



The Lone Star



May 2011

Volume 20 , Issue 2

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President's Message



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Goodbye Spring and Hello Summer!

We've been busy this Spring, our event coordinator Charlene has scheduled a full year of events and we have had a great time so far. The highlight for me was a visit to Mercedes-Benz of Austin for the April Meeting and a chance to experience the SLS Gullwing, what a car!

So far this Spring, the weather has cooperated and we have had many successful events! A small but beautiful Valentine's Day Rally followed by a tour of Dick's Garage in San Marcos in March, and while I didn't attend the Hill Country Run in April, I heard wonderful things about the event, the facilities and the Bandera area.

We have hosted 3 technical seminars with vendors such as Bumpers Rx, Leather Menders, High Point Powder Coating and are looking forward to a trip to visit Berli's Body Shop in June.

We have two social events on the horizon. The Wash and Shine is quickly approaching on May 22nd and a Riverboat Cruise on Ladybird Lake on June 4th. I hope to see you at one or both events.

As always, I encourage our members to take an active role in the Club. We are looking for help in providing content for the newsletter and the website. We are also looking for feedback from you as to future events you might like to attend.

I would like to thank to all those members who participated. It's all about you! I look forward to seeing more new faces this year.

Wishing you all the best this summer ! *Bryan Harter*

NEW MEMBERS

I would like to personally welcome our newest members to the club. I hope you will join us for some events that are of interest to you. We encourage you to make the most of your membership. The club is about enhancing the ownership experience. We all share an appreciation of a fine automobile, some like the old, others like the new, we drive them slow, we drive them fast, thru education we can make them last. We will host a number of technical sessions on repair and maintenance, some socials to try out new restaurants and bars around town, drives thru the hill country and car shows of various types and styles.

If you have any suggestions for events, please let us know. Our event coordinator can be reached at MBCALoneStar@aol.com

Edward Brown

Thaddeus Danley

Lyn Linka

Steven Mathews

Ryan Scott

Mark Sherman

Rob Simmons

We are now on Facebook. Follow us for updates and news on events.



Lone Star Section | Mercedes-Benz Club of America

THANK YOU!

To our loyal members, thank you for renewing your membership with the Lone Star Section. I hope to see you at an event soon.

Michael Boland

James Briggs

Kwok Chan

Bill Chermak

Darla Cole

Aloysius Cooper

John Davis

Chris Eddy

Catherine Fields

Thomas Jacobs

Niket Jindal

G. Kent

Manuel Martinez

William Morey

Patricia Morrison

George Reinhart

Markel Simmons

Arthur Simpkin

Larry Smith

Robert Stengle

Thomas Taylor

Roger Vitko

TEXAS EVENTS



The **SIXTH** Annual Texas Mercedes-Benz Get Together will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2011. Caravans of Mercedes-Benz autos leaving from Austin, the DFW Metroplex, Houston and San Antonio will once again meet at the midway point between Houston and Dallas on I-45 known as Centerville for a day filled with automotive fun! This is an event open to all Mercedes-Benz owners, regardless of the age or condition of their car, from garage queens to daily drivers to beaters. Owners from points beyond Texas are welcome to attend. We've had repeat attendees from Florida, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Kansas participate in this get together.

Smart and Sprinter owners are invited to attend, too. After all, they're just our brothers with different badging. 😊 Do you have family members, friends, or neighbors who drive Mercedes-Benzes and don't know about this event? Tell them to come on out! The caravans will depart at a time that will give them a 12:00 Noon arrival time in Centerville. You can check below for the departure time for the caravan nearest you. We will have reserved parking and a BBQ lunch in a room reserved just for us at the world famous Woody's Smokehouse on the **NORTHBOUND** side of I-45. After everyone has eaten, we'll head 4 miles south of town on old Highway 75 to Fort Boggy State Park for the Show and Shine! Admission to Fort Boggy is **FREE**. Awards will be given out based on People's Choice for best Vintage Model (Pre 1980), Best 1980s Model "Young Classics", Best 1990s Model, and Best 2000-present Model. Bring the camera, water and some sunscreen to the park because it probably will be hot. Last June was a hotter than normal June, so here's hoping for a normal or cooler than normal June 2011! Come on out to Texas's Premier Mercedes-Benz Event and have some fun with fellow MB owners and fans. We're gonna have a good time!

Departure Points:

Austin (Round Rock)

Dell Diamond
3400 East Palm Valley Boulevard (US 79)
Round Rock, TX 78665
Meet at 9:15am, depart at 9:45am

Location of Dell Diamond: [Dell Diamond - Google Maps](#)

Route from Dell Diamond to Centerville: [Dell Diamond to Centerville - Google Maps](#)



[Woody's Smokehouse - Home - The World's Best Beef Jerky](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



Kommen Sie und feiern Sie mit!

Join us for our annual

German Beer, Bratz and Benz

“Waschen und Glaenzen”

(Wash and Shine!)

Sunday, May 22, 2011 from 3:00 - 6:00 PM

Cat Mountain Club House

6007 Mount Bonnell Rd.

Austin, Texas 78731

Bring your entire family and join the Mercedes-Benz Club of America - Lone Star Section for an afternoon of great food and fun as we meet to socialize and show our "washed and shined" Mercedes-Benz vehicles!

This year's menu will include German Beer and delicious Bratwurst.

Please bring your favorite pot luck item to share.

We would also like to make this event a Membership Drive and invite all current members to bring along a friend or other car enthusiasts who may be interested in joining the Lone Star Section.

All members who recruit a new member this day will be entered into a drawing for a special prize!

The swimming pool, playscape and tennis courts will also be available for our enjoyment.

Please RSVP your total number attending to MBCALoneStar@aol.com by Thursday, May 19, 2011

Spass und Gemuetlichkeit!

Lone Star Riverboat Cruise

Lady Bird Lake, Austin

South of 1st Street Bridge

Saturday, June 4

8:00 pm - 10:00 pm (7:30 pm boarding)

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America Lone Star Section invites you to kick off the summer with a beautiful sunset cruise atop "The Lone Star", one of the largest, most luxurious, all electric double-decked, paddle wheel riverboats in the Nation.

The 2-hour private tour will consist of a narrated sightseeing tour of Lady Bird Lake, the opportunity to experience the exhilaration of the outdoors, the natural beauty of the ever changing Austin skyline, the abundance of waterfowl, and the spectacular emergence of the world famous Mexican free tail bats.

Cost is \$20 per person.

Due to capacity limits, PLEASE RSVP TO: MBCALoneStar@aol.com and payments MUST be received no later than Friday, May 27.

Mail checks payable to MBCA-Lone star Section to:

Joyce Melugin, Treasurer

4205 Bluffridge Dr.

Austin, TX 78759

Please bring your favorite beverage (soda, beer or wine) and an appetizer to share.

Enjoy the cruise from the room top deck or lounge in the air conditioned lower level area.

Visit their website at www.lonestarriverboat.com for directions and parking information



STARTECH 2011

At the end of April, I was encouraged to attend the National Board Meeting for the Club. It was an honor to represent the Club at the meeting and a pleasure to shake the hands of many of the members of the board that have assisted me over the years. To many, we didn't exist. Mention Texas and everyone thinks of Dallas and Fort Worth, two great sections, but I was more than happy to tell them about all the great things we have going on down here in Central Texas!

I had a chance to attend the opening evening of STARTEch and it was really a great experience. Most of STARTEch's events were held at Black Forest (they advertise in the STAR magazine) I was impressed with owner Michael McKinney's knowledge of the cars and especially of the older 1960's SL's. Their shop was impressive for an independent and rivaled many dealers! Clean, organized and well stocked. I've never seen so many beautiful SL's in one place before.

I really look forward to the next STARTEch in 2013 and hope I can jump in with both feet into all the technical training and seminars!



Pampered Auto Care

Austin
16299 FM 1325
Austin, TX
78728

512.310.1107

Cedar Park
1403 W. Whitestone Blvd. (FM - 1431)
Cedar Park, TX
78613

512.335.3955

Pampered Auto Care offers substantially lower labor rates, factory original Mercedes parts and a select group of top mechanics led by Edin, our dealer trained Master Mercedes Mechanic.

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We pamper our customers and their cars by offering:

- *Courtesy rides back home or to the office*
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- *Substantially discounted pricing on car rentals*
- *After hours key drop*
- *Discounted flat bed towing rates through a preferred vendor*
- *Complementary soft drinks*
- *Pre-buyer's inspection from one of our highly skilled mechanics for your next used car purchase. We will be happy to show you what we find.*
- *A convenient North Austin location off of FM 1325 (MoPAC) near Round Rock's La-Frontera shopping center. You can shop or browse while we service your vehicle!*



STAR NEWS

What's Happening in the World of Mercedes-Benz

United States Grand Prix Scheduled for Austin in 2012

On June 3rd, Formula One will announce a tentative date for the Formula One United States Grand Prix for 2012. We are really excited about this and are working on hosting some great events for the kickoff!

2012 SLS ROADSTER



Mercedes-Benz released this photo of the new SLS roadster undergoing track testing.



The 107 SL turns 40!

In April 1971, the 350 SL R107 officially replaced the iconic W113 'Pagoda' SL model series. Equipped with numerous safety innovations, this new roadster would embody everything the Mercedes-Benz SL stood for over the next two decades. The 107 follows in the footsteps of the 300 SL and Pagoda series and enjoys a growing fan base across the globe.

THE SCHEDULE

The Lone Star Section 2011 Event Schedule

All dates & times are subject to change

May 7 (Sat):

Tech Session
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Bumpers Rx
8308 Research Blvd.

May 12 (Thurs):

Monthly Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Brick Oven Arboretum
10710 Research Blvd.

May 21 (Sat):

Wash & Shine
Cat Mountain Clubhouse
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

June 4 (Sat):

Social Event
Lone Star Riverboat Cruise
7:30pm boarding for
8:00-10:00pm cruise
Lady Bird Lake @ S. First Street
Bridge

June 11 (Sat):

Texas Get Together
Centerville, Texas

June 9 (Thurs):

Monthly Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Brick Oven Arboretum
10710 Research Blvd.

June 18 (Sat):

Tech Session
Berli's Body Shop
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
1489 Grand Avenue Parkway

Pflugerville, TX

July 14 (Thurs):

Monthly Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Brick Oven Arboretum
10710 Research Blvd.

August 11 (Thurs):

Monthly Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Brick Oven Arboretum
10710 Research Blvd.

September 8 (Thurs):

Monthly Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Brick Oven Arboretum
10710 Research Blvd.

October 2 (Sun):

Cars and Coffee German Fest
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
200 W. Willis
Leander, TX

October 15 (Sat):

Annual Banquet
6:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Steiner Ranch Steakhouse
Buck's Loft
5424 Steiner Ranch
Austin (Lake Travis)

No October Monthly Meeting

November 10 (Thurs):

Monthly Meeting
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Brick Oven Arboretum
10710 Research Blvd.

November 12 (Sat):

Bastrop Veteran's Car Show
11:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m.
Main Street
Bastrop, TX

No December Monthly Meeting

December 10 (Sat):

Holiday Party
TBD

RAMBLINGS

Need an MBCA Lone Star Section Name Tag?

Please note...this is a new ordering method...

To order badges please call Karen Hilborn at MBCA (1-800-637-2360). Ask for postage amount for number of badges ordered. Send a check made payable to MBCA, and have the badge mailed directly to you.

Include:

- Your name as it is to appear on the badge
- Our MBCA Section name (Lone Star Section)
- Choice of badge color (blue, silver, or gold)
- Type of closure (magnet, safety pin type, or tie tac type).

Send check with information to:

MBCA - Attn: Karen
1907 Lelaray St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

OR:

Go to MBCA.org and order badges online.

MBCA and YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

The Lone Star Section uses Constant Contact (Email Service) to “remind” Members of upcoming Meetings and Events. We try to limit these Emails to one per week. If these Reminders are not desired, Constant Contact makes it easy to “Unsubscribe”.

We are still in need of Email addresses from 5% of our Members and we encourage you to send yours (and any changes, of course) to our Newsletter Editor, Bryan Harter at bharter@austin.rr.com.

If you have concerns as to how your address and the information attached to it is safeguarded, please read the Club’s Privacy Statement, found at the bottom of the Home Page of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America’s National Website www.mbca.org.

FOR SALE

560SEC Rotors

Condition: New in box
Description: Front rotors for SEC
Location: Austin, TX
Seller: Bryan Harter
Email: bharter@austin.rr.com



BBS RC Wheels

Condition: Used for test fit, minor scratches
Description: 18x10 ET25, fit 129 SL or 500E
Location: Austin, TX
Seller: Bryan Harter
Email: bharter@austin.rr.com

500E Springs

Condition: Used
Description: Removed at 60K great for a 300CE project
Location: Austin, TX
Seller: Bryan Harter
Email: bharter@austin.rr.com

500E Anti-Roll bar

Condition: Used
Description: Removed at 60K great for a 300CE project
Location: Austin, TX
Seller: Bryan Harter
Email: bharter@austin.rr.com

Advertising

Classified ads FOR PERSONAL USE items are printed free for current members of Lone Star Section MBCA. Ads will run for three issues, unless stopped earlier. Ads may be extended by a request in writing to the Lone Star Section mailbox or by email. Members are limited to five (5) classified ads running at a time. The ad rate for non-member ads or member ads of a COMMERCIAL nature is \$10.00 per issue. These ads will be accepted on a monthly basis and payment must be received before ad is printed. Classified ads submitted for publication in the Lone Star are also placed on the Lone Star Section's website.

PAST EVENTS

Highpoint Powder Coating

Owner: Dave Hansen

Tour Guide: JT Fields

Location: Liberty Hill, Texas



Thanks again for the great tour!

We had another great tech session at Highpoint Powder Coating. Dave Hansen and JT Fields gave us a great tour of their facilities. They demonstrated the fine art of media blasting and powder coating. Their processes include plastic media, baking soda, granite and other hard media for rust removal and general cleaning. They provide services to commercial customers as well as retail customers. They can help with your projects around the house such as patio furniture as well as helping you strip that old Pagoda sitting in the barn.



TECH SESSIONS

Bumpers Rx

Owners: Matt Reil and Wes Campbell

Description: Plastic Bumper Repair

Location: Austin, TX

Date: May 7th

We picked a beautiful morning to meet at the new home of Bumpers Rx. Matt and Wes gave us a great tour of their facilities. They demonstrated how they repair different types of plastic bumpers by welding or bonding. They had one Silver Arrow in the shop and a completed SL500 sitting out front. They also showed off their Spies-Hecker paint matching system. Overall it was really informative. Their processes are a great option to full replacement of panels. It is quick (typically 24 hours), cost effective and it's a green alternative as you are not throwing your bumper into a landfill someplace.



Thanks again for the great tour!

AREA CAR SHOWS

Cars and Coffee

Cars and Coffee has moved to the first Sunday of the month for 2011.

Meet at Lowes parking lot at 183 and Crystal Falls Road at 10am and we'll drive into the show as a group at 10:30 to make parking us together a bit easier. If you plan to attend, please email me (bharter@austin.rr.com) and let me know and I will arrange for parking for the group.



NATIONAL EVENTS

Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts from across the country will be gathering in Ohio this May for *Gemutlichkeit 2011* – four days of fun, action, Concours, plus track and driving events. For 2011 we will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of Mercedes-Benz Automobiles and the 50th anniversary of the Western Reserve Section of MBCA. We will also have a special celebration, held at the beautiful Kingwood Center Gardens in Mansfield, Ohio where we will be honoring the SL “sport leicht” and all six SL generations, including the 190SL, 300SL, the W113 “Pagoda”, the w107 “Panzerwagen”, the R129 and more.

Date: Sat, 05/21/2011 (All day) - Tue, 05/24/2011 (All day)

Location: Mansfield - Ohio

Contact: [Sue Morrison, Registrar](#)

330-673-7885



If you've never been to an MBCA National Event, *Gemutlichkeit 2011* is the one to attend. Your host this year is the Western Reserve Section of MBCA, which has a reputation for dynamic events and activities that appeal to both veterans and first timers alike.

Things kick into gear on Saturday, May 21, with a very special Concours d'Elegance recognizing *125 Years of the Automobile* and also featuring the *Six Generations of the SL* at the Kingwood Estate, followed by a welcome reception at the Richland Carousel Park. Driving events commence on Sunday, May 22 with defensive driving practice, autocross, and a Road Rallye. The evening concludes with the Concours Banquet. There will be plenty of social time to make new friends and get reacquainted with old friends.

On Monday and Tuesday, May 23 and 24, participants will have the exclusive opportunity to attend the MBCA special performance driving school, on site at the world-renowned Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Mansfield, Ohio. This is your chance to participate in time trials and acceleration runs on the track in your SL, or other favorite Mercedes-Benz model, new or old. Remember that you can register to attend just the days or events that fit your schedule and travel plans.

Never driven on a track before? No problem – our MBCA team of experienced instructors will guide you every step of the way to help you learn the course and the performance characteristics of your Mercedes-Benz. Be warned however: It is contagious! Once you try it, you'll be looking to attend other National Driving Events.

Not ready to try the track yet? There will be plenty of exciting and interesting activities during the event for you to enjoy. We expect a great turnout of SLs and a diverse cross-section of classic, modern classic and new Mercedes-Benz models taking part in the Concours d'elegance. Compete on style, or enter for fun and sharing, as there will be both judged and display-only classes (all years and all models welcome). In addition there is the MBCA Road Rallye, covering the back roads and rolling hills of Ohio farm country. Plus many other gatherings, receptions, local tours and activities, plus time to mingle and enjoy the sites, including the Kingwood estate and gardens.

And what about that word? “*Gemutlichkeit*” is the name of one of the oldest MBCA National Events, with a history dating back to 1958. The name was used to describe those early events, roughly translated from German as “good times with friends”. And so it has been ever since.

For registration and more information go to:

<http://benzclub.org/info/gemutlichkeit-2011/gemutlichkeit-2011-registration/>

REGIONAL EVENTS

HEIMATFEST

Birmingham, Alabama

20-23 May

Heimatfest (The home festival) in the North American manufacturing home of Mercedes-Benz will again be staged in conjunction with Bobby Rahal's "Legends of Motorsports" upscale vintage races at the breathtaking Barber Motorsports Park that is manicured more like an exclusive golf course than a race course.

This magnificent park will be the setting for an MBCA concours with the vintage race cars including over 20 Formula One cars as a fitting backdrop. The striking Barber Vintage Motorsports Museum's 1500 motorcycles and 50 Lotus race cars are each the world's largest collections housed in a building that is a work of art itself. Several drives through the nearby mountainous and surprisingly scenic and low traffic areas have been arranged with dinners every evening

The real jewel for Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts is a very special tour of the Mercedes-Benz US International Factory between Birmingham and Tuscaloosa on Monday, 23 May. This booming factory is the world's only site of production of the ML, GL, and R Class. Production was up over 50% in 2010 and will soon be supplemented by production of the new C-class,

A bonus drive to Chattanooga after the factory tour via Little River Canyon National Park that was featured in The Star (November 2010) should catch the mountain laurel and rhododendron in bloom along the longest and deepest canyon west of the Rocky Mountains. The road is fun, too! This is contingent on sufficient interest.

Visit Alabama Section website: sections.mbca.org/Alabama

Or contact jertoosaver@bellsouth.net

Jim Roberts (800) 228-2997 for more details

HELP WANTED

The Lone Star Section is looking for volunteers to assist in the following roles:

Newsletter Editor: Oversee the publication of the Lone Star Section newsletter 4 times per year.

Content providers: Assist Webmaster and Newsletter Editor by providing content for publication, document events and send stories into the STAR for publication.

Webmaster: Work with the NBO to integrate changes to website, update website with content from events, schedules etc.

Secretary: Attend monthly meetings, document the minutes of the meeting

Dealership Liaison: Interface with dealer to facilitate communications, organize events, encourage advertising.

Vendor Liaison: Interface with vendors to facilitate communications, organize events, encourage advertising.

Contact Bryan Harter if interested.

TECH TIPS

StarTek EPC

Whether you're an avid do-it-yourselfer or simply an owner who buys parts to have them installed by someone else, the Electronic Parts Catalog (EPC) needs to be part of your virtual toolbox.

Subscribe to the EPC! It's the same software they use at the dealer, so it's the real deal. If you own a U.S. spec Mercedes-Benz, each one year subscription is free. If you own a Euro spec Mercedes-Benz, or just like looking for Euro parts to install on your U.S. spec car, you can get a subscription for World Cars for just \$12 a year. It's truly worth it.

Just enter your VIN, find the part you need and enter the part number into the website, or print it out and give it to the person at the parts counter and they'll find exactly what you need.

To subscribe to the StarTek EPC, visit the website at:

<http://epc.startekinfo.com/epc/home.jsp>



Thomas Anselment

German Certified Goldschmiedemeister

Master Goldsmith - Handmade Jewelry

We already know that as a Mercedes-Benz owner you recognize precision and excellence in design and craftsmanship. As a Mercedes-Benz owner as well, Thomas Anselment also combines exquisitely handcrafted work with the use of exclusively fine materials in the jewelry he designs and creates. His collection uses 18k gold in all colors, platinum, fine gold and meticulously selected gem stones.

Jewelry should be made to last a lifetime and should be a family heirloom to be passed onto and enjoyed by future generations. Please visit the Thomas Anselment website to browse a small selection of his designs at www.ThomasAnselment.com and feel free to call or e-mail for questions or an appointment.

Phone: (512) 554-7621 ☎ E-mail at TA@ThomasAnselment.com ☎ www.ThomasAnselment.com

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NEW SATURDAY HOURS 8:00 - 5:00

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1-800-MERCEDES • 1-800-MERCEDES • 1-800-MERCEDES

Membership Application

Full name

Associate Member Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Home Business

E-mail (IMPORTANT)

Mercedes Benz Club of America, Inc.
1907 Lelaray Street
Colorado Spring, CO 80909

Please enroll me as a member of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America for the following term (U.S. Only):

____ One Year \$ 45.00

____ Two Years \$ 87.00

____ Three Years \$127.00

Signature and Date

Section: **LONE STAR SECTION**

Sponsor: _____

___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ Discover ___ Amex

Account Number / Exp. Date

For payments via check, please make checks to MBCA. You can also apply by phone by calling (800) 637-2360 or online at www.mbca.org

