



Volume 46 - Vol 2 | April 2024



View Through The Star by Rubin Howard, President

MBCA Has a new National Website! Part of your membership experience is how you interact with your online community of Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts. MBCA National has worked tirelessly to bring to you a modern and refined user experience for MBCA.org that allows you to create your member profile, join online communities, and access an entire member directory at your fingertips.

This is great for several reasons. This functionality allows members to communicate securely, verifies and authenticates users to avoid scams when listing vehicles / parts for sale, and allows you to explore all that the organization has to offer.

Great strides have been made for Star Summit, MBCA Peachtree's regional event October 3 - 7th. If you have not heard, MBCA Peachtree is hosting a weekend full of festivities including a Concours d'Elegance cocktail reception, Concours + Octoberfest, Awards Party at RBM Alpharetta, Cars & Coffee at MBUSA, and a track event at AMP, with many opportunities to mingle and some tech sessions throughout the weekend.

Star Summit is brought to you by RBM of Alpharetta who has always ensured MBCA Peachtree can continue putting on excellent events in collaboration with the Mercedes-Benz Experience and Halcyon. Registration for these high quality events will be a-la-carte, and available for registration in the upcoming weeks.

I am fortunate to be a part of such an incredible community of Mercedes-Benz owners here in Atlanta. I always say, the cars are great; but the people are what make it worth while. Don't be a stranger!



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Will "Power" Coloma^P

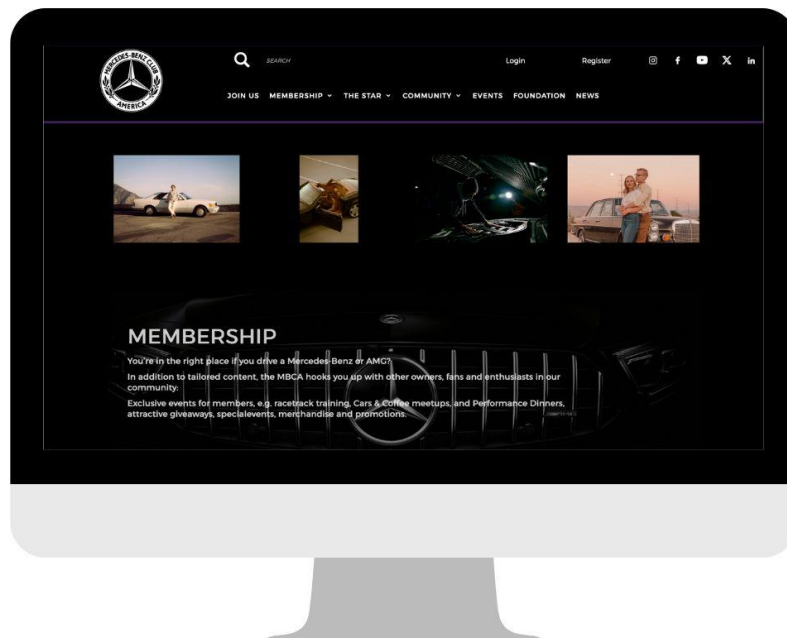
Born in Cuba in 1977, Will jetted into Miami at an early age. As soon as his self-motivated entrepreneurial skills developed, he started washing neighbor's cars for cash, selling Mangos door-to-door, while also working as a Publix Bag Boy. From what I understand, the tips were great for a kid.

His favorite show overall is Miami Vice. It



was the only show that his Grandmother would let him stay up late to watch on the family television. Growing up in Miami, Will watched the filming of some episodes and loved the 1972 Ferrari 365 GTS4 Daytona Spider that the main character drove. He dreamed that someday, he too could own a Ferrari like that one. [READ MORE](#)

MBCA WEBSITE UPDATE



by Diana Quinn, Eastern Regional Director | MBCA Technical Advisor

The new [MBCA](#) website is **HERE!** If you have not already visited and established your new MBCA member account, do it now. Every member should have received an email inviting you to establish your account and establish a new password on March 13, 2024.

What if you didn't get that email or put the email in your trash? Simply go to [mbca.org](#) and click on Login, and then click on *Forgot Password* link. Need help in logging in? Send an email to info@mbca.org or contact the National Business Office at Tues-Thurs: 9 am - 3 pm MT, phone: 719-633-6427.

Once logged into the website:

- Click on your **PROFILE**, complete your profile, and tell us more about your interests and the cars in your garage.
- Click on **GO to My Glue Home** to explore Your Chapter Community, interact with your Chapter Community, stay informed with upcoming Events.
- **EXPLORE** more in the Mercedes-Benz Club of America of the website. Switch organizations by clicking on the blue circle with your initials, then Switch Organizations to the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.
- Join our Communities (Mercedes-Benz Club of America):
 - Star Interest Groups (Groups by Car Models)
 - Star Marketplace (Buy and sell cars, parts, and Mercedes-Benz related items)
 - Star TECH (Join the conversation on maintenance, and technical aspects of your Mercedes-Benz)

JOIN THE CONVERSATION IN OUR STAR INTEREST GROUPS

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EVENT RUNDOWN

April

4/6 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon | [register](#) | [map](#)

4/6 | Tour the Monastery of the Holy Spirit | [map](#)

4/25-28 | Low Country Spring Fling | [register](#) | [Mt Pleasant SC](#)

May

5/4 | Top Down Car Show and Concours | [register](#) | [map](#)

5/11 | Mountain Run | [register](#) | [map](#)

5/14 | Kings Bay Sub Tour | [register](#) | [map](#)

5/26 | PCA Autocross | [details](#) | [map](#)

5/29 | Watkins Glen HPDE | [register](#) | [map](#)

June

6/1 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon | [register](#) | [map](#)

6/8 - 6/9 | Rambling Road Track Days | watch for details

July

7/6 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon | [register](#) | [map](#)

7/13 | Members Appreciation Day | [register](#) | [map](#)

7/20 | Safe Drivers Safe Families Driving | [register](#) | [map](#)

FULL EVENT SCHEDULE 2024

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MEMBERSHIP

Welcome NEW Members Jan-Feb 2024

- Barrett Elkins
- Gretchen Henry
- Griffin Smith
- Michael Sofi

Welcome to the Club!

As a member, you will receive Peachtree Section's newsletter "Stars in Georgia", accompanied by The STAR[®] magazine. Please visit www.mbcapeachtree.com where you will find copies of recent newsletters, a complete calendar of scheduled events, contact information of our section officers and directors, and much more.

by Reijo Haarla, Membership Director

Peachtree Section has 448 members at the end of February 2024. We have experienced a decrease in the numbers of membership during the last few months. To get the membership numbers going up again, Peachtree Section keeps focused on organizing interesting events for recruiting new members and providing events for having an enjoyable time for members with their Mercedes. Number of new members joining the club is low for the January and February. One of the reasons might be the MBCA website has been under construction during that time and being occasionally down. The new MBCA.org website is now up and working.

I want to remind you about the member [Auto-Renew](#) program. To enroll to the Auto-Renew is easy, you can simply select Yes to Auto-Renew option when renewing your membership on-line at mbca.org. Or, you can contact the MBCA National Business Office at 719.633.6427 Tues-Thurs 9am – 3 pm MT and enroll to the Auto-Renew over the phone.

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS - [Click Here to View List](#)



Peachtree

Mercedes-Benz Club of America Membership Benefits

- **The Star[®] Magazine – Your membership of the MBCA includes a**

- subscription to the awarded bi-monthly magazine Star®.
- **Section Newsletter – Section newsletter, “Stars in Georgia” for the Peachtree Section is published six times a year.**
 - **Local, Regional and National Events**
 - **Member Rebate Program – If you are planning to purchase or lease a new Mercedes-Benz vehicle, you should consider participating in the MBCA Member Rebate Incentive program.**
 - **Discount on Parts, Service & Accessories at Participating Mercedes-Benz dealers**
 - **15% Discount on Parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center**
 - **Club Trips to Germany**
 - **Mecum Auctions Discount – Mercedes-Benz Club of America members enjoy a special discount on the Standard Bidder registration at Mecum Auction**

Please visit online <https://www.mbca.org/member-benefits> to see the complete description of the updated benefits.

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

TECHNICAL DIGEST

The 500E Scramble for Amelia
by Gary Edwards, Technical Advisor

Looking back over my Gary's Garage articles, I see I have probably written more about my 1992 500E than any other car. I guess it's to be expected



for a 228,000 mile car, it's a great car but high mileage and it's a little more complex than most of the W124s. My first Mercedes was a W124 (a 93 400E) and they are probably my favorite chassis (R129s are right up there too), but I think you need to be able to work on them yourself to make them affordable. I was planning to take this one to Amelia and had some deferred maintenance to take care of.

I sat the car aside a while back due to a bad right rear wheel bearing. I didn't want to jump into this job as it's a bit of a pain but there's a special tool to help remove and insert the bearing and with the tool it wasn't too awful. I did have a hard time getting the rear brake rotors off. A big puller, penetrating oil, and a big cheater eventually pulled them off, though I whacked my head pretty good when the left one broke loose. I noticed that the brake hoses had some cracking. These were probably the original hoses; I sat the car aside until I could get around to changing them.

[Read More](#)

EVENTS

Low Country Spring Fling
Open to all Mercedes-Benz Club Members and
Enthusiasts
April 25-28, 2024



by **Doug Geganto and Michelle Stine, Event Organizers**

There's so much to do in the Charleston South Carolina and early spring is a great time to experience the Low Country! Don't miss enjoying the South Carolina Low Country around the beautiful and historic Charleston area? Here's a video preview about visiting Charleston: [Highlights When Visiting Charleston](#).

Registration for this will be limited to the first 15 couples (30) who register for the weekend. Don't delay in signing up. This is due to the maximum seating on the tour two buses (15 each) We will have a waitlist in case of cancellations, But there is no guarantee that there may be any cancellations don't wait until the last minute to sign up. **Registration for the weekend closes April 18th.**

[Register Now](#)

Important Hotel Information:

Hotel cut off has been extended until April 8th. after that date I cannot guarantee the group rates. Reserve your room now.

[Hampton Inn Patriots Point Reservations](#)

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Our group Hotel is the Hampton Inn at Patriots Point. We have 15 rooms reserved for the Mercedes-Benz group. Reserve your rooms early Click on Link Below:

Room Rates:

Thursday \$149

Friday and Saturday \$189

Sunday \$149

For more information and details about the weekend, click the REGISTER button below.

REGISTER NOW



TOP DOWN

Car Show & Concours

Saturday May 4, 2024 | 9 - 1 pm
All Mercedes Convertibles Welcome

This year's Spring Event at Halcyon , Alpharetta GA, is dedicated to all Mercedes SL and Cabriolet Vehicles. The show is being organized to be a top tier event as the pre-cursor to our October "Star Summit" Regional Event. You will see many new innovations, for example, our judging system has been completely updated to ensure that all vehicles are scored equally and fairly, standing banners positioned at each class will have some wording explaining the judging parameters of the vehicles in that class, and custom trophies created for MBCA Peachtree will be showcased and presented at this event.

So, considering what a fabulous event this will be - start preparing your vehicles and register on the link below. Space is limited, so please register early.

REGISTER

The Road Less Traveled before Mother's Day May 11, 2024



Ernest Smallman III and Brett Butler, Event Planners

Kings Bay Sub Tour May 14, 2024



Gary Edwards, Event Planner

Tour a Trident submarine, the

Start your morning off at D.C. Motor Werks for coffee, donuts, and bagels. **Pack your lunch for this outing.**

The first leg of the trek is to Yonah Mountain Vineyards. Journey next to Cottage Vineyard and Winery and then to Serenity Cellars for chocolate squares.

[Register](#)

Trident Training Facility, and the Saint Mary's Submarine Museum, with lunch at the Subase dining hall Tuesday, May 14th.

Must be a US Citizen. Limited number of seats, this will fill up quickly.

[Register](#)

CARS  COFFEE
HALCYON

Cars and Coffee at Halcyon Continues in 2024

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.

Here is our upcoming dates:

6/1 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon - [register](#)

7/6 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon - [register](#)

8/3 | Cars and Coffee at Halcyon - [register](#)



The Mercedes-Benz Experience at HALCYON-FORSYTH

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**2024 Members Appreciation
Lunch
July 13, 2024**

**Safe Driver Safe Family
Driving Skills Training
July 20, 2024**



**Jane Brown and Tom Lammert,
Event Planners**

Mark your calendars NOW!

Join us for our annual Members Appreciation event at Red Top Mountain, Shelter #1.

The group shelter is fully enclosed, air-conditioned building. The back deck overlooks Lake Allatoona.

We'll enjoy a full menu of home-made, traditional barbecue fare: BBQ pulled pork, Brunswick stew, molasses baked beans, several salads, walnut brownies, and beverages.

[Register](#)



Gary Edwards, Event Planner

New Drivers and Experienced Drivers all are welcome and all will benefit from our Driving Skills Training called Safe Driver Safe Family, scheduled for July 20th at the Columbia County Sheriff's Department Training Facility in Appling, GA

Since this is our first running of this event, we're limiting participation to 20 people and at \$50 per driver it should fill up quickly. We'll issue certificates that may help save you money on your auto insurance – sign up now!

[Register](#)

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SOCIAL MEDIA

MBCA PeachTube link: [MBCA PeachTube](#)

Facebook Group link:

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

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

UPDATE ON HIGH PERFORMANCE DRIVING



Gary Edwards, MBCA National Performance Driving Chair

Performance Driving Update – still need your help!

Track driving is about the most fun thing I've ever done. I enjoy introducing people to the joy of driving on the track, and I also enjoy instructing folks on how to do it better. I am thus very motivated to put on these performance driving events, and I encourage each of you to take advantage of these opportunities. You might get hooked, like I was 35 years ago.

Unfortunately, we've had to postpone the April 20th HPDE at Talladega Gran Prix Raceway due to lack of signups. Honestly, I'm not sure whether it's too early in the year, or folks don't like the track, or we're marketing to the wrong groups, or what. Though the NASCAR Talladega race is that weekend, I don't think that significantly impacts our potential drivers. We've rescheduled this event for August 24th, and we've been assured that the buildings at the track are AIR CONDITIONED! This should give us time to gather up more drivers, and if you are planning to attend please sign up now: <http://msreg.com/aughpdetgpr>

Signups for the Watkins Glen May 29th HPDE event are going well, and I

encourage you to consider going to this event. It's a Wednesday and it's a long way, but it's also an iconic track and you don't get this opportunity very often. Information/registration link:

https://clubregistration.net/driver/eventInfo.cfm?event_id=14397 .

Cheryl and I will certainly be attending!

Read
More

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Mercedes-Benz News

Mercedes-Benz GLC Plug-in Hybrid SUV to join U.S. product range in 2024



March 20, 2024

Mercedes-Benz USA is pleased to announce a new plug-in hybrid variant of its popular GLC SUV model series, the 2025 GLC 350e 4MATIC SUV. The extensive standard offerings of the GLC 300 4MATIC SUV will carry over to the plug-in hybrid, while adding more new standard features to further enhance the

electric experience. The new plug-in hybrid model will arrive at U.S. dealerships in the second half of 2024.

[Read More](#)

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vicepresident@mbcapeachtree.com

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Diana Quinn - Newsletter

newsletter@mbcapeachtree.com

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sponsor@mbcapeachtree.com

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technical@mbcapeachtree.com

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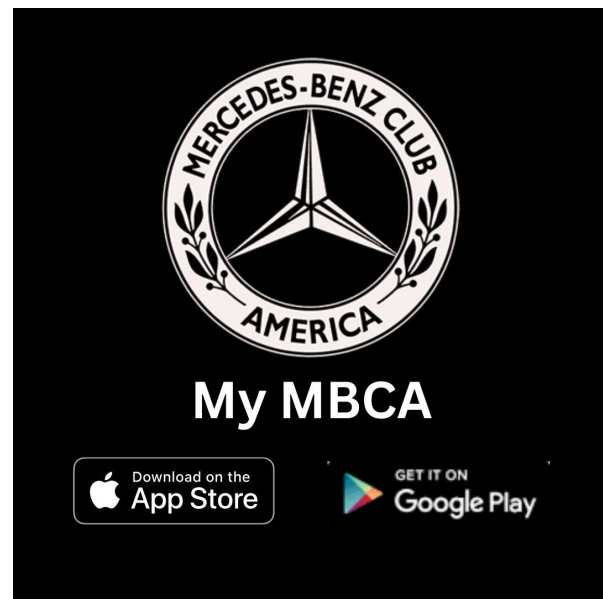
Events

events@mbcapeachtree.com

Rusty Duncan
Rubin Howard
Gary Edwards
Jim Fekete

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

Membership Card



Your MBCA Membership card is now in the **My MBCA** mobile app (Available for IOS and Andriod).

- Log into the app with your MBCA email and password. To set/reset your password go to www.mbca.org > *Login* > *Forgot Password*
- Click on **Profile**
- Click on **Memberships**

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

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