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The MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of America • Sacramento Section MayJune 2010

Calendar Of Events

May 23
Nevada City Playhouse Lunch/
Dinner
Skip Ibenthal

June 26
Drive to Fioli 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

November
2011 Planning Meeting
Inger Bisson

December
Sac Section Xmas Party
Kevin McKnight

A Few Good Men Nevada Theater (Nevada City, CA) May 23, 2010 2PM

For several years (5 to be exact) Sacramento Section members have gone on Hank Pezzetti's wonderful excursion to the Fallon House in historic Columbia, CA. Besides showing excellent plays over the years, to me half the experience is the ambiance of the old theater.

One can only imagine the stories that could be told, "if the theater could talk"!

Well, I am proposing another tradition.

The Nevada Theatre is California's oldest original-use theater.

Established in 1865, The California Historic Landmark #863 has seen thousands of presentations over it's near 150 year history.

On **Sunday May 23rd at 2:00** the theatre will present, **A Few Good Men**.

Tickets are only \$18.00. For those interested, we'll have a **no host lunch** at The Posh Nosh 318 Broad Steet 12:30 p.m.

There is also free wine tasting just a few blocks from the theatre at Indian Springs Vineyards 303 Broad St. and Nevade City Winery 321 Spring St.

Lunch, theatre and wine. Who can ask for anything more?

Call Skip or Molly 916-434-5953 if you have any questions. Hope to see you!

Mail checks ASAP.

Skip & Molly Ibenthal.



President's Message

by: Hank Pezzetti

me he already has many trips in his area already in the bag.

our luncheon in Angel's camp followed by another Broadway quality show at The Fallon House in Columbia.

Well if you did not join us Saturday for our trip to Bodega Bay you missed a good one. Mother Nature cooperated and the day was perfect. Be sure to read Julie Gomez's article, she wrote a great critique on the trip, I was too busy driving to enjoy the rest.

We promised to keep in touch and hopefully we will put something together quickly.

This year's production is "Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn". The show is tentatively set for July 17th, full details on this will be published in next month's newsletter.

This year is definitely on the upswing, the first Sunday drives have been very successful. Four cars that came to the Bodega Bay run where from the Reno area. We (the board) have been discussing doing a Reno event in the very near future. The event would probably be a weekend trip due to the distances.

We have an upcoming trip hosted by our Vice-President Skip Ibenthal to The Nevada City Playhouse that is coming up very quickly in May. Our trips to theaters in the past have been exceptional and this one promises to be more of the same.

Hank

Tony Otis will be hosting "the Loop around Berryessa" in June for a FSD. This promises to be another road rally that your driving skills will be needed.

Ron and Carolyn Phillips from Reno were with us on this past weekend's trip and we were talking about just such an outing.

He is also offering a trip to the Filoli mansion in the Bay Area June 26 that you can see by itself or combine with the Palo Alto Concourse June 27.

Ron also belongs to another car club in the Reno area and he told

Once again I will be hosting, what now seems to be an annual event,

Contact Information for "the Capitol STAR"

Submit articles to:
Bill Brandt
5910 Gloria Dr.
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CapitolStar@sbcglobal.net
Deadline for submissions is
the 20th of each month.

For changes to articles or ads:
Bill Brandt
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New article ideas:
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The Typical Club Member...

I have a small confession to make. I resisted joining the Mercedes Club for a couple of years because I had certain stereotypes of a “typical club member”. Members I had never met, I might add. I envisioned joining with my relatively humble 300E and hearing other members ask, “.....And what do *you* drive?” You know, like the high school reunion gone bad.

Well, some 15 years later people constantly ask me about the Club demographics and I still can't categorize a “typical member”. But I do know one thing – I have never met a snobbish Club member, no matter what they own that came off the Sindelfingen line.

The reason I bring this up is that a few days ago I got an interesting phone call. It was from a new member who wanted me to see his car. Since I was doing my taxes at the time, I deferred until he told me he was in front of my house.

So I go out and see a beautiful black 1959 220S. It is a Pontoon, with only 50,000 miles. The engine just purred while idling, the way the engineers intended all those years ago. It had the original black paint although the front area had been rubbed and polished so much in the intervening 51 years that a bit of the original red primer could be seen in areas. It had a “patina”.

I don't know a lot about Pontoons but do know that a sliding steel sunroof had to be very rare in 1959 – and it was. Most of the sunroofs ordered were the sliding fabric Wabasto Sunroof – this steel one was also from Wabasto and had to be one of the first.

The owner's father, the original owner, was a piano tuner in addition to being a university professor. He took delivery in Stuttgart and drove to Leipzig to see where his favorite pianos were made.

I thought that this was most unusual as during my Army time in the early 1970s – the thought of taking a driving tour through East Germany – where Leipzig was - was like flying to Mars. But then



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Matias and his 1959 220S

this I realized this was before the communists put up the wall. The car was then shipped to Chile where its owner taught in a university for many years. And now the car with the proud son is here.

Over the years, I've met a member with a 190E-16, who took delivery in Germany and spent time there before bringing it home. It still looks as new. I've met a retired airline pilot who wanted a 300SL since childhood and finally (after many checks written for restoration) acquired one. Then there's a member who seems to be perpetually restoring his 300 Adenauer, which was involved in a collision with a Corvair (if that gives you a hint of the accident time). I have no doubt that it will soon be on the road. There's also a member – with his new SL550 - who was recently profiled in *Business Week* about taking delivery of a car in Europe.

There's even a member who has a 25-year-old 300E with 340,000 miles, in the family since new. He took the car on a 14-day 7,492-mile trip around the country in late 2006. It turned 300,000 miles at 80 MPH outside of Rawlins, WY. Trouble-free, I might add.

Bill Brandt

Bodega Bay Run - Summary

Thanks to all those who made the Mercedes Rally to Bodega Bay on Saturday; those of you who couldn't make it missed a truly great day.

We met at La Bou in West Sacramento, and our convoy hit the highways a little after 9:00 a.m. Had to suffer the freeway for a bit, but quickly segued off Highway 113 toward Lake Berryessa, by way of twists and turns and dodging the weekend biking brigade that travels the byways. It was a perfect spring day, made to order, with every wildflower and blossoming tree imaginable guiding our path through the beautiful countryside of the Napa Sonoma Valley and the surrounding hills.

A carefully programmed, intricate, twisty route ensured that our trip was anything but dull. Dodging the main thoroughfares, we made our crooked way to Calistoga, where a rest stop refreshed and regenerated our spirits for the next leg. Avoiding Santa Rosa and any other major populated areas, two-lane roads and almost-paths were followed, sheltered by the soft green light of newly leaved trees and shrubs. Drivers were afforded the opportunity to test their skills in putting the finest cars manufactured through their paces, performing as they were meant, in manipulating the quick turns and "s" curves that were abundant in the area. Passengers, on the other hand were able to enjoy the vista afforded by flowery fields populated by cattle, horses, a few lamas, and if you looked carefully, a few deer here and there. A bright blue sky formed our canopy, with few clouds to block the warm spring sun.

Leaving Guerneville, spines straightened, eyes became ever watchful for that first glimpse of the sea, a sight that never fails to quicken the pulse of lovers of the coast and its ever changing scenery. The view didn't disappoint, with the coastal winds blowing the surf and sand—not too much, just enough to stir the senses.

We ended our trip just North of Bodega Bay with much laughter and chatter about the challenges of the "trail". I know most of us have traveled up and down the California Coast, but I have to say that taking the back roads offers an incomparable experience of the true beauty that is California, not to mention the pure joy of putting our phenomenal cars through their paces. We need more trips like this one.

Julie Gomez

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 mark and there will be some rare and stunning cars on the field. You can attend both events or either! I should have a list of suggested hotels if you wish to spend the night to attend both events.

If you attended the Empire Mine tour some months ago - this is the mine's owners "house" (on 600+ acres).

There will be more details in the next issue, but if you have questions in the meantime please contact

Tony Otis at (916) 536-0704.

Nevada City Theater - A Few Good Men - May 23, 2010

This Reservation is for the *Theater Only* -

Name _____ Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Number Attending _____

Total _____

Please send a check of @18.00 p/p made to MBCA Sacramento Section and mail to:

Skip Ibenthal
2368 Culpepper Lane
Lincoln, CA 95648

Questions? (916) 434-5953

MERCEDES STARS AT PALO ALTO CONCOURS

by Robert Schilling, President San Francisco Bay Area Section

What: Palo Alto Concours d'Elegance & Corral

When: Sunday, June 27, 2010

Where: Stanford University

Cost: \$50 per car (concours or corral)

Mark June 26-27 on your calendar and plan to attend the finest Concours d'Elegance north of Pebble Beach. With over 500 cars on the field in 2009 this show is a draw for some truly remarkable cars on display, and this year will be extra special because Mercedes-Benz is the featured European marque.

All registration for the show is handled directly by the Palo Alto Concours, and forms for both concours (judged cars) and the Special Display Area (formerly the Corral) are available on their website at www.paconcours.com. If you prefer to have applications mailed to you, please call Steve Pedone at (650) 813-1100. The deadline for both judged and corral entries is May 17, and space in the display area will fill up fast, so register early! When you register, there are several options:

Judged Entry: Applications are accepted for 1987 or older Mercedes-Benz in excellent original or restored condition. Vehicles on the field will be judged and trophies will be awarded.

Special Display Area (Corral): Perfect if you aren't interested in having your car judged, but you'd still like to park it on the field amongst other Mercedes-Benz. Both registrations include two tickets to the show and continental breakfast.

If you've never attended the Palo Alto Concours, this is the year to make the trek and support the M-B enthusiast community that will be very well represented. So whether you're showing, displaying, judging, or just there as a spectator, be sure to stop by the club tent and say hello!

Editor's Note: Additional details on this August Event will be in the next issue.

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 in Carmel Valley, California. This event will be a new part of the world-famous Monterey Motorsports Reunion (formerly Historics) and Pebble Beach Concours weekend.

MERCEDES BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA - CENTRAL COAST SECTION

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Questions? Ed Swain 805-549-9705 edswain@charter.net



Welcome New Members

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Bill Clingman | Penryn, CA |
| Creighton & Nancy Fong | Lincoln, CA |
| Thomas & Dawn Hopkins | Placerville |
| Karl Von Schnell | State Line, NV |

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 monthly from National. We cannot make changes locally.

Mercedes-Benz Club of America

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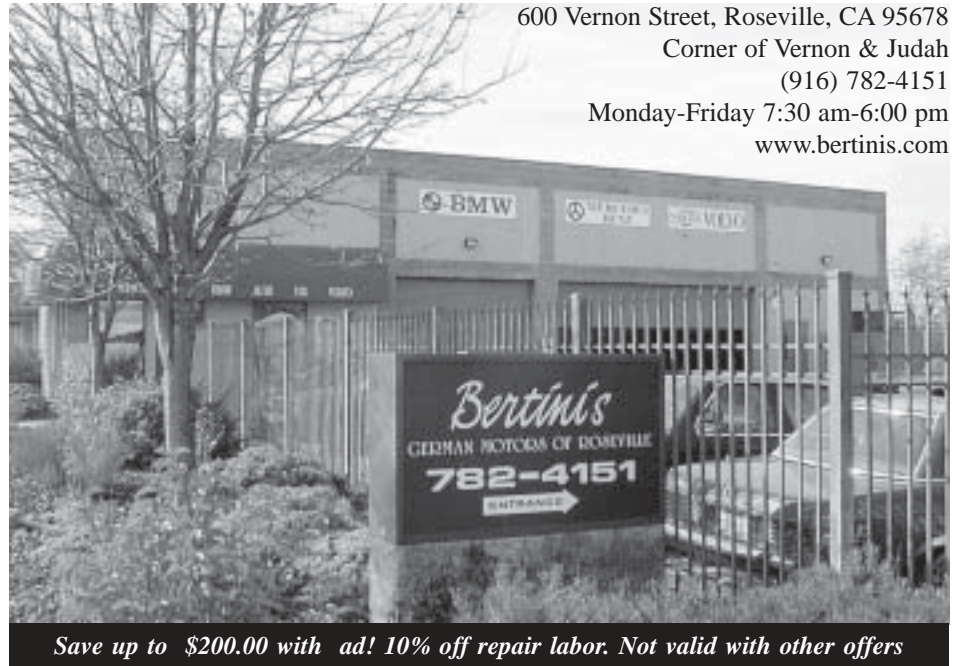
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Mercedes Mart

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**.



Hank Pezzetti Giving Instructions For Bodega Bay Run

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