



the capitol STAR

The MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of America • Sacramento Section

May 2002

Calendar Of Events

May 25, 2002

California Caverns

John & Joyce Dupriest (916) 933-2185

June 9, 2002

Shriner's Concours

Bob Cottam (916) 349-1013

June 29, 2002

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

4th 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

Spelunkers Wanted!

Saturday, May 25, 2002

Circle the date. We are going cave-walking on the beautiful Trail of Lights Walking Tour in California Caverns at Cave City in Calaveras County.

California Cavern has been open to the public since 1850 and was California's first show cave. Early visitors included Bret Harte, Mark Twain and John Muir who wrote about his visit in his 1894 book "The Mountains of California." For 150 years, visitors have enjoyed the unique delicate beauty of the cavern's crystalline formations. Some speleothems (we don't know, look it up!), such as the beaded helictites found in the Middle Earth area are very rare. Others are so numerous as to be spectacular, such as the "Jungle Room's" array of stalactites.

Our tour will include the Jungle Room but not the Middle Earth area. (Do you know where the middle of the earth IS?!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)

The Farmer's Almanac sez April and May will be warmer than normal in California near the coast but cool in the Valley. Expect above-normal rainfall, especially in mid-May. Specifically May 20-23 cloudy with thunderstorms. In other words, a beautiful day. Make plans to join us.

We'll meet at Denny's Restaurant on 2474 Sunrise Blvd & Zinfandel in time to depart at 10:30 AM. An informal, loosey – goosey road tour will take us within shooting distance of the cavern for a no host lunch. If you run late or are riding with Alan Geiken and get lost on the way out of Denny's parking lot call me on the Cell @ 916/201-2185. **Joyce & John DuPriest 933-2185**

Shriner's Concours

Sunday, June 9, 2002

Every year the show has grown offering more cars, more entertainment and better food. Every year we have had a great turnout of club members enjoying the socializing and sharing our exceptional automobiles with other enthusiasts and the public.

We have been able to provide a much needed and appreciated check to the Shriner's Hospital so that their wonderful work of caring for crippled and burned children can continue.

We'd like to grow with the event and field the biggest display of Mercedes-Benz automobiles ever! We hope that you'll come out and join the fun to help us make this the best year ever!

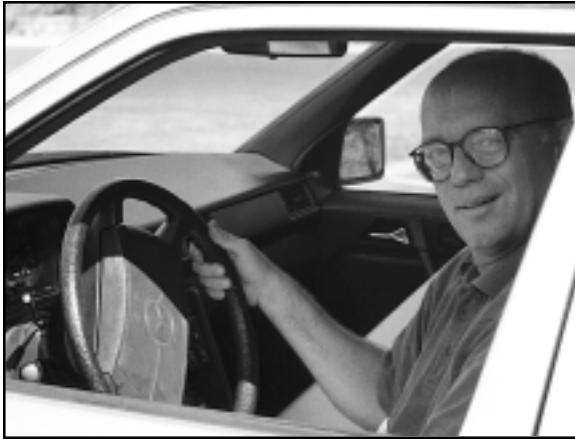
Remember, your car doesn't have to be a showstopper, just clean and presentable. We'd like to have a nice variety of models.

We'll meet at the hospital entrance – 2425 Stockton Blvd – at 9:00 AM and be escorted to our own area of lawn. Donation is **still \$25.00 per car** (up to 2 people). Additional donations will be accepted as well as donations from those who'd like to attend but can't. Whatever we collect will be given to the Shriners.

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As I have been writing this, my phone has been ringing incessantly – and it is 6PM. My school wants some money from me. I haven't attended it for 30 years. Why is that this is school – that hardly knew me while a student – now considers me as a long lost friend? I was proud to have attended the University of Virginia – they were (and are) among the few schools besides the military academies to have a strict honor code. You're caught cheating, you're kicked out. No exceptions.

It was obvious by my grades that I was an honorable student.

Bob Cottam wants you all to know that he and Alice Rocha are to be married **May 4th** in North Lake Tahoe...Congratulations Bob & Alice!

Andrew Nelson, who is chairman for the StarTech Committee – would like us to host the StarTech event for 2003. I have been reluctant because I believe a Section President's primary responsibility is to ensure the financial health of the Section.

StarTech is a biannual national event that a Section will host for a weekend.

We can expect around 200 people to come from all over the country for this event. This event is much smaller both in scope and size to StarFest, which will attract 2,000 people.

We had a board meeting a couple of weeks ago, and our Western Regional Director, Richard Simonds, along with National Treasurer Cecil Brewer, helped clear up some misconceptions. Because MBCA National gives us \$3,000 as seed money, it would be difficult to lose money but it can be done.

We could also make \$10,000-\$15,000 if we do this right. We as a Board left the meeting enthusiastic. I am in the process of making an outline of what needs to be done. We'll need a hotel with conference rooms, sponsors, speakers, a room for the vendors, a printer for the program guide, a caterer for the banquet and Sunday breakfast....

We'll keep you posted – I already have 2 members offering their services!

My friend Brian Glusovich wants you to know the national **M100 meet** will be down the California coast, at Cambria **May 21-May 24th**. For those of you who have no idea what an M100 is, it was 3 cars considered to be very special Mercedes-Benzes. They are the 600 (described by me last month), the 300SEL 6.3, and the 450SEL 6.9.

There will be a full program, including national experts giving advice on the

care and feeding of these special cars. If you'd like more information you can email Brian at glus@thegrid.net, or phone Brian at (805) 927-5758 or (805) 927-2203. Incidentally, Cambria is by one of my favorite California destinations, Hearst Castle.

Laura Simonds wants you to know about the upcoming **Yosemite Rally** that will be **September 27-29th**. This has become an annual event that was started by the Los Angeles Section – now organized jointly by several northern California Sections.

I attended last year's event and can say you will have a great time. More information on this event will come in an upcoming issue, but in the meantime you can contact Lindsay Drobilisch at (408) 395-6034 or email lindsaydrobilisch@att.net.

Our upcoming event will be at **California Caverns**, courtesy of John & Joyce Dupriest. I went there about 7 years ago and can tell you it is a very interesting place. If it's the same cavern I'm thinking of, even the 49ers held church services there. We are going to have a good time going down there and you are going to find these caverns fascinating.

With June we have 2 events – both Bob Cottam's traditional **Shriner's Concours** and Bobbie Larson's **Amador Wineries**. Your entry fee for Bob's event helps the Shriners fund their hospital.

See you in May!

Bill

Contact Information for "the Capitol STAR"

Submit articles to:

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

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

For changes to articles or ads:

Chris Dudte
(775) 673-1433
e-mail: cdudte@ao.net

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

New article ideas:

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

After the event, which will end about 4:00 PM, those who wish to relax and socialize over a good dinner will drive to the Club Pheasant, on Jefferson Blvd in West Sacramento. We'll order from the menu and pay separately. Club Pheasant is an institution and family owned since 1935. Their Italian food is excellent and their unique garlic steak sandwich is fantastic. **Please** indicate on the reservation slip if you plan to attend so we can give the restaurant a count.

See you on June 9th!

Bob Cottam

StarFest 2002

August 11-16,2002

Before the summer of 1996, I viewed StarFest as just another vague national "get together" that was in our *Star* magazine.

Well, forget that idea. Think of it as a Woodstock for Mercedes Nuts. When it was in Portland (1996) about 2,500 fellow MB nuts, including yours truly, came from all over North America.

Want to rally? Sightsee? Drive your car competitively? Take some technical seminars? It's all at StarFest.

I spent most of the week in the competitive events. Acceleration run (really a 1 car "drag race" against the clock), autocross (think of a ski slalom for cars), and time on the track.

You'll have the opportunity to take your Mercedes on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in a safe, controlled environment. And along the way have some newfound respect for the engineering that went into your car.

You even have the option of going with a group of like-minded enthusiasts from the west coast to Indianapolis.

At Portland, MBUSA hosted a beautiful banquet and unveiled the then-new SLK.

My girlfriend Mary Kay and I actually were first on the floor to do the Chicken Dance in front of 1000 MBCA revelers. Mary Kay was laughing so hard she could hardly stand up.

Bill Brandt



Mercedes-Benz of Sacramento

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(916) 924-8000**



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**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**

Amador Wineries – June 29, 2002

One of our newer members, Bobbie Larson, is hosting this event. There are 2 options for a meeting place – if you want to caravan from Sacramento meet at 9:45 am at:

Round Table Pizza
8760 La Riviera Drive (just off Hwy 50 and Watt Ave next to Albertsons)

If you don't want to caravan, or are late to the meeting place we'll be at 11:00 am at:

Montevina Winery
20680 Shenandoah Road, Plymouth

We will be joined by members of the BMW Club.

Price? **FREE.** Questions? (916) 263-8964

No reservation slip – just show up! Be sure to bring your own picnic lunch – there are no places to purchase lunch!

Shriner's Concours - June 1st Deadline Sunday, June 9, 2002

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Car: Year _____ Model _____

Entry: \$25.00 per car - includes 2 people

Number of people having dinner _____

Complete this slip and enclose it with a check for the total amount to:
"Mercedes-Benz Club – Sacramento" and mail to; **Bob Cottam, 4720 Judy Ct. Sacramento, CA 95841**
Questions?: 916-349-1013

Spelunkers Reservation Form – in our hands by May 22nd

Saturday, May 25, 2002

Yes, we want to see some of those helictites, sign us up!

Name(s) _____ E-Mail: _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Make following selection for each person

Number of persons _____ x \$10.00 = 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?: 663-2185 or 933-2185 E-mail:john@dupriest.com

UNCORKED RALLY II
SATURDAY JULY 20th 2002
9AM

Please plan to join us on **Saturday, JULY 20th** for an interesting, scenic tour along the less traveled back roads of Solano and Napa Counties. The route we've chosen for this year's **Uncorked Rally II** will be as challenging and as scenic as for Uncorked I.

We'll begin our rally in the heart of Solano County's earliest fruit growing area. Lagoon Valley was once the home of some of the earliest fruit production here in Northern California. Wealthy ranch owners built large homes in Lagoon Valley and from this area, apricots and other exotic fruits traveled all across America. Although most of the early large ranch homes are gone now (some actually dismantled and moved) others lost to time and progress, the remnants of the orchards continue to survive the long passages of time. Here in Lagoon Valley we'll enjoy a generous, out door Continental Breakfast while we play a few car games to get the competitive juices flowing. New games have been designed for this year's event. From Lagoon Valley we'll travel on secondary roads west toward Fairfield and into the hills where your powers of observation and navigation will be challenged.

If you missed last year's Uncorked Rally, you also missed dinner at Jonesy's Famous Steak House. Following the rally, everyone in the dining room was engaged in lively conversation. However, when dinner arrived, within a few seconds, you could hear a pin drop. This gives testimony to the quality of the meal and the enjoyment of the diners. With that said, we will again meet at the Napa County Airport for a late afternoon dinner at Jonesy's Famous Steak House. Jonesy's has been a destination for local dining and recreational fly-ins where both contemporary and historic aircraft pull right up to the dining room windows. From Jonesy's it is an easy drive back to Interstate 80 for your return trip home. Should you feel inclined to fly in as some of our members did last year, please feel welcome to do so.

For those not familiar with the several types of automobile rally, this is not the classic Time & Distance rally. Whether you're a rally veteran or a first timer, "**UNCORKED RALLY II**" is a combination of distance and clues, mixed with other challenges to test your analytical and navigational skills as well as your powers of observation. There will be plenty of time allotted for stops along the way to enjoy both the scenery and viticultural reasons for visiting this part of California. We will also have one extended stop for a driving break and a museum tour.

**Be sure to save July 20th, and mark your calendar so you can join us for
"UNCORKED RALLY II".**

New members and members owning older models are especially encouraged to attend!!

Directions to the start point and the reservation slip will appear in the next Capital Star.

For more information or to reserve an early spot, please contact **Tom and Inga Bourdon at 707-864-0567.**

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>

Please Note:

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Welcome New Members

Carthan Davis	Sacramento
Debra & Rick Dilbeck	Folsom
Steve Postle	Lincoln
Sue & Edward Southwick	Elk Grove

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

Mercedes-Benz Club of America***Sacramento Section Officers • 2001-2002***

President	Bill Brandt	(916) 399-1736
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Past President	Iris Matthews	

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Historian	Open	
Sunshine Chair	Ginger Sanigar	(916) 961-9145
Webmaster	Craig Griffith	(916) 988-2328

MBCA Western Region

Regional Director	Richard Simonds	(650) 592-7613
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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.

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Looking for an electric hoist (or manual) for use on a 1999 - SL 500 also a storage rack (for the hard top). Please E-mail or leave message. Thank you!

[\(916\)208-8530](mailto:rolarson1@aol.com)

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1997 Mercedes-Benz SL500 convertible, Silver Smoke/Parchment interior, 47K miles, Hard top/soft top, 6 pack CD stacker, heated Seats, phone, loaded, great condition, garage kept, MBZ dealer maintained with all service records. New tires, brakes and tune-up. \$45,000

Susan (916) 771-8084

❖❖❖

1972 Mercedes-Benz 280SE 4.5. Auto, Air, 310,000 miles. 60,000 miles on rebuilt engine. Mercedes original chrome wheels – new stereo. New starter in 1997. New power steering unit in 1998 – this is a good daily driver for only \$3500.

Bob Dullanty (916) 967-4002.

❖❖❖



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email CharlesLWest@aol.com

❖❖❖

1976 450 SLC Blue w/ Black Leather. Excellent condition, factory A/C, comes w/ original papers. 96,000 miles. See to appreciate. \$12,500.

Dennis - 916-359-5935



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. \$32,000/obo. Email: pboffy@aol.com

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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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Or Call: 1-800-637-2360

We cannot make changes locally!