



The Road Benz

The Newsletter from MBCA | Wichita

Dec 2018

Chartered in 1972

Wichita Section

President's Corner

Lee Elrick Jr., Section President



Our membership has been very active during the Fall. Members of the Wichita section participated in various events including the Telluride Festival of Cars and Colors in Telluride, Colorado. This was a special event sponsored by the MBCA and Pikes Peak section. In October our club met for breakfast at Stearman Field in Benton followed by a tour of the Flint Hills, a great lunch at Ad Astra in Strong City, pictures at Cottonwood Falls, and then back to Wichita. We had approximately 10 members participate included David Kirk, a guest from the Oklahoma MBCA section.

The day after our Flint Hills drive, our section was invited to a Formula 1 watch party and a new car introduction event hosted by the Walser dealership. It was an exciting and historic race to watch because we got to see the Mercedes-Benz driver, Lewis Hamilton, get crowned as the world champion driver for the 5th time. Additionally the dealership provided great food and drinks for the event.

In August my wife and I visited the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California. We visited with several of the managers of the center. Some of the folks working at the center are graduates of the McPherson College auto restoration program. The restoration work at the classic center is top notch and of course MBCA members get a discount on parts from the center.

Following the stop in Irvine, we drove on up the coast to the Concours d'Elegance at Pebble Beach. This is a must see event for all car enthusiasts. Additionally we visited 4 auto auctions being held in conjunction with the concours. It was very interesting to see the sales prices achieved by the Mercedes-Benz's. We wrapped up our tour of the west coast with a visit to the Legends of the Autobahn event in Monterey. This event featured all German cars and was co-sponsored by MBCA.

Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to a very active and fun filled 2019!



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Past Event Reports

11th Annual Das Sonnenblumen Autofest, September 22nd

Wonderful day for a drive and a car show! The Wichita section had a great time attending the 11th annual Sonnenblumen German Car Show which was sponsored by the German Car Club of Kansas. Six cars gathered to convoy up to the show in Salina. On our way up we were joined by a 7th car and when



we arrived 3 more cars from our section were already there. Overall it was a great turn out for our section. With other Mercedes from the local area there as well, our brand was well represented at the show. As always there were all kinds of other interesting German cars at the show. Volkswagen was

extremely well represented! All of us enjoyed the show, the weather, and the good food. We will definitely be back next year.



Fall Road Trip, October 27th



We had a great turn out at this drive with 8 cars eventually joining our driving group. We kicked off the morning with breakfast at Stearman Grill at Stearman Field in Benton. We watched small planes take off, grabbed some coffee, and then hit the road. Staying off the main highways, our group traveled along back roads, passing through many small farming towns and enjoying the



scenery. We stopped for lunch at the Ad Astra in Strong City and then checked out this small town. Next, we headed down the road to Cottonwood Falls to check out the famous courthouse in this little town. After taking in the area we then headed back to Wichita. It was a great day for a drive!



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Past Event Reports (Continued)**Formula 1 Watch Party, October 28th**

Mercedes-Benz of Wichita invited our section to a fun event on Sunday. The dealership hosted a Formula 1 watch party and gave the Wichita Section a sneak peek at the 2019 AMG GT 4-Door Coupe! The afternoon started with an excellent buffet along with craft beers and wine. Afterwards the general manager introduced the dealership staff and then he pulled back the cover to reveal a beautiful white 2019 GT 4-door coupe! The crowd quickly swarmed around the car and several members had an opportunity to sit in the car and fire up the powerful engine. What a wonderful car.



But the afternoon wasn't over because we all settled in to watch the Mexican Gran Prix on the big screen in the show room. There wasn't a bad seat in the house. It was an exciting race and we all got to cheer as Lewis Hamilton picked up his 5th world championship and Mercedes-Benz secured the constructors title.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Upcoming Events!

Membership Meeting and Lunch

When: **Saturday, January 19th**

Where: Firebirds, 10096 E. 13th St, Wichita KS 67206

Start the New Year off right with a fun lunch at Firebirds, compliments of the club. This will be an opportunity to catch up with other club members and discuss plans for 2019 activities. Plus we'll get some club business knocked out. What's not to like! The event will start at 11:30. Hope to see you all there!

Please RSVP by Friday, January 18th, so we can get a good headcount. RSVP at mbca.wichita@aol.com or by leaving a message at (530) 848-3396.



Other Events in the Works...

Local private car collection visit

Touch up and Car Detailing demonstration

Joint driving event with the British Car Club of Wichita

Poker Run

All about Wheel repairs....

And more!!



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Trip Report

Telluride Festival of Cars and Colors

Bob and Teresa Poulsen

On the 28th of September, Teresa and I arrived in Telluride, Colorado to experience the 4th Annual Cars and Colors festival. We were able to relax after the Starfest tour with the Pikes Peak Section. On the 29th, those who wanted could display their cars on the field with the entrants for the show. We were also able to spend some time with Wichita Section President Lee Elrick.

There were events at the airport and in down town



Telluride as well as at the headquarters resort golf course. The airport hosted the exotic car contingent as well as having the evening gathering where we heard from Mickey Thompson's son about his quest to set a land speed record in the race car his father had built in the '60's. Wichita television personality Sierra Scott was the hostess for the evening.

The downtown Telluride event was a "Show and Shine" and so didn't require entry into the Cars and Colors competition.

The Sunday competition was much like I imagine the early days were at Pebble Beach. Some really neat automobiles, although the show is new enough that it has not yet found its niche. The location is wonderful although challenging when you need to transport an automobile and there could be problems in the future because of the limited lodging options.

The weather was great during our stay, starting to rain on Monday October 1 as we left for the drive home. If you have the time, Cars and Colors is worth the trip. It's a full day's drive from our home in Hutchinson to Telluride, mostly on 2-lane roads.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section**The Benz Bazaar****For Sale:**

1984 280SL, euro specs. Local car, regularly serviced in town. Owner is asking \$10K, willing to negotiate. For more information contact Dave Greger or Tom Sincissen at mbjagrover@gmail.com or (316) 440-5309



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Membership Report

Our overall section membership stands at 249 members and has been very steady throughout the year. Please continue to promote our club with other Mercedes owners so we can continue to increase our numbers. If you meet someone who has specific questions about our club, please direct them to contact us at MBCA.Wichita@aol.com. For our current members, please don't forget to renew your membership so you don't miss out on future events.

Please give a warm welcome to our newest members: **James Groff** and **Turk Dale!**

Thanks to the following members who renewed since our last newsletter: **Thomas Alm, Tom Beskett, Brian Boisvert, Bob Cummings, Brett and Deana Gaffney, Brent Helm, Herman Hicks, Dave Peters, John Rudd, Dwayne Rumsey, Will Tobin, and Yolanda Trivino.**

Thank you all for your sustained membership and support of the club!



MBCA | Wichita Board

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Happy Holidays!



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