



# the STAR

## capitol

The MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of America • Sacramento Section Mar-Apr 2004

### Calendar Of Events

#### May 1, 2004

Uncorked Rally III  
Tom & Inga Bourdon  
(707) 864-0567

#### June 11, 2004

CHP tour  
John Dupriest  
(916) 933-2185

#### July 2004

Tahoe Motor Rally  
Hank & Anne Pezzetti  
(916) 687-4792

#### August 2004

No Host Dinner

#### September 2004

San Simeon Overnight  
Bill Brandt  
(916) 399-1736

#### October 2004

No Host Dinner

#### November 2004

Planning Meeting & Fall Fest  
Kevin & Gloria McKnight  
(916) 721-1579

#### December 2004

Christmas Party

## UNCORKED RALLY III

THE RALLY IN THE VALLEY

10:00AM

SATURDAY MAY 01, 2004

If you missed **Uncorked I** and **II**, please don't miss the final installment in this trilogy, **Uncorked Rally III**. Uncorked Rally III will begin at 10:00am at Rush Ranch near Fairfield and Suisun City. Rush Ranch is a 2,070 acre open space located in the Potrero Hills. The ranch features a visitor center, blacksmith shop, historical ranching equipment, and hiking trails. We will start the day with a continental breakfast in the picnic area located in a shady eucalyptus grove. After breakfast we have arranged for a tour of the ranch. A photo rally and the always popular car games will be part of the events at Rush Ranch

This year's rally route will not be quite as long as previous Uncorked events but don't let that lull you into complacency. When it comes to rallies shorter does not always mean easier.

If you haven't been with us on previous rallies, Uncorked III is not the classic time/distance rally. Uncorked III will be a combination of questions and answers, photographs and yes, a bit of a poker run thrown in just to keep things interesting.

The question and answer section of the rally is designed to test your skills of observation and understanding written instructions. Go off the route, and you'll need your escape package just to make it home in time for work on Monday. Uncorked III will take you on the "Lesser Known" roads of both Solano and Napa Counties. **ALL ROADS ARE PAVED except 0.2 mi gravel access road to Rush Ranch.**

This year, we have selected the Fireside Room at the Buckhorn Grill in downtown Napa for dinner following the Rally. This year's rally will have some special participants. MBCA National President Richard Simonds and and MBCA First Lady Laura Simonds will be rally participants and will join us for dinner. When else will you have the opportunity to meet your National President?

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# President's Message

by: Bill Brandt

When I first took over as editor of the newsletter, I was worried that I wouldn't have enough material to fill an issue.

That worry, I have learned, is unfounded. An article about the sale of Mercedes-Benz of Sacramento that was to go into this issue will have to wait until the next issue for lack of room.

Speaking of Mercedes dealerships, have any of you visited Mercedes-Benz of El Dorado Hills? I went out there recently and was astounded at the design and atmosphere.

The interior reminds me more of the Ahwahnee Hotel in Yosemite than a car dealership. There is one area that has overstuffed leather chairs and a nice big fire place.

You don't even think you are in a car dealership!

We have a couple of big events coming up.

On **May 1<sup>st</sup> Tom & Inga Bourdon** will have the last in their trilogy of *Uncorked Rally* drives. If you haven't been on either of their previous 2, you will be surprised at the detail that goes in to the planning – and the fun.

If you think you know rallies this is different. I can promise you a fun day. You'll see areas of Napa county probably unknown to you.

I hope that you will come and enjoy the day!

Originally there wasn't going to be a June event. However, when **CHP Commissioner Spike Helmick** told **John Dupriest** that he'd be glad to give us a CHP Academy tour John took him up on the offer!

However since the Academy is closed on the weekends, the event will be **Friday Afternoon, June 11**. And it's limited to 30 people. So we have to tell anyone after that count that they regrettably can't go!

So send in your reservation slip **ASAP!**

So why are we charging for this event? First \$5 will go towards your lunch at the CHP cafeteria. The other \$15 will go to **CHP Widows & Orphans Fund**. The CHP has asked nothing of us and offered this wonderful tour. John & I decided that giving something back to them is the least we can do.

If we don't get 30 participants by the deadline it will be open to other Sections.

Second – if you are among the 15 selected by raffle to be a passenger on the test track – it can be a very stressful ride – remember

Frank Barrett's account of riding at Laguna Seca in the Mercedes race car?

What I am saying is that if you feel your health or condition isn't up to the drive, **don't do it**. I don't want to have to write about someone having a heart attack during a 90MPH spin on the track! I always endeavor to keep my writing interesting, but we don't need that kind of news! I'm told you'll hit speeds of 155-160MPH.

Finally, one other event to mention: **Western Regional Director Don Leson** wanted me to tell you about a nice event coming up **June 5<sup>th</sup>** at Infineon Raceway. This is also known as Sears Point to us old timers.

These are Historic Races – with everything from Formula 1 cars to perhaps a Bentley that ran at LeMans in the 1930s. If you have ever been to the Monterey Historics you know what fun this is – and if you haven't – you are in for a treat. MBCA will have their own parking area. You must arrive in your Mercedes to use the parking area. Cost is only **\$15** and includes lunch!

I have attended the Historics at Monterey for years and can tell you tickets are now up to \$50 so this is a bargain. And this is also organized by Steve Earl so you know it will be good. Call **Don Leson at (415) 898-1502** for more information.

See you May 1<sup>st</sup>!

**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 Dudte  
(775) 673-1433  
e-mail: cdudte@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.

**A Trip to the  
California Highway  
Patrol Academy  
Friday, June 11, 2004**

Boy! Have we got a deal for 30 lucky members!! On June 11, 2004 the Sacramento Section will enjoy an orientation visit to the CHP Academy in West Sacramento. Last summer at StarTech 2003, Commissioner Spike Helmick gave John DuPriest a special invitation to visit the Academy and get a first-hand idea of what the cadets go through.

The CHP Academy is one of the most highly-regarded (and tough) police training programs in the world. It is boot camp to the max and the reason CHP officers are the best-trained and most respected law enforcement people in America.

It is not possible in this short space to describe the rigorous training that produces a CHP officer. I suggest you go to <http://www.chp.ca.gov/html/academycadet.html> and you will see these professionals in a new light.

But here is what our afternoon will entail; We will meet at the Academy at 12 Noon, Friday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. (That's right, Friday.) for lunch in the Academy cafeteria. After lunch our host will give us a tour of the classroom/dormitory area and give us a half hour or so to visit the CHP/Academy museum. From there we will visit the firing range and possibly witness firing of automatic weapons. Next our CHP bus will drive by the skid-training course where cadets learn to negotiate spins and skids on the wet track. And finally we will visit the high speed track and here is the treat of a lifetime for 15 lucky

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**CHP Academy Reservation Form - 1<sup>st</sup> Come, 1<sup>st</sup> Served**  
**In our hands no later than June 1, 2004**

**Event day: Friday, June 11, 2004 @ Noon.**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Make following selection for each person

Number of persons \_\_\_ x \$20.00 = Total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.

Complete this slip and enclose it with a check for the total amount to:  
"Mercedes-Benz Club – Sacramento" and mail to; **John DuPriest, PO Box 121, Penryn, CA 95663**

**Questions?: 916/933-2185 E-mail:john@dupriest.com**

**Uncorked Rally III Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>**

Price includes continental breakfast, dinner, and prizes. It is being subsidized by your Section.

All dinners include a garden salad, rolls, and choice of coffee or tea.

Entrée Selections (Please indicate how many of each)

\_\_\_\_\_ Char-Roasted Sirloin Tri-Tip

*Thick sliced sirloin tri-tip served with grilled vegetables and garlic mashed potatoes & gravy*

\_\_\_\_\_ Char-Broiled Chicken

*Two char-broiled chicken breasts bathed in lemon and garlic marinade served with grilled vegetables and mashed potatoes with gravy*

\_\_\_\_\_ Bayou Pepper Salmon

*Char-broiled salmon served with grilled vegetables and mashed potatoes with gravy*

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Veggie Tower

*Grilled eggplant tower filled with sautéed vegetables served with grilled vegetables and mashed potatoes with gravy*

**Total # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$ 24.00 = \_\_\_\_\_**

*Make check payable to MBCA Sacramento and mail with reservation slip to:  
Tom & Inga Bourdon P.O. Box 811 Benicia CA 94510-0811  
Questions? Call 707-864-0567*

*Uncorked Rally III (continued from page 1)*

**Directions to Rush Ranch:**

**From Sacramento:** Take I-80 westbound. In Fairfield follow signs for Hwy 12 East. At the stop sign at the end of the exit ramp off of I-80, turn left onto Abernathy Rd. Go over I-80 and continue on Abernathy past the second stoplight. After you have gone under Hwy 12 turn left onto Hwy 12 East. Continue on Hwy 12 East approx. 3.1 miles. Turn right onto Grizzly Island Rd. Grizzly Island Rd. is the 4<sup>th</sup> stoplight on Hwy 12. Look for the Jack in the Box on the right side. Continue on Grizzly Island Rd approx. 2 miles. Turn right into Rush Ranch.

**From the Bay Area:** Take I-80 eastbound. After the truck scales in Fairfield start following the signs for Hwy 12 East. Continue on Hwy 12 East approx. 3.1 miles. Turn right onto Grizzly Island Rd. Grizzly Island Rd. is the 4<sup>th</sup> stoplight on Hwy 12. Look for the Jack in the Box on the right side. You will be turning right onto Grizzly Island Rd. at the Jack in the Box. Continue on Grizzly Island Rd approx. 2 miles. Turn right into Rush Ranch.

If you have any questions email us at [bourdonti@msn.com](mailto:bourdonti@msn.com) or call us at **707-864-0567**.

See you at the ranch!

Tom & Inga Bourdon

*CHP Event (Continued from page 3)*

people – they will strap into the “shotgun” seat of the super Camero and learn first hand about speeds in excess of 130 mph. I am also told that they will demonstrate 90 degree turns in the 100 mph range as well as multiple high-speed 360 degree spinouts! These instructors are among the best in the world and do remarkable things with these cars every day.

We are limited to 30 spaces for this event so it will be first come, first served and the postmark on the envelope will determine participation. (One exception, we are extending an invitation to our National President and his lady to attend.) The cost is \$20 per person, \$5 of which will be for lunch and \$15 of which will go to the CHP Widows & Orphans Fund, which helps spouses and children of officers killed in the line of duty.

One caution; Anyone with a special health condition that could be aggravated or stressed on the high speed track should not participate in that. And we are serious about that. But it should be fun watching others stagger out with the terrified expression!

Directions: From I80 in West Sacramento, take the Reed Ave exit, go west on Reed and take the second CHP entrance to the Academy. Park anywhere in the parking area to the right of the building and walk right into the entrance past the large CHP monument.



## 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](mailto:wlb@lanset.com).



**280 CE Coupe 1980**, cold air, service records, michelin radials, smog'd, nice clean example of collectable coupe.  
Call 916-771-4476 for details. **\$3850.00**



**1978 450SLC** – original owner – 200,000 miles, Driven by Dr's wife for 21 years, then son for 3. Dealer serviced until 3 years ago – then at an independent.

**\$4990 OBO**

**John (916) 485-4316**



**1986 560 SL**. Blue with Palomino interior. Good condition. 165,000 miles. Serviced at MBZ.

**\$10,000 firm.**  
**530 305-1617**



**1972 350SL BRG & Palamino** New A/C (R134a) and interior. Runs Great. Why wait for spring? Motivated seller. Own a classic convertible today!

**\$6995.00 OBO**  
**Ernie (916) 989-4973**

600 Vernon Street, Roseville, CA 95678  
Corner of Vernon & Judah  
(916) 782-4151  
Monday-Friday 7:30 am-6:00 pm  
[www.bertinis.com](http://www.bertinis.com)



*Roseville's Finest German Car & Volvo Service Center*

**1988 560SL** 233,000 miles, original owner, all papers, no accident, silver with blue interior, good condition except for cracks in dashboard, top never taken off so canvas top is like new, holder for car top included,

**\$7000 cash.**  
**(916) 835-4310.**



**1969 280SL** - Red/Palamino New Air conditioning, transmission (automatic)

**\$23,500 OBO**  
**(916) 989-4973**



**1999 E430** Brilliant Silver 77,000 miles. Every option except GPS. Custom made front sheepskin seat covers. Sunroof. Always garaged. Excellent condition.

**\$28,000**  
**(916) 481-6910**



**1990 420 SEL** - Owned by Consul General of Austria. 4-door metallic charcoal black exterior, blue leather interior sedan. Fully equippd. 170,000 Sacto. - S.F. freeway miles. Outstanding condition. Supurb comfort and safety. \$13,000.

**(916) 447-4113.**

*the capitol*

**STAR**

*5910 Gloria Dr.*

*Sacramento, CA 95822*

*First Class Mail*

