

MBCA OC STARS

Monthly newsletter



Email: mbcaorangecounty@gmail.com Instagram: OrangeCountyStars
YouTube: Mercedes Benz Club of America Orange County Section

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A WORD FROM YOUR SECTION PRESIDENT

Welcome to the new OC Stars monthly newsletter. Our priorities are to **connect**, foster **community**, and **celebrate** our shared affinity for Mercedes Benz. We have roughly 300 members in the Orange County section. Also, partnerships with other local sections have allowed us to expand our reach. We welcome your feedback as we seek ways to help you engage with our section. We are currently planning events for Summer and Fall. We are also looking to expand our Board of Directors. If you have a suggestion for a future event or have interest in joining the Board, please contact us through email or Instagram.

MOTORSPORT

With seven Formula 1 races complete in the 2023 season, Mercedes sits in 2nd place. The gap to first place is currently vast (152 points to Red Bull's 287). The latest race in Spain was Mercedes's best finish of 2023. Lewis Hamilton and George Russell finished 2nd and 3rd, respectively. Is this a new trend or an anomaly? We look ahead with optimism to the next race in Canada on June 18.

For those with a passion for Mercedes's past triumphs, turn to Netflix. "A life of Speed: The Juan Manuel Fangio Story" details his legendary career. That includes his 1954 and 1955 World Championships driving for Mercedes.

EVENTS

PAST

- May 18. PCarMarket hosted a webinar to discuss online auctions. Watch on our new YouTube channel by searching "MBCA OC" or view the PDF version of the newsletter and click the url:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gh0rJHYmLus&t=118s>

FUTURE

- June 25. We will partner with the Los Angeles section to host a driving event. Meet at Fashion Island at 9:30 am. Depart at 10:00. Drive through Santiago, Trabuco, and Laguna Canyons. The day ends with a no-host lunch at Lucille's BBQ in Tustin. See email sent on June 10th to RSVP or text Chris Shank at 949-241-1010.
- Plans are in progress for summer/fall. Ideas include museum tours, cars and coffee, and more driving

MERCEDES MUSINGS



Reuters reported that Mercedes Benz is the first automaker to get permission from the California DMV to sell or lease vehicles with level 3 self-driving capabilities. This includes hands-off and eyes-off driving. The approval follows a similar certification in Nevada. Level 3 still requires a human to be present but allows the driving to do other activities. The Drive Pilot system includes visual cameras, LiDAR arrays radar and ultrasound sensors and audio microphones. Mercedes Benz said in a statement that it will make the system available as an option on 2024 S Class and EQS sedan vehicles.

Is this a feature that would encourage you to buy one? We look forward to hearing your reactions.