



Tampa Bay Star

October/November 2014



**Lined up to Rally!!
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Coming Events

**October 25 2014
British Car Show & Dinner
Safety Harbor, FL**

**November 15, 2014
Sunset Picnic at Sand Key
Clearwater Beach, FL**

**December 7, 2014
Holiday Brunch
Safety Harbor Spa
Safety Harbor, FL**

**January 31, 2015
Mt. Dora
Museum of Speed
Mt. Dora, FL**

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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.

Important Dates

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.

Oct 25 Saturday 1:00 PM
British Car Show & Dinner
Safety Harbor, FL

Nov 3 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars
6001 34th Street North
St Petersburg, FL

Nov 15 Saturday 6:00 PM
Sunset Picnic
Sand Key Beach, FL
See details in THIS issue

Dec 1 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars

Dec 7 Sunday
Holiday Brunch
Safety Harbor Spa
Safety Harbor, FL
See details in THIS issue

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

Jan 31 Saturday 10:30 PM
Mt. Dora Museum of Speed
Mt. Dora, FL
See details in THIS issue

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

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

Apr 6 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars

May 4 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting & Dinner
Crown Eurocars

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 \$49
Two Years \$95
Three Years \$139
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

Rally Master Scott Suits called our last event "Fall Fun Road Rally" ... and it was exactly that. We had 13 teams (two people per car) depart from Panera Bread in Tarpon Springs, each with hopes of following the directions and finding the answers to the questions posed by Scott. We laughed and debated (read as: argued) as we searched for the right roads and correct answers to claim the title of Rally Champion. Ending up at The German Restaurant, we enjoyed offerings from their menu as we exchanged our rally experiences. Congratulations to Dave and Lynn Hutchinson who were victorious by only missing half an answer (got one of two parts) and only exceeding the mileage by one-tenth of a mile.

November our planned activity takes us to the shore where we will picnic and watch the sunset. We are responsible for bringing our own food. The club will provide beverages and snacks.

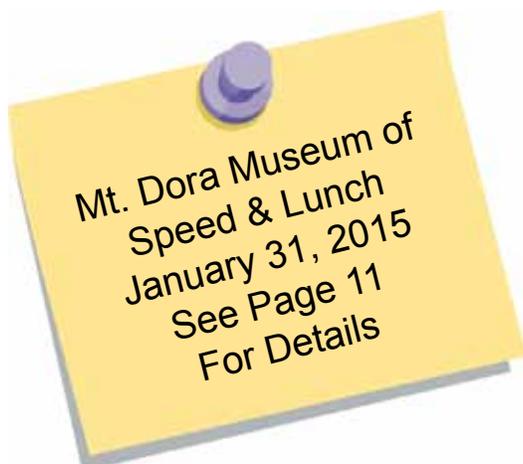
December will be celebrating the Holidays together with our annual Holiday Brunch. Always a fun get-together held at a wonderful location, the Spa at Safety Harbor. Their brunch is one of the best in the Bay area. Once again, those who are planning to participate in the gift exchange need to bring a wrapped gift (car related) per individual.

Did you know there is a car museum in Mt. Dora? We will be going there in January!! After our tour of the Mt. Dora Speed Museum, we will have lunch at the Frog & Monkey Pub. See page 11 for details.

Last year we decided as a group to share our good fortune with children confined to a hospital for the Holidays. Those who wanted to participate brought an unwrapped gift to our Holiday party. It was a huge success, so once again we are asking you to bring a child's gift to the Holiday party in December.

We have more fun planned for 2015; please join us.

Dan



Welcome New Members!

Tim Gorske • Hudson
Charlene McCullough • Bradenton Beach
Marc Pflieger • St. Petersburg
Charles Sambrook • Sun City Center
David Stein • Plant City

Renewed Members

Russell Boyle • Hudson
Jose Chavez • Ocala
James Cridlin • Chiefland
Stephen Digilio • Kingston
Michael Germak • Tampa
Edward Jarotz • Seminole
Eric Kriby • Largo
Michael McElmurry • Parrish
Harry Mead • St. Petersburg
James Merada • Seminole
Lois Oberlander • Spring Hill
John Patterson • Lakewood Ranch
Jerold Rendel • Clearwater Beach
Victoria Ross • Tampa
Karen Stotsky-Mc Bride • Clearwater
Scott Suits • Palm Harbor
Horst Walter • Hudson

Above are the new and renewed members from September 1 through, October 15, 2014. We look forward to meeting the new members and hope to keep seeing our renewed members at many of our events. – Editor



Picnic Dinner & Sunset on Sand Key Beach



Important Info

WHEN: Saturday, November 15, 2014
WHERE: Sand Key Park
1060 Gulf Boulevard • Clearwater, FL
COST: \$5.00/membership
CALL: Dave & Lynn Hutchinson
727-726-6711 • Dhutch@verizon.net
Cell: 727-420-0424
TIME: 3:00 pm to sunset
RESERVE BY: November 8th

**The club is providing beverages and light snacks for this event.
Please bring what food you want for dinner.**

Details: Here is what the Pinellas county website says about this park: Sand Key Park was opened to the public August 1984. Ninety-five acres are located on Sand Key, a barrier island between the Gulf of Mexico and the Florida mainland. Clearwater Pass, leading from the Gulf to the Intracoastal waterway, separates the park from the popular resort area of Clearwater Beach.

We have secured one of the 2 shelters. Pack what ever you are in the mood to eat & the club will provide the beverages & light snacks. Relax, visit & enjoy the beach. Near sunset we will move nearer the beach and experience the wonderful sunsets this beach is noted for. There is a flat rate of \$5 per car for parking. Bring some chairs as the shelter only has picnic tables that usually don't get softer as we sit!!

Directions: As you come off the SR 60 causway go 1/2 way around the traffic circle so you are going south on Clearwater Beach. at the south end of the beach you will turn right onto Sand Key Bridge. The park is on the right at the bottom of the bridge. Put the address above in Google Maps, Mapquest or you phone or car GPS for the best directions from your location. If you get lost I put one of Dave & Lynns cell numbers above or you will find the other officers cell numbers on page 12. Calling house lines on page 2 will not get us if we have already left home!!

Picnic Dinner & Sunset on Sand Key Beach Saturday, November 15, 2014

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

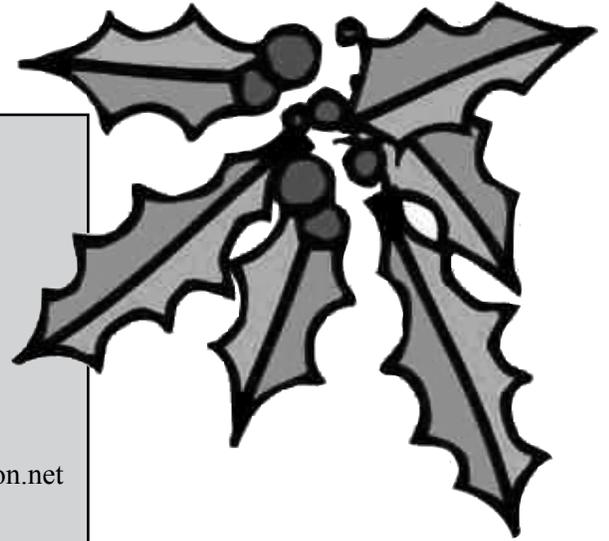
Address _____

_____ number coming \$5.00 Enclosed

Make check payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

Mail by November 8, 2014 to:
Dave & Lynn Hutchinson
2104 Flamingo Place
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Holiday Brunch



Important Info

WHEN: Sunday December 7, 2014
WHERE: Safety Harbor Spa
105 North Bayshore Drive • Safety Harbor, FL 34695
727-726-1161
COST: \$25.00/person
CALL: Dave & Lynn Hutchinson • 727-726-6711 • dhutch@verizon.net
Cell phone: 727-420-0424
TIME: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
RESERVE BY: December 1, 2014

Limit 2 per membership

Details:

Please join us for what promises to be a most enjoyable and unforgettable Holiday Brunch. This year's party begins at 11:00 AM and I'm sure you will agree will be filled with much delicious food and the usual MBCA fun. We will have our famous lively Chinese Auction. Bring a wrapped gift costing about \$15 (car or holiday related in good taste) if you want to participate in this gift exchange. If you are participating, you must stay until ALL gifts are exchanged. If you bring 1 gift you get 1 ticket and 1 gift to take home.

Sunday Brunch at the historic Safety Harbor Resort and Spa is more than a collection of enticing entrees, savory soups, salads and delectable desserts - it's a sensory experience served up with a dash of history. Our Section is paying for part of the brunch cost. Valet parking is available.

We will also be collecting upwrapped toys for distribution at local childrens charities.

Directions:

Put the address into your navigation system (even outdated disks will have this location as the Spa has been there longer than all of us!), smart phone GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location.

Holiday Brunch Sunday, December 7, 2014

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Address _____

Email address _____

No. _____ \$25/person enclosed _____

Make check payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

received by December 1, 2014 to:
Dave & Lynn Hutchinson
2104 Flamingo Place
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Fun Rally Results

Holiday, FL
September 21, 2014
By Scott Suits

On September 21 thirteen teams gathered at the Panera Bread in Tarpon Springs for our second rally of the year. The Drivers and Navigators were informed that the two-hour rally would take them into areas that most had never seen before. This was not a timed rally to discourage speeding. The teams were handed sheets that comprised directions to 22 route changes and 30 clues. The answers to the clues would be found on road signs, historic markers, churches, animals in yards, businesses, and even a headstone in a cemetery. They were warned that they would have to get out of the car at least once to retrieve the answer to a clue. The cars were started in approximately three-minute intervals. The route never got much more than 10-12 miles off of the coastline so we never got into the back-country, only lesser traveled roads for part of the time. One of the roads was blocked off for a local event but most teams went around the barriers and forged on. True rally people indeed!!! The rally appropriately ended at the German Restaurant in Holiday. No, not just a German restaurant, that is the name of the restaurant. It is run and operated by a couple from Germany and serves only authentic German food and, yes, beer.

The teams were scored on the closest to the pre-determined mileage in tenths of a mile and the most correct answers to the clues. Some claimed that the answer to a clue or two didn't exist but this was proven to be false as some did have the correct answer. The youngest person in the rally was Gabriella Sgro, a ten-year-old very talented navigator. Her proud dad and I have been friends since 1996 when we both drove our 113's to StarFest in Portland Oregon. He is from Ohio and I am from Michigan. The Sgro team placed fourth in the rally.

The first-place team, Dave & Lynn Hutchinson, only missed half of a two-part clue and only went over the 42.1-milecourse by four/tenths of a mile. Pretty cool! The second-place team of Ron and Mary Ellen Ames only missed one clue and also were only four/tenths over. Third place Dan and Gayle Konkol only missed one clue and was only .6 over. Bill and Gabby Sgro also only missed one clue and were .8 over. I have never had such a close finish in any rally! I think it may have to be tougher next time!!!

The final scores are as follows:

- 1st Dave and Lynn Hutchinson 239.5 pts. - below left photo
- 2nd Ron and Mary Ellen Ames 237 pts. - below center photo
- 3rd Dan and Gayle Konkol 235.5 pts. - below right photo
- Bill and Gabby Sgro 229 pts.
- Neal and Michele Dion
- Dan and Debbie Cabrera
- Paul and Linda Cooper
- Tim and Norma Keevers
- Frank and Pattie Fitzhenery
- Joe and Marcia Colwell
- Russ and Donna Boyle
- Robert and Ronie Lewis
- Gary and Connie Dolin

I laid out the rally, ran it again to check directions, and was running it the last time to check miles.... and a road got closed. The Sheriff was not sure it would re-open in time so I re-routed it and had to make two more runs to check. I still really like laying out road rallies and, if the section agrees, I will do the next one in Central Florida so we can get more open spaces. Thanks for the opportunity.





Above: Ron & Mary Ellen Ames



Above top: Tim and Norma Keepers

Above right: Frank and Pattie Fitzhenery

Above: Gary & Connie Dolin

Right: Russ & Donna Boyle



Above top: Dan & Gayle Konkol

Above right: Dan & Debbie Cabrera

Above: Joe and Marcia Colwell

Left: Robert and Ronie Lewis

All photos at this event taken by Dave Hutchinson

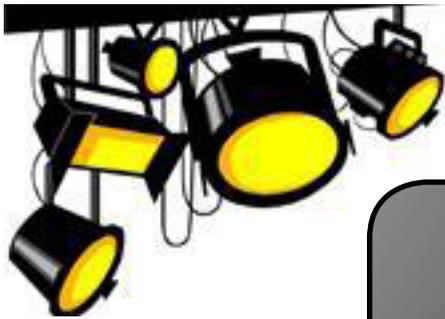


Left & above: Neal and Michele Dion

Far left: Paul & Linda Cooper

Left above: Bill and Gabby Sgro

Left below: Dave & Lynn Hutchinson



Member Car Spotlight

Safety Harbor, FL
by Dave Hutchinson

The spotlight this month is on new Tampa Bay Section members Tim and Marianne Gorske. The Gorskes recently took delivery of the beautiful new CLA class Mercedes-Benz pictured here. They are past Mercedes-Benz owners, having had a C240 Compressor and more recently a GLK 350. They have also been members of the Mini Cooper Club. Tim and Marianne are new Florida residents having moved to Pasco County recently from Pittsburgh. Several of their siblings have moved into the same neighborhood. Prior to their life in Pennsylvania they had spent 16 years in Maryland. Tim is a consultant for Metal Building Consultants. Marianne owns the travel agency, Special Travel for Special Women. Like many of our members Tim and Marianne have traveled most of the World. They have a son, daughter-in-law and two granddaughters. We are excited to have the Gorskes in the Tampa Bay Section.

If you would like for me to feature your Mercedes-Benz in a future Member Spotlight, please contact me by e-mail at dhutch@verizon.net

Buzz & Gail in California

Monterey, CA
August 15, 2014
By Buzz Werner

More photos that Gail & I took at the Legends of the Autobahn August 15th in Monterey. It was a beautiful sunny day in California. This was the fifth year of the event and was sponsored by the clubs for Mercedes, BMW and Audi.



Above: 1957 220S



Above: 1960 Cabriolet



Right: 1952 220 Cabriolet "A".

Photos from the Legends of the Autobahn taken by Buzz Werner.



For Sale

Any member wishing to place an ad in the newsletter for automobiles and/or related equipment for sale, may do so at no charge by sending a typed or printed copy to the Editor no later than the 10th of the odd number months.

FOR SALE – Bonnie & Dick Wolverton cars **2007 S-550**, 49k miles, Options include parktronic backup camera, Iridium silver; all services at Crown. \$32,500. **2003 SLK32 AMG** black, 46k miles, all service Crown, new tires, very good condition. Great for driving events. \$16,500. Call Dick (H) 727-896-1995, (O) 727-823-1399 or dickwolv@aol.com

FOR SALE - Like new custom cover Silverguard Plus Class 2; SLK class '98-'04 (W170 body style). Only used in garage \$150. Call Jim & JoAnn 863-386-0286 Sebring, FL

FOR SALE – 1984 500SL dark blue w/tan interiors, 2 tops, 160K miles, always garaged, 2 sets of wheels, \$7,500. 727-864-1622 (St. Petersburg, FL) call Bob Alexander for appt

FOR SALE – Chris Tornblom's car – 1 left: 1984 SEC 500 - fully loaded - car runs great heated seats, new tires. Call Pat 727-856-5584 to see this beauty.

FOR SALE - Like new 4 rims for 2005 SLK 350 10 spoke original rims only 22,000 miles on them for \$200.00 plus shipping Call Bob at (352) 875-9689

FOR SALE - 2005 SLK 350. SUPER clean -auto -7 spd-V6 268 HP -Black -Beige interior; Harman/Kardon sounds-21,650 miles. \$21K Call John @ 941-755-9154



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Mt. Dora Museum of Speed & Lunch



Important Info

WHEN: Saturday, January 31, 2015

WHERE: **Mt. Dora Museum of Speed**
 206 N Highland St, Mt Dora, FL 32757
 (352) 385-0049 • www.classicdreamcars.com/
Frog & Monkey Pub • 352-383 -1936
 411 N Donnelly St, Mt. Dora

COST: \$15.00/person for guided tour

CALL: Dan Cabrera • 813-759-0776
 dcabrera2@tampabay.rr.com

TIME: 10:30 AM - 12:30 for museum tour
 1:00PM for lunch

RESERVE BY: **January 24th**

Details: Written by owner Terry Bogard on their website:

It was a romantic 'getaway' from the rigors of Palm Beach County, for my wife and I, for six years prior to moving Mt. Dora. We decided it was the perfect place to 'semi-retire' and open a Car Museum , after an article appeared in Money magazine rating it as One of the Top Five Places To Retire. It occurred to us that there was plenty of entertainment in town for the ladies but, nothing for the guys to do, except eat/drink....so, with it's close proximity to the Orlando Airport, it was the perfect venue for a Car Museum. We designed the building in the 1940's style of Art Deco and decided to share our lifetime collection with everyone who chose to come in. The Museum is located on the corridor to the Historical District (206 North Highland Street), designed as basically a Hurricane Proof 7,000+ sq. ft. building with cantered 26 foot ceilings, designed to hang all our antiques.

Here is what the website says: Welcome to the Frog and Monkey Restaurant and Pub! We are located in the basement of the Renaissance Building in beautiful downtown Mount Dora, FL. With a vast beer selection and the best burger and chips in Lake County, our diverse menu and whimsical atmosphere create a superb venue for casual diners and beverage connoisseurs.

Directions: Editor: I put the address in Google Maps, Mapquest & my iPhone and they all found the museum address. Please test your GPS/phone before the day of the event. The restaurant address is above and is less than a mile from the museum right in the heart of the Mt. Dora downtown area. Cindy Bogard said there in free garage paking in town. You will find cell numbers for some of the officers on page 12 and the number of the museum above if you get lost.

Mt. Dora Museum of Speed & Lunch

Saturday, January 31, 2015

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Make check payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

Mail by January 24, 2015 to:
 Dan & Debbie Cabrera
 3016 Leila Estelle Dr
 Plant City, FL 33565

_____ @ \$ 15 /person _____ Enclosed

I/we will be staying for lunch Yes No

Sunset Picnic Dinner
 Sand Key Park
 Saturday
 November 15, 2014
 See Page 4 For Details

If you are running late for an event, please feel free to use any of the cell phone numbers below to let us know.

Name	Cell Phone Number
Linda & Paul Cooper	727-798-6800 or 727-644-6837
Pat Tornblom	727-808-1757
Lynn & Dave Hutchinson	727-420-0424



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