



SOONER STAR NEWS

Central Oklahoma Section of The Mercedes-Benz Club of America

President's Message



The summer has hit in full force and that has kept me inside seeking the cool breeze of the A/C. This allows my feeble brain to think about the past two years and what a pleasure it has been to be your Club President. The enjoyment of the Club Members, Club activities and good wishes and words from everyone will

always be a fond memory.

As we approach September everyone should give full attention to the upcoming election and your responsibility to participate in the process. Nominations are now open for Club Director or to recommend someone else to run for the position. Club officers are selected from the slate of elected directors. Nominations should be given to the Nomination Committee: Peggy Kirk, Matt Haire, David McLendon or to the Club Secretary Masood Khan. Upon completion of the list of nominees the election will be held and those elected will direct the Club for the next two years. The Club has a big and bright future and we need energetic people who will work to ensure a positive and enjoyable future for all Club Members. Do your part to nominate and elect directors who will carry the Club forward for the next two years. Most of all exercise your right to cast a vote and continue to participate in the Club.

Jack Finks

Interim Editors:

Ed Hoag

Bill Nash

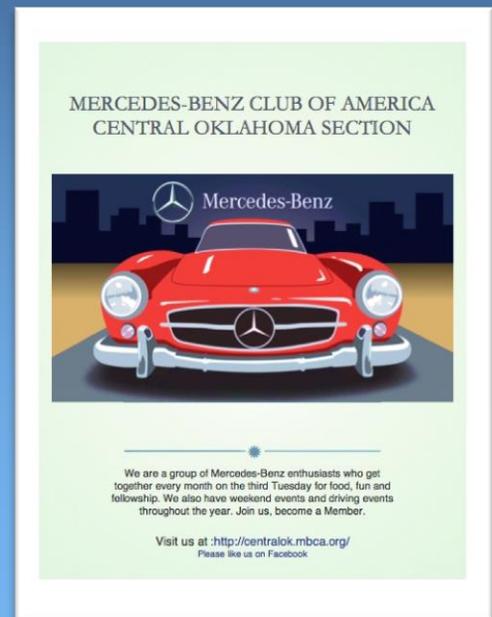
Masood Khan

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Sooner Star News is sponsored by Mercedes-Benz of Oklahoma City and G W & Son Auto Body Shop

Questions/information call Section President at 405 324-6145 or National Business Office at 1-800-637-2360

JUNE SATURDAY EVENT AT BLUE SAGE STUDIOS

Paul Rodesney

The Club's June Saturday event at the Blue Sage Glass Blowing Studio was both interesting and informative. Sixteen Mercedes-Benz and two Jaguar Club members were in attendance when studio owner Andy Boatman began the demonstration by going over a few glass blowing particulars. Like the ovens glowing at a mere 2000 degrees and that he maintains a certain amount of liquid glass inside the furnace ready to go at any time. Andy then started the first of his processes to create a multicolored bowl.

The process starts by sticking a blowpipe into the liquid glass, then using several learned techniques to form the blob into a tube then carefully enlarging the blob into the form he wants to have so he can expand it to a much larger piece. After working the glass by blowing into the blow pipe and enlarging it to the proper size, he then transfers the glass to another blow pipe so he now has an opened end that he can either stretch longer or wider depending if you want a beer mug or a bowl. To get the multiple colors, he rolls the heated glass onto colored glass chips spread out on a metal table, then back into the furnace to melt the two together. One of the best ways he maintains the roundness of the glass as it starts to get bigger and bigger is to use large wooden items that look like giant gourds that are rounded on the inside to help maintain the glasses curves.



After the glass blowing process is complete, he places the items in a small kiln that will start the cooling down process, which take about nine hours. The nine hours is used to allow the glass to properly temper. If left out in the air, the glass would cool too fast and shatter.

After the two hour demonstration was completed, the members were given time to tour Andy's studio and a couple other studios next door to pick out items to purchase for their personal use. Leaving Blue Sage, we headed south for a quick few miles drive downtown for lunch and laughter at Joey's Pizzeria. All in all it was a great time for all that attended.



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Silver Star Preservation Class

Charles Woods



The Silver Star Preservation Class, SSPC, was developed by MBCA to expand member participation at local, regional and national events. The purpose of the SSPC is not to create another “judged class” at these events but to encourage members with Mercedes-Benz vehicles over twenty five years old to share these well-loved vehicles with the rest of the Club and be recognized for the years of driving pleasure these vehicles have provided their owners.

These preservation vehicles are not expected to be completely original. It is enough if the vehicle retains a significant number of individual components, as they existed at the time of manufacture. Vehicles with obvious alterations to the body, chassis or drivetrain are not eligible. Wear components are not expected to be original.

Owners of these vehicles enjoy driving them despite the toll to condition that driving inevitably brings. Thus, a SSPC vehicle is not expected to meet rigid condition standards expected of street and/or show competitions. Rather, these vehicles are driven, thus, the major mechanical components of the vehicle are expected to function as originally intended. They must start, steer, drive, stop and turn as designed. All safety components, such as lights, horns, wipers, seat belts should be functional. Wear items such as belts, hoses, clamps, batteries, tires, brakes and clutches are expected to and can be replaced with an approved OER (original equipment replacement) item.

To earn the SSPC designation, the vehicle must qualify by passing Operability and Safety and earning 60 points or better within three of the graded categories including, Exterior, Interior, Engine Compartment, Chassis/Trunk/Miscellaneous Documents.

The Central Oklahoma Section included the SSPC designation for the first time during its 2013 annual Spring Car Show as opportunities to not only enhance the show but to recognize our members whose vehicles are deserving of this special recognition. At that show, five of our members' vehicles attained their SSPC designation: Masood Khan's 1976 450SL, Ken Hoffman's 1987 300SDL, JD Ogle's 1982 240D, Don & Judith Daniels ' 1982 380SL, and Charles Woods' 1986 560SL. During our 2014 Car Show, we added another SSPC award to John Spinella with his 1975 450SL.



Silver Star Preservation Class Profile Car – 1986 560SL, owned by Charles Woods

Charles Woods & Masood Khan

Though Charles has a soft spot for the classic W113s and R107s, with the sudden skyrocketing prices of W113s he knew he had a better opportunity of finding a solid R107 within his budget. Therefore he concentrated his search efforts towards R107s, a 1986-89, 560SL to be precise.

An eight-month search focused on an original, Signal Red over Palomino 560SL with mileage between 50-75,000 and full service history. Charles finally found his car in, Providence, Rhode Island. The original owner of this beautiful car, Mr. Minasian purchased the car in 1986 at a Mercedes dealership in Boston but later moved it to his Florida residence. The car was meticulously maintained and carried a full service history. Charles purchased the car in Florida and shipped it to Oklahoma.



It was a long awaited August day of 2010 when Charles' 1986 Mercedes-Benz 560SL arrived from Florida in an enclosed trailer. Charles has taken care of all the wear items, including timing chain and tensioner, sub-frame mounts, motor mounts, rear engine seal, head gasket, brake calipers, discs/rotors, tires, AC expansion valve and dryer, radiator and the exhaust system. Other than that, leather seat covers, windshield and radio were replaced as well, however these changes cost points at Silver Star Preservation Class (SSPC).



Along with four other Mercedes-Benz, Charles' car was judged for SSPC at the May 2013 MBCA Spring Car Show. Despite the lost points the 560SL did qualify for the award and now proudly wears the shiny SSPC grille badge, proof of its purity and heritage.

This beautiful 560SL is not a garage queen; it is driven most weekends and frequently driven to Coffee & Cars and other events including car shows and has won various trophies/awards.



MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB STAR® MAGAZINE WINS RECORD 18 MEDALS AT INTERNATIONAL AUTOMOTIVE MEDIA COMPETITION

Colorado Springs, CO — For the fifth consecutive year, the International Automotive Media Competition (IAMC), an awards program that recognizes excellence in all forms of automotive media, has awarded bronze, silver and gold medals to The Star® magazine, the official magazine of Mercedes-Benz Club of America. The Star received more gold medals than any other media outlet in the competition.

The 23rd annual International Automotive Media Competition presented awards for works published from January 1-December 31, 2013. Entries were judged by a panel of experts whose backgrounds include academia, professional auto racing, public relations and automotive fine arts; among other disciplines. Eighteen medals were awarded to The Star's editor and content contributors in the categories of magazine writing, graphics and best single/special issue. *"I am delighted that so many of our writers and photographers received medals for their work,"* reported Gary Anderson, Editor-in-Chief of The Star. *"Several of them have been aligned with the Mercedes-Benz brand and the automotive industry for decades and their in-depth reporting reflects that. Others, like Matthew Crawford — a member of MBCA's Desert Stars Section in Scottsdale, Arizona — is not a journalist, but his knowledge about Mercedes-Benz engineering and his enthusiasm for the Club showed through in his article about removing yellowing from headlights; earning him a silver medallion,"* Anderson added.

Gold medals were awarded to Mr. Anderson, Karl Ludvigsen, Graham Robson, Richard Simonds (past National President of MBCA), Stephan McKeown (The Star designer), and Royce Rumsey (photographer for the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center). Silver medallions were presented to Messrs. Crawford, Anderson, McKeown, Robson and Ted Zombeck. Messrs. McKeown, Zombeck, Anderson and Anderson's wife Genie, Associate Editor of The Star, also received Bronze medals. **(By: Lisa A. Juhl, MBCA Director of Marketing)**

Welcome New Members

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Fall Fling Preview...

Ed & Peggy Hoag

Our friends at the Central Oklahoma Jaguar Club have asked us to join them on their upcoming three day drive to Kansas City.

The Fall Fling promises to be a very enjoyable, educational and fun packed weekend outing to KC, the "Paris of the Plains". We will be leaving the morning of **Friday, October 17th** and returning on **Sunday, the 19th**.

The group will be staying at the **816 Hotel** (www.816hotel.com) in Historic Old Westport (the oldest and most eclectic area of KC). Each room is decorated to reflect some KC history such as the KC Mob, Negro League Baseball, WW I Memorial, etc. The group rate has sold out. Call the hotel directly for information 816-931-1000.

After washing off the trail dust we will be going to **Kelly's Westport Inn** (www.kellyswestportinn.com) (within walking distance) to wet our whistles before dinner. Kelly's is an Irish Pub located in the oldest building in KC, built in 1850. Saturday we will spend a leisurely morning exploring the **Steamboat Arabia Museum** (www.1856.com). This is one of the most fascinating and interesting museums we have ever had the pleasure of visiting. The folks that recovered this Missouri River side-wheeler wrote the book on the excavation and preservation of fresh water archeological artifacts. It resulted in the discovery of the largest collection of pre-civil war artifacts in the world.

Just across the street from the Museum is the **City Market** (www.thecitymarket.org) where we can spend a leisurely afternoon lunching and shopping. It features a farmers market, strolling musicians, eclectic restaurants and cafes for lunch, specialty and exotic grocers, stylish apparel, jewelry, home décor, & collectables. Still in the area, we will mosey on over to **The Majestic Restaurant** (www.majestickc.com) in the historic Fitzpatrick's Saloon Building for happy hour, dinner (dry aged steaks, chops & seafood) and live jazz before returning back to the hotel.

For the folks that don't want to shop, there is a myriad of interesting places to visit in the area including the **National WWI Museum** (www.theworldwar.org), **Toy & Miniature Museum** (www.toyandminiaturemuseum.org), the **Kansas City Union Station** (www.unionstation.org/) and many more.

Sunday you will be on your own to shop or visit any of many interesting places in the Westport area before heading home. You can explore the eclectic shops in Old Westport, Crown Center, or the world famous KC Plaza, the first outdoor shopping center in America, famous for its fountains. Plan on joining in on this exciting weekend of museums, sightseeing, great food, and shopping.

Mark your calendar and wait for additional details to follow.



Jeff Leatherock



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2014 Calendar of Events

August Dinner Meeting 19th at Ricky's Café, 2160, S. I35 Rd. Moore (405-793-7999) . **Coffee & Cars September 6th**

Monthly Dinner Meeting September TBA. Board of Director's meeting October 11th.

October Dinner Meeting 21st at Hensley's Top Shelf, 1551 Garth Brooks BLVD, Yukon (405-265-4076).

Food Bank Work Session November 8th.

Life Change Ballroom Check Presentation

On June 05, 2014 Officers/Members of MBCA Central Oklahoma Section and COJA presented a check of \$14,600 to Life Change Ballroom, the designated charity of this year's car show. Two students did an impromptu performance after the check presentation.



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The advertisement features a circular logo with a stylized 'S' and 'I' at the top center. Below the logo, the company name 'SILVER STAR IMPORTS INC.' is written in a large, bold, serif font. Underneath, the services 'EXCLUSIVELY MERCEDES BENZ LEXUS TOYOTA REPAIR' are listed in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. Below that, the text 'OVER 95 YEARS COLLECTIVE EXPERIENCE' is displayed in a bold, sans-serif font. The bottom half of the advertisement shows a close-up of the front of a silver Mercedes-Benz and a silver Lexus car. At the very bottom, the slogan 'YOUR CAR DESERVES PROFESSIONAL CARE' is written in a bold, sans-serif font.

Editor's Note:

"Progress lies not in enhancing what is, but in advancing toward what will be". Khalil Gibran

This is the second issue under the interim editorial team and progress continues. We have added a new segment on Member car profiles, starting with the Silver Star Preservation Class winners. Work to improve design, format and layout of the newsletter continues as well.

There are fourteen pages in this issue as we have included profiles of candidates for the Board of Director's election. Please remember to vote, it is important. You will get your ballots through the mail in early September.

Please note in order to inform you of the outcome of the Board of Director's election, the October/November issue will be published in mid October.

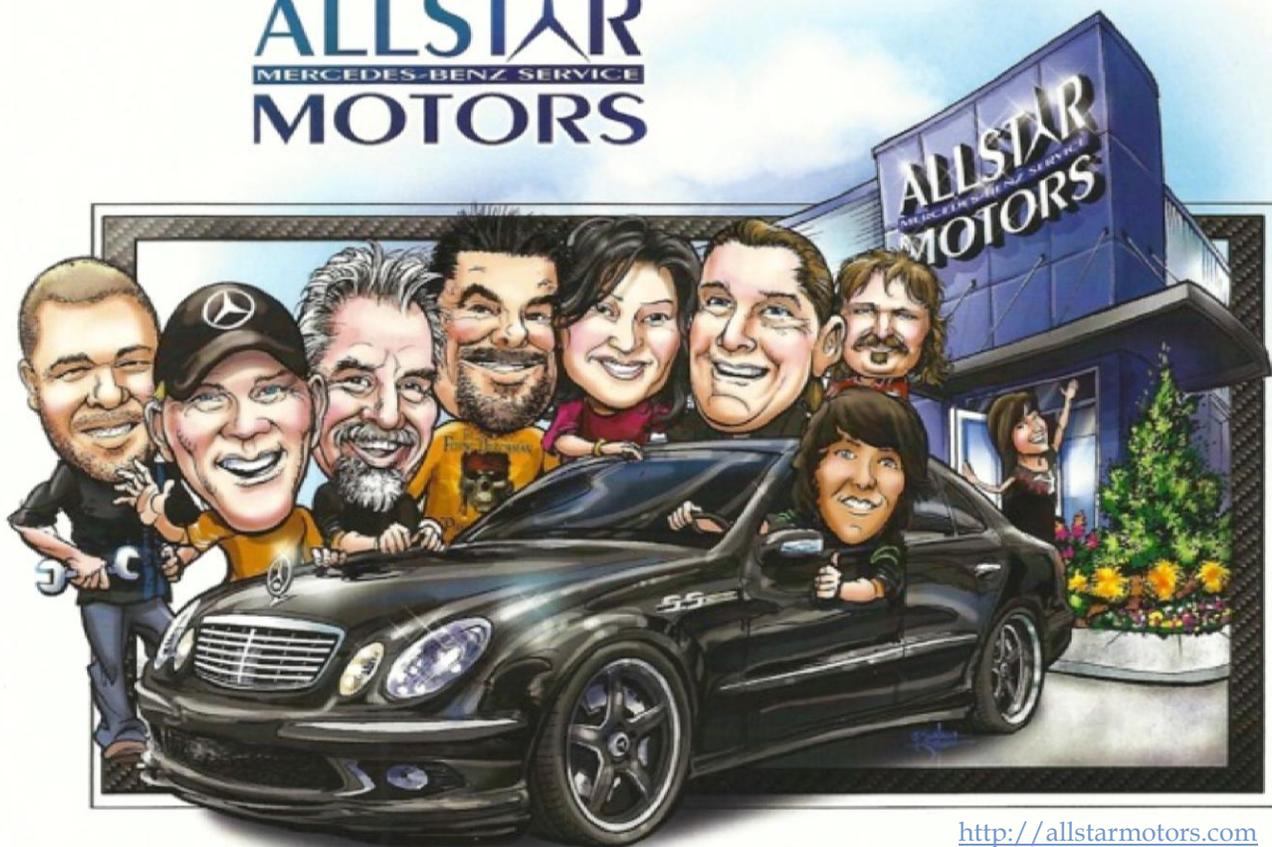
Masood Khan.



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220S Ponton Cabriolet Restoration-Part V

Charles Boyd

The engine has been put together with each step being checked and rechecked. Once it was assembled and mounted with the transmission on the front chassis, the complete assembly was installed in the vehicle. Installing the engine and transmission in this model is a bit different than many cars I have worked on. The engine and transmission are mounted on the front suspension with the wheels on it. The front of the car body is then raised about four feet and the engine assembly is rolled under and the body lowered onto it. All of the connections such as the brake lines, fuel lines, drive line; brake reservoir and coolant lines were connected. All of the hose clamps were identical to the original German clamps. The only problem was they had to be ordered from Australia. I must say the supplier in Australia was exceptionally nice to work with. Finally, when everything was ready, the battery was connected and the engine starter was engaged. The engine responded immediately and ran quite smoothly (or so I thought) but my mechanic was not satisfied so he retimed the ignition and now it idles and runs as smooth as silk.



After some delay, brought about by the custom paint job being done on a 1968 Dodge Charger, the 220S was finally rolled into the paint booth where the final bodywork will be done. The body will be primed, sanded and blocked. This procedure will be done numerous times until it is finally without blemish. Then it will be sealed and painted. After painting, the entire body will be wet sanded with 1000 grit sand paper and then repainted with three or four more coats of paint. It will then be wet sanded once with 1500 grit and finally with 2000 grit paper. It will then be buffed to a high gloss finish.



This procedure will probably take about two months since each time primer, sealer or paint is applied, a waiting period of one to three days must be observed to allow it to completely dry. Once the final buffing is done, the assembly will begin.

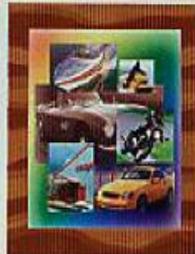
In the meantime, I am trying to assemble the clips and connectors it takes to attach the chrome. The original clips for the most part were rusted beyond re-use and many new ones are not available so I am fabricating new ones or modifying available ones from other vehicles. It takes a lot of belt sanding and grinding to make many of these fit.

All of the wood restoration is complete and I can hardly wait to see it in the car. There is nothing quite so gratifying as seeing the results of first class craftsmanship once you get over the sticker shock.

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ELECTION NOTICE for CENTRAL OKLAHOMA SECTION'S BOARD of DIRECTORS

A Nominating Committee Chairperson was appointed by the President and confirmed by the Board of Directors at the quarterly Board Meeting held on July 12, 2014. The Nominating Committee, consisting of three Members, will conduct its search and recommend Director Nominations to the Secretary by no later than August 15th. The number of Directors to be elected, nine, was also approved at this Meeting.

Further nominations for a Director position may be made by any Active/Family Member and should be submitted to the Secretary, Masood Khan, by no later than August 30th.

The election will be conducted by secret ballot. The ballots will be distributed to Section Members of record (August 31st) on September 5th by direct mail. To be counted, all "return postage paid" ballots must be returned to the Secretary by no later than September 30th.

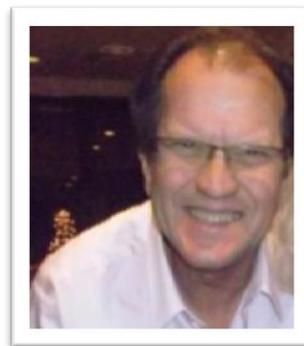
The nine candidates nominated to serve as Directors who receive the highest number of votes will be deemed elected as Directors. Their terms of Office shall begin at 12:01AM on October 1, 2014 and shall end at midnight on September 30, 2016. Directors and Section Officers are elected every two years by a vote of the Section's active Members and the Board of Directors, respectively.

Officers of the Section (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer) will be elected by a majority vote of the newly constituted Board at their next regular meeting after September 30th (currently scheduled for October 11th).

Candidates for Board of Directors, Central Oklahoma Section 2014



Ed Hoag: Member since 1998. Past President, Treasurer, Webmaster, Board Member. **Profile statement:** I will encourage the new Board Members to create more and frequent weekend activities and to select a number of new Dinner Meeting venues. I say "new" because we need to give more Central Oklahoma Section Members a chance to help make the Club more fun for everyone. This will also allow for greater Committee participation from Members looking forward to future leadership roles in the Club.



Jeff Leatherrock: Member since 2005, past President



Bobbye Van Horn: Member since 1994, past President, Chair Hospitality Committee, Board Member.

Profile statement: I am enjoying watching our Club grow and I want it to continue to grow. We have great members and our Board works hard to find different events for everyone. I have been helped by the members and Mary Williams with the different restaurants and I appreciate it.

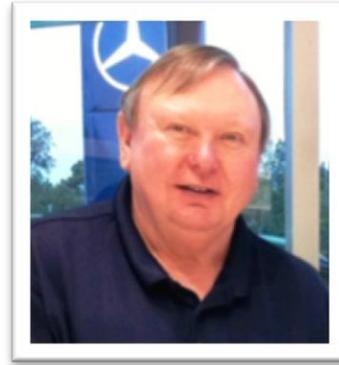


Masood Khan: Member since 2008, Secretary, Facebook page administrator, Chair Communications Committee, Board Member.

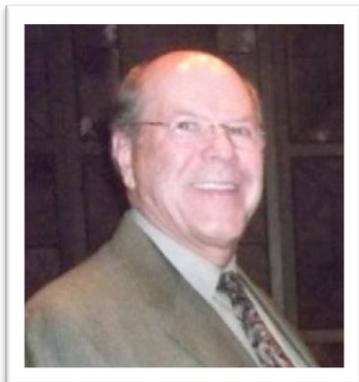
Profile Statement: My goal is helping the Board to make the Section better organized and more active. I would work hard to further improve communication tools i.e. Facebook page and newsletter, and would strive to achieve higher Member involvement and retention.



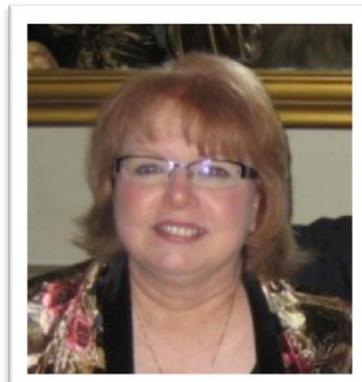
Greg Morgan: Member since 2008.



Fred Reinhardt: Member since 2007.



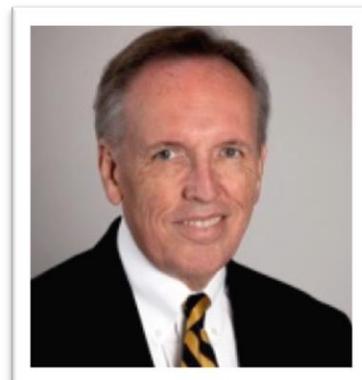
Bill Nash: Member since 1997, past Vice President, Historian, Chair Membership and Advertising Committees, Member of Communications Committee (Newsletter, Web Page & Facebook Page), Board Member. **Profile statement:** If elected, my goal is to work with other Board members to expand Section efforts to recruit new members and to increase events and activities to retain current members.



Mary Williams: Member since 1999, past Newsletter Editor, Board Member. **Profile Statement:** It was an honor and pleasure to serve as your newsletter editor for eleven plus years. I've seen considerable growth in our Club since my first meeting with a total attendance of eight to our current attendance of forty plus members at each meeting. I've assisted Bobby Van Horn in selecting the many restaurants for the Club meetings and I advocate more local events in the future.



Paul Rodesney: Member since 2005, Vice President, Car Show Chair, Board Member. **Profile statement:** As a board member I will continue to keep the Club as inviting as possible for potential Members, encourage camaraderie among the Members and support the interests of the car enthusiasts on an ongoing basis. I will continue to assist in the development of car events that will appeal to members. I desire to foster an environment that allows the membership to have a diverse background, while sharing the same appreciation for Mercedes Benz vehicles.



Charles Woods: Member since 1988, past President. Board Member
Profile statement: If elected, I will represent the diversity of our Club's membership interests by supporting and participating in all Club activities including monthly dinner meetings, the annual car show, technical sessions, driving events and local events. I will actively promote the Club by recruiting new Members and encourage current Member involvement.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Central Oklahoma Section

6012 Chestnut Ct.

Edmond OK 73025



Mercedes-Benz Club of America - www.mbca.org

Central Oklahoma Section Officers and Directors

Regional Director South Central Region: Gene Jurick, gjurick@tx.rr.com

Directors:

Tom Davis	(405) 340-0993
Bill Nash	(405) 478-7677
Bobbye Van Horn	(405) 340-5919
Ken Wells	(405) 760-2414
Mary Williams	(405) 525-0633
Charles Woods	(405) 359-2821

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

Officers Central Oklahoma Section:

President: Jack Finks, jackinok@hughes.net

(405) 324-6145

Vice President: Paul Rodesney, rodesney@cox.net

(405) 620-0124

Secretary: Masood Khan, masood-k@cox.net

(405) 326-2531

Treasurer: Ed Hoag, edhoag@cox.net

(405) 341-3578