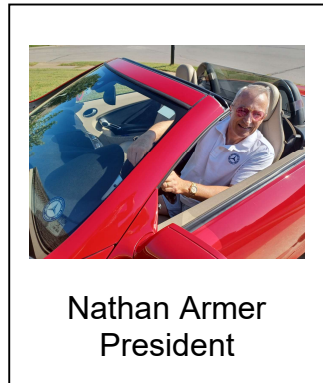




**EASTERN OKLAHOMA SECTION  
OF THE  
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA**

**TULSA STAR NEWS  
Nov - Dec 2023**



**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

Thank you for your support for the Mercedes-Benz Club of America - Eastern Oklahoma Section. Going forward, I wanted all of you to know that I am looking forward to being President of this fine organization and very appreciative of the friends my wife and I have made since the start of our MBCA membership. I have a passion for Mercedes-Benz and will publish a little more biographical information about myself in a future newsletter. First, please see the details of our newly elected Section secretary, Kristin Bebout. We are excited she is willing to serve in this capacity.

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The Mercedes-Benz Club of America website homepage lists "To Elevate The Mercedes-Benz Experience Through Camaraderie and Exceptional Events". That is an excellent mission. I can say without reservation that I have experienced this camaraderie and welcoming right from the start of my 3 years here. Many friendships have been made and many more to go.

Please see the accompanying events in the newsletter.

**Upcoming events:**

Additionally, if I haven't met you, the reader and fellow MBCA member yet, I would like to. You'll be hearing more from me in the President's Message in the future. I would like to thank the past President of our club - John Kushnerick and his wife Harriet for their wonderful and continued friendship and guidance! Thank you John! He has done a wonderful job as Club President for the past 8 years. I have big shoes to fill.

Wishing all you fellow Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas! Hoping to see everyone at the club Christmas party on Thursday, December 7th at Saltgrass Steakhouse in Tulsa. Thank you for your support. Safe driving.

Sincerely, Nathan



**EASTERN OKLAHOMA SECTION  
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS**



**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11, 2023 10:00am**

**TRACTOR DRIVING AT KEHE RESIDENCE**

**AMISH LUNCH AT YODER FAMILY FARM IN CHOTEAU OK**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 2, 2023 11:00AM**

**MARINE CORP TOYS FOR TOTS DRIVE AND CHILI LUNCHEON**

**JACKIE COOPER MERCEDES BENZ**

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 7, 2023 6:00PM**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**SALTGRASS STEAKHOUSE, 4550 EAST SKELLY DRIVE, TULSA OK**

**DIRTY SANTA GIFT EXCHANGE**

**CANNED FOOD DRIVE FOR BIXBY OUTREACH**

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## ALZHEIMER WALK

The Eastern Oklahoma section manned a MBCA sponsor booth at the annual Walk to end ALZ on Saturday September 16, 2023. Over 3000 walkers descended upon Dream Catchers Park in downtown Tulsa to walk either a 2-mile, or a .5 mile walk to support a cure for Alzheimer's. Across the nation, the Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is full of flowers, each carried by someone committed to ending this disease. Because like flowers, the participants don't stop when something's in their way. They keep raising funds and awareness for a breakthrough in the fight against Alzheimer's and all other dementia.

Six members either walked or distributed literature, candy, or trinkets about supporting the MBCA and the Alzheimer's Association Oklahoma Chapter.



# MY FAMILY...

Serving Tulsa, OK. and the surrounding area



# MY BENZ...



# MY BIO...

I come from a Family full of Real Estate Professionals. This journey started for me only a few years ago when I decided to join the "Family Business" in real estate for myself.

I originally started a career in the service side of the Oil and Gas industry and was there for over 16 years. In that time, I have provided detail care and guidance to many customers and have worked hand in hand with the engineering team to provide excellent customer service for those who put their trust in me.

I have transitioned those skills into a successful career in Real Estate. My goal is to help each client that I work with by identifying their individual needs through the process of selling, buying, or investing in a home. By doing so I am able to make this intricate process stress free.

My goal is for each client experience to be a ten! With the support of my team and the value of the company I choose to work with, that goal is achieved in each family or business I help.

MORGAN SWAFFAR

918-850-8382 / 918-712-2252

[morganswaffar@kw.com](mailto:morganswaffar@kw.com)

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## Fall drive on Route 66 to Rock Café

Twenty members of the Eastern and Central Oklahoma sections drove on Route 66 on Thursday September 28 for lunch at the famous Rock Café in Stroud. Eastern Oklahoma members gathered at Jackie Cooper Mercedes Benz for the approx. one-hour drive west while Central Oklahoma members gathered in Edmund for an east bound drive on the famous Mother Road.

The Rock Cafe survived the decommissioning of Route 66, but by the early 1990s, the restaurant needed extensive rehabilitation. When the current owners purchased the property in 1993, the outlook appeared grim, and it got worse when in 1999 a major tornado hit Stroud, devastating the town's economy. Persisting through a commitment to their adopted town and to the memory of the Mother Road, the owners held on. In 2001, they succeeded in placing the cafe in the National Register of Historic Places and received a cost share grant from the National Park Service's Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program the same year. The owners used the funds for a top to bottom rehabilitation of the cafe, including restoration work on the green tin roof, neon sign, and Giraffe-style sandstone exterior. They also restored two original entrances on the east and west sides of the cafe that had been covered over with stone. The entire dining room returned to an earlier era with booths, counter, and counter stools restored to an original floor plan. In 2008, the cafe suffered a disastrous fire. Funding from the National Park Service and National Trust Southwest Office assisted with post-fire assessment and preservation plan that led to meticulous rehabilitation of the cafe. Reopened in 2009, this welcoming roadside cafe remains a favorite stop for travelers along historic Route 66.

Many members enjoyed the Thursday "special"—Indian Tacos- an Oklahoma Native American specialty and rarely ever seen on a diner menu. After lunch, members chose to return on Route 66 or take the faster Interstate 44 which marked the end of the original Chicago to west coast highway.





# BENZIN MOTOR WORKS

**DAVE HINNANT**

President

Mercedes-Benz & **HUMMER** Technician

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## Eastern Oklahoma member insight.



At our annual Benz & Brats event in August, members voted on a new slate of officers. One of those new officers is Kristen Bebout, our 2022 Member of the Year.

Kristen was born in Landstuhl, Germany where her father was stationed in the US Air Force, attached to Ramstein Air base.

She spent 22 years working for the local ABC affiliate (KTUL) in various marketing positions for the station. She has worked at Jackie Cooper Imports for the past eight years as a Marketing and Employee Development Manager. “That basically means I get to do all the fun stuff with our staff and the community, including this Club! I am married to the most amazing man, who also happens to work at Jackie Cooper Imports. Brandon Bebout is a Master Certified Mercedes-Benz Technician with a combined 25 years at Jackie Cooper, both on the Porsche and the Mercedes-Benz side of the shop. So, you can see, we both love and live the Mercedes lifestyle! I am passionate about many things, including travel, snorkeling, our pets (7 cats. I’m not kidding.) and making people’s experiences exceptional.” Brandon and Kristen are still newlyweds, having been married two years in September.

Kristen has a private pilot’s license (not current) and an A, B, and C-License in skydiving (also not current). She says she gave up both adrenaline sports to keep feet on the ground.

In penning her email to members, Kristen wrote “I want to inspire our members to get more involved. As I was entering emails and names into my MBCA email group, there were so many people I didn’t know. With the role I have at work, I have the immense pleasure of knowing all 340 team members’ first and last names. I know the faces that go with those names, too. It saddened me that I only knew a handful of the 86 members of the Mercedes club. I honestly would love to meet each one of you at a dinner or a drive coming up.”

“Our group is diverse. We’re fun! It has become a happy family reunion for me each month. I would love for all of you to feel the same. I would love to know, as I send out invites and receive RSVPs for the various things we have coming up, who is behind the names and emails and be excited that you are going to be able to join us, or sad that we will miss you that time. Please consider saying YES to the next email invite you receive from me. It would make my day!”

We welcome Kristen in her new role and are sure she will make a positive impact on our organization.

# 4 critical steps for winter storage prep

Kyle Smith

27 October 2022

Whether we like it or not, the changing of the seasons is upon us, and that means some of us are mentally preparing for the saddest day of the year—when we tuck our vintage toys into seasonal storage. It can be a rough day for a bunch of reasons, but a little stress and care right now can make for an extra delightful spring when you take your car out for that first drive.

## Top up (two ways)

Storing with non-ethanol fuel is best, but not everyone has access to it, or it may come at enough of a premium that it's not in the cards right now. Regardless of fuel type, fill the tank to the top and add an appropriate fuel stabilizer. Most vintage fuel tanks are steel and thus are very susceptible to rust, which can flake off and fill your fuel system with debris. Holy headache. With the tank topped off, there is no room for air and thus rust is kept at bay. Once you have some stabilizer in the tank, be sure to run the car for 10-15 minutes to make sure that it circulates through the entire fuel system. The other "top" to think about is the convertible top. While you might never put the top for the summer, it is in your best interest to store a car with the top up so that it does not shrink or otherwise get damaged from long-term storage while being folded up. This is especially important for plastic rear windows that will lock into a shape when held in a particular way for too long. Replacing tops is not fun, and you aren't driving anyway, so why not use it as the time to get your top back into shape?

## Insulate your tires

Tires are made for driving, not for parking. That's why long-term storage is likely to cause flat spots or dry-rotting of the rubber rings we need so dearly. There are appropriate products on the market that can help, but it's also just as easy to pick up some insulation foam board and cut a few squares that fit under your tires. This will form a cradle for the tire and also keep the dirt or concrete under the car from sucking the moisture out of the rubber, making them last longer. If you want to go an extra step in moisture management, lay down a tarp or painter's plastic sheet under the car to prevent the cool chassis from condensing any moisture that might rise up from the ground.

## Cover up

If your storage spot has windows or is open on one side, be sure to utilize a good quality car cover. UV degradation can happen fast when a car is parked in one spot and the sunlight only hits a specific spot day after day. Your seats, paint, and trim will thank you for covering up, as it will also keep scratches and dust off your precious vintage ride. Speaking of dust, be sure that the car is clean before you cover it. *Really* clean. A cover can grind any dirt and debris left on the car into your delicate paint. Also, remember that covers don't do much to protect from dents, so make sure your car does not become a shelf or leaning place for other things in the garage.

## Fresh fluids

At a minimum, your car should get fresh oil and a coolant check. Oil traps combustion byproducts, and if left in the crankcase to sit all winter you can end up with corrosion or deposits that require serious work to remove. An oil change right before storage is cheap insurance. Coolant needs to be properly mixed for the temperatures the car will see in storage so it doesn't freeze. Freezing liquids can exert tons of force—enough to literally split your engine block in two. You can be sure with a simple \$3 tester, or if you're really unsure and the coolant looks or smells dirty, a flush and fill could be your best option.

While under the hood looking at fluids, take a moment to inspect your brake fluid, as it can absorb moisture too. Flush with fresh fluid if the reservoir is anything but a nice light amber color.

Good luck. Spring will be here before you know it. (We hope.)



Eastern Oklahoma new officers and board members. Front row John Kushnerick (Vice President), Jerry Herron (Treasurer), Susan Hoog (board), Kristen Bebout (secretary), Nathan Armer (President). Back row Ben Kehe (board), Tom Trotter (board).

Missing: Harriet Kushnerick (board), Wendy Kise (board)



## Eastern Oklahoma Section Green Acres day



**Saturday, November 11, 2023 9:00am**

**The Kehe acreage, 14934 East 13'th Street, Tulsa OK**

Get ready to put on your best Eddie Albert and Ava Gabor impressions as we play gentlemen farmers at the home of Ben and Cathe Kehe. We will be driving Ben's antique John Deere tractor on his field. If you did not grow up on a farm and would like to drive a tractor, this is your chance to feel the wind in your face without the "country aroma".

After we all have taken our turns behind the wheel, we will head to the Yoder Amish farm in Chouteau Oklahoma for a family style 2 meat luncheon at 2:00pm. The Yoder farm is just 30 minutes away. Our meal will consist of all you can eat roast beef, oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, home made rolls and butter or apple butter, green beans, noodles, dressing, coleslaw, tea or coffee, and two kinds of pie for dessert.

Price per person will be \$18:00 per person plus gratuity. Attendees will need to pay by cash or check only. **NO CREDIT CARDS**

Members can also order homemade pies for \$15 each. Flavors include: coconut, chocolate, lemon, peanut butter, banana, butterscotch pecan, strawberry, apple, peach, cherry, apricot, blackberry, blueberry, rhubarb, pecan, pumpkin, custard, and apple raisin.

You can RSVP at the October Gathering or by email to [jkushnerick@cox.net](mailto:jkushnerick@cox.net) or by calling John at 918 527 8121. **If you do not want to drive a tractor but want to meet at the farm, please let us know for our count. The address of the Yoder farm is 13931 south 428, Chouteau, OK.**

Hope to see you there.



# Mercedes Benz Toy Drive

Benefitting the Marine Corp Toys for Tots program

Joint event with Porsche Club of America Cimarron section



Saturday, December 2, 2023

This year the Mercedes Benz and Porsche clubs will not do an actual fun drive in the country but instead will meet at Jackie Cooper showrooms for a toy drop off and chili buffet lunch.

We are asking all members to bring as many \$20 unwrapped new toys to the showroom as your generosity will allow so we can deliver to the members of the US Marine Corps. The toys will be collected and organized for delivery for needy children in the Tulsa metropolitan area.

A chili buffet lunch will be provided by Jackie Cooper Imports at 11:00am and the event will wrap up by 12:30pm.

Please RSVP by **Saturday, November 25, 2023**. Members can sign up at the November Gathering, or email Kristen Bebout at [kbebout@jcitulsa.com](mailto:kbebout@jcitulsa.com) to let her know you can join us. The reason we need an RSVP is for a count on the catered chili and fixings.

This is a great opportunity to help the Tulsa community with toys for needy kids.



## Mercedes-Benz Club of America Membership Application

Please call the National Office at 800-637-2360 to join by phone or go to [www.mbca.org/](http://www.mbca.org/) to join online.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member's Name (no extra charge): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mercedes-Benz Cars Currently Owned (list year(s), model(s) and VIN#):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply for membership in the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

If referred by a current MBCA member, please include their name and section:

\_\_\_\_\_

### New U.S. Membership Rates (subject to change)

**\$55.00 for one year**

**\$107.00 for two years**

**\$157.00 for three years**

Annual dues include six issues of "The Star" magazine per year, plus your local section's newsletter.

Check one: \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_ AMEX

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to MBCA, and mail it along with application to:

**Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.**

**National Business Office**

**107 Lelaray Street**

**Colorado Springs, CO 80909**



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**Membership Information**

**New Members**

**Melissa Parker  
Brent Estes**

**Expired Members**

**Susan Hoog  
Stephannie Boucher  
Thomas Stanley**

**Renewed Members**

**Allen Horn  
Catherine Nickles  
Tom Barlow**

**Thanks for Renewing**



**Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc**  
**Eastern Oklahoma Section**  
**Nathan Armer, President**  
20494 E 45<sup>th</sup> Street  
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma 74014

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**Secretary: Kristen Bebout**  
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Eastern Oklahoma Section**

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Susan Hoog	918-682-1288
Harriet Kushnerick	918-740-7624
Thomas Trotter	925-963-3671
Wendy Kise ( <a href="mailto:wekise@cox.net">wekise@cox.net</a> )	