



Tampa Bay Star

August/September 2018



Cadillac Car Collection Tour
See Pages 8 & 9

Coming Events

September 9, 2018
James Western Art Museum
St. Petersburg, FL

October 20, 2018
Old Castle Restaurant
Ruskin, FL

November 18, 2018
Mote Marine Aquarium
Sarasota, FL

See details for these events
on pages 4, 5, and 10



Sculpture Museum Tour
See Pages 6 & 7

Important Dates

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NOTE: The night for the monthly business meeting is the **FIRST MONDAY** of each month (except for September and sometimes July & January when it moves up 1 week) and is open to all members. We go to a nearby restaurant for dinner after the meeting. Please join us and help us with your input.

Sep 9 Sunday
James Western Art Museum
St. Petersburg, FL
See details in THIS issue

Sep 10 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars
8302 US Hwy 19 N
Pinellas Park, FL

Oct 2 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars

Oct 20 Saturday 4:00 PM
Old Castle Restaurant
3830 Sun City Center Blvd
Ruskin, FL
See details in THIS issue

Nov 5 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars

Nov 18 Sunday 10:15 AM
Mote Marine & Aquarium
Sarasota, FL
See details in THIS issue

Dec 2 Sunday 11:00 AM
Holiday Brunch
Safety Harbor, FL
See details in NEXT issue

Dec 3 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars

Jan 7 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars

About the Newsletter

The Tampa Bay Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. publishes this bi-monthly newsletter in even-numbered months. Opinions expressed are those of the authors. Express permission is hereby granted to other Sections of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America to reprint articles contained herein, without exception. Articles of general interest are solicited for inclusion in the newsletter, and should be mailed to the Editor or e-mailed to LindaBCooper@verizon.net. Copy deadline is the first day of even numbered months.

An Overview of the Club

Established in 1956, MBCA has more than 20,500 members in over 84 sections across the nation. These local sections organize hundreds of events each year, ranging from social gatherings to specialized technical sessions. We're a not-for-profit organization.

Join the Club

Enroll as a member of MBCA for:
One Year \$55
Two Years \$107
Three Years \$157
Call 800-637-2360

Local Activities

Your dues include membership in the section of your choice. Each section publishes a newsletter with news of its activities and its year-round calendars of events, including rallies, defensive driving courses, car shows, technical sessions, and dinner meetings. Many sections host special events. Any MBCA member may attend any section, regional, or national event.

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President's Message

Hi Everyone!

Well, it is Back-to-School time. Where did the summer go? I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and made lots of memories.

We have had some good events this summer. On July 21st we went to the St. Petersburg Sculpture Experience. Fascinating!!! Having the artist explain his work was great...really made it so much more interesting than just looking at the sculptures. I have seen sculptures but never really thought about how they were made. The 26-foot lion was absolutely amazing. Following the museum we enjoyed lunch at the Oyster Bar.

The August 5th event was a private Cadillac car collection tour in Sarasota that was fabulous. Lunch followed at Duff's Buffet.

I want to add that we have a lot of fun at different events every month. I feel that is the reason we have been having such great attendance. These are places you just wouldn't get up on a Saturday or Sunday morning and go to on your own. We have seen a lot of Florida and done so many different things; please let us know if you have ideas for events we can plan for next year.

Sunday, September 9th, we will attend the James Museum of Western & Wildlife Art, followed by lunch at the museum's café. There is a PDF file with the menu choices for the lunch. They have asked that we pre-order as their kitchen is small and this will ensure speedier service. So if you sign up for this event, Dave and I will be contacting you via e-mail for you to make your lunch selection(s).

October 20th is an Oktoberfest dinner at the Old Castle Restaurant in Ruskin. In November we are going to the Mote Aquarium followed by lunch. And December 2nd is our Holiday Brunch at Safety Harbor Spa. Please mark your calendars so you won't miss these events.

Happy Fall! The season for Pumpkins and Pinecones!

Lynn



Find us on
Facebook

Welcome New Members!

James Barna • Tarpon Springs
Jaclyn Bronkhorst • Sarasota
Marcel Gutierrez • Tampa
Bill Maloney • St. Petersburg
Jane Park • Lutz
Peter Reiley • Clearwater
Stephen Reynolds • St Pettersburg
Mark Roberds • Bellair
Steve Simon • Belleair Beach
Edmund Staninas • Inverness
Brett Swift • Valrico

Renewed Members

Jim Clasen • Lutz
C. Timothy Corcoran • Tampa
Gene Fleming • Dunedin
Robert Glasier • Palmetto
Richard Harris • Sarasota
John Heuer • Treasure Island
Francis Jarrett • Tampa
Leslie Krajcovic • Sarasota
Scott Lowry • Port Charlotte
Joseph Pennington • Oldsmar
George Penz • Sarasota
Thomas Petersen • Tampa
Robert Reason • Sarasota
Paul Reid • Saint Petersburg
Victoria Ross • Lakewood Ranch
David Stein • Plant City
John W. Thomas • Tampa
Patricia Tornblom • Shady Hills
Peter Werner • Crestview
Nathan Whitlock • Saint Petersburg

Above are the new and renewed members from June 23, 2018 through August 12, 2018. We look forward to meeting the new members and hope to keep seeing our renewed members at many of our events. – Editor

James Museum of Western & Wildlife Art & Lunch



Important Info

WHEN: Sunday, September 9, 2018
WHERE: James Museum of Western & Wildlife Art
150 Central Ave, St. Petersburg, FL 33701
COST: \$10.00/person for the museum entrance
CALL: Dave & Lynn Hutchinson •
Home: 727-726-6711 • dhutch@verizon.net
Cell phone: 727-420-0424
TIME: 11 AM - 3:00 PM
RESERVE BY: August 31st
The museum tour is LIMITED TO 50

Details: We will be touring the highly acclaimed James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art in St. Petersburg. Years ago when Tom and Mary James travels took them out West, they were captivated by the art, the landscape and the artists. This greatly moved them. They began buying pieces not only for their personal pleasure, but also to help the artists earn a living. They collected works in oil, in ink and in stone; works that define genres yet defy labels; works that evoke the spirit of a wide open frontier and the beauty of life in the wild. Members Bob & Catherine Martino and Lynn and I have viewed the collection and found it to be stunning and not to be missed. It is certainly a treasure for our community.

Docents will guide our tour of select pieces for approximately one hour. Then our members will have approximately an hour to see the rest of the museum. We have arranged a group rate of only \$10 per person. The tour will be limited to only 50 people, so please mail in your checks soon. DEADLINE FOR PAYMENT is AUGUST 31st.

Following the tour and visit, we will be having lunch (on your own) in the intimate Canyon Café which is in the same building. Due to the small size of the restaurant we will be requesting that you place your meal order prior to the event. We will contact those that are going by e-mail or phone for your lunch choice.

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location. Paid parking is connected to the museum and is \$2.00 per hour on the 3rd and 4th levels. All other levels are \$1.00 per hour. There also may be some street parking available.

James Museum of Western & Wildlife Art & Lunch September 9, 2018

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

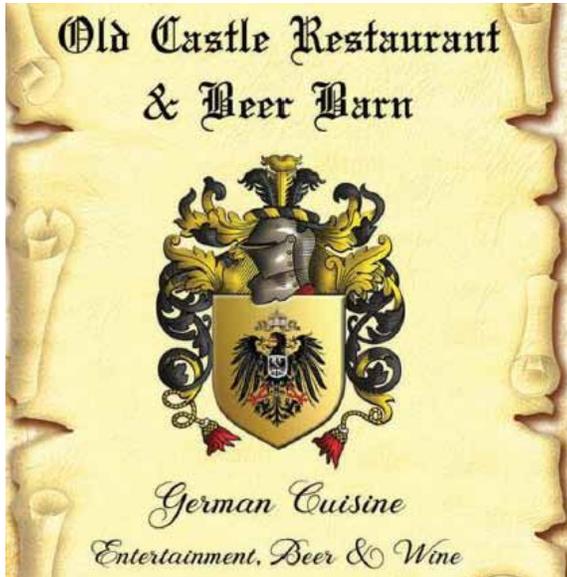
Address _____

____ at \$10/per person _____ Enclosed I will stay for lunch Y N

Make check payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

Mail by August 31, 2018 to:
Dave & Lynn Hutchinson
2104 Flamingo Place
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Authentic German Dinner at Old Castle Restaurant



Important Info

WHEN: Saturday, October 20, 2018
WHERE: **Old Castle Restaurant**
3830 Sun City Center Blvd • Ruskin, FL 33573
COST: Off the menu
CALL: Paul & Linda Cooper
Home: 727-726-6837 • Cell: 727-798-6800
PaulJCooper@verizon.net
TIME: 4:00 PM
RESERVE BY: **October 13st**

Details: About Old Castle Restaurant

Old Castle Restaurant has been providing locals and tourists with a taste of the Old World in Berlin, Germany since 1999. In 2006, it was evident that Sun City, Florida could use a restaurant that offers great German food and a warm atmosphere. We then decided to establish a second location there to spoil and serve countless guests.

When you visit Old Castle Restaurant, you'll notice the decor. Our restaurant is decorated with mostly authentic artifacts from our homeland that were shipped straight from Europe. A fun fact about the restaurant is that the design is actually based on the original "Burg Schanke" in downtown Berlin.

Treat yourself to a taste of the Old World

During your visit to Old Castle Restaurant, you'll enjoy made-from-scratch dishes as well as a variety of German and domestic beers. In fact, all of our beers are served in an original stein, when appropriate.

.Check out their menu at: <http://oldcastlerestaurant.com/>

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location.

Authentic German Dinner at Old Castle Restaurant October 20, 2018

When you call or send a message to Paul & Linda please indicate the names and how many will be joining us for dinner.

Call or email
by October 13, 2018
Paul & Linda Cooper
PaulJCooper@verizon.net
Home: 727-726-6837

St. Petersburg Sculpture Experience

St. Petersburg, FL
July 21, 2018
By Pat Watson

On July 21st, 36 club members joined us for a tour of the St. Petersburg Sculpture Experience at their new location on Central Avenue. Parking was a challenge on a busy Saturday in downtown St. Petersburg, especially since the event chair couple left off the parking details in the newsletter (oops, sorry!!). Everyone found a spot and we were on time for the tour to begin at 1:00 PM.

We were fortunate to have the artist Jon Hair give the tour. Jon is a self-taught artist that began sculpting at age 50, a time when most of us began planning retirement. Jon's family first moved to St. Petersburg from Iowa when he was 9. His grandmother ran the Hair Guest House on 340 4th Street South in downtown St. Pete. His family lived in St. Pete until he was in his teens. Jon began his multiple careers in New York as a musician, playing with many music greats like Jimi Hendrix. He later became an art director for his own marketing company, and eventually got hooked on sculpting. He says it is what he was born to do. His recent move from South Carolina is a homecoming to the downtown St. Petersburg area.

Many of the sculptures in the studio are clay figures used in making the molds for the bronze casting. Standing next to one of his largest sculptures -- the 26 ft long lion -- gives you a mind blowing perspective of how big some of his sculptures really are. One of the claws is almost the size of a person's head. The bronze version ended up being 12,000 pounds. The sculptures are incredibly realistic, with amazing detail. Jon took us through the process of lost-wax sculpting, giving us a new appreciation for how a bronze statue is made. Throughout the tour Jon entertained the group with his stories of how the sculptures evolved, problems encountered, and how they were resolved. If you missed the event, make sure you view the photos on the Mercedes Club Facebook site to see some of the sculptures.

Lunch was at the Oyster Bar just down the street from the museum. The menu included a wide assortment of choices, and beverages to quench our thirst after the long 4-block walk.

For those of you that missed the event, we hope to see you at the next one. If you see an activity that you think the club would enjoy, please let us know. If you would like to chair an event, drop us a note or join us at the next meeting.



Above: Event Planners Greg & Pat Watson,

Below left: Frank & Deborah Pinto with Ghandi & Mother Teresa!!

Below right: George Orndorff hangs out with Teddy Roosevelt & George Washington!



Photos at this event taken by Dave Hutchinson



Left: Dave Hutchinson with Mozart!!

Right: Caroline Cerveney, Liz Palmer, Nancy Merada & Carolyn Jarotz



ST. PETERSBURG
SCULPTURE
Experience



Above: Sculpture Jon Hair

Left: Dick Van Dyke

Below: Dan Cabrera, Michael & Lynn Gulick and Debbie Cabrera

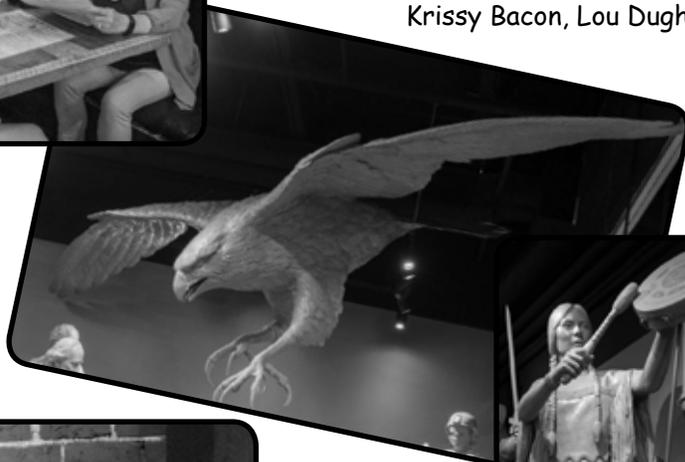


Above: Caroline Cerveney, Nancy Merada, Krissy Bacon, Lou Dughi and Jim Merada



Above: George and Carol Orndorff

Right: David & Liz Palmer



Cadillac Car Collection Tour

Bradenton, FL
August 5, 2018
By Len Berman

On the first Sunday of August two dozen members of the Tampa Bay Section took advantage of the opportunity to tour a charming and unique bit of Americana devoted to automobiles. Cadillac aficionado Sal Santoro opened up his vast private collection of all things related to the marque, including models, literature, ads, models, artwork, and even clothing, for us. Also included was memorabilia related to the New York Yankees and his career before retirement.

The centerpiece was a large space housing his collection of Cadillacs of every decade, from the 1940s to the 1990s (since, expanded to the 1930s and 2000s). There was a wide variety, including a custom Cadillac pickup, a station wagon, and a number of sexy convertibles. Standard models included the actual Cadillac sedan used in the movie *Driving Miss Daisy*, and even an exact replica of the Cadillac ambulance from the original *Ghost Busters* movie. Breaking the mold, but just as interesting, was a GMC panel truck with a lighted diorama inside.

The layout of the display was as mesmerizing as the cars. The walls were decorated with a collection of storefronts, including a bank, a movie theater, a café, and a gas station (the “Mirage Garage”). Most fascinating was a barber shop, the false interior seen through the windows being from an actual shop and showing Sal himself cutting a neighbor’s hair. Even the storage room behind each door in the wall intrigued everyone.

A visit to Duff’s Buffet ended the morning, leaving everyone satisfied in just about every way imaginable.



Above: Len Berman with his red 2007 SL



Left: Sal & Jan Santoro

Below: Driving Miss Daisy car from the movie



Photos at this event taken by Greg Watson



Above: John Thomas & Nancy Pease
Right: Lynn & Michael Gulick
Below: Steve & Donna Rae



Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium & Lunch



Details: Join us Sunday, November 18th at Mote Marine Aquarium where you will meet over 100 different species of marine life that call Mote home.

The aquarium spans two separate buildings. Getting to the aquarium on City Island is part of the event, as the water views over the Gulf of Mexico are amazing. We will meet at 10:15 AM, please be prompt as only one group ticket will be purchased. You will have 2.5 hours to explore with our group before we meet for lunch. Don't forget to stop at the gift shop where you can buy a stuffed river otter, manatee, or just a tee-shirt.

Lunch will be at the Chart House on Longboat Key at 1:30 PM. Plan on more fabulous views and good food choices.

We will not be able to collect cash or checks on the day of this event, so make sure your checks are received by the deadline. Be sure to verify your check for dates, signatures and amounts before mailing

Directions: From I-75 Fruitville Road exit 210, go west to Tamiami Trail (U.S. 41), turn left. Turn right at Gulfstream Avenue (789 towards beach and Longboat Key) and cross the Ringling Causeway to St. Armands Circle. Exit circle at North Blvd of the Presidents (follow signs toward Longboat). Proceed one mile and turn right at Ken Thompson Pkwy (Traffic light at intersection). Optionally, put the address in your GPS or call Greg Watson, 941-539-8700.

See page 11 for additional Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium history

Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium & Lunch November 18, 2018

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

_____ coming @ \$17/person _____ Enclosed I will stay for Lunch Y N

Important Info

WHEN: Sunday, November 18, 2018

WHERE: **Mote Marine Lab & Aquarium**
71600 Ken Thompson Pkwy, Sarasota, FL
Lunch: **The Chart House**
201 Gulf of Mexico Dr, Longboat Key
at 1:30PM

COST: \$17.00/person for Aquarium entrance

CALL: Pat and Greg Watson
Phone: 941-539-8700
gwatson511@verizon.net

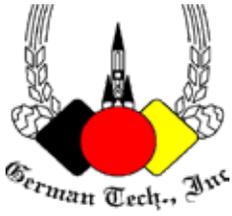
TIME: 10:15am - 1:00pm for tour Lunch after

RESERVE BY: **November 10th**

Make check payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

Mail by November 10, 2018 to:

Pat and Greg Watson
552 Mast Dr.
Bradenton, FL 34208



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