



The Road Benz

The Newsletter from MBCA | Wichita

Mar/Apr 2024

Chartered in 1972

Wichita Section

President's Corner

Kirk Filbey, Section President



I can't believe it's March already! At least spring is trying to peek out and we will have nice driving weather before you know it. Until then I've been doing a little maintenance on my cars.

We've got some great events coming up. I'm really excited about the trip to Enid. We are still fleshing out the details but I think it will be really interesting. The car show at McPherson is just around the corner as well. That is always a great event!

In this issue of the newsletter there's a story from Jim Doody about his car. I was really happy when Jim sent that in and I want to encourage all of you to feel free to send in story ideas. This is your club and the newsletter should reflect that!

Finally I would ask that each of you continue to promote the club. Reach out to folks and bring them to club events. Let's get the word out that there's a local Mercedes-Benz club and we go out and do things!

That's all for now...and happy driving!

Kirk

2024 Section Event Calendar

Mar 9th: Great Plains Transportation Museum

Apr 13th: Enid Car Show and Collection

May 4th: McPherson Car Show

Jun 8th: Poker Run

Jul: TBD

Aug 24th: Membership Meeting

Sep 21st: ICT All German Car Show

Sep 28th: Sonnenblumen German Car Show

Oct 12th: Alzheimer's Walk

Upcoming Section Events

Great Plains Transportation Museum

When: **Saturday, Mar 9th, 10AM to 11:30AM**

Where: **700 E Douglas, Wichita KS 67202**

Get up close and personal with trains! We will be meeting up at the Great Plains Transportation Museum in downtown Wichita. Come learn about trains and a little bit of Wichita history. Following our visit we will gather at Prost for lunch. Museum entry is \$7 for adults and \$4 for kids (4 -12). See you there!



Enid Car Show and Collection

When: **Saturday, April 13th**

Where: **Enid, OK**

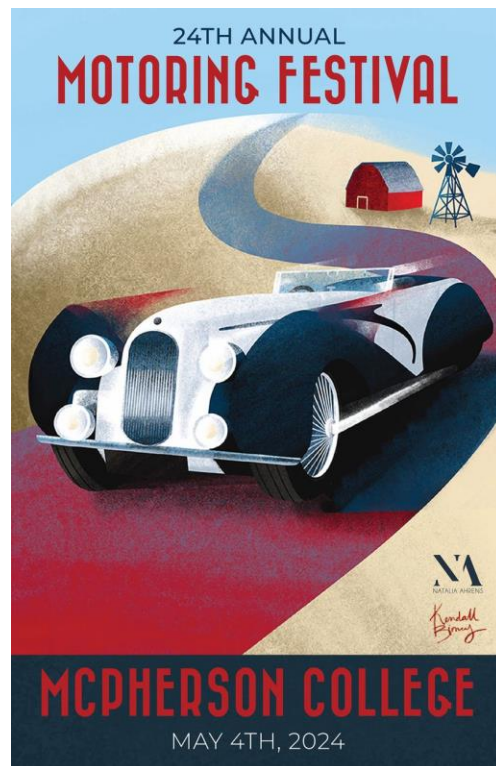
Still working the details on this one...stay tuned!

McPherson College Car Show

When: **Saturday, May 4th, 9AM to 2PM**

Where: **McPherson College, 1600 E. Euclid, McPherson KS 67460**

This is a top-notch local car show that you do not want to miss. There are typically 350 to 400 cars on the field and our club always has a good showing. [Here's a link to the show info](#). Registration hasn't quite opened up yet but should do so soon. We typically meet up and then convoy up as a group. We will send out more information as the event gets closer. Save the date for this great show!



Recent Section Events

Membership Meeting and Lunch, Saturday January 27th

The Wichita Section gathered at Fire Birds grill for our biannual membership meeting and lunch. We had a great turnout with 17 members and guests in attendance. During the meeting we discussed future and planned events for the year. Randy Roths was introduced as the new Section Membership Chair and we celebrated our past president, Lee Elrick. Here's to an exciting new year!



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Section

Pebble Beach Documentary, Thursday February 15th



The local community rolled out the red carpet to celebrate the release of a documentary, “The Road to Pebble Beach”, which chronicled the multi-year effort of the students of McPherson College to restore a 1953 Mercedes 300S Cabriolet and bring it to the prestigious car show at Pebble Beach. The Wichita Section met up at Mark Arts to attend this event. Along with watching the film, which was narrated by Jay Leno, this was an opportunity to also ask questions of some of the students involved in the restoration of the vehicle. Additionally, the car itself was on display, along with a lot of background information on the vehicle. All in all, it was a very classy event!



Let Me Tell You About My Car....

My Wife's Daily Driver - by Jim Doody

We took delivery of our 2014 Mercedes GLK-250 4-Matic, from Mercedes Benz Canada, in November 2013, in Calgary, Alberta. This was our first diesel car, and we equipped it with leather seats, upgraded stereo, and bi-xenon headlights. After our first year, we upgraded to snow tires, to get through the Calgary winters. We started using Redline oil, which is ester based, and very good at high temperatures. One of the British mechanics that I followed had recommended the ester-



based oil to deal with the common lube oil system for the engine with twin turbos. The turbochargers can run very hot and tend to degrade the shared engine oil. The ester-based oil stands up well over time but is more expensive. This car was equipped with environmental controls and a diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) tank. Within the first year, we started having problems with these controls, especially the 10 starts remaining count down timer. Once this alarm was triggered, you would have just 10 more starts and the car would lock out. We had many trips back to the dealership, to have the vehicle reset. Unfortunately, the dealer was unable to repair this issue, so we wrote the President of Mercedes Benz Canada. He couldn't help either, as he is a marketing / sales guy, and not a mechanic. At this stage, my wife was ready to sell the car for a dollar, due to her frustration with service. In order to keep the car in use, I hired a tuner to disconnect the emission control system. We chose ECU Program, of Calgary, for these tuning services. For \$1,000 CDN (\$758 US), they disconnected the DEF tank and the emissions system. The work was done professionally, and we have been happy with the performance ever since. The disadvantage of this tune is that we will never be able to register this vehicle in the State of California. Our GLK-250 now has 86,000 km (53,320 miles) on the odometer. I'm very happy with the tuned version of the GLK-250 and wouldn't hesitate to buy another one on the used market now that I know the car. We use the services of a monthly car wash, keeping the mats, interior and exterior clean. This vehicle has been garaged since it was new.



The Benz Bazaar

Do you have a Mercedes-Benz vehicle you'd like to sell or trade? Are you looking for MB parts or perhaps have parts you'd like to sell or pass on? Do you have some Mercedes-Benz memorabilia you'd like to sell? If so, then the Benz Bazaar is an easy way to advertise to all section members and others who see our newsletter. Our section newsletter comes out 6 times a year. If you are interested in posting an item in the Benz Bazaar, please contact the newsletter editor, Kirk Filbey, at rkfilbey@gmail.com.



2024 MBCA Trips to Germany



TRAVEL DATES AND RATES FOR 2024

June 3-9
September 16-22

The rate will again be:
\$3,300 double occupancy
\$3,600 single occupancy

Reserve your trip
today by visiting:
mbca.org/travel



Take MBCA's guided trip through the Stuttgart Region and experience the rich heritage of Mercedes-Benz first-hand. Hundreds of MBCA Members and guests have traveled to Stuttgart and many have joined us multiple times. Enjoy VIP destinations, accommodations, and five-star cuisine. No worries, just "WOW!" on this command-performance excursion for Members, families, and friends.

Enjoy captivating guided tours of the Carl Benz Museum in Ladenburg; the AMG facilities in Affalterbach; the Mercedes-Benz Museum and Brand Center in Unterturkheim; the Technical Museum in Sinsheim; and the Classic Center in Fellbach. We'll also be visiting the Sindelfingen assembly plant that covers more ground than the entire principality of Monaco. And that's just for starters!

See for yourself why this trip is consistently voted Nummer Eins (Number One) by discriminating travelers.



Section Membership News

Our section currently has **61 members**.

Welcome to our newest member: **John Hebin!**

Here's a heartfelt thanks to all our renewing members since our last newsletter: **Bob Cumming, Josh Dutcher, and Jerry Slomka**. Thank you so much for your sustained membership.

Please continue to promote our club with other Mercedes owners so we can increase our numbers. If you meet someone who has specific questions about our club, please direct them to contact us at MBCA.Wichita@aol.com. If you have other ideas about how to improve our membership numbers, please don't hesitate to contact Randy Roths (randyandcj@gmail.com) or me (Kirk Filbey) at rkfilbey@gmail.com .

For our current members, please don't forget to renew your membership so you don't miss out on future events. Renewing members are the core part of our section. If you run into any issues with renewing your membership, please let us know.

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



MBCA | Wichita Board

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