



Sooner Star News

the official Central Oklahoma section club newsletter

2023 Third Quarter Issue

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

It's just hot!

The last few months we have had several successful events and dinner meetings with significant attendance. Our Annual Picnic we had 50 attendees including MBCA National Executive Director, Katie Carruth along with her three children and dog; MBCA South-Central Regional Director, Brett Jurick; and section members, Charles Woods, who serves as the current MBCA National Treasurer; and former MBCA South-Central Regional Director, Charles Boyd and his wife, Fran.



Jeff Leatherrock, President

On the last Saturday in July, we had an excellent turnout for our visit to the Stafford Air & Space Museum in Weatherford followed by lunch at Lucille's Roadhouse. I'd do this trip every other year. (Check out all the photos starting on [page 13](#).)

On Sunday May 15th, Mother's Day, a small group of Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts that I've become acquainted with through BenzWorld.org message boards, stopped in Oklahoma on their trip across the country. We attempted to set something up for the section to get together but they were pressed for time as they had to be in California later that week.

Our May Dinner Meeting was at Bandee's Barbecue. While the room was noisy, with the brightness of the setting sun shining in our faces, and the wait staff took orders in an odd form, we had a great turn-out and everyone seemed to have a good time. Several members were there that we hadn't seen for quite some time.

(continued on [page 2](#))

(President's Message continued from [page 1](#))

This reminds me to mention a few things about meeting venues. My friends and fellow members, Lance and Tena Highfill, are always searching for venues to accommodate our dinner meetings. There have always been challenges in securing meeting locations, but since the pandemic, it has become much more difficult. If you have a place in mind, please contact the Highfills. Keep in mind, we need a place with no room fees or minimum food charge; enough space for 35-45 people; willing to provide separate checks; the ability to order from the full menu; and we prefer a place with full bar service. The Highfills do a wonderful job and are always on the lookout for new restaurants for our monthly meetings.

A few upcoming events that I'd like to mention is the All German Car Show on September 9th at The Mollie Spencer Farm (formerly the Kirkpatrick Family Farm) in Yukon and the lunch in Stroud on September 28th at the Rock Café that the Eastern Oklahoma Section has put together.

Make sure you mark your calendar for the Christmas Party! We're going back to the newly remodeled, Twin Hills Golf & Country Club.

Lastly, The Rolling Stones have released a video for their new song "Angry" that features a red 560SL. I heard a rumor that Charles Woods' car was used, but I'm not sure if that's true.

I'm having a great time being section president. Thank you for supporting me, and please know that I think you guys are the greatest. It is still an honor.

Jeff Leatherock

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Upcoming Events

Sep 9	3pm	All German Car Show The Mollie Spencer Farm 1001 Garth Brooks Blvd, Yukon
Sep 19	7pm	Monthly Dinner Meeting Bande'e's Barbecue in Chisholm Creek 13230 Pawnee Dr, OKC
Sep 28	11:30am	Lunch at Rock Café Eastern Oklahoma Section Event click here for details
Oct 14	10am	Board of Directors Meeting Mercedes-Benz of OKC
Oct 17	7pm	Monthly Dinner Meeting Interurban Restaurant 1150 Ed Noble Pkwy, Norman
Nov 14*	7pm	Monthly Dinner Meeting Johnnie's Charcoal Broiler 2652 W Britton Rd, OKC

**note the date, meeting will be on the second Tuesday of November, our usual date (the third Tuesday) is too close to Thanksgiving*



SAVE THE DATE

2023 Section Christmas Party
December 12th

Twin Hills Golf & Country Club
3401 NE 36th Street
Oklahoma City



Event Report

May Dinner Meeting

Our May Meeting was held at Banded's Barbecue located in Chisholm Creek at 13230 Pawnee Drive in northwest Oklahoma City on Tuesday the 16th. There were thirty-eight members and guests in attendance.

Door prize drawing winners were Dick Woolbright, Bruce Rodesney, Steve Murrell, and Lisa Leatherock.



Suzen & Paul Rodesney



Mike Dippel & Kenny Hoffman



Lance Highfill, C.D. Schmidt,
Charles Woods, Jeff Leatherock



Mel Brazell, C.D. Schmidt,
John Carson



Kitty Cruser & Ray Cornelison,
Kelsey & Roland Walters



Debbie Smith,
Lisa Leatherock



Bruce & Jo Ewing, Joe & Trina Steil



Carolyn Bullard & Ken Wells



Jordan Humphrey, Jimmy Tilton

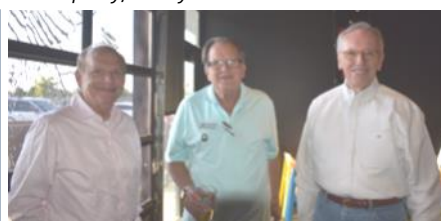


Jim Brand & John Stuenkel

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Greg Morgan, Jeff Leatherock, Charles Woods



Tom Whiteley



Chris & Phoebe Henry



Juan Franco



Steve Murrell, Bruce Rodesney

(continued on [page 5](#))

Did you know you can add an associate member to your MBCA membership at no charge?

Adding an associate member gives them the opportunity to vote, as well as, run for a Board Director and/or Section Officer.

To add your associate, please contact the National Business Office at 800-637-2360

(May Dinner Meeting continued from [page 4](#))



Dick Woolbright, Charles Woods



Tom Paul



Jeff Sandusky, Lance Highfill



Steve Murrell



Jeff Leatherock, Bruce Ewing

Are you interested in advertising in our section's newsletter, *Sooner Star News*?

or do you know anyone who is? Anyone can advertise in our newsletter. No Mercedes-Benz affiliation required.

Annual ad rates are:

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1/4 page \$200

Business Card \$100

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Please contact any Section Officer or Director (see [page 16](#)) for more information or to place your ad.

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Articles, photos, and event reports for *Sooner Star News* are welcomed and appreciated
Please submit to leatherock@datt.net

THE WILD AND WACKY WORLD OF EXOTIC CARS

by Ken Wells

Welcome to this month's edition of the WWWEC.

As summer fades into fall, the heat and humidity are still with us. The normal summer full of car shows and events is winding down to football season.

As always, the crown jewel of the summer shows is the Pebble Beach Concours. And the star of this year's Concours winning best of show was a Mercedes 540K. You can see excellent coverage of the entire Pebble Beach car week on You Tube. Everyone has a camera now and they all post everything on You Tube. The coverage of everything from the Quail, the Concorso Italiano and the Sunday Concours is so thorough you will feel like you are there. While everyone should attend the Concours, at least once, it's a whole lot cheaper on You Tube.

Mercedes, not to be outdone by one of its classic cars, announced its new AMG GT. Essentially, it's the hardtop version of the new SL introduced last fall. It will come in two versions the GT55 with 469hp and the GT63 with 577hp. It will be the first time the GT will have standard all-wheel drive and rear wheel steering. While it will have four seats and other new equipment and technology, it will also be heavier. The car will weigh over 4300 lbs., which is heavier than the last GT by a good margin. It's certainly not a lightweight sports car. The car will be available early next year with pricing expected to start at \$142,000 for the 55 and \$184,000 for the 63. Of course, the options list will be substantial.

The hottest ticket for the fall is the new F1 race in Las Vegas in November. We talked about this at the last meeting but for those of you who weren't there I thought it would be interesting to cover the outrageous cost of going to the race. There are a number of race packages available as well as single race day tickets available. Race day only tickets are several thousand dollars each if you can find any. If you want a place to stay and tickets to the race, etc., you will need to buy a package. Here are some of the packages available and the pricing. For \$8,000 a person, you can get a three-day ticket for the Heineken House which gives you food and beverage service but no hotel, etc. For \$11,247 you can get a three-day ticket at the Bellagio Fountain Club which includes food and drink for the three days but no rooms. For those of you with too much money and no place to spend it, The Wynn offers their million dollar all access experience. This gets you the three-day ticket package, three nights in a three-bedroom duplex, and food and drink for six people. Transportation not included. Not to be outdone, Caesars has the Emperor Package which includes five nights in the 10,000 SF Nobu Sky Villa, meals, drinks, a chauffeured Rolls-Royce and an Adele concert. You also get the three-day race tickets. The price if you have to ask is only \$5M. Transportation to and from Las Vegas not included.

See you next issue!



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Event Report

Annual Picnic



On Saturday June 10th we had our annual picnic at Hafer Park in Edmond. The day started out a little iffy on the weather front with storms in the early morning, but by 11am the sky had cleared and the day turnout to be the perfect weather for our get together. Fifty club members and guests attended including six attendees from the Eastern Oklahoma Section and three National MBCA representatives, National Executive Director, Katie Carruth, her three children and their dog; South-Central Regional Director, Brett Jurick; and our own section member, Charles Woods, who serves as the current National Treasurer.



We went back to our pre-pandemic event of a caterer preparing lunch onsite. Brent King with Thafoodude Kings Cuisines did an excellent job grilling burgers, hot dogs, and bratwurst, as well as providing delicious picnic sides of baked beans and potato salad. The flies had a wonderful dessert of assorted fruit, while members and guests enjoyed yummy cookies.



Several new section members were present, Stephanie Stewart and guest, Michael Shepherd from Woodward; Bill and Jamie Leeper from



(continued on [page 8](#))

(Annual Picnic continued from [page 7](#))



Oklahoma City; Moe Abdulsattar and his son, Yaman from Edmond; and recent section transfers, Gus and Deborah Shaar from Norman (previously with the Wichita Section). It was great to see our former Regional Director, Charles Boyd, and wife Fran driving in from Duncan; and John Bowers from Enid. The picnic is always such a fun event because many new and distant members show up.

Door prize winners were Moe Abdulsattar, Millie Fish, Tom Trotter, Ken Wells, and Tom Whiteley.

A fun time was had by all!



Moe Abdulsattar



Millie Fish, Lance Highfill



Tom Trotter



Ken Wells, Jeff Leatherrock



Tom Whiteley



Paul Rodesney, Brett Jurick



Carol Fisher, Lisa Leatherrock



Gus & Deborah Shaar



Katie Carruth, Charles Woods



John Bowers



Brent King, Jeff Leatherrock

(continued on [page 9](#))

(Annual Picnic continued from [page 8](#))



John Kushnerick, Charles Boyd, Brett Jurick



Ken Wells & Carolyn Bullard



Robin Armer, Carolyn Fuchs & Jerry Herron



Jeff Leatherock, Kevin Malthaner



Charles Boyd



Dick Woolbright, Kris Sawyer



Tony Marruchella, Kenny Hoffman



Michael Shephard & Stephanie Stewart



Phoebe & Chris Henry



Fran Boyd, Tom Paul



Yaman Siham

Coffee and Cars OKC

first Saturday of each month

from 8am-11am

NEW LOCATION

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Oklahoma City, OK 73111

For more information visit coffeeandcarsokc.com

I would like to give a heart warming thank you to whoever bought my lunch at Callahan's in Enid. I do appreciate it very much.

Bruce Rodesney

Editor's Note: Bruce Rodesney requested that I include this in the newsletter at the end of March and I kept forgetting. My apologies to Bruce.

Lisa Leatherock



Georgia, Millie, & Rory Fish & Katie Carruth;
Debbie Smoak & Charles Woods; Lisa Leatherock

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Event Report

July Dinner Meeting

On the evening of July 18th there were 28 members and guests in attendance at our monthly dinner. The meeting was held at a little local Italian restaurant, Spazio Ristorante in Chatenay Square (SW 104th & Penn) on the southside of Oklahoma City.

The meeting ended with door prize drawings and the winners were: Bruce Rodesney; Lance & Tena Highfill; Steve Murrell; and Mel Brazell.



Dick Woolbright, Tom Paul



Roland Walters



Juan Franco, Lance Highfill



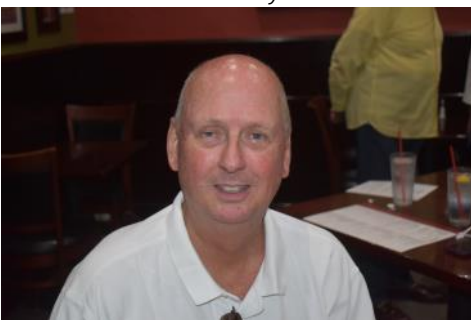
Ken Wells & Carolyn Bullard



Mel Brazell, Norris Nowlin



Carol Fisher



Bruce Rodesney



Ray Cornelison & Kitty Crusier



Chris & Phoebe Henry, Tena Highfill



Jeff Leatherock
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Sharon Haldane



Tom Whiteley

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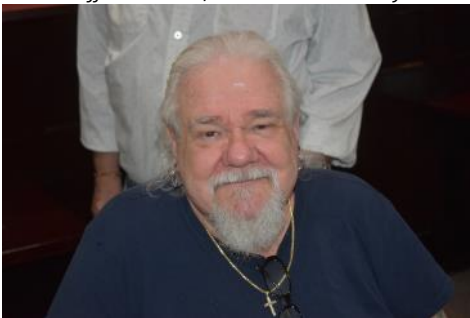
(July Dinner Meeting continued from [page 11](#))



Tony Marruchella



Jeff Leatherock, Chris & Phoebe Henry



Steve Murrell



Ed Sawyer, Suzen Rodesney, Kris Sawyer



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Event Report

Weatherford Trip

On Saturday, July 29th we went to Weatherford, Oklahoma to visit the Stafford Air & Space Museum. Several attendees met up in the morning near I-40 & MacArthur Boulevard and drove to Weatherford together arriving at the museum a little before 10am, while others that were coming from different parts of the state drove on their own arriving at the museum shortly thereafter. After a short video, our guide, Ray Simmons, spent a couple hours giving our group a tour of the museum.

After our museum tour, we went to Lucille's Roadhouse for lunch. We finished up at Lucille's about 2pm. A total of 27 members and guests participated in this outing.



(continued on [page 14](#))

(Weatherford Trip continued from [page 13](#))



Paul Rodesney



Dick Woolbright



Tom Whiteley



Debbie Smoak & Charles Woods



Bruce Rodesney



Suzen Rodesney, Tena Highfill



Carolyn Bullard



Mike Dippel



(continued on [page 15](#))



Welcome New Members!

Moe Abdulsattar, Edmond
 Ryan Hogan, Oklahoma City
 Chadwick Kirby, Oklahoma City
 James Newbern, Cleveland
 Dave Olson, Choctaw
 Tristen Robertson, Arcadia
 Casey Thurston, Moore
 David Tingler, Kington

Thank you Membership Renewals!

Woodrow & Jane Acord, 2014
 William Bates, 2013
 L Christensen, 1998
 Carol Fisher & Mike Pugliese, 2015
 Mario Hernandez, 2015
 Scott & Ann Johnson, 2009
 Onur Kadioglu, 2022
 Brad & Claire Katzung, 2007
 Jeff & Lisa Leatherock, 2005
 Greg Mattoon, 2021
 Greg Morgan & Andrea Sharpe, 2008
 Bill & Pat Nash, 1997
 Tom Paul, 2019
 Ron Rempel, 2021
 Bruce Rodesney, 2019
 Paul & Suzen Rodesney, 2005
 Ed & Kris Sawyer, 2014
 Joe & Trina Steil, 2013
 John Chris Sturm, 2013
 Curtis Towery, 2012
 Dickk Woolbright, 2017
 Raymond Wright, 2018

new members & renewals May 1, 2023—July 31, 2023

127 section members on July 31, 2023

(Weatherford Trip continued from [page 14](#))



Paul Rodesney



Bruce Rodesney



Jeff Leatherock



Mercedes-Benz Club of America Central Oklahoma Section

P. O. Box 21040
Oklahoma City, OK 73156-1040
email: central.ok.mbc@gmail.com
website: <https://centralok.mbc.org>

Officers— Central Oklahoma Section

President

Jeff Leatherock 405-943-5657
leatherock@aol.com

Vice President

Tom Whiteley 580-512-6317
thmswhiteley@gmail.com

Secretary

Tony Marruchella 405-800-7273
tmarruchella@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Lance Highfill 405-659-0212
lhighfill@cox.net

Directors— Central Oklahoma Section

Mario Hernandez 405-822-3919
adobe15@aol.com

Paul Rodesney 405-620-0124
paul.rodesney@gmail.com

Ken Wells 405-340-1636
ken@kenscougars.com

Newsletter Editor—Central Oklahoma Section

Lisa Leatherock 405-943-5657
leatherock@att.net

Past President—Central Oklahoma Section

Charles Woods 405-359-2821
charleswoods1@gmail.com

Regional Director—South Central Region

Brett Jurick 214-773-7820
bjurick@tx.rr.com



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