



SOONER STAR NEWS

President's Message



*Behold, my friends, the spring is come;
the earth has gladly received the embraces of
the sun,
and we shall soon see the results of their love!
~Sitting Bull*

The awakening of springtime is perfect timing for our next Benz at Breakfast on Saturday, April 16th at Nichols Hills Plaza. Look for the designated area where we'll park our Mercedes-Benz cars, get your

favorite Starbucks, something to eat and we'll enjoy a very informal time of fellowship. A large group of Mercedes-Benz will attract some attention and folks will stop by to ask us questions about our cars, so it's a great time to promote MBCA.

At our February meeting, we introduced Sunbeam Family Services as our new and ongoing support organization. Sunbeam's mission is to provide help, hope and opportunity to people of all ages through early childhood, foster care, counseling and senior services. While funds raised at our fall car show will go toward our support, let's not limit our support to begin or end with the car show. I encourage each of our Members to consider including Sunbeam in your annual personal charitable giving plans. Together, our Section can make a wonderful impact on the lives of fellow Oklahomans. If you did not hear Jim Priest describe to us the great things Sunbeam does for our community, then learn more at

<http://www.sunbeamfamilyservices.org/>. I pledge to make my personal contribution. Will you join me?

We're now on Twitter! Simply go to <https://twitter.com/MBcaCOK> and view more great Mercedes-Benz daily photos. So now, check us out on Twitter as well as Facebook for great Mercedes-Benz photography, ranging from the rare to the unusual. People from around the world log onto our page daily to check out these photos, so I encourage you to not only go to the site regularly to see these great photos but to be sure to "Like" our pages and photos.

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KANSAS ADVENTURE & CAR SHOW

By Ed Hoag

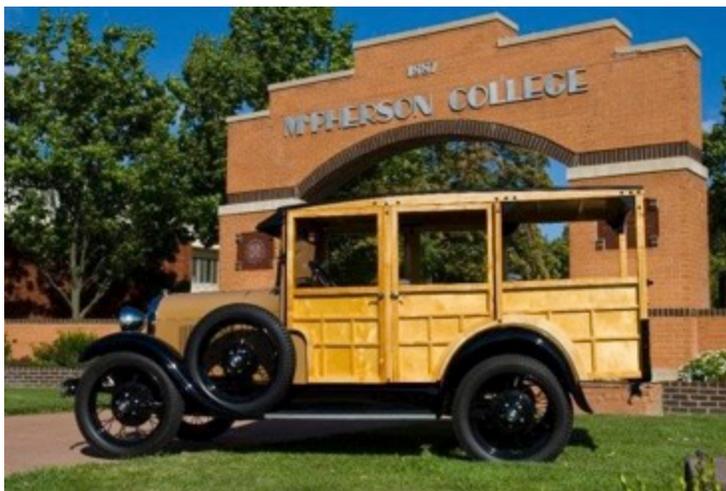


On Friday, April 29th, Club Members will begin a weekend Drive to some new experiences in our neighboring state; finishing up on Saturday by attending one of the most unique Car Shows in the Country.

Our Caravan will depart from I-35 & NE 122nd and drive 200 miles to Hutchinson for lunch at the Airport Steakhouse. From there, it's only a couple of miles to Strata, the Kansas Underground Salt Museum. Or, if an elevator ride to 600 feet underground is not your first choice, you can visit the nearby Cosmosphere International Space Museum.

Following the afternoon visit to one of these Hutchinson experiences, we'll drive a short 30 miles northeast to McPherson to check in at the Holiday Inn Express or another nearby Hotel and get dinner at a close by restaurant. At 6:00pm we can view a "Cruise-In on Main Street", followed by a static showing of the "Cruise" cars at McPherson's Lakeside Park.

On Saturday morning, it's less than 2 miles to the McPherson College campus to attend the 17th annual C.A.R.S. Club Show. In addition to the cars on grass in the center of the campus, student conducted tours of Templeton Hall are provided. This is the facility at the College that offers four year accredited degrees in automobile restoration skills.



The MBCA Wichita Section always has a good presence at the Show and will reserve us a spot with their cars if we give them advanced notice of our \$10 Pre-registration (essentially, a donation to the Students C.A.R.S. Club). If you choose not to show your car, there is plenty of free parking adjacent to the campus Show area. The Show runs from 10:00am to 4:00pm and the departure time for the three-hour drive back home is at your option.

Maps and driving directions will be provided at no charge. Other than for the hotel and meals, the only costs will be the admission fees for the Hutchinson attractions. A small block of rooms have been reserved for us at the Holiday Inn Express. We need to let others in Kansas know the size of our Group by April 20th.

To "sign up", get more information and/or a Show Registration form for this two-day driving event, contact Ed Hoag at (405) 341-3578 or edhoag@cox.net. But don't delay; April 20th is only a few weeks away.

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Cimarron Council Boy Scouts of America Car Show

By Bill Nash

On Saturday, March 19, our Section made its annual trek to Enid to attend the annual Boy Scouts car show. Thirteen Section members attended the show. Some Members caravanned up scenic Highway 81, while others drove individually.

The show is sponsored by the Enid Antique Car Club, and included a very large number of entrees, ranging from antique to late model cars and everything in between. Charles Woods, Tony Marrauchella and John Bowers entered their Mercedes in the show.

The members met for lunch at Callahan's Pub & Grille in downtown Enid and then had a chance to view John Bowers' extensive car collection, including a rare 300 SL Gullwing Coupe. John's 300 SL Roadster was entered in the car show. It should be noted that all of John's cars are drivers, not trailer queens. Members also visited Richard Crump's facility where John's 190 SL is undergoing restoration. It was a great show and everyone had a good time.





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She's Mercedes A Ninety's Dream

By Mercedes-Benz & Masood Khan



The 90s are enjoying a revival and Mercedes models are now more in demand than ever. For some they are a status symbol, for others a memento with nostalgic value. Julia Seiter, founder of NU Slippers, is the proud owner of a W124 Coupé Sportline from 1990. For her, this car is all about tradition and family history. The 27-year-old comes from a dyed-in-the-wool Mercedes family. At home near Freiburg, Germany, the Seiters have been driving Mercedes since the 50s and as a child the cars made a profound impression on Julia. She was allowed to practice in her mother's 124 Sedan on the family land. It's no surprise that a Mercedes Benz was her first car and big investment, following right in her mother's footsteps. After a long and fruitless search for a 124 Cabriolet, Julia finally opted to buy a Coupé Sportline. Her 132 hp model in blue/black metallic with dark burr wood, leather appointments and wide sports tires has been a loyal companion since 2013.

The social and economic communications graduate founded the footwear brand NU Slippers together with her aunt. 'Nu' is the Portuguese word for 'naked' and stands for the breathable material that gives the wearer a feeling of walking barefoot with a polyurethane sole that hugs the foot. The NU Slippers are produced there and then distributed all over Europe.

For her, the most important thing is to maintain originality. From the interior appointments to the body, she spared no expense caring for her automotive treasure. For instance, she had a Jensen trucker radio imported from the US to replace the missing Becker Mexico 830. Although this radio is more modern and even has a USB connection, it matches the style of the dashboard perfectly. 'The display just had to have an amber color with no bright LEDs,' stated Julia. She had her Mercedes star fitted with a magnet and converted so that it can be removed and re-inserted easily: 'Otherwise I'd have to buy a new one every week in Kreuzberg.'

She's often asked whether she inherited her car from her father. The question annoys her. 'Men don't assume that I made a conscious decision to buy my old Mercedes or that I am a fanatical car lover. It's a shame, but I'm fine with being the one to surprise them.'





Calendar of Events 2016

- April 2nd; Coffee & Cars, OKC
- April 9th; Board of Directors meeting
- April 16th; Benz & Breakfast @ Nichols Hills Plaza, Nichols Hills
- April 19th; Monthly Dinner meeting @ Mimi's Café, OKC
- April 29th; Driving Event - Hutchinson Kansas to McPherson C.A.R.S. show
- May 7th; Coffee & Cars OKC
- May 14th; Visit to Boulton's Brass Age Cars
- May 17th; Monthly Dinner Meeting @ Ricky's Café - Moore
- June 4th; Coffee & Cars) - 122nd & May
- June 18th; Member's Annual Picnic
Hafer Park - Edmond

Sooner Star News April/May 2016

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become a "Mercedes"

-- Dustin Hoffman --



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Project Fintail-Quatre

By Masood Khan



Money, Money: Well they say it rightly; when it rains it pours, daughter's University tuition, additional bills from IRS and 401K all poured together. Which means Victoria did not go for nip tuck to Hammer & Dolly. She needs to wait while the piggy bank gets replenished.

Rain rain go away: Since the rubber seals are so shrunk and battered, she can't take showers, just sponge baths, water ends up where it is not supposed to be... you know where. For now bought her a good raincoat, though it is not Burberry but it works well.

Potting soil and mulch: When she was young she could take four bodies in the trunk happily and zoom; now after retirement from active duty she likes gardening. You can find her at garden centers these days hauling mulch, plants and potting soil.

Elbow grease: This is the most used item in my garage these days, getting rid of last five years of dirt, grease and grime out of the Fintail. At times it seems it is from last fifty years not five.



Because carpets were faded but without any rips or damage, decided to re-dye them, it took me one afternoon but results were amazing. Experience fixing antique furniture paid off, I fixed the wood on the dash myself too. It though took considerable time and effort.

Hopefully Victoria's piggy bank will be full in the near future and she will go for the Botox shots etc. You will find out next time.



Digital Native

By Mercedes-Benz (Editing Masood Khan)



Sajjad Khan heads up the Digital Vehicle and Mobility unit at Mercedes-Benz Development, where he coordinates the activities of 1,000 specialists based in locations ranging from Germany's Sindelfingen to the USA, India, Japan, South Korea, and China. Their common goal is to develop software and hardware solutions for the connected vehicle – making cars safer and more comfortable by integrating systems, apps, and services that can be used both inside and outside the vehicle.

The E-Class Masters the data highway as it does the freeway itself. Sajjad Khan explains how the new connected vehicle sets benchmarks in terms of comfort and safety.

What is more important for a car produced in 2016: its engine or the software?

One is as important as the other. When you drive a Mercedes-Benz, you expect it to be an outstanding experience in every way – from the sound it makes when you open the door to the driving performance and the way it displays useful information.

The digital aspect is now increasingly significant.

Our aim is to exhaust all digitization possibilities with a view to enhancing quality of life. Humanity has made enormous progress over the last 100 years through the application of classical engineering – from horse-drawn carriages to aircraft. Over the next century, our lives will be shaped more by computer technologies. But mechanical innovations will retain their importance – because we are humans made of flesh and blood, and not just virtual beings.

Many still see in-car connectivity as a buzzword. But for us it is no longer a trend: it is already a reality. And the new E-Class is setting the benchmark as the most connected car imaginable.

What is connectivity?

Simply put, the car is equipped with a kind of SIM card that enables it to connect with the Internet and apps, as well as with the concierge and eCall services supplied exclusively by Mercedes-Benz. The E-Class has enormous digital capabilities. And these are not just an attractive bonus – they are an integral part of the car, a vein running all the way through it. But connectivity itself is just an enabling technology. The real question is: what do we do with it?

So what are we doing with it?

Let me give you one example. The E-Class provides the driver with tailored, context-driven information. If you are driving a diesel vehicle and getting low on fuel, the navigation system will show you all the gas stations along your route – as well as the current price of their fuel. No need for you to select a special tab or open an app. No need to do anything – except choose a gas station and allow yourself to be guided to it.

Digital Native continued...



How can software improve comfort in ways that a good chassis cannot?

We call our approach “24 plus”. The basic idea is that all of us – whether you are royalty or a tradesman – are restricted by the 24 hours in any given day. What we aim to do is buy additional time for our customers by providing value-added services and customized information delivered automatically as and when required.

What is your department doing to help bring about automated driving?

One of the keys to enabling driverless cars is access to high-resolution roadmaps and street atlases. That is why a consortium made up of Daimler AG, Audi, and BMW recently bought the mapping service “Nokia Here”. We are working on ways to harness that data for automated driving.

What message do you have for customers who fear that this new technology is set to take away a little piece of their freedom?

As with every new technology, I think it will take time to adjust. Automated driving still faces a few significant challenges. First, in terms of technology it has to function flawlessly. And secondly, if customers are to feel comfortable with the new technology we have to earn their trust, which is also a question of user experience: how can the driver be sure that the car is better at observing and scanning the traffic environment than he does himself? Well, one way would be by enabling the system to inform the driver that it has identified a hazardous situation two blocks away.



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Mercedes-Benz at the 2016 New York International Auto Show Dream Cars in the “City of Dreams” The GLC Coupe

By Daimler AG Media



“2016 is our year of the dream cars, and New York is the perfect place to talk about them,” says Ola Källenius, Member of the Board of Management of Daimler AG, responsible for Mercedes-Benz Cars Marketing & Sales. “This is where we presented one of the most desirable automobiles ever in 1954 – the 300 SL gullwing. Today, it’s our aspiration to offer dream cars for every taste in our portfolio. Mercedes-Benz stands for modern luxury in unparalleled diversity.”

The GLC Coupé is a new, exceptionally sporty dream car in the continuously growing portfolio of Mercedes-Benz SUVs. The combination of multifunctional SUV and emotional coupé unites emotion with intelligence. With its distinctive body line and elongated greenhouse, the GLC Coupé has carried the design language of the show car presented in Shanghai in 2015 into production virtually unchanged. At the same time, the sports car among the Mercedes-Benz midsize SUVs comes with the brand’s compelling safety features, modern assistance systems and an exceptionally sporty and dynamic character.

“The new GLC Coupé is not a car for people who want what everybody wants,” says Källenius. “It’s the right car for people who rejoice in their individuality and want to tread new paths. Yet, with the biggest luggage space in its class, the GLC Coupé also boasts plenty of practical strengths.”



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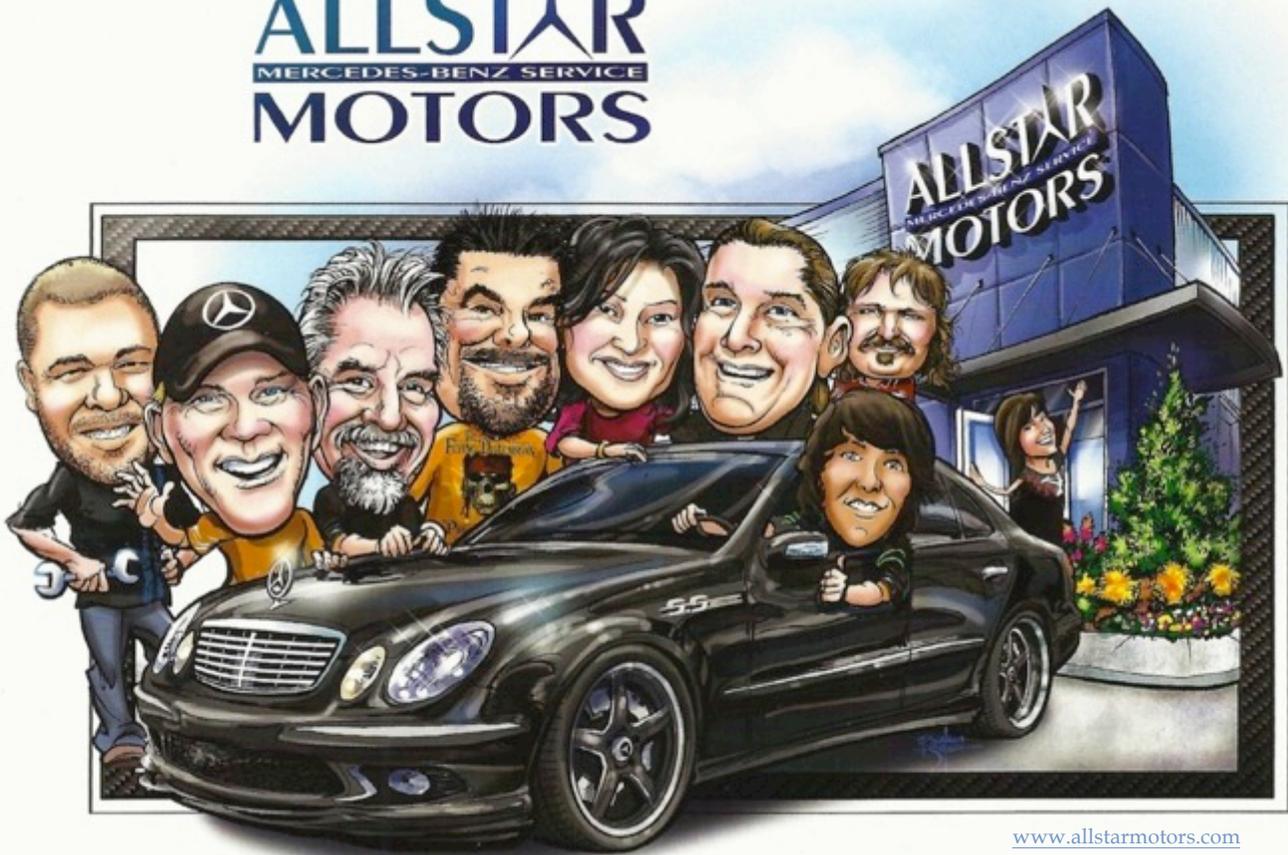
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From the Pages of History
1000th 300SL rolls out of the assembly



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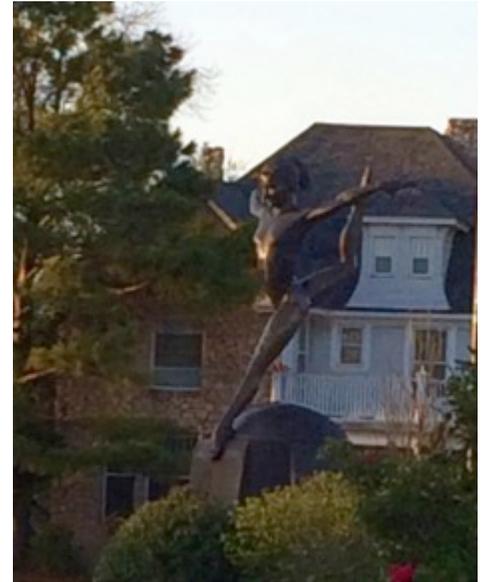
Editor's Note

"I never use my turn signal. It's nobody's business where I am frekin' going".
Aunty Acid

Don't you think sometimes you feel like driving just for the sake of driving, without any plans or destinations in mind? Spring is here and some of our classic Mercedes have been hibernating in the garages/storage, this is the perfect time to get them out and drive wherever and whenever you want to. I am doing that quite often these days, sometimes driving around the town aimlessly, hope you too are doing the same. I know it's nobody's "frekin" business to know where you are going, but please do use your turn signal.

Masood Khan.

P.S. Due to some conditions beyond Mr. Boyd's control, there has been no progress on the Ponton, therefore we do not have the next episode in this issue.



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STARFEST 2016

Join us in New England on August 3-6, 2016 for StarFest 2016. StarFest will take place in Connecticut's "Quiet Corner" with lush Green Valleys and picturesque Hilltop Farms, it's also known as the Antique Capital of Connecticut. From the seashore near the host hotel, Mohegan Sun, to the lush greenery near the host track, the two linked by a short trip on I-395. Spectacular scenery and iconic New England towns await your discovery.

<http://starfest2016.mbca.org/registration>



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