



# the STAR capitol

The MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of America • Sacramento Section January 2002

## DaimlerChrysler Fuel Cell Event

### Calendar Of Events

#### January 26, 2002

DaimlerChrysler Fuel Cell tour  
Bill Brandt (916) 399-1736

#### February 23, 2002

Dinner & Fashion Island Slid Show  
John & Joyce Dupriest (916) 933-2185

#### March 2002

Toy Store OR Blackhawk Museum  
John Patton

#### April 2002

Grand Island Mansion – Sacramento  
River Delta  
Jess & Dee Davis (916) 682-3631

#### May 2002

Regional Driving Event  
California Caverns  
John & Joyce Dupriest (916) 933-2185

#### June 9, 2002

Shriner's Coucours  
Bob Cottam (916) 349-1013  
Amador Wineries  
Bobbie Larson (916) 714-2544

#### July 2002

Rally TBA  
Tom & Inga Bourdon (707) 864-0567

#### August 2002

Roaring Camp – Dinner & Gold Panning  
Hank & Anne Pezzetti (916) 687-4692

#### September 2002

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Poker Run  
Darryl & Debbie Kielich (916) 684-7855

#### October 2002

Oktoberfest  
Kevin & Gloria McKnight  
(916) 721-1579

#### November 2002

Planning Meeting

#### December 2002

Christmas Party  
Open

#### January 2003

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

### January 26, 2002

Last month's event at the Casa de los Ninos had to set a Section record at 77 attendees. This month's event at the DaimlerChrysler test facility has to also set a record. As of today, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 38 people have sent in their reservations! I'm also hearing from some of our members that have a good drive to get here – the Carbonaro's from Suisun City, Dave Chamberlain from Chico, the Gulden's from Redding, and the Smith's from Tahoe City.

I plan on seeing Wolfgang Weiss, the manager of the facility next week but I have to write the article to start the production process today. Imagine an editor who gives his own deadlines.

I'd like you members from the far regions to be able to leave at a decent hour – Redding I know is a good 160 miles from here – so let's have the meeting at 10:00 AM. This of course is subject to Wolfgang's approval!

To get to the DaimlerChrysler facility you'll take the Harbor Blvd exit from I80 – head south – towards the Port of Sacramento. About ¼ mile from the off ramp, you'll see the entrance to the port – turn right. From the turn you'll go about ½ mile until you see the facility on your right – there will be a lot of flags in front.

And if the date has to be changed I'll contact all of those who have sent me their reservation slip. And Brent, I got your check; glad you can make it!

The restaurant? Well, I have to tell you our member Erhardt Krause knows some great eating places. For those of you who haven't met Erhardt, he has worked as the chief photographer for the *Sacramento Bee* for a long time. I have gone out to lunch with him a couple of times and he has shown me places in this town that I didn't know existed. And I've lived on & off in this town for 40 years.

Erhardt suggested a place profiled in the *Bee* last November – the **House of Chicken & Ribs**. This establishment is in a small shopping center, but don't let the location or the size of the place fool you. I talked with owners **Dwight & Kim Barnett** and they told me on a typical day they'll serve 400 lbs of tri tip alone. They also do catering, and it is not unusual for them to serve 1000 people at a catering event. And they've only been in business for 2 ½ years!

Here's what *Sacramento Bee* author Allen Pierleoni said about it last November 16<sup>th</sup>:

"Here's one true thing: Barbecue and its accompanying sauces are regional. That's why the stuff served in, say, Missouri is way different from what you'll get in Texas, which isn't anything like the 'cue they cook in Florida. Or Tennessee or North Carolina or..."

"...Every day, Dwight & Dominick [his son – ed.] are out in front of this restaurant, tending the marinated, seasoned tri-tips and chickens that sizzle on the grill over hot mesquite and oak coals, and letting the beef and pork ribs slowly simmer (up to 6 hours) in the oak-fueled smoker (a welcome change from the standard-issue hickory...."

I've been there twice, the first time with Erhardt and the second time tonight. The sacrifices I make for this club, ensuring that any place will meet with your high standards!

Some suggestions: Eat the ribs and tri-tip with a fork – the meat is so tender that it will fall off the bone.

I guess a good recommendation came from the Roseville SWAT team, of all groups. They come here every Tuesday afternoon after practice. They used to practice on Monday, but when they found that the House of Chicken & Ribs was closed Mondays, they moved their practice to Tuesdays!

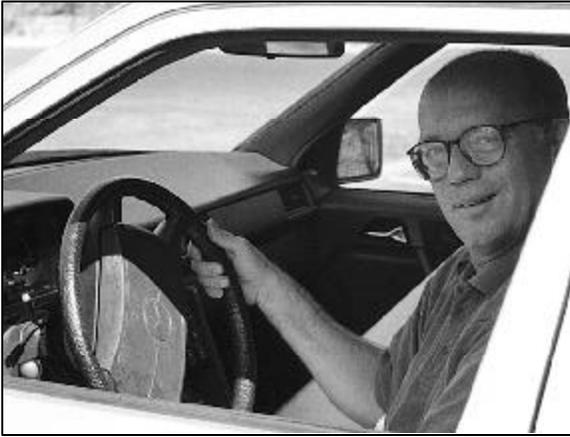
Menu choices? I talked with Kim tonight – first of all, if any of you prefer a **vegetarian meal** please call me beforehand. Kim said that she'd be glad to make a pasta dish for you. For the rest of you carnivores, there will be a buffet table consisting of BBQ chicken, pork or beef ribs, smoked links or tri-tip. For side dishes you can choose from baked beans, pasta salad, potato salad or coleslaw.

For the low price of \$12.00 we'll include peach cobbler for desert and your choice of soft drink or iced tea. There is no alcohol available. Your Section is subsidizing a portion of this lunch.

We'll meet there at 2:00 PM – to get there, take I80 to Watt Avenue north. Go down Watt Avenue North 5-6 miles to Elverta, turn right and the restaurant is about a mile down to the left at 3535 Elverta.

See you there!

-Bill Brandt



# President's Message

by: Bill Brandt

How are all of you doing this month? Last Saturday, I was at the house of Erhardt Krause. We decided to check out the restaurant that will be with our January event. I got on a scale out there and got the shock of my life.

For the last week I have been eating cottage cheese, yogurt and soup except for last night, when I fell off the wagon. But I did it in complete selflessness, for *you*.

You'll have to read about that in the January event promotion.

Some sad news – Henry Sudtell passed away suddenly. Henry was well known to active members of this club giving his time as the club historian for many hears.

I'll always think of Henry as the "Just 1 group picture please" member. We used to love to razz Henry if his flash didn't go or he ran out of film – but we have years of documented events thanks to him. I can't think of a single

person who ever had anything bad to say about Henry.

There have been some times that we really need to get the word out about something – and can't wait for the next newsletter. So the best way is to have an email address book – if you'd like to be included send me a request to [wlb@lanset.com](mailto:wlb@lanset.com) with the subject line Sacramento Section Email and I'll build an address book. I get a lot of email so please include that subject line.

I have always treated each person's address and phone number as confidential.

Which reminds me – I have had this idea for a few months. I have been constantly amazed at the diversity of our members in this Section. As the new member applications have been sent to me, I've discovered that we have a member who owns a wedding chapel – an Army General many of you would know, a home builder...

We have several retired air force pilots, a retired prison psychologist (he was

on the "right" side of the bars – not a psychologist *in* prison), several retired or soon-to-be retired people in law enforcement, airline pilots, a photographer for our Sacramento newspaper, burned-out computer programmers (that's yours truly)...

...a political consultant who has even gone to the White House, a Mercedes-Benz salesman, a master mechanic and shop foreman for years...the list goes on!

I have always felt that our members are free to socialize and let others know about them, or free not to. I realize that was a bad sentence, but equal emphasis should be to allow our members anonymity *if that is their choice*.

Still, it might be fun to have a "who am I" column in this newsletter profiling a member – *with their permission*.

Those of you who have a curiosity for the future will want to see the fuel cell facility this month. See you there!

## Bill

### Contact Information for "the Capitol STAR"

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

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

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

Member of the Year  
2001

Each year we pick one member who we feel had done a lot for the health of this club. One member? Of course, many people have given their time and talents to keep this club active – many times I wish that we could give more than one award in a year.

This member actually caught my attention more than 2 years ago – he and his wife were at the Weinert's place at the August event.

It was their first event and they had to drive 100 miles to get there.

Despite this, this member has donated many hours for our Section.

If something has to get done he has always made sure it is done. Even if it has cause him some inconvenience.

So congratulations go to **Chris Dudte**. When the last publisher told me that she really didn't want to work on our newsletter anymore, Chris stepped right up to the plate when I asked for a volunteer.

Because of Chris' efforts, we get a timely monthly newsletter.

Thanks Chris! We appreciate your efforts!

**-Bill Brandt**



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# Henry De Wayne Sudtell

December 1, 1918 – December 2, 2001

Henry Sudtell passed away suddenly almost eleven months to the day that he lost Liz.

And once again we learned things we never knew about a friend. Henry was an officer in the U.S. Navy during World War II. After the war he founded H.D. Sudtell Engineering, a engineering consulting firm in Southern California. He did design and consulting work for Disneyland, Disney World and Epcot Center. In fact he sold the company to Disney and then repurchased it from them a short time later. Henry designed and engineered what was at the time the largest fountain in the world at Fountain Hills, Arizona.

An avid photographer, he was the official photographer and

Historian for the Sacramento Section for many years. Long-time members will recall Henry at every meeting bringing the Club's photo album so we could review the pictorial history of the Club. He always had numerous photos of the most recent meeting ready to receive our oohs, aah's and giggles.

You may recall that Liz & Henry had no children of their own but each had children by prior marriage; Liz two sons and Henry three sons. However once again, those of us who attended the memorial service witnessed overwhelming evidence of the love and admiration those five sons and their spouses had for Henry and Liz. In addition they had 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Once again we are reminded that sometimes friends and family members go suddenly, without any warning. Henry was at the planning meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup>, in good spirits and seemingly in good health. Eight days later he was gone. At the memorial service someone joked that they could just see Liz giving Henry a hand up and asking him; "What took you so long?"

I wish he would have taken just a little longer. Maybe I would have thought to tell him thanks for all those photos and for his friendship. We need to do that more often especially at this time of the year. New Year's resolution anyone?

**-John DuPriest**

## Christmas Party 2001

On December 15, 2001, 71 members and guests of the Sacramento Section had their Christmas party at Casa de los Ninos.

Casa is a home for children who, for whatever reason, cannot live with their parents. In addition to a wonderful dining room, they also have a lovely gift shop that also helps to support the home.

While the menu was limited to a chicken and vegetarian entree, the food was gourmet quality. Since the chef was the only paid member of the staff, the majority of the

dinner proceeds went to support the children. We also had champagne, sparkling cider and some wonderful hors d'oeuvre, and at least one of our members asked the staff for the recipe.

Not only did we help to support their programs financially, but we also brought many gifts for the children. It was obvious that our members were very generous with a large table that was overflowing with gifts.

After dinner, Sandra and Barbara had some door prizes to give away. They were assisted by Graham Gall

acting as M.C. And many thanks to our members Bill Clingman, who made and donated his famous Swedish Christmas Tree, and Steve Carbonaro who graciously donated some collector coins for the prizes.

We had a wonderful time, marred only by the conspicuous absence of our long-time historian, Henry Sudtell. We missed his smile and the flashing light of his camera. No group picture this time Henry...

Thanks to Sandy Reese and Barbara Taloff for arranging this event!

**-Bill Brandt**

# February Event - A Trip to Fashion Island

**February 23, 2002**

Well, a trip via photography, that is. Joyce & John DuPriest will host a dinner with a slide show of the Fashion Island Concours. John is very familiar with Fashion Island having attended it four times and having taken many, many photos of the cars. In fact, several years ago he was invited to enter his show-quality 1979 300SD daily driver (now owned by Bill & Ardis Clingman). Only the finest Mercedes-Benz automobiles are asked to be at Fashion Island and all are in superb condition or very rare or both.

John is going to assemble the best of his photos from the four years and give us a slide show to be remembered. The date is Saturday, February 23, 2002. The location is the Sizzler Restaurant in Auburn. This is one of the premier Sizzlers built on the side of a hill overlooking the Foresthill canyon with the snow-capped Sierras in the distance. We will be on the enclosed patio with a million dollar view at the usual very reasonable Sizzler prices.

Full details will be in the February Capitol Star. Just circle the date - February 23rd.

**- John & Joyce Dupriest**

## DaimlerChrysler Fuel Cell Facility

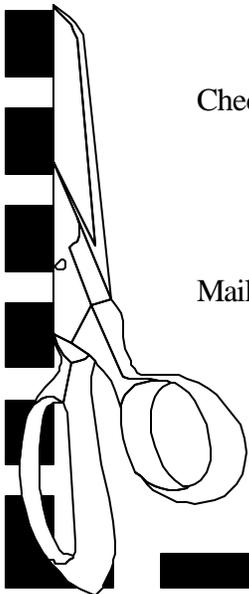
January 26, 2002

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Checks at \$12.00/person made out to MBCA Sacramento Section

Mail to: **Bill Brandt**  
**5910 Gloria Drive**  
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**Welcome New Members**

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Jack & Virginia Reefer  
-Sacramento, CA

Mark Roberson  
-Sacramento, CA

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**Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.  
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Or, ask a member for an application. You can also join by visiting MBCA on the Web:

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## Mercedes Mart

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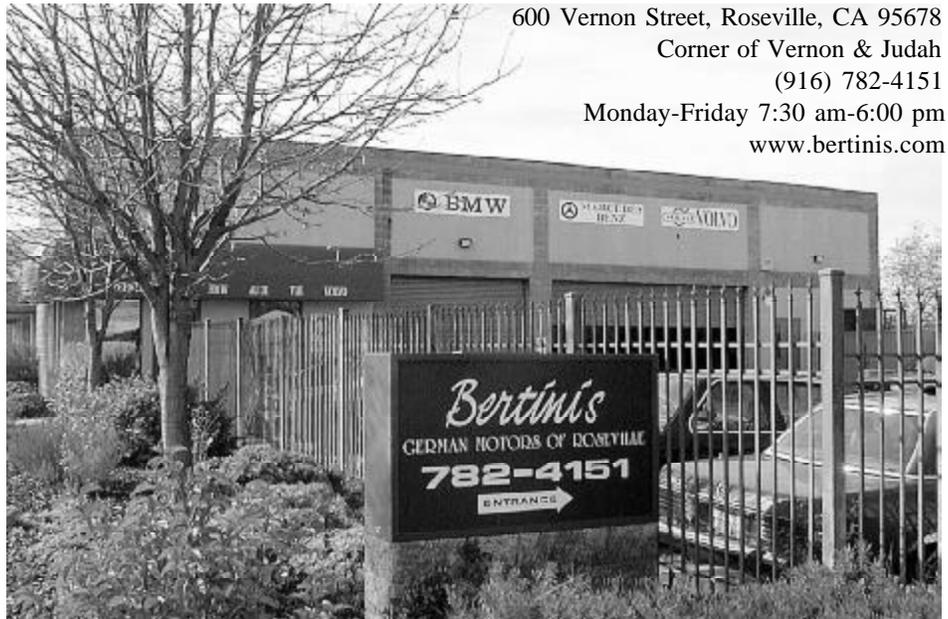
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**Mike**

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