



Sunshine STAR



Issue No. 6, 2017

MBCA | Southwest Florida Section

Nov / Dec 2017



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*The
Happiest
of Holidays to
You and Yours!*

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

and Mario felt good loaning his car to someone who drives awfully fast, and at night.



Breakfast Meetings, 9 AM

Ft. Myers area... The Mix Italian Grill
Watch for an email with more info!
2nd Saturday every month.
Next Meetings - Nov 11, Dec 9



Naples area... Perkins on Pine Ridge
4th Saturday every month.
Next meetings - Nov 25, Dec 23

President's Perspective

The Fall season is apparently upon us in Southwest Florida! Halloween, fall decorations, the World Series are all definitely a signal. But the real event is the weather. Of course we all know about the recent massive hurricane that struck our area and the entire state. And, we all experienced issues that we will remember regarding Irma.

We are thankful for our survival and the lessons that we learned from it. (I won't drive all the way to Chattanooga and back with two cats in their crates, looking for gas stations and in all that traffic.) I admire those that stayed and "rode out the storm", but that could be very dangerous. Some of our members visited friends and relatives in the middle of the state safely, as we learned. As I drove northward, I was aware of the locations of Mercedes-Benz dealers and members of our club in the various cities.... just in case I needed to stop at a friendly and helpful place where I knew I would be welcomed.

One of the nice things about being a member in the MBCA, is that we assemble a fine group of "family" through our common theme of owning a Mercedes-Benz. Some of these people live in areas of the United States that are far away from SW Florida! When we went on our trip to Germany, we met members from all across the country, and of course Germany. Although our relationship was brief, we formed a friendship that we can count on for a long time.

Our area is a little unique, in that a large portion of our members also reside up north. After speaking with them often at our breakfast meetings and events, it is enjoyable to see them return to visit with us. As Tom Harruff always states "they are not only fellow members of our club, but indeed they are our friends, and we care and are concerned about them". They are beginning to come down now just in time to enjoy some cooler, less humid weather.

Ah, the weather. Our summer and the heat and humidity were... brutal. Can you imagine it being too hot to put the convertible top down, go for a walk, work in the garden, or play golf without being soaked in sweat? Thank you Fall, for the seasonal change in the weather!

Safe travels always,

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.

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**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 421 Members

★**New Members and Associates** since the last newsletter;

Dale Liebenthal and Carole K. Romp, Marc Minor,
Mary Purslow, and Dr. Loo Yap and Nelayda Foute

We are happy you've joined us!

★And **Thank You** to our **35 Renewed Members** for your continuing MBCA Membership!
...now let's have some M-B fun!

MBCA | Southwest Florida Section

2017 Holiday Christmas Party

Share the Holiday Season with your fellow SWFL MBCA Club Members

Sunday December 3, 2017, 6:00 PM at

The Club at Olde Cypress, 7165 Treeline Dr., Naples, FL 34119

★**Gift Drawings** ★**Table Favors** ★**Holiday music with Violinist and Harpist**

SWFL is subsidizing to keep it at \$30 per person, cutoff date is November 30!

See our separate flyer for details and reservation form

Rouladen? Wiener Schnitzel? More than you can eat at one sitting? That's what Anita and I ordered at our **SWFL 3rd Annual Oktoberfest Dinner** at the *Black Forest Restaurant* in Naples, October 16th.



It was yet another warm and wonderful get-together with friends who happen to be attached to Mercedes-Benz autos! The restaurant is on the intimate side, so seating is somewhat limited, but we had the entire place reserved for our group.

With authentic accordion music in the background, that's what Oktoberfest is: Friends, Food and Fun!



With a nice house salad to begin, our server, Chloe, then brought out the hot, heavy plates, with balance that was Hofbräuhaus worthy (although she is English). Good German beer and wines were available to compliment the dishes. Room had to be left for the desert of German Apple Strudel with Ice Cream! Whew. Fortunately, the restaurant is well prepared with 'doggie bags'.





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OKTOBERFEST IN PUNTA GORDA

Saturday, October 7, 2017

SWFL Section Displays German cars for the German Fest. Once again big thanks to Tom and Loretta Starrett for organizing and orchestrating prime 'parking' spots for SWFL members attending the very popular festival in Punta Gorda. Good food and good fun every year!



TAUCK RIVER CRUISING

Graeme Morpeth and Lynne Adams invite you to join them on The Rhine, Swiss Alps & Amsterdam river cruise that explores historic towns and cities along the Rhine. Includes Mercedes Benz museum and factory tour and spends three days in the Swiss Alps, Lucerne and Bern. Our European river cruise partner Tauck, frequently named on "World's Best River Cruise Line" lists, are all-inclusive. Virtually every cruise expense is included in one up-front all-inclusive price – there are no hidden costs, no surprises, and no options sold on tour.

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On this 10-day, 7-night river cruise Amsterdam is your starting point. You will follow the romantic Rhine on its winding journey from the Netherlands to the Swiss Alps and will experience medieval wine towns, cathedrals, castles, museums, and river landscapes of the kind that inspired JMW Turner and Richard Wagner. Along the way, experience a Tauck Exclusive evening of dinner and music at Schloss Ehreshoven, a visit to Mercedes Benz in Stuttgart and Untertürkheim, a visit to the windmills of Kinderdyke, and much more!

We encourage you to make your reservation soon to be sure to get the departure date you want – at the time of writing, there are only 17 cabins left.

Thank you – and I hope you join us on this exciting river cruise.

Graeme and Lynne

For more details contact us on 239 877 7108 or & 239 331 0300 - graemor@me.com & Ladams@dt.com



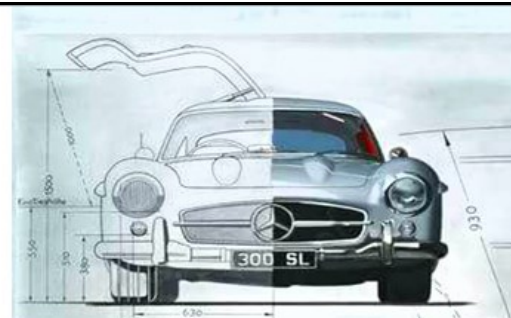
We're admiring Jim's new car but not sure what model it is. Sure looks mean and fast!



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Editorial Toot...

**Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukka,
Merry Christmas, Happy New Year!**

Thus we have the Holiday Edition!

In the hustle and bustle of the Season we shouldn't forget to give thanks for our blessings. Sometimes our blessings are taken for granted. Maybe it's your family, maybe it's the good time you've had on earth, maybe it's as simple and warm as the friends in a club.

With the turmoil and terror going on so many places, I've become more aware how blessed we are to be living in the greatest country on earth.

Seeing our littlest regular club members, Mercedes and Connor, I believe there is more good in the world than we know.

They will lead.

Parties and events are upcoming, both with the Club and your own, much enjoyment with family and friends. As you celebrate, please don't forget to have a designated driver. There is never a good time to destroy your life, or someone else's.

How about that weather? I always wondered why there are no real tall trees in Florida, now I know! I have a tall Royal Palm that is still standing, but not for long. If it comes down unplanned, it will dent our house.

Hope everyone has been able to repair any damage sustained. A blessing, our damage was limited to vegetation. However, during the height of Irma I made promises to get a new hurricane-proof garage door, and look into replacing the 1969 awning windows we love. (The garage will have a new door next week.)

Anita and I wish you and yours peace, happiness and a warm blanket for those chilly nights ahead!

Moooving along!

Jerry

If you're real good Bessie Claus
will bring you nice stuff!
If you're bad you'll get a pie.



Like kids in a candy store, such a selection... what fun to just walk around the parking lot at Perkins, drooling but not touching.

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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Joe at **European Motors** had a new alignment machine installed recently. Angela explained all the nuances to me but I've forgotten what she said. I do remember it has lots of advanced features to make alignments faster and more accurate, and that's what matters, isn't it?

October 14, 2017, We had to meet at a new location for our breakfast meeting in Ft Myers because our regular place, Mimi's, is still recovering from the storm. We were able to convene at Perkins on 41 and 6 Mile Cypress as a temporary meeting place and still attracted 23 members! Chet Young was very efficient in selecting today's location, as well as next month's which will be held at *The Mix Italian Grill*, Fort Myers, FL 33905 Ft. Myers.

Photo and report, Ron Cordeau



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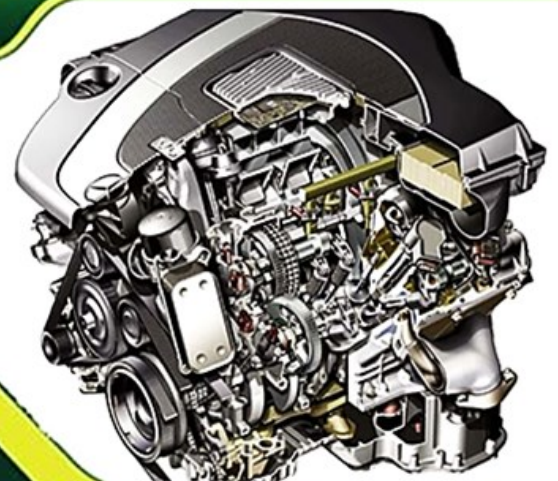
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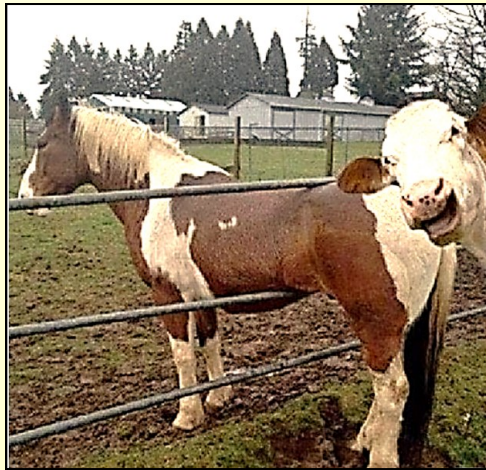
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Upcoming Events 2017

Southwest Florida Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Nov 11, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, The Mix Italian Grill , head east off exit 141: 4921 Palm Beach Blvd, Fort Myers, FL 33905 Ft. Myers
Nov 19, Sunday	Brunch at the Golden Leaf restaurant in Naples, followed by a possible matinee movie. Contact Chet, (321) 446-0472 , chetyoung30@gmail.com
Nov 25, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
Dec 3, Sunday	6:00 PM, SWFL Holiday Party , Olde Cypress, Naples. See the flyer for details / reservations
Dec 9, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, The Mix Italian Grill , Ft. Myers
Dec 23, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
Dec 25, Monday	Ho, Ho, Ho! Merry Christmas!
Jan 13, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, The Mix Italian Grill , Ft. Myers
Jan 27, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples



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

and...

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