



Sunshine STAR



Issue No. 3, 2019

MBCA | Southwest Florida Section

May/June 2019



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

Breakfast Meetings, 9 AM

Ft. Myers area...Perkins @ 41 & 6 Mile Cypress Pkwy.
2nd Saturday every month.
Next Meetings - July 13th, August 10th



Naples area... Perkins on Pine Ridge Rd.
4th Saturday every month.
Next meetings - June 22nd, July 27th

President's Perspective



Summer and the rainy season have arrived, and our activities such as Barbeques, dinners, Theatre, Driving and Tech events have slowed down. We try to schedule these when our snow bird members are here from mid October through mid April. We will still schedule events, *Ladies of Mercedes* lunches, tours etc. for our full-time members. But now, many of us are catching up on items that concern all Mercedes owners: evaluating our cars, sell or keep? If so, then maintenance and service needs arise to provide safe, reliable driving and to preserve our car's values, regardless of your car's age or condition, be it one year or 50 years old! The MBCA marketing arm states: "we teach members how to become their own automotive experts. Our worldwide and local group of technical advisors, drivers, restorers, and engineers, don't believe in keeping their years of maintenance and service experience buried under the hood. Whether members want to know more about servicing their brakes, the best brands of oil, how to keep cars clean (and bug free!), or how to customize a classic,

our community of experts is available to give expert advice at no charge, by phone, online or through our award-winning Club magazine, *The Star*."

We are in touch with our local Mercedes-Benz dealers and encourage them to provide creative ways of rewarding members on car purchases, service and parts discounts.

Being a member really has perks!

Our local expertise provides suggestions on technical and cosmetic details as well. We share product knowledge on dryers, polishes, wipers, lighting, and bug removal and protection. Member's experience with local companies have allowed us to recommend detailers, dent removal, wheel repair, windshield scratch removal, and a host of others that may be beneficial. We have helped when members needed to sell or buy special types of cars.

We do this because "We are more than a Car Club – We are a Community." Simply stated, since 1956 the MBCA is a community of people with a passion for Mercedes-Benz; one of the most revered luxury vehicles in the world – a beacon of automotive class and distinction. Our network shares a common enthusiasm for an uncommon automobile.

RON CORDEAU



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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

SWFL Section Active Members a/o 5-25-19 399

SWFL New Members since last Newsletter a/o 5-25-17 7

William Koppersmitt

Larry and Susan Grosser

Richard and Pamela Fox

Dennis and Heather Macri

William Ludwig

Donald and Diane Raimey, Jr.

Robert Grace

Renewed Members SWFL Section 3-17-19 - 5-25-19 32

Lost Members since 3-17-19 18

FIRST MERCEDES IN MY LIFE

Editor's Note: We are introducing a new feature to our Newsletter!!

As suggested by Peter Blackford, this new inclusion is for you to describe for us the *very first* Mercedes Benz you either saw, rode in, or owned!

Share with us the genesis of your Mercedes passion. Send us your suggestions, your story, and any photographs you may have dug up so that we all can enjoy the history of your love of Mercedes! Send your submissions to tomstarr74@comcast.net for inclusion here in our newsletter!!



Blackford 190 Family Sedan Circa 1956



Mercedes-Benz
of Naples

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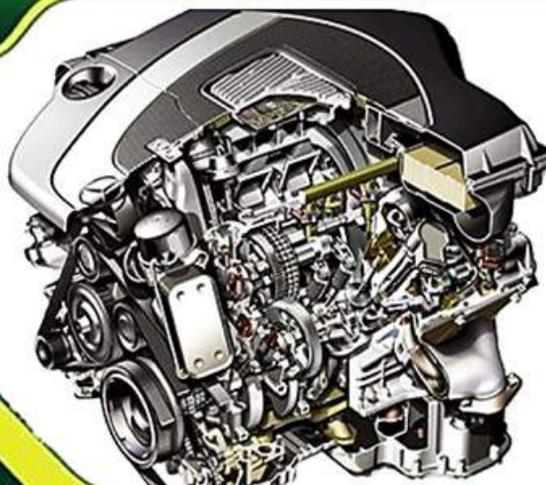
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Editorial...

Ahh, here we are in the middle of June, and summer is well on it's way. This is the time of year where we take time out to celebrate our most important Americans and, America itself.

Having just remembered those who have fought and died to preserve our Freedom on Memorial Day, and now looking ahead to the day when we celebrate our independence as a Nation on July 4th, it gives me pause as to just how much we really do have to be thankful for.

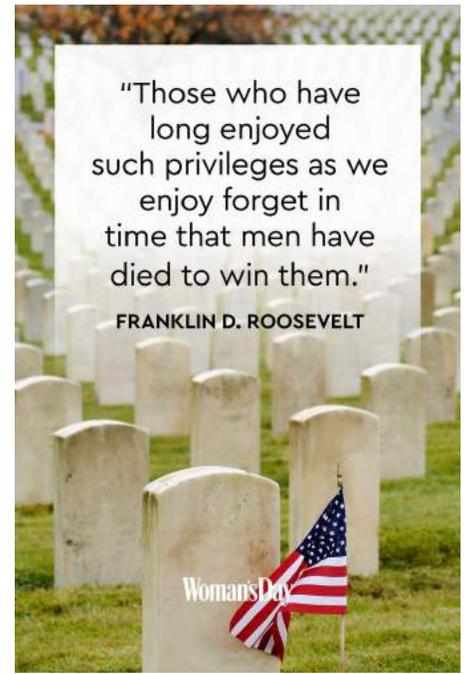
Never has a Nation had so much to offer, so many opportunities, been so free to pursue whatever we like. The freedoms we enjoy are so plentiful, yet so very precious.

It appears that, all too often, these

freedoms are taken too much for granted. It is a true statement that the youth of today are our future, but I fear that too many have no conception of the past. They have lived in a world that has caused them no strife, no suffering, no wanting for much of anything. That is as we would wish it, a generation (or more) knowing nothing but peace and prosperity. But with such peace and prosperity comes complacency and forgetfulness. The quote to the right by Franklin D Roosevelt was not only prophetic but never more true.

As we celebrate summer and its holidays, picnics, parties, and outdoor fun, let us NEVER forget those men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice so that our incredible Nation can continue to be a beacon of light to the rest of the world and those that live in it.

Tom S.



"Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them."

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT



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.

**More Than a Car Club.
We're a Community.™**

A richie rich Sheikh's son goes to Germany for study. A month later, he sends a letter to his dad saying: "Dear Father, Berlin is wonderful, people are nice and I really like it here, but I'm a bit ashamed to arrive to school with my **gold Mercedes** when I see all my teachers travel by train. Your loving Son" * * * Sometime later he gets a letter from his dad,... with a ten million dollar cheque saying: "Dear Son, Stop embarrassing us, go and get yourself a train too.. Your loving Father."

Father

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NAPLES MEETING



FORT MYERS MEETING JUNE 8th

DID YOU REALIZE?

Since 2010 and their re-entry into Formula 1 racing, the Mercedes AMG/Petronas program has had nothing but ASTOUNDING success!! They have COMPLETELY dominated the sport and, this year (2019), they have finished one/two in 6 out of 7 races to date, and have **won** all 7!! Below is a breakdown of their success since 2010. The figures are unprecedented. WAY TO GO MERCEDES AMG!!

Total Races	196
Driver's Titles	7
Constructor's Titles	5
Victories	94
Poles	106
Podiums	126
Points	4668
Fastest Laps	69
Total Laps	22793
One/Two Finishes	49





Upcoming Events 2019 Southwest Florida Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America

June 22nd 2019	Breakfast Meeting NAPLES; Perkins, Pine Ridge Rd. West of 75 9:00am
July 13, 2019	Breakfast Meeting Fort Myers; Perkins, Corner of US 41 and Six Mile Cypress 9:00am
July 27, 2019	Breakfast Meeting NAPLES; Pine Ridge Rd west of 75 9:00am
August 10, 2019	Breakfast Meeting Fort Myers; Perkins, Corner of US 41 and Six Mile Cypress 9:00am
August 24, 2019	Breakfast Meeting NAPLES; Perkins, Pine Ridge Rd. West of 75 9:00am
August TBD	Road Trip and lunch to Muscle Car City Punta Gorda



NOW & THEN

Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

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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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.**



As Of The 2018/2019 Model Year There Were Over 70 Different Models of Mercedes Benz Automobiles Available

MSRP's Across the Range Run from \$32,800.00 for the new A Class to \$222,700.00 for the new G65 AMG and \$232,500.00 for an AMG S65

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE WE WOULD SAY!