



Texas Hill Country Section

3rd Quarter
June 2023



Message from the President

John Briggs

We have just returned from a trip to Europe and the Scandinavian countries. I found it very interesting in Norway and Sweden because they had a large use of electric vehicles with the Mercedes Benz EQS and EQE both being used as taxis.



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In Geiranger Fjord, Norway you can rent a 2 seater electric car which took you around the preset guided tour with commentary, they seemed very popular. Norway produces all its electricity from hydroelectric and windfarms and sells its oil to Europe and has invested in vehicle charging stations everywhere.

In July we are expecting to have a drive to a new Thai Restaurant that is owned by our members Sak and Bebe Reeves.

When the weather cools down we will organize a

road trip to Bandera, the Cowboy Capital of the World and they have some interesting roads to drive nearby.

One event that we could arrange is a go karting evening for approximately \$50 per person, we need at least 10 to join in, who is interested? How about early September?

We need a location for our Holiday Party in mid December, please make suggestions for a location as soon as possible.

My 2018 S Class maps were out of date and showed I lived in a field and the GPS always said drive to the nearest road. I found a service mbma-pupdate.com

that supplies map updates for all models at \$99 with license key. The process took 2 hours to load a 64GB USB with the updated information and then loading it into the vehicle. I can understand why the dealer can charge 2 hours labor plus for this operation.

Hope to see you soon
– John Briggs



**Mercedes
Vision EQXX**

Challenges We Are Facing

Texas Hill Country Section

Message from the Board of Directors

C. Dove

The Texas Hill Country Section Benz club is facing some challenges with member participation. We have experienced a decline with event attendance since Covid. The decline has continued ever since. We are currently in need of individuals who will take on various roles to keep the club active. To do this, we need to fill some officer vacancies which are as follows—the **Vice President** slot is open. This position is the understudy of the President. In the absence of the President, the Vice President fulfills those responsibilities.

Treasurer—(Martin is currently serving) maintains and tracks all monies, pays all bills out of the club's funds and presents a budget for the Board's approval at quarterly meetings. The Treasurer makes financial reports to the Board monthly, or as needed and completes and submits National reports. In the absence of the Treasurer, the responsibilities and files yearly reports with Corporate Commission..

Event Coordinator—Responsible for researching, planning, scheduling, publicizing organizing and coordinating club events.

Newsletter/Communications—(Charlie currently serves) Responsible for writing and distributing newsletters quarterly, maintaining/assisting with communications, and supervises the website/Facebook.

Board of Directors—shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer... a total of 7 member Board of Directors shall be elected each year. We currently have 4 slots open for director positions.

I encourage any member with any interest in keeping our club active to come forward and assume a role in our Club. Help us by making a positive impact on our Club's future.

We are reaching out to the membership to potentially prevent the dismantling of our Club.

Please consider taking on a role in the Texas Hill Country Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America... we welcome your feedback.

If you can help your club, contact:

John Briggs—johnrb2018@gmail.com

Charles Dove—riopaloma2811@gmail.com

Mercedes-Benz and North American Charging System (NACS)



By [Joey Klender](#)

Posted on June 15, 2023

Mercedes-Benz is reportedly considering Tesla's North American Charging Standard (NACS), as it could be the next major automaker to adopt the company's charging connector.

Over the past several weeks, automakers like [Ford](#) and [General Motors](#) have chosen to adopt Tesla's NACS connector for vehicles beginning in 2025. The move has catalyzed similar announcements from [charging companies like Blink and ChargePoint](#), but other major carmakers are considering adopting the connector, too.

Earlier this week, we reported that [Stellantis was one of the companies](#) mulling the potential adoption of the NACS connector. However, they are far from the only automaker looking to potentially join the "NACS Coalition," as Tesla CEO Elon Musk is calling it.

A report from [Benzinga](#) is now showing that Mercedes-Benz is also looking to consider NACS, and is reportedly evaluating a "technical implementation" of the connector, which would make its vehicles able to connect to Tesla Superchargers, if it chooses to come to an agreement with Tesla.

Tesla is doing this for several reasons. Initially, it should be highlighted that the automaker's mission statement has always been to "accelerate the transition to sustainable energy," and that means improving EVs regardless of the company

[Tesla's NACS](#) 

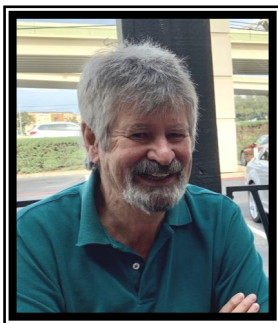
Tesla's unique advantage as an EV maker is that it also operates its own charging network, which is the most robust globally. Many other charging companies have run into issues with dependability, making Tesla an ideal option for many prospective EV buyers as the Supercharging Network operates [over 45,000 locations worldwide](#).

Automakers are interested in expanding their customers' charging and ownership experience as a whole, which makes adopting Tesla's charging connector an ideal option as it is dependable and expansive.

I'd love to hear from you! If you have any comments, concerns, or questions, please email me at joey@teslarati.com. You can also reach me on Twitter [@KlenderJoey](#), or if you have news tips, you can email us at tips@teslarati.com.



SECTION OFFICERS



*John Briggs
President /
Board Member /*



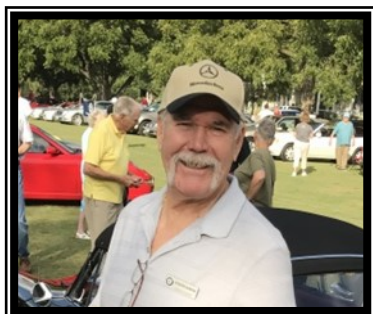
*Charles Dove
Newsletter Editor
Board Member*



*Martin Rios
Treasurer /
Webmaster /
Board Member*



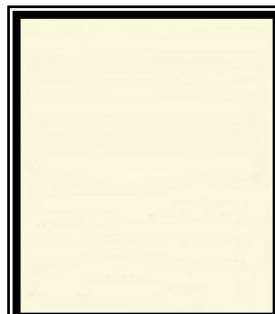
*Robin Schroeder
Board Member*



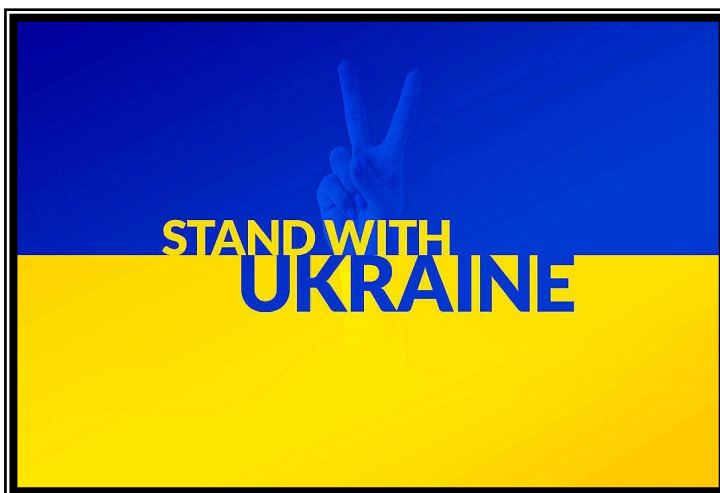
*Joe Aaron
Board Member*



*Trish Briggs
Secretary / Board
Member*



Board Member



We stand with your brave nation and hope the terrorism will end soon. Stand Strong!!!



Upcoming Events:

July 8, 2023— The club will meet up at the Thai [**Esan Noodle restaurant**](#) for dinner. We will meet there at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday July 8th. The restaurant is located at 9820 Huebner Rd, Suite 109. The restaurant is owned and operated by our own club members Sak and Bebe Reeves.

October Event—Austin's Lone Star Section

Our drive to the Big Bend National Park area will be held on **October 13, 14, 15 and 16**. These are the dates that the hotel could accommodate a big group. The hotel will be the **Hampton Inn, located at 2607 W HWY 90, in Alpine, TX. Please call 432-837-7344 to make your reservations. The rate is \$169.00 per night with breakfast. Please make your reservations before September 13, 2023. The block of rooms are under Ginny Pitzen.** If you would like to stay at a different hotel, please make your own reservations. Also, complete this form by [clicking here](#). Itinerary and details to come soon. If you have any questions, please contact Ginny Pitzen at ginnypitzen@yahoo.com or 512-925-4481.

MBCA Lone Star Section
512-925-4481

September— date yet to be determined—an adult Grand Prix Go cart racing Package at [**K1 Kart Racing**](#). The price of \$44.95 per person. (**\$49.95 per person for Friday, Saturday and Sunday**). will include indoor go cart racing—Two ten lap event races. Reserved seating for 1 Hr. for post race meal & celebrations. Pizza and drink for each member of the group. Game card with additional bonus credits for each guest. Medals for the top 3.

Friday, October 6, 2023—Austin's Lone Star Section

Meet in Burnet, TX or Junction, TX and caravan to Fort Stockton, TX (approximately 4 hours).

Stop for lunch and beverage in Fort Stockton (my home town) for a few hours.
Depart and head to Alpine, Texas for the evening.

All of our Events are subject to change following CDC guidelines. Events will be planned with social distancing with health and safety in mind. We encourage face mask protection.



Upcoming Events: Cont'd

Friday, October 6, 2023

Meet in Burnet, TX or Junction, TX and caravan to Fort Stockton, TX (approximately 4 hours).

Stop for lunch and beverage in Fort Stockton (my home town) for a few hours.

Depart and head to Alpine, Texas for the evening.

Saturday, October 7, 2023

Saturday morning we would depart Alpine for a drive and lunch to Big Bend National park

Dinner at a local restaurant

Sunday, October 8, 2023

Drive and lunch to Fort Davis, Texas McDonald Observatory

Dinner at a local restaurant.

Monday, October 9, 2023

Everyone depart on their own

The host hotel would be either the [Quarter 7](#) or the Hampton Inn in Alpine, TX.

Let me know if any of you in your Section would have any interest.

Thanks,

Ginny Pitzen—Lone Star Section, Austin—ginnypitzen@yahoo.com or 512-925-4481 if you have any questions.

All of our Events are subject to change following CDC guidelines. Events will be planned with social distancing with health and safety in mind. We encourage face mask protection.



**Willkommen
And
Dankeschon!**



We want to thank everyone for being a member of this Club. We appreciate your loyalty and support,

Welcome
New Members!

Dylan Perera

Loyal Member Renewals!

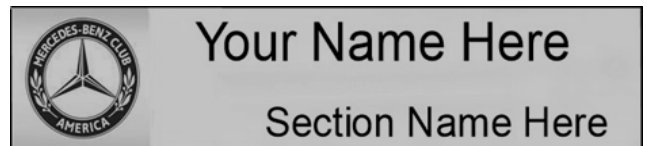
Cleofas Garza
Lydia Garrido
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Michael Yost
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El Dr. Jose Correa Lettieri
Dennis Moroney
Joseph Aaron
Ralph Williams
Dee Ann Raz
Steve Morehead

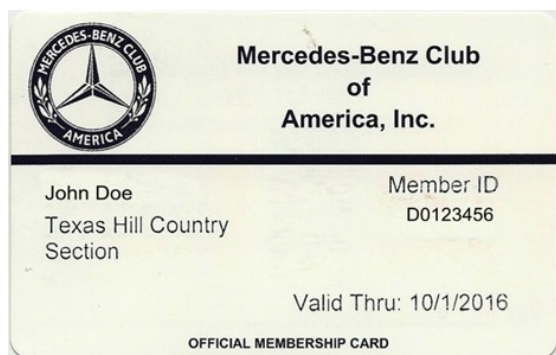


Mercedes-Benz

If you would like to order a Mercedes-Benz Club name badge, click the image here:



REMINDER: If we do not have your email address, you are missing out on the majority of the communications from the Club. Please go to www.mbca.org, log in and update your info to stay updated on all that we have going on. Also, please list your spouse/partner as an associate member on the mbca website.



Can't find your Membership Card?

No worries! Just call the national business office at 800-637-2360 or go online at www.mbca.org to request another card.

Keep the card with you to enjoy dealership and other member discounts.

Texas Hill Country Section | MBCA Is On The Web!

- National website – www.mbca.org
- Section website - <http://texashillcountry.mbca.org>
- [http://www.facebook.com/pages/ Texas Hill Country Section—Mercedes-Benz Club of America](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Texas+Hill+Country+Section—Mercedes-Benz+Club+of+America)
- [Section Newsletters](#)
- [You Tube channel](#)

MBCA Texas Hill Country Section Newsletter - published four times a year is the official newsletter of the Texas Hill Country Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

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Articles and Submissions – Copy for our quarterly newsletter should be e-mailed to the newsletter editor (riopaloma@sbcglobal.net) by the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. For example, submissions for the September issue should be received by the editor by August 10th. If you have an interesting story about your Mercedes experience, we would like to hear about it. If you've purchased a new or new to you Mercedes, we like to hear about that too.



Mercedes-Benz