



The Houston Star

MBCA | Houston Section Newsletter

Raffle Day at Wings and Wheels

By: Joseph Middleton

It was a rainy morning on Saturday, July 16, 2011. That wasn't a bad thing considering the ongoing drought. I made my way to Hobby Airport for two reasons, one of them being to attend Wings and Wheels. The other reason was to meet up with a fellow MBCA member. North Texas Section President, Lee Ewing, flew in from Dallas that morning to come to Wings and Wheels and meet some of the Houston Section members. I picked up Lee and since he was early, we decided to take a drive to Alex Rodriguez Mercedes-Benz in League City to see the new offerings from Mercedes-Benz, including the 2012 CLS (reviewed by Kimatni Rawlins in last month's issue) and the 2012 SLK (reviewed by Kimatni Rawlins on pages 10-11 in this month's issue). After spending a few moments at the dealership and meeting some fantastic employees including General Manager, Garrick Hatfield, Lee and I made our way back to Houston for breakfast.

After a more than filling and delicious breakfast at Kelly's Country Cooking, Lee and I proceeded to the 1940 Air Terminal Museum. Though the turnout this year was lower than last year due to the weather, upon entering the museum, Lee and I were met by the Wyatts, the Gloriosos, Steven McAnelly, Arlynn Hausmann, and Jeffrey Cooke. This was Steven's first MBCA | Houston event, so it was a pleasure to meet him. It's also worth mentioning that Lee is retired from Southwest Airlines, so he had a great interest in touring the museum, meeting with curators and offering to donate some Southwest Airlines memorabilia. As the day progressed, it was almost time for Lee to get back to the terminal and catch his flight to join his wife in Las Vegas.

The weather may have been cloudy and gloomy, but that did not hamper a good time which helped to build and strengthen relationships between our two Sections, and between our Section and a local dealership.

August
2011

www.mbca.org/houston

In this issue

President's Message

Page 2

New Members and
Loyal Members

Page 3

Technical Q & A

Page 7

Daimler Heritage: Aug. 2011

Page 9

2012 SLK350

by K. Rawlins

Pages 10-11

Regional & National MBCA
News

Pages 12-14

Mercedes Marketplace

Pages 15-17

Upcoming Events

Page 18

President's Message

Hi M-B Enthusiasts;

There are several wonderful events coming up over the next couple of months. For many of our new members this would be an excellent time to come and enjoy the benefits of why you joined such a wonderful chapter of this club. One in particular is the annual gathering Oktoberfest at TGA. Hans has always been strong supporter of our club as well as a world class service center for several German makes. He always puts on an elaborate celebration. See many others in this issue. Come introduce yourself and let us know why you joined.

Damon Stith | President | **Mercedes-Benz Club of America** | Houston Section



Serve on your MBCA Board

Every September, MBCA | Houston elects and re-elects Officers and Board Members. This is **YOUR** Club. **YOU** should have a say in how things are run and perhaps most importantly, you should have a hand in running your Club. Fresh faces and fresh ideas are welcome and will help us avoid complacency and stagnancy. If you are a committed person and have a desire to serve in your Club, please step up by sending an e-mail with your name and the position which you are interested in holding to mbca.houston@gmail.com. Please note that these positions are open to MBCA members ONLY.

While all positions are open for nomination, we currently have vacancies in the following positions:

Vice President
Board of Directors (Director At Large)
Activities Chair
Advertising Chair
Hospitality Chair
Official Club Photographer
Technical Chair
Website Chair (Webmaster)

Please send in all nominations to be published in the September issue of the Houston Star by August 20, 2011. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the Members Appreciation/Election Dinner in September.

MBCA | Houston Section welcomes the following new members to the Club!

Welcome!

Will Keckley of Houston, TX

Richard and Linda Plunk of Livingston, TX

Rogers A. Roberts of Houston, TX

Willkommen!

MBCA | Houston Section thanks these loyal Club members

Saul Baldera and Kim Kitchen of Webster, TX

Curtis Boughan of Jasper, TX

Ronnie and Sara Frings of The Woodlands, TX

Ed Gorman of Montgomery, TX

Melvin and Dorothy Lofton of Houston, TX

Paul and Felicia McCullough of Katy, TX

P. Meyers of Damon, TX

Frederick Mullin of Dickinson, TX

Robert and Kathy Powell of Houston, TX

Robert and Shelly Rudin of Houston, TX

Stephen Schange of Beaumont, TX

Rex Smalley of Katy, TX

Frederick and Somjit Swain of Spring, TX

Gerry and Laura Van Zandt of The Woodlands, TX

John Wolf of Houston, TX

CASARI'S

**- Lifetime Warranty on Body & Frame Repairs -
Porsche - Mercedes-Benz - BMW**

Glasure Original Paint System on Premises
No Warranty on Rust Repair

Computer Analyzer

5 Year Warranty on Complete Paint Work
1 Year Warranty on Mechanical Work

All OEM Replacement Parts

Laser Front & Rear 4-Wheel Alignment

Jorge Casari
281-469-3302 - Phone
281-890-2637 - Fax

12470 Windfern Road
Houston, Texas



Texas-German Autohaus, L.P.

Service and Repair of MERCEDES and BMW Automobiles

EUROPEAN PERFORMANCE

Located on *Edloe St.*, between *Richmond* and *Westheimer*.
State of the Art computerized equipment and tools.
Oil Change Special while you wait.
Complimentary Shuttle Service to your home or office.
Free oil & filter change using standard mineral oil or \$35.00 for synthetic motor oil, for new Mercedes Benz club members, with this ad. (Limit one per customer)
Factory trained and certified technicians.



The TGA Team
50 years of experience
visit online @ www.t-g-a.com

3417 Edloe St. Houston, Texas 77027
Tel. (713) 850-8282 Fax (713) 850-8818

Sneak Peek at the Mercedes-Benz BLS



Photos courtesy of BenzInsider.com



F&J EUROPEAN AUTO PARTS INC.

6115 Clarewood
Houston, TX 77081

SPECIALIZING IN MERCEDES BENZ PARTS

FORMERLY WITH MORITZ E.C.P.

PH 713/773-0887

Parts Rep.

TIGRIS INTERNATIONAL

Mercedes-Benz Radiators
ALL METAL

450/380/500SL New: \$360

W124 300E New: \$240

W113 230/250/280SL New: \$385

713-628-1362 tigrisint@yahoo.com

Mercedes MLC Confirmed as BMW X6 Rival, Will be Built in America

By: Harald Hamprecht of Automotive News

FRANKFURT -- Daimler AG will add a fifth Mercedes-Benz model at its U.S. assembly plant near Tuscaloosa, Ala., company sources told Automotive News Europe.

The model will be a variant of the Mercedes M-class crossover with a coupelike roofline. Production will likely start as soon as 2015, the sources said.

The new M-class body style will be positioned against the BMW X6 built in Spartanburg, S.C., and likely will be called MLC.

Read more: <http://www.autonews.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110723/COPY01/307239999/1286#ixzz1TiF93i2o>

Sheryl Crow donates 1959 Mercedes-Benz 190SL for Joplin tornado relief

By JAKE LINGEMAN on 7/25/2011

Rock and country singer Sheryl Crow is doing her part for the victims of the Joplin, Mo., tornado by donating her 1959 Mercedes-Benz 190SL roadster to the Gooding & Co. auction in Pebble Beach, Calif., this August.

Crow's Mercedes will take its place on the block with a selection of other classics on Aug. 21, immediately following the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. Proceeds will go to the Joplin Schools Recovery Fund, created by the Community Foundation of Southwest Missouri.

The auction will take place at the Pebble Beach Equestrian Center at the corner of Portola Road and Stevenson Drive.

"After the tornado in Joplin, I was moved to help rebuild a city so close to where I grew up in Missouri," Crow said. "My hope is that the auction of my 1959 Mercedes-Benz 190SL roadster will bring in funds to help rebuild the schools in the area."

The singer's Mercedes SL is white with a matching hardtop and also has the optional black soft top. Restoration, completed in 2005, included replacing the brakes, suspension, radio and black leather interior.

Crow's Mercedes carries a preauction price estimate of \$50,000 to \$80,000 and will be sold without a reserve.

For more details, visit www.goodingco.com, or visit www.joplinrecoveryfund.org to donate.

Read more: <http://www.autoweek.com/article/20110725/COLLECTOR/110729926#ixzz1TiW77VLm>



Technical Q & A

Question: I have a 1997 E420 which has recently developed a rather unnerving ticking noise from the engine. I am very worried that my engine is going out after only 87,000 miles! The car seems to run fine, it just ticks. Is there anything I can do to reduce the ticking or give myself more time before the engine needs replacing? Thanks.

Answer: I have good news for you. It's very likely that your engine is fine. That ticking noise is a common problem on these particular engines. What happened is that Mercedes, in their infinite wisdom, used plastic rather than metal for tubes which carry oil to the hydraulic lifters in the engine. As you can imagine after years of being subjected to hot oil and extreme temperatures, they become brittle and break. Fortunately the ticking is largely harmless and it's not a huge deal to have them replaced. There are aftermarket metal tubes available to replace the Mercedes plastic ones but I have never done any research about them nor used them. If you decide to use the metal ones do some research first to see what other people are saying about them. Good luck.

If you have any questions, please send your requests to the *Houston Star* or contact me directly. I can be reached at Saleem@JohansenUSA.com or call me at 281.883.3792.

Baby Benzes Set To Conquer The World

By: Emmanuel of BenzInsider.com

Scheduled for production in 2013, Mercedes-Benz will be introducing the latest generation A- and B-class models. In the case of the A-Class, the new generation will see no less than seven body variations, which will be made available in all major markets, including the U.S.

The A-Class platform will also serve the B-Class, which will see a crossover competitor aimed at BMW's X1. Additionally, there will be CLC-class variants that will be in similar in size to Toyota's diminutive Corolla.

But before you think that Mercedes-Benz is moving downmarket, these German- and Hungarian-built baby Benzes will be considerably larger than the models that they will replace. Whereas the current A-class is slightly shorter than a Mini Cooper, the upcoming A-Class will actually be almost 2 feet longer than the Mini. And if the 2-door A-Class concept shown at the NY Auto Show is any indication, the interior will be anything but drab.

Four powertrain types will be available for these upcoming models, from a gasoline/electric hybrid, to fuel-cell variants, a few diesels and on to a 340 hp biturbo four cylinder AMG variant. Drive will be front- or all-wheel drive, depending on the powerplant. Expectedly, we will find Mercedes' 7-speed automatics, but stick shifters can opt for an equally excellent 6-speed manual.

By the looks of it, Mercedes is covering all its bases in this segment, and has even announced that if the European plants fall short of demand, the company has its China plants to make up the shortfall.

Read more: <http://www.benzinsider.com/2011/08/baby-benzes-set-to-conquer-the-world/>

DriverSource Tour



Save the date. MBCA | Houston will be visiting DriverSource on Saturday, August 27 at 11am. There will be refreshments provided by the Club and rare cars galore. Don't miss this opportunity to see one of Houston's premier automotive attractions.

MBCA and BMWCCA Fun Bowl



Let's bowl again, this time for fun! We'll meet up with the BMWCCA at Palace Lanes on Bellaire Blvd on Saturday, August 13 from 10am-12pm for a good time. We'll have mixed teams this time with both MBCA and BMWCCA members. Cost is \$10. Contact Mike Haney for more info. 713-298-4580, or mhaney@3dtriad.com.

Members Appreciation and Election Dinner

Were it not for our members, the Club would literally be nothing. It is through your continued support and attendance at our events that we continue to exist as a beneficial part of the Mercedes-Benz Community. To show our appreciation for you, and to also give you a chance to elect our 2011-2012 Officers and Board of Directors, the Club invites you to come our Members Appreciation and Election Dinner on Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 5pm at Benjy's on Washington Avenue. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more info. Please send all inquiries and RSVPs to editorjoseph@gmail.com.

Daimler Heritage: August 2011

Event: Mercedes-Benz Classic at the Schloss Dyck Classic Days, 5 to 7 August 2011.

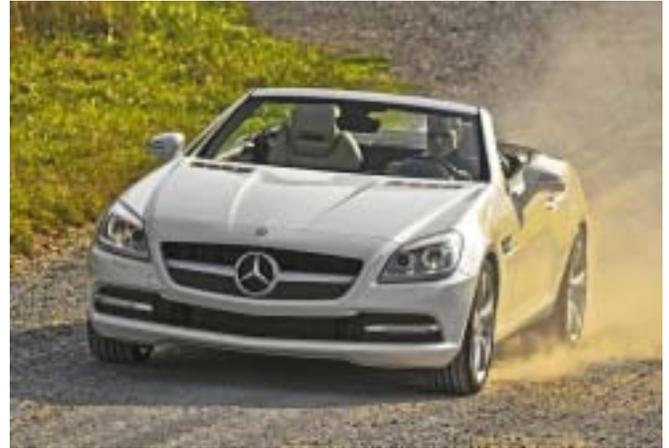
Event: Mercedes-Benz Classic at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance, 21 August 2011.

125 years ago – in August 1886: Gottlieb Daimler undertook initial trial trips on the Neckar near Cannstatt with a motorboat powered by his high-speed single-cylinder engine. The same engine was also installed in his first four-wheel automobile in 1886. With this drive assembly and its successors, Daimler kept his sights firmly set on developing engines for land-bound, water- and air-borne transport.

2012 Mercedes-Benz SLK350: Country Strong

By: Kimatni Rawlins of Automotive Rhythms

As a great man at Mercedes-Benz once said, "you can't expect people to understand your value if you don't tell them your worth." True indeed; and since 2011 marks the 125th anniversary of the automobile which was first conceived by none other than Mercedes, a bevy of re-engineered and re-invigorated products have been unveiled by the German automaker from Stuttgart. Now in its third generation, the all-new 2012 SLK-Class gets a swing at bat. Question is, what will it do with the opportunity?



To familiarize ourselves with the driving dynamics and new technology features of the "two for one" SLK -- after all, it is a coupe and a roadster -- we headed to the country strong region of Knoxville, Tennessee at the enchanting and modernly rustic Blackberry Farm. Cruising around the acclaimed 4,200-acre property with the retractable hard-top down in joyous Smoky Mountain weather provided visions of what life could have been like in the 50s and 60s when proud owners such as Alfred Hitchcock, Yul Brynner and Zsa Zsa Gabor took their 105-horsepower 4-cylinder 190 SL out for country spins. As the spiritual successor to the SLK, it was only befitting that Mercedes provided a 190 SL on site for the auto media to get reacquainted with.

The small-car coupe and roadster market is one that relies on the emotional state of mind of the intended buyer. It's typically not your first purchase, and definitely not the only vehicle in the driveway. If the economy is up, then most likely SLKs and their competitors (Audi TT, BMW Z4, Porsche Boxster) will move quickly off the lot. During downspins like the financial crises a close few years ago, the segment is going to take a drastic dive. Quite naturally, such polarity can lead to either supplementary dealer inventory or simply more demand. Last year Mercedes walked away with 7% of the lion's share.



The SLK-Class was introduced to the world 15 years ago and was the first of its kind to offer a groundbreaking steel vario-roof, which made the light, short and sporty vehicle a double threat in the industry. Now, when the top is up the SLK cabin is as quiet as a true coupe. Though when it's down and the windscreen is in place, the interior is almost as quiet as soft-top cabriolets when their top is up. The phenomenal design engineering has led to 500,000 worldwide SLK sales since its introduction in 1996. In fact, demand was so strong during that period that Mercedes literally sold out of the 1997 coupe/roadster before it arrived at dealerships. Impressive.

Today's 2012 SLK350 is 1.5 inches longer and wider, .5 inches lower and built from a new aluminum and magnesium structure. The styling is a bit more contemporary both externally and internally. Mercedes-Benz product managers said that's what consumers were demanding. The new design language is most notable with the front fascia whereas the company backtracked from the second generation's sharpened SL themed snout. The hood and 3-pointed star lay upright and visually feel a bit elongated like the SLS AMG. Key upgrades include a new direct injection 3.5-liter V6 with 302-horsepower and 273 lb-ft of torque allowing the little guy to sprint from 0 to 60 mph in a quick 5.5 seconds. A new 7-speed automatic transmission features a cadre of fuel saving technologies that help the SLK350 achieve 20 city / 29 hwy mpg. It also has 18" standard rims, standard daytime running lights, dual exhausts and LED rear lamps with an impressive 60 LEDs in each. The SLK250, coming February 2012, will feature a direct injection 1.8-liter 4-cylinder turbo engine with 201-horsepower and a 6-speed manual transmission.



Of course many SLK updates were attributed to the convertible theme and its conveniences and fun-to-drive benefits to the driver. For one, the top drops two seconds faster than its predecessor (within 20 seconds) due to added magnesium materials. Two, an oddly named MAGIC SKY CONTROL technology has been introduced as a pricy \$2,500 option and allows the driver to darken/tint or brighten the roof's glass panel at the touch of a button. This is one of three total options including the standard body-color polycarbonate panel and the optional panorama top.



During our test ride through the steep and winding roads of the Appalachian Mountains and the ecstatic 11-mile and 313 turn "Tail of The Dragon" we were able to appreciate the guilty pleasures of putting a \$54,800 roadster to its limits. Its price tag is \$1,500 more than second generation SLK, but represents a 3% increase in value. A sports suspension is standard and kept the vehicle balanced and flat in and out of those hairpin turns. Power was good as well, but you need to set the transmission in manual mode to get the most out of its torque. In sport and automatic mode the SLK paused slightly when accelerating abruptly. Mercedes said the software programming was geared towards economical mileage. I'm betting an AMG variant will solve this dilemma. For added performance opt for the \$990 Dynamic Handling Package which enhances the SLK with a torque vectoring variable-adjustable suspension.

We chose a black SLK with the optional two-toned red/black leather interior for our morning commute. SLKs with the Sport Package were taken first by my media colleagues. Only focusing on styling (no performance enhancements) it improves the SLK with AMG body cladding, a set of sport 18" wheels, an ambient lighting package, and checkerboard finished gauges. The two-seater was far more comfortable than my 6ft 230-pound frame expected. An e-brake replaces the prior hand brake and the cockpit inherits the COMAND central control unit. Navigation was right on target and never steered us wrong. A super sporty steering wheel with thumb imprints and redundant controls is standard. The SLK also includes eight airbags, cool swivel vents that open and close by a soft tap right or left, and a powerful Harman Kardon audio system which turns your little convertible into a concert hall.



When traveling long distances pack light since the SLK fits one normal-sized carry-on suitcase and two handbags conveniently. My drive partner's luggage had to be transported in a separate vehicle. As well, the luggage has to be placed and removed when the top is up, not when the retractable top is lowered and stacked.

The 2012 SLK represents open-top driving at its highest level in this compact segment. The V6 hums along gracefully as you tap into its energy at the right shifts. Feeling a little chilly? Make sure to follow the lead of 98% of the customers who purchase this vehicle and opt for the AIRSCARF system. It converts outside cool air into warm breezes around the head and neck area. Now breathe deep and floor it!

See more info at: <http://www.automotiverhythms.com/auto-reviews/test-drive.html?start=2>

Lone Star Section: Fall Creek Vineyards Grape Stomp

Join the Mercedes Club Lone Star Section as we caravan along a scenic drive to Tow, Texas for the Fall Creek Vineyards 22nd Annual Grape Stomp and Harvest Festival.

This celebration has fun and FREE activities for all ages. Adults can look forward to wine tasting (\$5), complimentary tours and live music on the vineyard terrace, while kids can have a ball with a Castle Bounce, play house, and hayrides around the vineyards. Of course the main attraction is the 'STOMP'! Guests can experience the thrill of "bare" feet grape stomping, a la "I Love Lucy" style! In fact, guests can watch the classic episode while stomping along in wine barrels. Don't worry about the Texas heat, as all activities are either inside the winery, under shade tents or on the covered patio with misters to keep you cool.

If you would like to enjoy the following extraordinary lunch course and a short demo by two guest chefs:

11:30 AM

1st course by Alma Alcocer Executive Chef of the hot, new 'EL ALMA'

Shrimp Chile Relleno on corn pudding with chayote slaw

2nd course by Jonathan Gelman, Executive Chef of the Driskill Grill

Grape Vine Grilled Texas Antelope Steak Sliders with Apple & Jalapeno Slaw,

Served on Cumin Brioche Bun with Chipotle Mayo, Local Feta Cheese & Housemade Pickled Vegetables

& Wild Boar Tamales with Hatch Chiles, Mole and Tomatillo Salsa

You **MUST** make Reservations ASAP to (325) 379-5361 due to limited seating

Price is \$22/person, all inclusive of food and wine!

Don't forget to mention you are with the Mercedes-Benz Club of America Lone Star Section so we may all sit together!

And there's more at **1:00 PM - The 30-second Sommelier!**

Have you ever wondered how wine experts can pick up a glass of wine and then talk - in what seems like a foreign language - about it? Ever wanted to be able to do that? Well, being a real sommelier takes years of study, but in one hour you can learn how to sound like an expert – and have fun while doing it! Join Wine Educators Miss Jane and Shields T. Hood in this fun, interactive wine class (wine samples included), and learn some of the best "buzzwords" of wine! 'Miss Jane' Nickles and Shields T. Hood claim to be the most experienced, most hilarious, and most in-love couple in the wine education world!

If you would also like to take part in the '30-second Sommelier the class is \$19.00/person!

Reservations are also required to (325) 379-5361 due to limited seating.

If you would like to caravan please RSVP to MBCALoneStar@aol.com so we know who to expect.

ITINERARY AS FOLLOWS:

8:30 AM - Caravan Meeting Location TBD based on North or South routes and who RSVP's

8:45 AM - Caravan Departs for 82.60 Miles trip (approx 2 hours)

11:00 AM - Arrive at Fall Creek Vineyards in Tow, Texas

11:30 AM – Lunch (either on your own or chef demonstrations)

1:00 PM - 30 Second Sommelier class (or on your own)

2:00 PM - Club Members can either stay to enjoy all the other event festivities or caravan back to Austin

More Information: www.fcv.com

North Texas Section: Do It Yourself Tech Session

What: "Do-It-Yourself" Tech Session

When: Saturday, November 12, 2011

Where: Ewing Autohaus

4464 West Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093

Time: 8:00am to 12:00 Noon

Dress: Work clothes

Bring: Tools, Parts, Enthusiasm, Questions

Next up on our 2011 "Do-It-Yourself" Tech Session season is Ewing Autohaus in Plano. Autohaus opens up their facility to us for the entire day, 8:00am - 3:00pm and mans it with their knowledgeable technicians and provides hot coffee, friendly advice and an opportunity to make some new friends, meet a mechanic and learn a lot about your car.

You don't have to be a gear head to participate. If you are just interested in learning more about your car or want to see if you can identify that little squeak, sign up, stop by and ask questions. Everyone who attends always leaves knowing more than when they walked through the door.

Email our Technical Director Hyatt Cheek at mbcantx@gmail.com, or ring him up at: 214/327-6890 to reserve your spot for \$10.00, otherwise, its \$15.00 at the door, so, it's best to reserve by phone and stop by on Saturday; the earlier, the better. Autohaus' state-of-the-art service facility and parts department will open to us for four hours.

Legends of the Autobahn

WEST COAST SUMMER CONCOURS



LEGENDS OF THE AUTOBAHN CONCOURS RETURNS TO MONTEREY HISTORICS WEEKEND IN AUGUST 2011

After a very successful 2010 inaugural year, the Legends of the Autobahn: West Coast Summer Concours returns as part of the Monterey Historics Weekend in 2011 on Friday, August 19. Co-hosted by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA), the BMW Car Club of America (BMWCCA), and the Porsche Club of America (PCA), Legends of the Autobahn has become one of the “must see” attractions of this world-renowned automotive weekend.

The one-day Legends event brings enthusiasts, owners, and aficionados of distinctive German cars together to view some of the finest marques in the world. Held on the greens of the beautiful Rancho Cañada Golf Club in Carmel Valley, California, Legends attracted an audience of over 1,000 to view the 250 cars on display in its first year. Organizers are expecting an increase in numbers for 2011.



“This year Mercedes-Benz is celebrating the 125th anniversary of the invention of the automobile and MBCA is celebrating the club’s 55th anniversary,” according to Laura Simonds, MBCA National Treasurer and an event coordinator. “With Mercedes-Benz as a featured marque at the weekend’s famed Pebble Beach Concours, this is sure to be an epic weekend for any Mercedes-Benz enthusiast.”

New, experienced, and non-auto enthusiasts are encouraged to attend for the fun and fervor of the show. For those interested in entering the Concours (1991 or older vehicles), a \$60 entry fee will apply. For those wishing to enter their vehicle in display-only corral (any vintage), a \$30 entry fee will apply. Spectators are welcome with no admission fee. There will be food, displays, and club booths where guests can enjoy the cars, mingle, get educated, and more.



Organizers of the event encourage MBCA members to arrange their own caravans for travel to Monterey in August. Hotel reservations should be made as early as possible as this weekend draws people from all over the globe to local hotel rooms. A good on-line resource for reservations can be found at www.resort2me.com. The San Francisco Bay Area Section of MBCA is planning a post-concours reception and dinner for all MBCA members and their guests. For details on the dinner visit the section website at www.mbca.org/sfba and navigate to the event calendar.

To register on-line visit www.legendsoftheautobahn.com/mbca. The discounted “early bird” registration deadline is August 1, and all registration closes on August 12. For more information, contact Laura Simonds at simondsl@pacbell.net or 650-592-7613, or Robert Schilling at res.mbca@offserver.com or 650-619-7550.

Mercedes Marketplace

2001 Mercedes-Benz CLK320

2001 Mercedes CLK320 Convertible (W208 Chassis) is finished in Brilliant Silver Clearcoat Metallic. Original Paint, no accidents. All the body panels are straight with no major dents/dings. This car was purchased by my mother about 4 years ago as a gift to herself for beating cancer. She typically drives her W126 every day, and the CLK only gets driven on the weekends. This car only has 58,700 miles on it.

16" Mercedes Benz Aluminum wheels, finished in factory silver, wrapped in a Matching Set of Goodyear Eagle LS H-Rated tires, the tires have less than 5,000 miles on them, and have plenty of tread left.

The black power fabric top opens and closes normally. The top is in great shape, and the car has always been garaged when not used.

The engine is the 3.2L 18 valve, Single Overhead Cam (SOHC) V6 (M112 - E32) with 218 hp. The engine starts and runs flawlessly. This engine is mated to a smooth shifting 5 speed automatic transmission. There are no leaks, funny noises, or fluid consumption. Car runs and drives great. The brakes work fine with no problem, no warpage, and no fading. Stops are straight and squeak free. The suspension is tight, squeak free and the car drives straight. We recently installed a brand new Interstate Battery (located in trunk), next to the full sized spare tire, which has never seen the ground.

The interior is finished in grey leather. Driver and passenger power seats both work fine with no problem with over tilt/slide for access to rear passengers. All power everything works. Dual zone climate control works fine with no problems at all. Nice condition inside for a 10 year old car. There is a trunk mounted CD changer.

The car has two keys, one original key as well as a new style chrome key.

This car hasn't seen the shop for anything since we owned it (except a flat repair) and I believe my mom has driven the car less than 5000 miles in the three years that she's had it. Texas Registration and Inspection are current.

Asking \$11,500 and entertaining all reasonable offers.

Email: weschain@gmail.com



Mercedes-Benz parts for sale

Location: SW Houston/Missouri City

Used and new parts for sale for Mercedes-Benz autos ranging from the 1960s-1980s. Parts include **Pagoda Euro headlights**, 2nd generation W126 SEL/SDL **velour interior parts**, M102 oil filters, 2 brand new W201 interior wood trim pieces, W201 right corner lamp, W201 front rotors & pads, plus more assorted MB parts.

You can take it all home for \$2100 obo, or you can buy the parts individually.

Contact Angie for more info: 832-453-9698

Are you selling your Mercedes-Benz or Mercedes-Benz related items?

Fill this space with your classified ad.

Contact editorjoseph@gmail.com for info.

1983 Mercedes-Benz 380SL



For Sale

**1983 Mercedes Benz 380SL above avg.,
both tops, blue w/grey leather \$13,500**

713-557-2741

Hardtop for 1983 380SL or similar model

Selling a dark green hard top with an ivory headliner that I no longer need (a long story). Very good condition. I am very flexible regarding price, i.e., make me an offer.

Contact: Joe Fischer at: joe.fischer-vbj@sbcglobal.net or (713) 850-1128.



MBCA | Houston Section

Joseph Middleton, Editor

Officers

President	Damon Stith damstith@yahoo.com 832-265-6044
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Norm Glorioso ncglorioso@comcast.net 713-397-1830
Treasurer	Gerald Grogin gerrygrogin@att.net 713-667-8979
Membership Chair	Joseph Middleton editorjoseph@gmail.com 713-487-8197
Historian	Chuck Wyatt ctwyatt@sbcglobal.net 281-469-7428

Directors

Marvin Boyd	mwboyd@embarqmail.com 281-360-1766
Mike Haney	mhaney@3dtriad.com 713-298-4580
Nina Midway	ninamidway@aol.com 281-686-2989

Regional Director

Charles Boyd	580-255-4040
E-mail:	cl.boyd@sbcglobal.net

Newsletter Editor

Joseph Middleton	713-487-8197
Editor's e-mail:	editorjoseph@gmail.com
Editor's Fax:	713-523-6341
Club Website:	http://www.mbca.org/houston

Are you moving?

To change your address, visit the MBCA website at:
<http://www.mbca.org>

Let's keep in touch!

If your e-mail address has changed from that which you gave to MBCA when you joined, or if you just want to make sure you receive future newsletters, send your preferred e-mail address to editorjoseph@gmail.com, or update your info at:
<http://www.mbca.org>

2011 Upcoming Events

MBCA and BMWCCA Fun Bowl

August 13

DriverSource Tour

August 27

Members Appreciation/Election Dinner

September 11

Oktoberfest at TGA

October 15

Board of Directors Meeting

September 6

Board Meetings are **open to ALL MBCA | Houston Section members**. Board Meetings are held every 1st Tuesday of odd numbered months at 5:30 PM in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at Mercedes-Benz Greenway (3900 Southwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77027), unless otherwise noted.

The *Houston Star* is the official publication of **MBCA | Houston Section**, and is provided solely for the benefit of its members. Opinions and ideas are for information only. No official authentication is implied by the editor/publisher, MBCA, MBUSA, MBAG or DBAG. No inference should be made that the products or services advertised or reported herein have the approval or recommendation of the editor/publisher, MBCA, MBUSA, MBAG or DBAG. Consult an authorized dealer or qualified mechanic for specific applications to your vehicle. Material for publication may be sent to editorjoseph@gmail.com. Deadline is the 10th of each month for the following month's issue. The editor reserves the right to edit, and to refuse, any submissions and/or advertising. Submission of material constitutes permission to publish. Permission to reproduce material original to the *Houston Star* is granted provided proper credit is given.