



**EASTERN OKLAHOMA SECTION
OF THE
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA**

**TULSA STAR NEWS
Jan - Feb 2024**



**Nathan Armer
President**

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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERYONE!

Thank you for your support of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America - Eastern Oklahoma Section. We have enjoyed a great year in 2023 and are looking forward to another banner year for our club in 2024. Please see the list of upcoming events. In addition, we welcome Quik Print at 61st and Mingo as a new club sponsor.

Did we see you at the Christmas party in December? What a great time it was! Please see the photos of gift and awards presented at our party. It was a good way to end the year while recognizing a few member contributions that are so valuable to our organization. In particular I would like to mention the following noteworthy efforts by our club volunteers:

*Many thanks to Ben Cunningham and all of his efforts in putting together our outstanding club newsletter.

*Ron Hardage's work to organize our food donations to the Bixby Outreach Center. This has been an annual charity donation given by our generous club members. Ron delivers the donations and has been the chief organizer to make this donation happen.

*Jackie Cooper Mercedes-Benz in Tulsa was the supplier of our Christmas party poinsettias for the Christmas decorations that were on display. They were on loan to us for our event. Days later Jackie Cooper Imports was able to use them for their Christmas party. Thanks to our club secretary and Jackie Cooper Marketing and Development Specialist, Kristen Bebout. Jackie Cooper Imports also donated boxed Glacier Chocolates for each member and bottles of wine as door prizes.

*A big thank you also goes to our Christmas party planning committee comprised of Carolyn Fuchs, Harriet Kushnerick and Robin Armer for their research and party planning for the Saltgrass Steakhouse destination.

The past 2 months yielded some wonderful events for our Section. In November Ben and Kathe Kehe's "Green Acres" 1951 John Deere Model R tractor drive was a great time of fun and camaraderie. Personally, I hadn't driven a tractor since I was 19 (it probably showed). Many thanks to the Kehe's for hosting such a wonderful time at their residence. Please thank them when you see them. Ben and Cathe are 8 year MBCA members. The Yoder's Amish Family Farm lunch in Choteau was a good November experience too. Many positive comments were heard about the food and service. Many of us attending the Yoder's Amish lunch were first timers.

Did you enjoy these events? More fun times are on the way. We ask you to note the upcoming details of the KTUL Channel 8 studio tour in January and the Chili cook-off hosted by the Kushnerick's in February. Any other ideas on gatherings or an event that you would like to host? Please submit your ideas to a board member. 2024 is your year for that.

Thank you for your support. Safe driving.

Sincerely,
Nathan



Eastern Oklahoma Section Calendar of events

January

Thursday, January 18	Gathering at the Waterfront Grill, Jenks OK	6:00 pm
Friday, January 26	Tour of KTUL Channel 8 studio	10:30 am
	Lunch at Arnolds Old Fashioned	Noonish

February

Friday, February 2	Eastern Oklahoma section Board meeting	10:00am
	Hardesty Library, South Tulsa	
Thursday, February 15	Chili Cookoff Competition	6:00 pm
	Kushnerick residence, Bixby OK	
Saturday, February 24	Mercedes Benz Club featured car club	9:00 am
	Caffeine & Chrome	
	Gateway Classic Cars, 71'st Street, Tulsa	

March

Thursday, March 21	Club Gathering, Charleston's Restaurant	6:00 pm
	6839 S Yale Avenue, Tulsa OK	
Saturday, March 9	Car show with Jaguar Club of Tulsa	10:00 am
	Heart of Route 66 car Museum	
	Sapulpa OK	

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MBCA drives in Veterans Day parade.

MBCA provided two convertibles for the annual Tulsa Veterans Day parade. Nathan Armer and John Kushnerick drove Chanel 8 chief Meteorologist Christopher Nunley and reporter CJ Maclin during the parade route downtown as well as two ice girls from the Tulsa Oiler hockey team. Channel 8 was the broadcast host. This is the second year MBCA has provided drivers for the parade.



MY FAMILY...

Serving Tulsa, OK. and the surrounding area



MY BENZ...



MY BIO...

I come from a Family full of Real Estate Professionals. This journey started for me only a few years ago when I decided to join the "Family Business" in real estate for myself.

I originally started a career in the service side of the Oil and Gas industry and was there for over 16 years. In that time, I have provided detail care and guidance to many customers and have worked hand in hand with the engineering team to provide excellent customer service for those who put their trust in me.

I have transitioned those skills into a successful career in Real Estate. My goal is to help each client that I work with by identifying their individual needs through the process of selling, buying, or investing in a home. By doing so I am able to make this intricate process stress free.

My goal is for each client experience to be a ten! With the support of my team and the value of the company I choose to work with, that goal is achieved in each family or business I help.

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Members enjoy a Green Acres Day

Twenty-four members and guests participated in a “Green Acres” day of tractor driving on the acreage of members Ben and Cathe Kehe on Saturday November 11, 2023. Ben took the antique 1950 John Deere model R diesel tractor out of the garage and members had the opportunity to drive it on the field adjacent to his home in East Tulsa. The 8500 pound beast was the very first diesel tractor built by the Deere Company.

For many members that did not grow up on a farm, this was a great opportunity to get behind the wheel and try your hand at steering it around the field.

In addition to the antique tractor, Ben had some restored Lawn Boys mowers and movie theater projectors from the early 1930’s.

After each person had an opportunity to drive the green beast, members took a 30 minute drive to Chouteau OK to the Yoder family farm for a traditional Amish farmhouse family-style meal of roast beef, oven fried chicken, oven baked rolls, mashed potatoes and gravy, noodles, green beans, and delicious apple and pumpkin pies for dessert.

The combination of events was a perfect for a fall day and the pre-Thanksgiving season.







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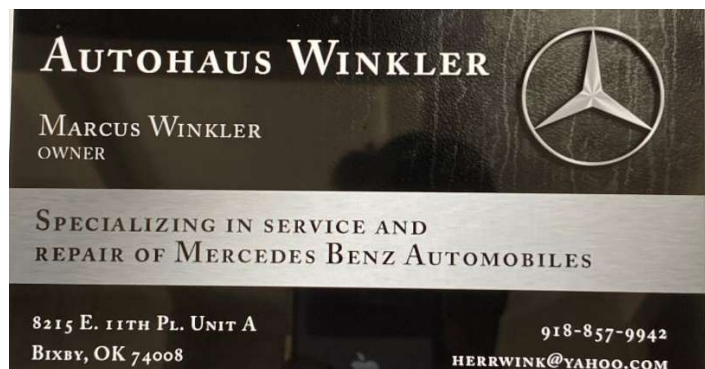
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HOLIDAY PARTY ALWAYS ENTERTAINING

The Eastern Oklahoma section held their annual Christmas party at Saltgrass Steakhouse in Tulsa OK on Thursday December 7, 2023. Thirty-two members enjoyed their dinner in the private dining room enjoying a variety of entries from the extensive menu.

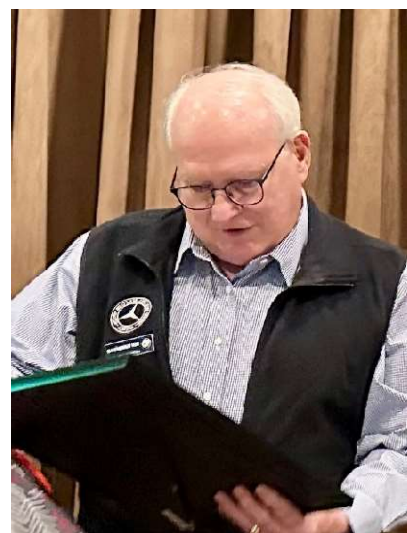
The section presented a special plaque to John Kushnerick for serving as section President for the past eight years as well as the Member of the Year award to incoming President Nathan Armer. Addition framed certificates of appreciation were presented to Ben Cunningham for his many years of service to the section as an officer, board member and newsletter publisher. Carolyn Fuchs was recognized for her work as the section secretary, and Ron and Jean Hardage for their many years of event and trip planning.

Former President John Kushnerick recapped the 2023 year of activities and events. President Armer informed the group of upcoming Q1 2024 events and asked members to help submit ideas and suggestions for new destinations and journeys.

Thanks to Ron Hardage for shepherding a food drive for Bixby Outreach food pantry. Members collected hundreds of pounds of canned goods and boxed dry goods.

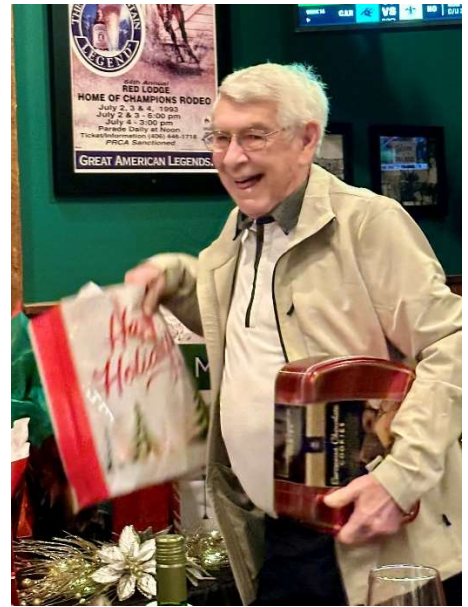
The highlight of the evening is always the "Dirty Santa" gift exchange. Most gifts stayed with their original owners. However, Kristen Bebout and John Tanner were victims of multiple steals. In the end we hope everyone walked away with a gift they enjoyed.

A special thanks goes out to Robin Armer, Harriet Kushnerick, Carolyn Fuchs, and Kristen Bebout and for serving as the event committee on this annual gathering.





Dirty Santa at it's Best



EASTERN OKLAHOMA MEMBER INSIGHT

At our annual Benz & Brats event last August, members voted for a new slate of officers. Our new President is Nathan Armer, enthusiastic owner of a red 2006 350 SLK (photo).

I was born and raised in the small town of King City, California in the central coast area. This agricultural valley sported many crop dusters flying most of the year which sparked my airplane interest at age 5. While I was in high school, my family moved to Arkansas. I met my beautiful wife, Robin our senior year of high school. We have been married for over 40 years. After college, we settled in Tulsa to take on our first professional jobs. We have 1 daughter currently working in Pennsylvania .

I retired in late 2020 from a 35-year flying career. Twenty-eight of those years were with 4 airlines accompanied by flight instructing and charter flying. Notable aircraft types I have flown are the Boeing 727, 737, B-17, EMB-145 and DC-3 in addition to light aircraft. My last flight was from Las Vegas to Houston, where I was based. Robin flew down to Houston to meet my last flight (see picture). My total flight time is approximately 24,000 flight hours. I am a former 6-year school board President of a 300-student local private school and an Air Line Pilots Association legislative affairs representative.



My first memory of a Mercedes-Benz automobile was a light yellow 280 SE 4 door from the early 1970s. The car was owned by my 8th grade English teacher Mr. Blach. He showed us kids his new Mercedes-Benz as he beamed with pride. It looked much different from any other car on the road. It appeared well built and just looked like a work of art. It had a stately grill adorned with the “star” emblem. Whenever I saw him drive it, he always wore a suit.

There is another memorable Mercedes-Benz time that I wanted to share. I was a young flight instructor in my first career job. My adult flight student that I was teaching in the late 1980s owned a construction company in Tulsa. He also owned a Mercedes-Benz 560 SL. It was triple black and brand new. One day he called and asked for a favor. Was it possible for me to drive his 560 SL from his hangar and pick him up at a job site? Are you kidding? Of course! Just let me know where to drive it. The keys were in the ignition. The car shined like new. Well, it was new, with just over 1, 000 miles on the odometer. I was engulfed by the rich aroma of leather as I entered the car. It had a solid, but smooth feel and drove like a dream. As I began the drive to the construction site away from Jones/Riverside airport, I slowly passed by 2 of my students outside the flight school. They noticed me as I waved. “Keep studying and maybe someday you’ll have a Mercedes too!” I shouted out the window (later, I privately had to admit to those students that the 560 SL did not belong to me). I remember this as if it happened yesterday.

I am looking forward to an exciting year with our MBA Section. If I have not met some of you as of yet, I would like to. May I say it is a pleasure to serve. Many thanks to all of you, my fellow members, and a huge thank you goes to Mr. Blach.



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- 2. Half Page \$150**
- 3. Business Card \$75**

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Membership Information

New Members

Melissa Parker

Expired Members

**John Mueller
Rene Koesler
Jason Starr
Stephanie Boucher
Tom Stanley
Ron Hershberger**

Renewed Members

**John Kushnerick
Kristen Bebout
Nathan Armer
Susan Hoog
Mark Bullock**

Thanks for Renewing

Mercedes Benz and Porsche team up for kids

Sixty five members of the Eastern Oklahoma section, the Cimmaron section of the Porsche Club of America, and Jackie Cooper Imports teamed up for the Marine Corp Toys for Tots Chili luncheon on Saturday December 2, 2023.

Everyone gathered at the big Christmas tree and in the service area of Jackie Cooper Porsche for a toy drop off and a delicious chili luncheon. This annual event is such a great experience for club enthusiasts to open their hearts to children in the Tulsa area. We are proud to participate and happy to thank the Marines for their service, and Kristen Bebout and Nazir Khaled for their efforts to bring everyone together for a special day.







Mercedes-Benz Club of America Membership Application

Please call the National Office at 800-637-2360 to join by phone or go to www.mbca.org/ to join online.

Full Name: _____

Associate Member's Name (no extra charge): _____

Street Address: _____

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Home Phone: () _____ Cell Phone: () _____ Business: () _____

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Mercedes-Benz Cars Currently Owned (list year(s), model(s) and VIN#):

I hereby apply for membership in the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.
_____ Date _____

(Signature)

If referred by a current MBCA member, please include their name and section:

New U.S. Membership Rates (subject to change)

- \$55.00 for one year**
- \$107.00 for two years**
- \$157.00 for three years**

Annual dues include six issues of "The Star" magazine per year, plus your local section's newsletter.

Check one: ___ Visa ___ Mastercard ___ Discover ___ AMEX

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Make your check payable to MBCA, and mail it along with application to:
Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.
National Business Office
107 Lelaray Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80909



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Susan Hoog	918-682-1288
Harriet Kushnerick	918-740-7624
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Wendy Kise (wekise@cox.net)	