



Sunshine STAR



Issue No. 3, 2017

MBCA | Southwest Florida Section

May / June 2017



So far from home,
but not from family.
“Baby Blue” 1981 W123

Cars can look happy; If you can't see a big grin, defer to your 5-year-old imagination.

Mario smiles for the camera as his dad makes sure Ron isn't considering liberating any parts.



Read the full and captivating story of Mario's “Baby Blue” as written by Stephanie Borden, page 84 in the March-April 2017 issue of *The Star* magazine.



Perkins, March 25, 2017

Delicious round cornbread at the picnic...



Quandary; πr^2 : pie are round, cornbread are square?

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**“More Than a Car Club.
We're a Community!”**

Breakfast Meetings, 9 AM

Ft. Myers area... Mimi's Café 41@Daniels
2nd Saturday every month.
Next Meetings - May 13, June 10



Naples area... Perkins on Pine Ridge
4th Saturday every month.
Next meetings - May 27, June 24

President's Perspective



March and April were very active months for our section of over 430 members! We are located from Marco Island and Naples in the south, through Estero and Bonita Springs, up to Ft. Myers, North Ft. Myers and Cape Coral, and to the northern areas including Punta Gorda, Port Charlotte, North Port and Venice. A good portion of our members are Snowbirds from the Northeast, Midwest and Canada. Most have returned as of now, and our roads and retail establishments are starting to quiet down. We base a lot of our activities to include them from Fall to Spring. This year featured "Ladies of Mercedes" tea, various Car Shows; at Lorenzo Walker Technical College, Pelican Preserve and Cars on Fifth Ave.

Our annual trip to Amelia Island the second weekend of March was interesting! Our preplanned route and activities, designed by Peter Blackford, we're short lived! On the way up, one of our members (Jack M.) had a heater hose blow out on the expressway! We all scrambled to a plan B comprised of staying safe, missing the activity, and finding a tow and repair facility. Some fun! After a few calls, the car was towed to a new Mercedes-Benz dealership a few miles away in Wesley Chapel. Our anguish turned into an informative afternoon. The dealership was very accommodating, even to the free hats given to all those who stayed with Jack. We had lunch, left the car for parts and repairs (our club 15% discount came in handy!), buckled up and drove onward to our destination in Ocala. The next day we arrived in Amelia Island to find out that the forecast was for rain all day Sunday, and that all shows were to be held on Saturday! We made the best of it, had a great day and headed back on Sunday. Our trip planning called for an overnight stay in St. Augustine, sightseeing and driving home on Monday. Monica and I had the pleasure of travelling back with Peter and Sandy Blackford, a wonderful couple that are really enthusiasts!

We also went to a delightful play at the Broadway Palm, had a big turnout for our annual picnic, and displayed our cars at the Car Show at MB of Ft. Myers. Talk about beautiful cars – old and new! A lot of work, but just following Tom and Mal's outline from previous shows.

We have ideas on activities to come for our "resident" members and are working with Chet Young to provide upcoming details.

Stay tuned,

Ron Cordeau

President, MBCA SWFL Section

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The Southwest Florida Section *Sunshine Star* newsletter is published on odd-numbered months. It is mailed electronically or via post to all members of the Section, appropriate members of other Sections, MBCA executives and our valued advertisers.

All copy for inclusion must be received no later than the 15th of any even-numbered month.

Any technical tips, automotive experiences or interesting items relating to Mercedes-Benz are encouraged and welcome.

Members may advertise to buy or sell, free of charge, any personal Mercedes-Benz auto, part or accessory. All insertions in the *Sunshine Star* are the opinions and statements of the writers, advertisers, etc., and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this Section or MBCA. Call concerning commercial advertising rates.

No authentication is given or implied as to the validity of any expressed opinion or statement.

**Questions? Call your Section Officer at 239-322-8817,
or our National Business Office at 1-800-637-2360 M-F 8am-5pm MT. Or visit www.mbca.org**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Anita Kinderman, Membership Chair SWFL

As of this writing our SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SECTION has 432 Members

★**New Members and Associates** *since the last newsletter*; William Aimetti, Robert and A. Kathleen Bennett, Jerry and Barbara Blankenship, Joel and Lisa A. Caschette, Alexander Dmitryukov, Jim Donarski, John Forsyth, Daniel Gallagher and Rhonda Blanchard, John Gray and Kada Taba, Tyler Helphenstine, Jay and Donna Herbst, Becky and Erik Herman, Kenneth Kronschnabl, Tania Merette, Michael and Barbara Mickel, Ambrose Moran, Elizabeth Murphy, Ron Pittelkau, Paul Weitz, Billy Welch, and James Zamparelli

We are happy you've joined us!

★And **Thank You** to our **43 Renewed Members** for your continuing MBCA Membership!

...now let's have some M-B fun!



Mercedes-Benz Club of America Southwest Florida Section

13TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW

for Mercedes-Benz Automobiles

Saturday, April 15, 2017

our cars were in the shade of the front overhang, which made for an impressive display. This also allowed plenty of parking

for visitors, and there were quite a few. That's what a car show is all about, isn't it? Then add good friends, good food, priceless trophies, and you have a marvelous day!



And the trophy line-up!



SWFL Group Takes On The 2017 Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance

Photo credits, Darci Viens, Tom Harruff, Jerry Kinderman



Right; Peter Blackford, perennial organizer of the caravan 'up' to Amelia. Below; Sandy Blackford's 1978 450SL 'on the grass' Saturday.



Below: More members' cars on the grass; Mario and Ron, and Tom



Darci Viens next to a 1954 Mercedes 300 SL Gull Wing (on Mercedes stand on Saturday, at Fernandina Beach on Friday)

Are you aware that our club has a wealth of information for you? Please note that we can provide you with contacts at the MBCA National office, as well as Regional and Local contacts. These emails and phone numbers allow you to contact those individuals who can help you with a variety of topics.

We have information for you to obtain MBCA name tags in a variety of colors. (Then we don't have to say "Hello....how are you?" - but rather "Hello John and Mary...nice to see you again!") We have collared golf shirts you can purchase locally displaying our club section's logo, and one for the Ladies of Mercedes as well in a variety of colors.

We have subscription forms for the magazine "Classic Mercedes" highlighting the older classics, and published in England in their eloquent and artful language. A truly enjoyable maga-

zine you will look forward to receiving.

Our Resource List highlights businesses and companies that address the needs of our automobiles: from service, exterior and interior parts and accessories, to forums, articles, buying guides, how-to's, web sites and more. This list has been compiled from our members and their positive experience with companies that have helped us in the past. It is constantly evolving, as we are adding or deleting information for your assistance. We believe you will be pleasantly surprised how thorough and informative this list is!

Please contact me anytime for forms and information.

Ron Cordeau

roncor@hotmail.com

cell: 239-322-8817



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*Not valid with any other specials or offers. Excludes tires and "A" and "B" services.

A word on Classified Ads – did you know members can place an ad for a car or a car related item for free?!! Let's use this as a place for us to unload our stuff and let others enjoy it instead!

I'm going through my garage, and have found old cloth MBZ tool wraps, jack stands, license frames with MB logos, a portable sink with hand ringer for chamois or towels, covers, etc etc. (No touch up paint as yet, but still looking.) **Go through your stuff and advertise for free, SWFL Members only! Limit 6 lines with or without picture!**

Ron

(My car and Jerry's wife will not be listed) —>



Ron gives examples:

STAR back issues from 2008, \$1.00 each



MBZ front license plate, blue logo on silver, \$10.00



W123 passenger front door map pocket, tan \$20



Autobahn Vault, LLC.

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Contact Information:
Mario Puente (Owner)
239.204.7434

- Rare and hard to find classic Mercedes-Benz automobiles, right here in Southwest Florida.
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(Actual vehicle)



(Actual vehicle)



Mercedes-Benz

Mercedes Benz of Bonita Springs has Arrived!



Displaying the very latest State-of-the Art design and layout, our flagship Mercedes Benz dealership in Florida has Touched Down in Bonita Springs. We have one of only two Elite Status AMG workshops in Florida and we offer a total of 47 service bays to look after your Mercedes Benz.

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- For Club Members we offer 15% off parts and a \$99/hour labor rate
- We have repair and service expertise for your Classic and (even older) Mercedes Benz

Mercedes Benz of Bonita Springs, 14610 Tamiami Trail, Naples FL 34110 Tel: 239-2288836

Editorial Dipstick...

It certainly was a fun 4 months for SWLF MBCA, wasn't it? The weather was so right for outdoor activities, and we did 'em all. Plenty of photos to prove it.

You have asked "Can I submit photos or articles for our newsletter?" Well you sure can; always welcome, nay, encouraged! Written articles should be in Word, or just text in an email body, limit to 250 words. Photos about our club and members having fun are especially welcome.

BUT note; ALL submissions must be in my (virtual) hands no later than the 15th of any even-numbered month to be considered for the next issue. I do have to figure out how to smush things in around the cows.

Ron suggests; let's list our MB stuff for sale in 'Classified'. Great idea! Of course it has to be somewhat MB, or at least car-related. I.e., I have a lovely *EuroCave* cigar humidor a true cigar aficionado would appreciate, but it's not MB stuff, so

I can't list it. Even though I want to sell it. I just can't list it. It is marvelous, though. I have other cigar stuff, too. But I can't list it. Even though it's for sale. All of it.

Is it Summer? Feels like it.

Moooving along!

Jerry



Smile! They'll wonder what you're up to..



Jim brought me a cow. Thanks, Jim!



Connor likes MBs!



March 11, 2017



About the Mercedes-Benz Club of America

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) is the largest Mercedes-Benz enthusiast organization in the world. As a non-profit 501(c)(7) organization, the Club proudly serves close to 30,000 Members who belong to one of 85 MBCA Sections throughout North America. MBCA's mission is to provide Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts with unique access to casual and competitive car shows, cash savings on new Mercedes-Benz vehicles, 24/7 online technical advice, parts and accessory discounts at participating Mercedes-Benz Dealerships, performance driving events, safe driver training, plus world-class membership conventions not available elsewhere. A subscription to the Club's 100+ page magazine, *The Star*, is delivered to Members every other month and is included with annual membership dues of \$55/ U.S.; \$65/Canada & International.

MBCA's national business office is headquartered in Colorado. For more information about membership and member benefits, please visit www.mbc.org or call 800.637.2360 weekdays 8am-4:30pm Mtn Time.

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"There are two kinds of people, those who do the work and those who take the credit. Try to be in the first group; there is less competition there."

-Indira Gandhi

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10% OFF
Discount on accessories

Raising our Banner at the **SWFL MBCA 4th Annual End Of The Season Picnic**

using the standard of
2 workers, 2 supervisors.

Photos and comments, Jerry Kinderman



The bountiful feast awaits as President Ron Cordeau thanks everyone for coming and especially **Joel and Silvia Taub** for once again orchestrating this fun event. These two photos will constitute our 'group' photo since from that point on, the banquet table was the focus of everyone's attention. Including mine.



As always, there were no reports of anyone leaving un-sated.



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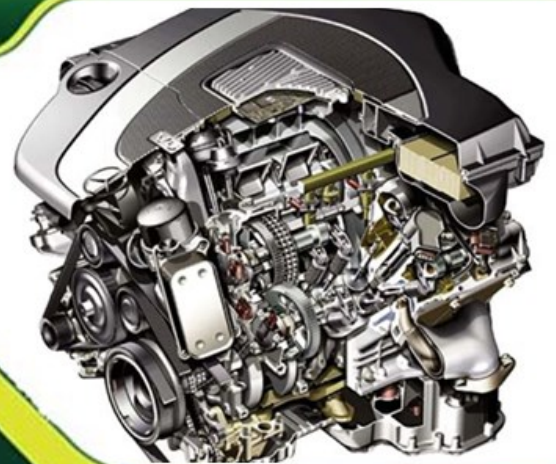
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Classified: For Sale

- Jack Stands (2) 3 ton 13 7/16 to 21" height \$20
- Shop Wringer w/rinse tub. \$25
- W123 front window rain inserts (2) by Weathertech \$25
- MBZ Tool Roll - lug wrench, 19/17 combo wrench, 17/13, 10/8. Pliers, screwdriver Phillips/straight. \$50
- MBZ Tool Roll - lug wrench, 19 wrench, 19/17 combo, 17/14, 10/8, pliers. \$50
- W123 frt window rain channels by weathertech \$20
- W123 passenger front door map pocket, tan \$20
- W123 Sun visors tan, \$40

Ron Cordeau

239-322-8817 roncor@hotmail.com

(Yes, this is more than 6 lines, but shows what you can get rid of. And we had the space! -ed.)



1975 450SEL 4.5L Euro German Survivor

291 Dark Olive, interior Olive Grün - velour. All original survivor. Mechanical preservation undertaken incl Becker Mexico. A/C cold, all new brakes, new factory 291 paint. Perfect driver. \$10,450. Call or text Michael Mariotti (239) 994-9816 Email: MariottiMichael@yahoo.com

It's Free ... can you hear me now?

M-B touchup kit (barely used), car was sold (not mine). 1693 Travertine beige mica. (2 bottles)
Contact Peter - priuspete@gmail.com

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Classified Ads: Member, M-B cars or parts, no charge. Limit 6 lines with or without one picture.

Non-member, M-B cars or parts, \$10.00 per issue. Limit 6 lines.
Picture with ad, \$15.00 per issue.

Classified Ads will be removed unless renewed at least two weeks before publication of the next issue.



Upcoming Events 2017

Southwest Florida Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America

May 13, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Mimi's, Ft. Myers
May 27, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
June 10, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Mimi's, Ft. Myers
June 24, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
July 8, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Mimi's, Ft. Myers
July 22, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
Aug 12, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Mimi's, Ft. Myers
Aug 26, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
	Can YOU fill this space? ... let Ron know your idea(s)!

With expressions of delight, Ron and Peter discover that the real reason for the fuel-filler door is



to hide the fuel-filler cap.



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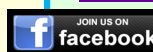
The Club and our own Section use electronic communications and we email our newsletters. So be sure to let the NBO know of any changes to your email address to ensure up to date information with both the NBO and your Section. Contact Membership Services with your updates... mbca.org or call 1-800-637-2360.

Southwest Florida Section MBCA On The Web!

<http://southwestflorida.mbca.org/>

and...

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/SW-Florida-Mercedes-Benz-Club-of-America/258407040951839>



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