



the STAR

capitol

The MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of America • Sacramento Section

July 2002

Calendar Of Events

August 24 2002

Sacramento City Cemetary
Hank & Anne Pezzetti (916) 687-4692

September 2002

4th Annual Poker Run
Darryl & Debbie Kielich (916) 684-7855

October 2002

Oktoberfest
Kevin & Gloria McKnight
(916)721-1579

November 2002

Planning Meeting

December 14, 2002

Christmas Party
Casa de los Ninos
Sandra Reese & Barbara Taloff

January 2003

Kings Basketball
John & Joyce Dupriest (916)933-2185

Old City Cemetery August 24, 2002 10AM

Imagine our surprise when relatives from out of town asked us to take them to see the Old City Cemetery in Sacramento. Our relatives had read about the Cemetery in the Los Angeles Times. The article described the cemetery as a "must see" in Sacramento, focusing on the historic rose garden. Skeptical, but not wanting to disappoint our relatives, off we went, packed into a brand new German sedan (the Munich variety) headed for the cemetery. Upon arrival, we soon discovered that the roses had pretty much finished blooming. Disappointed, we decided to walk around a little bit and then head home. Three hours later we hadn't covered the entire Cemetery but had to leave because the Cemetery was closing.

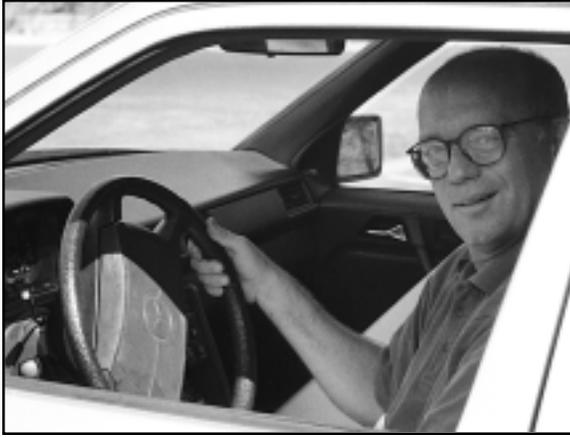
The Old City Cemetery was established in 1849 during the Gold Rush, and is the final resting place of many of the city's pioneers. It is the final resting place of John A. Sutter, Jr., founder of the city of Sacramento; Edwin Bryant Crocker, patron of the arts; and Mark Hopkins, of railroad fame. The layout of the Cemetery is unique and quite beautiful. It is like no other cemetery that we have ever visited. The Cemetery has been restored by a group of dedicated volunteers. As plots and markers were restored, the volunteers noticed that many original plants had survived. These plants have been restored and the Cemetery is now one of the most spectacular public gardens in California.

We highly recommend a tour of the Old City Cemetery.

Tom & Inga Bourdon

Directions: The Sacramento City Cemetery is at the intersection of Broadway and Riverside. Take the 15th street offramp on Business 80 - north to Broadway. Turn West on Broadway - Riverside is less than 1 mile away. Turn left on Riverside; the entrance is just 100 yards up Riverside.

Bill Brandt



President's Message

by: Bill Brandt

We just finished the rally that Tom & Inga planned so well – we'll have a write up for it with the next issue. If you missed this rally you missed some beautiful scenery along some of the less traveled roads of Napa county. We were honored by the presence of past national President **Al Funkhouser**. Wife **Betty** said that he is a lot better after his serious illness. They were joined by long time friends **Paul & Alvina Zakel**. Read about the write up in the next issue...

StarTech 2003 is progressing nicely. When we as a Board agreed to host this event, it was my intent to document the process by which a StarTech is planned. One thing that I feared – perhaps loath is a more accurate term – is the typical meeting where inconsequential issues are hashed for hours ad nauseum.

I'm happy to report that our meetings are anything but boring. They are relaxed, and I believe we all could agree on the term controlled chaos. There

might be 2 or 3 discussions going on simultaneously – but Tom & Inga have goals and we accomplish them!

We couldn't ask for better people to chair this event.

Here's what's happening so far. StarTech committee chairman **Andrew Nelson** is sending us the financial data for the last StarTech – held in 2001 in Colorado Springs. For this upcoming meeting this Monday (I'm writing this the previous Wednesday) – we'll decide what to charge for the vendors.

Star Publisher **Frank Barrett** is compiling a list for us with contacts for advertisers in the *Star* Magazine. We are starting to identify jobs to be done in the future for those of you who wish to volunteer.

Bobbie Larson will help **Darryl Kielich** in getting sponsors and vendors. **Craig Griffith** will create the StarTech 2003 web site when we are ready. Other members wishing to volunteer are **Kevin & Gloria McKnight, Carlos Rodriguez, and Herb and Jane Cygan**. I met Herb & Jane at the Uncorked rally and found

we had something else in common – We were both stationed in Germany with the Army at the same time!

Hank Pezzetti will be putting the brochure for StarTech 2003 together...

We decided that instead of offering a discount for attendees for early registration, we'll limit to the first 100 a guaranteed ride in one of the NECARS.

At least one of these cars will be inside the Hyatt on display.

I had lunch with **Erhardt Krause** last week, and I discussed with him the idea of my putting out publicity for the news media. If anyone knows the news business in our Section it is Erhardt! He has worked as a photographer for the *Sacramento Bee* for, well, a long time.

So I believe that StarTech 2003 is going to be a resounding success, thanks to the great team we have. If you'd like to volunteer for anything in the future, give Tom or Inga a call!

Bill

Contact Information for "the Capitol STAR"

Submit articles to:
 Bill Brandt
 5910 Gloria Dr.
 Sacramento, CA 95822
 e-mail: wlb@lanset.com

For changes to articles or ads:
 Chris Dudge
 (775) 673-1433
 e-mail: cdudge@ao.net

New article ideas:
 Bill Brandt
 5910 Gloria Dr.
 Sacramento, CA 95822
 e-mail: wlb@lanset.com

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

Deadline for changes to articles or ads is approximately the 26th of each month.

Unveiling the Best

September 14th, 7-10PM

Our friends at Mercedes-Benz of Sacramento have for many years hosted an annual charity event that benefits the Shriner's Children's Hospital and Meals a la Car. If you've never attended this event you have missed out! Not only do you have a great time, but you help 2 great organizations!

Just to see how they transform a modern 20+ bay shop into "Party Central" is worth the trip – come and sample some of the best food and wine from the best restaurants and vintners in the area!

It's the only time of the year where you can have your dinner from 15-20 different restaurants and 5-10 different wineries!

Among the restaurants this year – **Capital City Catering, Mace's, Sterling Catering, Cliff House....**

Wineries include **Montevina** (are you listening Bobbie!), **Sonora Winery and Port Works, Michael-David Vineyards....**

There'll be live music by **The Steve Homan Group** and **Sugar Boogie**.

Some of our members will be exhibiting their cars there, too! I hope you will come out and support a worthy cause. You'll have fun doing it! Tickets are \$55 in advance, or \$65 at the door. Call Mercedes-Benz of Sacramento at (916) 924-8000, or on the web at www.vonhousen.com

Bill Brandt



Mercedes-Benz of Sacramento

1810 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825
(916) 924-8000



M-Class Cap
100% Cotton
\$18.50 to \$20



M-Class Shirt
100% Cotton Polos
\$68 to \$74



Stainless Steel with
Quartz Movement
\$170



Car Care Kit
\$98



Velour Floor Mats
\$71 to \$110



Infant
\$158



Toddler
\$140



Child Booster
\$163

**Parts Department is open to serve our clients
Monday thru Friday from 7:30 am – 6:00 pm
&
Saturdays from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**

4th Annual Poker Run

September 28, 2002

Here we go again, another year another Poker Run. So far it looks like we will have the first car out from Mercedes Benz of Sacramento (Von Housen Motors) at 9:00, be a little early if you can for coffee and donuts. Like all of the previous years we will head up towards the gold country. This year we might try a different destination because some people who have made the event before were starting to refuse the directions (been there, done that). I have been talking to the kind people at The Jackson Rancheria for accommodations and they have a room that holds the right amount and we can take advantage of their buffet that is going on at the time. They feature many great entrées including Prime Rib.

As in years before I will have directions for you to follow and locations of where you can pick up the playing cards that will make up your Poker hand. The person with the best hand (Hoyle Rules) when the event is over will win a nice gift. I will throw in a little twist at the end just to make it interesting.

The price for this years event looks like a CHEAP \$15.00 per person. I hope that everyone can make the event to enjoy a little fun and a lot of food.

Please note- Details may change as nothing is locked in at this moment. No matter what plan to attend for a good time.

Hope to see you there...Happy Motoring
Darryl C. Kielich

Registration Coupon 4th Annual Poker Run
September 28, 2002

Name _____

Number Attending _____ @ \$15.00 Total _____

Send To:

Darryl Kielich
9426 Fox Glen Way
Elk Grove, CA 95758

2002 Nevada Open Road Challenge

Lessons learned last year were applied to the Nevada Open Road Challenge of May 19th. This year my brother Chris and I gave it a go on the section of Highway 318.

The course is a 90 mile stretch of road that runs between Lund and Hiko Nevada. This is where the Guinness Book of World Records shows the record of the fastest race on an open highway. The current record still stands at 207+ MPH for an average of the 90 miles, with the top speeds reaching close to 240 MPH. This year nobody came close to the record because of high winds over the entire 90 miles.

I took my 280SLC up one class from 105 MPH to the 110 MPH. That means that over the entire course I need to average exactly 110 MPH. During the run in this class nobody can go over 124MPH, this is known as the tech speed. The slowest that you can be moving on the course at any time is 80 MPH because of the closure rate. This class is one of the most popular because it is the fastest class that you can run a grocery getter type car. Put in a fire extinguisher in the old wagon and your just about ready to go.

I learned from last year *NOT* to put any information down on the course time sheets that you don't need. When you're at speed it just gets to confusing to try to keep up with all of that information, The K.I.S.S. method works the best "Keep It Simple Stupid".

This year we had to carry our luggage with us in the car, I did not plan for this because last year they provided transportation for the unwanted weight. I had brought a lap top computer, printer and chairs...plus a file drawer to keep every thing in order. Let's not forget a weeks worth of clothes. Thank God my Brother packed light because after we filled the trunk with everything the only way you would get anything more in there would be if it were a liquid. Lets add to this some very strong winds while we were making our pass made it so the first half of the race the peddle was set to cruise control, that means it was stuck to the floor. We banked a lot of time because we thought that in the Narrows (the tightest turns on the course) we would need to slow down due to the wind. When we got there everything felt really good so I stayed at speed plus a little more (110+). With the trunk full the rear of my little SLC started to hop a bit in the rear end, so I could not see what it really could do in the curves this year. When we finished that part of the course we really needed to slow down because we were even more ahead on time. With the finish line approaching fast, we needed to slow down more, but if I went below 80 MPH I would be disqualified because of the minimum speed rule. As it turned out I went across the finish line at 80 MPH (last year 123MPH) and we were 8 Seconds to early. This year First place went to D.B. Tanner Driving a Porsche Boxster at a speed of exactly 110 MPH and the time off from perfect was .008. That translates to about 14 inches of error after 90 miles. Jay and Jan O'Brian with their Mercedes E420 took second place with an excellent average speed of 110.006 MPH with a time error of only .006 of a second. That average speed almost any other time would win the event. As you can see my average speed of 110.300 MPH and an error time of 8.004 seconds was not even close.

I have done this twice now and can't wait until next year, I don't know if it will be this SLC because after the Shriner's event this beauty will be **FOR SALE**. One thing I do know is that "I Will Be Back".

There is a saying "There Is Always Next Year" and I'll be there again trying to get just that much better to win that elusive 1st place trophies.

Happy motoring.

Darryl C Kielich

Join MBCA

To join the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, call the MBCA National Business Office at (800) 637-2360 and use your VISA or MasterCard. Membership dues are \$45 annually. The dues include six issues of "The STAR" each year, plus your local section's newsletter (like this one). To pay by mail, make your check payable to MBCA, and mail it along with your name, spouse's name, address and telephone numbers and occupations to:

**Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.
National Business Office
1907 Lelaray Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80909**

Or, ask a member for an application. You can also join by visiting MBCA on the Web:

<http://www.mbcas.org>

Also, check out our local web site:

<http://www.mbcas.org/sacramento>



Welcome New Members

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Raymond Blacklock | Redding, CA |
| Fay Coleman | Sacramento, CA |
| Remo Deregibus | Carmichael, CA |
| Ken Reynolds | |
| Catherine Taylor | El Dorado Hills, CA |
| Connie & Michael Ross | Susanville, CA |

Order your MBCA name badge at the club store in the Star Magazine

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Sacramento Section Officers • 2001-2002

- | | | |
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| Past President | Iris Matthews | |

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Mercedes Mart

This column is the Sacramento Section's want ads. The vehicles must be Mercedes. Mercedes accessories are also accepted. The ads will be printed for 3 months, at which time the seller must renew them. Cost for Sacramento Section members is free – Free space will also be given to MBCA members of other Sections on a space available basis. Non-members can advertise here for \$30 for 3 months. If you are a non-member, you may wish to join MBCA since you can also advertise in our national magazine *The Star* at no charge. We have a circulation of 450 members. Send a copy of your ad, including your name and phone number, to Bill Brandt, 5910 Gloria Drive, Sacramento CA or email wlb@lanset.com.

1981 240D - A/C, 4 speed, 292,000 miles

Mario

(530) 757-1225 after 7PM

1980 300SD Ivory w/ dark brown interior. 241k miles. Rebuilt motor, new front rotors & pads, A/C blows cold. Very presentable, reliable car. \$3800 OBO.

TOMEGGER

H#(209)545-1481 W#(209)527-0902

◆◆◆

1995 C36 AMG 57,000mls. blk/blk new Dunlops, \$25,000

Tom - (530) 432 9673

◆◆◆

1997 E320, 64k miles. \$27,000 in very good condition. Mid Blue/Saddle. CD,Phone, fully loaded.

(916) 454-2857

◆◆◆

1992 600SEL Excellent Condition

Only reason for selling - my wife wanted a smaller car so we got a CLK430. White/Gray. This car has the 2000 S Class wheels. Has been maintained impeccably. \$24,900

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Roseville's Finest German Car & Volvo Service Center

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1998 SLK, Arctic white with salsa (red) leather interior, spotless, mint condition, MBZ Dealer-maintained, 22,500 miles, Original Owner: Non-smoking female. Sale includes custom car cover and all service records. **\$29,000 obo**

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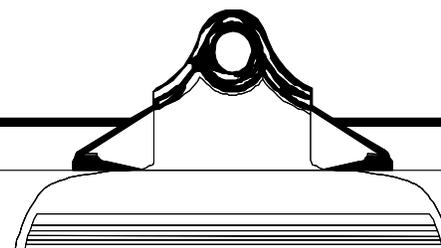
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Important!

If you are planning on moving, or your
address is not correct on your mailing label,
the following information should help.

Please send address changes directly to:

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Colorado Springs, CO 80909-2872

Or Call: 1-800-637-2360

We cannot make changes locally!