



Peachtree Section

Stars in Georgia

June / July 2023



Graphic by
Doug Geganto



Volume 45 - Vol 3 | June 2023

View Through



The Star

View Through The Star

by Gary Edwards, President

I heard it again. My section doesn't do very much. **But it wasn't about Peachtree Section!**

I have said frequently I believe events are the essence of a section and are the service we offer to our members. I believe that having lots of events is a key to serving our diverse membership. I want to remind you that we can only have events if we have event planners. If you have something you've always wanted to do and you'd love to take 25 of your best

friends with you, I encourage you to plan an event. We can do anything that isn't illegal, immoral or results in an unplanned financial loss. We've had events as diverse as skeet shooting to driving on a racetrack. Personally, I would love to do an autocross or a Safe Driver, Safe Family event (basic driving safety skills), but the challenge is having a large parking lot available for a reasonable price. If you know of a large parking lot we can get for a reasonable fee please let me know.

I think events generate excitement. I am certainly excited about Peachtree Section, both the people and the cars. I'm especially excited about our performance driving events but all of our events are fun, and I've enjoyed cars and coffees more than I ever expected. When I think about Mercedes and excitement the first things that come to mind are the AMGs. But there's more to excitement than that. All the cars from the SUVs, the off-road vehicles, the track focused vehicles and the four-door sedan, even the more mundane daily drivers are extremely competently executed. They're all a pleasure to drive and they're all the kind of car where you look down and realize "oh I'm going a lot faster than I thought". And they are all exceedingly safe. They're generally technically very well executed, often with features years ahead of the competition.

[Read More](#)

The Event Rundown

June

- 6/3 | Bruno Sacco Car Show | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 6/4 | Karting at Lake Lanier | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 6/10 | My Mercedes 20th Anniv & Tech Session | [register](#) | [map](#) *new*
 - 6/24 | Fried Green Tomatoes Rally | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 6/25 | PCA Autocross | [register](#) | [map](#)
-

July

- 7/1 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 7/8 | Mountain Drive | *watch for details*
 - 7/15 | German Car Repair Tech Session | *watch for details* | [map](#)
 - 7/23 | PCA Autocross | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 7/29 | Member Appreciation | [register](#) | [map](#)
-

August

- 8/5 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 8/13 | PCA Autocross | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 8/19 | Warner Robbins Aviation Museum | *watch for details*
 - 8/23 | Concours Judging School | [register](#) | ZOOM
 - 8/28 | HPDE with Lotus Club | *watch for details*
-

September

- 9/2 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 9/3 | Karting at Lanier | *watch for details* | [map](#)
 - 9/6 - 9/10 | Mercedes Grande | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 9/9 | Mountain Drive | *watch for details*
 - 9/23 | Peachtree Concours d' Elegance | *watch for details* | [map](#)
 - 9/24 | [PCA Autocross](#) | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 9/29 - 10/1 | HPDE Road Atlanta | *watch for details*
-



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MEMBERSHIP



Peachtree
Section

Welcome our Newest Members

- John Dimmerling
- Lane Garriott
- Leland Hardy
- Jared Hopkins
- Stephen MacArthur

by Reijo Haarla, Membership Director

At the end of April 2023 Peachtree Section of the MBCA has 493 members. Last year's decrease on the Section membership numbers in the fall has now evened up during the months of February, March and April.

- Erik Moore
- Casey Mitcham
- Kelly OBrien
- Clay Rogers
- Stephen Stuk
- Harrison Young

Peachtree Section is one of the most active sections within the Mercedes-Benz Club of America organization. We offer a large variety of events members can participate. Please check the event calendar in this Newsletter and register to attend for an upcoming event. Attending club events is the best way to meet members that share your interest in Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

We are pleased to welcome those who recently joined and renewed their membership.

Thanks to our Renewing Members

- Alan Bremer
- Gordon Broome
- Douglas Coulter
- Michael DiCarlo
- William Dickinson
- Adrienne Donahue
- James Duncan
- John Eagleson
- Alejandro Ferrell
- Bruce Fichter
- Ian-Gordon Fisher
- Carl Frasher
- Douglas Geganto
- Reuel Hamilton
- Leland Harwood
- Ken Hedrick
- Archie James
- Zachary Kehayov
- Carl Maier
- John Olson III
- Mahesh Patel
- Elda Pearce
- Nicholas Pio
- Everett Price
- Marvin Psalmond
- Diana Quinn
- John Race
- Gezim Rexhepi
- Laurie Rich
- J Richey
- Gary Samoluk
- Chris Sears
- Yousef Shaban
- Dietmar Schmid
- Chris Sears
- James Seme
- Scott Smith
- Vinh Vo
- David Waldrop
- Tom Wells
- Edina White
- Kurt Wolfe
- Scott Zelgewicz

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UPCOMING EVENTS

CARS & COFFEE

HALCYON

Cars and Coffee at Halcyon

Join us for our monthly Cars & Coffee sponsored by RBM's Mercedes-Benz Experience at Halcyon. Please arrive by 9:30 am, we'll begin at approximately 10 a.m. when everyone has finished prepping their cars. The [Fuel](#) coffee shop is ready to serve up a hot cup of coffee to enjoy while chatting with fellow members.

This year some months will have a theme to them. Here is our upcoming dates:

- 6/3 - [Cars and Coffee at Halcyon](#) - Bruno Sacco Car Show (See article below)
- 7/1 - [Cars and Coffee at Halcyon](#)
- 8/5 - [Cars and Coffee at Halcyon](#)
- 9/2 - [Cars and Coffee at Halcyon](#)

BRUNO SACCO
In-person and Virtual CAR SHOW
Cars and Coffee at Halcyon
June 3, 2023



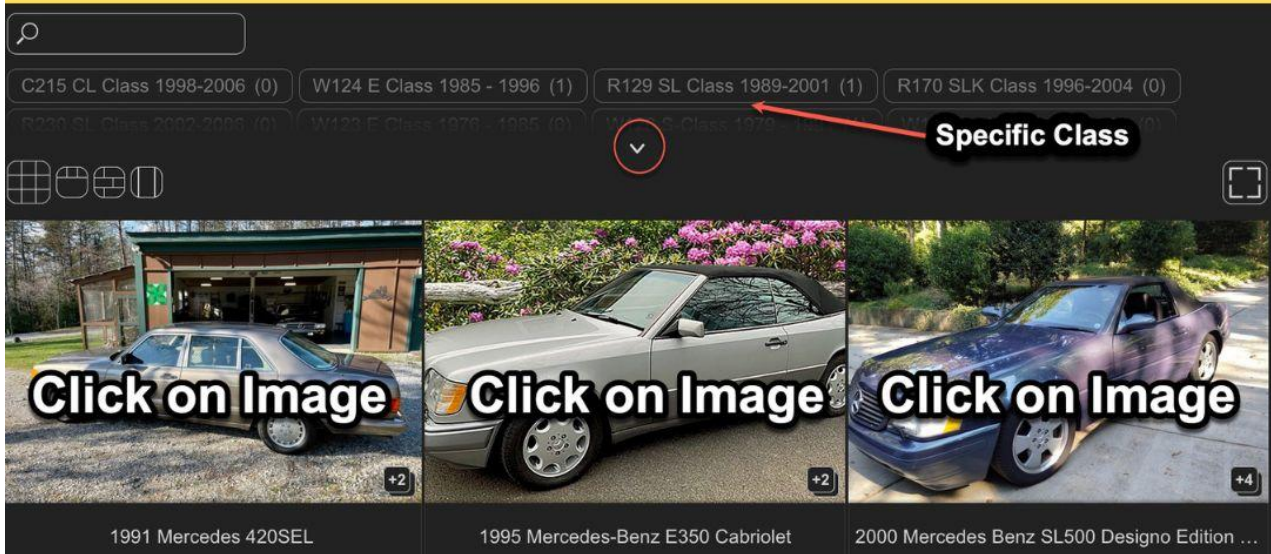
PEACHTREE
SECTION



Bruno Sacco
Car Show



VOTING IS OPEN



Sam Kamber, Concours Chair

The largest collection of “**Bruno Sacco**” vehicles will be on display at Halcyon in Alpharetta GA on the **3rd of June from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm**. In addition to the Live Show we are for the first time hosting a Virtual Car Show for those not displaying their cars at the Live Show at [Halcyon](#) in Alpharetta, GA.

This is a charity event with the recipient being [Bert's Big Adventure](#) which is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides a magical, all-expenses-paid,

five-day journey to Walt Disney World[®] for children with chronic and terminal illnesses and their families.

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE BRUNO SACCO CARS! All entered **Bruno Sacco** cars (Live Show and Virtual) are now available [online](#). **Voting is FREE** and you may vote for as many cars as you would like (Only one vote per car!). Voting will be open until Saturday, June 3, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE BRUNO SACCO CARS



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[My Mercedes 20th Anniversary
and Tech Session - 6/10](#)

Rubin Howard, Event Planner

[Fried Green Tomato's Rally
- 6/24](#)

Doug Geganto, Event Planner



My Mercedes Place 20th Anniversary Celebration and Tech Session on Saturday June 10, 2023, Doors open at 11:00 for conversations and lunch followed by a facilities tour and tech session.

Lunch will be provided by our sponsor and host My Mercedes and Bimmer Place. Additionally, most services will be 20% off for the month of June in commemoration of their 20th year.

This is NO Charge for this event (Member + 1).

[REGISTER](#)



Get your navigator and take a leisurely drive along the backcountry roads of Middle Georgia. Our journey will begin at the original Chick-Fil-A Dwarf House in Hapeville.

We will have lunch in Juliette, GA at the famous Whistle Stop Café made famous from the movie, Fried Green Tomatoes.

This will be a pure driving fun driving event, no tricky questions and not a timed event.

[REGISTER](#)

MY MERCEDES & BIMMER PLACE

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Stu•30 Years|Lane•12 Years|Jennifer•6 Years|RJ•2 Years|Adrienne•20 Years

[PCA Autocross 6/25](#)



The third PCA autocross of the year

[Member Appreciation - July 29](#)

Jane Brown and Thomas Lammert,
Event Planners

is on June 25th at the huge parking lot at Atlanta Motor Speedway. Great fun, a great way to become a better driver and to learn your car's medium speed performance limits in a safe environment.

Don't doddle; they tend to fill up quickly. The dates for the rest of the year: July 23, August 13, September 24, October 8 and November 5.

These are well run, safe events that typically give you 10 runs – much better than most autocrosses, time to learn the course and experiment. You should plan to bring a helmet, though they do tend to have some loaner helmets available.

[REGISTER](#)



Members and guests of Peachtree Section are invited to the free Southern barbecue buffet at the group shelter in Sweetwater Creek State Park. The group shelter is a fully enclosed, air-conditioned building and includes kitchen facilities, private restrooms, a playground.

The free buffet includes barbecued pork and chicken, accompanied by several salads, molasses baked beans, walnut brownies, and beverages. All the food – except buns and pickles – will be homemade. The buffet will open at 12:30 p.m.

[REGISTER](#)

Nothing says Mercedes-Benz more than Buckhead.

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Concours Judging School - 8/23



Gary Edwards, Event Planner

We need concours judges for our September 23rd concours. We'll provide free judges training the evening of Wednesday, August 23rd from 6 to 10 pm via ZOOM.

Previously certified judges are also welcome since there have been some rule book changes since our last training. There is no charge for this event, but you must register.

High Performance Driving (HPDE) - 8/28



It's great fun, it's addictive, and you also improve your driving. Our next events are on August 28th probably at Talladega Grand Prix Raceway (TGPR) in cooperation with the Lotus Club and on September 29 through October 1st at Road Atlanta with PCA.

Registration links for these are not yet available. Going to these PCA events and partnering with the Lotus Club allows us to get to tracks we otherwise wouldn't be able to

REGISTER

afford.

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TECHNICAL DIGEST

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Surprises while Car Shopping

by Gary Edwards

I pulled the dipstick to check the oil and – there was no oil! There weren't even any low/high/normal range marks on the dipstick! The end of the dipstick looked like it was broken off!

I had flown a couple of hours to look at this car, a 1999 CL600 (140 chassis). I had spoken to the seller, an individual, not a dealer, who had described some problems with the car, and I had about a page and a half list of deficiencies based on the conversation and the pictures. It was clear that he had overpriced the car; the Hagerty value guide had \$13,800 for a “fair” condition car and he was up towards the “good” price. I was thinking that I would be able to get it for around the “fair” condition price. Condition is the most important determinant of the value of a car and sellers should be brutally honest in assessing condition to set their price. Overpricing a car benefits no one; the seller will waste time showing it to buyers who will walk, or it will generate no interest. In the unlikely event that it does sell for an unreasonable price, the seller might be happy, but the buyer is likely to be very disappointed, and in any venue that provides a rating the seller rating will suffer. [Read more](#)



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POST-EVENTS

Peachtree Members Tour Jack Daniels Distillery

As a part of the Peachtree Spring Fling weekend (April 27-30) several groups of members drove from Chattanooga to Lynchburg, Tennessee for some sightseeing in Lynchburg and a tour of the distilling plant.

After walking through the various distilling plant buildings and sniffing some of the fumes of alcohol in the making both groups made it back to Chattanooga safely.



Group 1 - Dry Tour (L to R): Sandy and John Everage, Diana and Jim Quinn, Dean and Cristie Prince, Karen and Doug Geganto, Debbie Mabie



Group 2 - Sampling Tour (L to R): *Rich Mabie, Brandon Berry, Janet and Kent Sauter (from Knoxville Section)*

5x Honoree

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MERCEDES-BENZ NEWS



Mercedes-Benz USA And NFL Legend Matt Ryan Build Outdoor Learning Lab By Out Teach, At Dunbar Elementary School in Atlanta

April 20, 2023 - Atlanta

Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA) employee volunteers and brand ambassador Matt Ryan built an outdoor learning lab for the students and teachers at Dunbar Elementary School in Atlanta as part of MBUSA's National Volunteer Week (April 17th -21st). The "Big Dig" project was facilitated by [Out Teach](#), a national non-profit designed to help schools and elementary teachers reimagine and re-engineer teaching and learning science into something fundamentally more effective and equitable for all students. MBUSA volunteers spent the day transforming the empty schoolyard into a fun project-based learning tool for the students. The program is part of Mercedes' corporate social responsibility initiative, Driving Your Future, which aims to empower the next generation by supporting educational programs, career readiness, and child safety. The "Big Dig" event took place during National Volunteer Week, which recognizes the impact of volunteer service to build stronger communities.

[Read More](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social Media

by Rubin Howard, Social Media Director



Peachtree
Section

If you haven't already, Join our Facebook group [MBCAPeachtree](https://www.facebook.com/groups/mbcapeachtree) . Keep up to date with the latest events, chat with members, and make the most of your membership with our Facebook group. As well, follow us on Instagram @MBCAPeachtree. Our Youtube Channel [MBCA Peachtube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) is full of excellent resources for club members. We feature videos such as technical sessions, concours judging schools, Rally schools, as

well as features from events.

Facebook Group link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/mbcapeachtree>

Instagram link <https://www.instagram.com/mbcapeachtree/following/>

MBCA PeachTube link: [MBCA Peach Tube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

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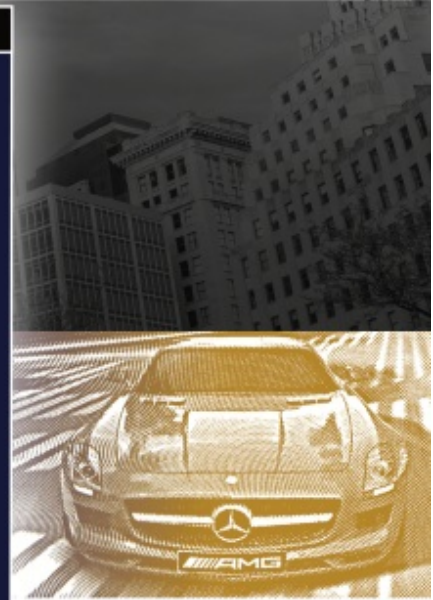
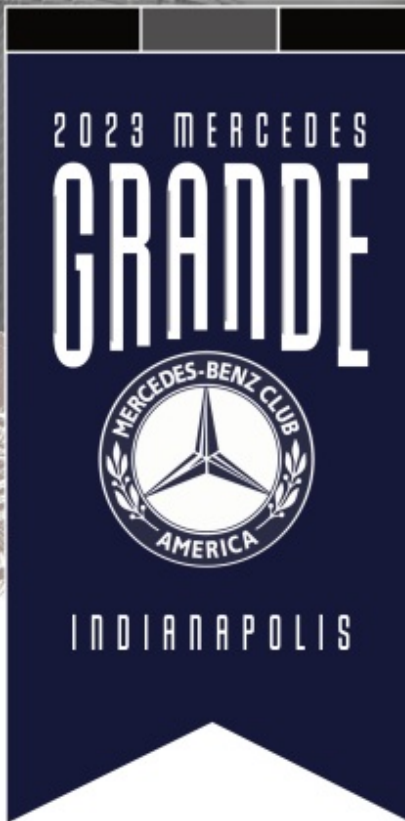
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Thursday, 9/7

- Tech Talks & Guest Speakers
- MBCA Fashion Show/Car Show & Luncheon
- Mercedes-Benz New Car Extravaganza and Lifestyle Exhibition

Friday, 9/8

- Tech Talks & Guest Speakers
- Rally Drives and Tours Presented by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America & Artomobilia
- MBCA Medallion Rally Luncheon
- Hullabaloo Street Festival, Drive-In Car Show, and Concert

Saturday, 9/9

- Mercedes Monumental Classic Car Show at Artomobilia
- The Grande Celebration Awards Dinner
- Kids Zone Exhibit
- Play Station & Driving Experience

Sunday, 9/10

- Rally Drives and Tours Presented by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America & Artomobilia
- Silo Auto Club Racing Simulator Challenge

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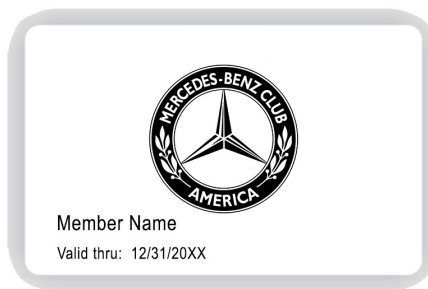
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For information or questions about the Peachtree Section, please contact us at 770-376-0669.



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Your MBCA Membership card is available on the MBCA National website. Here is how:

- Log into MBCA (www.mbca.org) with your username/password
- Click on **My Membership** from the menu on the left
- Click **Print Member Card**
- Print to your printer

TIP: Take a screen shot of your membership card and save to your photos in your phone

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