



MBCA Memphis Section Newsletter - March/April 2020

# *River City Star*



## **President's Message:**

Dear fellow MBCA Memphis Section members,

We are living through a history-making time in the world. And it is my belief that the future is bright indeed.

As we all keep a close eye on COVID-19 updates, your local MBCA Memphis Board continues to take action designed to limit coronavirus exposure. To that end and **effective**

**immediately, the following four MBCA events are canceled:**

28-March: Tech Session at Smith Imports (canceled)

3-4-April: Natchez Eurofest (canceled by MBCA MS Section)

4-April: Cars and Carbs (canceled)

18-April: David Miles Car Collection (canceled)

The Memphis Section board will re-evaluate in 30 days to make a determination on future events. We will notify you of any updates.

To assist you as you prepare for the coming weeks, here is the Centers for Disease Control COVID-2019 link for up-to-date and relevant information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/index.html>. This is a rapidly evolving situation and the CDC will update this website as information becomes available.

In the meantime, here are few ideas:

1. CREATE:

- a. Dig out that old sketchbook from high school, sharpen a #2 pencil, and sketch a few everyday images of what you are seeing around you. Put your imagination to work.
- b. Bake some bread or your grandmother's famous cookies. The labor plus the aroma will lift your spirits. That's before you even take the first bite of your baked goods!

2. SERVE:

- a. Write letters to family members and friends using a first-class stamp and the mailbox. USPS will get it delivered.
- b. Check in on family members and friends by phone, text, or email. Use 3-way call or internet-based meetings to create virtual gatherings.

3. BE GRATEFUL:

- a. Take time every day to be thankful for what you have: warm clothing, family, peanut butter in the pantry, friends, and clean water coming out of the faucet.
- b. Start a Grateful Journal and every day write down what you are thankful for. The list will quickly grow.

I look forward to seeing you on the other side of this. Be smart and stay safe. The future is bright indeed.

Warm regards,

Linda Reyle, Memphis Section President



## Memphis Membership Matters

By Mike McHann (Membership Chairman)

Please welcome our new members Gloria Sorensen, Martin Pinstein, Elizabeth Martin and Tammy Wolf. Ordinarily, I'd encourage you to join us at our upcoming events, but in our current situation we'll make do with remote means to keep in touch for the foreseeable future.

For the calendar year 2020 we've gained five new members and lost six, netting 79 members. We seem to be maintaining our current membership and hope for more new members in the summer from new car sales and dealership referrals. As a reminder you'll receive a one-month extension on your membership for every new member you recruit, so be sure you're listed as the referring member on their membership form.

Let's keep up the good efforts again this year and encourage our fellow Mercedes owners to join. We have a colorful new application. Let me know if I can send you copies.

## Technical Tips and Tricks (TTT)

By Mike McHann

### *Buying a Car Sight-unseen*

I purchased my last 3 Mercedes-Benz cars sight-unseen from St Louis, Chicago, and Philadelphia. Finding the right car locally can be challenging and expanding the search area gave me more to choose from.

My last car, purchased in February, is a '90 300SL, chosen for its rare color (Cabernet Red Metallic), history, records and condition. The previous owner was a lady from Palm Beach FL and the car was being sold by the Antique Car Mall in Philadelphia. Because I couldn't see the car myself, I contacted the President of the Pennsylvania Section of the Club who put me in touch with member Otto Christensen. Otto has 3 SLs from the same period and he knew what to look for. He inspected and drove the car for me, texted more detailed photos and recommended that I buy the car. Otto was familiar with the Antique Car Mall dealership as he recently purchased a '67 Cutlass from them for a friend in Denmark.

So the purchase process went like this:

- As this was a consignment car, I had them email a copy of the title and bill-of-sale.
- I wired the full amount for the car to their bank and they mailed me the title and paperwork.
- They provided me with 3 quotes to transport the car to my door and, due to weather, I went with an enclosed trailer.
- The car arrived at my door in 3 days and, after inspection, I paid the transporter his fee.



The car started right up and I drove it into my garage. It was everything I expected with the usual pluses and minuses; it was a good purchase and I'm looking at restoring it to factory specs.

## Classic Cars

By Mike McHann

Janet Smith bought this beautiful 1978 450SL in 1987 and has cared for and maintained it over the years. The car has 200K miles, but you wouldn't know it. Janet has owned several Mercedes-Benz cars that served as daily drivers and currently owns a 2012 GLK. When asked why Mercedes-Benz? "There is nothing classier, well-built and safer for a single girl." Janet is a long-time Memphian and you may remember her Mother's famous landmark Justine's Restaurant that closed in 1996.



## The 2020 MBCA-Memphis Calendar of Events

Our events include delicious dinners, fun drives and how to fix your car. Regardless of your interests and preferences, you have many different events to choose from. The Memphis Section Board will re-evaluate in 30 days to make a determination on future events. We will notify you of any changes.

Keeping your safety and well-being first, we cancelled the events for March and April. We hope you are safe and well as we all shelter from COVID-19. We hope to see you at our next event, **Cars & Carbs on May 2, 2020 at Panera Bread in Germantown.**

As always, go to [memphis.mbca.org](http://memphis.mbca.org) for the latest updates on our events.

Date	Event	Location
May 2	Cars & Carbs	Panera Bread, Germantown
May 23	Dinner at Red Fish	Red Fish Restaurant, Arlington
June 6	Cars & Carbs	Bluff City, Memphis
June 20	Wine Tasting	White Squirrel, Kenton
July 18	Show & Shine	TBD
August 1	Cars & Carbs	La Baguette, Memphis
August 22	FedEx Tour	FedEx Headquarters, Memphis
September 5	Cars & Carbs	Panera Bread, Germantown
September 12	Dinner at Salsa	Salsa Restaurant, Memphis
September 26*	Memphis Euro-Fest	TBD
October 3	Cars & Carbs	Bluff City, Memphis
October 10-11*	Renaissance Euro-Fest	Ridgeland
October 17	Shiloh National Park	Shiloh
November 7	Cars & Carbs	La Baguette, Memphis
November 7-8	Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance	Hilton Head
November 14	Dinner at Marlow's	Marlows, Memphis

## DINNER AT MARCIANO'S

Thanks to all of the members, spouses, and guests who joined us on February 22<sup>nd</sup> for a fantastic dinner at Marciano's. Once again, we were tantalized by wonderful Mediterranean and Italian cuisine. From a fresh salad or tasty antipasto, to a pasta, pizza or more, there was something to please everyone.



## MBCA Memphis Section Board Member Election: April 2020

Each April the MBCA Memphis Section members vote on a recommended slate of Board members for the following year. This year our election will be conducted virtually via email. The recommended slate for 2020 MBCA Board members is:

**PRESIDENT:** Bill Sudekum  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Mike McHann  
**SECRETARY:** Lordita Canlas  
**TREASURER:** Lynn Jones

In early April you will be receiving an email ballot from a MBCA Memphis Board member who is not on the ballot. You will hit REPLY to the message and place your vote. You will also be given the option to write in a candidate.

We will communicate the results to you once the ballots are tabulated.

Thank you for your engagement in the election process.

### MCBA Memphis Officers:

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