



# Der Drei-Eck Wanderer

MBCA Central Coast Section Newsletter  
Website: <http://www.mbc.org/section/central-coast>  
And <http://centralcoast.mbc.org>

March 2015

## SECTION OFFICERS:

**President**  
Brian Wampler 704-0950  
**Vice President**  
Gene Kruger 544-2002  
**Secretary**  
Sally Kruger 544-2002  
**Treasurer**  
Eileen Blair 489-9197

## BOARD MEMBERS:

**Membership**  
Brian Wampler 704-0950  
**Activities Chairperson**  
Rich Leamon 771-8587  
**Technical**  
Bob Blair 489-9197  
**Hospitality**  
Gary Grunwald 929-2414  
**Photographer**  
Mary Nohr 688-7192  
**Newsletter Editor:**  
Yvonne Lazear 771-8587  
[ylazear@gmail.com](mailto:ylazear@gmail.com)  
**Webmaster**  
Jami Wampler 704-0950

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS: Please welcome these MBCA members who have joined us recently:

**Theodor Bozem** 1/11/2014  
**Reynold Stelloh** 12/12/2014  
**Robert Kreis** 12/16/2014  
**Noelle Clark** 2/4/2015  
**Richard Pescatore** 2/7/2015  
**Stephen Graves** 2/25/2015

## Thank you to MBCA members who recently renewed their Memberships:

**Jim Ostovani** 6 mos  
**Phillip Keys** 1 yr  
**Gert Gehlhaar** 7 yrs  
**Patricia Watts** 8 yrs  
**Leonard Surette** 9 yrs  
**Hugh Prosser** 10 yrs  
**Thomas Lepley** 10 yrs  
**John Curtis** 10 yrs  
**Frederick Grossi** 11 yrs  
**William Martin** 13 yrs  
**William Brown** 18 yrs  
**Gene Kruger** 22 yrs

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — Brian Wampler

### Greetings Central Coast Section Members!



Wow! Turnout to section events has been amazing! Did you know, percentage wise, our section has one of the highest participation rates? This is all to your credit! Our, little, Central Coast Section is amazing in many ways. Also, did you know, that our section is one of very few that has the owners of our local Authorized Mercedes-Benz dealership as roster members? And, that they participate and host section events? Yes, we are

fortunate in many ways!

We have already had two great events this year. Pretty awesome considering the amazing note we ended 2014 on with the Christmas party Carol Agon planned and hosted for us!

In January, we had the Garage Tour on New Year's Day. Next, we had a driving rally, elephant seals, and luncheon subsidized by our treasury in February. Upcoming, we have a wine tasting in March and a dealership event in April. Yes, our section is alive and well!

If you haven't joined us for an event, I challenge you to join us. I'd be very surprised if you're not made to feel welcome and make some new friends.

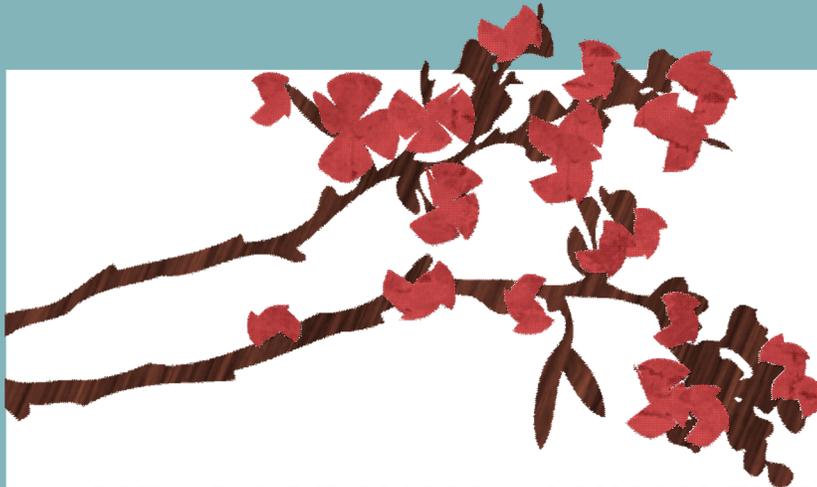
After all, we're not just a car club, we're a community!  
Keep your star shined,

**Brian**  
**President, Central Coast Section**

Editor's Note: Submissions and corrections to the *Newsletter* are due by the 21st of each month.  
You may e-mail your written material or digital photos to  
Yvonne Lazear at [ylazear@gmail.com](mailto:ylazear@gmail.com)

**MARCH EVENT—Respond by March 7th!!!!**

Please make checks out to MBCA Central Coast Section and mail to Yvonne Lazear,  
406 Morro Ave, Morro Bay, CA 93442. (ylazear@gmail.com)

**MBCA CARAVAN & LUNCH EVENT****CASS WINERY**

**\$25 FOR WINE TASTING & LUNCH**  
(PER PERSON)

---

**DATE: MARCH 14, 2015**

**TIME : 10:30AM START, OR 12AM AT WINERY**

START LOCATION : **MADONNA INN**

100 MADONNA RD, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93405

LUNCH LOCATION: **CASS WINERY**

7350 LINNE ROAD, PASO ROBLES, CA 93446

---

Come join us for the MBCA Central Coast Section Caravan and Lunch with wine tasting. The delicious menu includes Cass Crab Cakes, Smoked Chicken Salad, or Pit Roasted Pulled Pork Sandwiches. We hope all our members can make it to enjoy each other's company.

*Details are Subject to Change*

**CONTACT YVONNE LAZEAR@ 805-771-8587 [YLAZEAR@GMAIL.COM](mailto:YLAZEAR@GMAIL.COM) BY MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup> !!!!!**

**SEND CHECKS TO Y LAZEAR, 406 MORRO AVE, MORRO BAY, CA 93442**

# PICTURES OF CASS WINERY



## PLANNING EVENT FOR 2015

On Saturday, November 15th, twelve of our section members met for our Annual Planning Meeting. After enjoying some breakfast, the group conducted the required corporate meeting. Discussions included section officers, section policies, our treasury funds, and the 2015 Events Calendar.

### Highlights of the meeting:

**2015 Officers:** Brian Wampler—President; Gene Kruger—Vice President; Eileen Blair—Treasurer; Sally Kruger—Secretary.

**2015 Chairpersons:** Yvonne Lazear—Newsletter; Jamie Wampler—Website; Rich Leamon—Activities and Dealership Relations; Mary Nohr—Photographer/Historian; Brian Wampler—Membership; Bob Blair—Technical; Gary Grunwald—Hospitality.

**Planned 2015 Events:** Garage Tour; Membership Appreciation Luncheon; Wine Tasting; Mercedes-Benz Dealership Event; SLO Concourse; Lompoc Mural Tour; Picture Rally; Octoberfest; Monarch Butterflies and Luncheon; Annual Planning Meeting, and our Christmas Party

Watch your newsletter and our website for details

**New members, Lew and Lanie Stier, attended their first event!**



## PLANNING MEETING NEWS

### 2015 Calendar of Events

- January 1st—Garage Tour (9am, OSH Donut Shop—Arroyo Grande)—Bob Blair
- February 7th—Member Appreciation Luncheon—Sally Kruger
- March 14th—Wine Tasting—Rich Leamon and Yvonne Lazear
- April 18th—Dealership Event—Charlie Alfano & Brian Wampler
- May 31st—SLO Consours—Kruger/Blair/Leamon
- June—No Event Planned
- July 18th—Lompoc Mural Tour—Rich and Mary Nohr
- August 22nd—Annual Picture Rally—Wampler
- September—Octoberfest—Host/Planner Needed
- October 24th—Butterflies & Burgers—Lew & Lanie Stier
- November 14th—Annual Planning/Corporate Meeting—Wampler
- December 6th—Christmas Party Dinner—Agon

### Newsletter Advertising Policy

- Business Card Size Ad: \$25 per year for members
- Quarter Page Ad: \$50 per year for members
- Half Page Ad: \$100 per year for members
- Full Page Ad: \$200 per year for members
- Non-members are charged twice the member rate



**Carol Agon (left) being presented with Member of the Year award by Brian Wampler (Section President, right); and Jami Wampler (middle)**

# CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE UPPER CRUST—Carol Agon

A great time was had by all at the Upper Crust. We had a delicious dinner and a white elephant exchange which was full of laughs! Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to the next Christmas dinner and get-together! Thanks to Carol for all the planning!



# CHRISTMAS PARTY AT THE UPPER CRUST—Carol Agon



Thanks you Mary Nohr for the great Christmas party pictures!!!

Brian Wampler receiving the Certificate of Appreciation from Regional Director, Allen Wren (Thank you Gene Kruger for standing in for Allen to serve the award)



## MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON—Rich Leamon & Sally

A hearty group of 25 Mercedes enthusiasts gathered at the Madonna Inn at 9:30am on Sat February 7th. We were blessed that morning with a rare event, a rain storm! None-the-less the rally master started off 11 cars on a fun rally designed by rally master, Rich Leamon to gather information from signs we drove by with tricky questions such as, "What is the mood of the traffic ahead?" (cross traffic ahead), and "What grade did the road receive?" (a 6% grade). The rally was also to be done in a certain time and completed with a precise number of miles that were part of the score as well as answering those rather unique questions. We ended at the Elephant Seal rookery, where some brave souls exited the shelter of their vehicles to view the massive animals and their much smaller babies.



We then proceeded to have a delicious luncheon at Linn's in Cambria with a choice of a Hearst Ranch burger and fries, a quiche with fruit, a turkey panini sandwich or a cobb salad plus a piece of apple or Olallieberry pie ala-mode for dessert. Aaron Linn, the founder's son and current chief of operations of the business was kind enough to share a bit of the history and the current operations i.e. they now make the berry jam for Knotts in addition to their own label. The tables were decorated with pink and red hearts and a few chocolate ones in anticipation of the upcoming Valentine's Day. The food was yummy!

The rally winners were Gert and Joyce Gehlhaar in first place, driving their Lincoln town car rather than their 1956 180D, due to the inclement weather conditions. The Wampler 3 in second place and Mary Nohr and her guest Kathleen Graves in third. (Note, the woman's Nohr/Grave team beat out the male Nohr/Grave team). The winners received a bottle of Mercedes private label wine.

**MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON Cont.**



**MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON Cont.**



**MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON Cont.**



**MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON Cont.**



**MEMBER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON Cont.**



## NATIONAL NEWS

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES *By*

*Mike Regennitter, MBCA Executive Director*

It has been a busy year at Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA). We have been working hard to enhance your membership experience and are committed to making your membership a valuable and memorable experience.

To properly serve our members, the Board of Directors has approved \$6 increase in annual membership dues, effective July 1, 2015. This increase reflects rising costs and expansion of member services, particularly event support. Multi-year membership discounts will continue to be offered. We encourage all existing members to lock in the current rate by renewing for one, two or three years prior to July 1, 2015.

**MBCA sponsors National and Regional events** offer a variety of activities that celebrate the performance and history of our members' magnificent Mercedes-Benz automobiles. Through these events, MBCA continues to foster community and camaraderie that long-lasting friendships are built upon. MBCA also continues to provide additional support such as event and track insurance, operational resources like MotorsportsReg.com and marketing initiatives, all of which help advance the safety and participation of club activities.

**MBCA is a content leader in the Mercedes-Benz brand.** Consider MBCA's abundance of accessible information and knowledge, which is found in the award winning *The Star*® Magazine, experienced at events and discovered online. MBCA continues to work tirelessly to bring you the latest information on late-model and vintage Mercedes-Benz vehicles. MBCA is also continuing to expand the network of product experts dedicated to bringing you the latest in technical innovations, updates and insights.

**MBCA provides numerous savings opportunities for its members.** MBCA continues to offer discounts on the purchase of a new Mercedes-Benz parts, service and accessories from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center and at participating Mercedes-Benz dealers. MBCA also offers discounts on the purchase of Airstream Interstate and Autobahn vehicles, collector car insurance, discount on parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center, Sears®, and car rentals. MBCA continues to partner with quality vendors, which offer members a significant way to save money on the products they already purchase.

We value your membership and are constantly striving to enhance your MBCA experience. We are committed to providing unprecedented value and we look forward to serving you for many years to come.

If you have any question specific to the membership dues increase please contact Regional Director Allen Wrenn, ([mbcawestrtd@comcast.net](mailto:mbcawestrtd@comcast.net)).

### Regional Director's Message

This message is intended to provide more details about our Club dues being increased, as announced in an accompanying article prepared by our National Business Office.

The dues structure of our Club will be revised effective July 1, 2015. Confirming that action was among the business conducted at the National Board Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia.

Your National Board met on November 14 and 15 as part of the Annual Meeting of the Club Membership. Restructuring the dues means, in simpler language, that our Club dues

## NATIONAL NEWS CONT.

member signs up for two or three years.

In surveys conducted with our Club members there have been recurring things that stand out as benefits our members treasure or want enhanced. In order to make the enhancements we need more income.

Many members have cited the most valuable benefit of their membership as being our award-winning Club magazine *The Star*. To further enhance the magazine's quality and coverage, its budget is being enhanced. Part of the additional funding will allow Editor Gary Anderson to draw on a larger group of contributing editors. It will also provide for increases in staff allocations to the magazine, thus making it an even better publication.

Another addition to the budget is being allocated to various national committees. This allocation will provide added funding primarily for the Performance Driving, Concours and Enthusiast Committees.

The Performance Driving Committee is one that members in the Western Region have not had opportunity to take advantage of, because our Sections have not scheduled any events that involve that group. In other Regions there will be at least seven events scheduled in 2015 that will involve this committee. The committee will also be involved in providing driving instruction at several Club track events.

The Concours Committee's funding will be enhanced to allow additional opportunities to provide training for Club members to be judges at concours at varying levels. This is an activity that some of our Region's members have participated in during the past year or so, and is an activity that is always received with enthusiasm.

The Enthusiast Committee will be hosting a variety of events in the coming year, and will have additional funding provided to offset the cost to participants at those events.

In addition to the major added funding described above, there will be allocations across various categories to offset the growing cost of doing business, similar to the added costs all of our daily non-MBCA lives.

When dues increases like this are effective, there are usually some members who believe they are warranted. And some will want to make comparisons to the dues of other automobile clubs. Dues are not out of line with other clubs' dues. Other national clubs require their members to pay an additional fee for belonging to a local section. In MBCA we do not have those two additional fees – it is automatically included in a membership. Some national clubs do not have a magazine. Those that do have a magazine do not produce one that matches the quality of *The Star*.

When you read the "official notification" of the dues change, I hope the information I have provided will help you better understand the need for this dues increase. The action was not arrived at lightly, but it was an action that I voted in favor of after considering everything that was presented to the Board of Directors.

Remember, enjoy those Star Cars.



cost of do-  
us face in

ed, there  
are not  
compari-  
MBCA  
Also, some  
pay an ad-  
and for an  
charge  
included  
have a  
certainly  
of The

ALLEN WRENN, Director, Western Region

## ADVERTISEMENTS

### Advertise in our Newsletter for

- Business Card Size Ad: \$25 per year for members
- Quarter Page Ad: \$50 per year for members
- Half Page Ad: \$100 per year for members
- Full Page Ad: \$200 per year for members
- Non-members are charged twice the member rate



**NEW LOW PRICE!**

Members, Officers, Volunteers & Enthusiasts  
**Order Your MBCA Business Cards!**

Introduce your friends, co-workers, mechanics or ANY Mercedes-Benz enthusiast to MBCA with these high-quality business cards

- Official MBCA colors (PMS 282 blue & white)
- High-quality 16-point coated card stock
- Membership benefits & contact information on back

Price ~~\$76 for 500 or \$60 for 250~~

**NEW Low Price**  
\$33 for 500 or \$28 for 250

**Mercedes-Benz Club of America**  
More Than a Car Club. We're a Community™

- Defensive & performance driving
- Local, regional & national car shows
- Technical seminars & driving schools
- Discounts at participating Dealerships
- Restoration & maintenance advice from brand experts
- Enthusiasts in local Section throughout North America
- Subscription to our award-winning magazine, The Star®

Learn more @ [mbca.org](http://mbca.org) | 800.637.2360

**To Order**  
Call or email Debbie Gonzales, Membership Services Associate, at the National Business Office



Debbie@mbca.org  
or 800.637.2360  
Mon-Fri 9am-2pm Mtn Time

Order your MBCA Name Badge  
- \$10 each



LOG IN FIRST, THEN  
[www.mbca.org/product/name-badge](http://www.mbca.org/product/name-badge) or call the MBCA office at (800) 637-2360

**Carol Agon, Realtor Broker**  
**(805) 610-1043**

[www.CarolAgon.com](http://www.CarolAgon.com)

[info@carolagon.com](mailto:info@carolagon.com)

**TOP PRODUCING AGENT**

**Always "MB" Quality Service**

**Prudential Hallmark Realty**

**Mercedes Benz Central Coast Section**

**March 2015**



**Seal Rookery - Piedras Blancas - CA Hwy 1**



**Brian, (our President) and Jami Wampler on car Rallye on Member Appreciation Event**