

[View this email in your browser](#)



Lone Star Update

Lone Star Section - Central Texas
JUNE 2021

On the Road ... with Treasurer Nick Voinis

We are all proud of the cars we drive. That's a big reason we are members of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. In addition to the fellowship, we attend events to drive and show our vehicles made by one of the greatest manufacturers in the world – whether it be a classic sedan, state-of-the-art sports car or a do-it-all sport utility vehicle.



But have you ever thought what you might be driving five or 10 years from now?

I realized that day just how far that technology has come. I had no clue some of these vehicles got around 400 miles per charge. Of course, that depends how you drive. They were just as comfortable and luxurious as their gas-powered equivalents. And the technology has gotten even better since.

Driving and safety technology is improving by the day. My wife and I drive Mercedes-Benz sport utility vehicles. She drives a 2018 GLC, while I enjoy my 2015 ML350. They are useful, well-built, dependable and stylish. We like them.

Mercedes-Benz recently introduced its cutting-edge electric technology with the Mercedes EQ line. Rather than try to describe them to you (which wouldn't serve them well), [check them out for yourself here](#).

By no means are we currently ready to shop around. These vehicles have a lot of good life left. And, I admit, I'm cheap.

Pretty impressive, don't you think?

But my eyes were opened a couple of summers ago. We were in New York City and, on a quiet Sunday afternoon, we decided to attend the Formula E (think Formula 1 or Indy Car, but electric powered) street course race being held that weekend in Brooklyn. The cars were quick and handled extremely well. The race was competitive. But, without the usual roar of engines (think the sound of your dentist's drill, only louder).

Recently, Ford introduced its new electric Mustang and F-150 pickup. The truck includes power plug-ins for the job site and even a generator that can power your home in case of an emergency. We could have used one of those last February.

The event was well organized and attended, but it was more than just a race. It was a giant festival promoting electric vehicles. All of the participating Formula E race car manufacturers, including Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Audi, Renault, Jaguar and others, hosted exhibit tents featuring their latest consumer electric vehicles (sedans, some really cool sports cars and SUVs). Some were currently on the market, while others were prototypes, soon to be introduced to consumers. We checked them all out.

Closer to home, that giant, billion-dollar Tesla Gigafactory is going up fast in southeast Travis County. It's scheduled to open in 2022 and will build the new Tesla Cybertruck (with its rather unique design), Semi, Model 3 compact sedan and Model Y vehicles right in our own backyard. Hard to believe, even as we live today in this oil-and-gas dominated state.



I'm not committing to an electric vehicle just yet. But, when ready to make a purchase, I will take a good, hard look at them. I'll kick the tires on them, so to speak. I'm still hoping Section Secretary Frank Irwin gets tired of his GTS and agrees to sell it to me. But I'm not holding my breath on that one.

Give it a thought. What might you be driving in the future?

Upcoming Events

JUNE 26: Show and Shine

Get ready to show off your Mercedes-Benz when the Lone Star Section meets up for a Show and Shine event. There will be prizes for the winners, and the event will include a lunch of BBQ, tea and water from Cowtown BBQ.

11 a.m. - 1 p.m., Saturday, June 26
Martin Park
1 Community Drive
Horseshoe Bay

Event cost: \$20
[Registration and details](#)

JULY 24: Lunch at Trattoria Lisina

We'll enjoy a delicious lunch at the beautiful [Trattoria Lisina](#), located on the grounds of The Mandola Estate & Vineyard in Driftwood.

11:15 a.m. - 2 p.m., Saturday, July 24
Trattoria Lisina
13308 FM 150 West
Driftwood

Space is limited - RSVP to [Ginny Pitzen](#) by June 18

AUG. 21: Lone Star Riverboat

Enjoy a sunset cruise on Lady Bird Lake and watch millions of Mexican free-tailed bats emerge from the Congress Avenue bridge. The bats are part of the largest urban colony in North America. Relax on the lake and enjoy narration and history provided by the ship's captain. Those participating should bring an appetizer to share and BYOB.

5-8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 21
Lone Star Riverboat
208 Barton Springs Road
Austin

Event cost: \$30
[RSVP required](#)
[More details](#)
A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hyatt Regency Hotel - [reserve here](#).

Future Lone Star Section Events

Sept. 25: Painted Churches Tour
Fayette County area

Details to come

Oct. 9: Hill Country Run
Burnet

If you have any questions or suggestions for events, contact Ginny Pitzen at ginnypitzen@yahoo.com or (512) 925-4481.

Dec. 4: Annual Christmas Party
Home of Alan and Susann Syme
Sun City, Georgetown

National Event: Nov. 2-5: Mercedes Freude

Several members of the Lone Star Section are planning to attend Mercedes Freude in Hilton Head, S.C., from Nov. 2-5, and perhaps turn it into a Section road trip with a possible stop and tour at the [Mercedes-Benz U.S. International Inc. Visitor Center/Museum and plant](#) in Vance, Alabama. The museum is the only one

outside of Germany and has several vintage Mercedes on display.

Interested?
Contact Ginny Pitzen at ginnypitzen@yahoo.com or (512) 925-4881
[Details at the Mercedes Freude website](#)

Watch for details and other Lone Star events to be announced in future newsletters, emails to members, on our Facebook page and at <https://lonestar.mbc.org>

Have an idea for an event? Contact Vice President [Ginny Pitzen](#).

Recent Events

Lone Star Section members motored to College Station at the invitation of the Houston Section on May 22 for a tour of the American GI Museum and an overnight stay at the Stella Hotel. We enjoyed the fellowship with our fellow MBCA Texans.



Welcome New & Renewing Members - May

New Members

Mark Boles

Renewing Members

Dick Baskin
Christine Bedford
Richard Garrett
Aaron Goldstein
Angelia Henderson
Gregorio Hopkins
Sally Martin
Marvin Merriweather
Rob Reesor
Richard Schirmer
Moris Simon
Chuck Smith

*Need information on membership? Know someone who wants to join?
Contact Membership Coordinator [Susann Syme](#)*

Upcoming Deadline

June 17: Spring 2021 raffle ticket sales

The International Stars Mercedes-Benz Club of America Spring 2021 raffle is open through June 17.



- First prize: 2021 E450 4MATIC Cabriolet
- Second prize: 2021 Mercedes Freude Event

Visit raffle.mbc.org for more information and to read the [rules and regulations](#).

Interested in advertising in the Lone Star Update, the Section's monthly newsletter?

Contact Newsletter Editor Kirsten Voinis for information on sizes and pricing for monthly and annual ads.

Lone Star Section Officers

President - Alan Syme
(210) 827-8308
alansyme424@gmail.com

Treasurer - Nick Voinis
nick7@austin.rr.com

Vice President - Ginny Pitzen
(512) 925-4481
ginnypitzen@yahoo.com

Membership Coordinator - Susann Syme
46kaos@gmail.com

Secretary - Frank Irwin
frank.irwin@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor - Kirsten Voinis
kvoinis@kvoinis.com

Past President - Rick Everett



Copyright © 2021 MCBA Lone Star Section. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
MBCA Lone Star Section
Mercedes-Benz Club of America, National Office, 1907 Lelalay St, Colorado Springs, CO, 80909

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

