

# The Old Dominion Star

The Newsletter of the MBCA Central Virginia Section



VOL. 31 NO. 3 | Fall 2023

## A Note From The Editor

Welcome to the Fall issue of *The Old Dominion Star*. Busy, busy, busy. That's what we have been and that is what we will continue to be, at least through the Fall. Be sure and sign up straight away when event registration comes available, and don't be afraid to contribute to the planning and execution of our activities. Your ideas and help are always appreciated. Send an email to [cvsmbca@gmail.com](mailto:cvsmbca@gmail.com), or better yet, corral Todd at one of our upcoming events and tell him you want to help.

Mercedes Grande Indy kicks off on September 7th and our Fall BBQ is coming up on September 10th followed by a Fall Foliage drive in October. The annual Hilton Head Concours takes place November 2nd through the 5th, and is regularly attended by a number of CVS members. I'll be taking "Johnny" down for the Mercedes-Benz Car Club Showcase. I'd love to see you there. Don't forget to take a look at our Helpful Resources and Cars & Coffee sections.

If you would like to contribute an article, biography about you or your car (don't be shy), tech tip or simply pictures of your car(s) or our events to the newsletter, you can send them to [editor.cvsmbca@gmail.com](mailto:editor.cvsmbca@gmail.com).

Be sure and check out our FaceBook page(s) for up to the minute information and upcoming events.

- Ed

## Welcome New Members!

- John Lack
- James Palazzo
- Steven Strunk
- Bradley Niesen
- Cynthia McLearnen
- Alvin Jones
- George Martin
- John Scarpati

## Thank You Loyal Members!

- Robert Aftel
- Justin Frackelton
- Todd Miller
- Robert Meadows
- Christopher Fisher
- Jay Clark
- Victor Holman
- Robert Franklin
- William Adams
- Gregg MacDonald
- Will Washington
- Marco Francia
- Win Grant
- Michael Hammer
- Fred Luxton
- Paul Carnes
- Steven Foster
- Michel Van Eersel
- Robert Fields
- Colin Romanick
- Simeon Chow
- Dennis Hawes



## Membership

If you are interested in helping by serving as our Section's Secretary, Membership Director, Activities Director, Newsletter Editor, or in any other capacity, please contact President Todd Lusby at [cvsmbca@gmail.com](mailto:cvsmbca@gmail.com).

### Membership has its Benefits!

**The Star Magazine®** – Your membership of the MBCA includes a subscription to the bi-monthly magazine *The Star*®.

**Section Newsletter** – “*The Old Dominion Star*” is published four times a year. It contains information about events and other timely articles, technical information, and membership news.

**Local, Regional and National Events** – MBCA members are invited to participate in a wide range of events and activities in our area, region, and destinations across the USA and Canada.

**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. The Member Rebate program is an incentive program sponsored by MBUSA to encourage MBCA members to purchase or lease a new Mercedes-Benz vehicle. Those who do can receive cash incentive towards the purchase or lease of the vehicle.

**Discount on Parts, Service & Accessories at Participating Mercedes-Benz dealers** - As a Mercedes-Benz Club of America member, you may be entitled to 5%, 10% or up to 20% off parts, services and accessories from participating U.S. and Canadian Mercedes-Benz dealers and participating local independent shops.

[Join MBCA](#)



## President's Corner

It always creeps up. Summer winds down and fall begins. It is time for flavored coffees, and Sunday foliage drives. As a club, we have had a busy summer. Multiple great club events and mild but wet weather have made summer quiet special in Central Virginia.

Thinking through the first couple of quarters of my time as President, things have not really shifted.

Our keys as a club remain the same:

1. An active member base – Not only a growing member base, but a growing base that participate in and/or host events and recruit new members. We currently have 157 active members, and I would encourage each of you to choose and attend at least one event this year. If we are not having an event close to you, let me know and we will see what we can figure out. I remain encouraged by the new faces I am seeing and members bring family and friends to the events. I want to keep that moving.

2. Our relationships with our supporting businesses – Through our prior two tech sessions this year (always a club favorite), we have continued and development relationships with local businesses. Not only the dealerships in Richmond, but also the vendors for our detailing tech session. We even had a couple sign up as sponsors for the 2024 calendar available this fall in partnership with the Triangle and Peachtree sections.

As always, I would love to hear any feedback or from folks ready to contribute more in growing the club.

Happy Motoring,  
Todd

## Save the Dates! Upcoming Events

(Click on **BOLD** entries for information and registration links to organizers)

### September

9/7-10 - **MBCA Mercedes Grande**

<https://www.mercedesgrande.org>

\*MBCA National Event

9/10 - **CVS Fall Cookout**

**REGISTER NOW!**



\*CVS Event

9/11-16 - **MBCA Germany Tour 2023**

\*MBCA Event

**October**

10/15 - **Fall Foliage Drive**

Look for more info shortly.

\*CVS Event

**November**

11/3-5 - **Hilton Head Concours d'Elegance**

11/4 - **MBCA Car Club Showcase at Hilton Head**

\*MBCA National Event

## Needed: Activities Director

We need someone to help manage activities and continue our quest to be an active Section with varied activities to span the entire year.

If you are one of those people who like to get involved and can some basic event planning experience (it's not rocket science) then please contact our President, Todd Lusby at [cvsmbca@gmail.com](mailto:cvsmbca@gmail.com).



## Midlothian Tech Session

Twenty-three of The Faithful descended upon Mercedes-Benz of Midlothian on 17 June for a tech session hosted by the dealership.

It's been a while, but the club was back in the bays with our friends at the Midlothian for a bit of hands-on training. We had a chance to compare the latest SL with the iconic R129.



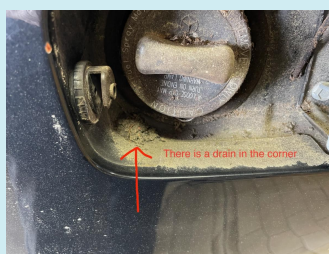
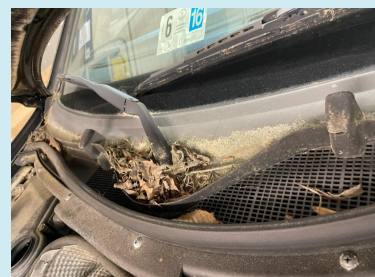
## FlowMax

Most houses have gutters to move the water away during a rain. Did you know most cars also have gutters or, more correctly, drains? There are areas around the windshield wipers that collect leaves, sticks and pollen pieces from the trees. The damage from stopped up drains can be catastrophic. When a drain is stopped up, water backs up and this can mean water runs into the car or to areas that should never get wet.

All this material gets wet when it rains and causes corrosion and in the winter it will freeze and keep the wipers from moving as they should. Jamming one wiper can disconnect or break the wiper linkage.

Gas filler area should also be kept clean. There are also other areas that need to drain. These drains keep water away from the trunk seal. If you're not sure about your model and possible drain areas, check with others with similar cars and see what they have done.

- Owen "Chip" Hughes



## Summer Repast

On July 30th approximately 30 members of our Central Virginia Section converged upon Tim's Restaurant & Crab House on Lake Anna in Mineral Virginia for the third year to celebrate a mid-summer feast of fresh seafood and refreshing beverages. Most of us took scenic drives to the restaurant through the beautiful central Virginia countryside in order to rendezvous for this riparian repast.



## Keystone Tractor Museum Visit



On 20 August our Section visited the Keystone Tractor & Truck Museum in Colonial Heights, Virginia. After a scenic drive from Mercedes-Benz of Midlothian, participants arrived at the 125,000 sq ft museum for a self-guided tour of several hundred farm tractors dating from 1917 through 1960. The museum also contains over 60 antique road trucks and several classic cars. Following the tour our group enjoyed lunch at the museum's own restaurant,



which sports specialties such as its Signature BBQ Sandwich, Signature Steak Sandwich and Southern Fried Chicken Platter with all the fixn's. Certainly some of our members fell into a food coma after all that walking and a large, delicious meal. This was our second visit to the Tractor Museum in the past five years and I'm sure we will be back again soon.





**Your Central  
Virginia  
Section  
Needs  
YOU!  
As  
Membership  
Director**

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## Local Cars & Coffee

*Our Central Virginia Section spans a wide geographic area. Take your Mercedes to a local nearby C&C and spread the word about the MBCA. Print a copy of the "Nice Benz" card (below) and give it to any Benz owner you meet. If you know of another C&C in our geographical area not listed below, please send their information to [editor.cvsmbca@gmail.com](mailto:editor.cvsmbca@gmail.com) and I will get it posted here in subsequent issues.*

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**Cars & Coffee Richmond is back up and running. Check their website for updates. You must now register to attend. <http://www.carsandcoffeerichmond.com/>**



The Mercedes-Benz Club of America with over 30,000 members is the largest Mercedes-Benz enthusiast group in the world. We believe that you shouldn't just drive your Mercedes but that you should experience the benefits of membership, the camaraderie of other Mercedes-Benz owners, and most of all experience the joy for all things Mercedes-Benz.

**Don't just drive your Mercedes,  
Experience it!  
JOIN US!!**



<https://mbca.org/>

**NICE BENZ!**

Questions  
Doug Geganio  
404-754-9955

**September**

- 2nd & 30th - **Cars & Coffee Richmond**
- 9th & 24th - **Roanoke Valley C&C**
- 16th - **Williamsburg Cars & Coffee**
- 16th - **Lynchburg Cars & Coffee**

**October**

- 14th & 28th - **Cars & Coffee Richmond**
- 14th & 29th - **Roanoke Valley C&C**
- 21st - **Williamsburg Cars & Coffee**
- 21st - **Lynchburg Cars & Coffee**

**November**

- TBD - **Cars & Coffee Richmond**
- 18th - **Williamsburg Cars & Coffee**

**December**

- TBD - **Cars & Coffee Richmond**
- 16th - **Williamsburg Cars & Coffee**





## ***Benz By the Beach 2023!!***

The MBCA - Carolinas Section is hosting an Eastern Regional Event in conjunction with the [Hilton Head Island Concours d'Elegance](#) from Thursday, November 3 thru Sunday November 5.

### **Friday, November 3 - Driving Event - Please join us for the 'Lost in the Low Country Drive'!**

**Lost in the Lowcountry Rally** provides each vehicle with the route directions and a list of questions. It will require two (2) people in the vehicle - a driver and a navigator. You will not only learn about Hilton Head Island and the surrounding Lowcountry, but have a great time with the challenges of the route. Awards will be given out on Saturday evening during the awards ceremony for the top three vehicles that answer the most questions correctly!

**Saturday, November 4 – Dinner & Awards Evening** – A Southern Dinner at Skull Creek Dockside & an Awards evening with Guest Speaker John Farrell – *The Dockside is a place for a unique dining experience and to enjoy the Carolina Lowcountry. Chef Alecia Angioletti brings a unique perspective in preparing amazing seafood, wondrous steaks, and traditional BBQ.*



We begin our evening with a cocktail hour (cash bar) and the selected dinner entrees are Petit Filet Mignon Casino, Slow Cooked SC Chicken, or Shrimp n' Grits, and a southern dessert!



In addition to a great meal **our guest Speaker, John Farrall**, a renowned auto enthusiast and owner of Farrall Auto Appraisal will join us. John is active in a number of local and national car clubs and has served on the board of the Euro Auto Festival where he was the Car Show Director for 5 years. He has traveled to major car events and auctions throughout the country. He has taught classes in car collecting and written articles about collections and car hobby for national magazines.

An awards presentation will follow for the winner of the "People's Favorite Coupes and Cabriolets" from the Car Club Showcase and the participants, as well as the awards for the winners of Friday's Lost in the Low County Driving Event.

### **Saturday & Sunday – November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Hilton Head Island Car Club Showcase & Concours d'Elegance**

On Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> MBCA-Carolinas Section will present "A History of Mercedes-Benz Coupes & Cabriolets – Decades of Style & Grace" at the Car Club Showcase. The display will tell the story of the Mercedes-Benz Coupes & Cabriolets, featuring ten (10) beautiful Mercedes-Benz's in all their glory, beginning from the iconic *300SL Gullwing in 1954 to the latest 2018 E400 Cabriolet!*

To register, please click or copy and paste:

<https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/benz-by-beach-2023-hilton-head-island-mbca-carolinas-014094>

**for the Benz by the Beach 2023 Regional Event!**



Registration Deadline: October 1, 2023

**HAGERTY**

## **Helpful Resources**

**A list of internet links which lead to technical, sales and parts resources.**  
If you have a link you would like included, please send to [editor.cvsmbca@gmail.com](mailto:editor.cvsmbca@gmail.com).

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Read about the "World's Oldest Rally Navigator," our own Frank Shaffer, here on Pete Vack's [Veloce Today](#).

**Veloce  
Today**

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Do you want to know if there are any open recalls on your Mercedes-Benz? Simply check Mercedes-Benz **Recall Website**. Enter your 17 digit VIN and know instantly find out if there are any open recalls for your Mercedes-Benz.

**Mercedes-Benz  
Recall**

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Are you in search of a hard to find part for your 1953-1989 vintage Mercedes-Benz? Check out **MB Classics**. Based in Vechta, Lower Saxony, Germany, MB Classics carries parts for W105/W120/W121/W128/W180/R121/R&C107/W108/W109/W110/W111/W112/R113/W114/W115/W116 & W123 chassis and ships world-wide.

**MB Classics**

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## Trivia

- 1: When was the first Mercedes-Benz automobile introduced?
  - A) 1895
  - B) 1901
  - C) 1926
  - D) 1935
- 2: Which model is often considered the first true "Mercedes" car?
  - A) Mercedes 35 PS
  - B) Mercedes-Simplex
  - C) Mercedes-Benz W25
  - D) Mercedes-Benz 770
- 3: What is the name of the iconic sports-luxury car introduced by Mercedes-Benz in the 1950s?
  - A) Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren
  - B) Mercedes-Benz 300SL Gullwing
  - C) Mercedes-Benz S-Class
  - D) Mercedes-Benz C-Class
- 4: Which Mercedes-Benz model became known as the "Baby Benz"?
  - A) Mercedes-Benz 600
  - B) Mercedes-Benz 190E
  - C) Mercedes-Benz CLK
  - D) Mercedes-Benz GLC
- 5: In what year did Benz & Cie merge with Daimler Motoren Gesellschaft to form Daimler-Benz AG?
  - A) 1910
  - B) 1926
  - C) 1938
  - D) 1955

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& MBCA Leadership

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**National President**

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**Membership Card**

Your MBCA Membership card is available on the MBCA National website. Here is how:

- Log into MBCA ([www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org)) with your username/password
- Click on **My Membership** from the menu on the left
- Click **Print Member Card**
- Print to your printer

**TIP:** Take a screen shot of your membership card and save to your photos on your phone.



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common sense and compromises involving economy, longevity, performance, reliability, drivability, legality, and resale value, not to mention the affect on one's virtue, morality, integrity, dignity, honor, respectability, nobility, purity, ethics and good character. Any modifications possibly affecting emissions or safety are just silly and should not be attempted. Neither this publication nor this organization, Editor or his minions will assume any liability for ensuing consequences for your inept application of those techniques described herein. So there.  
- *Editor*

*Trivia Answers: 1. C, 2.A, 3. B, 4. B, 5. B*

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