



The Road Benz

The Newsletter from MBCA | Wichita

Dec 2021

Chartered in 1972

Wichita Section

President's Corner

Lee Elrick Jr., Section President



Season's greetings everyone! The Wichita Section board recently met to start planning our 2022 activities. They will be following up on several event ideas, so I expect the TBDs you see on our event calendar to start filling up soon.

Our section has always had a close connection with McPherson College and so I was very pleased that we were able to present a check to the students who were working on the 1953 300S. This car will eventually be featured at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance upon completion. This car was featured in the November/December issue of the Star Magazine.

Looking back at 2021 I'm very proud that our section was able to have so many events, particularly in the last few months. It's been great to see everyone again and I'm looking forward to a busy 2022

Have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

Lee

2022 Section Event Calendar

Jan 15th: Visit to United Engines

Jan 29th: Membership meeting at Firebirds

Feb: TBD

Apr: TBD

May 7th: McPherson College Car Show and MBCA Regional event BBQ

Jun 11th: Poker Run

Jul: TBD

Aug 13th: Membership meeting and Officer elections at Firebirds

Sep 24th: Sonnenblumen German car show in Salina

Oct: TBD

Nov: TBD

Dec: TBD



Upcoming Events

Visit to United Engine Specialists

When: **Saturday, Jan 15th, 9AM to 10:30**

Where: **14801 W. Kellogg Dr N, Wichita KS 67235**

Our section will be meeting at United Engine Specialists for a detailed tour of their engine machine shop. United is an engine repair, rebuild, remanufacturing facility. They focus on gasoline powered engines for both foreign and domestic vehicles. Here's a [link](#) to the company's website for more information.



Section Membership Meeting

When: **Saturday, Jan 29th, 11:30 to 1:30**

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

It's time for our Section Membership meeting and you're invited to come celebrate the start of the new year and to catch up with everyone. During the meeting we will discuss future club activities and ideas for membership recruitment. We will also have a drawing for several prizes! Please RSVP to mbca.wichita@aol.com by January 27th so we can get a good head count



McPherson College Car Show

When: **Saturday, May 7th**

Where: **McPherson College, 1600 E. Euclid, McPherson KS 67460**

Save the date for this event! This is a fantastic car show which is organized and run by the students at McPherson College's Car Restoration program. This is one of the best car shows in the Midwest. Additionally, this show has been designated as a MBCA regional event. Our section will be hosting a BBQ lunch for all MBCA members in our region plus sections close to our region. Stay tuned for more details as the event date gets closer.



Recent Events

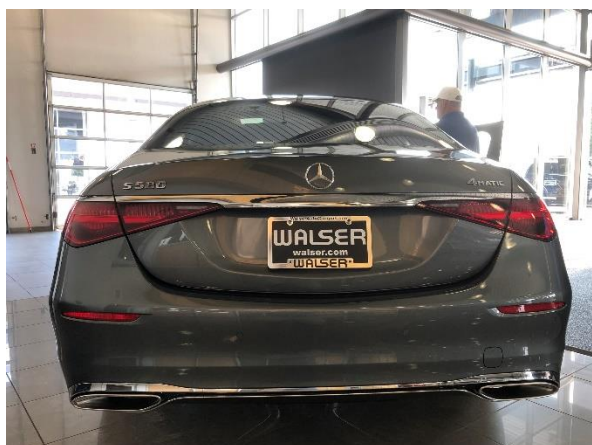
Wichita Section Board and Membership Meeting, Saturday August 28th

The Wichita section board and officers met for a planning meeting at the Wichita Country Club. While enjoying fresh coffee and pastries the group discussed plans events for the rest of 2021 and into 2022. The group also discussed section finances and challenges with recruitment and membership sustainment.

At the conclusion of the meeting the board and officers gathered at Firebirds Grill for a general membership meeting. Lee Elrick recognized David Snodgrass as member of the year for 2020. There was also much discussion about section events thus far and excitement about future events and cooler fall weather!



Dealership Visit: Intro to the new S-Class, Saturday September 11th



Mercedes-Benz of Wichita extended an invitation to the Wichita Section to get an up close and personal look at the new S-Class. Fourteen section members came out to see this amazing car. Campbell Walser and his staff walked us through all the features of the S-580, fielding multiple questions and showing off numerous features of the vehicle. And of course, everyone had a chance to sit in the car and get a real feel for it. The new S-Class is truly a wonderful mix of technology, art, and power...we even got listen to the silky smooth 8-cylinder engine.

As an added bonus the dealership also had a 2005 Mercedes SLR McLaren on the floor. The staff very kindly removed the rope barriers around the car, raised the gull wing doors, and allowed us to sit in this super car. They even fired up the engine. It can be yours for only \$270,000!



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Polo Match at the Fairfield Polo Club, Saturday September 18th



The Fairfield Polo Club very kindly hosted a visit from the Wichita Section to watch a polo match on Saturday afternoon. While one may not think of polo being played here in Kansas, the Fairfield Polo Club was founded in 1931 and is one of the oldest clubs in the US Polo Association. Nine MBCA members and guests came out to watch this fast-paced sport. After lining up our cars along the polo field, we then headed over to the pavilion and enjoyed a picnic lunch while watching two local polo teams play a match. Several members from the polo club joined us and answered questions about the sport as the match unfolded. This allowed all of

us to better understand what was going on out on the field. During half time several riders and horses came over to the side of field to answer more questions and show off their horses. Our cars also drew a lot of attention! The polo players wanted to get pictures next to our vehicles.

We couldn't have asked for better weather and our section really enjoyed cheering the break aways and scores. We will have to come back for another match!



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section



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Sonnenblumen German Car Show, Saturday September 25th

Three cars from the Wichita Section drove up to Salina to participate in the German Car Club of Kansas's Sonnenblumen (Sunflower) German car show. It was a beautiful drive up to the show and we quickly found spaces in the Mercedes-Benz section of the gathering. All together there were about 10 MBs at the show. All the other major German automakers were represented but there was by far more Volkswagens there. While the show was much smaller this year and it wasn't a judged event, there were still a lot of beautiful and interesting cars to see.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Kansas City German Car Show, Saturday October 4th



The Kansas City Section hosted its annual Oktoberfest All-German Car Show on the rooftop level of the One Park Place parking garage which is now owned by the Kansas City Automotive Museum. Two members from our section drove up there to join fellow enthusiasts from the BMW, Porsche, Audi and VW clubs. The Kansas City Section held a special MBCA Silver Star Preservation Award qualification event for largely original (unrestored) and roadworthy Mercedes-Benz vehicles at least 25 years of age. The judges verified the eligibility of nine cars that were entered by their proud owners for a personalized certificate from MBCA headquarters and authorization to

display the unique MBCA Silver Star grille badge. One of those recipients was our very own Kevin White and his beautiful 420 SEL.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Gathering at Prost, Saturday November 13th

We had a fantastic turn out for lunch at Prost, our favorite German restaurant here in Wichita. The food, drink, and camaraderie were great!



McPherson Tour, Saturday December 4th



Several members drove up to McPherson College to present a check on behalf of our section in support of the students working on the restoration of the 1953 Mercedes-Benz 300S. This car was recently featured in the Star Magazine. The goal of the project is to get the car ready for the prestigious Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. As part of the visit our section got a detailed tour of the school's restoration facilities and several other project cars.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section**Buffalo Ranch, Saturday December 11th**

Fourteen section members made a trip out to Andover to visit a buffalo ranch! The owners of the ranch hosted lunch (buffalo burgers of course) and then gave everyone a tour of the main ranch house which was full of furniture and other items from the late 1800's and early 1900's. Following the house tour, we then boarded 2 ATVs for a full jaunt around the 250-acre ranch, seeing the bunk house, out buildings, and various pastures. The tour ended with an up-close visit with the ranch's buffalo herd. Some of us even got to hand feed the animals. This was an incredible trip and reminder of the amazing things you can see and do in the Wichita area.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Membership News

Our section currently has **72 members**.

Welcome to our newest members: **Edward Skeel** and **Ronnie Stopfer**

Here's a heartfelt thanks to all our renewing members since our last newsletter: **Thomas Alm, Stephen Barrett, Tom Bessett, Brian Boisvert, Micheal Coup, Bob Cummings, Larry Fear, Deana Gaffney, Amanda Gutierrez, Eric Knorr, Martin Perline, Dave Peters, Dwayne Rumsey, Charles Scott, Ronald Shuck, Jeff Siebels, Tom Sincissen, and Icer Vaughn**. Thank you so much for your sustained membership.

Please continue to promote our club with other Mercedes owners so we can 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. If you have other ideas about how to improve our membership numbers, please don't hesitate to contact me (Kirk Filbey) at rkfilbey@gmail.com.

For our current members, please don't forget to renew your membership so you don't miss out on future events. Renewing members are the core part of our section.



MBCA | Wichita Board

MBCA.Wichita@aol.com

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Lee Elrick
316-619-6922

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Deanna Gaffney

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Happy Holidays and have a Wonderful New Year!

