



*Carolinas*



*3rd Quarter 2023*



*Nostalgic Tuscany Tour  
Pages 20-23*

## President's Message

Dear Members



*John Hameline, President  
MBCA Carolinas Section*

The old chestnut that “there is no constant except change” seems especially apropos right now.

We are seeing many changes in our club, with members stepping up to fill new roles and take on new responsibilities. I want to thank Jane Martinez for continuing her treasurer duties and David Thorne for remaining Secretary. Rich Mabie has graciously volunteered to be Vice President and there are other roles being filled by members you'll learn about in the coming weeks. I also want to

thank Steve Brooks for his dedication to the club.

There are significant changes happening within Mercedes-Benz, and their commitment to EVs (electric vehicles) “Mercedes-Benz will be ready to go all electric at the end of the decade, where market conditions allow”. That’s quite a commitment. How that will affect our relationship to the brand has yet to be seen, but this is the most significant change in the company’s history and, as brand enthusiasts, we have a front row seat.

As we ramp up our sponsorship program through the Ambassadors, our goal is to help defray some of our event costs, making more events more affordable. Early sponsors have indicated that partnering with the club helps everyone involved.

Change is inevitable, but your commitment to the club and each other, as well as the Mercedes-Benz brand, will see

us through whatever changes are coming.

Happy Motoring!

John S. Hameline  
President



*Siena Cathedral*

# Table of Contents



## ***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.

# Table of Contents

President's Message .....	2
Carolinas Section Website .....	4
Upcoming Events .....	5
Sponsors .....	12
Asheville-Area Meet & Greet .....	13
Grand Strand Meet & Greet .....	15
Pagodas in the Pines, Pinehurst, NC ...	18
Hendricks Collection .....	19
Nostalgic Tuscany Road Tour .....	20
Welcome New Members .....	24
Name Badges/Publication Details .....	25
Carolina Section Leadership .....	26
Membership Profile .....	28
Helpful Web Links .....	29

# 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](mailto:markmcfadden73@gmail.com).



[Join](#) [Renew](#) [Login](#)

[Home](#) [Events](#) [Membership](#) [Social Media](#) [Newsletters](#) [Extras](#) [About Us](#) [Contact](#)



## 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

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

July 16-Charlotte, NC —**Top Golf**  
Ambassador: Wendy Whitehurst

July 29-US National Whitewater Center - Charlotte, NC—**River Jam**

August 23-Virtual Tour—**Mercedes-Benz Valuation Deep Dive**  
Haggerty

August 24-26-Dobson, NC—**Mercedes Showcase at Shelton Vineyards**  
Ambassador: MBCA Tarheel Section

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

November 3-5-Hilton Head, SC—**Hilton Head Island Motoring Festival’s Car Club Showcase**

December 1-3—Aiken, SC — **Holiday Party**  
Chairpersons: Joni Chaney, 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.

**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*

**July 16-Top Golf**  
Charlotte, NC  
Sunday 2-4pm.

Ambassador: Wendy Whitehurst

Cost: \$30 for those playing, free for spectators  
We will reserve 2 bays.

### **July 29-River Jam**

Live Music at the Whitewater Center

Ambassador: Carson Perrotti  
Location: US National Whitewater Center - Charlotte, NC

Cost: Parking \$6

Live music event at the National Whitewater Center.  
Band Magnolia Boulevard

### **August 23**

#### **'Mercedes-Benz Valuation Deep Dive'**

On August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.  
Hagerty will offer a Virtual Seminar  
with Tracy Molloy, Hagerty Territory Manager

Stay tuned for registration information  
on [MotorSportReg.com](http://MotorSportReg.com)

### **HAGERTY**

### **August 24-26-Mercedes Showcase at Shelton Vineyards**

Ambassador: MBCA Tarheel  
Location: Dobson, NC - Shelton Vineyards

For our 15th Annual Mercedes-Benz Showcase at Shelton Vineyards, we have some more special activities planned. This event drew Mercedes-Benz treasures from

nine MBCA sections and five states and Washington, DC last year. Once again, we will feature a scenic drive on Friday, dinners on Friday and Saturday evenings, the show and awards on Saturday, and the regional meeting on Sunday for Eastern Region section officers. [www.sheltonvineyards.com](http://www.sheltonvineyards.com)

### **Taste of the Track at Carolina Motorsports Park Friday, September 8th**

Ambassador: John Hameline

Cost: \$125.00 per car

Location: Carolina Motorsports Park, 3662 Kershaw Hwy., Kershaw SC 29067

#### **Complete Registration information to follow**

<https://www.motorsportreg.com/events/taste-of-track-carolina-motorsports-park-turn-one-performance-driving-1157>

32

“... designed to be an introduction to what it feels like to drive on a professionally designed track with professional instruction”

Start with a brief classroom briefing, led by a professional driving instructor. Your 10 lap track time is split into two sessions.... Instruction, drive 4

## Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)

laps- come back in for more advanced instruction, then 6 more laps.

It's leader-led format; you're driving your car in a single file group of no more than five. Safe speed and distances are maintained. Total participants will be approximately 15.

Cost is \$125.00 per car, register directly with Turn One Performance Driving at CMP. A private registration link will be provided in June.

Food is available on site at Carolina Motorsports Park, 3662 Kershaw Hwy, Kershaw, SC 29067



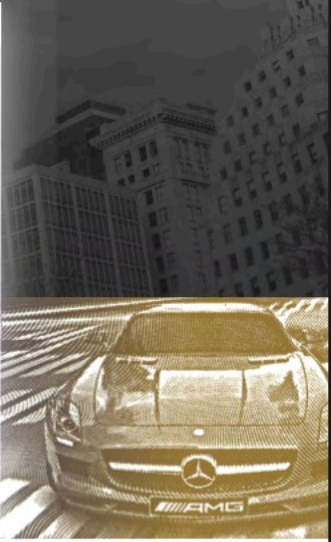
A great opportunity to learn about your Mercedes Benz and your driving talents!

### November 3-5 Hilton Head Island Concours D'Elegance and Motoring Festival

Join Carolinas Section on November 4th for our Car Club Showcase. This year's theme is:

*"A History of Mercedes-Benz Coupes and Cabriolets— Decades of Style and Grace".*

Ten of our members' outstanding cars will be on the show field. Please stop by.

2023 MERCEDES  
**GRANDE**  
AMERICA  
INDIANAPOLIS

**Thursday, 9/7**

- Tech Talks & Guest Speakers
- MBCA Fashion Show/ Car Show & Luncheon
- Mercedes-Benz New Car Extravaganza and Lifestyle Exhibition

**Friday, 9/8**

- Tech Talks & Guest Speakers
- Rally Drives and Tours Presented by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America & Artomobilia
- MBCA Medallion Rally Luncheon
- Hullabaloo Street Festival, Drive-In Car Show, and Concert

**Saturday, 9/9**

- Mercedes Monumental Classic Car Show at Artomobilia
- The Grande Celebration Awards Dinner
- Kids Zone Exhibit Play Station & Driving Experience

**Sunday, 9/10**


- Rally Drives and Tours Presented by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America & Artomobilia
- Silo Auto Club Racing Simulator Challenge

September 7-10, 2023



**A Celebration of all Things Mercedes-Benz**

Four Days of Mercedes-Benz Culture, Causes, People, Lifestyle, Technology, and Cars.


**REGISTER NOW!**



[qrco.de/mercedesgrande](https://qrco.de/mercedesgrande)  
Save \$50 per person by purchasing the VIP Ticket Package.

**BOOK YOUR STAY TODAY!**



[qrco.de/mghotel](https://qrco.de/mghotel)

We have partnered with Indianapolis Downtown Hilton Hotel & Suites to help accommodate you during your visit from start to finish. This is the host hotel for many of the Mercedes-Benz events, and they are nothing short of the best.

Access the MERCEDES BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA special rate of \$179.00 per person plus taxes. When you use promo codeGRANDE

### December 1-3 Carolinas Holiday Weekend

The Willcox Hotel, Restaurant and Spa  
100 Colleton Avenue, SW  
Aiken, SC

## Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)

### *Calling All Mercedes-Benz Coupe and Cabriolets Owners*

The **Mercedes-Benz Club of America Carolinas Section** is hosting and coordinating a Regional Event to be held in conjunction with the Hilton Head Concours d' Elegance held November 3 - 5, 2023!

The Carolinas Section has been allotted **10 cars** to represent MBCA in the Car Club Showcase to be held on Saturday, November 4, 2023.

The selection committee will be looking for cars that tell the best "Story" for the history of the Mercedes-Benz Coupes and Cabriolets. If you own one of these, we encourage you to apply to be part of this rare opportunity to represent MBCA in the Hilton Head Island Car Club Showcase.

The theme for our 2023 Car Club Show is: **"A History of Mercedes-Benz Coupes and Cabriolets – Decades of Style and Grace"**

**We are looking for the following Coupe or Cabriolet examples:**

**All pre-WW II**

1951-1955 220 (W187)

1958-1960 220S/SE (W128)

1970-1976 250/280 (W114)

1976-1986 E class coupe and cabriolet 230C, 230CE, 280C, 280CE, 300CD, 300CD Turbodiesel (C123)

1981-1991 SEC (all variants and AMG) (W126) 1988-1995 E class coupe (all variants and AMG) (C124)

1993-1995 E class cabriolet (A124)

1992-1998 S Coupe/CL (C140)

2014-2020 S class coupe and cabriolet (C217/A217)

1954-1958 300S/Sc (W188)

1961-1971 220/250/280/S/SE (W111-W112)

1971-1981 SLC (C107)

If you are interested in showing your car, please submit the below information to John Hameline at [mbcacarolinas.myrtlebeach@gmail.com](mailto:mbcacarolinas.myrtlebeach@gmail.com) before **JUNE 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**:



- Name, Phone Number, E-mail Address
- Year & Model
- Current Photo of exterior(2) and interior(2)
- 3 to 5 items that make your vehicle unique or special

If your car is accepted there is a \$95 registration fee. You will receive 2 Saturday lunches, tickets to attend the Saturday events, including the Car Club Showcase and the "Satisfy Your Thirst After Party, PLUS the Concours d'Elegance on Sunday.



***If you have any questions, please contact John Hameline at***  
[\*\*mbcacarolinas.myrtlebeach@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:mbcacarolinas.myrtlebeach@gmail.com)



## Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)

2024

# MERCEDES-BENZ CALENDAR CONTEST

Submit your favorite photo of your Mercedes vehicle and it could be featured in our 2024 Mercedes-Benz Calendar!

Submitted photos eligible for voting phase (\$1/vote) with prizes for top 12 finalists.

Photo submissions accepted **May 26 thru June 29, 2023**  
Voting phase from **July 1 thru July 31, 2023**

The 2024 Calendars will be available for purchase fall of 2023



**SCAN ME**

Or go to the website:  
[www.gogophotocontest.com/trianglemercedesenthusiasts](http://www.gogophotocontest.com/trianglemercedesenthusiasts)

Mercedes-Benz Club of America  
Peachtree Section



For more info email Steve Hamelly  
[shamelly@nc.rr.com](mailto:shamelly@nc.rr.com)

A portion of the net proceeds will be donated to the [American Red Cross](#) for humanitarian aid.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)



### MBCA CAROLINAS HOLIDAY WEEKEND

DECEMBER 1-3, 2023

AT



THE WILLCOX  
HOTEL • RESTAURANT • SPA

AIKEN, SC

MBCA Carolinas invites you to a Holiday Weekend beginning on Friday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> thru Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> at The Willcox, the most famous hotel in all of SC where famous folks have stayed including Winston Churchill, Harold Vanderbilt, and Elizabeth Arden in historic Aiken, SC.

On Friday, Aiken's weekend festivities kick off with the town's traditional tree lighting. Be sure to find out what The Willcox's famous cocktail is just before you make your dining plans at the hotel or one of Aiken's restaurants. On Saturday after your breakfast, we'll meet at the designated area and join a road tour designed by our Rally Master Steve Koss. We'll stop for a short lunch and return to the hotel for a meet and greet with Roy Chaney of Dick Dyer Mercedes-Benz. He will bring several EQS's and make them available for test drives. We'll also have the opportunity for a group photo shoot in front of The Willcox!

Throughout the weekend be sure to visit the Christmas Craft Show, featuring handmade crafts and goodies made by talented artisans from across the Southeast. Or visit the historic

trolley museum, the planetarium, and many other activities being held throughout Aiken.

On Saturday evening we'll mingle with cocktails and chat about our day. Tracy Molloy from Hagerty will join us for the evening. After a fabulous 4-course dinner, and a special toast an Awards Ceremony will follow honoring our Member-of-the-Year and Officer-of-the-Year.

\$209.00 per/night for room (plus taxes) 2-night min.

For Room reservations, call 803.648.1898

*Due to the hotel's high volume of bookings,  
please make your reservations now!*

Registration: \$10 per/person

Saturday Evening Dinner: \$100.00 per/person

*Starting 8/1/23 please register at <http://msreg.com/Willcox>*

*by November 15, 2023.*

*Please direct any questions to:  
Marsha Wilmot @ (843) 945-0160*

## Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)

### The Most Famous Hotel In South Carolina Is Also One Of The Most Historic Places You'll Ever Sleep

Even though Charleston is considered America's most historic city and is well-loved by tourists, many other cities and towns within the state are deeply rich in history and the types of experiences awaiting those who visit. The

city of Aiken, located in the western part of the state, is one of those places, where the most famous historic hotel in South Carolina has been delighting guests with southern hospitality at its best since 1898. Matt Sayer, the restaurant manager, shares in this video how you can make it at home: With such history, charm, and thoughtful offerings, it's no

surprise that The Willcox has garnered numerous awards and accolades, including a Travel+Leisure's World's Best award.

For more information about this historic hotel:

[CLICK HERE](#)

### 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.**

## Sponsors

# Thank you to our generous sponsor

# HAGERTY®



**HAGERTY®** Let's Drive Together

Membership by Hagerty Drivers Club (HDC), a non-insurance subsidiary of The Hagerty Group, LLC. For additional information and a complete description of benefits, visit [hagerty.com/corporate/legal](https://www.hagerty.com/corporate/legal). Purchase of insurance not required for membership in HDC. Policies are underwritten by Elite Insurance Company. Hagerty is a registered trademark of the Hagerty Group LLC, ©2023 The Hagerty Group, LLC. All Rights Reserved. The Hagerty Group, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Hagerty, Inc.

## Asheville-Area Meet & Greet



### Asheville-Area Meet & Greet

April 8, 2023

by Frank Towson

On Saturday, April 8, 2023, members of the Carolinas Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America met at Mercedes-Benz of Asheville in Asheville, NC for a Meet and Greet event. Members from western North Carolina and upstate South Carolina attended the event, which served as our section's first official event at the dealership since it moved to its new facility in February 2022.

We began the morning by admiring many of the new Mercedes-Benz models on the showroom floor and greeting familiar and new members alike. Our members were wel-

comed to the dealership by Kelly Rock, one of the dealership's sales consultants that coordinated the event for our section. Although the morning was cold and rainy, the atmosphere was warm and inviting inside the dealership.

Our members then enjoyed a hearty breakfast buffet prepared by the dealership's café chef, Madison Tweed. The dealer has a café that serves breakfast and lunch to customers during the week while they wait to have their vehicles serviced. As our members ate breakfast, we were able to catch up after

several months apart. The conversations among our members naturally were about each other's vehicles and some of the exciting vehicles on display at the dealership.

After finishing breakfast, Kelly provided tickets for a raffle for door prizes, and our group was introduced to Tyler Lance, one of the dealer's sales consultants and product specialists. Tyler gave a presentation to our group about some of the new electric Mercedes-Benz vehicles as we gathered around a new EQS sedan in the showroom.

After Tyler's presentation, he and another sales consultant, Noie Brewster, took our members for rides in the electric Mercedes-Benz EQS sedan and EQS SUV. Our members were able to take in



## Asheville-Area Meet & Greet (continued)

the smooth ride and quality of these vehicles while experiencing their many amenities like massaging seats.

Once our members returned from the test rides, Kelly led the raffle drawing and two lucky members won items from the Mercedes-Benz lifestyle collection. Our members then took more time to catch up and take in the beautiful cars in the showroom. We had several members that brought their beautiful classic Mercedes, and we coordinated a photo with two of these vehicles under the Mercedes-Benz of Asheville sign before leaving.

I would like to thank all of our members that attended despite the rain and cold. I would also like to thank the general manager of the dealership, John Jackson, for generously providing the use of the facility and the breakfast to our members. Kelly Rock also did an excellent job coordinating the event and welcoming all of our members. We intend for this to be the beginning of many things to come for our section and the dealership. ■



# Grand Strand Meet & Greet, Myrtle Beach, SC

## Grand Strand Happenings

May 6, 2023

by Marsha Wilmot

On Saturday, May 6th twenty MBCA Carolinas Section members & guests attended Ambassador John Hameline's Meet & Greet in Myrtle Beach. We made some new friends and connected with long-time members.



*The group, including our newest member, Joe McMahon.*



*Membership Director Jim Seaver chatted about his membership program for the Carolina Section with Janet Hallbergh.*



*Marsha Wilmot discussed the upcoming Nostalgic Tuscany Tour, and John filled us in on the Hilton Head Island Car Club Showcase featuring Coupes & Cabrioles – Decades of Style & Grace to be sponsored by our club at the upcoming HHI Concours d'Elegance.*



*John Hallbergh, John Stine and Chuck Barringer*



*Chuck & Dahle Barringer*



*Rich Mabie and J.P. Michemon*



*Mr. Bennett and member, Karen Carson*

Many enjoyed the evening and look forward to more Meet & Greets in the Grand Strand – Myrtle Beach.

## Grand Strand Meet & Greet, Myrtle Beach, SC (continued)

After the Meet & Greet, a few of the attendees gathered together for a delightful dinner at *Café Old Vienna* where we also celebrated John Stine's birthday.

The dinner was wonderful. The company, even better.





## Grand Strand Meet & Greet, Myrtle Beach, SC (continued)



The next morning, those who wanted to, were invited to attend the Corvette Club's Cars & Coffee. We set up a small area for the Carolinas Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club.

Another Mercedes decided to join our members. The owner was a young man whose first car was the Mercedes he lined up with our group.

The Bagel Shop offered free coffee to all participants. The weather was pleasant and the car show was a nice conclusion to a very enjoyable weekend. ■



## Pagoda in the Pines - Pinehurst, NC



*Sandhills Motoring Festival  
May 26-28, 2023*

*Photos Courtesy of  
Paul Stetson*

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



## The Hendricks Collection-Sponsored by Hagerty

June 16 2023

by Wendy Whitehurst

Friday, June 16th, 2023  
Members of the Carolinas Section enjoyed a private tour of Rick Hendrick's collection. His collection is by invitation only, so this was a real treat sponsored by Hagerty.

It was a guided tour with lots of historical information like Rick Hendrick's mother working at Virginia Bank, where he got his first loan. He has a vintage Dairy Queen as you walk in, where employees and special guests have ice cream socials. Dairy Queen was one of his favorite hangouts as a teenager. He also had a mock Chevy dealership with his original desk.

We learned a lot about the many, many Corvettes he has



housed there—multiple VIN 001 cars. A neat surprise is when our guide took us upstairs, where Mr. Hendrick has an extensive guitar collection, including one signed by Jimmy Hendrix.

The tour lasted about an hour and a half. Most of the

group convened for lunch at the Speedway Club, where our tables overlooked the track. I hope to plan another tour at RK's or possibly Hendrick at the end of the year or early next year. ■

# Nostalgic Tuscany Road Tour

## MBCA Carolinas Section's Tuscany Road Tour

*Customized by Nostalgic Driving Experience.*

*May 28, 2023*

*By President, John Hameline*

**T**wenty-four MBCA Carolinas Section members and guests arrived in Florence, Italy on May 28th eager to drive the hills of Tuscany. We were escorted to Hotel Albani Firenze by our wonderful tour guides Khari and Gabriel. Once we were checked in, Khari led us to a restaurant where we had a fabulous welcome meal.

On Monday morning Walter Larimer, owner of Nostalgic, arranged a special tour where we got a private view of many of Florence's historic buildings, churches and the famous Ponte Vecchio! After lunch we packed up and were transported to Borgo Scopeto, a five-star magnificent relais and jewel of Tuscany just outside of Siena.



*During cocktail hour we meet new friends and chatted with members.*



Our first driving day offered us the opportunity to become familiar with a vintage Mercedes-Benz SL W113 or R107 — and away we drove through the Tuscan countryside stopping at Pienza, known as the “ideal renaissance town”. Our excellent tour guide offered us a wonderful talk on the Pienza's history. We stopped for lunch,



*After dinner we celebrated the Towson Boy's birthdays.*

## Nostalgic Tuscany Road Tour (continued)

then a gelato (of course) and drove across Crete Senesi. Upon our return a wonderful home-made pasta dinner awaited us in Siena.



We were pleased to know Day 2 of driving included a portion of the famous Mille Miglia route towards San Gimignano and on to Volterra. The return route included beautiful landscapes with more than one hairpin turns and blind corners... very enjoyable in an open top roadster.

Our dinner was held at Ri-



casoli Vineyard, a Chianti winery where we tasted many fabulous wines of the region and got a better understanding of why this region's wines are so special.

Our last driving day included a short trip to Siena, the home of the famous horse race, the Palio. Our tour guide brought us around the historic streets of this very gothic town. We stopped for lunch at some of the many restaurants that line the town square. Our farewell dinner at Borgo Scopeto offered us

an opportunity to wish travelers a safe trip to their destinations, some continuing on in Europe, some returning to the States.

The beauty of Tuscany is not overrated, nearly every corner brought a photoworthy scene. Many of us vowed to return; I hope we shall. It is a wonderful experience.

## Nostalgic Tuscany Road Tour (continued)



*Evening arrival at Hotel Albani, Florence*



*Hotel Albani's elegant entrance*



*Cantinetta Antinori, Florence*



*John and Marsha select an R107 for the day*



*Cecelia Purvis loves her choice*



*Europe only Mercedes-Benz S350d*



*Dinner at Ricasoli Winery*

## Nostalgic Tuscany Road Tour (continued)



*Morning car selection*



*Tuscan beauty everywhere*

# Welcome New Members

We are pleased to welcome these new members to the Carolinas Section.

## New Members April 1 - June 30, 2023

Robert Benson .....Bluffton, SC  
Joni Chaney .....Columbia, SC  
Xavier Davis .....Columbia, SC  
CJ Dietzman .....Waxhaw, NC  
Kim Eiseman .....Summerville, SC  
Jennie Grimes .....Asheville, NC  
Troy Macias .....Fort Mill, SC  
Rich Milanese .....Charlotte, NC  
David Prout .....Beaufort, SC  
Judy Pruitt .....Isle of Palms, SC  
Richard Singer .....State College, PA  
Marian Tempel .....Huntersville, NC

## Transfers April 1 - June 30, 2023

Scott Brewner .....Hendersonville, NC  
John Collins .....  
Jimmarck Perel Cuenta .....Shelby, NC  
Tim Hargrave .....Beaufort, SC  
Rugby Hodgkins .....  
Keith King .....  
Steve Lawson .....  
Nick Michalisin .....  
Justin Short .....Pawleys Island, 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](http://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

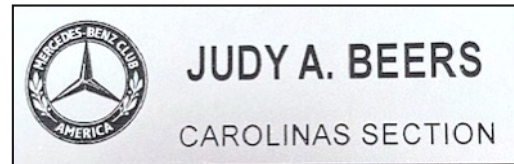
Click this link to order your name badge ...

<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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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

John Hameline  
Myrtle Beach, SC  
mbcacarolinas.president@gmail.com

### Vice President

Rich Mabie  
Columbia, SC  
mbcacarolinas.vp3@gmail.com

### Treasurer

Jane Martinez  
Matthews, NC  
(505) 270-3851  
mbcacarolinas.financials@gmail.com

### Secretary

David Thorne  
Charlotte, NC  
mbcacarolinas.secretary@gmail.com

### Newsletter Director

Judy Beers  
Southport, NC  
judy@southcoastnc.com

### Communications

Mark McFadden  
markmcfadden73@gmail.com

### Director at Large

Andy Blondo  
Charlotte, NC  
mbcacarolinas.amg@yahoo.com

### Membership Chair

Jim Seaver  
Wilmington, NC  
mbcacarolinas.membershipchair@gmail.com

### Technical Director

Joe Clemmer  
Gastonia, NC  
guardsher@bellsouth.net

### Director of Events

Joni Chaney  
Columbia, SC  
mbcacarolinas.eventsdir@gmail.com

### Sponsorship Director

Marsha Wilmot  
Myrtle Beach, SC  
mbcacarolinas.sponsorships@gmail.com



## MBCA Carolinas Section Leadership Team (continued)

### Ambassadors

#### Rally Master

Steve Koss  
smkoss@comporium.net

#### Charleston Area

Michele Stine  
mps783@aol.com

#### Low Country, Hilton Head Area

Bruce Wood  
bwood@HiltonHeadCP.com

#### Columbia Area

Rich Mabie  
mbcacarolinas.columbia@gmail.com

#### Asheville

Frank Towson  
ftowson@gmail.com

#### Grand Strand Area

John Hameline  
mbcacarolinas.myrtlebeach@gmail.com

#### Charlotte Metro Area

Wendy Whitehurst  
mbcacarolinas.charlotte@gmail.com

#### Youth Ambassador

Carson Thorne  
cethorne02@gmail.com

#### Eastern Regional Director

Diana Quinn  
Eastern Region Director  
dianaquinn@me.com  
847-867-0620 (cell)  
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,

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

gender, birthdate, and vehicles on their profile. Primary members are also able to also change their address and add an associate.

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](mailto:ryanne@mbca.org)). If you have any issues, feel free to contact John Hameline at [mbcacarolinas.president@gmail.com](mailto:mbcacarolinas.president@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/july-august-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>