



MBCA Memphis Section Newsletter - July/August 2023

River City Star



President's Message:

Welcome to the July-August 2023 edition of the River City Star. I hope each of you was safe from the recent storms that blew through the local and surrounding area.

There are several club and club related events coming up in the next few months. These include our monthly Cars & Carbs coffees, three car shows (one of which is the national event in Indianapolis), a dinner and a day trip. Hopefully there is something in there for everyone. The quarterly dinner on July 15th has a restaurant change, now at Marciano's Italian

Italian restaurant.

Lynn and Janet Jones and I had the pleasure of representing the section in Nashville last month for a four-day regional conference. We got to visit both Nashville area dealerships complete with dozens of new cars, two car museums, two beautiful drives around the area plus a visit and lunch at the Belle Meade mansion and visit to an area distillery. It was a jam packed four-day weekend.

Do be sure and check out the Calendar of Events for upcoming activities, and I hope to see you at some of them soon.

President, Memphis Section



The 2023 MBCA-Memphis Calendar of Events

Our events include delicious dinners, fun drives and demonstrations on how to fix your car. Regardless of your interests and preferences, you will have many different events to choose from.

All members are invited to suggest additions to our calendar, whether it is regarding a dinner location, a day drive or special event. Just let any of our board members know; their contact information is listed below.

As always, go to memphis.mbc.org for the latest updates on our events.

Date	Event	Location
July 15	Quarterly Dinner	Marciano's Restaurant
July 29	Day Trip, Full Throttle Distillery & Lunch, Roy Bob's Barbeque	Trimble TN
Aug. 5	Cars & Carbs	Panera Bread, Germantown
Sept. 2	Cars & Carbs	Panera Bread, Germantown
Sept. 7 - 10	Mercedes Grande (National Event)	Indianapolis, IN
Sep. 23	Memphis Euro-Fest	Youth Villages, Bartlett, TN.
Oct. 7	Cars & Carbs	Panera Bread, Germantown
Oct. 13-14	Renaissance Euro Fest	Ridgeland MS.
Oct. 14	Quarterly Dinner	TBA (Date may change)
Nov. 4	Cars & Carbs	Panera Bread, Germantown

Date	Event	Location
Dec. 2	Cars and Carbs	Panera Bread, Germantown
Dec. 9	Germantown Holiday Parade	Germantown, TN
Dec. 16	Christmas Party	(dinner, location TBD)

JOIN US! – A DRIVING TRIP TO TRIMBLE TENNESSEE ON JULY 29th !

The last Saturday in July is the date for this summer's MBCA-Memphis Section driving tour to north-west Tennessee. We'll be headed to the Full Throttle Distillery and 'Sloonsshine' retail store in Trimble, TN, just north of Dyersburg. There is



Tennessee BBQ at the end of the road after a tour of the Distillery, so come along and join us and put some fun country road miles on your Mercedes-Benz!

If we must drop names to get your attention, how about Blue Oval City, Nutbush and

Henning, Tennessee, as well as Ripley Tomatoes? Oh, and how about plenty of Tennessee Agriculture! At least we'll get close these points, if not actually through them.

We gather at the Shelby County Welcome Center just off I-40 in Arlington, TN at **8:45 AM** July 29 and depart promptly at **9:00 AM** on the 83 miles drive to Michael Ballard's Full Throttle Distillery in Trimble. Opening hours at the Welcome Center are a bit curious, so don't assume they will be open before we depart. Driving directions will be handed out at the Welcome Center, or you can use your own GPS to get to the key addresses included here in the last paragraph.

We are scheduled for a tour of the Distillery in Trimble hosted by Full Throttle's Master Distiller, Dr. Paul Higgs, at 11:00 AM with a visit to the tasting room at the end of the tour. There will be an opportunity to visit their well-appointed retail store as well. Check

them out at www.fullthrottledistillery.com.

In a shift of plans, lunch will be right there in Trimble rather than in Dyersburg. We'll have lunch at a newly opened Trimble branch of a popular Dyersburg BBQ restaurant called Roy Boy's Barbecue (www.rbbarbecue.com) just steps down the street from the



Distillery. No separate room, but there should be plenty of seating for all. The return home is at your own pace and route.

If you're going to join us in the drive from the Welcome Center, or if you are going to follow your own guidance, here are the important addresses. The Shelby County Welcome Center is located at 12036 Arlington Trail, Arlington, TN 38002. Be there at **8:45 AM** on July 29 for a **9:00 AM** sharp departure. The Full Throttle Distillery is located at 45 Gin Street, Trimble, TN 38259. Our tour is set to start at 11:00 AM. Roy Boy's Barbecue is essentially the same location as Full Throttle since it is a short walk right there on Park Square.

Join us and get to talk Mercedes-Benz cars and see what others are driving. These trips are fun and it's always great to see what is going on in our own region. Respond **YES** to the Evite when it is emailed and see you on the 29th of July! (Questions? Contact Lynn at JL.Jones11@outlook.com)

MBCA Memphis Officers:

Section President	Bill Sudekum sudekumwa@msn.com 901-299-0653	Section VP/Membership	Michael McHann Mike.mchann@eccotek.com 901-299-6341
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Memphis Membership Matters

Mike McHann (Membership Chairman)

Join me in welcoming our newest members Regina Dang and Scott Arnwine. Membership remains constant at 76 members; every month we add new members and lose a few through attrition. We need referrals from current members so you can remind your Mercedes friends that local membership benefits include:

1. 10 - 15% discount on parts & labor at Mercedes of Memphis, Mercedes of Collierville and Smith Imports.
2. Membership in the national club
3. Bi-Monthly magazine
4. Local club dinners, parades, car shows, etc.
5. Local newsletter
6. Technical help for your Mercedes from local club members.

Just remember, if you refer someone, ask them to include your name on the application and receive a 1 month extension on your own membership.

Also, we need your old copies of the Star for our Dealer Displays; to donate let me know and I'll come by and pick them up.

Let's keep up the good efforts and encourage our fellow Mercedes owners to join. We have a colorful application so let me know if I can send you copies.

Join now! <https://memphis.mbc.org/join/national>

We need board members. We've lost several board members over the last few years and could use a couple of replacements. No work is necessary, we just need your input to help improve the Club and help it grow. If you would like to join us, contact me and I'll explain how to get involved.

Mike McHann
901-299-6341



MBCA Memphis 1st Annual Spring Car Show

The 1st Annual MBCA Memphis Car Show was held May 20th at Mercedes of Memphis. Sales Manager Tom Hammond was guest speaker and had two new 2023 EQE 350 electric vehicles on display. Tom talked about the attributes of the new EV's and gave everyone a walk around.

There was rain that morning, but it passed in time for the show and we enjoyed pleasant weather while viewing a good representation of early and late model Mercedes. It was a good time for all and awards were given in 5 classes:

- Red 1st Place Open Keith Tonkin 70 350 SL Euro
- Blue 1st Place Closed Mike McHann 93 300CE Cabriolet
- Burgundy 1st Place Post 98 Closed Bill Sudekum 14 C 300 4Matic
- Green 1st Place Post 98 Open Stella Templin 72 350 SL
- Yellow Honorable Mention Al Ross 84 380 SL

This was a good first try for a car show and hopefully we can repeat the event next year.

Car Show Continued



Technical Tips and Tricks (TTT)

by Mike McHann (Membership Chairman)

Replacing Fuel Injectors

1990 was an interesting year for the SL models. The R107 was replaced by the new R129. The new SL's were sophisticated, aerodynamic works of art. Years ago, I'd owned a 90 500SL and was looking forward to working with my 90 300SL-24.

I had completed 95% of the mechanical restoration and was enjoying the car's driving characteristics and performance when a new problem developed. Early in the morning, upon startup it would idle roughly for about 5 seconds then smooth out. The rest of the day the car would start cold and idle perfectly with no problem. It was only first thing in the morning.

It was obvious there was a leaky fuel injector

draining into the cylinder overnight; this is not good for the engine, so I discontinued use of the car until the problem could be remedied. First, I ordered 6 new Bosch Fuel Injectors and seals and a special stubby "allen" wrench to remove the injector clamps.

Removing the air cleaner gave me plenty of room to remove the fuel distributor tubing and access the six fuel injectors. I discovered that 2 of the injectors had signs of burning and all of the seals had hardened and cracked. It was amazing the car ran as well as it did! It took about 2 hours to replace the injectors and



TTT Continued

once reassembled, the engine started every morning. What first seemed like an intimidating project turned out to be pretty simple and straight forward.



By the way, 1990 was the last year of the CIS fuel system and, subsequently, the fuel system would be upgraded to the new and more reliable K-Tronic fuel system and electronic ignition. There's no fuel distributor and each injector is its own valve controlled by the

engine's computer.



Meguar's Release a New Wheel Cleaner

I believe I've tried every wheel cleaner on the shelf with mixed results; it always still required a brush and a little elbow grease to clean my wheels. But while at O'Reilly's last month, I found a new detailer from Meguar's Detailer... **Iron Removing and Spray "Clay."** I sprayed it liberally on my E350 wheels, which are very challenging wheels due to the 16 spokes and many tight crevices. I sprayed each wheel heavily, then waited 5 minutes to allow the chemical to do its magic (turn purple) before giving a thorough rinse. It was different this time. As I rinsed each wheel, the dirt and brake dust washed away, leaving a perfectly clean wheel with no residue. Next month I'm planning a paint correction on my E350 and will clay the paint with the new Meguar's detailer. This should be interesting!



Mercedes Grande

September 7 – 10

The 2023 MERCEDES GRANDE in Indianapolis, Indiana, is a celebration of all things Mercedes-Benz. Four days of Mercedes-Benz culture, causes, people, lifestyle, technology and cars presented by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. Plan now to be a part of this exciting and extraordinary affair!

Ticket are available a-la-carte and in package deals

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

<https://www.mercedesgrande.org>
in association with Artomobilia
<https://www.artomobilia.org>

FORMULA ONE

At almost half way through the 2023 Formula One racing season (12 races to go), the Mercedes team is in second place behind Red Bull. Point wise, the difference isn't close at 411 to 203. But second place still gets Mercedes on the podium at the end of the season if they can keep the momentum going.

As far as our drivers are concerned, Lewis Hamilton is currently in 4th place, while his teammate, George Russell, is in 6th place. The team's driving has been close to perfect most of the season. If Mercedes engineering can get their cars' issues sorted out, there is plenty of time and opportunities left to move up in the standings.



The next few races are Hungary (July 23), Belgium (July 30), and Netherlands (August 27) after the mid-season break.

Members and Their Cars

Les Dale passed away recently, but he was a member of the MBCA-Memphis Section for many years. Dale was quite the collector and left 4 automobiles with his daughter, Stella Templin pictured here with his '72 Mercedes 350SL. Stella is looking to sell them to people interested in special-interest collectible cars. Here's a photo describing the four cars, two of which are still available. Stella can be reached at 919-368-1545.

- 2006 Cadillac XLR - 18,128 mi
- 2003 Chevrolet Corvette - 64,176 mi (Sold)
- 2002 Ford Thunderbird - 16,947 mi (Sold)
- 1972 Mercedes 350SL - 99,268 mi

Mike McHann



Four Favorites Available:
2006 Cadillac XLR - 18,128 mi
2003 Chevrolet Corvette - 64,176 mi
2002 Ford Thunderbird w/hard & soft top - 16,947 mi
1972 Mercedes 350SL w/hard & soft top 99,268 mi

