



# The Road Benz

The Newsletter from MBCA | Wichita

June 2017

Chartered in 1972

Wichita Section

## Upcoming Section Events

**MBCA | Wichita Board**  
MBCA.Wichita@aol.com

### OFFICERS

**President:**  
Lee Elrick  
316-619-6922

**Vice President:**  
Calvin (Vin) Kissick

**Secretary:**  
Chris Hoffman

**Treasurer**  
Suzanne Moore

### DIRECTORS: (3)

Robert (Kirk) Filbey,  
(Section Past President)

Robert (Bob) Poulseen

David Snodgrass

William (Will) Tobin

**Newsletter Editor**  
Suzanne Moore

**Membership**  
Robert (Kirk) Filbey

\* \* \*



**Saturday, June 10, 2017**

**Mystery Poker Run**  
9:45am – 2:30pm

**Destination #1: Watermark Books & Cafe', 4701 East Douglas Ave,  
Wichita, KS (SW Corner of Douglas & Oliver)**

Come join us on a drive and collect cards at each destination to put together a poker hand! This is not a race but the route will be a mystery. The total mileage for the trip will be 55 miles and there will be no toll roads involved. We will start off from our first destination, Watermark Books & Cafe' at 9:45 AM sharp. During our trip we will grab lunch at destination #4. At our 5th and final destination we will be back in Wichita and will be at an outdoor patio with refreshments. We will award prizes to the two best poker hands. The event will end at around 2:30 PM. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

**Please RSVP: by 5:00pm Friday, June 9th**

By email to: MBCA.Wichita@aol.com

Or leave a message at 530-848-3396 or 316-838-3636

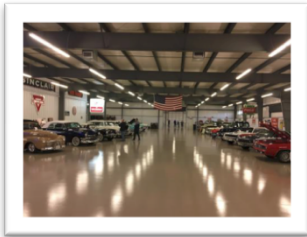
**RESERVE THE DATE: September 23, 2017**

**German Car Show**  
**DAS SONNENBLUMEN AUTOFEST**  
**Hosted by: German Car Club of Kansas**  
**Salina, KS**

This will be our 4th year attending the fun event! There are so many interesting and impressive vehicles on display during the event. More details as September approaches.



## PAST EVENTS REPORT

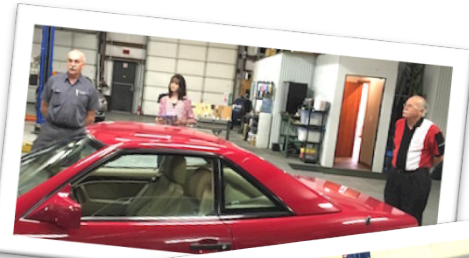


### Private Car Collection Viewing March 25, 2017 Wichita, KS

21 club members and guests gathered Saturday morning to visit a beautiful private car collection just outside of Wichita. We were very fortunate to get a behind the scenes look at this wonderful collection that included over 50 cars. The collection also included plenty of auto memorabilia, a small collection of motorcycles, and a large restoration shop. The owner of the collection was on hand to answer questions regarding the background of some of his cars and interesting stories about how he acquired some of them. What an incredible experience! Afterwards we all gathered at Las Palmas Mexican Restaurant in Andover, KS to enjoy a delicious lunch and swap car stories.



### Mercedes Benz Tech Session Luxury Import Specialists April 22, 2017 Wichita, KS



17 members and guests arrived for Tech Session hosted by Tom Sincissen, Dave Gregor, and Sharee Sincissen at Luxury Import Specialists. Sharee started the morning out right with coffee and doughnuts and then the group quickly moved into the garage. One of our members was having car trouble on the way to the event and so he pulled his R129 right into garage and Tom was able to run some diagnostics on the vehicle. The focus of the tech session was on things to do when preparing to pull your car out of winter hibernation. Both Tom and Dave have extensive experience with Mercedes-Benz vehicles and so their thoughts, comments, and advice were extremely valuable. The section members came prepared with a lot of



questions which Tom and Dave were able to field. All in all this was a very informative tech session. Following the tech session the group headed out for lunch at Carrabba's Italian Grill.



### McPherson College | C.A.R.S Club 18th Annual Car Show May 6, 2017 McPherson, KS

The Wichita section participated in the McPherson car show, entering 6 cars. Members from Colorado, Oklahoma, and Missouri also attended to bring the total number of Mercedes-Benz up to 15 vehicles. The weather was fantastic and the show was a great success, with over 330 cars on display. The Mercedes-Benz brand was well represented at the show with a 1937 540K Cabriolet and a 1957 300SLS as two of the premier feature cars on display. Additionally Tom Cotter and Bill Warner (founder of the Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance) were on hand to discuss their book, Cuba's Car Culture...a book that has a forward by Sir Stirling Moss. On top of that, Mercedes club members also got a special behind scenes look at the 300S being restored by the students of McPherson College. What an incredible day! We are already excited about attending this event next year.



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Lee Elrick, Jr., Section President



The Wichita Section has been very active so far in 2017. Starting in January we had our first annual meeting at the Larkspur Restaurant that was attended by our most active members, directors, and officers. Following up in March we had a private tour of a really nice local car collection having a large variety of fully restored automobiles. In April our members were treated to a local Tech Session hosted by Tom Sincissen, owner of Luxury Imports Specialists. In the month of May we attended the annual McPherson College C.A.R.S. Car Show, where we met a number of Mercedes-Benz owners from out of state. Personally, I meet and spent time with two members of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America's National Board, Educational Foundation President Steve Dierks and Vice President Charles Bennett. What a treat.

June is now upon us and I'm looking forward to my first Poker Run experience. I am looking forward to a very active participation for the six remaining events planned for this year. We have made great strides in working with the new owners of the local dealership Mercedes-Benz of Wichita, The Walser Group. More on the Walser Group at a later date.

Lee

## McPherson College Auto Restoration Program

**40th Anniversary  
New Restoration Project  
Progress Report**

**- 1953 Mercedes Benz 300S -**



**Oct 2016**



**May 2017**



## June 2017 Membership Update

Our overall section membership continues at 80 people. Please continue to promote our club with other Mercedes Benz owners so we can increase our number. If you meet someone who has specific

questions about our club, please direct them to contact us at [MBCA.Wichita@aol.com](mailto:MBCA.Wichita@aol.com). For our current members, please remember to renew your membership so you won't miss out on future events. Thanks to the following members who renewed since our last newsletter: Dunae Cambre, John Carnahan, Curtis Covey, Jeffrey Dale, Vin Kissick, Luis Lopez, Michael Norman, Ronald Padfield, and Gene Rising.

## See More Online: Sections Upcoming Events and Event Reports

*Tip: No login necessary!*

There are more fun pictures posted after our events. Just follow these easy steps to access the information. Note, please be patient with the sometimes slow server.

-Just go to <http://www.mbca.org>  
-Click on "Community" in menu  
-Select "Upcoming Events"  
or  
-Select "Event Reports"





Mercedes-Benz Club of America

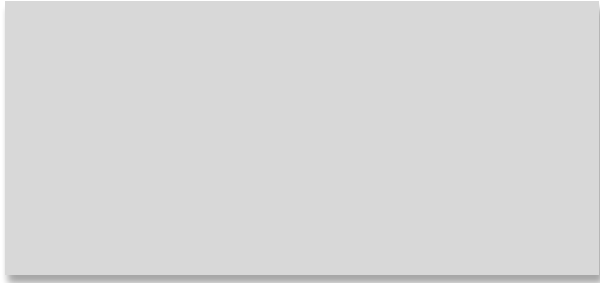
# The Road Benz | Newsletter

MBCA | Wichita Section  
MBCA.Wichita@aol.com  
Wichita, Kansas

## Upcoming EVENTS!

Saturday  
June 10, 2017

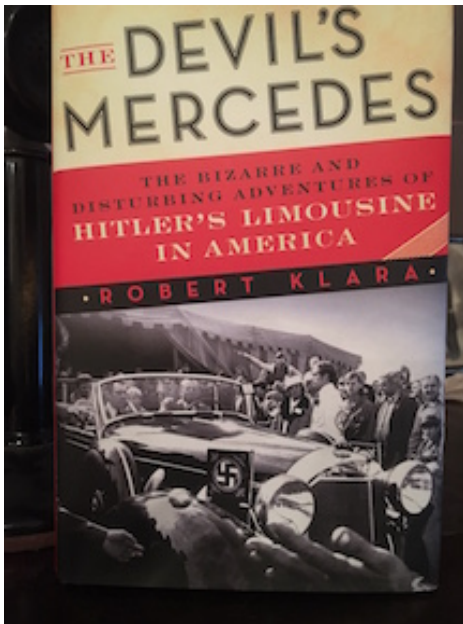
Saturday  
Sept 23, 2017



### Book Review by Kirk Filbey (Section Membership Chair)

#### The Devil's Mercedes - The Bizarre and Disturbing Adventures of Hitler's Limousine in America

By Robert Klara. Published by St. Martin's Press, 342 pages; ISBN 978-1-250-06972-6.



I just finished this book and found it to be a very interesting read. Robert Klara crafts a gripping story that focuses on two different 1941 Mercedes-Benz 770K's. These gigantic armored cars were 20 feet long, weighed about 5 tons, and had 230 horsepower supercharged engines. They were a strange mix of brute force and ultimate luxury. Most of these cars did not survive World War II, but these two examples made it back to the United States under unusual circumstances. While this book is well researched, it is hardly a dry history book. Mr. Klara uncovers the bizarre stories of these cars, looking at how the public reacted to them and how their various owners were impacted. The book also provides a fascinating glimpse into the start of classic car collecting in the United States including some of the early "wheelers and dealers" and the start of the famous car auctions in Scottsdale, Arizona. Mr. Klara also explores questions about whether you can ever separate an object from its past and how an object, be it a car or some other antique, loses some of its "value" if it suddenly loses its historical context. In any case you'll be hard pressed to put this book down as the true story of each car is finally revealed. Support your local independent bookstore and go order a copy for you or an acquaintance.

