



**OUR MISSION**

*To elevate the Mercedes-Benz experience through knowledge, camaraderie and exceptional events*

# Star Bulletin

**Christmas party brunch on Sunday, December 17, 2023 at the Southwestern Yacht Club. Party gets underway officially at 1100am. Sign up now and ensure a seat. The gift exchange is worth the price of admission**

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Douglas Aguillard**

## THANK YOU, OUR LOYAL MEMBERS FOR RE-NEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP

<b>Jeffery Brown</b>	<b>David Schneider</b>	<b>Stacey Patton</b>
<b>Patrick Georgides</b>	<b>Michael Tellez</b>	<b>Charles Davis</b>
<b>Armando Danna</b>		<b>Walter Welsh</b>

As many of you have noted, costs have increased, resulting in the cost of our events to increase. Hotel costs have gone up significantly. Your board assures you that they are aware of this, and are working diligently to keep costs down. They don't want cost to become a factor in our members not attending fun events.



I don't know about the rest of you, but December is the time of year when I reflect on (3) big items. Here is my list that I would like to share with you.

1. I focus on my family! I think about all of the good stuff that has happened throughout the year. (And some not so good). I think about how grateful I am to have such a close and loving family and how much I love them.
2. I reflect on the year! I think about my accomplishments and of course some failures along the way. I think about my friends and my time meeting new people. I reflect on how fortunate I am to have been in good health all year and how lucky I have been to have worked at the same job for over 27 years.
3. I think about the Mercedes Club San Diego Section Holiday Party being held on December 17<sup>th</sup> and all of the fun we will have seeing our friends and celebrating. This party is the crescendo to an already terrific year. So come celebrate with us! Let's share some laughs.

See ya soon.  
Michae

**MBCA Board Meeting January 16, 2024@ 6:00 PM  
at Mimi's on 5180 Mission Center Rd, San Diego**

Note: Our regular Board meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month. Occasionally meetings are cancelled when there is no pressing business that can't be resolved by electronic means. If you are considering joining the board meeting, please call a board member to make sure there is going to be a meeting.

**Take a look at the MBCA website at [mbca.org](http://mbca.org) and refresh your memory on the benefits of being a member of the MBCA. The German trips are back and having gone on one I can highly recommend it.**

**15% discount on parts at Classic Center**

**MediJet assist for emergency medical assistance**

**New car rebates**

**Discounted insurance on your collector car.**

### 2024 Mercedes GLC Coupe Priced At \$58,150 But There's A Catch



**That's the price before the AMG Line, which will be standard equipment for the "initial market deliveries."**

Mercedes-Benz unveiled the 2024 GLC Coupe in March this year but at the time, the German company didn't announce any details regarding the market launch of the crossover and its pricing. Today, more than seven months after the [official debut](#), we have all the information and the first thing you should know is that you can now place an order. The fully revamped model wears a starting price tag of \$58,150 with destination and handling fees included. The first cars will arrive at the brand's showrooms around the United States in late fall this year, meaning the first customer deliveries are probably going to happen before the end of 2023. The new [GLC Coupe](#) is \$2,300 more expensive than the outgoing model.



## THE RICHARD MANN MEMORIAL DRIVE



### Richard Mann and his Soul Mate, Ann Kinner

Richard was a member of the MBCA for over thirty years and for several years he was a member of our San Diego Section, and served on the board. Richard relocated to Washington State and was active in that section. He returned to San Diego about nine years ago and was a fixture at our activities. Richard was an ML guy and he was not afraid to go off road and did on many occasions. In fact, he is the only man or woman I know, that did the off-road excursions that the vehicle was designed to do.



Ominous clouds gather in an attempt to discourage us from proceeding with the Richard Mann Drive. Pete Lobner didn't even bother to put the top up on his 280SL. Pete was in the Submarine Service and he is making up for the daylight and sunshine he missed.



The Bold and the Brave. From the left Ann Kinner the Tour Master, Steve Ross, Rose Bolton, Lady Elizabeth Alexandru, Dian and Gary Gelman, Diana Kruse, Bob Gunthorp, Haidee Thesing, Jack Heacock (in hat) and Stephen Thesing. From the left, sort of a back row, Rudy Wokoek, Radu Alexandru, yes, he had on his driving shoes and helmet at the ready, Patty Arnold, Jim Stewart, Janette Hay, Carol Ross, peeking out behind Janette Hay, and Jen Lobner. Jen is riding in the car with the top down.

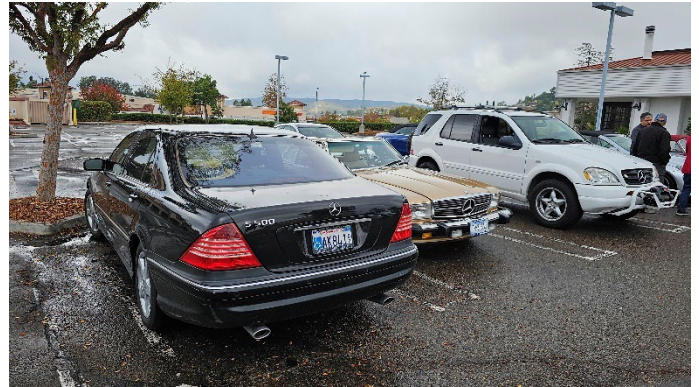




There were some Mercedes automobiles involved as well. In the back ground is Rudy Wokoek's ML, up front are, Diana's 1961,190SL, Gary Gelman's convertible, Ann's, let's go rock climbing, ML. Below are Bob Gunthop's S 500, Steve's 560SL and Rudy's Diesel ML

We waited for late arrivals and discussed the chances of rain and how cool it was going to be when we got into the mountains.

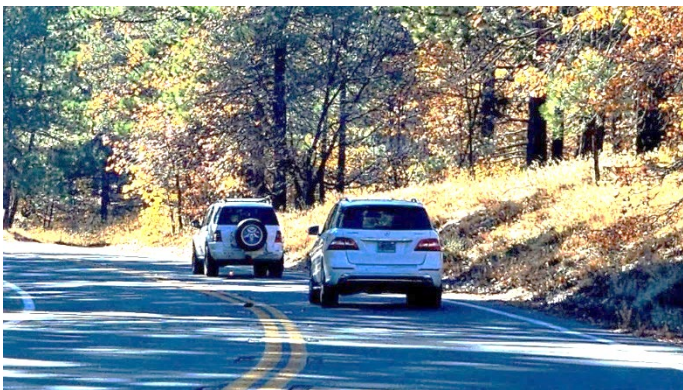
The drive to Lake Cuyamaca and Mt Laguna over the Sunrise Highway was scenic as expected



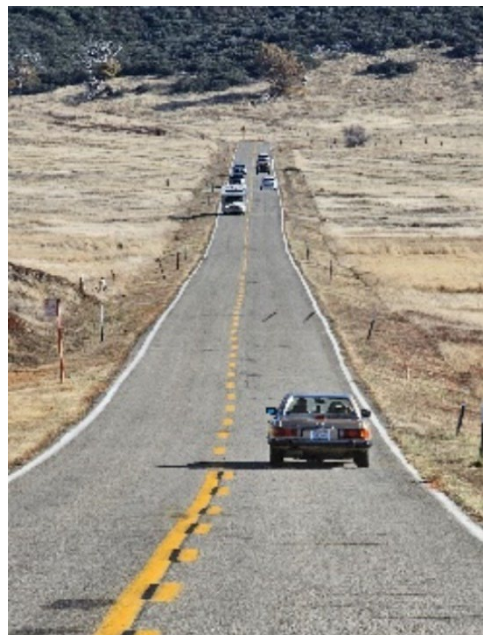
On the road. Jim Stewart in his E400 Cabriolet follows Jack Heacock in his R-107. 280SL



Diana Kruse follows the tour leader Ann Kinner



ML's lead the way. Rudy Wokoek follows the tour leader Ann Kinner



Steve and Carol Ross Hurry to catch up.





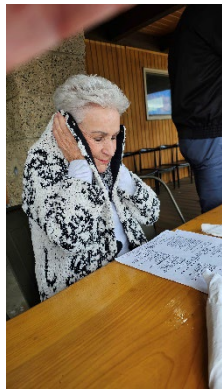
The fall foliage is reflected in the hood of Diana's 190SL bonnet.

Going up the mountain to Lake Cuyamaca the air became much cooler and the leaves were in color, among the Pines.



Arriving at Lake Cuyamaca for lunch at the Pub Restaurant and General Store. We were seated outside overlooking the lake, which would normally be a treat. It was not pleasant on this day as it was chilly, and a nice

brisk breeze was blowing. Many of us were scurrying back to the car for a coat, sweater, or blanket.



Diana Kruse and Janette Hay attempting to bundle up



Trying to get warm, Diana photo bombs Stephen and Haidee



Radu takes his turn at the heater. Stephen is now taking note of the activity behind him

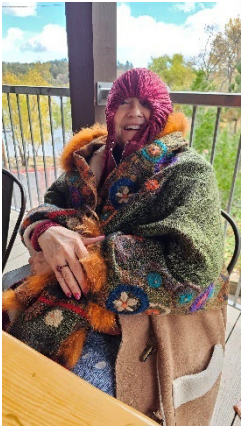


Ann Kinner, Jen and Pete Lobner, the *we don't need no stinkin top couple*, were properly prepared for the climate

In spite of being a bit chilled everyone is smiling, well just about everyone, and having a good time







This forlorn, neglected lady joined us and we, of course we accommodated her with food, sweets and kindness.



Some of us were wondering if this is the same lady who joined us on the New Years drive in 2021. We will never know for sure.



Radu presented Steve with a John Deere Tractor Christmas tree ornament



Princess Diana and Lady Elizabeth.

During lunch Diana commented that the car seemed to be using a lot of gas and she smelled fuel. Of course, this is the opportunity every car guy looks forward to; helping a lady in distress and demonstrating their automotive expertise. Hood goes up I lead the charge to get the hood up and have a look. I look knowingly for a gas leak and see no leak but, I do smell gas. Fortunately for us Bob Gunthorp, who has nearly a half century working on these cars, was with us. Bob came over as I walked away and said it's right here. Sure enough, the fuel line was leaking like an artery. Of course, he had a wrench that fit the line and, voila, leak fixed. How could I have missed that big a leak?!

The dilemma now is there enough gas left to make it to a station. We were about 12 miles from a gas station, so off we go. Well, we didn't make it! While we were milling around smartly coming up with numerous plans of action, a Mercedes-Benz ML pulls up. Rick Stafford, from the South Bay Autohaus in Chula Vista. Rick and Bob know each other quite well. Rick finds out we just need some gas and we have a plan. Rick calmly says, "no problem, I have a gas can and we are only a couple of miles from the station"; I will go get gas and be right back. Rick was back in a matter of minutes and we are on our way. But wait there's more, Gary Flannagan, the owner of South Bay Autohaus and my son graduated from High school together and are friends. What are the odds on that happening?





Rudy Wokoek standing and Steve Ross peering in to the engine watching Bob fix it. Diana is keeping an eye on us.



The rescue party, Pete and Jen Lobner, Steve and Carol, Bob and Janette



Diana driving the 190SL with a full tank of petrol, flying down the California Autobahn.

*I HOPE WE DO THIS DRIVE AGAIN NEXT YEAR*





# Mercedes Benz Club-San Diego Section 2023 Holiday Party

Southwestern Yacht Club  
2702 Qualtrough St., San Diego 92106  
Sunday, December 17, 2023

The event begins at 11:00am with a brunch buffet beginning  
at  
11:30am

Brunch includes Muffins, Fresh Fruit, Breakfast Potatoes, Scrambled Eggs, Applewood Bacon and Sausage, French Toast and an Omelet Station. Beverages include Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade, Water and a Mimosa Station with Assorted Juices.

There will be lots of fun things happening, so you don't want to miss out!

Member of the Year Award, 50/50 Drawing (bring cash!), and our annual gift exchange (bring a wrapped gift with a \$25 limit)

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Please RSVP (with payment) by Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

First and Last Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email and Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_ Adults \$60 each: \_\_\_\_\_

Children \$30 each: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to **MBCA-San Diego Section**

Mail form and check to: Diana Kruse, 4654 Lucille Dr., San Diego, CA 92115  
Questions, please call Diana Kruse at 619-851-8067





# NEW YEARS BRUNCH



By popular demand we are returning to Pehoe's for a New Year's brunch on the bay. The scenery is spectacular, the ambience is great and the food is excellent, so we said "Why Not?" Some people pay a lot of money to come see this view, but for us it is just another Ho-hum day in Paradise.

## THE PARTICULARS

**WHERE: PEHOE'S IN CORONADO, 1201 1<sup>ST</sup> ST, CORONADO, CA**

**WHEN: Sunday January 14, 2024 at 11:00 AM**

**BILL OF FARE: Grilled Chicken Sandwich with Cheese Sauce**

**OR**

**Sauce Seafood Cobb Salad**

**OR**

**Sesame Crusted Salmon**

**Dessert**

**Key Lime Pie or Chocolate Mousse Cake**

**COST: \$40 per person**

**Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Names: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Please select your menu choice: Grilled Chicken \_\_\_\_\_, Salmon \_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_ OR Seafood Cobb Salad \_\_\_\_\_**

**Key lime pie \_\_\_\_\_ OR Chocolate Mousse Cake \_\_\_\_\_**

**Send reservations to Steve Ross @ 16151 Fruitvale Rd, Valley Center CA. 92082  
by January 11,2024**

## WIN A CHICKEN DINNER



### MYSTERY CAR FOR OCTOBER IS THIS BEAUTY



If you are the first to identify the manufacturer, year and coach builder, you have won a Chicken dinner.

**Win this prestigious award by sending Steve Ross the make, and year of this car**

Become a respected authority on automobiles in your house and throughout the automotive world by winning the Chicken Dinner Award!

**\*CHICKEN DINNER RULES: CONTESTANTS MAY ONLY WIN 2 CHICKEN DINNERS PER CALENDAR YEAR.**

**Even if you have won your allotted limit, please guess anyway...and if you're correct, the editor will buy you a big orange drink at our next event.**



## FOR SALE



**1975 450SL, 158,000 miles. Original owner, clean title. Well maintained with both hard and soft top, in great shape. Excellent mechanical condition. No scratches or dents. Exterior color French Blue, interior Beige Brown**

**REDUCED**

**\$14,000.00 OBO. Call 760-832-3374**



## FOR SALE



**1973 Mercedes Benz 280C Coupe. One Owner. Runs and drives great. In mint condition inside and out. It has always been kept in the garage since purchased. It has been driven and treated as a classic since the early 1990s.**

**Asking \$20,000.00. Contact Harold at 949-813-7766 for more information. Shown by appointment only**

## FOR SALE



### THIS VERY CLEAN 1991 560SEC IS BEING OFFERED FOR SALE

This excellent example of a 560SEC has been driven only 112,000 miles since new. Current owner has owned the car for the past 20 plus years and has all the records. All original except for a professionally installed Alpine CD player. Recent work completed, new Michelin tires, hood pad, brakes, battery and oil change. Car Fax available, always garaged and car cover, same mechanic for twenty years. Selling because owner does not have time to drive the car as it should be. Prefers to sell to a club member who will appreciate the automobile.

**ASKING \$28,000 Contact Rita at 858-472-7970**

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### SOME OF MERCEDES-BENZ FIRSTS



- Karl Benz was the first person to receive a driver's license.
- After dealing with several issues such as the engine stalling and a snapped chain link, Benz took the Motorwagen for a test drive with his wife, Bertha, by his side. He crashed into the wall of the workshop. **This was both, the world's first as well as the shortest test drive.**

- Gottlieb Daimler is credited for running and winning the first ever motorsport event in 1894.
- The concept of a hybrid is not a new one. The Mercedes Benz Mixte combined the advantages of the electric and gasoline powered engines in 1906.



SALE OR WANT ADS:

Personal classified ads (sale or wanted) are FREE exclusively for MBCA members. NO commercial or business sales allowed in the classified ad section.

Business advertising is available at competitive rates. Please contact the Treasurer for latest ad rates.

If you want to place a personal ad in the "for sale" Mail Steve Ross [inewsx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:inewsx@sbcglobal.net) Please contact Steve every month to continue your AD

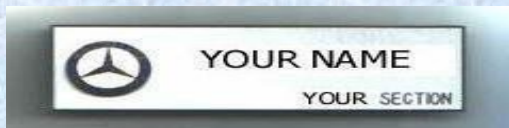
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[inewsx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:inewsx@sbcglobal.net)

We are always looking for volunteers to help out with ideas, planning, and coordinating events.

If you would like to feature your Mercedes-Benz vehicle(s) in this Newsletter with an interesting story or photo, please submit in digital format via e-mail to:

[inewsx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:inewsx@sbcglobal.net)

We would love to get to know you & your Mercedes-Benz. Come to an event and ask us how to obtain a FREE name badge. Maybe even a free beverage.



Can't wait to have a really "Cool" MBCA name badge? Here's how to order one: Go to the MBCA website [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org),


log on, click on Store, click on MBCA Event Equipment Store and scroll down and click on the Name Badge. You are now in the order form. Second method: Log onto MBCA website and enter Name Badge in the search box at upper right-hand corner of screen, click on the Magnifying Glass icon and this will take you to the order form OR you may call 800- 637-2360. All payments are made via credit card.

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Attention Advertisers  
To send a file or for changes  
e-mail Steve Ross at  
inewsx@sbcglobal.net

**2023 Schedule of Events MBCA – San Diego Section**

Our motto “Have it your way, as long as it’s FUN!” Always remember...this is YOUR club. **Events highlighted in red are not official events, but you may want to attend.**

**New ideas or changes please contact a Board Member!**  
**Note: All dates may be subject to change**

Month	Event Name	Date	Managing Rep
January	New Year Lunch at Pehoe’s, Coronado	Jan 14	Steve
January	Dinner at Cucina Enoteca	TBD	Michael
February	Madri Gras at Southwest Yacht Club.@ Pt Loma	Feb 11	Marjo and Steve
March	Palm Springs Overnight	Mar 9-11	Michael and Diana
April	San Diego Coastal Drive	Apr 11	Ann
May	Car Show at Bates or Lazy H	May 15	Steve
June	TBD		
July	Palomar Observatory. Mt Palomar	July 13	Diana
August	TBD		
September	Corn Hole Tournament, Location TBD	Sep 22	Michael and Steve
October	Huntington Library, Huntington Beach	Oct 11-13	Michael and Ann
November	Tech Event	TBD	Steve
December	Holiday Party	TBD	Rudy, Diana, Marjo