



SOONER STAR NEWS

President's Message



*This bright New Year is given me
To live each day with zest . . .
To daily grow and try to be
My highest and my best!
-William Arthur Ward*

Happy New Year to every Member all!

With the New Year comes a new calendar of events and your officers and directors have already begun the planning for a full year of activities for our Members. In addition to our monthly dinner meetings, a variety of social and driving events are on tap. Upcoming events for the next three months are posted in the newsletter, so watch for them. Some events remain in the planning stage and, as this is your Club, if you have a suggestion for a Club activity, we would like to hear from you. We strive for a diverse schedule of activities designed to include something for each member's interests. Thus, I'm expecting an active and enjoyable year ahead for your Section.

Taking a brief step back, I wish to thank every Member who attended our Christmas Party last month. We had a terrific attendance with 56 members and guests attending. All feedback received was very encouraging regarding the party, the venue and the food. Plans are to return to Twin Hills for our 2016 Christmas Party – and we'll ensure the desserts are up to par with the entrée service.

PS: Logged onto our Facebook page recently? If not, you're missing a fun opportunity to see some great Mercedes-Benz photography I encourage you to not only go to the site regularly to see these great photos, but be sure to "Like" our page and photos.

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Questions/information call Section President at 405 359-2821 or National Business Office at 1-800-637-2360

IT WAS A FUN TIME!

By Ed Hoag

That seemed to be the unanimous opinions of the fifty-seven people who attended Central Oklahoma Section's 2015 Holiday Dinner Meeting on December 15th.

It was the first time this annual event was held at Twin Hills Golf & Country Club and the food and facilities were excellent. The Club's friendly staff served hot plates with top quality meats and sides. Our banquet room was seasonally decorated with a beautiful Christmas tree and was perfectly arranged for our Dirty Santa fun.

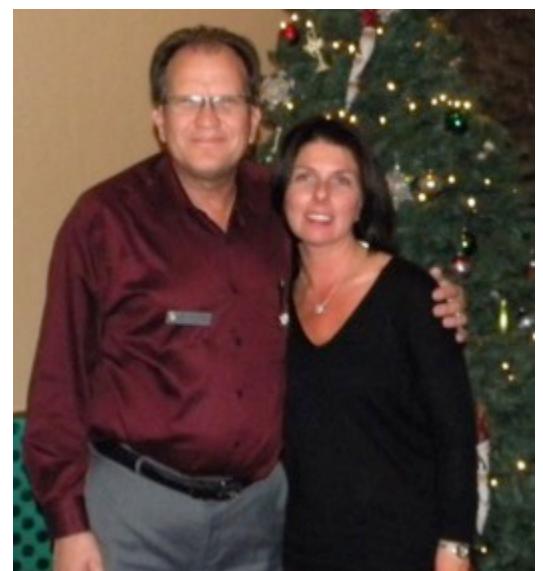
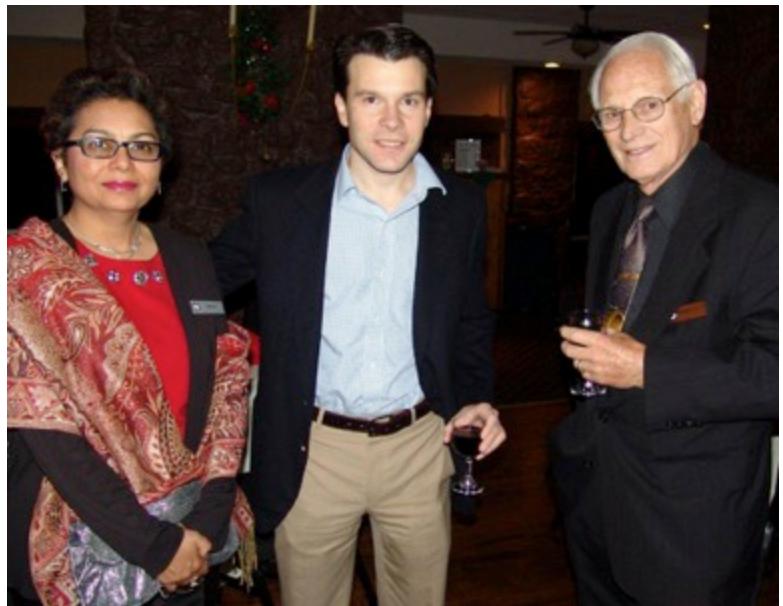
Helping us inaugurate the new Party location was MBCA National President, Terry Kiwala. We were most honored by Terry's attendance and the very kind words he had to say about Central Oklahoma Section's Member activities and events.

Ken Wells, Carolyn Bullard and Paul Rodesney conducted the traditional "Dirty Santa" style gift exchange, made extra fun by some hotly contested "steals" over many very nice items.

And many thanks to Ken Hoffman and Mike Dippel for many of the great photos available in this issue and for viewing on our Section's Facebook page.

For those who were unable to attend, look forward for a return to Twin Hills for this year's December 13th Holiday Dinner Meeting. Mark it on your 2016 Calendar now and we'll celebrate the year together.







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2016 Consumer Electronics Show, Las Vegas

By Kenny Hoffman

Mike and I attended the 2016 Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas. Us along with another 170,000 plus attendees walked our shoes off seeing the various displays in 3 convention buildings covering more than 2.3 million square feet of display space. That's approx. 53 acres under the roof. 4K televisions are becoming old hat, now and soon to be on the market, are 8K Ultra High definition sets. Also, as you might guess, Flying Drones are still making huge sales, each with it's own gimmick.... Most auto companies had displays of some type; Mercedes Benz had two cars on display. Self-driving cars were a big hit.



Mercedes Spotting



560SL with AMG Wheels in Edmond



560SL in Edmond

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2016 Member Recognition Night

January 19, 2016

By Bill Nash



Each year at our January dinner meeting the Section recognizes and extends our appreciation of our long-term members. This year the meeting was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at Grand House Asian Bistro in Oklahoma City. In spite of the cold weather we had very good attendance at this special meeting.

We were honored to have MBCA National President Terry Kiwala in attendance to present the South Central Region Officer of the Year plaque to Section Secretary Masood Khan. Masood was recognized for his exemplary services as Section Secretary and member of the Executive Committee, Newsletter Editor, Facebook Administrator, and for creating original artwork for Section activities and newsletter advertisers.

We also awarded a plaque to Paul and Suzen Rodesney, commemorating their selection as 2015 Central Oklahoma Section Members of the Year.

Their efforts were instrumental in making the Concours on the River and charity auction a huge success. A total of \$12,200 was raised to support the American Red Cross.

The Central Oklahoma Section received its Certificate of Charter from MBCA on December 11, 1984. We now have 44 members with 10 or more consecutive years of membership. Members with 10, 15, and 20 years of Membership received a framed certificate expressing our appreciation for their loyalty and support: Bryant Riffe and Bud and Shari Norman for 20 years; Joseph Phillips, JD Ogle, and James Erikson for 15 years; Ken Wells and Carolyn Bullard, Jeff and Lisa Leatherock, Teresa and Don Pope, Gary Wano, Tom and Melanie Davis, and Paul and Suzen Rodesney for 10 years.

A walnut plaque was awarded to Tim Wilson recognizing his 25-year membership. Tim lives in Utah, so his plaque was mailed to him.

A walnut plaque was awarded to Dr. Paul and Amalia Silverstein, recognizing their 30-year membership, will be presented during our February dinner meeting.



Terry Kiwala, Masood & Farah Khan and Charles Woods



Paul & Suzen Rodesney with Charles Woods



Don & Teresa Pope with Charles Woods



Jeff & Lisa Leatherock with Charles Woods



Ken Wells, Carolyn Bullard with Charles Woods



Bud & Shari Norman with Charles Woods



J D Ogle with Charles Woods



Calendar of Events 2016

February 6th; Coffee & Cars, OKC

February 16th; Monthly Dinner Meeting @ El Chico, Quail Spring Mall, OKC

March 5th; Coffee & Cars, OKC

March 15th; Monthly Dinner meeting @ Johnny Carino's, Yukon

March 26th; BSA car Show, Enid, OK

April 2nd; Coffee & Cars, OKC

April 9th; Benz & Breakfast @ Nichols Hills Plaza, Nichols Hills

April 9th; Board of Directors meeting

April 19th; Monthly Dinner meeting @ Mimi's Café, OKC

Sooner Star News
December/January 2015

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MBCA Central Oklahoma Section
P. O. Box 1518, Edmond, OK 73083-1518
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Project Fintail-Trois

By Masood Khan

Mirror mirror: No she is not the most beautiful of all, but she was missing the rearview mirror out of all. The chrome stem of the mirror was there but no mirror. Classic Center informed they had the mirror but in black plastic not chrome (Thanks DOT enemy of car aesthetics and beauty). Victoria screamed and said, "No, I refuse to let that hideous black plastic mirror on my forehead". Then, miracle of friendship happened; dear friend and past President of the Section Jeff Leatherock heard her screams and donated a mirror from one of his parts cars. The mirror "fitted like a glove" on the chrome stem, it works perfectly, everyone is happy, thanks Jeff.

Shocks of Amazon: Finally the fourth shock absorber from Amazon came on December 4th, fifteen days after the date of purchase. But discovered one out of the three delivered earlier was damaged. It was sent back for a refund and the replacement was purchased from RM European (no more Amazon).

Shock absorbers got installed, and then we thought it would be good to replace the motor and transmission mounts as well. That went well.



Master Cylinder: Fintail Doctor discovered brake master cylinder had prostate problem, so guess what? Got a new one, wish it were true for us men too. New brake lines are in, valves adjusted, valve cover polished, new seals and hoses replaced etc. etc.

Timing: They say timing is everything, during the valve adjustment the loose timing chain was discovered; she has a brand new timing chain.

She is home: And all of a sudden she is home. Fintail Doctor needed room for another older patient, realizing he had done most of the rehab work for now, so on a cold January day, /// he drove Victoria home.

Carburetors; before & after



Botox etc.: I think in car years Victoria is around 85, and at that age it does not hurt to get some cosmetic work done, a little bit of Botox and nip tuck here and there does not hurt. She will be enjoying some of that in the future. Will keep you updated.



Used all my elbow grease to shine the valve cover and shine it did

Editor's Note

"Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude."

A.A. Milne, (*Winnie the Pooh*).

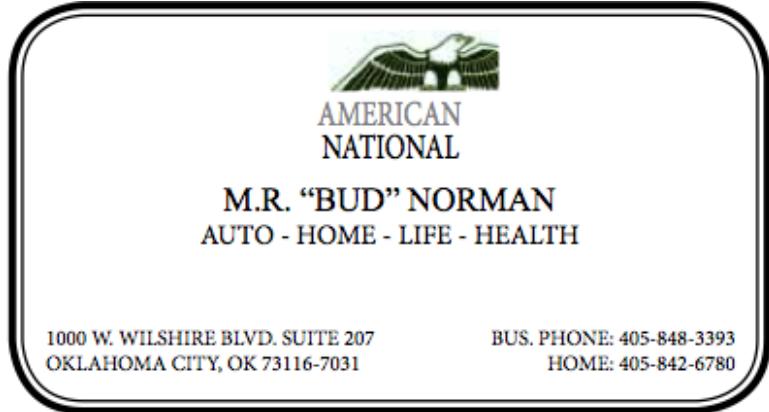
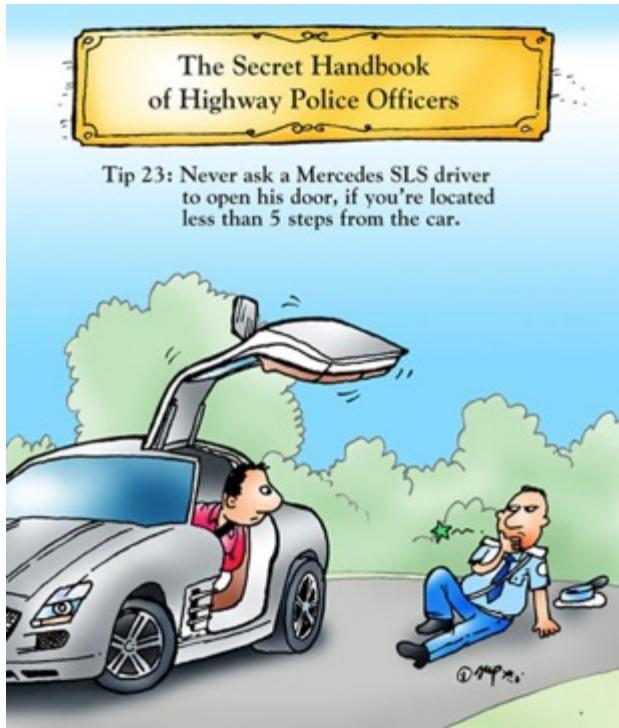
Getting the Officer of the Year Award for South Central region is a humbling experience for me. Though my heart is bigger than Piglet's heart, but it is overflowing with gratitude towards Central Oklahoma Section Members, fellow Board Members, my colleagues; Charles Woods, Bill Nash and Ed Hoag, Gene Jurick, South Central Regional Director and Terry Kiwala, President Mercedes-Benz Club of America.



This Award belongs to every Member of the Central Oklahoma Section because we are all part of a team with the same goal, enjoy and have fun with our Mercedes cars and strengthen our Club.

It seems each year the bar is getting higher and higher, I am very confident together we will make not just our Section but also the entire MBCA stronger, efficient and more prestigious in the years to come.

Masood Khan.



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Ponton Restoration Part XIII

By Charles Boyd

Progress moves slowly but we are making some. The two front seats are assembled, upholstered and ready to install. The pattern for the side windows is made of tempered masonite which is the same thickness as the glass. The window regulators are adjusted and the windows move up and down, as they should. One of the door panels is complete and the other one is 80% complete. The well where the top resides when not in use is being upholstered. The metal cap for the side windows are ready to be bent to the proper shape and the mandrel to be used to bend them is finished. It goes a lot slower when you have to fabricate the tools to do the job of making the parts that you need. However, I am fortunate to have helpers who can conceive of what is required and are capable of making it happen.



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Board of Directors Meeting, January 16, 2016

By Masood Khan (Secretary Central Oklahoma Section)

On Saturday January 16th, Central Oklahoma Section held it's first quarterly Board of Directors Meeting of the year at MBOKC. President; Charles Woods, Vice President; Bill Nash, Secretary; Masood Khan, Treasurer; Ed Hoag, Board Members; Bobbye Van Horn, Jeff Leatherock and Greg Morgan attended the meeting.

The Board discussed and approved various items including the All German Car Show with Porsche and BMW Clubs, budget/expenditure and a host of other items. Members approved calendar of events for the year and few other items.

The Section Leadership is always working hard (mostly behind the scenes) to provide the Members the best experience.

Welcome New Members

Gene Allen, Nicoma Park, Oklahoma

Dr. Feroz Maqbool & Dr. Benazir Drabu, Edmond, Oklahoma

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Central Oklahoma Section Officers & Directors
Regional Director South Central Region: Gene Jurick, gjurick@tx.rr.com

Directors

Bobbye Van Horn (405) 340-5919
Jeff Leatherock (405) 943-9795
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Mary Williams* (405) 525-0633

* Director Emeritus

Officers Central Oklahoma Section

President: Charles Woods (405) 359-2821
Vice President: Bill Nash (405) 478-7677
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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.mbc.org/registration>



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