



Der Drei-Eck Wanderer

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

March 2016

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

- F Bailey** Jan 20
- Alfred Abken** Jan 24

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE —Yvonne Lazear

Greetings CC Benzlers!

Before retiring from work at the end of 2012, I was honestly a little worried about myself. I had worked since I was 14 and wasn't sure that I had enough outside interests to keep me busy, especially knowing that we would immediately move from Redondo Beach, to the small town of Morro Bay into our retirement home. Boy, was I wrong to be concerned! I have met lots of new friends, I keep busy and am always learning something new. Oh yeah, and most of all, I don't miss work!



One benefit of joining the Mercedes Club, when we first moved here, was to meet new great people. Since clubs have a considerable number of members, I was bound to hit it off with some of them. Also it's nice to have an excuse to get out of the house and go to Mercedes events. Seems like the more I do, the more energy I have. There are plenty of opportunities to discuss cars and learn more about them, but also to learn what are the best restaurants, or best wineries, and more! I've found that the most useful part of the Mercedes club is the upfront planning that the organizers do to arrange the events. I've been to places that I wouldn't have gone to otherwise because I just didn't even know they existed! Our members are encouraged to visit varied and unusual venues which enhances both experience and enjoyment. Since I've joined the club, the food and accommodations have been great. These events provide a relaxed environment, full of others who are equally as eager to form new acquaintances and do fun things. You can avoid any organizational stress since the events are all prearranged, – all you have to do is show up. Being a member automatically gives me a feeling of closeness to other members as we get to share experiences that other people are not a part of.

It's amazing to me how many new members already know our Mercedes members because they've met them somewhere else. Our club offer an excellent opportunity to network, both on a business and social scale. Friends you make there will introduce you to other people that they know; you may even meet your partner this way! Every member is welcome – even encouraged – to attend any of the other Mercedes clubs in any region across the United States. This means instant friends in both one's own community and in the world community. I especially like our joint meetings where we get to join up with other sections. It's fun to get their perspective and their local knowledge.

I have found that it's really fun spending my time with others. You can't beat sitting round the table after a great day on a rally exchanging stories of our epic adventures!

Editor's Note: Submissions and corrections to the *Newsletter* are welcome!. You may e-mail your written material or digital photos to Yvonne Lazear at ylazear@gmail.com

All submissions are subject to editing for content and space.

2016 Calendar of Events

March 19, Caravan & Justin Wine tasting, Event is Filled

April 16, Tour of Mercedes-Benz Long Beach Vehicle Preparation Center

May 6-8, Western Region Redwood Road Rally—Cancelled

May 20-22 Southwest Regional Solvang Event (With and Without Lodging)

July 16, Picture Rally

Memo: Aug 19, Legends of the Autobahn & Aug 21 Pebble Beach Concours

August 27, Mullin Automotive Museum (Oxnard, CA)

September 24, Oktoberfest

October 29, Pumpkin Pursuit

November 12, Business and 2017 Planning Meeting

December 4, Holiday Party

Dates and Events are Subject to Change

COMING: March 19, Caravan & Justin Wine tasting

Caravan

Departs @ 9:30 am
Madonna Inn
100 Madonna Rd
San Luis Obispo, CA

Private Tasting:

11:00 am-1:00 pm, \$25/pp
Justin Vineyards
11680 Chimney Rock Road
Paso Robles, CA

Lunch:

1:30 pm-2:30 pm on your own
The Restaurant at JUSTIN
Menu items \$10-\$28

Join us at JUSTIN Vineyards for a private ISOSCELES tasting followed by lunch at The Restaurant at JUSTIN. A scenic caravan tour to JUSTIN will depart the Madonna Inn at 9:30 am, or you may arrive at Justin on your own at 11:00 am on Saturday, March 19, 2016. Yvonne & I are hosting this special reception a tasting at the Cateau, not available to the public, conducted by Mr. Jim Gerakaris, CSW. Jim is Justin's Sommelier, and a close friend of ours. JUSTIN is perhaps the best know winery in the Paso Robles appellation and is famous for its fine wines with intense flavor and great structure. Their location with Bordeaux warm days and cool nights allows JUSTIN to make great lent in the style wines rather than the Rhone style wine most prevalent in the eastern portion of the Paso Robles appellation.



2014 MBCA CC Event

Advertise in our Newsletter!

- 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



**Order your
MBCA Name
Badge - \$10 each**

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

COMING: April 16, Tour of Mercedes-Benz Long Beach Vehicle Preparation Center



April event presented by:

Alfano Motorcars

Have you ever wondered how your Mercedes-Benz made its way from Germany to your local dealership? Join Charlie & Audrey for a private tour of the Mercedes-Benz Long Beach VPC. (Vehicle Preparation Center) The vehicle preparation center serves as the first stop – after U.S. Customs – for new vehicles that are destined for dealerships throughout the U.S. The facilities inspect and prepare vehicles for sale. The center also is capable of accessory installation, full body shop preparation and detailing.

Saturday, April 16th

10am-12pm

(Tour will start promptly at 10 so please arrive a few min. early!)

VPC

Mercedes-Benz USA

3860 N. Lakewood Blvd.

Long Beach, CA. 90808

RSVP no later than 3/16 to Audrey Alfano

805-543-5752

audrey@alfanomotorcars.com

This RSVP date is for the event. See hotel info below!

ALFANO
MOTORCARS, INC.

- Wear comfortable shoes, approx. 40 min. of walking
- Handful of eateries across the street if we want to have lunch following the tour

Important this is the same weekend as the Long Beach Grand Prix. If you are trying to get a hotel in Long Beach, it will be slim pickings with very strict cancelations. The hotel across the street from our event, Courtyard Marriott Long Beach will hold a handful of rooms for me (\$170 for the night before, 4/15) but I need to know by this Friday 2/12 if you would like one these rooms. **They are pre-pay and no refund.** After this Friday you are on your own for a hotel.

Cancelled: Western Regional Road Rally, Allen Wrenn

The Regional Redwood Road Rally scheduled for May 6 – 8 has been canceled. Costs for the weekend came to be too expensive to make the event attractive to most members. Extended negotiations with the weekend's hotels and restaurants have not produced significant reductions in their charges, so the decision was made to cancel the event.

This Road Rally was to have led participants along a series of highways and back roads to enjoy the scenery of California's Far North. The drive would have been through the mountains north of Fairfield, west to the coast at Fort Bragg, north through the Redwood Parks and on to the Victorian Town of Ferndale. Overnight accommodations and most meals were to have been at the Historic Benbow Inn and the Scotia Inn.

The event was being planned by Western Region Director Allen Wrenn. He expresses his apologies to anyone who scheduled their time so they could participate in the event. He also expresses his disappointment that he had to make the decision to cancel what would have been a fun-filled weekend.

NATIONAL NEWS

StarFest 2016 National Event Hosted by Minuteman—Join us in New England on August 3-6. StarFest will take place in Connecticut's "Quiet Corner" with lush Green Valleys and picturesque Hilltop Farms. 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. **Registration is open at: <http://starfest2016.mbca.org/registration>**



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**COMING: May 20-22 Southwest Regional Solvang Event
(With and Without Lodging) **RSVP by April 16, 2016****

**Mercedes Benz Club of America
Southwest Regional Event
May 20-22, 2016**



Hosted by the Channel Islands & Long Beach Sections
Join us in the Solvang Valley north of Santa Barbara, Ca. for a fun-filled weekend.
Bring your Mercedes Benz to enjoy the spectacular scenery this area has to offer.
Host Hotel: Anderson Inn, 51 East Highway 246, Buellton, CA 93427

Participants will meet at 9:00 am Saturday morning in the hotel lobby for a detailed itinerary.

Highlights include:

- Welcome reception Friday evening
- Rally through the picturesque wine region
- People's choice Concours D'Elegance with catered BBQ lunch at a winery
- Banquet dinner at a local restaurant
- Awards for Rally and Concours winners
- Raffle drawing with prizes
- Private tour of Mendenhall's Museum of Petroliana and Gasoline Pumps
- Commemorative wine glasses



This weekend also has free time to visit the following nearby attractions:

- 2 California missions
- Chumash Indian Casino
- Shopping in the Danish village of Solvang
- Santa Barbara Riviera

	Friday & Saturday Night Lodging	Saturday Night Only Lodging	Without Lodging
2 Participants	\$495.00	\$360.00	\$225.00
1 Participant	\$390.00	\$255.00	\$120.00

Registration and payment must arrive by April 16, 2016 (see below for Registration Form)
For any questions contact Gerhard Fehrmann at fehrmannranch@msn.com or 714-425-1036

Solvang Southwest Regional Event
May 20-22, 2016

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone Number: _____ Day/Night Email Address: _____

Make your check payable to **MBCA** and mail to:
 MBCA, P.O. Box 30132, Long Beach, CA 90853

Past: February 13 Rally and Member Appreciation Lunch—Sally Kruger and Rich Leamon

On Saturday February 13th, 11 cars with 22 people gathered at the Madonna Inn to drive forth on rally master, Rich Lemon's, challenging rally! We were rewarded with gorgeous scenery and were asked to drive the appointed route in a certain time and in a precise number of miles. Along the way, we also had our eyes peeled to answer some interesting questions (i.e. How many railroad tracks did you cross over? How many fire stations did you pass?). We drove about 50 miles including a memorable trip on Rossi's driveway. The Pescatore Pistoleros won the trophy, a bottle of local wine, for coming in exactly at 1:08 hours and only 0.1 mi off the perfect distance for a score of 99.9 points. Congratulations Sharon and Rich! The Blair Blasters and the Killer Kruger's were both totally lost and found each other in down town Paso Robles. In an odd twist of fate, the Blasters actually won the first place prize for the most questions answered correctly. And remarkably enough, the Kruger's came in second in the time/mileage category in spite of being totally lost and not completing the rally on the appropriate route! Allen Wrenn, our Western Region MB director, & his friend, Patti Hoffman won the prize for the worst answer on the rally questions!



Allen Wrenn, our Western Region MB director, & his friend, Patti Hoffman won the prize for the worst answer on the rally questions! Congratulations; it made it worth their trip all the way from Sacramento! Thanks to Rich for designing such a fun and challenging rally!



Past: Feb 13 Rally and Member Appreciation Cont.

We all met at the Hunter Ranch Golf Club and restaurant on E Highway 46 for a wonderful lunch of either Cobb salad, fish tacos, Kobe burger or Da Vinci sandwich. We were served outside on the shaded patio on this quite warm day. The yummy meal was polished off with homemade cookies and chocolate hearts that were decorating the table.

We had two couples joining us for the first time. They both just met us at lunch and didn't drive the rally (maybe Rich's reputation as rally master has proceeded him?) We warmly welcomed Kathy & Ed Wetzel (top right), and also George Shepherd & Judy Kambestaad (2nd down on right) who were attending their first event with our club. They both received a bottle of wine, and we hope to see more of them. And talk about beginner's luck...Judy Kambestaad (3rd down on right) won the 50/50 drawing so she went home an extremely happy member!

A great time was had by all!



Mercedes Benz Central Coast Section

March 2016

NICE CAR Gene Kruger!!



Coming!! Central Coast Events

**Justin Winery, Paso
Robles, March 19;
Hosted by Central Coast
Section**



**Mercedes-Benz Long Beach Vehicle
Preparation Center
April 16**



Mercedes-Benz USA West Coast Campus
Long Beach, California