



SOONER STAR NEWS

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

July/ August 2018

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Magical morning lights, dreamy sky,
Smiling flowers letting us know summer is
opening her eyes*

~ Debasish Mridha



Thank you to each Member who made our two June events great successes.

Our Members answered the call from Todd Bondy to provide classic and vintage Mercedes-Benz for the new MBOKC open house on June 12th with 25 beautiful Mercedes-Benz. The

display, located next to the German food pavilion, drew the attention of many open house attendees. Many took photos of the vehicles - mostly selfies, which demonstrated their appreciation of these classics. Just four days later, on Saturday, June 16, we enjoyed our annual Member picnic. A crowd of 50, including 12 Members from the Eastern Oklahoma Section, gathered at Hafer Park, in Edmond for grilled hamburgers, hotdogs and ice cream. A circle of 35 beautiful Mercedes-Benz and cooperating weather, warm but not hot, made the event even more enjoyable.

The two-year term of the current board of directors ends on September 30. Nominations for new board members are underway through July 15. If you wish to nominate a Member or a Member is interested in board service, please contact the nominating committee - Kenny Hoffman, Mike Dipple or Charles Woods with your nomination. Board service is your opportunity to craft and lead the Section's direction for the next two years. I encourage Members to consider board service as our Section's success depends upon the volunteer efforts of our Members. Information about the election process will be soon forthcoming.

Continued on next page...

President's message continued...

A bittersweet note with this message, as this newsletter will be the last produced by our editor, Masood Khan. During Masood's tenure, the newsletter has become among the best within MBCA, including being awarded a National Communications Award in 2016. Please join me in thanking Masood for his tireless efforts in elevating our newsletter to this standard. It is our good fortune, however, that Lisa Leatherock has stepped forward as our new newsletter editor and I am confident Lisa will continue the level of excellence Masood has established. My sincere thanks to Masood and Lisa.



DAIMLER NEWS

By Masood Khan



The Mercedes-Benz Classic Center is celebrating 25th anniversary: it opened its doors in Fellbach 25 years ago,

in May 1993. Since then it has set standards as an unrivalled center of competence for the utmost originality and authenticity relating to the brand's classic vehicles. Its services include works restorations, the supply of original replacement parts, the care of vehicle collections and support for the Classic-Partners.

Daimler forecasts lower earnings for 2018

Due to current developments, Daimler AG has made a new assessment of the earnings potential for the year 2018. From today's perspective, the decisive factor is that, at Mercedes-Benz Cars, fewer than expected SUV sales and higher than expected costs - not completely passed on to the customers - must be assumed because of increased import tariffs for US vehicles into the Chinese market. This effect cannot be fully compensated by the reallocation of vehicles to other markets. As another decisive factor, a negative effect on earnings is to be expected in the second half of the year in connection with the new certification process WLTP (Worldwide Harmonized Light Vehicles Test Procedure). Furthermore, earnings at Mercedes-Benz Vans are affected in connection with the recall of diesel vehicles. Additionally, earnings at Daimler Buses are negatively affected by the declining demand in Latin America.

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Mercedes-Benz of Oklahoma City Grand Opening

By Bill Nash



On Tuesday, June 12, 2018, Mercedes-Benz of Oklahoma celebrated the grand opening of its new dealership at 14240 Broadway Extension, in Edmond, OK. This state of the art facility features the latest innovations in customer service, including a modern gym.

Todd Bondy, Operating Partner and General Manager, invited the Central Oklahoma section to participate in this event and display our members' classic Mercedes-Benz automobiles. We had 25 cars on display,

including a W187 sedan, W111 Cabriolet, a W113 230 SL, W114 coupe, C215, couple of R107s, W126, R129 and R230 SL.

Our cars were displayed next to the outdoor venue serving typical German food, sauerkraut, sausages, brats, and of course German beer. A German band provided the entertainment in this area. Inside the dealership a wide variety of food and drinks were served next to new models ranging from CLA to GLS. More than 1000 customers responded to invitations to attend the special. As the pictures attest, a great time was had by all.







Central Oklahoma Section Annual Picnic

By Bill Nash



On Saturday, June 16, 2018, the Section held our annual picnic in Hafer Park in Edmond, OK. This year the picnic was a regional event, and members from the Eastern Oklahoma Section, the North Texas Section, and the Arkansas Section were invited to join us. Fifty members and guests signed up for this annual event.

Although the weather was hot, the shady area around the pavilion, and fans provided the Section, kept everyone comfortable. A&D Smoker catered the lunch.

Since our Section had a great turnout we conducted a brief business meeting to vote on changes to our Bylaws to approve an amendment authorizing electronic voting in our annual election. A motion to approve the amendment was made by Bill Nash and seconded by Jeff Leatherrock. The motion was approved unanimously.

We had a great variety of beautiful Mercedes-Benz automobiles on display.







New Members

Mark Davis, Edmond, Oklahoma
Bob Howard, Edmond, Oklahoma



Jeff Leatherock

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Calendar of Events 2018

- July 7th; Coffee & Cars, OKC
- July 14th; Board of Directors Meeting @ MBOKC
- July 17th; Dinner Meeting 7:00pm @ Stella
Modern Italian Cuisine, Midtown,
OKC
- August 4th; Coffee & Cars, OKC
- August 14th; Dinner Meeting 7:00pm @ West at
Western, OKC
- September 1st; Coffee & Cars, OKC
- September 18th; Dinner Meeting 7:00pm @
Charleston's, Bricktown.
- September 22nd; Benz & Breakfast @ Panera Bread,
Spring Creek Plaza, Edmond
- October 6th; Coffee & Cars, OKC
- October 16th; Dinner Meeting 7:00pm @ El Chico's
Quail Springs, OKC

Sooner Star News July/August 2018

Editor: Masood Khan
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Contributing Credits for this issue: Daimler AG, MB Blog,
Charles Woods, Masood Khan, and Mercedes-Benz etc.

Photography Credits for this issue: Daimler AG, Mercedes-
Benz, Kenny Hoffman, Mike Dippel, Eastern OK Section,
Masood Khan, and Google etc.

Advertising Chair: Greg Morgan, gmorgan41@gmail.com

The Sooner Star News is published bi-monthly by the Central
Oklahoma Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, as a
benefit of MBCA Membership. Subscriptions for non-members
are not available. Rates for advertising are available from the
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Goodbye!

There is nothing permanent except change, it was five years back when I took over the editorship of Sooner Star News and now it is time for change. This is the last issue of the Newsletter under my editorship; September/October issue will be a product of Lisa Leatherrock.

It has been a joy and a pleasure to serve as editor all these past years and from the beginning to the end it was my intent to produce a quality publication. My hope is this pursuit of excellence will continue in the future with the new editor.

Please accept my thanks and gratitude for giving me this opportunity to serve you in various capacities. My heartfelt thanks to Charles Woods, Bill Nash and Ed Hoag for their unwavering support and trust in me without which I would not have accomplished anything. My thanks to the current and past Board Members whose trust and support I always enjoyed. Thanks to Lisa for stepping forward to take the role of editor. My sincere thanks to MBCA past President Terry Kiwala and to the current President Gene Jurick for their support. Last but not the least a big thank you to Farah my beloved wife for her unconditional love and support.

Thank you and goodbye.

Masood Khan



Mercedes Bike?



Mercedes-Benz announces collaboration with the Canadian high-end bike manufacturer, Argon 18, on high-performance endurance bikes. Both companies share the claim as leaders in innovative technology and unique user-experience. The new partnership is planned over multiple years. Being discussed are products that reflect even more the design philosophy of Mercedes-Benz and the expertise of Argon 18 in the field of advanced technologies.

The first bike model to be launched in the fall of 2018 is a road endurance bike. Mercedes-Benz Style is responsible for its exclusive appearance with silver-colored frame and silver-black gradient on saddle and struts. The fork has a special shape, optimized for vibration absorption and control.

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