membership in one of the most prestigious car clubs in America along with the opportunity to drive your cool Mercedes on the track with a qualified race driving instructor. Get the most out of your investment in the finest of all cars ever produced. Watch for more registration information in this issue about our event at the Talladega Gran Prix Sports Car Track, Saturday May 15.

Birmingham's Barber Motorsports Park will again host the Honda Indy Car Race the weekend of April 16th. In honor of this great post corona virus lock down event, the IRS, will postpone tax filing. This is the first Indy Car race of the season. Due to existing attendance restrictions things will be different this year. You must purchase tickets on line at https://www.cuetoems.com/indy_2021/Tickets.aspx along with a parking pass for any or all three days of races. Parking passes are no charge but will allow parking on site in the first available spaces. Gates open 7:30AM. As you have surmised, with normal attendance of over 80,000 reduced to 16,000, thanks to government restrictions, it is important to buy tickets EARLY!! We are in the early planning stages of a suitable area to meet once we are all at the Park. Might not be a bad idea to bring your own light weight lawn chairs.

Presidents Message Continued Page 3

Schedule Of Events

March

- 16 Stammtisch, Birmingham
- 23 Stammtisch, Huntsville
- 27 North Alabama Spring Drive

April

- 10 Natchez Euro-Fest
- 16-18 Indy Cars, Barber's Track
- 20 Stammtisch, Birmingham
- 27 Stammtisch, Huntsville

May

- 15 **Performance Driving**, Talladega GP
- 18 Stammtisch, Birmingham
- 21-23 **Amelia Island** Concours d'elegance
- 21-22 6:30 pm Dinner DoubleTree*
- 22 MBCA Cars & Coffee 18th hole
- 22-23 Historic Sports Car Racing, Barbers
- 25 Stammtisch, Huntsville

June

- 5 Ingram Mercedes, Montgomery
- 15 Stammtisch, Birmingham
- 22 Stammtisch, Huntsville

July

- 10 Christmas in July, Section Dinner

Please watch your email for possible changes

* Sponsored By Alabama/NW Florida, SW Florida Sections
Dinner at DoubleTree Jacksonville Airport

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA
ALABAMA/NORTHWEST FLORIDA
SECTION <https://alabama.mbca.org>



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das Heimatblatt

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e-mail jertoosaver@bellsouth.net or call 205.529.0071

Stammtisch *noun* <Regular's Table>

A gathering of friends, at a large round or oblong table, trading tales, adventures, becoming comrades in a common passion.

Presidents Message Continued:

Stealing a page from Joe Biden, through executive action, I have named Glenda Sparacio as chairperson for our annual holiday 2020 party at The Club in Birmingham July 10. Yes, 2020 is not a misprint. Due to the plague induced fears, our annual event is now called "Christmas in July" for this one time only.

Our 2021 Holiday events both in Birmingham and on the Gulf Coast will still be scheduled later on in December of this year, 2021..We should have plenty to celebrate by then! Watch for more info on this fun event at The Club in Nicht Vergessen.

Another big deal. This year's election of new officers who will assume their new duties Nov. 1,2021. A nominating committee has been formed consisting of Doug Bloomberg, Bill Hicks and Donna Kalinkiewicz. According to our club's by laws, annual elections are required. The committee is open to hearing from all interested in serving. Please contact Bill, Doug or Donna if you are interested or have a nominee suggestion. We will have the nominees in place in time for our JULY 10 event at The Club. It has also been our experience to extend the time served to 2 years. With all the tech, dinner, driving events scheduled for the next 2 years it will be a great ride.....like driving your Mercedes.

Looking forward to seeing you all at our next event,

Jim Sparacio



Alabama / NW Florida Section

Section Business:

Jim Sparacio, Section President calling for nominations for Officers and Directors of the Alabama N/W Florida Section.

Future Events; North Alabama Drive March 27
Indy Cars, Barber's Park April 16-18
Performance Driving ,Talladega Grand Prix May 15
Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance May 21-23

Next Stammtisch, Birmingham "Season's 52" April 20
Huntsville, "Hildegard's" April 27,

March Stammtisch,



Our Stammtisch have moved inside. We held the **Birmingham Stammtisch** at **Season's 52**. March 16th.

President Jim Sparacio detailed the clubs activities, and upcoming election of officers and directors. A Nominating Committee was named. Attending, Rick , Dodd; Jim, Glenda Sparacio; David "Klink" , Donna Kalinkiewicz; Doug, Joan Bloomberg; Jim Roberts



Huntsville Stammtisch, Hildegard's March 23,

A cold wind moved us safely indoors. This is the largest group to meet in several months, The Covid vaccine has opened up our choices for dining and other events.

Attending, Doug Joan Bloomberg, Jim Marie Keirstead, Jim Roberts, Neal Andrew, Joe Katherine Iacuzzo

FUTURE EVENTS

Delayed to **July 10** due to Covid-19 Concerns



CHRISTMAS IN JULY DINNER

July, 10th, Noon
\$42.00 / person

AT THE CLUB
BIRMINGHAM

reserve send email to Jim Sparacio
jim506@charter.net

YES! We will have our Annual Christmas Dinner. Except it is 205 days later than planned. Location: The CLUB, Birmingham, AL
Watch for Updates in your email.

The Natchez Euro-Fest 2021

Saturday, April 10, 2021 - 10:00am

Rosalie Mansion, 100 Orleans St., Natchez, Mississippi

Visit www.euro-fest.net for details. Regional MBCA Corral hosted by the Mississippi Section, open to all year and model Mercedes-Benz. Contact Scott Boone...for details via text/call at 601-818-2691 or via email at boones55@gmail.com.



Indycar Race weekend at Barber Motorsports Park 16-18 April

The INDY CAR series returns to American tracks, This will be the **First race** of the **2021 NTT INDYCAR SERIES** season, new drivers and old favorites will be at Barber Motorsports Park.

<https://barberracingevents.com/indycar-series/>

Attendance has been **reduced** to 16,000 from the +80,000

PLEASE NOTE: The Hagerty Car Corral size has been reduced It will be part of the Fan Zone. Due to the reduced size We (Jim Roberts) must know if you are planning to attend the race, what day, and What M-B are you driving. → If you plan to attend the race, please send an email to jertoosaver@bellsouth.net

Race Schedule: Gates open 7:30AM <https://barberracingevents.com/indycar-schedule/>

Sunday's Races 9:15am – 10:05am: Indy Pro 2000 Race #2
10:30am – 11:00am: NTT INDYCAR SERIES Warm-up
11:25am – 12:05pm: Porsche Sprint Challenge Race #2
12:20pm – 1:20pm: Indy Lights Race #2
2:42pm: NTT INDYCAR SERIES Race (90 laps)

Tickets are limited, order ASAP, Sundays Ticket is \$45, including parking. The Mercedes Corral will be in the Fan Section (Through Gate South of Museum, then to the right after the gate)

Tickets → https://www.cuetoems.com/indy_2021/Tickets.aspx

Order the tickets on Line, and You must also order your free parking pass at the same time.

We always manage to meet Mercedes-Benz owners we don't know and recruit new members. I could use some help with this, so let me know, if you can help .
jertoosaver@bellsouth.net

Alabama / N.W. Florida and Peachtree Sections

co-sponsor

Performance Driving May 15



Steve Spector
Greater Washington Section



Talladega Gran Prix Raceway

Gary Edwards
Peachtree Section

Jim Roberts,
MBCA Director at Large

About The Track
<https://talladegagp.com/about/>

This is not the oval superspeedway, but rather the 1.4-mile 5 turn road course a bit east of the oval.

Talladega Gran Prix Raceway is ideal for novices to learn on. While the turns are challenging to drive correctly, there is plenty of smooth run off area without barriers, if you make a mistake.

If you have ever considered Performance Driving this is affordable at \$265.

More advanced drivers will be challenged, and we will provide both classroom and in-car instruction.

For more information and registration got to www.motorsportsreg.com scroll down to TGPR (Talladega Grand Prix) and MBCA to 15 May.

Alternatively email me at jertoosaver@bellsouth.net or 205-529-0071

Quick Link to registration: <https://tinyurl.com/MBCA-Performance-Driving>

Waiting for Track Time





Performance

Driving May 15

What you need to know about Performance Driving Day

<https://tinyurl.com/MBCA-performance-track-location>

Registration ends in a month at May 7, 2021 4:59 AM CDT

Join us at **Talledega Grand Prix Raceway (TGPR)** on **Saturday, May 15th** as two MBCA sections, *Alabama/NW Florida* and *Peachtree*, co-host this one-day performance driving event. TGPR is located between Atlanta and Birmingham. This is a wonderful track for novices, since like Lime Rock it only has 5 turns in 1.4 miles with minimal elevation change. TGPR has every turn slightly banked, very wide grass runoff areas, and very few barriers. This is a great and non intimidating place to learn the basics of Performance Driving. We will have experienced instructors to help you learn or perfect these skills. The track is technically challenging enough to require concentration and practice to master it. Mid-May weather is very pleasant.

As with our other MBCA Performance Driving events, this is not a race, and it will not be timed for trophies. Even if you are the fastest car, Toto Wolf is not going to call you Monday morning to try out for Lewis Hamilton's seat in F-1. However, drivers will receive a certificate which allows them to purchase an MBCA SPORTFAHRER VEREIN grill badge (Association of Sporting Drivers).

Helmet Requirements: Snell (SA) 2010 or later helmets will be required. Motorcycle (MA) helmets are not acceptable. Equal restraints are required, i.e. the car is equipped with the same seat belt or harness for passenger as driver. Note that though Snell (SA) 2015 helmets are a good deal now, (SA) 2020 helmets will give you 5 more years of use.

All open cars must run with the top in place (i.e. up) or must have arm restraints for both driver and instructor.

We will have advanced life support emergency medical technicians on site along with corner workers.

We'll limit the event to a maximum of 30 students with in-car instruction for novice and intermediate group drivers (and for any drivers upon request). There will be mandatory classroom instruction for novice and intermediate drivers not yet approved for solo. It is possible for two drivers to share the same car, but the two drivers will need to be capable of driving in different run groups. You do not have to be an MBCA member. The fee is \$265 per person.

Note for Instructors: If you are interested in instructing for this event, before registering contact Chief Instructor Dr. Jim Roberts at (205) 529-0071 or at jertoosaver@bellsouth.net; he'll want your driving history and contact information.

TGPR is a traditional race course and the track entrance road crosses the track, so that entry is only possible when cars are not using the track. Gates will open at 7 am. We'll need to look at your helmets, collect your tech sheets and check that the battery is secure. We'll have our driver's meeting at 8 am followed by instructors meeting with their students. We plan to have the first cars on the track by 8:30 and the classroom session for the instructed drivers will start at about that time too. You should plan to be at the track early and if you arrive after cars are on the track, you won't be able to get in until the lunch break (12 to 1 pm). Plan to bring your own lunch and drinks as there is no food available for sale at the track. We'll quit for the day before 5 pm. There will be plenty of track time for all.

COVID-19 Precautions: Though the event is in May and many will likely already have been vaccinated against the virus, we should still use a mask if you can't maintain social distancing or are inside a building or car. Instructors will disinfect their helmet to helmet communicators between students. We will try to limit instructors to a single student. Also, if we are still needing to socially distance such that we need to hold the classroom session outside, it would be good for participants to bring a folding chair.

We'll run the event rain or shine. **No alcohol use at the track until after the last cars have come off the track.**

Note that we'll plan to use printed waivers for this event; no need to do the speedwaiver process. You'll be asked to sign two waivers at the gate, one is the MBCA waiver and one is the track waiver. The track will also collect a \$5 entry fee so it's useful to have some cash on you.

Event Hotel: We have arranged for a block of rooms at Hotel Finial in Anniston, Alabama. Make your reservations directly with the hotel at (256) 236-0503. Discounted rooms are available with either a King bed (\$112.50 per night) or a with two queen beds (\$130.50). The block of rooms will be released on April 23rd, so make your reservations before then. Note that the hotel has rooms available for Friday night but is fully booked on Saturday. There is limited trailer parking at this hotel (ask me how I know) but there is a civic center parking lot across the street that has plenty of room for trailers. 7

**Random camera shots
of the November
Performance Driving**



Review

November's

Event

**Performance
Driving**

MBCA Ferrari & Friends

November 7, 2020

Performance Driving at Talladega Grand Prix Raceway ✓

By Jim Roberts, MBCA Director at Large

You Can Attend the next Event MAY 15

Alabama Section member, Dr. Tommy Cosgrove asked if we could bring MBCA into a Performance Driving event at TGPR on 7 Nov. The local Ferrari Club of America leadership has no experience in staging this type of event, but Ferrari Club of America (FCA) was supportive if I would co-chair, serve as chief instructor, and bring MBCA participants along. I had served in this capacity several years earlier. I contacted Southeastern, Eastern, Mid Atlantic, and Central Region presidents. The NBO sent an eblast to the members.



Gary Edwards Instructor

Stan Brown
Driver



Steve Spector, 07 SLK350
Greater Washington Section

The result was that we had MBCA members from several sections participating including Alabama, Greater Washington, Carolinas, and Peachtree. The Alabama Section members were helping me with instruction, registration, and tech inspection. Steve Spector (GWS), and Gary Edwards (Peachtree) Don Birdwell and I from Alabama Section instructed and drove.

Due to the short notice, we also invited our friends with Lotus, Ltd who also assisted with instruction. We had a total of 50+ participants in 23 cars with about an equal number of Mercedes-Benz (including 2 GT's) and Ferraris with a couple of Lotus cars, and 3 Alfa Romeo's.

I instructed 3 MBCA members as well as a novice in a brand-new Ferrari 488.

A brief rain shower at lunchtime sent several of the Ferraris home.

In spite of a couple of damp sessions there were no off course excursions, so we had no incidents of damage to cars.

We were able to have an enjoyable event where everyone learned a lot. Traditionally FCA does not require instructors, but as they observed MBCA students being quicker than they were, they asked us to instruct them as well.

Alabama And Peachtree with additional support from Carolinas Section are committed to staging an event at TGPC in 2021. Lotus, Ltd is already our partner for Watkins Glen and Salt Lake City in 2021, and it looks like FCA also wants to join in.

At this event we had a close to even split of "regular" and AMG driving participants. At Summit Point we had about 80% AMG driving participants.

The momentum is growing.

Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance

May 21-23

Jim Roberts,
MBCA Director at Large

Mercedes-Benz has sponsored this event from its inception 26 years ago.

Amelia Island Concours d' Elegance is still on!
The concours committee is adjusting the concours and the seminars to provide the recommended social distancing.



Today it is the premier East coast concours with cars you will not see anywhere else. There is a huge Mercedes-Benz presence with all the new models available for test drives at the Ritz Carlton and a giant pavilion with priceless classics from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center. The field consists of 300 of the finest cars in the world.

The hot tip is to arrive early enough to join "Cars and Coffee" on the show field of the 18th fairway on Saturday morning where 30 places will be reserved for MBCA cars.

You can then check out the cars that will be auctioned or attend the show and racing seminars on the show field.

The Alabama - N.W. Florida and The S.W. Florida sections host Fri & Sat night dinners. At 6PM dinners will be at the *Jacksonville Airport Doubletree*. Popular last year we repeat, with social distancing

Reserve your Room at the *Jacksonville Airport Doubletree* Hotel. The hotel is giving us a special rate of \$132 along with free, breakfast, parking and car washing facilities.

Book by calling the Hotel Directly +1 (855) 605-0318 only

Please RSVP to Jim Roberts jertoosaver@bellsouth.net for Fri night and Sat night's Dinners

On Saturday morning MBCA will be featured in the Cars & Coffee. We have traditionally been in front of the Mercedes-Benz pavilion near the entrance. We don't think MBUSA will be there this year, so we are not sure where our area will be.



Dinner at The Doubletree



Considering going to the Amelia Island Concours???

A question was posed to Jim Roberts, MBCA | Director at Large .

What can I expect if I go to the Amelia Island Concours?

His reply:

--everything in Florida is casual. The mother of one of my college friends from Louisville, KY complained, "they won't even put on a tie for dinner in Naples (FL)". That was over 50 years ago.

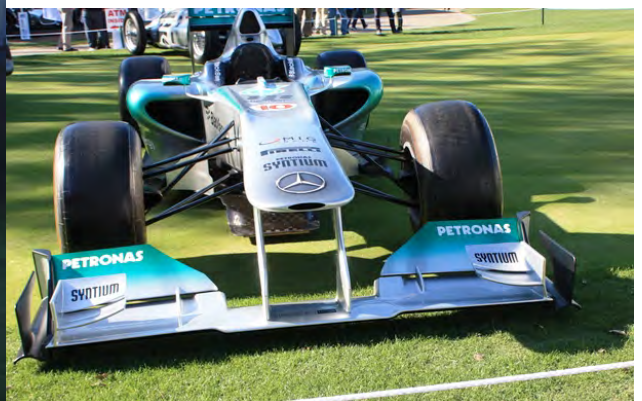
If you can wrangle a pass to the Mercedes-Benz gala at over \$200/person, it is, indeed formal.

Alabama - NW Florida and Southwest Florida sections are co-hosting Friday night and Saturday night dinners at the Jacksonville Airport Doubletree hotel. We have a room rate of \$132 including breakfast and parking.

The Amelia Island concours picks the cars for the Cars & Coffee. Go ahead and register for that as soon as you can. Advance tickets for Sunday concours \$100. It draws some spectacular street and race cars. This has become the best East coast concours. —second only to Pebble Beach.

All the major auction houses except Mecum have events starting Thursday. There are also seminars on Fri & Sat (but Cars & Coffee is 9-12:30 on Sat). Mercedes-Benz has been setting up the largest pavilion for the whole history of the concours, but I'm not sure they will this year.

(Continued)



Random Photos Amelia Island

Amelia Island Concours (continued)

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Typical weather is stormy Wed-Thus, clearing on Friday. Twice in the last 5 years there has been a threat of rain on Sunday which moves the invitational concours to Saturday and displaces Cars and Coffee to another fairway. Due to the event now being held during May, it should be Very warm during the day.

I leave either Thurs or very early Friday morning, as I like to arrive by Friday afternoon

The hotel will set up a car wash area for Friday. This is a fun way to meet members from the eastern 2/3 of the country as well as a few Europeans.

We typically have 12-20 Alabama - NW Florida members in attendance. Remember, our section extends to less than 75 miles from Amelia Island.

I'm sure you will enjoy the event

Alles beste,
Jim

JUNE 5th

Ingram Mercedes Montgomery

Celebrate the 60 year Anniversary Celebration

Ingram's is the second oldest continuously owned Mercedes-Benz Dealership in the USA

Founder Jack Ingram will share with us stories about the founding and running a Mercedes-Benz dealership.

After the celebration join the MBCA for a drive to Fort Toulouse and Horseshoe Bend.

Gather at 10:00 at Jack Ingram Mercedes-Benz, 217 Eastern Blvd. Montgomery



PAST EVENTS



The 2021 WINTERFAHRT

Over ten years ago the first Winterfahrt (Winter Drive) was held. It was a Multi Marque event then. Only the Benz's now drive this event, and in any weather. Why? Because **we** can. Our cars were designed for this type drive, no matter the **w**eather.

Led by Jim Roberts,
MBCA Director at Large

Destination: **CHEAHA STATE PARK**



On Saturday, 23 January 13 vehicles left Mercedes-Benz of Birmingham setting off on our 12th consecutive challenge to the grip of winter which we have never had to cancel or postpone.

Our route took us down Alabama 25 (The Copperhead), and across Logan Martin Dam. We stopped at Talladega Speedway's, International Motorsport's Hall of Fame, where we met with the Section members from Huntsville. While at the Museum, Jim Roberts led the group to where his Championship SCCA Mitsubishi was on display. Running this car in 1988-89 he won 21 races, garnering 3 SCCA Championships. After a brief question and answer session we set off for Cheaha State Park.



Stephen Levit

Heinz Neinizig

Jim Roberts

The weather was perfect, 60's, sunny, light wind. Our group stopped at a turnout, we occupied all available parking spots. Maintaining COVID-19 guidelines we consumed our lunches, and spent time socializing and comparing memories of the drive and the past holiday season.



Joan Bloomberg, Flora Neely, Glenda Sparacio, Yelena Bradley



Tommy Cosgrove, Doug Bloomberg, Jim Roberts

A short drive from the museum and we were climbing up the serpentine Cheaha Road through Talladega National Forest. I counted 187 turns in this 14 mile stretch vs. 216 in 12 miles for the famous "Tail of the Dragon" in TN/NC. I get the same 180-190 turns for that run, so there must be some difference in opinion about what constitutes a turn.

The nice thing about Cheaha in winter is that your sight lines of the road are not obstructed as much by foliage. The traffic is light, so the drive was exhilarating.

The state park extends from the base of the mountain over the summit. In the park we began the "Talladega Scenic Drive" which is built out similar to the Blue Ridge Parkway with multiple vistas of the forest below as it follows the crest of Horseblock Mountain.



Liz Robertson & Daughter

For Sale

For Sale

Mercedes-Benz Magazines, Literature and Books Available to Good Homes
Clearing out my "car room" - clearing out books, literature and brochures.

- Mercedes-Benz Club Star Magazine, current issue and back 50 issues. \$1 each or all 50 for \$25.
- Mercedes-Benz W124 "Bible" reference and repair guide – (unique and great item) \$15
- Mercedes History Book (1990's) - \$5
- Mercedes-Benz Dealer Brochures and Catalogues (50+), from late 80's/early 90's to current, many prestige brochures – including a rare Maybach brochure - \$2 each (or all for \$60!)
- Mercedes-Benz Misc. Dealer Items, post cards, Collection Catalogues, Special mailers, inserts, SMART brochures, etc. 50 items - \$1 each, or all for \$25
- Mercedes Large Full Line Prestige Brochure, 1983 – excellent - \$15
- Mercedes Vintage 190 Brochure – orig. dealer marks/stamps - \$20
- Mercedes 250 Vintage Brochure – 60's (beautiful!) – original - \$20

Also available...over 200 1/43 Mercedes Factory Promos...with boxes...50's to current models. Inquire for details.

Forrest Cook, 205-901-7684, text or call, email forrestcook@bellsouth

March 29 Drive

The drive was held in mild weather, we left M-B Huntsville heading East to Woodville, AL. Up Rt 8 to Skyline, AL Down Crow Mountain's twisty, hairpins on Rt 33. Stopping the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant that never produced any energy, the reactors had not been installed. Following the South shore of Lake Guntersville to Guntersville State Park where we ate our picnic lunches. From there one group headed South to Gadsden and home, the other cars traveled over Green Mountain and into Huntsville. The roads were wonderful to drive, the views spectacular, and Spring plants were cheerfully blooming.

Joining our Drive Was Gary Andrew, and son Neil, in Gary's beautiful 1966 230SL, you can read about their restoration of the 230SL in Jan-Feb 2021 STAR. Also new member Jeremy Sharp with his beautiful 1985 300 Turbo Diesel Wagon (with +450,000 miles) joined the drive. Jim Roberts brought up the tail in his 1978 280SE (over 400,000 miles) Drive lead by Doug, Joan Bloomberg in a 2012 ML-350



Bellefonte Nuclear Plant



Crow Mountain, Alabama



**Gary Andrew,
1966 230SL**



**Lake Guntersville, AL. Gary Andrew
Doug Bloomberg, Jeremy Sharp**



Herzlich Willkommen!

(Sincere Welcome)

To our **Members, New Members**, and those who found our section worth **Renewing** their membership.

Your Officers and Board are working hard to open opportunities for you to participate in Section events. This Newsletter, and updates will appear in your chosen emails.

The Board and Officers Welcome your participation and efforts in suggesting and preparing for a Section event, we are most willing to help you succeed.

Attending Section events is the best way to make new friendships, sharing your passion for Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

As a member you will receive copies of the newsletter **das Heimatblatt** and timely updates.

Please visit our web page

<https://alabama.mbca.org>

Here you can browse old and current newsletters, a calendar of future events, view past events and much more.

PLUS + as a member of **MBCA** you can visit and log into the National web page. Try it, Read back issues of The STAR, view articles for Enthusiasts, Classifieds, Tech articles, all with your Mercedes Benz Club of America membership.

<https://www.mbca.org>

Monthly Events.

Our monthly events are presented for the pleasure of All Mercedes Benz Club of America Members. Each event is purposely presented to promote friendship and comradery, plus experience a new vista from within your Mercedes Benz.

As a Member of the **Alabama / NW Florida Section** We encourage you to suggest a monthly event. Or to enhance your participation in Section Events is to Arrange and Lead a monthly event.

It is not difficult to Lead an event, we are here to help you. Several events have been led by members. Contact any of the Section Officers or Board member. OR

Jim Roberts jertoosaver@bellsouth.net
Jim Sparacio jim506@charter.net
Doug Bloomberg douglasr58@yahoo.com
mbca.alabama@gmail.com

The Alabama/NW Florida Section

Welcome New Members

Tim	Anderson*	Orange Beach	Alabama
Lindle	Cross-Dermody*	Santa Rosa Beach	Florida
Barbara	Taylor	Meridianville	Alabama
Thuy	Hoang	Tuscaloosa	Alabama
Contessa	Jackson	Harvest	Alabama
Christopher	Yates	Gurley	Alabama
Teresa	Wendlick	Huntsville	Alabama
Larry	Felix	Birmingham	Alabama
Michael	Garofalo	Fort Walton Beach	Florida
Margaret	Hemberg*	Cusseta	Alabama
Patrick	Thomas*	Dothan	Alabama
Marie	Garrett*	Fort Walton Beach	Florida
Linwood	Rogers*	Tallahassee	Florida
Winston	Montague*	Tallahassee	Florida
Spikey	Howard	Northport	Alabama
James	Barrett	Jasper	Alabama

Our Section members with Airstream's RV's increases, the above with * Own an Airstream Interstate

Thank You to our Renewing Members

Geary	Hurst	Anniston	Alabama
Chris	Jebeles	Vestavia	Alabama
Elizabeth	Roberson	Hoover	Alabama
George	Smith	Birmingham	Alabama
Jim	Keirstead	Madison	Alabama
John	Woodward	Tallahassee	Florida
Jon	Lowe	Madison	Alabama
Paul	Horn	Tallahassee	Florida
Ralph J	Salerno Jr	Pace	Florida
Rhiannon	Gage	Birmingham	Alabama
Patricia	Seitz	Mary Esther	Florida
Steven	Jenkins	Wetumpka	Alabama
Annie	Byrd	Cottdale	Alabama
William	Menke	Gulf Breeze	Florida
Lawrence	Nichols	Pensacola	Florida
Don	Beprestis	Gulf Breeze	Florida
Michael	Black	Meadow Brook	Alabama
Robert	Melton	Alabaster	Alabama
Brenda	Lowe	Vestavia	Alabama
David	Pratt	Mt. Brook	Alabama
James	Trum	Alexandria	Virginia
Jack	Tribble	Birmingham	Alabama
J Leonard	Henry	Albertville	Alabama
Barry	Goree	Decatur	Alabama
Ronald	Gibes	Enterprise	Alabama
William	Hicks	Mt. Brook	Alabama
Denis	Lecorgne	BOAZ	Alabama
David	Shepherd	Pensacola	Florida
J. Frank	Moore	Daleville	Alabama
Rebecca	Falcon	Huntsville	Alabama

WE now have 200 Active Members and 55 Associate members



Mercedes-Benz Club of America

mbca.org

Is the above, **mbca.org**, in your web browser's favorites? If not you are missing out on one of the **Great Member Benefits** of the **Mercedes-Benz Club of America**.

If you haven't gone to the mbca.org web site, go ahead, click here →mbca.org

Try the Section's web pages <https://alabama.mbca.org/>

You will find Club and Section News, events old and upcoming, tech articles, the MBCA Forum where you can ask or respond to queries by other **MBCA** members.

You also view members pride and joy, buy or sell articles or even buy another **M-B** Back and current issues of the '**STAR**' are online. See what other Sections have planned.

YOU Can Even Renew Your MBCA Membership.

OK, you ask how do I do all this? Go to the club web page, **mbca.org**

How do I log in?

If you are an active club member, you can click on Login in the upper right corner of the window. You will be prompted for your User ID and password. If this is the first time you have visited the site, your User ID will be the email address you have on file with the National Business Office (NBO) of the MBCA and your password is your MBCA membership ID number (see your membership card). The password is case-sensitive and the first letter of your membership ID should be entered in upper-case (Shift + letter). If you don't know this information call the NBO at 1-800-637-2360 during normal business hours Mountain Standard Time.

Once you are logged in you can change this information and other information in your profile. It is strongly suggested that you change your password to something you can easily remember after the first time you log in.

I had a password but I forgot it. OR You changed emails/name/password

If a member or former member has either forgotten their email, username, or password, there are a few things they can do to get access to the account.

The first and most reliable option is just to call the NBO. 1.800.637.2360 The staff will be happy to reset the information to something generic for you over the phone, allowing you to login and then change that information right on the spot if desired. This is best used if for some reason the second option below just does not work for you when trying it (see disclaimer).

The second option, if they actually know what email or username that they have stored in their profile, they can try to trigger a reset password option. By first entering a wrong login info, and then selecting the "Have you forgotten your password?" link that will then appear in red.

Once on the next page, they would enter their username or email that the account is tied to.

This will trigger an email (see disclaimer below) to get sent to their account they have in the system.

Viewing your email referenced above, there will be a link to reset their password. Once clicked they will see a "Reset password - Login option"

Once clicked, it automatically places them into their own profile. Where they can change their password or any other information for access to their account. From here they can change any of their authentication information. Including the password.

I am still having problems Logging in.

If this is the case, call the MBCA National Business Office
1.800.637.2360 M-F, 8am-5pm MT.

Check out the Forum, interesting comments and questions are posed there, A few Directors have made their thoughts known, including our Section's, Jim Roberts, MBCA Director at Large.

<https://www.mbca.org/forum>

Mitgliedschaftsnachrichten

Membership News

MBCA Rebates have increased Now you can Save up To \$7000.00

To take advantage of this great offer You must
go to this web page.

<https://www.mbca.org/mbusa-incentives>

MBCA primary members are eligible for exclusive rebates on the lease or purchase of select Mercedes-Benz vehicles, after 30-days consecutive membership.. Members must login and scroll to the bottom of this page, click the **Generate Rebate button**, then submit their information. This will create a Control Number, CAN and Generated Date, to give to the participating dealer at time of purchase. After the form is submitted, the rebate information can be found at the bottom of the rebate page while logged in, or in the My Membership area of your Profile. If you have any problems generating your Rebate information, please contact the MBCA NBO at 800-637-2360 .

BUT

Along with the Above good news there is a dark side.
Daimler AG, Mercedes-Benz
has withdrawn their monetary support of our club.



ReNew NOW! Why not Try AUTO ReNew!

The Club has decided to cut costs overall. But this is not enough on it's own. There are new programs to retain Membership such as Auto Renew.

<https://www.mbca.org/renew/national> (click auto renew YES)

20 Members of the Alabama / NW Florida Section have enrolled in Auto renew .
View the next page why You should renew and the benefits
of Your being a Member of the Mercedes-Benz club of America

Twenty (20) Alabama / NW Florida Section Members have chosen to Auto Renew
THANK YOU!

Savings up to \$7,000.

MY21 GLA SUV
From \$36,230_z



Save \$500

MY21 GLB SUV
From \$38,050_z



Save \$1,000

MY21 C-Class Sedan
From \$41,600_z



Save \$750

MY21 GLC SUV
From \$43,200_z



Save \$1,250

MY21 E-Class Sedan
From \$54,250_z



Save \$1,500

MY21 GLE SUV
From \$54,750_z



Save \$1,000

MY20 S-Class Sedan
From \$94,250_z



Save \$7,000_z

MY21 GLS SUV
From \$76,000_z



Save \$1,000





Don't Just Drive Your Mercedes - Benz Experience It

Visit mbca.org
or
Call 800.637.2360

See Member's Cars at
Mbca.org/mbca-cars



www.facebook.com/MercedesBenzClubofAmerica



www.linkedin.com/groups/1196647



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® 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 may entitle you 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 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.

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

How can I get a MBCA Name Badge?

Name badges are available from the MBCA Club Store.
You can choose blue, silver, or gold. Magnetic or safety ping clasp.
2 lines \$13.00, 3 lines printed \$14.00 (25 characters/line)
mailing costs included.



Click this Link to order online... <https://www.mbca.org/name-badge>



**Have You looked at the MBCA
web site Lately??? NO!!!**

Check it out, <https://www.mbca.org>

or our own web page

<https://alabama.mbca.org>

Do you want to sell a M-B item?

Contact *Das Heimatblatt*

mbca.alabama@gmail.com

Should you prefer to use US Mail.

Please send: _____ Name badges.

Backing Type: Magnetic: _____ Safety Pin: _____

Color: Blue _____ Silver _____ Gold _____

Name: _____ (line 1)

1 **Alabama/NW Florida Section, MBCA** (line 2)

=====

Name: _____ (line 1)

2 **Alabama/NW Florida Section, MBCA** (line 2)

Ship to: Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Enclose Check for amount, send to:

MBCA

1907 Lelary, Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Join us for our Monthly *Stammtisch* a casual get together for dinner
<Regular's Table>

Huntsville *Stammtisch*

"Hildegard's German Cuisine "
2357 Whitesburg Dr, Huntsville, AL 35801

6:00 PM Fourth Tuesdays each Month

Click link to Google Maps, Hildegards

Birmingham *Stammtisch*

Season's 52
245 Summit Blvd, Birmingham, AL 35243
(Location may vary, Watch your email.)

6:00 PM Third Tuesdays each Month

Click link to Google maps, Seasons 52



Mercedes-Benz Club of America

1907 Lelary Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

1.800.637.2360

<https://www.mbca.org>

Alabama/NW Florida Section,

MBCA

3834 Cove Drive

Birmingham, AL 35213

<https://alabama.mbca.org>

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