



SAGUARO STAR

Mercedes Benz Club of America – Chaparral Section

Serving Southern Arizona

FROM THE DESK OF MICHAEL WELTON..

Greetings to all our dedicated and loyal Board Members, Members at Large and all interested parties.

This year of 2023 will be a great year under our new board of Directors and all the wonderful volunteers of our Section.

This year will be a rebuilding year for the Section. We have nearly an entire new board of Directors, and quite a few Members that want to contribute to the success of the club.

This is my third year as President and unfortunately the Pandemic squelched a lot of our planned activities. The Pandemic is over and WE as a group of dedicated enthusiasts to the Marque are going to have a fun filled year.

Desert Stars in Phoenix (I am a former member of that Section) really wants us to have a few combined events this year. We are planning several events right now. The Havasupai rally event will be in the last week of September or the first week of October. This event begins in Tucson and has been a very successful event in the past. Stay tuned for more information.

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Other combined events in the planning stage are a trip to Prescott and a trip to Mt. Lemmon.

WE are going to have a great year full of events and social gatherings. The Southwest Region has a new and very competent Regional Vice President. His name is Ron Borino, and he recently came to our Franklin Auto Museum tour and our Board Meeting that was held on March 25th. Ron belongs to the Desert Stars section.

Another event that we are planning to be held quarterly is a dinner which is named Star Night. It will be limited to ten couples, and we will all meet for a casual dinner for getting acquainted and camaraderie.

I, along with the Board, are hopeful you will place your trust in us and allow us to again grow the Section. I will sincerely appreciate any member that wants to volunteer to help plan a dinner event, or help with the newsletters, Public Relations, or any area where you can contribute, please contact me.

Respectfully,

Michael Welton, Section President

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PAST PRESIDENT

JOHN PETERS

Minutes from the Board Meeting

TREASURY REPORT

Cynthia reported that the club bank account has the same balance as last month - \$2,655.51. She has filed the required AZ corporation report. She is expecting a check from Monsoon Motors for an ad, and Lynn Davison volunteered to check with them as he is planning to go there on Monday.



President Michael Welton called the meeting to order after the group enjoyed a tour of the Franklin Museum and lunch at The Original Guadalajara restaurant. He thanked Cynthia VerDuin for organizing the day's event and introduced Ron Borino, our Regional Vice-President who joined us from Phoenix.

The minutes of the February meeting were distributed and approved as written.

NEW BUSINESS

Regional VP Ron Borino discussed some ways that the Desert Stars in Phoenix have increased their membership and participation. He also announced that their annual Havasupai Rally in late September will start here in Tucson, and they hope that members of the Chaparral section will participate.

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Website & Facebook

Both are currently being updated.

Membership:

Fees for MBCA

3 Years	\$157
2 Years	\$107
1 Year	\$55

Cont. from pg. 4

Future Events - Bill VerDuin announced that there will be an all-German cars and coffee event from 9-12 on April 15th UWrench located at 8300 E Valencia Rd, Tucson, AZ 85747. He has information on the event. This does conflict with our participation in the DM50 car show at Davis Monthan.

April Event - DM50 Car Show - Michael Turner announced that so far six cars have signed up to participate in the show and entry forms and more information will appear in the newsletter with the hopes that other members will be signing up. There is a \$40 entry fee and most of this goes to the DM50 fund that benefits the airmen on base. Lynn Davison announced that pop-up tents will not be allowed and that the dealership will not be able to display any cars as there is a hefty fee.

May Event - Lynn Davison is planning a winery tour to the Sonoita area, the Callagan winery and possibly others, with a restaurant lunch. There will be a \$10 charge per person. Date TBD.

June event - Lynn is also planning a drive and lunch to Mt. Lemmon. This will be on a weekday to avoid the traffic and crowds. Date TBD.

September Event - Monsoon Motors has offered to host an open house at their new facility.

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Cont. from pg. 5

Other Potential Events - Star Night - this is an event where members gather at a local restaurant on a weeknight to socialize and build camaraderie among the members. The Desert Stars have done this for several years very successfully. A restaurant is selected, an email blast is sent to the members with the request that they reply if they plan to attend, and the restaurant is notified. The number of attendees can be limited to a certain number depending on the restaurant - this also may make the event more popular. Several members volunteered to check out restaurants, and Cynthia wondered if a small drive to the restaurant could be added.

Medallion Rally - Cynthia is going to investigate the feasibility of our group planning a rally to benefit a group such as the Alzheimer's Association. MBCA National has information on this type of event. The club would partner with the charity to organize the event.

President Michael announced that the next Board meeting would be April 29th at 9:30am. All members are welcome to the meeting.

Board members present - Michael Welton, Ruth Mahoney, Judy Buckingham, Cynthia VerDuin, Dick Buckingham, Bill VerDuin, and Michael Turner

Newsletter Ads

Ads are only \$35 for cards for 4 Issues, \$120 for a half page ad, and \$250 for a full page ad.

Please contact Cynthia VerDuin if you have some interest or email us with some information and we will gladly contact them with some information.



This is the approximate size of cards

Upcoming Events

April 15, 2023

Davis Monthan Car Show on April 15, 2023. Michael Turner and Lynn Davison will be your contact. Each member is required to register prior to attending, the cost for the show is \$40. See attached Information on page 9 and 10.

May 2023

Callagan Vineyard Tour lead by Lynn Davison. Date TBD.



June 2023

Tour to Mt. Lemmon more details to come. Date TBD.



July 2023

Tour to Prescott with Desert Star Club.

Details coming soon.

13th ANNUAL

APRIL 15th 2023

CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE &**CAR****SHOW**

PRESENTED BY



Car show proceeds benefit the Airmen of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

- FREE LUNCH AND BEVERAGE INCLUDED -

Event is located at Davis-Monthan AFB (Bama Park) on **APRIL 15th from 11am to 2pm.**
 Directions included with car show entry confirmation. **ENTRY DEADLINE - MARCH 31**

I have access to the base* My passenger has access to the base*

*If not, provide the following for AFB access: Name, Date of Birth, Driver's License # / State Issued; and SS # via email to Air Force Secured Server: 355fwprotocoloffice@us.af.mil or call 520-228-3600

NAME: _____ EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____ PASSENGER NAME: _____

CAR/MOTORCYCLE TYPE: _____ CLUB NAME: _____

SHOW CATEGORY (circle one): MOTORCYCLE MILITARY BRITISH GERMAN

JPN/FRA/ITA DETROIT-'50 & EARLIER DETROIT - '51 to PRESENT Street/Hotrod

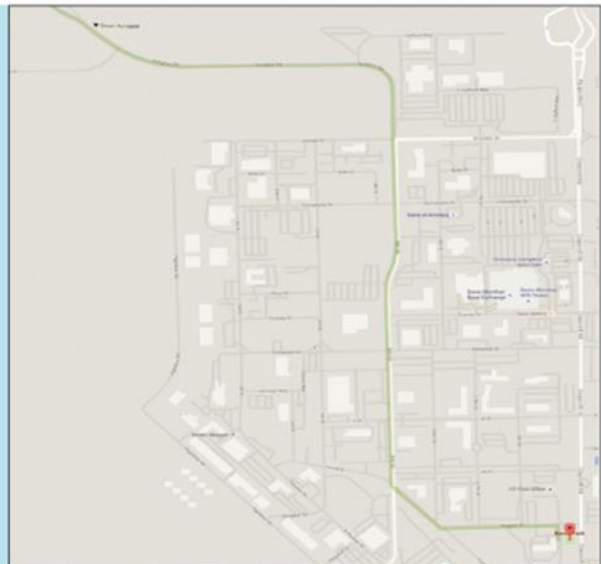
2023_DM50 Car Show_vfinal3

CLASSIC MOTORCYCLE & CARSHOW

PRESENTED BY **DM50**

DIRECTIONS

Enter through Swan Road gate.
Follow signs from
Swan Road gate to park
Please arrive between
10am – 11am



Mail the Registration Form* and a \$40 entry fee (*payable to DM50*) to:

Davis-Monthan Protocol
3405 S. Fifth Street,
Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ 85707

*on-line registration and payment is available via www.dm50.org



MEET BRANDON GATES

Our newest member of the Chaparral Section is also our club liaison with Mercedes-Benz of Tucson. He's a personable young man who is as enthusiastic about our chosen marque as the rest of us. Only 24 years old, he's already worked for MB of Tucson for seven and a half years starting in the driveway as a greeter, becoming the techie guru for all Mercedes models (he called it being a "conciierge"), and now working in sales. I first met him when he assisted my wife and I in getting her cell phone connected to our newly purchased car.

Brandon is, of course, a Tucson native growing up in my neighborhood. We just didn't know we were neighbors at the time! He's a Saguaro High School grad and has attended Pima Community College, but his first love is cars and specifically Mercedes. He loves four wheelin' in our desert on his time off.

You can reach Brandon at 520-396-8081 or brandongates@chapmantucson.com. He can answer all your questions about Mercedes and Chapman. Say "Hi" to him when you meet him at one of our events or stop by the dealership. He'll be glad to fix you up with a new or pre-owned Mercedes.

Lynn Davison

Chaparral Section

2023 M-B.E.A.T.

It's time to get your Benz on the road to prepare it for spring and summer driving around Arizona!! We have the perfect opportunity for you to consider: The M-B.E.A.T., Mike and Bob's Excellent Auto Tour which is planned for Saturday/Sunday April 22/23, 2023. We are dedicating this year's tour to both the late Mike Goodwin who ran the original tour in the Valley for many years as well as Bob Yoder who continued Mike's drive tradition.

This year, the Tour will begin at Denny's Restaurant located behind the 4 Sons Chevron Gas Station at the Northeast corner of Carefree Highway and Interstate 17 at approximately 8:15am with a driver's meeting where each driving team will receive their driving instruction handout. Although still in the final planning stages so that we can make sure the proposed roads are open, we are likely to follow the traditional route with an initial rest room stop in Wickenburg at Coffinger Park, and then we will continue to Prescott. We were able to obtain lunch reservations at The Palace Restaurant & Saloon on Whiskey Row, but we must arrive promptly at 11:00am to be seated and we have arranged for everyone to get separate checks.

Between 1:00-1:30pm we will take off from Prescott. You will be on your own so you can spend more time in Prescott, head to Jerome, Williams or Sedona or other stops of your choosing. Regardless, of your route or stops you should be headed towards Little America Hotel in Flagstaff so you can arrive at approximately 4:00pm. After registration, your first stop is to have your picture taken with your vehicle in the back area of the parking lot on the southwest side. Pictures will be taken until 5:00 pm.

We have negotiated a special room rate of \$179 (plus tax) for a **maximum** of 10 standard rooms with either two queen beds or one king bed at Little America in Flagstaff. If you plan on participating in this event and staying over in Flagstaff for the evening, you should make reservations **NOW** for your driving team by calling the hotel direct at **1-800-352-4386** and mention that you would like the special **Desert Stars Mercedes** room rate for Saturday evening, April 22, 2023. **This special room rate and room availability can be guaranteed ONLY through March 22, 2023, so call right away if you are planning to register for the event.**

The cost for registration for this event is \$25 per car to cover costs. Registration deadline for the Tour is April 14, 2023. Please call Debbie at 480-268-9535 to register

If you have any questions on the 2023 M-B.E.A.T., please call Ron Borino at 602-550-9939 or email to advertising@desertstars.club. We hope to see you all there!



The Newest Member..

Gabe Stearns

Watson Chevrolet

425-891-2904

gabes@watsonchevrolet.com

Brandon Gates

Mercedes-Benz of Tucson liaison

520-396-8081

brandongates@chapmantucson.com



Memories

1908 Stake



1910 Touring



1930 Deauville Sedan



Members Touring



Members Touring



Members Touring



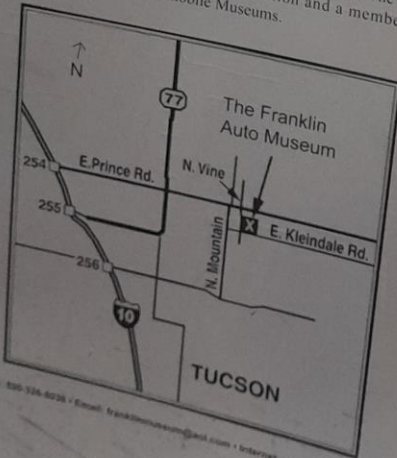
Franklin AUTO MUSEUM

TUCSON'S CAR MUSEUM

Discover one of Tucson's most interesting museums and cultural treasures. From 1902 to 1934 The Franklin Automobile Company built America's only truly successful gasoline-powered motor car incorporating a direct air-cooled engine. The innovative car was the product of a unique partnership between Cornell University engineering graduate John Wilkinson, and Herbert H. Franklin, a successful industrialist credited with developing the die-casting process. Their first automobile, the "Type A" light roadster, weighed in at just over 900 pounds, yet fully satisfied the demands required for the pleasures of independent personal mobility. The car was a pacesetter in its day while the company blazed new trails in production methods and employee relations.

Take a tour through the "center of Franklin history" and view the incredible legacy of its Tucson founder: collector and restorer Tom Hubbard. The Museum displays 23 Franklins dating from 1908 to 1934. The car collection is supplemented by a rare slice of Arizona history including prehistoric Indian artifacts, artwork, furniture, and a classic example of Southwest adobe architecture, the historic Peters House.

The Museum is located on a secluded four-acre site nestled in a quaint residential neighborhood in the center of Tucson. The Museum is open mid-October through Memorial Day, Wednesday through Saturday, 10am - 4pm. Tours may also be arranged by appointment. Admission is \$5.10. Students and children are free. Donations made to support the Foundation are welcomed, encouraged, and are fully tax deductible. The Franklin Museum is a 501(c)3 charitable organization and a member of the National Association of Automobile Museums.



Telephone: 520-526-6026 • Email: franklinmuseum@aol.com • Internet: www.franklinmuseum.org



1930 Deauville Sedan



1931 Sport Phaeton



1931 Coupe Model 153



1934 V-12 Club Brookton

Members Touring





Chaparral Section Group Picture for Franklin Auto Museum Tour



Chaparral Chapter Ads



Cole Krages- Service Manager

service@monsoonauto.com

1170 N. Pantano Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85715 • (520) 296-1037

6722 E. Tanque Verde Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85715 • (520) 305-4908

550 E. Ft. Lowell Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85706 • (520) 620-9229

Owner Rick Becker - Certified Master
Mercedes-Benz Technician
Only OEM Quality Parts
3 years/36,000 Mile Nationwide Warranty
\$75 Diagnostic Fee
Open Monday-Friday 8am - 5pm
For All Your Vehicle Needs

Honoring our Heroes



Memorial Day

Monday, May 29, 2023

Heroism are small triumphs and does not always happen in a burst of glory, but with large hearts that change the course of history.

I would like to recognize and celebrate all our heroes!

Michael Welton, President