



Carolinas



2nd Quarter 2023



*EV Tech Sessions
Pages 14 and 16*

President's Message

Dear Members,



*Steve Brooks, President
MBCA Carolinas Section*

Spring has sprung. I'm enjoying the blossoms breaking out from my windows this morning, and it makes me want to go outside and enjoy the beautiful day we have been given. So that means it's time to get out and enjoy the weather and our beautiful cars. Time to give our Mercedes its Spring cleaning. Perhaps change the oil, check the coolant, and renew lubricants. Get ready to enjoy driving along the winding country roads of our beautiful Carolina states, watch the trees come alive, wildlife frolic about in the warmer weather. Oh yes, and check out upcoming car shows and Mercedes club events.

Your Board has been working on our events for the year. Our ambassadors, Michele Stine and Richard Mawhich, recently hosted an event in Columbia where Dick Dyer Mercedes gave a presentation on Mercedes' campaign to roll out electric cars while integrating cutting edge technology throughout their lineup. After enjoying a nice lunch at the dealership, the group was treated to a VIP tour of the South Carolina state capitol. Great event. Kudos to both Michele and Richard.

Check out the list of upcoming events in our newsletter. We try to also include events hosted by our neighboring sections: Peachtree, Tarheel, and Triangle. I already have agreed to show a car at the Sandhills festival in May and at the Highlands Motoring Festival in June. Now is the time to look at upcoming car events and sign up, reserve a hotel room and make dinner reservations. Register early before the event is sold out. Isn't it wonderful to have a venue where you can drive

your car and then socialize with other members? A number of our members will be flying to Italy in May to participate in a classic tour of Tuscany in W121 and R107 Mercedes roadsters. Each day, they will drive a different car. The thought of it is so exciting.

Our ambassadors are planning and coordinating the logistics for events later in the year. Our main event this year will be Hilton Head in November where we plan to host another classic Mercedes on the Concours field. Our goal is to have something for everyone. We welcome great ideas from all our members, so please contact Carson Perrotti, our Events Director, with suggestions, feedback, or if you would like to assist in planning or hosting an event. This is YOUR club, so be at our best with active participation. It takes a village (of Mercedes enthusiasts).

Hope to see you soon. Until then, Happy Motoring.

Steve Brooks
President



Tech Articles

Find technical articles and connect with technical experts with questions.



Calendar

View upcoming Regional, National, and local club events in your area.



News

Read all the latest Mercedes-Benz headlines, and catch up on current MBCA news.



MBCA Forum

Connect with other Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts and discuss all things Mercedes-Benz.

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Carolinas Section Website and Facebook Page

Take a look at our [Facebook page](#) and explore the [Carolinas Section MBCA website](#).

We also have a YouTube site.

Mark McFadden,

Communications Director

markmcfadden73@gmail.com.



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Carolinas Section



The Carolinas Section covers a broad geographical region which provides us with wonderful opportunities. We are able to enjoy the majestic North Carolina mountains, and the pristine coastline and beaches of South Carolina, including the many cities with great museums to visit and enjoy. Our area encompasses places where American history actually took place, including the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. And don't forget all the restaurants, wineries and breweries!! Just open any magazine that covers the Southern states and you will find great venues mentioned in Asheville and Greenville, the Queen City of Charlotte, and on through the Capital City of Columbia to the shores of Myrtle Beach, Charleston and Hilton Head Island.

Our challenge is to visit them all!

Upcoming Events for 2023

1st Saturday of every month 8 am—Cars & Coffee - Charlotte, NC

April 8 from 9 to 11 am—Member Meet & Greet at Mercedes-Benz of Asheville

**April 27-30, 2023
Choo Choo Spring Fling — Peachtree Section**

May 6 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm—MBCA Grand Strand Section Meet & Greet Hosted by John Hameline

May (final date TBD)—River Jam Live Music at the Whitewater Center—Charlotte, NC

**May 20th —Cars and Coffee—Joint effort with Peachtree Section
Ambassador: Carson Perrotti**

**May 26th-May 28th—Sandhills Motoring Festival
Pinehurst, NC**

July 8 - 10 am—Technical Session—“Preventative maintenance on your classic Mercedes Benz”- Charlotte, NC

**September 8th-Taste of the Track at Carolina Motorsports Park
Ambassador: John Hameline**

September 16—Florence, SC—A Mystery Tour of South Carolina’s PeeDee.

**September 23—Autumn in the Mountains Car Show (TO BE CONFIRMED)
Ambassador: Frank Towson
Mills River, NC**

**December 1-3—Aiken, SC — Holiday Party
Chairperson: Marsha Wilmot**

Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)

CARS AND COFFEE

1st Saturday of every month 8am
3545 Whitehall Park Dr.
Charlotte, NC

Monthly gathering of car enthusiasts on the first Saturday of each month. In the warm months, we meet at Top Golf at 7:30am before the show and drive in together.

Member meet and Greet at Mercedes-Benz of Asheville Saturday, April 8, 2023

from 9:00 am to 11:00 am
Mercedes-Benz of Asheville

A chance for members to meet, tour the dealer, and maybe find out about some new MB models. More information coming soon...

April 27-30, 2023 Choo Choo Spring Fling

MBCA—Peachtree
Marriott Courtyard Downtown
Chattanooga, TN

Grand Strand Section Meet & Greet

Ambassador: John Hameline
Location: Myrtle Beach, SC
Date: **Saturday, May 6, 2023**
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Come meet your fellow Grand Strand MBCA Members and enjoy a few refreshments!

Please RSVP no later than May 1st to John Hameline at
(c) 843-315-4320
or
john.hameline@gmail.com

May 2023 (TBD) River Jam Live Music at Whitewater Center-Genres include roots rock, Americana, bluegrass, folk and funk.

Cars and Coffee—Joint effort with Peach Tree Section

Ambassador: Carson Perrotti
Date: **May 20th**
Location: Mercedes-Benz of Augusta

Sandhills Motoring Festival May 26th through May 28th Pinehurst, NC

The festival is a weekend-long event featuring a Block Party, Cars & Coffee, Road Rally, Backroads Pottery Tour, Hangar Party, Gala Dinner, and culminates with the Sunday Concours in the Village.

Saturday July 8th at 10am 2716 Interstate St. Suite G Charlotte, NC 28208

A technical session discussing preventative maintenance on your classic Mercedes-Benz. This will be an educational and hands on session discussing any questions you may have about keeping your classic Mercedes-Benz in tip-top shape. We will discuss tires & brakes, engine & transmission service, and everything else you may want to know. Limited to 10 persons, snacks will be provided. *Registration will open up in May*

Taste of the Track at Carolina Motorsports Park
Ambassador: John Hameline

Date: Friday, September 8th, 2023
Cost: \$125.00 per car
Location: Carolina Motorsports Park, 3662 Kershaw Hwy, Kershaw SC 29067

Complete Registration information to follow.

Join fellow members for an informative and interesting track experience. Approximately 15 total registrants.

Taste of the Track is designed to be an introduction to what it feels like to drive on a professionally-designed track with professional instruction. We strive to provide a relaxed and safe atmosphere for you to get comfortable driving around the circuit. Speeds are kept around highway speeds.

Start with a short , led by a professional driving instructor. You will get to familiarize yourself with each of our 14 turns, as well as what each safety flag means and all other necessary information.
10 LAPS – OVER 20 MILES!

To get the most out of your experience, we split your track time into two sessions. After the initial classroom meeting, all participants will go on track for 4 laps. You will then return to the garage for a classroom briefing. All participants will then go back out for 6 more laps.

All track time will be in a lead-follow format.

Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)



MBCA GRAND STRAND SECTION

Meet & Greet on Saturday, May 6, 2023

4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Hosted by John Hameline, MBCA Carolinas Section
Grand Strand Ambassador

Location:

**Bella Vita Clubhouse
300 Bella Vita Blvd.
Myrtle Beach, SC**

Come meet your fellow Grand
Strand MBCA Members
and enjoy a few
refreshments!

**Please RSVP no later than May 1st
to John Hameline at
(c) 843-315-4320
or
john.hameline@gmail.com**



A Mystery Tour of South Carolina's PeeDee!

September 16, Florence, SC
The Pee Dee is a region in the northeast corner of South Carolina and includes Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Lee, Marion, Marlboro and Williamsburg. It lies along the lower watershed of the Pee Dee River, named after the Pee Dee, a Native American tribe that historically inhabited the region.

The mystery tour will begin near Florence, SC where we will stop for lunch. After lunch we'll

drive to Darlington where we'll visit the Darlington Raceway Museum. We'll finish the tour at the Raceway. (As always, the weather could affect the present plans! More information and details coming soon...

Autumn in the Mountains Car Show (TO BE CONFIRMED)

Ambassador: Frank Towson
Date: Saturday, September 23
Location: Mills River, NC
Cost: TBD

This is an event put on by the British Car Club of Western North

Carolina. Possible dinner event as well.

Hilton Head Island Motoring Festival's Car Club Showcase November 4, 2023

The MBCA Carolinas section is invited to nominate up to 12 cars for this year's event. The event will include three themes.

- The role of women in our hobby/passion.
- British vehicles (including motorcycles).
- The 70th year of the Corvette.

Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)



Pinehurst, North Carolina — May 26-28, 2023

The Pagoda SL Group and selected MBCA sections have been invited to join the Sandhills Motoring Festival May 26-28th 2023 in Pinehurst, North Carolina. The festival is a weekend-long event featuring a Block Party, Cars & Coffee, Road Rally, Backroads Pottery Tour, Hangar Party, Gala Dinner, and culminates with the Sunday Concours in the Village. Events take place in and around the charming golf course community of Pinehurst, NC.

As one of the featured models, we have been asked to attract 30 Pagodas to the event to participate in activities along with MBCA, Porsche, BMW, Ferrari, and other car clubs. The Sandhills Motoring Festival has its own organizing committee and online registration process. We will be closely aligned with the Mercedes-Benz Car Club of America's local Triangle Section, and have joint activities planned with them. They have participated at Sandhills in the past and are well organized. We are looking to have 20 Pagodas on display with 8-10 for judging. We will have our own designated display area in the shady pines area just off the Village Square — **"Pagodas in Pines"**

Please join us with your Pagoda for Pagoda in the Pines, on May 26-28th in Pinehurst, North Carolina

Details on registration and events are on the Event and Registration flier.



Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)



Pinehurst, North Carolina – May 26-28, 2023

The Pagoda SL Group and selected MBCA sections have been invited to join the Sandhills Motoring Festival May 26-28th 2023 in Pinehurst, North Carolina. The festival is a weekend-long event featuring a Block Party, Cars & Coffee, Road Rally, Backroads Pottery Tour, Hangar Party, Gala Dinner, and culminates with the Sunday Concours in the Village. Events take place in and around the charming golf course community of Pinehurst, NC.

Registration

All participants must register online in advance of the registration deadline. Registration will be through the Sandhills Motoring Festival website: <https://www.sandhillsmotoringfestival.com/>

Events and activities are a la carte, so you may pick and choose what you would like to participate in. If you would like to participate in the Sunday Concours in the Village, you must fill out the Concours application on the SMF Website. There is a dedicated Pagoda class if you would like your car to be judged in the main event.

<https://www.sandhillsmotoringfestival.com/smf-concours/>

*When registering on the Sandhills Motoring Festival website, please make sure to indicate in the comments section that you are with the **Pagoda Group**.*

Lodging

For all Pagoda SL Group Members and selected MBCA sections, we have arranged a special discounted room rate at the Hampton Inn in nearby Aberdeen, NC. You will have to make your own hotel reservations by calling the Aberdeen Hampton Inn and let them know you are with the Pagoda Group; rooms are \$159 per night.

We have been assigned our own designated parking area at the hotel for “Pagoda Only” parking with special security attention.

[Pagoda Club - Hampton Inn & Suites Southern Pines-Pinehurst \(hilton.com\)](https://www.hilton.com)

All attendees may call 910-693-4330 if preferred to book via phone, let them know you are with the Pagoda Group.

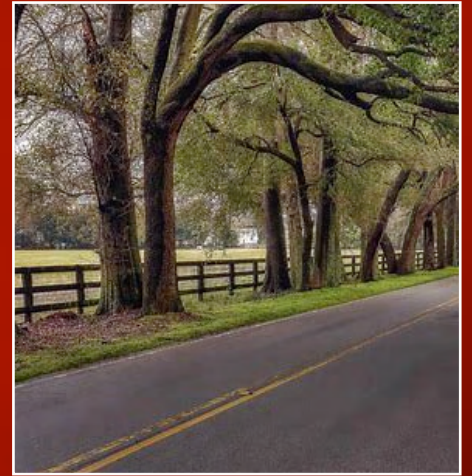
[Choo Choo Spring Fling Weekend - 4/27 - 4/30](#)



Doug Geganto, Event Planner

We're planning our annual Spring Fling Weekend from April 27-30 in Chattanooga. Hotel Marriott Courtyard Downtown will be our base. \$169.00 /night includes Free Breakfast. Parking is \$18.00 per day with unlimited in and out. Many attractions are within walking distance. It's going to be a fun weekend with lots to do. A group dinner at Nics & Normans (in the Chattanooga Cho Cho Hotel) will be held on Saturday evening. Seating is limited to 30, so reserve your spot early!!! **Registration deadline is April 14, 2023.** **Click here for more information and Registration.**

Calendar of Events (continued)



SAVE THE DATE - DECEMBER 1-3, 2023

MBCA CAROLINAS' HOLIDAY WEEKEND

THE WILLCOX
HOTEL RESTAURANT SPA
100 COLLETON AVE, SW
AIKEN, SC



Calendar of Events (continued)

Registration Form for Carolinas Section Events

IF YOU PREFER TO REGISTER AND SEND A CHECK FOR ANY **CAROLINAS SECTION** EVENT PLEASE COMPLETE THE FORM BELOW AND MAIL BEFORE DEADLINE OR AT LEAST TWO (2) WEEKS EARLIER THAN EVENT DATE TO:

Jane, Martinez, 1375 Whispering Oaks Circle, Matthews, NC 28104
Make check payable to **Carolinas Section - MBCA**

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR EACH EVENT

Event Name _____

Names of members attending: _____

Names of guests attending: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail: _____

Number attending _____ x \$ _____ = \$ _____

Additional information _____

NOTE:

THIS FORM CAN ONLY BE USED FOR CAROLINAS SECTION EVENTS. EVENTS HOSTED BY OTHER MBCA SECTIONS OR ORGANIZATIONS MUST REGISTER FOR THEIR EVENTS PER THEIR REQUIREMENTS.



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Electric Vehicle Tech Session, Columbia, SC

Electric Vehicle Tech Session and South Carolina State House Tour

February 25, 2023
Rich Mabie, Columbia
Ambassador

On Saturday, Feb. 25, 2023 members of the MBCA Carolinas Section attended an EV Tech Session and toured the SC State House.

The Tech session was hosted by Dick Dyer Mercedes in Columbia, SC and the talk was presented by Roy and Joni Chaney.



EV ownership and solutions that Mercedes has implemented, or can assist with, to ease these issues. Mercedes has a 10 year and 155k mile warranty on batteries. Additionally, they presently offer two years of no charging fees at Electrify America locations.

The Service Manger, A.J. Peebles, discussed the different maintenance requirements for EVs versus gasoline powered vehicles. He also highlighted options for ways to have services performed at the owners convenience.

After lunch, which was provided by the dealership, we were given the opportunity to test drive the EQE and EQS



models of electric vehicles. Acceleration was brisk, ride was very smooth and quiet.

Suffice it to say, Mercedes EVs are well thought out, built to a very high standard, intuitive to operate and have extensive features.

I came away with a new found respect for what Mercedes Benz has accomplished in this short period of transformation from gasoline powered to electric powered vehicles.



The tech session began with a discussion of the overall industry trend of focusing on EV vehicles in the future. We also discussed battery range and range anxiety issues with

Electric Vehicle Tech Session, Columbia, SC (continued)



Joni and Roy Chaney

In the afternoon, we took a ride to downtown Columbia to take a guided tour of the SC State House. Our tour guide presented the history of how Columbia became the location of the state capital. The guide also talked about the buildings of the past and current state



Thanks for sponsoring our EV Event in Columbia, SC

house. He also presented historical information regarding the furnishings of the State House. It was a very impressive and informative tour. ■



Hendrick Tech Event

Hendrick Mercedes Northlake Tech Event

March 11, 2023

Wendy Whitehurst, Charlotte
Metro Ambassador

On Saturday, we had a wonderful and successful event at Hendrick Mercedes in NorthLake. We started with an excellent breakfast, then a little trivia, and then off to the service area, where they put two of our members' cars on the lift for them to view underneath. The service team opened the hood of two electric vehicles and answered questions. Unfortunately, you cannot open



Hendrick Tech Event (continued)



the hood on the electric vehicles without bringing them into the shop. Very interesting.



A big thank you to Brooke Ballard, Hendrick Automotive Northlake's GM and the service team for hosting us. Their social handles: FB/Mercedes-Benz of Northlake IG/mbnorthlake Website: www.mbnorthlake.com. ■

Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome these new members.

New Members January 1 - March 31, 2023

Robert Heyward, Jr.Hollywood, SC
John HighsmithLaurel Park, NC
Gavin HyderLandrum, SC
Nora KeenanCharlotte, NC
Mark KiserGastonia, NC
Chris LapinskiBluffton, SC
Chuck MayeCharlotte, NC
Joseph McMahonMyrtle Beach, NC
Douglas MerriwetherCharlotte, NC
George PavliskoEdgefield, SC



Some people join for the dealership discounts, some join for socializing with other Mercedes owners, and some want access to The Star magazine. We find that those who attend local events are most likely to attend more events and get the most enjoyment out of the Club.

New members should also try to spend a little time on the extensive National MBCA website, www.MBCA.org. For

starters check out the many benefits under **Membership**. Then check out all the information under **Community**. All our past local **Newsletters** and upcoming events are located in the **Carolinas Section**. It is also a good place to learn about technical issues and to ask questions about your car.

Login for Communities is simple: Enter your e-mail address and whatever password

you select. Once you login your profile will come up. Verify your personal information. Is it all correct? Is your associate member listed? Is your car(s) listed? Simple to correct them right there. Note that for security reasons none of your information is stored locally. So again, welcome to MBCA and the Carolinas Section. Do not hesitate to contact any of the Officers for assistance.

MBCA Badges and Publication Details

How to Order

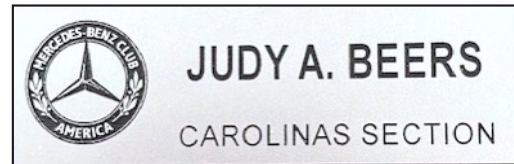
Click this link to order your name badge ...

<https://www.mbca.org/name-badge>

Name badges are available from the MBCA Club Store in two types of backing (magnetic or safety pin) and can be ordered in blue, silver or gold. Cost is \$14.00 for one to two lines and includes mailing costs. Three lines cost is \$15.00 and includes mailing costs.

Line three options (which would appear between your name and section): office held, city in which you live, Mercedes model, year joined, Ladies of Mercedes (*Choose one*).

You may also order through the MBCA website by going to www.mbca.org. From there, you must then log into your account. After logging in, choose **Store** from the main menu, choose **MBCA Event Equipment Store** from the next window, scroll down to **Name Badge** and make your selection. Perfect for socializing at MBCA events.



Publication Details & Call for Articles

The Carolinas Newsletter is a quarterly publication by the Carolinas Section of Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc., (MBCA) provided to Carolinas Section members. Explicit permission to copy or republish any article is given to all sections of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. Other use without written permission is prohibited. The articles in the Carolinas newsletter are the

opinions of the writers and no authentication is given or implied as to the validity of any expressed opinions. The Director reserves the right to edit, and to refuse, any submissions and/or advertising. Submission of material constitutes permission to publish. Material for publication may be emailed to MBCA Carolinas Section, judy@southcoastnc.com.

As a member you can also place free ads for your

Mercedes-Benz vehicles, parts, or accessories in this newsletter at no charge. Submit details to judy@southcoastnc.com. Be sure to include a photo, description, price and contact information.

Deadlines for submissions are one month prior to publication: December 1st, March 1st, June 1st, and September 1st. Exceptions can be made where practical.



MBCA Carolinas Section Leadership Team

Officers and Board of Directors

President

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MBCA Carolinas Section Leadership Team (continued)

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Eastern Region Director
dianaquinn@me.com
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770-635-8112 (home)
www.mbcapeachtree.com

National Officers and Contacts

See The Star magazine or go to
<https://www.mbca.org/contacts> for a list of
National Officers and contacts.



Membership Profile

Is Your Membership Information on MBCA.org up to date?

This information is the only way we have to notify you about your membership, and if the information is wrong, you won't be able to find out about our upcoming events or the benefits of your membership. And it's easy to check it out.

Go to <https://www.mbca.org/section/carolinas> and log in to your account. On the right side of the screen you will see the following items.

All members are able to change their name, email, password, phone numbers, gender, birthdate, and vehicles on their profile. Primary members are also able to also change their address and add an associate.



- My Profile
- My Membership
- My Content
- Profile Information
- Personal Information
- Phone Numbers
- Vehicles
- Privacy & Sharing
- Email & Password

Please add an associate member—it's included in the dues you pay.

If your vehicle isn't available as a selection, or you need to change your section, you will need to contact Ryanne at the National Business Office (ryanne@mbca.org). If you have any issues, feel free to contact Steve Brooks at mbcacarolinas.president2022@gmail.com for assistance.



Helpful Web Links

New QR Code for the **Carolinas Section Website**

Here's a new QR code you can shoot with the camera on your phone that takes you to the Carolinas Section website.

Try it now and see ... or, you can just click on it to follow the link. The site has been recently renovated and updated, so if you haven't visited recently, you should check out all the new updated content.



Hemmings

Hemmings Daily Website — for automotive enthusiasts — check out these articles.

- a. **To take better car photos, step back and zoom in**
- b. **Are virtual car shows the future of automotive social life?**
- c. **The 10 greatest performance cars of the 1960s**

Facebook — Carolinas Section MBCA ... <https://www.facebook.com/carolinasmbca/>

Mercedes-Benz Club of America ... <https://www.mbca.org/>

Star Magazine Latest Issue ... <https://starmagazine.mbca.org/star/march-april-2023>

Browse or Trade Vehicles ... <https://www.mbca.org/classifieds>

Membership Benefits ... <https://www.mbca.org/member-benefits>

Local Clubs/Sections by Region ... <https://www.mbca.org/sections-by-region?title=Eastern+Region>

Mercedes Current News ... <https://www.mbca.org/current-news>

Past Carolinas Section Newsletters ... <https://carolinas.mbca.org/section-newsletters>

List of Mercedes Dealers in the US ... <https://www.mbusa.com/en/dealers/browseAll-true>