



# *The Houston Star*

MBCA Houston Section Newsletter

**June  
2010**

## In this issue

**Technical Q & A**  
Page 6

**Mercedes Marketplace**  
Page 10

## Upcoming Events

**Centerville Run**  
June 5

**Lotus Driving Event**  
June 6

**Wings & Wheels**  
July 17

**Fall Social/Elections**  
TBA



## **Annual Bluebonnet Run**



## President's Message

Hi Mercedes Enthusiasts,

It's warming up again, I know big surprise. Yeah, time to go and wax a car! A few things coming up to do outdoors are the trip to Centerville 6/5/10 lead by Joseph Middleton, Cars N Coffee 6/5/10 and our friends at LOST (the Lotus club) will be having a driving event at the Houston Police Academy 6/6/10 8:30-4:30 if you would like to come out and watch. July 17 we'll go to Wings and Wheels at the 1940 Terminal Museum at Hobby Airport near the original Terminal.

I'd like to thanks Chuck Wyatt whom has volunteered to assume the role of club historian. Chuck is a past president and a valuable contributor to the club since then.

Still to come is our summer indoor event and Fall Social TBD.

Happy Motoring,

Damon Stith  
Houston Section

## Celebrating the Silver Star's Super Sports Cars

Museum to Feature Eight Icons

Photography from Mercedes-Benz

Roy Spencer, editor MercedesHeritage.com

**Among** the automobiles of the world, few stir the passion of enthusiasts more than lean high-performance racing and road cars. With power to spare and aggressive good looks, the high performance 'super' sports car has fascinated us since the dawn of the automobile.



1955 Mercedes-Benz 300SLR 'Uhlenhaut' coupe an example of Mercedes-Benz' road/racing synergy. Fearsome and noisy coupe featured 3.0 liter straight 8 and 302 hp.

Most volume manufacturers have produced super sports cars at some time in their history with varying levels of commitment. Automobile racing, the supreme test of a manufacturer's technical prowess and financial commitment, serves as a periodic marketing program for many car companies. Few remain eternally committed to both high performance automobile production and auto racing.



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## ANNUAL CENTERVILLE RUN

It's almost time for the Fifth Annual Texas Mercedes-Benz Get Together! If you've attended this meet in the past, then you'll already know that it's always a fun time, and we hope to see you again this year! If you have not attended this meet before, why not make this year your first time to attend? The meet will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2010 in Centerville, TX with lunch at Woody's Smokehouse, and a Show and Shine at Fort Boggy State Park. A caravan of cars going to Centerville from Houston will meet in the parking lot of the Cracker Barrel located at 14765 North Freeway (located on the southbound I-45 feeder road just south of Airtex Dr.). We will have our pre-departure assembly in the rearmost portion of the Cracker Barrel parking lot near the Guesthouse Inn & Suites hotel at 9:45 am, and will depart at 10:15 am for a 12:00 noon arrival in Centerville. If you wish to have breakfast at Cracker Barrel or at the neighboring Whataburger, you can arrive earlier than 9:45 am, just be ready to pull out with the group at 10:15 am. There will be reserved parking and a BBQ lunch in a room reserved especially for the group at Woody's Smokehouse, located on the northbound side of I-45 in Centerville. After lunch, the group will head 4 miles south on State Highway 75 to Fort Boggy State Park for a show and shine. Park entry is FREE. After the show and shine, awards will be handed out based on People's Choice for the best vintage model (pre-1980), best 1980s model, best 1990s model, and best 2000s model. For all inquiries regarding this meet, including RSVPs, please contact Joseph Middleton at 713-828-4303, or via e-mail at [jmiddle122@aol.com](mailto:jmiddle122@aol.com).



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## Technical Q & A

**Question:** I have a 1987 300D and lately the right front wheel tends to get very hot after driving. It seems to be worse the further I drive. I was told it was the brakes, do you agree?

**Answer:** Yes, that sounds like the brakes. You will likely need to replace the caliper on that side. If you do, also replace the rubber hose at the same time for good measure since they can cause the same symptoms if they go bad. Most people advise replacing brake components in pairs for safety reasons so you should consider replacing the other side as well. 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.

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## STARFEST 2010

From: William West Hopper,  
President, Greater Washington Section  
Chairman, StarFest® 2010  
WWHRestoration@att.net  
202.364.2852  
Washington, DC USA

I am attaching StarFest® 2010 information, please include it in your up coming newsletters, and share it with your members. This has been sent to your Section President as well.

Registration for StarFest® 2010 will open in July, though the hotels are now taking room reservations for StarFest®.

We have postcards about the event if you need some to spread around to your members and other Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts at upcoming events. Please let me know and I will send you some.

We are encouraging sections to take out an advertisement in the StarFest® 2010 program, information on that is included in the attachment.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing you and your members in September!

**Editor: If you are interested in this information I will forward it to you. It was too large a file to include in our Newsletter.**

C111 project focused on Wankel engine development. This is the 1976 variant fitted with a 3 rotor engine developing up to 280 hp. Wankel development eventually ceased. CLK GTR roadster and new SLS AMG Gullwing follow.

### Super Sports Car Fascination in Stuttgart

Few with the exception of Mercedes-Benz. The Silver Star has constructed high performance products since the turn of the last century and competed with few interruptions in auto racing events for over a century. We can't forget Mercedes triumphed at Indianapolis in 1915 AND 1994\*.



A thinly disguised LeMans car, lowline CLK GTR Roadster is piloted here by '70s/'80s touring car ace Dieter Glemser.

With its current spectacular high performance road cars and world beating competition cars, Mercedes-Benz continues this long tradition today. Beginning April 27, the factory's stylish Museum in Stuttgart will present a glorious display of eight influential 'Super Sports' cars.



109 years of high performance road and racing prowess on display here. 1929 SSK leads the glorious group.

Spanning 109 years of sports/racing car production, the new exhibit focuses on 'extreme performance and innovative technology.'

### Super Sports Cars

- 1906 Mercedes 75 hp
- 1929 Mercedes-Benz SSK
- 1954 300SL Gullwing

Cont'd on page 8

- 1955 Mercedes 300SLR 'Uhlenhaut" coupe
- 1976 Mercedes-Benz C11 2-D
- 1991 C112
- 2002 Mercedes-Benz CLK GTR Roadster
- 2010 Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG Gullwing

To publicize this special exhibit and to limber up cars that will be demonstrated at various 2010 historic racing gatherings, Mercedes conducted an exciting press day at the Unterturkheim plant's fabled test track. Drivers included current F1 pilot Nick Heidfeld, past and present touring car aces Dieter Glemser and Bernd Schnieder, retired all around racing star Jochen Mass and '50s era star Hans Hermann.



Wings up tradition in the museum: original Gullwing gazes at obscure C112 and SLR Vision design exercise.

Expect to see superb demonstrations of these cars at these 2010 historic racing events:

- [ADAC Eifelrennen](#)
- [LeMans Classic](#)
- [Goodwood Festival of Speed](#)

If you're planning to be in Europe over the summer, a visit to the [Mercedes-Benz Museum](#) is a must. While the Super Sports Car exhibit would be worth the visit alone, the museum's breathtaking displays and multimedia presentations could detain you for days.

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(\*Penkse chassis powered by Mercedes-Benz (Ilmor) pushrod V-8)

## Wings and Wheels Invite

Come join the Houston Section on Saturday, July 17, 2010 for Wings and Wheels at the recently restored 1940 Air Terminal Museum at Hobby Airport, located at 8325 Travelair Rd., just off of Telephone Rd. The Houston Section will represent the Wheels portion of this Wings and Wheels event, so we need a good number of cars to show up. The more, the better. We will meet at the museum at 12 noon. The admission ticket cost is \$10 Adults, and \$5 Kids (12 and under). The cost is waived if you fly-in, but be warned that driving your Mercedes-Benz fast along the freeway does not constitute flying low. The Wings & Wheels ticket price covers lunch, static aircraft tours, special programs in the Starliner Theater, museum tours, and admission to the museum. A Cessna Skylark will be raffled off by the museum during the event. So if you want a chance to win it, call the museum for more information at (713) 454-1940. To RSVP for the event, or for more information, please contact Joseph Middleton at 713-828-4303, or via e-mail at "jmiddle122 at aol dot com."

### Wings and Wheels Website:

<http://www.1940airterminal.org/WingsAndWheels/>

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## Report: Next Generation S-Class Models to be Hybrid-Only, Except for AMGs

The next generation S-Class models will be offered exclusively as hybrids in North America, according to a report by Autoblog. Exempt, however, will be the high-performance AMG models. Mercedes will deliver the new model in 2012.

Currently Mercedes offers three non-AMG models, including two gasoline models – the 382-hp 5.5-liter V8-powered S550 and the twin-turbo 5.5-liter V12-powered S600. There's also the brand's first Hybrid, the S400 with a lithium-ion battery, 3.5-liter V6 and a rating of 26 mpg on the highway. Apparently, the popularity of that model is part of the reason behind the decision at Mercedes.

It's not clear if Mercedes will offer just one hybrid S-Class or perhaps two different options, one with more power and lower fuel economy and one with less power and increased fuel economy.

[Source: [Autoblog](#)]

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# *Mercedes Marketplace*

## **1985 300D Turbo Diesel**

One Owner

I have all the maintenance records on it.

Less than 115,000 total miles with original paint.

It has been garaged at home and work for the entire 25 years.

**Asking price \$7,500.**

Roger Blakeney

713-526-6002

cell 281-797-1715



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## **Mercedes-Benz models for sale**

1984 500 SEL, 155,000 miles, \$3000 OBO.

1986 190E 2.6, 235,000 miles, \$2500 OBO.

**Call: 832-453-9698**

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## 1983 Mercedes-Benz 380SL

Pristine. Red with red hard-top and black soft-top. Natural leather. **53,500 original miles**. TOTALLY ORIGINAL with exception of dealer-installed double timing chain. Absolutely no body work or rust. Always garaged and regularly serviced, all/most records. Purchased in 1994 from second owner with 39,000 miles. New Michelin tires, spare never out of trunk. A/C converted to non-FREON refrigerant.

As original as minor repairs will permit. New Alpine radio purchased, but not yet installed. The black soft-top is original and has totally clear plastic window. The hard-top is removable. I can provide a rack for vertical storage of the top. I also have a new, high-quality car cover. **Asking \$18,000**. Call: 713-850-1128.



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## 1967 Mercedes 600

This car was reportedly originally owned by the President of Dole Pineapple. Unfortunately I do not have any documentation.



Due to the varied unexpected turns life has taken, it has not been run for about 8 years, and we are thinking about finding a new owner. I had stopped using it because the drive shaft carrier bearing was noisy. I purchased the bearing, but never got around to having it installed.

The car has the optional cooler/armrest between the front seats. The upholstery is black leather.

According to published information (Robert Nitske), M-B only made 138 units in 1967. I have seen where the 600 is going for up to \$35k. I am asking \$28K or a reasonable offer.

Bob and Gail Supina 281-239-8583 See more at: <http://www.pcube.biz/Cars/MB600.html>



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Buzz Werner, Editor

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## 2010 Upcoming Events

### Centerville Run

June 5

### Lotus Driving Event

June 6

### Wings & Wheels

July 17

### Fall Social/Elections

TBA

### Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 PM of 1st Tuesday of odd numbered months at the Mercedes-Benz Greenway dealership 2nd Floor Conference Room

### **Moving?**

In order to change your address, go to the web site of the MBCA at:

<https://www.mbca.org/mbca/addchange.htm>

### **Going green**

Remember if your email has changed from that which you gave to MBCA when you joined or you just want to make sure you receive the future electronic editions send your preferred e-mail address to [damstith@yahoo.com](mailto:damstith@yahoo.com).

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