



# The Road Benz

The Newsletter from MBCA | Wichita

Nov/Dec 2023

Chartered in 1972

Wichita Section

## President's Corner

Kirk Filbey, Section President



Hi everyone! My name is Kirk Filbey and I'm the new president for the Wichita section. I'm excited to move into this position and look forward to working with you all to continue bringing fun and interesting events to our

section. We've had an incredibly busy fall with all sorts of club events which you can read about in the newsletter. Looking towards 2024, we're starting to fill in the calendar with activities. Our goal is to have at least one event per month and we will try to target the second Saturday of each month as the event date...but event dates may slide based on other factors.

I really appreciate your membership in this club and the volunteers who pull club events together for all of us. Membership and participation are key to making this club work and so as we move into 2024, I want to make sure we are doing things that people really want to do. Please don't hesitate to provide feedback or suggestions regarding events. You can reach me directly at [rkfilbey@gmail.com](mailto:rkfilbey@gmail.com). This is your club! While we can't be all things for all people, we certainly can make changes to better reflect the desires of club members.

Finally, I'd like to thank Lee Elrick for all he has done and continues to do for our section. Lee was elected section president in 2016 and in that time he organized so many interesting and unique events based on his local connections and enthusiasm for the club. I will do my best to continue that effort...and I appreciate that Lee will continue to help plan events for our section!

That's all for now...and happy driving!

Kirk

## 2023/204 Section Event Calendar

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup>:** College Hill Lights Tour

**Jan 27<sup>th</sup>:** Membership Meeting

**May 4<sup>th</sup>:** McPherson Car Show

**Aug 24<sup>th</sup>:** Membership Meeting

**Sep 21<sup>st</sup>:** ICT All German Car Show

**Sep 28<sup>th</sup>:** Sonnenblumen German Car Show

**Oct:** Alzheimer's Walk

## Upcoming Section Events

### College Hill Holiday Lights Tour

When: **Thursday, Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30PM to 9PM**

Where: **Lincoln Heights Village Shopping Center Parking Lot, 4701-4737 E. Douglas Ave, Wichita KS 67218**

We are going to kick off the holiday season with a driving tour of the lights of the College Hill neighborhood. Here's the plan. We will meet up in the Lincoln Heights shopping center parking lot and then depart at 7:30PM. We will then slowly convoy through the neighborhood following a preplanned route. Afterwards we will stop at Kirk Filbey's house (244 S. Terrace) for post drive refreshments and dessert. An event reminder will be sent out at the end of November.



### Membership Meeting

When: **Saturday, Jan 27<sup>th</sup>, 11:30AM to 2PM**

Where: **Details coming later**

Mark your calendar as the club kicks off 2024. During this meeting the board will present some event ideas along with a draft schedule of events for the year. This will be a great opportunity to provide some input on club events and meet up with club members. More details will be sent out at the start of the year.

**Recent Section Events****Membership Meeting and Board Elections, Saturday August 12<sup>th</sup>**

The Wichita section gathered at Firebirds Grill for lunch and officer and board elections. Following discussions on numerous upcoming events, we then had our section election.

Here are our new and returning officers:

President: Kirk Filbey

Vice-President: Will Tobin

Treasurer: Vin Kissick

Secretary: Deanna Gaffney



I want to express my gratitude and thanks to Lee Elrick who served as our section president from 2016. Lee set up so many interesting events for our section and will continue to do so as a member of the section board and our event coordinator. Lee will also be involved in the MBCA scholarship program and other educational outreach activities.

We had a few other changes to our section board. David Snodgrass resigned from the board but will continue to be involved in club activities. Thanks for all you have done for the section David! Josh Dutcher was asked and agreed to become a member of the section board. Welcome Josh!

Our board members are: Josh Dutcher, Lee Elrick, Brett Gaffney, Joseph Kause, Randy Roths, Jeff Siebels, and Kevin White.



## Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Wichita Area All German Car Show, Saturday Sep 16<sup>th</sup>



The 2nd annual Wichita Area All-German car show was hit, with great participation and fantastic weather. There were food trucks, music, and prizes as well. This event was hosted by the local Mercedes-Benz, BMW, and Porsche clubs.

Just over 100 cars participated with lots of beautiful examples to look at and vote on. People's Choice awards were given out for each vehicle brand. A gorgeous 190SL took the prize for Mercedes. The BMW club took home the show award with the most cars in attendance. Looking forward to next year's show!



## Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

### Sonnenblumen German Car Show, Saturday Sep 23<sup>rd</sup>

The 16th annual Sonnenblumen All German car show took place in Salina. The show was sponsored by the German Car Club of Kansas. Two members from the Wichita section drove up to participate in what turned out to be a really nice day.

This show and shine type show featured all different types of German vehicles, with a heavy presence of VW's. Among some of the more interesting models was an Opel station wagon. At the end of the show, prizes were handed out for each brand (or brand sub-variant depending on the number of vehicle entries)

Wichita Section president, Kirk Filbey, took home the Mercedes-Benz brand prize with his 1977 450SEL.



**Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section**



**The Garage Auto Museum, Saturday Sep 30<sup>th</sup>**

Twelve members and guests met up at The Garage automotive museum in Salina. A few of us gathered in Wichita to drive up and then we met other section members at the destination.

The Garage has both a permanent collection of customized vehicles and a rotating display. For this quarter the museum had a large collection of Corvettes on display in honor of the 70th anniversary of the model. The museum also had information on overall automobile history and the US highway

system, along with interactive driving displays.

Following the tour a few section members gathered at the historic Cozy Inn for lunch and to try out their famous slider burgers.



# Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section



## Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

### Walk to End Alzheimer's Event, Saturday Oct 14<sup>th</sup>

After the 2022 MBCA Medallion Rally, the Wichita Section decided to continue support for the Alzheimer's Association this year by participating in the local Walk to End Alzheimer's event. Our section team raised \$1220 in support of the Alzheimer's Association! The weather was a little windy but a few of us made it to the walk. Afterwards we met at Prost to enjoy some German food and beer. Special shout out to Will Tobin, Wichita Section Vice President, for setting up the Wichita section team for this event.





## Trip Report

### **Pebble Beach Concours de Elegance - by Bob Poulseen**

McPherson College's 7-year "Road To Pebble" quest to select, purchase, and restore an automobile that would be invited to the Pebble Beach Concours de Elegance came to fruition this year when their 1953 Mercedes 300S was awarded second in class in the Post-War Luxury competition.

August 20<sup>th</sup> began at 5AM as we all hopped aboard various rental vehicles for the drive to Pebble Beach and the Dawn Patrol. It's always a thrill to witness the automobiles driving out onto the field. There was a big cheer when the 300S passed by to take its place beside the other cars in its class.



When judging began, the 300S was the last vehicle in its class to be judged. The judges walked around the car, checking panel fit, stitching in the letter, paint quality, etc. and asking questions of the students presenting the car. As the judges were inspecting the car, they realized there were a lot of people wearing McPherson College lapel pins watching them! After the examination of the car was completed, the judges graciously offered to pose for photos with the students, McPherson College



President Michale Schneider, and Director of Special Operations Brian Martin. Following this, those responsible for the car stayed to answer questions from public, continued dusting and polishing vehicle, and waited for the call regarding the class award.

There is a long-standing tradition that there will be a group photo of all McPherson College students, alumni, instructors, staff, and supporters attending Pebble Beach. This year everyone gathered around the 300S for the photo which included 100+ people.

Mercedes-Benz was well represented in this year's

concours event, with the Best of Show award being presented to a 1937 540K. After the winners of the various classes and best of show was announced, those from the McPherson contingent gathered at a pizza restaurant to celebrate and for those who needed to drive the 300S back to its trailer and prepare it for the trip



**Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section**

home. When the crew arrived, they received a standing ovation, a gracious speech from President Schneider, and a chance to relax!

Now that everyone has returned to campus for the start of another school year, there will be many interviews, news stories, etc. about McPherson College, the Automobile Restoration department, and where the 300S will be displayed next. It was a very long road to Pebble, but the college has definitely arrived. For more information about McPherson College, the Auto Restoration program, and ways to contribute visit [McPherson.edu](http://McPherson.edu) .





# Enter The MBCA Raffle!

## Ultimate Dream Prize!



or



**2024 AMG GLE53 4matic+ SUV**  
*(or choose equivalent cash)*

**2023 AMG EQE500**  
*(or choose equivalent cash)*

**DRAWING DATE:**  
**Thursday, December 7th**  
**10:30AM (EST)**

*For tickets visit:*

**MBCA.ouraffle.org**

Or email at [Raffle@mbca.org](mailto:Raffle@mbca.org)

Tickets: **\$50/ea**

*Last purchase date is December 1st*



@MercedesBenzClubofAmerica



For complete details visit [MBCA.ouraffle.org](http://MBCA.ouraffle.org)



## Section Membership News

Our section currently has **66 members**.

Here's a heartfelt thanks to all our renewing members since our last newsletter: **Donald Berry, William Berger, Larry Fear, Chris Glanzer, Eric Knorr, Don Mayer, and Kevin White**. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

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



### MBCA | Wichita Board

MBCA.Wichita@aol.com

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#### President:

Kirk Filbey  
(530) 848-3396

#### Vice President:

Will Tobin

#### Secretary:

Deanna Gaffney

#### Treasurer

Calvin (Vin) Kissick

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#### DIRECTORS:

Josh Dutcher

Lee Elrick Jr

Brett Gaffney

Joseph Kausse

Randy Roths

Jeff Siebels

Kevin White

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#### Newsletter Editor

Kirk Filbey

#### Membership

Kirk Filbey

#### Webmaster

Kevin White

#### Section Web Pages:

<https://mbcawichita.org>

<https://wichita.mbca.org>

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