River City Star

MBCA Memphis Section Newsletter — February 2019

Next Event on the Calendar

March 23 - A drive and dine event to visit the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center in Brownsville followed by lunch at Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q restaurant in Mason. Plan to join your fellow MBers in a non-Interstate drive to Brownsville and then on to Mason. We will meet at the Collierville Town Square Park at 8:30 am with a planned departure at 9:00 am to caravan to Brownsville. Maps, driving instructions, and other information will be provided. Evite invitations will be used to formally announce this event. Section Contact: Dale Duckworth. See more details on page 5.

+ BOZO'S HOT PIT BAR-B-Q SINCE 1928 RESTAURANT =

A fun drive and dine experience in West Tennessee

President's Message

By Linda Reyle

MBCA Memphis Members,

With gasoline selling at bargain prices and spring around the corner, it's time to get out on the road for a few driving events. Remember that beloved Mercedes-Benz sitting in your garage is charming to look at but was designed to be driven. So let's drive!

In March we'll be driving our beloved Mercedes-Benzes to Brownsville, Tennessee, to tour the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center, a museum celebrating the music, heritage, and beauty of the Tennessee Delta. Our lunch at the world-famous and historic Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q will be a treat you will long remember.

In April we will drive to Wilson, Arkansas, to learn what it's like to operate a 10,000 acre farm in the rich soil of the Mississippi delta on the Arkansas side of the river. The sophistication of technology that is mainstream in today's agriculture business amazes me.

Let's get driving!

Linda

Check us out on Facebook and now Instagram!

@MBCAMemphis

From the Editor

By Dale Duckworth

Happy New Year 2019! Did you know that 2019 marks the 110th anniversary of the three-pointed star as the symbol of the Mercedes marque? In Mercedes logo history, the year 1909 saw the creation of the famous three-pointed star logo design that has graced the automobiles of the corporation for many decades. It still represents the ethos of the world's second-largest automobile brand.

The logo was designed by Gottlieb Daimler, who developed the emblem on a postcard that he was going to mail his wife. Needing a distinctive trademark for the brand, the sons of Gottlieb, Paul and Adolf, remember that their father previously used a star for a symbol. The Daimler-Motoren-Gesellschaft (DMG) Board of Management follows this inspiration and in June 1909 registers both a three-pointed and four-pointed star as trademarks. Both logos are legally protected, but it is the three-pointed star that is ultimately used and a three-dimensional star adorns the front of vehicles from 1910 onwards.

So what does the three-pronged star actually mean? According to the company, it represents the automaker's drive toward universal motorization with its engines dominating the land, sea, and air (three points).

As you read this newsletter, you will see that there are exciting upcoming events where you can display the "star" on your Mercedes-Benz by simply participating in the fun.

I am previewing a couple of ideas for future Newsletters on page 13: Technical Tips and Tricks (TTT) and Classified Ads. Check these out and let me know what you think.

If you have any suggestions of particular topics you would like to see in the Newsletter (or on the Website), please let me know via email at daled43663@gmail.com. I will pass Website suggestions to Pam Zelman, our Section Webmaster.

Below are links to a couple Mercedes-Benz articles I found of interest:

- Is there an electric car in your future? An electric Mercedes-Benz? Well, the Mercedes-Benz EQC400 4MATIC, an all-wheel drive electric SUV with more than 200 miles of range, will go on sale in the U.S. in 2020. See *Mercedes-Benz's First Serious All-Electric Car is a 402-Horsepower SUV with Over 200 Miles of Range* at http://flip.it/a9UkQU
- Would you like to have flexible infotainment options when buying a car? Mercedes -Benz has a solution. See *Mercedes-Benz will let drivers add infotainment features after they buy cars* at https://www.digitaltrends.com/cars/mercedes-benz-mbux-on-demand-upgrades/

Enjoy!

2019 Events, Events, and More Events

We're going to have an exciting year! Mark your calendars now!

- March 23 - A driving and dining event to visit the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center in Brownsville followed by lunch at Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q restaurant in Mason. Evite invitations will be used to formally announce this event. Section Contact: Dale Duckworth. See details on page 5.

- April 5-6 - The Natchez Euro Fest Classic European Auto Show. An Evite will be used to announce this event. Section Contact: Linda Reyle. See details on page 6.

- April 27 - A driving and dining event to the Wilson, Arkansas, Crawfish Festival with dinner at Joan and Bobby Gammill's Farm. Section elections will be held during this event. Evite invitations will contain all of the details. Section Contact: Linda Reyle. See details on page 6.

- May 25 - A joint driving event with the Porsche Club in West Tennessee or North Mississippi. Details will be forthcoming. Look for the Evite. Section Contact: Pam Zelman.

- May (TBD) - A Show & Shine event at a Memphis-area venue. Look for the Evite for this event. Section Contact: Mike McHann.

- June 23 - A Sunday afternoon driving event to the Delta Blues Winery in Lakeland for refreshments and music is our second quarter social event. The Evite will have all of the details. Section Contact: Rich Rankin. See details on page 7.

- August (TBD) - A social event featuring dinner at Marciano Restaurant in East Memphis. Details to follow in the Evite. Section Contact: Bill Sudekum.

- September 27-28 - Memphis Eurofest 2019 will be held on the campus of Youth Villages in Memphis. This exhibit event is sponsored by the British Sports Car Club of Memphis. More details will be made available in the Evite for this event. Section Contact: Rich Rankin.

- October 12 - Concours d'Ordinaire and dinner. This will be our third annual event. Lots of fun, food, fellowship, and door prizes. All the details will be in the Evite. Section Contact: Linda Reyle.

- November (TBD) - A Show & Shine event at a Memphis-area venue. Look for the Evite for this event. Section Contact: Pam Zelman.

- December 14 - Germantown Holiday Parade. This annual event gives us a great opportunity to show off our Mercedes-Benz marque. The Evite will have all of the details. Section Contact: Lynn Jones

- December 14 - Memphis Section Holiday Dinner. Another great event not to be missed. Be sure to come to the dinner to share holiday greetings with your fellow MBers. Evites will be sent with the details. Section Contact: Bill Sudekum.

Monthly Cars & Carbs Events

What: Fellowship and conversation along with coffee and baked goods

When: The first Saturday of each month from 9 - 11 am

Where:

March 2 - Bluff City Coffee, 505 S Main St, Memphis

April 6 - La Baguette, 3088 Poplar Ave, Memphis

May 4 - Square Beans, 101 N. Center Street, Collierville (on the Square)

June 1 - Bluff City Coffee, 505 S Main St, Memphis

July 6 - La Baguette, 3088 Poplar Ave, Memphis

August 3 - Square Beans, 101 N. Center Street, Collierville (on the Square)

September 7 - Bluff City Coffee, 505 S Main St, Memphis

Add these fun events to your calendar, too!

These events aren't planned by our Section but sure sound like a good time.

Every Saturday - Cars & Coffee in various locations (see our Website for details)

2nd Saturday of Each Month - "Cars and Coffee on The Edge" on the second Saturday of each month 8 am to noon at 595 Monroe, just west of Sun Studios. FREE coffee and donuts. There are usually 25-50 cars.

4th Saturday of Each Month - "Cars and Coffee" on the 4th Saturday of each month at the Germantown Performing Arts Center (GPAC), 1801 Exeter Rd in Germantown. FREE coffee and donuts 8 to 10 am if it is not raining and projected temperature is to be at least 40 degrees at 8 AM. The next two meets will be December 22nd and January 26th. There are usually 100+ cars.

2019 Upcoming Events

2019 is rollin', rollin', rollin' along!

March 23 - A driving event to visit the **West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center in Brownsville** followed by **lunch at Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q restaurant in Mason**. Evite invitations will be used to formally announce this event. Section Contact: Dale Duckworth.

Founded in 1998, the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center is a refreshing Southern experience celebrating the music, culture, and beauty of the Tennessee Delta! If you want to discover what rural West Tennessee is all about, don't miss this event.

The Center is located in the hometown of Anna Mae Bullock - you probably know her as Tina Turner (*"Rollin', rollin', rollin' on the river"*). The "Queen of Rock" is remembered here with an exhibit inside the historic Flagg Grove School, her childhood school, which is filled with costumes, gold records, and memorabilia donated by Tina. West Tennessee is also home to the Country Blues sound and to pioneers such as "Sleepy" John Estes, Hammie Nixon, and Yank Rachell. "Sleepy" John's last home is on the grounds and open for visitors to peek inside.

In addition to an extensive musical history, the region is rich in beauty and agriculture. The West Tennessee Cotton Museum helps visitors discover how cotton is produced and managed since the early 1800s. And the scenic Hatchie River Museum has three fresh water aquariums! This natural and last "wild" river in the lower Mississippi system is a wonder to explore.

After working up an appetite touring the Delta Heritage Center, we will take a short drive to Mason, Tennessee, for lunch at Bozo's Hot Pit Bar-B-Q restaurant. Bozo's has been located in Mason, Tennessee, since 1923. During that time a lot has changed, but not Bozo's. As a certified National Historical Site, Bozo's stays true to its history. They still serve delicious Bar-B-Q and, if you are looking for nostalgia, look no further than Bozo's, with their antique decor and homestyle cooking you are sure to find that ever escaping feeling of the past. They take great care and pride in their food, from their top secret rub and sauce recipes to their homemade pies, made right in the restaurant. Are you getting hungry yet?

We will meet at the Collierville Town Square Park at 8:30 am with a planned departure at 9:00 am to caravan to Brownsville. Maps, driving instructions, and other information will be provided.

2019 Upcoming Events (cont'd)

April 5-6 - It's time for the **Natchez Euro Fest Classic European Auto & Motorcycle Show** again. Details are forthcoming via Evite invitation or emails. Section Contact: Linda Reyle.

The 2019 Euro Fest Classic European Auto & Motorcycle Show, combining European engineering and beauty with Southern hospitality, will be another most enjoyable automotive and motorcycle event in Natchez, Mississippi. This will be the fourth annual show and once again is expected to exceed all expectations. The venue on the lawn of Rosalie Mansion, and a group of outstanding expected participants, will make for an exciting event on April 6th. Autos from TN, MO, LA , AR, FL, and MS will created a large and diverse field of entries. This free, fun, family event held on the bluffs of the Mississippi River will include European music, bagpipers, strolling Southern Belles and many other features of interest. This is classified as an official MBCA Regional Event.

Awards will include Best In Class of 16 Different Classes, 7 Sponsor's Choice, and Best of Natchez Vintage and Nouveau. Additionally the Mayor's Travel Awards will be presented for autos manufactured before and after 1994.

April 27 - A driving event to the **Wilson, Arkansas, Crawfish Festival** with **dinner at Bobby and Joan Gammill's Farm**. Section elections will be held during this event. Evite invitations will contain all of the details. Section Contact: Linda Reyle.

The Wilson Crawfish Festival, a tour of a 10,000 acre working farm, Section elections, and fun and fellowship with MBCA members and guests - what could make for a better MBCA event? Don't miss this one!

Wilson
ARKANSAS

The Arkansas farmer won $100,000,000 in the lottery. The newspaper called and asked him what he was going to do with the money. The farmer replied "After I refresh my Mercedes-Benz fleet, I guess I'll just keep on farming until it's all gone."

2019 Upcoming Events (contd)

June 23 - “Cars and Chardonnay” -or- "Mercedes and Muscadine.” Plan to join us at the Delta Blues Winery, 6585 Stewart Road, Lakeland, Tennessee, on Sunday, June 23rd. The winery provides live music inside their venue space from 2:30 pm through 5:30 pm. When the weather cooperates, the music moves outside to the large front porch. Bring your own snacks, buy a bottle of their wonderful wine, then sit back and enjoy the music! No outside alcohol permitted. Section Contact: Rich Rankin.

DELTA BLUES
WINERY

Your Memphis Section Board

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Newsletter Editor	Dale Duckworth	daled43663@gmail.com	(901) 210-9525
Central Region Director	Rick Siefert	Rick.Siefert@att.net	(314) 435-1903

Memphis Membership Matters

By Mike McHann (Membership Chairman)

I want to take this opportunity to give a Big Welcome to new member Willie Jackson. Willie, I hope we'll see you at our upcoming events and social gatherings where we provide technical info about vehicle maintenance, share our "car stories," and, in general, have a good time!

I hope everyone will take a minute to mark your calendars for the March 2 Cars & Carbs at Bluff City Coffee as well as the March 23 visit to the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center in Brownsville.

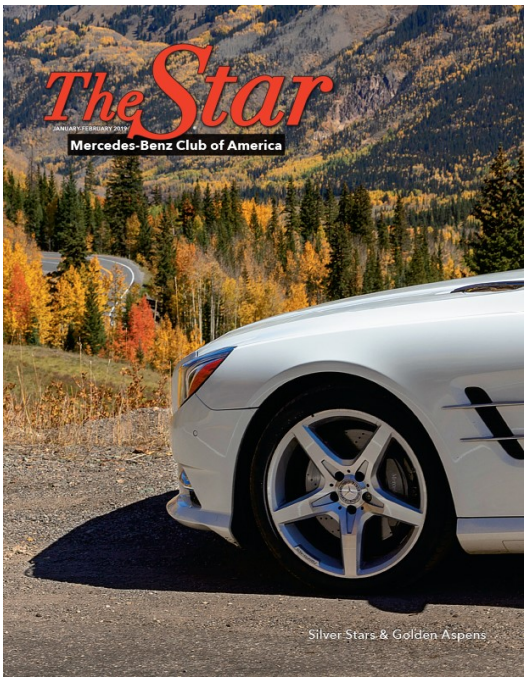
You'll remember that MBCA Memphis Section has a goal to double the membership this year and has challenged us each to find and recruit one person who would benefit from MBCA membership. So let me know if you need brochures, business cards, or membership applications.

We welcome the continued attendance, suggestions, and contributions of all Memphis Section members.

Join the Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) is the largest Mercedes-Benz Club in the world. MBCA brings together drivers and friends for casual and competitive driving events and offers special access to technical experts for questions about both vintage and new Mercedes-Benz models. Also, MBCA offers a unique, member-only online community with access to information, events announcements, resources, and an award-winning print publication, *The Star*, that will enrich your Mercedes-Benz ownership experience.

We invite you to join MBCA to explore your passion for all things Mercedes-Benz. Whether you want to drive, learn more about your car, or simply enjoy the camaraderie of other Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts, Mercedes-Benz Club of America is your place.



Not a Member?

Go to www.mbca.org to Join Today!

Review: Trip to Tupelo Automobile Museum

By Linda Reyle

Some of the best things in life can happen on the fly. Our lead time was short, but nine MBCA Memphis Section members jumped at the invitation to join the MBCA Alabama and MBCA Mississippi sections for a tour of the Tupelo Automobile Museum on January 12, 2019. One of the largest automobile museums in the country, the Tupelo Automobile Museum is the personal collection of Emmy-award winning broadcast engineer Frank Spain. Now that both Spain and his wife Jane are deceased, the Education Foundation that owns the collection has made the difficult decision to close the museum and auction off the cars and memorabilia. From the 1886 Patent-Motorwagen created by Karl Benz to a 1994 Dodge Viper that has never been driven, the collection is noteworthy for its quality and broad diversity of cars.

Following a self-guided tour of the museum, the museum curator opened the back room archives so that we could view the rare automobiles that were awaiting restoration but will nonetheless be auctioned off unrestored. We rendezvoused at the Park Heights Restaurant in downtown Tupelo for a delicious lunch.

For those interested in the auction to be held on April 26-27 in Tupelo, the museum refers you to https://automobiliaresource.com/event/the-tupelo-automobile-museum-auction-apr-26-27/ for details.

Visitors to the Tupelo Automobile Museum on January 12 enjoy introductory remarks from a member of the museum staff.

1886 Benz

Karl Benz in Mannheim, Germany, in 1883-1885 spent many hours designing and experimenting with a 3-wheeled petrol-powered machine with the idea that this device would allow two people to move without undue effort from place to place without using the rail lines that were available at the time. He is credited with being the first man to achieve transport by means of a petrol-powered, 3-wheeled cart.

Review: Dinner at Salsa Cocina Mexicana

By Mike McHann

There was a nice turnout of 25 Memphis Section members and guests at the Salsa Cocina Mexicana restaurant for dinner on January 26. The restaurant provided a private area for our dining as well as delicious food and libations.

Linda Reyle made some opening remarks and then introduced Rick Siefert, MBCA's Central Region Director, who filled us in on some of the planned activities in the Region.

After dinner, drawings were held for some very nice MB-related door prizes.

Cliff and Linda Reyle and Rick Siefert say "cheese" for the camera.

Mike McHann, Section Lead for the dinner, presides over activities at the table. We're looking forward to seeing even more of our members at upcoming events throughout the new year!

These dinner occasions are always a chance for us to catch up, share our new "car stories," and just enjoy each other's company. What? Is Bobby checking soybean futures while waiting for dinner?

Poteet Garage Tour Follow Up

By Erik Nowacki

Many of you participated in the tour of George Poteet's garages in Holly Springs, Mississippi, last August and heard about his many feats and awards. Now land-speed racer and hot rodder Poteet has added America's Most Beautiful Roadster (AMBR) to his long list of achievements - his "3 Penny Roadster" 1936 Ford won the title at this year's Grand National Roadster Show in Pomona.

The 2019 award for America's Most Beautiful Roadster (AMBR) went to George Poteet's "3 Penny Roadster" 1936 Ford.

George is all smiles after winning the 2019 AMBR award.

From Our Regional Director

Rick Siefert
Central Regional Director
Mercedes-Benz Club of America
367 West Manor Drive | Chesterfield, MO 63017 314.435.1903

In addition to the Natchez Euro Fest (see page 6), the MBCA Central Region will have three other great Regional events in 2019.

Amelia Island Concours d' Elegance, Amelia Island, Florida

March 9 - 10, 2019 (Saturday and Sunday)

MBCA presence on Saturday, March 9, at Cars & Coffee.

Concours d' Elegance on Sunday, March 10.

Dinners, auctions, etc.

French Lick, Indiana, Drive & Dine Event

October 11 - 13, 2019 (Friday through Sunday)

The French Lick Springs Hotel is a classic American hotel, established in 1845, with the current spa wing built in 1901. The drive from Memphis is approximately 400 miles with driving time of 6+ hours.

French Lick Springs Hotel seamlessly blends its fascinating history with modern amenities and services. Family-friendly activities and facilities make this an ideal destination for celebrations or relaxing getaways. This classic American hotel has something everyone can enjoy; whether it's golf, spa, hiking, biking, swimming, or shopping.

Lodging at the historic French Lick Resort is regularly $304/night + tax; our rate is $129/night + tax!

Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

November 1 - November 3, 2019 (Friday through Sunday)

Considered third in the country after Pebble Beach and Amelia Island.

Saturday Car Club Showcase, MBCA presence, and Silver Star Preservation judging, Saturday, November 2.

Concours d'Elegance, Sunday, November 3.

This will be an MBCA Multi-Regional Event (Central, Eastern, and Southeast Regions) with planned dinners, tours, driving events, etc.

Ideas for Future Newsletters

Technical Tips and Tricks (TTT)

Do you DIY? On your Mercedes-Benz? Would a Newsletter article describing “Technical Tips and Tricks” from our Section Members be of interest to you? Do you have some experiences you could share via the Newsletter?

Of course, the input for this article would have to come from you, our Section Members. If you would like to contribute, please send your TTT item to Dale Duckworth at daled43663@aol.com in the following format (with photos would be nice):

- *A description of the vehicle the TTT applies to, for example:* 2008 W164 ML350 4MATIC.
- *A description of the problem with the vehicle, for example:* The left brake light was intermittently showing as faulty on the dashboard display.
- *A description of the TTT you performed on the vehicle, for example:* I accessed the tail light assembly from inside the vehicle and removed the socket and bulb for the inoperative brake light. I cleaned the contacts on the bulb and the contacts in the socket and reinstalled the socket and bulb. This worked for a short time and then failed again. I removed the socket and bulb again and, upon closer examination, noticed some signs of overheating on the contacts in the socket. I initially applied a bead of solder to the burned spots on the contacts for a temporary fix and then searched the Internet for a replacement socket using the number on the part. I found and ordered a used replacement socket, installed it, and have had no problems since (about two years). I estimate that I saved at least an hour’s shop labor cost.

Classified Ads

Do you have something Mercedes-Benz-related that you would like to buy, sell, trade, or give away? A Classified Ads section could be included in the Newsletter. At no charge! BTW, the ad shown below is real. Give Mike a call - he is ready to sell.

For Sale

1993 Mercedes-Benz 300CE Coupe, Midnight Blue with beige interior. Pristine condition! 180K miles. Complete service records, “250K Service Excellence Award”, new brakes, discs, flex hoses, AC, tires, battery, motor mounts, sway bar, transmission. The car has always been kept in a heated garage. Restoration log/service log upon request.

Video: https://youtu.be/YfsEpXS5OYc

More photos: https://memphis.craigslist.org/cto/6786570895.html

$10,500.00 (appraised $11,800)

Mike McHann, 901-299-6341 or mike.mchann@eccotek.com

Disclaimer

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