



Tampa Bay Star

April 2023

Coming Events

April 22, 2023
Picnic
Safety Harbor, FL

May 21, 2023
Babcock Eco Tour
Punta Gorda, FL

June 2023
Tampa Bay Auto
Museum



*Ringling Museum
Tour February 26,
2023*

Important Dates

Note: The night for the monthly business meeting is the **FIRST MONDAY** of each month (except for September and sometimes July & January when it moves up 1 week) and is open to ALL members. Attending members go to a nearby restaurant for dinner after the meeting. Please join us and help us with your input. All meetings are held at **Crown Eurocars, 8302 US Hwy 19 N, Pinellas Park, FL**

Officers

- President** Gary Dolin
941-896-6881
C941-720-8270
g.dolin@verizon.net
- Vice President** Greg Watson
941-776-7194
C941-539-8700
gwatson511@verizon.net
- Secretary** Lynn Hutchinson
727-726-6711
C727-420-0424
dhutch@verizon.net
- Treasurer** Paul J Cooper
727-726-6837
C727-644-6837
PaulCooper@verizon.net
- Past President** Dave Hutchinson
727-726-6711
C727-420-0592
- Newsletter Editor**
Pat Watson
941-776-7194
C941-840-2906
pwatson511wedge@gmail.com
- Chairpersons:**
- Membership** Paul J. Cooper
727-726-6837
C727-644-6837
- Activities** Lynn Hutchinson
- Photography** Dave Hutchinson
- Historian** Lynn Hutchinson
- Webmaster** Dan Cabrera
dcabrera2@tampabayrr.com
- SE Regional Director**
David Wommer
davidwommer@gmail.com

Meeting Dates

- April 3 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting &
Dinner
- May 1 **CANCELED**
- June 5 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting &
Dinner
- July 3 Monday 6:30PM
Business Meeting &
Dinner

Event Dates

- April 22 Saturday 1PM
Veteran's Memorial Park
1100 Veteran's Memorial
Lane, Safety Harbor, FL
See details in this issue.
- May 21 Saturday
Babcock Eco Tour
8502 FL-31
Punta Gorda, FL
See Details in this issue.

About the Newsletter

The Tampa Bay Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America Inc., publishes this bi-monthly newsletter in even numbered months. Opinions expressed are those of the authors. Express permission is hereby granted to other Sections of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America to reprint articles contained herein without exception. Articles of general interest are solicited for inclusion in the newsletter and should be mailed to the Editor or e-mailed to pwatson511wedge@gmail.com. Copy deadline is the first day of the month.

An Overview of the Club

Established in 1956, MBCA has more than 20,500 members in over 84 sections across the nation. Those local sections organize hundreds of events each year, ranging from social gatherings to specialized technical sessions. This is a not-for-profit organization.

Join the Club

Enroll as a member of MBCA for

One Year	\$55
Two Years	\$107
Three Years	\$157

Call 800-637-2360

Local Activities

Your dues include membership in the section of your choice. Each section publishes a newsletter with news of its activities and its year-round calendar of events, including rallies, defensive driving courses, car shows, technical sessions, and dinner meetings. Many sections host special events. Any MBCA member may attend any section, regional, or national event.

Mercedes-Benz
Roadside Assistance
Call 1-800-FOR-MERCEDES
24 Hours a Day

President's Message

Greetings!

I hope this letter finds you and yours doing well.

A big thanks to Pat Watson for generating this newsletter.

We have had some very nice events starting this new year.

In January, we had a dinner theater event. The show was excellent, as was the food. We have done this event in the past, and it is always a great time. I am sure we will do it again, and you should definitely plan on attending.

In February we toured the Ringling Museum of Art, followed by lunch at Marina Jacks. Our member Jose Uranga served as our docent, and he made the art come alive. Marina Jacks is a great restaurant, and we always have a good meal there.

On March 19th we will be visiting Silver Springs State Park. More information is in this newsletter.

April 22 we will have a picnic at Veteran's Memorial Park in Safety Harbor. Our picnics are always fun, and the weather should be grand.

On May 20th we are taking the Babcock Eco Tour. More information will be provided in our next newsletter.

Again, I encourage you to attend our Board Meeting. They occur the first Monday of the month (not on holidays) at the Crown Mercedes dealership in Pinellas Park. The meeting consists of a short 30-minute meeting followed by a nice dinner at a local restaurant. This is a great way to make friends and have a say in our upcoming events.

Be safe,

Gary Dolin



Gary Dolin, President

Editor's Brief

Hello fellow Members, I wanted to introduce myself as your interim Tampa Bay Mercedes Newsletter editor. My name is Pat Watson and my husband and I have been members since 2006. As many of you know Linda Cooper who has been our newsletter editor for many years is taking a much needed break.

As I take on these responsibilities, I ask for your patience. We recently transitioned to an email version of the newsletter since the cost to mail has become cost prohibitive. We are researching software that can help us distribute the newsletter to 400+ members in an automated method. In the interim, if you do not receive the newsletter reach out to members of the leadership team or send me an email and I will be glad to resend it. Make sure you check your Spam folder as some email systems are more restrictive. If it ends up in Spam make sure you mark the email as "Not Spam" so you will be sure to get it next time. You can also look for the newsletter on the MBCA.org site under our section, Tampa Bay Star.

Best Regards
Pat Watson

Tampa Bay Section MBCA Spring Picnic



Important Info

When: Saturday, April 22, 2023

Where: Veterans Memorial Marina Park
1110 Veteran's Memorial Lane
Safety Harbor, FL

Cost: \$5.00/person for shelter rental

Call: Dave & Lynn Hutchinson
Home 727-726-6711
Cell 725-420-0424
dhutch@verizon.net

Time: 1:00PM – 4:00PM

Reserve By: April 15th

Details: Bring your lunch and drinks (no alcohol permitted) and any comfortable chairs for an afternoon in this beautiful waterside pavilion over looking Tampa Bay.

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location or call Lynn Hutchinson 727-420-0424. For those who have been to the Holiday Brunch at the Safety Harbor Spa, the Veteran's Memorial Marina Park is just south (to the right) of the Spa. Turn into the Marina Parking from Bayshore Blvd. You will see the Fishing Pier straight ahead. The shelter is on the right just past the Marina. Parking is free.

Tampa Bay Section MBCA Spring Picnic
April 22, 2023

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

_____ Coming \$5.00 Person enclosed \$ _____

Make Checks payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

Mail By April 15, 2023 to:
Dave & Lynn Hutchinson
2104 Flamingo Place
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

Babcock Ranch Eco Tour



Important Info

When: Sunday, May 21, 2023

Where: 8502 FL-31
Punta Gorda, FL 33982

Lunch: The Lakehouse Kitchen & Bar
42860 Crescent Loop
Punta Gorda, FL

Cost: \$21.00/person **Plus Tip** of your discretion

Call: Dave & Lynn Hutchinson
Home 727-726-6711
Cell 725-420-0424
dhutch@verizon.net

Time: 11:15AM Be there 20-30 minutes before tour begins

Reserve By: May 14th

Details: You will discover the natural heart of authentic Florida like you've never seen before on a narrated 90-minute eco-tour through Babcock Ranch. Experience the thrill of seeing wildlife in nature – alligators, birds, perhaps deer, wild hogs, wild turkeys, Sandhill cranes and more, often coming within a few yards. Travel through four different ecosystems of Florida including Telegraph Cypress Swamp. The expert guides are knowledgeable and passionate about the history, wildlife, and various ecosystems you will see and will enhance your experience with their commentaries. Get back to nature and enjoy the excitement of a true wilderness adventure.

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location or call Lynn Hutchinson 727-420-0424.

Babcock Eco Ranch Tour
May 21, 2023

Name(s) _____ Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____ Address _____ # _____ Coming	Make Checks payable to: Tampa Bay Section MBCA Mail By May 14, 2023 to: Dave & Lynn Hutchinson 2104 Flamingo Place Safety Harbor, FL 34695
\$21.00 Person enclosed \$ _____ (Plus tip for Driver) # _____ for Lunch	

Ringling Museum Tour and Lunch

Sarasota, FL

February 26, 2023

By Lynn and Dave Hutchinson

A nice group of 23 people attended our club event on Sunday, February 26th. Our member, Jose Uranga was our docent. He has volunteered as a docent at the museum for 16 years, and his peers rated him as “one of the best docents”. He did a fabulous job. Some of us have been to the Ringling before, but we learned so much more from Jose. First we visited the Circus museum which included the Ringling’s interesting private train car. Jose told us a story about how the term “Bean Counter” came about when he described some interesting facts about Ringling’s Circus. If you did not attend our event be sure to ask us about the story next time you attend one of our events. Following this Jose took us on a tour of the fine art pieces in the main building. The ones Jose chose to highlight came to life when he pointed out fascinating details within each piece of art. Following the 1 ½ hour tour, we went to Marina Jacks restaurant for lunch. The restaurant provided 3 beautiful tables upstairs with a beautiful view of the water and the yachts docked there. The food was excellent too.



Jose Uranga, Docent
From left, Dan Cabrera
Lynn Hutchinson, Gary
Dolin, back row Ben
Berman



Above, Ravi Kanuri, Terry
Murphy, Brenda Murphy,
Jose Uranga, Shirley
Drake, Terry Drake, John
Adamick, Jane Adamick

Dan Cabrera, Debbie Cabrera,
Diane Cooper, Chuck Cooper,
Len Berman, Ben Berman, Bill
Tinsley, Patti Tinsley