



Sunshine STAR



Issue No. 4, 2017

MBCA | Southwest Florida Section

July / Aug 2017



Shameful Dead Bugs on otherwise sterile S63 AMG

Remember to turn on your headlights when it rains, - it's the law, and some of our MB's do not have Auto Lights.. It isn't that you can't see, it's that others can't see you from ahead or behind!
Ron Cordeau

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"More Than a Car Club. We're a Community!"

Breakfast Meetings, 9 AM

Ft. Myers area...Mimi's Café 41@Daniels
2nd Saturday every month.
Next Meetings - July 8, August 12

➡  ➡

Naples area... Perkins on Pine Ridge
4th Saturday every month.
Next meetings - July 22, August 26

President's Perspective



Our recent breakfast meetings have been followed up by Technical sessions at our local dealers. We are fortunate to have three excellent locations to choose from: Naples, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers. They all advertise in our Newsletter, *The Sunshine Star*, and we hope you are able to visit them to use their services – discounted to our members! Bonita Springs and Ft. Myers had sessions on tires, wheel balance and alignment. Naples offered us free inspection and analysis of our vehicles. We are grateful for their time and expertise on these sessions, and look forward to future topics of interest from them.

And, while we realize this is summertime and some of our members have gone up north to escape the hot and humid weather here in SW Florida – we still have had good attendance at our breakfast meetings in Naples and Fort Myers. We seem to have the same people that attend regularly – former and past officers from MBCA, our directors, and our good friends from the area who are enthusiastic about the Mercedes-Benz brand. We certainly enjoy their company and look forward to visiting with them at our monthly gathering.

The frustrating part is that we want other members to also attend and visit with us! Younger members who own older MB's and those who aren't aware of our club and activities. We need to reach out and invite any and all MB owners to experience the camaraderie of our club, starting with our breakfast meetings!

To attract some of members to the north, we will be having meetings closer to you as an alternative to the Fort Myers location. Tom Starrett and Chet Young are investigating locations. My idea would be to meet in North Fort Myers, and then drive/caravan to the location towards Punta Gorda. And, It would also be fun to travel to Marco Island from Naples and have breakfast in that area once in a while. I'm sure Mal Newbourne could help out with that.

We are looking forward to upcoming events such as a visit to the headquarters of RENNtech in Stuart Florida, and various dinners and fests. Our past president, Tom Harruff has been so helpful with continuing the events and details from previous years – such as The Black Forest Dinner and the Annual Christmas Party. We are certainly fortunate to have Tom's assistance!

Just another example of the quality and dedication from our members! Thanks to you all.

Regards,

Ron Cordeau

President, MBCA SWFL Section

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Anne Harruff, Past Secretary

Frank Altieri, Director At Large

The Southwest Florida Section *Sunshine Star* newsletter is published on odd-numbered months. It is mailed electronically or via post to all members of the Section, appropriate members of other Sections, MBCA executives and our valued advertisers.

**All copy for inclusion must be received no later than
the 15th of any even-numbered month.**

Any technical tips, automotive experiences or interesting items relating to Mercedes-Benz are encouraged and welcome.

Members may advertise to buy or sell, free of charge, any personal Mercedes-Benz auto, part or accessory. All insertions in the *Sunshine Star* are the opinions and statements of the writers, advertisers, etc., and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of this Section or MBCA. Call concerning commercial advertising rates.

No authentication is given or implied as to the validity of any expressed opinion or statement.

**Questions? Call your Section Officer at 239-322-8817,
or our National Business Office at 1-800-637-2360 M-F 8am-5pm MT. Or visit www.mbca.org**

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Anita Kinderman, Membership Chair SWFL

As of this writing our SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SECTION has 428 Members

★**New Members and Associates** since the last newsletter; Michael Confer, Max Furbringer, Susan Nelson, Theodore Noutko, Carrie Scannell, William B. (Bo) Sharp, Ryan Smith, Robert Taishoff, William and Adrienne Vincent, and Theodore Walters

We are happy you've joined us!

★And **Thank You** to our **25 Renewed Members** for your continuing MBCA Membership!
...now let's have some M-B fun!

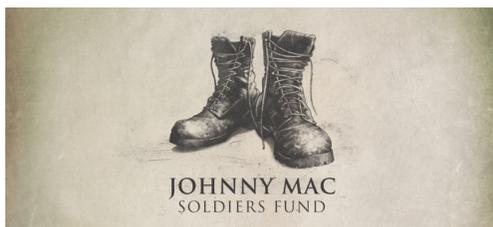
Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund - MB In the Community

Who was Johnny Mac?

Col. John McHugh, a member of the U.S. Army for 24 years, was killed in action on May 18, 2010 in Kabul, Afghanistan. His fellow West Point classmates then joined together to ensure that his five children would receive a college education. In 2014, that effort grew into the Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund.

The Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund provides college scholarships and grants, financial aid for professional certification programs and non-degree programs, and educational career counseling and mentorship to veterans and their families in need.

The Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund is committed to providing support to those affected by the global war on terror, and Mercedes-Benz and our dealers are proud to be partners.



For every Mercedes-Benz vehicle sold in the U.S. this year, the company will make a donation to the Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund, which helps provide eligible military children with college scholarships and other college assistance.

Why we help

Time and again, America's military members and their families are asked to give of themselves for the rest of us. While they ask little in return, we owe them so much.

Who we help

Mercedes-Benz USA Dealers are honoring fallen members of the U.S. Armed Forces by lifting their children up.

The results

To date, the Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund has funded over 400 scholarships totaling nearly \$3.5 million. For every \$1 raised, 94 cents is designated for the kids. For every Mercedes-Benz vehicle sold in the U.S. this year, the company will make a donation to the Johnny Mac Soldiers Fund, which helps provide eligible military children with college scholarships and other college assistance.

To learn more, please visit johnnymac.org



President Ron



Membership Chair Anita



Activities Coordinator Chet



Vice-President Glen



Facebook Ace Mario



M-B Naples' Curtiss

Mr. Microphone gets a workout with our crowd!



After the breakfast/meeting at Perkins, May 27, 2017



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SWFL: Where the Rubber Meets the Road

Mercedes-Benz of Bonita Springs was our gracious host for an after-Perkins-breakfast-meeting tech session, June 24th. The subject was tires, or tyres, if you're so inclined... tars if you're from Ohio.

Sticky buns and coffee were available as Graeme Morpeth, member of SWFL and M-B Bonita Springs star, held a right informative seminar on tires, clearing up a lot of whatever misinformation we may have been harboring about those four black rubbery donuts under our car.

In the shop, Tech Dave demonstrated tire mounting and balancing on the latest high-tech equipment.

Photos and words, Jerry Kinderman



On Saturday June 17th, a Father's Day Car Show was held at the **Venetian Village Shops in Naples**. There were four SWFL members that brought their cars for display. Peter and Sandy Blackford brought their white 1978 450SL with hardtop installed and nicely restored Bundt wheels. Bob Moyer had his silver 2002 SLK AMG 32 looking clean and shiny.

Mal and Edy Newbourne positioned their 1971 280SL on the end with display plaques, and Ron Cordeau brought his 1980 240D with new interior. A fun time for all, with about 30 beautiful cars on display, ranging from old timers from the 30's to late model Corvettes and Rolls. Brief showers made most of us get out the towels for drying and shining!

Photos and report, Ron Cordeau



GETTING TOGETHER INTERNATIONALLY

July 8, 2017

Leif Svensson of the **Mercedes-Benz Club of Sweden** visited the SWFL Section Breakfast meeting at Mimi's Café again this morning. He has joined us at a breakfast meeting in past years when visiting SWFL. He presented Section President Ron Cordeau a copy of their club magazine and a medallion with their club's logo.

Ron gave him a MBCA logo grille medallion and a copy of our Section newsletter, *The Sunshine Star*.

Leif is the past treasurer of the Mercedes-Benz Club of Sweden. Their club has about 4,000 members. Leif also joined our section members and participated in our Alignment Tech Session at M-B of Fort Myers.

Story and photo Tom Harruff

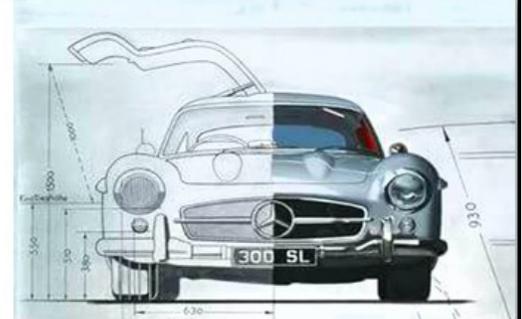


Having survived Ron's Breakfast Meeting at Mimi's, May 13, 2017, the group gathers for a good laugh.

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Editorial Transmission...

Is your buggy too slow? Well, here's one for you: coming July 29, SWFL section takes a trip to RENNtech in Stuart, FL. There you'll find out just what they can do for you, especially if you don't worry about tire wear.

Don't know why, but the summer doldrums seem to turn our usually serious newsletter into a comic book. Apparently I've grown older, but not up.

Always enjoyable when our sponsors

come to one of our breakfast meetings. Mario Passos did that, and Curtiss Alden of MB Naples is a regular, as is Graeme Morpeth of MB Bonita Springs. Advertising in this comic book is not free, but the hope is we'll patronize their establishment. That is very reasonable.

About our R-Class; take the auction price we paid, add repairs, and we've paid the entire price of when it was new. Except it was like time payments. But it can't be replaced; there's nothing comparable.

If there are any blank spaces in this newsletter it's because you didn't send anything to publish. Why not? Nothing to sell? Nothing to say? Send something, as long as it isn't embarrassing for me.

Happy Summer!

Moooving along!

Jerry

Dogs sure love hanging out the car window...



Mario Passos of **Mario Brothers Detailing** in Naples, a long-time supporting advertiser, joined us at Perkins in June.

Mario detailed the serious aspects of keeping your M-B in showroom condition. He looks serious, doesn't he?

Thanks for the very helpful information Mario!

His company supports us, we can return the favor!

About the Mercedes-Benz Club of America

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) is the largest Mercedes-Benz enthusiast organization in the world. As a non-profit 501(c)(7) organization, the Club proudly serves close to 30,000 Members who belong to one of 85 MBCA Sections throughout North America. MBCA's mission is to provide Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts with unique access to casual and competitive car shows, cash savings on new Mercedes-Benz vehicles, 24/7 online technical advice, parts and accessory discounts at participating Mercedes-Benz Dealerships, performance driving events, safe driver training, plus world-class membership conventions not available elsewhere. A subscription to the Club's 100+ page magazine, *The Star*, is delivered to Members every other month and is included with annual membership dues of \$55/ U.S.; \$65/Canada & International.

MBCA's national business office is headquartered in Colorado. For more information about membership and member benefits, please visit www.mbc.org or call 800.637.2360 weekdays 8am-4:30pm Mtn Time.

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July 29th Saturday 7:30AM
 SWFL Section trip to RENNtech

☞ We will be leaving as a group from the **Cracker Barrel on I-75 exit 141** at 7:30AM.

Trip will take ~ 2.75 hours, and the meeting will begin at RENNtech @ 10:30AM

After our special presentation by Service Manager John Bologna, we will explore local events and may stay overnight to see points of interest and enjoy a relaxing drive back on Sunday. Chet Young is working on the details to follow. Should be a fun drive and exciting tour.

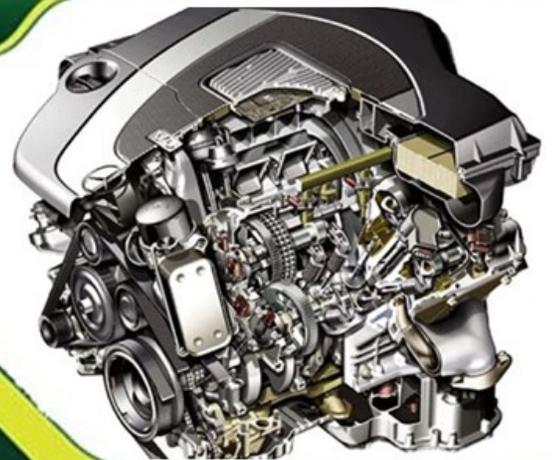


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Classified: For Sale

- Jack Stands (2) 3 ton 13 7/16 to 21" height \$20
- Shop Wringer w/rinse tub. \$25
- W123 front window rain inserts (2) by Weathertech \$25
- MBZ Tool Roll - lug wrench, 19/17 combo wrench,
- 17/13, 10/8. Pliers, screwdriver Phillips/straight. \$50
- MBZ Tool Roll - lug wrench, 19 wrench, 19/17 combo, 17/14, 10/8, pliers. \$50
- W123 frt window rain channels by weathertech \$20
- W123 passenger front door map pocket, tan \$20
- W123 Sun visors tan, \$40

Ron Cordeau

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(Yes, this is more than 6 lines, but shows what you can get rid of. And we still have the space! -ed.)



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Classified Ads: Member, M-B cars or parts, no charge. Limit 6 lines with or without one picture.

Non-member, M-B cars or parts, \$10.00 per issue. Limit 6 lines. Picture with ad, \$15.00 per issue.

Classified Ads will be removed unless renewed at least two weeks before publication of the next issue.



Upcoming Events 2017

Southwest Florida Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America

July 22, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples, then Service Clinic at M-B Naples!
July 29, Saturday	RENNtech trip, Stuart FL leaving 7:30 AM from Cracker Barrel I-75 exit 141
Aug 12, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Mimi's, Ft. Myers
Aug 25, Friday	Dinner at German-American Club, Cape Coral. Chet is working on details.
Aug 26, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
Sept 9, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Mimi's, Ft. Myers
Sept 23, Saturday	9:00 AM, Breakfast Meeting, Perkins, Naples
Oct 7, Saturday	Oktoberfest Punta Gorda, Car Show. Watch for the flyer in your in-box!
Oct 16, Monday	SWFL Section Oktoberfest Dinner, Black Forest Restaurant, Naples, Watch for flyer
Dec 3, Sunday	SWFL Holiday Party, Olde Cypress. Watch for the flyer



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The Club and our own Section use electronic communications and we email our newsletters. So be sure to let the NBO know of any changes to your email address to ensure up to date information with both the NBO and your Section. Contact Membership Services with your updates... mbca.org or call 1-800-637-2360.

Southwest Florida Section MBCA On The Web!

<http://southwestflorida.mbca.org/>

and...

[http://www.facebook.com/pages/SW-Florida-](http://www.facebook.com/pages/SW-Florida-Mercedes-Benz-Club-of-America/258407040951839)

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