



the STAR

capitol

The MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of America • Sacramento Section February 2003

Calendar Of Events

March 8, 2003

Penryn Promenade IV
John & Joyce Dupriest
(916) 933-2185

April 25-27, 2003

StarTech 2003
Sacramento Section
Tom & Inga Bourdon
(707) 864-0567

May 2003

Amador Rally
Hank & Anne Pezzetti
(916) 687-4792

June 8, 2003

Shriner's Concours
Bob & Alice Cottam
(916) 349-1013

July 2003

Tech Session
Bobbie Larson
(916) 714-2544

August 2003

Navada Tour
Dayton McDonald
((775) 852-2720

September 2003

Poker Run
Darryl & Debbie Kielich

October 2003

Oktoberfest
Kevin & Gloria McKnight

December 2003

Christmas Party
Bobbie Larson

Penryn Promenade IV

Saturday, March 8, 2003

The last Penryn Promenade was in 1985. So it is time to revisit the experience. This will not be the usual DuPriest rallye – ugly, vicious, deceptive, cruel – but it will be “entertaining” enough so as to avoid boredom. It will be much shorter than normal and so will be an excellent chance for folks who are new to rallyes to get a feel for the real thing.

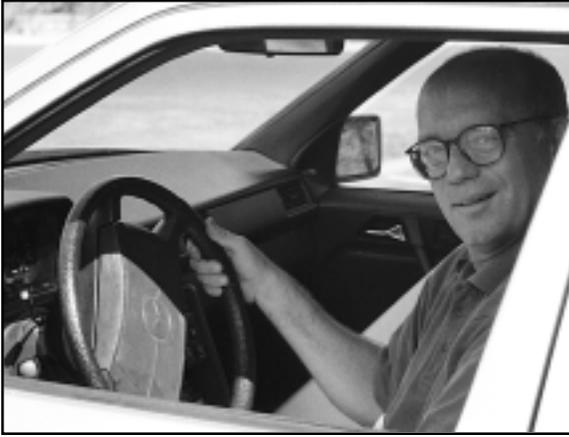
There will be hints, clues, possibly a photo or three and pointed directions to get from the starting line to the finish in roughly a couple of hours. We are going to try to beg, borrow or steal some prizes to make it tempting.

We will meet at Denny's Restaurant at Sunrise & Greenback in Citrus Heights in time to depart between 10:00 & 10:14 AM. We will end up at a Roseville restaurant for lunch so go easy on the biscuits & gravy at Denny's.

Cost is \$15 per person which includes tax, tip and dealer prep for a really great lunch in beautiful surroundings. Menu choices are on the reservation slip. Two cautions; this is being held the first weekend in the month and we are limited to 48 people. So do not procrastinate.

Make checks payable to; “MBCA-Sacramento Section” and mail together with completed registration form to Joyce or John DuPriest, PO Box 121, Penryn, CA 95663.

Questions? 916/933-2185



President's Message

by: Bill Brandt

52 going on 12....I had the pleasure a few weeks ago of meeting some members - **John & Barbara Smolich** - for the first time in of all places - a store dedicated to hot rodders and Ford enthusiasts. . John came up to me and asked, "Don't I know you?" Well, he recognized me from the the picture in the newsletter - described by another member long ago as "that bald guy

in the newsletter". Anyway John said that he enjoyed the newsletter - thank you!

There was one detail I neglected to mention during my Russia trip last summer. The first morning on the MS Litvinov - about 6:00 AM - we passed though one of Stalin's finest - one of about 10 locks along the Volga River Waterway. I ran out onto the deck on one of East Germany's finest and faster than you can say "Da" I was on the deck - slipped on the freshly mopped steel. As it turned out one of my lenses on my glasses popped out - and is a permanent feature at the bottom of the lock. I ended up wearing my prescription dark glasses the remaining 2 weeks. I thought of Jake & Ellwood Blues in the Blues brothers.

So last week, I am walking the dogs along our swollen Sacramento River, see a nice stick to throw in the current - and....The stick caught the wire on my headphones - which caught the glasses - and everything went into the river. I have decided that if it costs me an occasional \$300 for new glasses, I will still hold onto the remnant of the child in me... There isn't much left so I really have to hold on to what remains.

John & Joyce Dupriest's original March event was to be a King's basketball game - but tickets in the quantities we needed were impossible to get - so they are bringing back a tradition - Penryn Promenade - it promises to be a blast so - I'll see you there!

Last weekend, we had the January StarTech 2003 brunch, and I told those attendees how proud I was of the Sacramento Section for undertaking this event. We had some members who rarely come to our events, all wanting to volunteer. **Roger Dauffenbach** and **Karen Logan** from Nevada even made the effort to come down and volunteer. Among the other 35 members, **Richard Latimer** and **Bud Hopkins** also showed up. To everyone, we can't do it without *you*. Thank you.

Bill

On Thursday morning, January 23, 2003, we lost our longtime fellow club member, Robert Sanigar. Bob died from complications after undergoing heart by-pass surgery on Monday, January 20th at Mercy San Juan Hospital. Bob was a friend and mechanic to many of us. We shall certainly miss him. A memorial has been scheduled for 6:30pm, February 6, 2003 at Mercedes-Benz of Sacramento, 1810 Howe Ave., Sacramento, Ca. The ceremony will be held in "B" building, which is directly behind the showroom building at the rear of the lot. If there are any questions, please call Sandy Reese at (530) 878-1999

Contact Information for "the Capitol STAR"

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

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

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

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

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

Bob Sanigar 1928-2003

Many of you may not have known but for a period of 4 years and 6-7 days every week I worked with Bob. I wanted to learn all I could about Mercedes automobiles and there was certainly no one better to teach me.

During the time I went there I learned a lot about Mercedes AND Bob. And we had some good laughs. Ginger would say she could hear us across the house! Into the night, Bob would tell stories of his experiences as we worked on everything from Model A Fords to 300SEL 6.3 Mercedes. Bob's preference of course was Mercedes but we did occasionally work on some other marques.

I would describe Bob as one of the few master mechanics. He told me of his apprenticeship in London, where he had to actually manufacture new brakes – riveting the pad material onto the brake. He could view a problem and sometimes see a better solution than the factory manual. Many times he would make his own tool to accomplish the job. He had a keen intellect and could view the problem both from a mechanic's and engineer's point of view. He took pride in his work and ability. He was disdainful of "parts changers" – those who start swapping parts without an understanding of the problem.

And the stories he told of his life! He once told me that he had a rich life, and if he died tomorrow he would be content. He told me of the times in post war London, where he and Ginger would ride a motorcycle at breakneck speeds through the city.

There were his times in the British Army while stationed in Cyprus. I think it's safe to say that Bob always marched to his own drummer, and he had a few run-ins with the Sgt Major there. I was a soldier 20 years later and told him that had we been together we'd probably both be in the stockade, but we'd have had fun!

Many of his stories revolved around a foreign car repair shop and his friends Dee and George Grinzewitsch.

Continued on page 4



Mercedes-Benz of Sacramento

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



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



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Velour Floor Mats
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Infant
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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

On the weekends they would go to race tracks and serve on pit crews for different teams. He told me of meeting young drivers like Stirling Moss and Roger Penske at places like Riverside. Later on, their shop campaigned their own car – called a Pooper – a Porsche powered Cooper. The shop was renowned for the quality of their work. They worked on everything from Maseratis to Mercedes.

One thing Bob tried to impress upon me – is that there was no mystery to an engine. “An engine is an engine, whether it is a V12 Ferrari or a VW – there is no mystery!”

“Well”, I always thought to myself, “maybe to him”. He worked on them all. I never could tell what I’d find in his garage when I got there for the evening. The strangest thing had to be a 30 year old Datsun. Just a worn out Datsun. I razzed him about that for a good week. He told me to keep it a secret, lest it sully his reputation.

The car belonged to a neighbor that Bob wanted to help. He helped another neighbor – rebuilding his Jaguar engine. To many people Bob seemed gruff, but inside he was a very giving person. He had to be, tolerating my sometimes-inane questions for a good 4 years. He gave of himself without fanfare.

I have to also mention his Caribbean days. He was captain of a yacht there for a few years. He had no formal training in seamanship – learning it all on his own. One of his proud achievements was piloting the boat through the Panama Canal – he showed me the certificate.

He told me of an early morning out on the open sea with the water like glass. The sun was just rising, and he was up on the flying bridge. His son Dean put some music on the stereo – a Neil Diamond song from Jonathon Livingston Seagull - called *Skybird*. It was a magical moment in time with the music, the boat gliding and the sun coming up.

Some of his friends asked him “Why do you continue this? – Why not quit?” “There were times I’d be there and he was doing heavy work – with a known heart condition and arthritis. I knew he had to be in some discomfort, but he’d tell me, “You can’t give up”.

He did what he wanted to do.

I suspect the mark of any person’s time here is measured by their influence on you. I know my life is far richer for having known him. And any time I work on my Mercedes, I can thank Bob. I just wish I could have retained more of what he was trying to teach me.

Our condolences go to Ginger, and his sons Steve, Dean and Darin.

Bill Brandt

StarTech 2003 Volunteers Needed

We have had a great response to our requests for volunteers. Thank you to all who have volunteered so far. However, we can still use more help. This really is a case where more is better! We have volunteer opportunities available for each day of StarTech. Time commitments can be as short as 2 hours or as long as the whole day on Saturday. If you are interested in helping to make StarTech 2003 a success please fill out the volunteer form below and we will match your schedule with a volunteer opportunity.

StarTech 2003 Volunteer Form

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____

E Mail _____

Dates & Times I am Available:

Friday April 25th Times _____

Saturday April 26th Times _____

Sunday April 27th Times _____

Mail To:

**Tom & Inga Bourdon
P.O. Box 811
Benicia, CA 94510-0811**

RESERVATION SLIP

Penryn Promenade IV

Saturday, March 8, 2003

Reservation Slip – Deadline in our hands: February 26, 2003

Name(s) _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Make following selections for each person. (If two people want Beef Flauta & Tamale, write "2" in that blank. If one person wants the Flauta and the other the Veggie Enchilada, put a "1" in each blank. Mess-ups will be publicized):

Meal choices: M1: Chicken Enchilada & Chili Rello _____ M2: Beef Flauta & Tamale _____
M3: Veggie Enchilada & Chile Relleno _____ T1: Chicken Enchilada & Chile Verde _____
T2: Two Beef Taquitos & Chile Verde _____ T3: Two Stuffed Jalapenos & Carnitas _____

Drink choices: Drinks are pay as you go.

Number of persons _____ x \$15 = \$ _____ enclosed.

Complete this slip, make a check for the total amount to "MBCA – Sacramento Section" and mail both to;

Joyce or John DuPriest, PO Box 121, Penryn, CA 95663
Questions; 916/933-2185 E-mail: john@dupriest.com

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.mbca.org>

Also, check out our local web site:

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

Welcome New Members

Richard Latimer	Sacramento
Barry & Janet Cuerden	Grass Valley
Alan & Keli Miller	Rocklin
Todd Woolford	Sacramento
Robert Zakar	Gold River, CA
Stephen Norman	Citrus Heights, CA
Stephen & Bjorg Austrheim-Smith	Newcastle, CA
William Manson	Diamond Springs, 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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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.



SL 500 (R-129) Grill for sale.

Perfect condition (except for a small rock scratch), Dealer's regular price \$720 and is stored in the original Box with the Dealers receipt.

Asking price: \$ 175 or offer?

Call: 916- 208-8530 lv. message or

email: rolarson1@aol.com



Rare 1979 Black/Beige "6.9"

beauty and fast too! 139k miles, great condition, meticulously maintained with all records. Asking \$8500

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1985 MBZ 2.3 -16. In 1983 MBZ set a new world record for production sedans: Averaging 154.06 mph night and day to cover 30,070 miles. That's averaging 154 mph. I have the production model of this car, AMG equipped, polished wheels, full leather, Recaro seats, 5-speed manual. Very fast, these cars dominate club driving events. Your chance to own a street-legal world record holder. **\$8,500 OBO.**

Al Weidman, 530/589-2084



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1988 560SL, Hardtop and recent softtop. Used daily and runs well. \$12,500
Ask for David at
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4 Chrome 8 Hole 16" 'MBZ' Wheels with 50% used Pirelli 'Z' Tires for 'E' Class - \$600
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Jim Williams 916 961-5029
email: jmwesqret@aol.com



1970 300SEL 6.3 Silver/Black, 94k miles, good shape, great driver, air suspension, tires, brakes done last year, fuel injection pump done in '99, I'm the second owner and have owned since '92. It's time for an E500/500E! Asking \$7200.

Call Andy @ 530-672-1007 (h)
or 916-439-2232

Email @ andys@comptechusa.com

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Four 215/55R/16 Blizzak WS-50 Winter Radials (3,000 miles) on 96 E320 wheels. Tires alone are \$445 at tirerack.com, all for \$500 OBO.
Tom Moe 916-858-0891

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Tom Moe 916-858-0891



1998 E300D Turbodiesel. 122K carefully driven one owner miles. Only MB dealer serviced. With all service records. Fresh "B" service, new battery, etc. Smoke Silver/ parchment leather, moonroof and Bose stereo. Absolutely immaculate. Must sell now (our 2003 is here). \$22,950 OBO.

Gary Twing (530) 265-4079.



1984 300SD Blue, fair condition. Owner's death forces sale.

\$5000 OBO
and

1969 300SEL 6.3 (two cars) white & silver. Owner's death forces sale.
\$4,000 each or offer
Leroy Brown 916 927-1688

the capitol

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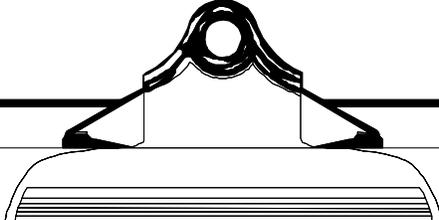
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Important!

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:

MBCA
1907 Lelaray St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909-2872

Or Call: 1-800-637-2360

We cannot make changes locally!