



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

**TULSA STAR NEWS  
May - June 2024**

**MBCA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
MAY - JUNE 2024**



**Nathan Armer  
President**

Hello and a happy Spring driving season to our members. The first half of the year 2024 is off to a great start. Happenings: We have a new national MBCA website as well as local website, new monthly gathering restaurant locations, as well as new members. Fun times await! New driving destinations are ongoing too. Another change is that now we are being referred to as the Eastern Oklahoma Chapter rather than Section, as in the past.

We survived the recent solar eclipse in April with a sunny day of high clouds and perfect visibility.

Our member insight for this issue is John Kushnerick, chapter Vice-President, club webmaster and former Chapter President for many years. He is on the MBCA National awards committee, Mercedes Benz Certified Concours Judge, and longtime Mercedes-Benz owner. Both John and his wife, Harriet, are strong MBCA advocates. We are honored to have them and the expertise they bring to our club. Have you met them? If not, you should.

The biggest, most valuable asset we have as the Eastern Oklahoma Chapter is our club members like yourself. We have some member suggested events that are forthcoming. We hope you get a chance to participate in them. We as a club have operated a couple of events in conjunction with other local car clubs. Most recently we have attended the Heart of Route 66 Auto Museum (owned and operated by fellow MBCA members Richard and Lina Holmes) with the Jaguar club of Tulsa. The museum experience was followed by a delicious lunch at Senor Pablo's in Sapulpa. It was a fantastic time. Please check out our "Upcoming Events" in this issue to stay informed of our fabulous future activities. Have any new ideas that you would like to submit? Please give them to me, John, or another board member. Tell us about any new Mercedes-Benz that you have acquired as well.

Encourage your friends to join the club! Go to [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org) to join as well as check out our new website. Going forward, all national correspondence will come via email to members. You must log onto the new website to make sure you are on the national database. You can be sure we will continue to communicate with you at monthly gatherings, and through bi-monthly newsletters.

I urge you to also please patronize our club sponsors. Many sponsors offer discounts to our members.

Thank you for your support. Drive safe.  
Sincerely, Nathan

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## Eastern Oklahoma Chapter Calander of Events

### May


<b>Saturday, May 11</b>	<b>Joint Poker run and Amish lunch with Ozark section</b>	<b>7:30-3:00</b>
	<b>Meet at Jackie Cooper Mercedes Benz and drive to Siloam Springs</b>	<b>7:30am</b>
	<b>Lunch at Yoder family farm, Chouteau, OK</b>	<b>2:00pm</b>
<b>Thursday, May 16</b>	<b>May Member Gathering</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
	<b>Waterfront Grill outdoor patio, Jenks OK</b>	
<b>Saturday, May 18</b>	<b>Caffeine &amp; Gasoline The Vineyard on Memorial</b>	<b>9:00am</b>

### June

<b>Saturday, June 1</b>	<b>Cruisin Angels car show Muskogee OK \$15early</b>	<b>8:00am</b>
<b>Saturday, June 1</b>	<b>EuroMotor Extravaganza Car show, Sand Springs</b>	<b>8:00am</b>
	<b>\$25 entry fee, All European mark show</b>	
<b>Saturday, June 8</b>	<b>Oklahoma Mercedes Benz owner picnic Edmond OK</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
	<b>Meet at Jackie Cooper Mercedes Benz 9:00am</b>	
<b>Saturday, June 15</b>	<b>Luau Hill Residence, Bristow OK</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Saturday June 15</b>	<b>Dadfest Car Show, Bible Fellowship Church, So. Tulsa</b>	<b>8:30-noon</b>
	<b>Free Lunch for first 500 cars, \$25 entry fee</b>	
<b>Thursday, June 20</b>	<b>June Gathering, Charleston's, Yale Ave location</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>

### July

<b>Thursday, July 18</b>	<b>July Gathering Uncle Julios 71'st street Tulsa</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>
<b>Saturday, July 20</b>	<b>Caffeine &amp; Gasoline The Vineyard on Memorial</b>	<b>9:00am</b>



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## Mercedes and Jaguar clubs come together to meet & greet

Twenty-one MBCA members teamed up with fourteen members of the Jaguar Club of Tulsa for the first ever “Meet and Greet” at the Heart of Route 66 car museum in Sapulpa OK on Saturday March 9, 2024.

The Heart of Route 66 museum began as a dream of MBCA member and car enthusiast Richard Holmes. In 2012 Holmes put an advisory board together whose members were all car lovers and collectors; they all shared the same dream. Richard’s wife Lina serves as the museum director.

The unique feature of the museum besides its collections of vintage cars and automobilia is the “world’s tallest gas pump which makes the museum easy to find on historic Route 66. While touring, Ben and Cathe Kehe showed their Ford Fairlane that is now on display in the museum.

Members of the Eastern Oklahoma board of directors reached out to Mike Webb, Vice President of the Tulsa Jaguar club to see if they had interest in a joint event. Both clubs share a very traditional and seasoned car club membership which is couples who want to meet and socialize monthly. Richard and Lina offered to host the event at their museum and a spring date chosen.

After touring the museum, both clubs mixed and mingled at Senor Pablos Mexican cantina for a lunch of great food and margaritas.







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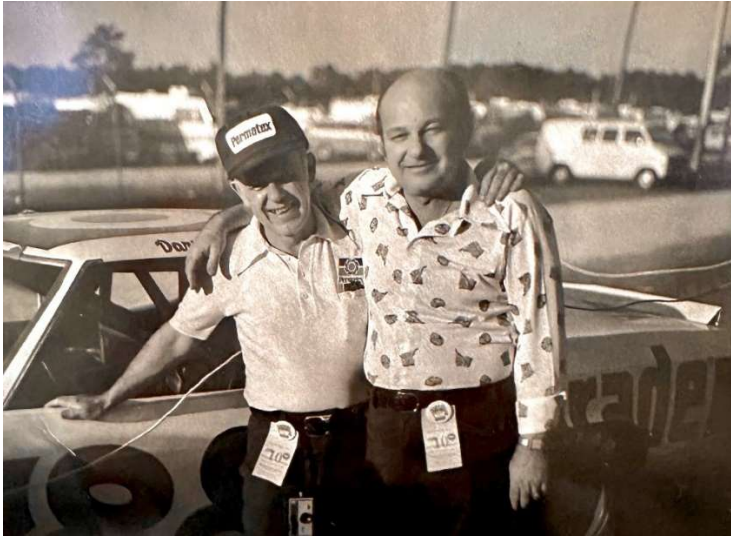
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## Thanks Dad



What makes someone love cars? There are those that say it is just something with which you are born. I consider myself lucky to have been born into a family of “car guys.” My dad and his brothers were all into cars and racing. In fact, two of the brothers were leaders in the Chilton Company (General Manager/Publisher and National Sales Manager) which designed and published the automotive manuals each service station, garage, and dealership used to repair cars, estimate parts and prices, and calculate labor costs for each job. The Chilton manual for each car make and model was the Google search tool for every garage and “do it yourselfer” in the pre-internet era. Chilton also published Motor Age magazine and other trade publications.

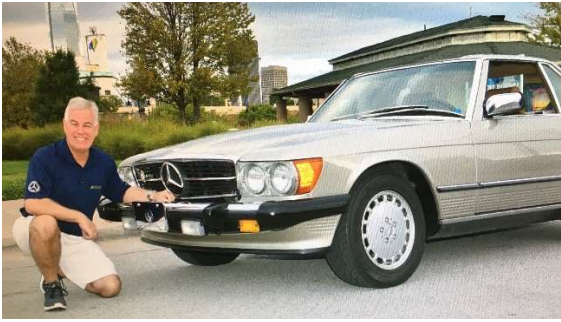
As a four-year-old boy, my father took my twin brother and I to dirt track races around Pennsylvania . Unfortunately, my brother and I would get tired, and dad would place us in the back seat of the car to sleep before the “A Main” feature if it got late due to crashes and delays. As a boy, we traveled to Daytona, Reading, Langhorne, and Grandview speedways. Later it was drag racing at Maple Grove Raceway.

I wanted to work and make my career in the automotive, truck, or racing world. During my senior year in college, I interviewed with Penske, Mack Trucks, General Motors Buick division, and even American Motors/Renault for management trainee positions. Alas my future was not to be in the car business. But my love of cars never diminished.

With Father’s Day coming, I am thankful my dad instilled in me his love of automobiles. To me cars are more than just something you drive to get from point A to B. They are an expression of who you are as a person and for me a focal point of my teenage and youth experience...a dream to someday be able to own a cherished aspirational possession.

My brothers and I will always be car guys and I plan to pass this love on to my four young grandchildren....or at least I am working on it. I have had 3 of them at car shows and dealerships to look and admire the paintwork and beauty. This is our future at MBCA and other clubs. Let’s nurture this love.





Me and my 1986 560sl convertible



my twin brother and his 92 Saab 900 convertible



My brother Bob and his 06 Miata convertible



2 of my granddaughters in their Rover



Another granddaughter



my grandson in his crib with cars on the wall



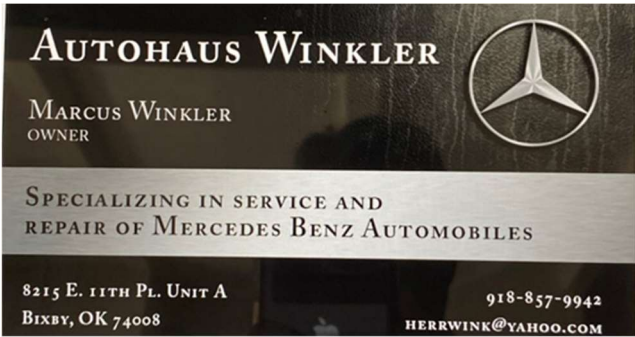
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In honor of Susan Hoog's non-profit work with the Spelling Bee and her membership in our Mercedes-Benz Club, Jackie Cooper Mercedes-Benz donated 4 gift baskets to her organization. Inside each basket are Mercedes-Benz logo items, including a blue-tooth speaker, a word-a-day calendar so that students can continue to increase their spelling bee vocabulary, and fun 'brain' snacks!

## Special Recognition



Eastern Oklahoma MBCA member Brandon Bebout, a 26-year team member of Jackie Cooper Imports and Master Certified Mercedes-Benz technician, was recognized with the February Team Member of the Month award for the exceptional work he is doing in developing tomorrow's master certified technicians.

Brandon supervises a team of 4 newly promoted main shop technicians, helping them grow successfully into their new positions through patient education and mentoring. Each 'student' in the Bebout Academy, as the team likes to call it, has reached new levels of efficiency under Brandon's tutelage. Lovingly called Bran-Dad by the 4 technicians in training, Brandon works with the young men while still performing his own technical tasks for the shop.

The Jackie Cooper Team Member of the Month designation is earned by team members who go above and beyond to provide an exceptional experience while at work. The designation comes with a traveling trophy that was initiated in memoriam shortly after the death of Jackie Cooper in late winter of 2015. Since that time, it has been passed from one exceptional team member to another, each month, for the last 9 years.

## Spring drive to the OSU Botanic Garden in Stillwater

Twenty-one Eastern Oklahoma chapter members braved the threat of severe weather and storms to drive the backroads to the OSU Botanic Garden Herb & Succulent festival on Saturday April 27, 2024.

The Botanic Garden is a living, multidisciplinary laboratory currently used by several departments within Oklahoma State's Division of Agricultural Science and Natural Resources in addition to the local and regional communities at large. Practices and projects include drought response; water quality; sustainable practices and energy; and reptile and amphibian studies.

Chapter members met at Jackie Cooper Mercedes Benz and traveled through the hills and Oklahoma prairies on the 90-minute drive each way. Our agenda was pushed as the threat of severe storms loomed in the afternoon. Members were able to purchase spring plants and other assorted crafts from local vendors.

Lunch was served at Mexico Joes Cantina- a local college cantina just off campus.









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## MBCA Membership Road Map of Benefits

As a MBCA member you will enjoy these benefits plus many more.

### The Star Magazine

Club membership includes a subscription to our award winning bi-monthly Star® magazine which features classified advertising.

### Local, Regional & National and selected International Events

Club members are invited to attend and participate in exclusive Mercedes-Benz activities including driving events.

### Section Newsletters

Local Club Sections produce and send Club members a fun and informative newsletter which features classified advertising.

### Discounts 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, service and accessories from U.S. and Canadian Mercedes-Benz dealers. **Check with your dealer first.**

### Germany Trips

Several times a year, MBCA invites its members to go on an exclusive trip to Germany which features guided tours of Mercedes-Benz factories, its headquarters and museum! Club members are treated like Mercedes-Benz royalty.

### 15% Discount on Parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center

Being a Mercedes-Benz Club of America member may entitle you to 15% off hard-to-find parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California.

### Membership Rebate

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**Membership Information**

**New Members**

Barry Hoffman

**Expired Members**

Joe Tibbs  
Darwin James

**Renewed Members**

Richard Holmes  
Tom Stanley

**Thanks for Renewing**



**Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc**  
**Eastern Oklahoma Section**  
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