



The Saguaro Star

Serving Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts throughout Southern Arizona

Presented by the Chaparral Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America



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January 2016—March 2016

Spring Has Sprung in Southern Arizona



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Arizona in springtime is a spectacular event. This year spring flowers once again emblazon the desert with a kaleidoscopic view of brilliant colors.

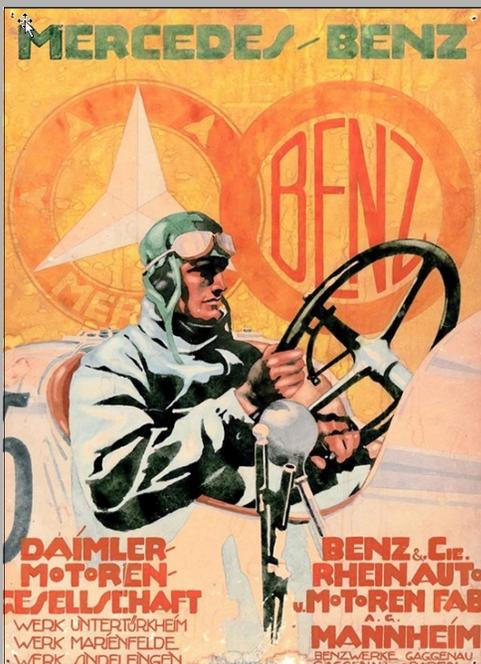
It is impossible not to notice whether you are driving in the city, hiking in the desert or along the highway. This short spectacle of color and breathtaking fauna lasts only a short time .

If you missed it, be sure to look out for the blooming season next year and make time to 'smell the desert blossoms' it is worth it!

This time of year is also top down for those of you who own a convertible and if you don't own a convertible roll down the windows open the sunroof and hit the road . The Chaparral Section has planned several wonderful events for us to explore nearby sites and gather at the nearest watering hole for a meal and some friendship.

See you on the road,

Jutta Lunario
Editor The Saguaro Star



Mike Zonnefeld

President
520.749.3575
MikeZonn@aol.com

Lynn Davison

Vice President/
Events Coordinator
520.885.6669
crackerdog@cox.net

Beverly Maddalone

Secretary
732.485.2005
Bmadd732@att.net

Jerry Tucker

Director
520.529.1978
jerry@tuckerhome.us

Kenneth George

Director/Advertising
520.408.7255
kagandegg@q.com

Mike Bailey

Director
520.591.4789
jammerkiller@earthlink.net

Jutta Lunario

Director/Newsletter Editor
520.780.9339
jutta@juttalunario.com

Bud Cloninger

Regional Director
602-326-6210
scottsdale3@mac.com



President's Message

President's Column, March 2016

Spring is just around the corner and with our excellent weather it is definitely a pleasure to drive our wonderful Mercedes around Arizona!

Our section has had and is planning some outstanding events for this year. Our sweetheart mixer in February and the recent tech session at Monsoon Motors were outstanding events! If you missed either one, you missed a really fine time. The outstanding Monsoon Motors event hosted by Rick and Seth, both Mercedes master mechanics again taught us how much we don't know about these fine automobiles, and the careful thought that goes into the design and manufacturer of these high quality automobiles.

The Passport event now in full swing is yet another opportunity to drive our Mercedes around the great state of Arizona with a purpose.

Our Section continues to grow, and our members are enthusiastic about our cars as well as the social occasions our Section offers!

Remember the benefits of belonging to our Section, invite other Mercedes owners to join in the fun!

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For the Chaparral Section

Mike Zonnefeld

President



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Event —Tubac Collector Car Show

THE SANTA CRUZ VALLEY CAR NUT'S TUBAC COLLECTOR CAR SHOW

By Michael Cooper

The 22nd Annual Collector Car Show was held on Saturday, January 30, 2016. Seven of our members and guests first met at the Cow Palace Restaurant in Amado, Arizona, for a wonderful breakfast. Those in attendance were Lynn Davison, Ken George, Bob Pascalar, Michael Turner, Michael Cooper, Tom Murphy, and Don Lathrop along with Tom's and Don's wives. After breakfast around 9:00 am. we all drove together to the Tubac Golf Resort and parked in the club's driving range in our assigned row where there were over 430 cars and motorcycles who were also entered in this show. In the Mercedes Benz Class Number 20, (there were a total of 22 classes) there were 11 cars of which most were MBCA Chaparral members. Lynda Bothworth's 1960 190 SL won the class, Michael Cooper was second with his 1980 280 SL and a non-member was third place with his 2009 SLK.

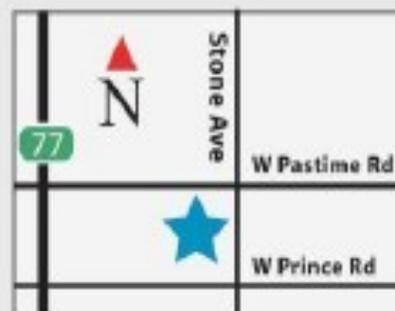


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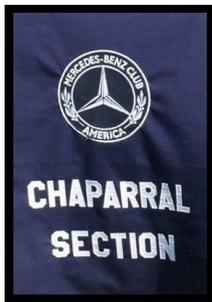
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Date	Event	Host/Contact
April 16, 2016	DM-50 Car Show	Michael Turner
May 21st 2016 *	Mount Lemmon	Ken George
June 11th, 2016	Kratchner Caverns State Park	Lynn Davison
September 10th, 2016	Kitt Peak Tour and Picnic	Michael Turner
October 15th, 201	Tucson Classic Car Show	Jerry Tucker
November 13th, 2016	Tombstone Drive and Dine	Tracy Long
December 3, 2016	Holiday Party/Annual Meeting	
Summary of upcoming events next page please		

***Please check the Chaparral Section website for the most current information and updates concerning these events and all other section activities.
www.tucsonmercedesclub.org***

*Exact date and time to be announced

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Events Summary 2016



March 19 Tech Session

We've been short on tech sessions of late, so this one will let you learn all about your Mercedes from Rick at Monsoon Automotive. Ladies of Mercedes, don't you dare be intimidated by anyone. This one is for you too.

April 16 DM 50 Car Show

DM 50 is an organization that supports Davis-Monthan AFB and its mission. Every spring they throw a superb picnic for all the base personnel and their dependents. Part of that is a car show which we support wholeheartedly. Come on out, enjoy the picnic and a fine time in the spring sunshine.

May 21st, Mount Lemmon

It's starting to get warm in May, so where better to spend time than a cool cave? We'll have reservations for the tour, then have lunch after the tour. This is one of the destinations for Chaparral Section's Arizona Passport, so bring your camera and a Mercedes or MBCA logo to get credit for the visit.

June 11 Kartchner Caverns State Park

This traditional drive is always a favorite because it leaves hot Tucson behind for cooler mountain temperatures, a neat road to enjoy with your Mercedes, and the Sawmill Restaurant is always a favorite.

In July and August, the Section is dark.

September 10 Kitt Peak Tour and Picnic

We usually do a drive and dine, but with no restaurant on Kitt Peak, we'll do a picnic. Pot luck anyone? Our resident astronomer, Michael Turner, promises the usual excellent tour and glorious post monsoon weather.

October 15

The Tucson Classics Car Show is always a sellout of gorgeous cars and weather and of course supports the Tucson Rotary Club's charities.

November 13

A Sunday trip for a change to Tombstone Arizona and lunch at Big Nose Kate's. Tracy Long has us all set up for tours, mock gunfights, and a nice drive too. This is one of the Passport Destinations.

December 3 It's time for another Holiday Party and annual members' meeting!

Of course there are other Section gatherings. Don't forget Cars and Coffee at La Encantada parking lot on the second Saturday of every month. If this is an El Nino winter, the wildflowers should be the best in years. We'll scope it out and organize a drive to see them, but notice for the drive will be short. Be Ready! Likewise short notice a little later to see wildflowers on the back road to Coronado Memorial. The first few miles are paved, but the last half is not, so plan on a high clearance ML, GL, or another brand of truck or SUV. This trip is also on the Passport list. See you at an event soon.

Lynn Davison
Events Guy



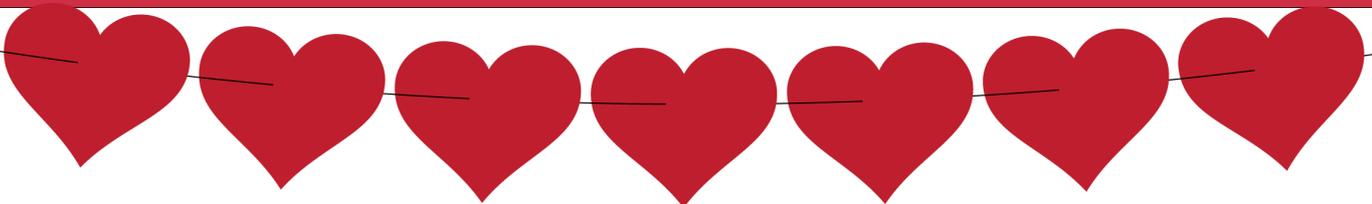
Event—Annual Sweetheart Luncheon at 49'rs Country Club



Sweetheart Mixer

February 13, 2016

Eighteen members, including new members Reggie and Sheila Browning, met for lunch at the Forty Niners' Country Club on east Tanque Verde on February 13. After admiring everyone's current shiny ride, we enjoyed ordering off the menu and particularly the view of the nearby Catalinas just outside the window of the Rincon Grille. We had a pleasant afternoon with no agenda or program just enjoying camaraderie and stories of past drives and adventures.



Meet our Board Member

Mike Zonnefeld
President



I was born on a farm in NW Iowa, grew up working the farm, and in a grocery store..

Always involved with motor vehicles, I drove a school bus to high school when 17 years old under the then Iowa laws.

Upon high school graduation, joined the Air Force, went to tech school and was stationed at Holloman AFB NM, where we flight tested and sled tested inertial navigation systems in C-130, C-131, and a F-106B. Heavy stuff for a 19 year old! While at Holloman, completed my first two years of college at NMSU, and later graduated from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, IA.

After the USAF I joined Collins Radio Company in Cedar Rapids as a technical writer, then flight testing of flight control systems, managed trade shows, and became the regional sales manager for Collins in Wichita, KS handling Learjet, Cessna, and Beech aircraft as the major clients.

In 1994 Lillian and I moved to Tucson where I became the western US and Canada sales manager for Collins.

I retired after 34 years with Collins, and formed my own aircraft brokering company, ZonnAir LLC.

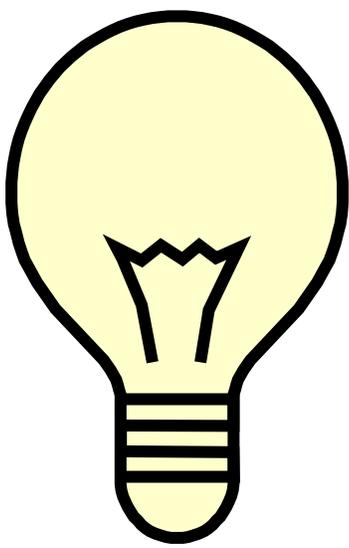
Lillian and I have been married for 27 years, and have three daughters, one son, eight grand children and three great grand children! Lillian first turned me on to Mercedes since she had a 1978 300SE that she purchased in Germany.

Other interests include flying as I am a commercial pilot, flight instructor, flight instructor instruments, airplane single and multi engine land, and a ham radio operator.

My favorite Mercedes are the R 107 series cars, 560SL, 450SL, and 380 SL

It has been an honor to serve as the Chaparral Section president for the past several years!.





Don't Swear At Other Drivers!

Sandy was driving down the road and met a car coming the other way. Although there was room to pass easily, Sandy forced the oncoming driver Jack to slow down wound down her window and shouted 'Pig'. Jack rolled down his window and shouted 'Cow". Then Jack's car hit the pig.



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Wayne / Taylor

vanderauto@ymail.com



Congratulations to Lynn and Marilyn Davison! After completing our Section’s History Drive and Dine event on January 16, 2016, they are the first AZ Passport Program participants to complete the required visits to 12 iconic Arizona places covering all four Program sections.

Lynn and Marilyn began their adventure in Arizona on October 1 and took part in our Kick-off event at Pine Top, AZ, on October 3-4, 2015. Their travels, have taken them from Tucson, north to Sedona, Jerome, on to Rt. 66, Meteor Crater, the Grand Canyon, Four Corners, Canyon de Chelly, Petrified Forest, Coronado Trail, Whiskey Row in Prescott, Bisbee, and the Pima Air and Space Museum. Lynn participated in our January 16, 2016 History Drive and Dine car rally and added three more iconic destinations to his AZ Passport: Mission San Xavier del Bac, AZ Sonora Desert Museum, plus Saguaro National Park - West.

Lynn and Marilyn say they are looking forward to visiting more iconic places to add to their AZ Passport over the next year and through the conclusion of the Program on October 1, 2017. Will they visit all 32 destinations? Stay tuned.

Your Chaparral Section has plans for future driving events that will take you to destinations included in the AZ Passport Program. If you want to join the Davison’s and other Section and MBCA members on the road to your own AZ adventure, please contact Beverly Maddalone, the Program Administrator, at bmadd732@att.net, to register and receive “The Rules of the Road.”

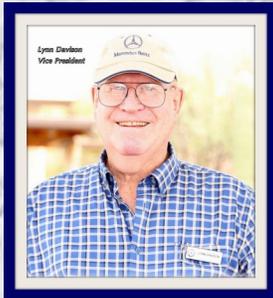
Beverly Maddalone
Program Administrator



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President**



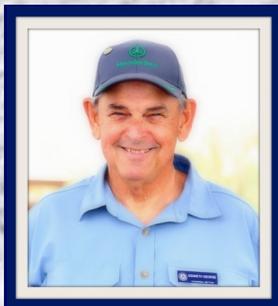
**Lynn Davison
Vice President**



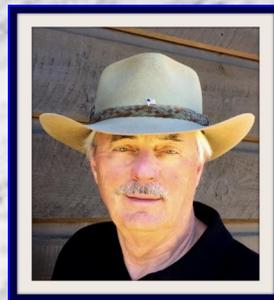
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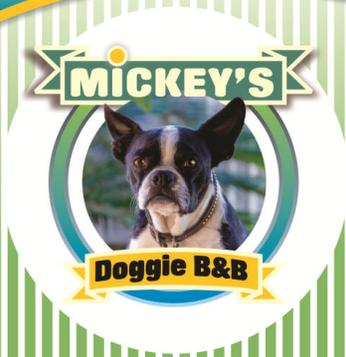


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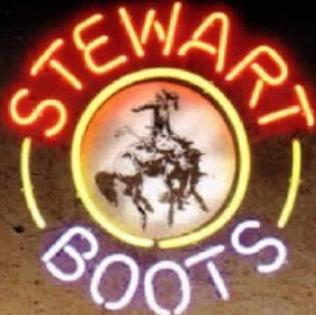


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 OFFICE (520) 290-2335

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Today's automotive vocabulary

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Questions to ponder about:

WHY DO WE DRIVE ON PARKWAYS AND PARK ON DRIVEWAYS?

WHY IS AN ALARM CLOCK GOING "OFF" WHEN IT ACTUALLY TURNS ON?

ISN'T IT A BIT UNNERVING THAT DOCTORS CALL WHAT THEY DO PRACTICE?

DOESN'T EXPECTING THE UNEXPECTED MAKE THE UNEXPECTED THE EXPECTED?



Event — History Drive

On January 16, 2016 the Chaparral Section enjoyed a local historic drive created by member Tracy Long. Starting with the scenic Gates Pass, 28 of us in 15 Mercedes cars enjoyed the twisty mountain road over the Tucson mountains. At the Saguaro National Park we enjoyed Mike Bailey’s description of the area before launching for the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum, where Mike continued his tales of Tucson history. Next up was Old Tucson Studios, a famous movie set used for many years for many John Wayne pictures. San Xavier del Bac mission church was next. This is one of the oldest buildings in America still standing and used daily on the Tohono O’Odham reservation. The Saguaro National Park, Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, and San Xavier are all sites on the Arizona Passport, so photos taken at these sites can be used for Passport completion.

One of our members finished up all 12 required sites and thus was the first to finish the Passport program. He says he’s going to continue visiting additional sites on the Passport program. A fantastic Mexican meal at the nationally famous El Charro restaurant in downtown Tucson served as our finale. Everyone enjoyed eating at the original home of the Chimichanga. And the margaritas weren’t too bad either! At this site, the waiter told us the story of the family who originated the restaurant nearby and still owns and operates it today. Mike Bailey’s narratives, the photo opportunities, and a January day filled with warm temperatures, sunshine, and blue skies made this one of the best events ever.



Great Job Tracy Long you know how to put together a fun tour



Chaparral Tech Session

March 19th, 2016
at

Monsoon Automotive

“I just learned things I didn’t know I didn’t know!” was the exclamation from a participant in the tech session event at Monsoon Automotive, 1170 N. Pantano Rd in Tucson, Arizona.

This comment expressed everyone’s appreciation for the March 19, 2016 , event hosted by the Chaparral Section. Rick Becker and Seth Levy, assisted by Ross Rubado, started with an hour long explanation of Mercedes fluids and lubricants, which ones to use, when to change them, and the consequences of improper use.

In the second hour with an ’88 560SL on the rack next to an ’08 C300, a discussion and comparison of Mercedes engineering and design and its evolution with respect to engines, suspensions, drive trains, and even tires held everyone’s attention. Questions and answers flew back and forth, and a respectful admission of “I don’t know the answer to that,” to a very few questions kept the discussion going. Using some Mercedes brake parts held up next to some non-Mercedes brake parts reinforced just what it is that makes us all such enthusiasts of our chosen marque.

Requests for another tech session soon closed out our meeting. Soon, very soon.



**Mercedes Benz Experts
at
Monsoon Automotive**



**This is my baby 2010 e63
Says Eric Aufhammer!**

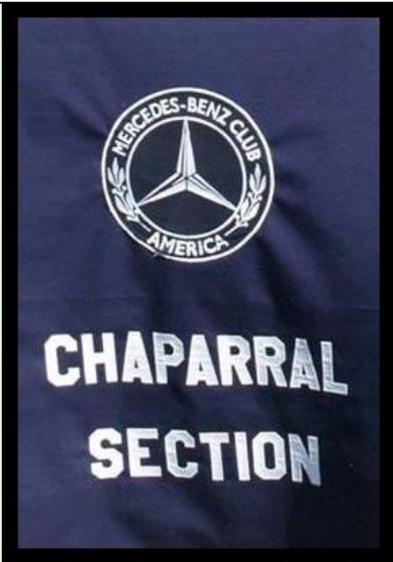


**I have a 2004 CLK320 cabriolet which I
purchased new. It was my trophy for
when I retired. Says Paul Jaffe!**



Let's show off our Mercedes automobile (s) every month we would like to feature a few of the members Mercedes' Send us your picture with make and year and a brief comment if you wish. If you have some great stories to tell about your Mercedes or trips you took with the car we would love to hear them!!!!

Thank you Eric and Paul for sharing yours.



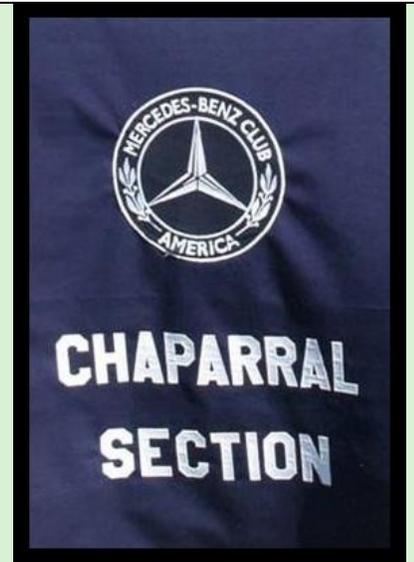
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