

Chicagoland Chapter

Mercedes-Benz Club of America Newsletter



Note from the Editor

Welcome to our new May newsletter! We are thrilled to share the latest happenings in our chapter with you.

If you attend an event, please feel free to send in a summary and pictures for us to share with the other members of our chapter.

Also, do you have an idea for an event? Would you like to plan a drive, gathering, or other activity for the club? Please email ssantiago.stock@gmail.com or ctszerlag@gmail.com. We look forward to your submissions!

Thank you for reading our newsletter. A lot goes on behind the scenes, so we appreciate your time and attention!

Message from the President



Welcome to the May 2024 issue of the Chicagoland Chapter newsletter. This is our inaugural issue, published under the skillful direction of our new Editor-in-Chief, Stephanie Santiago. Stephanie plans to publish the newsletter on a monthly basis via e-mail and also by posting it on the Chicagoland page of the MBCA's new national website. By the way, if you haven't visited MBCA's new website, I encourage you to check it out at www.mbca.org. The new website went live in March and has many new features for members.

The 2024 events for our Chicagoland Chapter kicked off on March 27th and our next event is this Sunday May 5th, as we cruise the historic Route 66 from Bolingbrook to Pontiac, Illinois. Please refer to our upcoming events section for more information.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter, and the ones yet to come. To our newest members, we welcome you and look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events!

Chet Szerlag
Interim Chapter President

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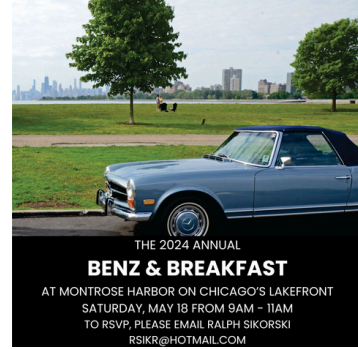
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Upcoming Events This Month



Route 66 - 17th Annual Red Carpet Festival

Sunday, May 5th
8:00 AM

Join us for a fun driving tour along Route 66, to Pontiac, IL. It all starts at 8am with breakfast at **Honey Jam Café in Bolingbrook** (120 E Boughton Rd, Bolingbrook, IL 60440) and the tour will depart shortly after breakfast.

Benz & Breakfast at Montrose Harbor

Saturday, May 18th
9:00 AM

Please join us as we return to Montrose Harbor on Chicago's Lakefront for this year's Benz & Breakfast to kickoff the 2024 Outdoor Event Season!

**Rain Date: Saturday, May 25th*

For more information and to RSVP please visit our new [MBCA Member Website](https://mbca.glueup.com) (click above or go to mbca.glueup.com)

Event Report



Sunday April 7th Johnson Wax Company Tour

Our members took a drive to Racine, Wisconsin to take part in touring the Johnson Wax Company.

The members in attendance were able to enjoy the campus' architecture which was designed by world renowned architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

After the tour, members were able to partake in the optional lunch at two local area restaurants and continued to discuss the architecture they had just taken in and learned about.



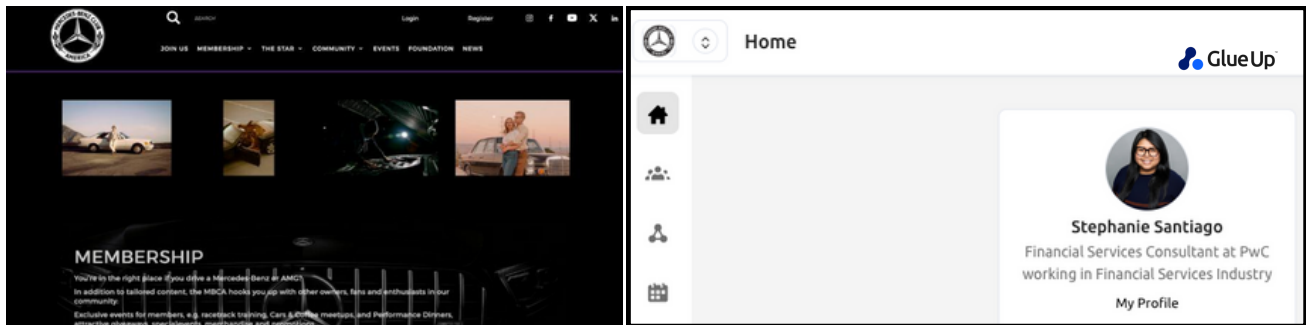
Wednesday April 10th 300S Cabriolet Restoration Presentation

Members enjoyed a unique presentation by Brian Martin, a Senior Director at McPherson College. Brian shared with us the process by which his Automotive Restoration Program students were able to restore a Mercedes 300S over 10 years.

The students along with Brian entered this restored 300S into the 2023 Pebble Beach Concourse. It received the 2nd place award in the Postwar Luxury category.

This remarkable story was also featured in the January/February issue of The STAR magazine.

Chapter Website & Social Media Updates



MBCA Member Website & Mobile Application!

The new **MBCA member website** is HERE! If you have not already visited and established your new MBCA member account, please do it now. Every member should have received an email inviting you to establish your account and establish a new password on March 13, 2024. There is also a mobile application available to carry your membership in your pocket via your smartphone!

What if you didn't get that email or put the email in your trash? Simply go to **mbca.org** and click on Login, and then click on the Forgot Password link.

Need help logging in? Send an email to info@mbca.org or contact the National Business Office at Tues - Thurs: 9 am - 3 pm MT, phone: 719- 633-6427.

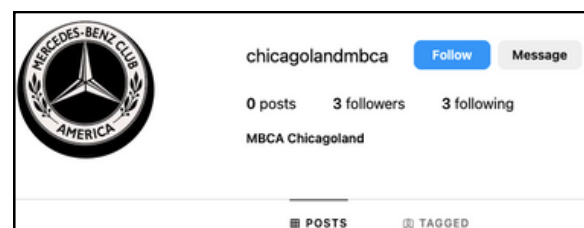
Once logged into the website:

- Click on your **PROFILE**, complete your profile, and tell us more about your interests and the cars in your garage.
- Click on **GO to My Glue Home**, in the top left, to explore your Chapter Community. Here you can interact with your Chapter and stay informed on upcoming Events.
- **EXPLORE** more in the Mercedes-Benz Club of America member website. Switch organizations by clicking on the top left circle, then Switch Organizations to the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.
- Join our Communities (Mercedes-Benz Club of America)
 - Star Interest Groups (Groups by Car Models)
 - Star Marketplace (Buy/sell cars, parts, and Mercedes-Benz related items)
 - Star TECH (Join the conversation on maintenance, and technical aspects of your Mercedes-Benz)

If you have any questions or need any assistance managing the website, please feel free to reach out to Stephanie Santiago (ssantiago.stock@gmail.com)



Chicagoland Chapter Facebook Page



Chicagoland Chapter Instagram Page

We would like to leverage the new Chicagoland Chapter Facebook and Instagram pages to provide our members and non-members updates on what we are doing, sharing our events and also just encouraging another avenue of communication with the car enthusiast community.

Please give us a 'Like' and a "Follow" using the links below:

[Chicagoland MBCA Facebook](#) (or search for "Chicagoland MBCA")

[Chicagoland MBCA Instagram](#) (or search for "MBCA Chicagoland")

Membership

Our chapter currently has **366** members. We have **10** new members that joined us in April, please join me in welcoming them into our Chapter!

Patrick Dougherty, William Dewitt, Demetrios Criezis, Thomas Dawczak, Carl Peterson, Stuart Blakeslee, John Carter, Joe Thoesen, Rose Celo and George Krzeminski

Please continue to promote our club with other Mercedes owners. Also, please don't forget to renew your membership, renewing members are the core part of our chapter.

Thank you all for your sustained membership and support to the club!

Membership Perks

- Your membership includes a subscription to the award-winning The Star Magazine®
- Local, Regional and National Events Member Rebate Program for those planning to purchase or lease a new Mercedes-Benz vehicle.
- Discount on Parts, Service & Accessories at Participating Mercedes-Benz dealers 15%
- Discount on Parts from the Mercedes-Benz Classic Center
- Club Trips to Germany
- Opportunity to participate in annual MBCA Raffle.
- Exclusive member-only access with participating auction houses.

Please visit online <https://www.mbca.org/member-benefits> to see the complete description of the updated benefits.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, June 9th	Tech Session #2 - Crown Customs & Coatings - Cars & Coffee
Saturday, June 23rd	Show & Shine & Lunch at Superdawg
Saturday, July 13th	13th Annual Deutsche Marques at Gilmore Museum
Sunday, July 28th	Jerry Rick's Private Car Collection & Lunch at Rich Harvest Farms
Sunday, August 4th	Volo Museum & Lunch
Saturday, August 24th	Tech Session #3 - EV & Hybrid Technology at Mercedes Benz of St. Charles
Sunday, August 25th	20th Annual Geneva Concourse & Brunch at Stockholm's BrewPub
Sunday, September 8th	Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum & Lunch
Saturday, September 21st	Octoberfest at Two Brothers Roundhouse
Saturday, October 5th	Tech Session #4 - Tuning 101 at Eurocharged Performance

Event calendar is updated on a regular basis

For more information and to RSVP please visit our new [MBCA Member Website](http://mbca.glueup.com)
(click above or go to mbca.glueup.com)

Chicagoland Chapter Leadership

Chet Szerlag Interim President & Treasurer	Stephanie Santiago Webmaster & Newsletter Editor
Eddie Matushek Vice President	David Kieta Webmaster & Social Media
Alisa Matushek Secretary	Ron Klein Sponsorship Program & Outreach
Judy Mouilleseaux Membership Chair	Ralph Sikorski & Al Johnson Directors-at-Large