



the capitol STAR

www.mbca.org/sacramento

The MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of America • Sacramento Section June/July 2010

Calendar Of Events

June 26

Drive to Filoli Gardens
Tony Otis

June 27

Palo Alto Concours d'Elegance
& Corral
Robert Schilling

July 17

Angels Camp/Columbia
Hank Pezzetti
Big River - The Adventures of
Huckleberry Finn

August Road Rally
Mark & Kim Reese

September
Kikoman Folsom
Gloria McKnight

October
Oktoberfest
Kevin McKnight/Hank Pezzetti

October 6-9
Western States
Driving Experience
ThunderHill Raceway
Richard Simonds

November
2011 Planning Meeting
Inger Bisson

December
Sac Section Xmas Party
Kevin McKnight

Filoli Gardens June 26, 2010

Come join us for a trip to gorgeous Filoli Gardens in Woodside on Saturday, June 26th. We will meet at the Chevron station on Enterprise Ave in West Sacramento (just off I80 after Harbor Blvd) and leave at 8 am. We will have a docent led tour at 10 am. Boxed lunches are available.

Also, on Sunday the 27th, the Palo Alto Concours d'Elegance will be held at Stanford University. Mercedes-Benz is the featured European marque and there will be some rare and stunning cars on the field. You can attend both events or either!

If you attended the Empire Mine tour some months ago - this is the mine's owners "house" (on 654 acres). The exterior of Filoli was used in the TV series Dynasty.



From their website:

"Located 30 miles south of San Francisco, Filoli is an historic site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and one of the finest remaining country estates of the early 20th century. Whether enjoying its beauty or pursuing its educational opportunities, we invite you to explore this cherished community resource." So we invite you to come with us - whether for the tour only or stay and attend the Palo Alto Concours!
Questions? Call (916) 536-0704.

Tony Otis



President's Message

by: Hank Pezzetti

Today, Hank has followed W.C. Field's desire... *"On the whole, I'd rather be in Philadelphia"*. He'll return shortly.

Since this newsletter has to get out to publisize the June event, here's a bit of what's been going on in the Sacramento Section.

I had a great time a few weeks ago in Nevada City at Skip and Molly's event (see write-up).

We have a great drive to Filoli this month courtesy of Tony Otis - this is a magnificent estate.

In July Hank will be leading us back to Columbia. If you have never been to Columbia you are in for a nice time - it is a state park - a restored gold rush town.

Think of it as California's version of Colonial Williamsburg. Every play we have attended at the Fallon Theater has been First Class - the people of the Columbia area actually host the actors in their homes during the productions. The actors come from all over the state.

The First Sunday Drives have been popular, too. Since Tony Otis' great drive around Lake Berryessa will be this Sunday - 4 days away - you will read about the details in the next issue.

These drives are held independently of our regular Section events.

Unlike our regular events, you don't have to be a member of MBCA to participate. If you are reading this in one of the waiting areas of our sponsors, or reading it on the Internet, you can experience the camaraderie of our Club without having to be a member.

The rules of our drives are simple. They are always on the 1st Sunday of each month. We leave promptly at 10AM from the rendezvous point. The rendezvous point can itself be up to 2 hours away. *Reno - Carson City Area Members - want to have a drive in your area?* No reservations are needed - just show up. It is free other than the optional no-host luncheon we usually have.

So far, we've been on a nice drive up the Sacramento River Delta. We took a nice drive below Rio Vista to an area few of us had seen. We saw

the Sutter Buttes, and last month took a trip to the Gold Country together with the SFBA Section.

For the future I have been thinking of duplicating the wonderful drive Carolyn and Gary Twing hosted - how many years ago was this? My middle age memory is somewhat erratic. But it was at least 10 years ago. We drove up Hwy 20 to the Sierra Summit, then down old Hwy 40 to Donner Lake. We ended up at a wonderful restaurant on the North Shore for a brunch. I remember listening to classical music while the waves were washing up onto the beach.

I also want to go to Mt Diablo. While I am the informal "leader" of these drives I'm certainly open to other drives suggested by participants. The upcoming drive was suggested by Tony and sounds like a great drive.

If you missed Hank's drive to Bodega Bay you really missed a fantastic event. I enjoyed it so much that I want to include in an a future FSD.

To join, just send an email to join-sacramento@FirstSundayDrives.com. You'll receive a Google Map and the drive details once a month.

Bill Brandt

Contact Information for "the Capitol STAR"

Submit articles to:
Bill Brandt
 5910 Gloria Dr.
 Sacramento, CA 95822
 e-mail:
CapitolStar@sbcglobal.net
 Deadline for submissions is
 the 20th of each month.

For changes to articles or ads:
Bill Brandt
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 email:CapitolStar@sbcglobal.net
 Deadline for changes to ar-
 ticles or ads is approximately
 the 26th of each month.

New article ideas:
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A Few Good Men

On May 23, members of the Sacramento Section met in the historic gold rush town of Nevada City to enjoy a luncheon and then attend a theater production of "A Few Good Men" in California's oldest continually running theater, the Nevada Theater.

Hosts Skip and Molly Ibenthal arranged for us to have an outdoor table at our restaurant, the Posh Nosh, and the weather seemed to be cooperating for a truly wonderful luncheon. Add the good conversation from fellow Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts and we had an afternoon of what the Germans would call "Gemütlichkeit" - translation - even if you don't know any German - nobody was in a particular hurry to leave.

But leave we had to, as the play across the street started at 2:00. I had seen the movie in the early 1990s, and didn't realize that before the movie it was a play.

And like the plays we have seen for the last 5 years or so in Columbia, this was a 1st class production. This is all the more amazing considering that the producers don't have a "Broadway Budget" to work with!

Alvis LeGate, playing Lt j.g. Danial A. Kaffee and Rebecca Ely, playing Lt. Cmdr. Joanne Galloway kept me as interested as Tom Cruise and Demi Moore playing the same characters in the movie.

Just as the better movie productions that have military themes will hire such military experts as Dale Dye (a retired Marine officer), this production had the help and assistance of their own retired Marine Colonel Sean Metroka, who ran his own mini "boot camp" for the actors to give them a believable military bearing.

I have been to a few of the best Broadway productions in Manhattan and some productions visiting Sacramento and San Francisco. In comparing the local productions in Columbia and now Nevada City, I have come to the conclusion that



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An eclectic sample of FSD participants. Yes, SmartCar Owners are welcome too! The SmartCar was designed by Daimler.

Photo courtesy of SFBA Section.

Continued on Page 4

A Few Good Men (Continued)

the "big guys" have nothing on the best of these smaller local productions.

In fact, I prefer the local productions for the fact that the local communities get behind them with their support (and sometimes lodging). During intermission I had some homemade chocolate chip cookies (2 for \$1.00!) and coffee. Plus, at the end at both venues the actors mix with the patrons and you can thank them personally for their performances.

Try that at a Broadway theater! What they lack in budget for expensive sets they make up for in enthusiasm.

Among our members, I would like to thank Bob and Joanne Doxey for making the effort to come all the way from Reno for this event. I'd also like to welcome new members Anisha Harper and Dan Groff who made this their first event.

And of course the event wouldn't have been possible without the time and effort spent by our hosts Skip and Molly Ibenhal, so thank you!

Bill Brandt

**Angels Camp & Columbia
Saturday July 17, 2010**

Would you believe this is **year five** of what has been our annual venture into the Sierra Foothills to enjoy lunch and another fine Broadway quality show? This year's show at the historic Fallon House is "Big River, the adventure of Huckleberry Finn" Music & Lyrics by Roger Miller, Book by William Hauptman, Based on the novel by Mark Twain.

"Mark Twain's masterpiece sweeps us down the mighty Mississippi as the irrepressible Huck Finn helps his friend Jim, a slave, escape to freedom. Their hilarious, heartwarming adventures bring to life the novel's colorful characters in a brilliant celebration of pure Americana. Set to country legend Roger Miller's jubilant score of Cajun, country, gospel and blues, the show won seven Tony Awards including Best Musical, Score and Book. "A rousing, high-spirited show that sets your hands to clapping, your feet to stomping and your heart to rise within you!" WCBS-TV" That is a quote from the web site.

Tickets are \$28. Please send in the coupon by the **deadline of July 10th.**

The show begins at 2 PM, will again have lunch (on your own) in Angel's Camp at Caruso's Italiano Restorante, 1240 S. Main St. (209-736-1440). The restaurant opens at 1130 am, and we will probably open it again like last year. I will try to get them set up so that we will not have a lag like last year.

We will again meet at the Sloughouse Restaurant parking lot on Jackson Rd Hwy 16 at 9:30 AM. We will depart at 10 AM. Our route will take us down Hwy 16 to Rt. 49 through Jackson and on to Angels Camp for lunch. After lunch there are two ways to get to Columbia, straight on Rt. 49 following the signs to Columbia State Park, or at the end of Angels Camp turn left on to Rt. 4 turning right at Parrots Ferry Rd, then straight into Columbia. The Fallon House is at the end or the beginning of Columbia depending on where you park.

Angel's Camp & Columbia

This is for the Theater Only - lunch is no-host

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
Number Attending: _____

Please send a check of **@28.00 p/p** made to MBCA Sacramento Section and mail to:

Hank Pezzetti
11371 Randolph Road
Wilton, CA 95693

Questions? (916) 687-4792

NEW ALL-GERMAN MARQUE CONCOURS DURING PEBBLE BEACH

by Laura Simonds, MBCA National Treasurer

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) is excited to join with the BMW Car Club of America and Porsche Club of America to host a truly unique event—**Legends of the Autobahn: West Coast Summer Concours**. This all-German marque concours is a 2010 MBCA national special event.

For the first time, the three car clubs will come together on Friday, August 13, 2010 at the Rancho Cañada Golf Club, 4860 Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley, California. This event will be a new part of the world-famous Monterey Motorsports Reunion (formerly Historics) and Pebble Beach Concours weekend.

There are two options for you to enter your car: judged entry in one of six classes for 1987 or older vehicles; or display-only corral where vehicles of all ages are welcome. Entry fee is \$50 for judged or \$25 for corral. You can also opt for the delicious picnic lunch catered by the golf club café for \$20 per person (it's enough food for two!), or you can bring your own lunch.

To register, go to www.motorsportreg.com. Scroll to the August event calendar. For August 13th, you'll see a separate listing for "Legends of the Autobahn: West Coast Summer Concours" for MBCA, BMW CCA, and PCA. When you click "Register" on the MBCA entry line, your registration will go directly to MBCA. Registration deadline is August 1. If you don't want to enter your car, please stop by to feast on some beautiful vehicles. There's no admission gate fee.

We're seeking volunteers to help with judging and other jobs (field placement, membership tent, vehicle check-in, set up on Thursday, etc.). If you're interested in helping and having a fun day seeing beautiful German cars or if you have any questions about the event, please contact Laura Simonds at (650) 592-7613 or simonds1@pacbell.net.

If you need help with lodging, try www.resort2me.com. We thank MBUSA for helping support of this national special event, and we hope to see MBCA out in full force at "Legends of the Autobahn: West Coast Summer Concours."

Re-branding The Club

by Jack Weir, Western Regional Director

In previous messages we have heard about the major project underway at the national level to re-brand the club, in order to attract more new members and retain more of our existing members.

The actual "re-branding" effort is focusing primarily on standardizing the use of the MBCA logo to give it more "punch" and to upgrade its prominence in all club documents and literature, and to have a standard "look and feel" in all our club communications. Brodeur Partners is the vendor working on this project and will have a "style guide" to roll out in the next few months.

The other main thrust in our efforts to enhance membership and member value is a project to completely rebuild our national web site, which has been determined to be out-of-date and "blah" in its impact. Monarch Digital is the vendor working on the new web site as well as an integrated "back office" system for the National Business Office (NBO). The new system will replace the current Filemaker system, which is held together largely by "chewing gum" and "baling wire." Incidentally, the new system will allow the NBO to reduce maintenance costs for the current web site and data base system by a very significant savings. MBUSA is taking a particular interest in both of these projects.

Sections will receive much greater support for their web site efforts, and those sections who do not currently have a web site will be provided a standard template as the base for a new section web site. Unlike the past, when sections and the NBO had to rely on technically savvy webmasters and contractors to change or upgrade a site, "content managers" will be able to add, change or delete material from the web sites, using commonly used tools like Microsoft Word, etc.

During a recent re-branding task force conference call, we were told that the new web site and associated NBO system is projected to roll out in August of this year. All of this effort is being driven by a bold and comprehensive marketing plan currently being developed by MBCA's new Director of Marketing, Lisa Juhl. I'm excited about our prospects, and I think the sections will appreciate the new level of support they will receive from the NBO.

More to come!



Welcome New Members

James and Maureen Canaris	Placerville
Marie and Chuck Pearce	Lodi
Jason Sanguinetti	Sacramento
Alexander Yiakis	Sacramento

Order your MBCA name badge for \$8-\$9.50 at the club store in the Star Magazine

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.mbc.org>

Also, check out our local web site:

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

Moving?

You must contact MBCA National at the above address or phone number. The address list comes to us mostly from National. We cannot make changes locally.

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

Sacramento Section Officers | 2008-2010

President	Hank Pezzetti	(916) 687-4792
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Secretary	Bill Brandt	(916) 399-1736
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Past President	Inga Bourdon	(707) 864-0567

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MBCA Western Region

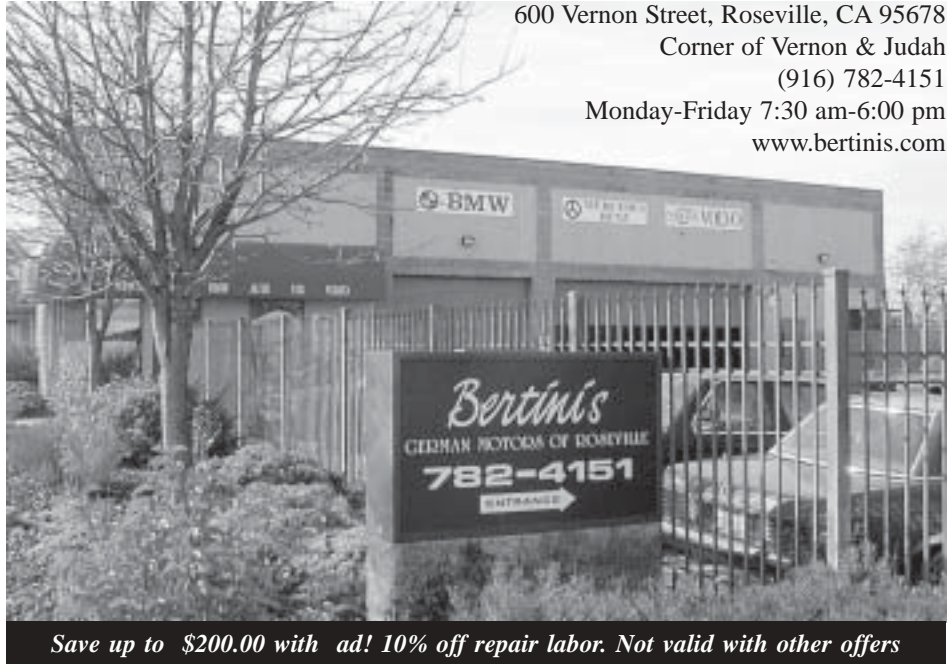
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Mercedes Mart

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 350 members. Send a copy of your ad, including your name and phone number, to Bill Brandt, 5910 Gloria Drive, Sacramento CA 95822 or email CapitolStar@sbcglobal.net. Because of complaints from past sellers of overseas **scams** think twice about including your **email address**.



Save up to \$200.00 with ad! 10% off repair labor. Not valid with other offers

Attention Reno Area Members

Reno members Bob & Joanne Doxey would like a get-together to possible plan some events. Please call them at (775) 746-0221.



Rare Euro model restored 1977 Mercedes-Benz 280SLC coupe.

Finished in Silver over Blue interior. Featuring A/C, Power Windows, CD-Player, Power Sunroof, AMG Body Kit and Premium Wheels. Don't miss out on this **RARE EURO 4-speed**. Originally sold in Germany. \$35,000.00 invested.

A steal at **\$19,900.00 OBO**.

Call Darryl Kielich 916-870-0851 or 530-735-6780



Lunch In Nevada City Prior to Seeing "A Few Good Men"

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