

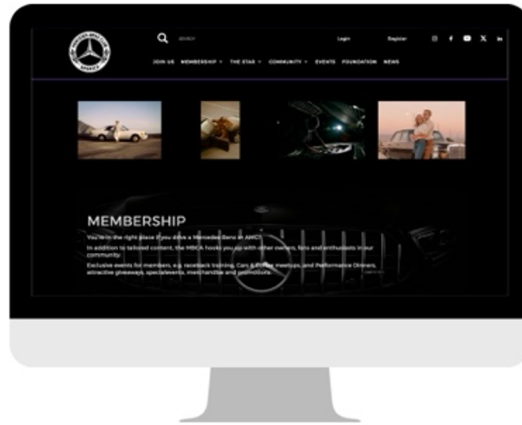


March – April 2024

The StarDust

DESERT STARS SECTION | ARIZONA

MBCA WEBSITE UPDATE



by Diana Quinn, Eastern Regional Director | MBCA Technical Advisor

The new **MBCA** website is **HERE!** If you have not already visited and established your new MBCA member account, 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.

What if you didn't get that email or put the email in your trash? Simply go to mbca.org and click on **Register** and proceed with your email address. If you get a message that your email address already exists, then click on **Login**, and then click on the **Forgot Password** link to set your password. Need help in 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** to explore Your Chapter Community, interact with your Chapter Community, stay informed with upcoming Events.
- **EXPLORE** more in the Mercedes-Benz Club of America of the website. Switch organizations by clicking on the blue circle with your initials, 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 and sell cars, parts, and Mercedes-Benz related items)
 - **Star TECH** (Join the conversation on maintenance, and technical aspects of your Mercedes-Benz)
 -

JOIN THE CONVERSATION IN OUR STAR INTEREST GROUPS

COME and enjoy the Mercedes-Benz Experience with us!

WE SHARE YOUR PASSION

Continued on page 3

President's Message

By Debbie Ichiyama

With summer rapidly approaching, I would like to wish safe travels to all our members who head to cooler climates for the summer months. For those of you who stay in the Valley, join us for the Beat the Heat meets the Joker a.k.a. The Poker Run which will take place in August. And we look forward to events this fall including the Havasupai Rallye in October and the Oktoberfest Brats, Beer & Benz event. Details on these events will be in future issues of the StarDust and via email blasts.

If there is an event you would like to see, please reach out and if you would like to plan one we are here to help with that.



May-June 2024
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Instagram: [desertstars1962](https://www.instagram.com/desertstars1962)
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Welcome our new Members!

February

March

Ayden Burns

"More Than a Car Club | We're a Community"

Desert Stars Section Officers and Board Members

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Treasurer:

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David Cesal (858) 736-5985

Carey Hobson (480) 455-9201

John Hutchison (530) 304-2965

John Truttman (480) 695-2591

SW Regional Director:

Ron Borino (602) 550-9939

Chairs:

Activities & Events:

Karen Manser

Membership:

Carey Hobson

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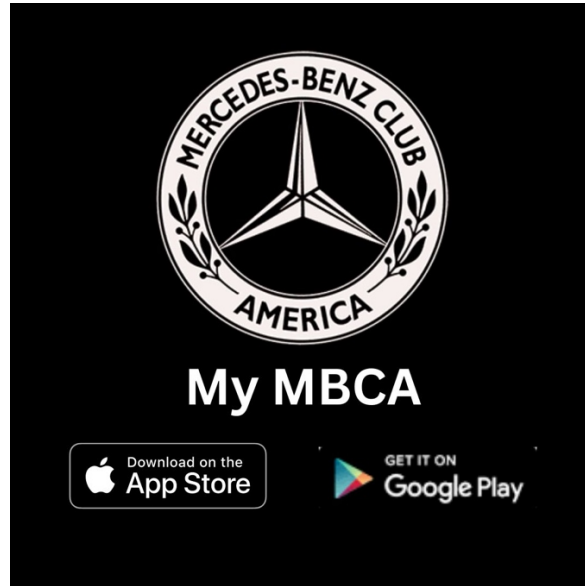
Ron Borino

Newsletter Editor:

Debbie Ichiyama

New website continued

Membership Card



Your MBCA Membership card is now in the **My MBCA** mobile app (Available for IOS and Andriod).

- Log into the app with your MBCA email and password. Tip: To set/reset your password go to www.mbca.org > Login > Forgot Password
- Select the **Mercedes-Benz Club of America** organization
- Click on **Profile** (lower right corner)
- Click on **Memberships** and your membership card will appear with a QR code.

Please note that going forward the Newsletters and email blasts will be sent from the new website. The address they come from will be mbcadesertstars@desertstars.glueupmail.com.

Martin Auto Museum and Lunch

By Ron Borino



Martin Auto Museum has extended an invitation to the Desert Stars Mercedes Benz Club to visit their collection of vintage automobiles. This event will be held on Saturday, May 10th promptly at 9:00 a.m. There is special pricing afforded to the Desert Stars for this event of \$10.00/person for entry into the venue. You must register for this event. The museum will have parking set aside for us. The address for the museum is 4320 West Thunderbird Road, Glendale, Arizona 85306.

After the event if you have an interest, we will head over to Cucina Tagliani Restaurant for lunch by 11:15. Cucina Tagliani's address is 17045 N 59th Ave #101, Glendale, AZ 85308. The restaurant is on the southwest side of the shopping area.

Please register for these events with Ron Borino at advertising@desertstars.club before May 10th so we have an accurate count of attendees for the museum and the restaurant. Lunch is on your own and is optional for this event.

Any questions call Ron Borino at 602-550-9939

Beat the Heat meets the Joker

Susan and Harman Cadis

Join us in August for a great time in the cool north for the **Poker Run**. Watch for updates with more info.



Desert Stars Oktoberfest 2024

By David Cesal

Brats, Beer & Benz



Mark your calendars!

This autumn join the Desert Stars for a delightful afternoon of German-inspired festivities, returning to the home and gardens of Dave and Kim Cesal in the heart of Phoenix. Whether you're a proud Mercedes owner or a passionate enthusiast, this event promises good company, delicious food, and a celebration of all things MB.

Date: Saturday, October 26th

Time: 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (Tentative)

Location: Residence of Dave and Kim Cesal (TBA)

Event Highlights:

- **Prost! Garden:** Bring your own authentic German brew and enjoy the garden grounds, crisp autumn air and festive German folk music.
- **Bratwurst Barbecue:** Indulge in mouthwatering bratwursts hot off the grill and salted pretzels.
- **MB Car Showcase:** Park your vintage or contemporary Mercedes-Benz along the quarter-mile stretch of the Phoenix Country Club.
- **Contests and Prizes:** Test your knowledge of Mercedes Benz related trivia, compete at lawn games and win MB prizes.

Dress Code:

Feel free to don your lederhosen, dirndls, or your favorite Mercedes Benz gear!

Fee: \$30 for members/ \$36 for guest.

Registration info to follow.

We look forward to celebrating Oktoberfest with fellow MB enthusiasts!

Note: This event is exclusively for Mercedes Benz Car Club members and their guests.

May-June 2024

Cruises

By Ron Borino

Several of your Desert Stars in 2025 are planning a couple cruises that some of you may have an interest in. We have always enjoyed travel with others. As follows we have travel booked on Princess Cruises through our advertiser Passport Travel to the following locations:

March 7, 2025 32-day Andes & Cape Horn Grand Adventure on the Sapphire Princess. Voyage #UH506A

AND

October 21, 2025 26 days Mediterranean Cruise with trans-Atlantic crossing on the Sun Princess. Voyage #U540A

Currently there are 3 couples signed up for these two adventures. If you have any interest, please contact Robin Speranza at Passport Travel for details and cost information. Visit Princess Cruises at <https://www.princess.com/> for more information on the cruise line and trip details. I am happy to visit with you too if you call me at 602-550-9939.

This is not a club event or affiliated with the Desert Stars. Your itinerary, embarkation, disembarkation, and excursions are strictly your own.



Cars and Coffee March 30, 2024

By Ron Borino

The Desert Stars in conjunction with the sponsor and host North Scottsdale Mercedes Benz put on another fantastic Cars and Coffee event. This event brought out over 50 cars from the classics to new. The Mercedes of Arizona group of enthusiasts joined us in this venture contributing to the events success. There were plenty of Desert Stars on hand enjoying the cars, the food, and beverages as well as great morning. A big thank you to general manager Michelle Petrenko at North Scottsdale Mercedes Benz for the food and the space. Also, Michelle's assistant, Lorri Grambo helped with food set up, tear down and providing additional support.



M-BEAT

By Ron Borino

Another M-BEAT in the books for the Desert Stars. We started the weekend of April 20th meeting at First Watch off the Carefree Highway for breakfast and a driver meeting. Bags with snacks, water and swag were handed out to the participants. Once breakfast was over, we headed towards our first stop which was Coffinger Park in Wickenburg for some photos. After the pictures were taken it was off to Prescott. A nice leisurely drive into the high country where it is still cool. We had lunch at the Palace in the Bill Owen dining room which was set aside for us. As folks wrapped up lunch people began to depart on their route to Flagstaff. Since several had not been to some of the areas of Arizona north of Prescott, needless to say Jerome, Cottonwood, Williams were visited by different folks on their way to Flagstaff.

Late that afternoon we met for Happy Hour at the bar in the Silver Pines Restaurant inside of Little America. Swapping stories of our driving adventures. The Silver Pines Restaurant also served us dinner with great food and service.

It was a fantastic weekend. We had 5 new couples join us which made this trip even more special. There were some great ideas suggested for next year. I will be working to incorporate as many as I can in 2025. Thank all for your participation. A special thanks to Hagerty for the swag and bags.

Hanging out at Coffinger Park





Rick & Barbara Randlett



Celinda Levno & Melanie Searle



Donna Willemsen & Rich Schulte



Laurie & Patrick Hoffman



Mark & Debbie Ichiyama



Rhonda Borino



James & Yvonne Reynolds



Susan Melton and Dee Mangels



Yvonne & Rich Leamon



Sponsor Spotlight – The Focus HOA Management Story

By Harman Cadis

Harman and Susan Cadis started Focus HOA Management over 14 years ago to provide needed customer service to Homeowners that live in HOAs.

Susan had been working for a small HOA management company that treated their clients poorly and hid behind voice mail. This was not a business she wanted to be associated with and told her husband she wanted to leave, and he said, “start you own, I will help you!” They thought this would be a nice little business maybe they could do in “semi-retirement” with no goals of getting very big.

The rest as they say is history. Susan (with Harman’s help) Started Focus HOA Management January 1, 2010 and by the end of the year was managing 8 Homeowner Associations. Harman was still in the corporate world as a CIO running IT departments and built an automation base for Focus that few other HOA management companies could match. This foundation on automation allowed their HOA managers to spend time where it counts, with the Boards and Homeowners.

This customer service philosophy started by doing simple things, like answering the phone, not utilizing a phone auto-attendant and taking care of Homeowners issues on the first call, radical ideas in the HOA management world.

As the company grew, they “Focused” on the needs of the HOA, both operation and financial. Using an all-inclusive cost model made the business more efficient and saved the HOAs money. Including in their service items like:

- All late fees go to the Association not the management company.
- Community Web Site – Homeowners have access to all their account information on-line.
- Web based system giving the Board access to real time reports and all Association files.
- No charge for internal office supplies or banking services.

They developed financial tools for the Board for operational and reserve budgeting projecting 30-year cash flows to allow them to plan the HOA’s financial health for the long term and make sure they are operating efficiently as possible.

Now 14 years later Susan’s philosophy of putting the customer first and caring about them has propelled Focus HOA Management to listed in the Phoenix Business Journal as one of the top HOA management companies in the Valley. For more information please go to www.Focus.HOA.com.



Focus HOA Management, LLC.
2824 North Power Road
Suite 113-122
Mesa, Arizona 85215

Harman Cadis

Phone. 602-635-9777 Fax. 602-357-1969 Harman@FocusHOA.com www.FocusHOA.com

Local Car Culture

Scuderia Southwest-monthly Scottsdale Motorsports Gathering

7:00 - 10:00 am on the first Saturday of every month.

Free for spectators!
Market Street at DC Ranch
20789 N Pima Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Highline Autos Cars & Coffee

7:30 - 10:00 am on the first Saturday of every month.

5415 East High Street
Phoenix, AZ 85054

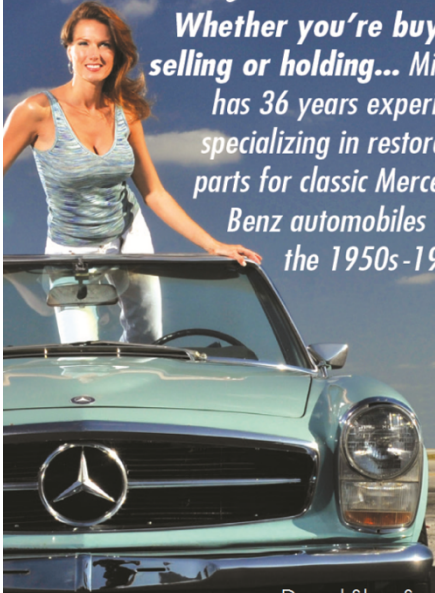
**Alpio's @ TROON
Car's & COFFEE at Pinnacle Peak**

7:00 - 10:00 am on the second Saturday of every month.


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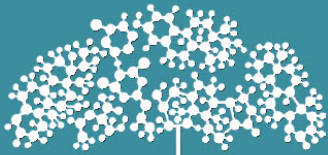


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2024 Mercedes Grande – Indianapolis

Roger Brummett

MERCEDES GRANDE will take place again this year September 6, 7, and 8 here in Indianapolis.

We will again participate with Artomobilia and will present the Mercedes Monumental Car Show and Car Corral as a part of Artomobilia. In addition, we will be hosting a road rally to benefit a national charity, an event called Show & Shine that is a combination car show, fashion show, cocktail party, and Polo Match at Hickory Hall Polo Grounds in Whitestown, Indiana, and we will once again host the Racing Simulator Challenge at Silo Auto Club. There are a couple of more evening events that are being sorted out.

As soon as more information is available it will be posted. Last year this was a great event, and I can only imagine it will be just as much fun this year.

Any questions please contact me roger.mbcaindianacrossroads@gmail.com

The graphic features the F1 logo and the text "2024 CALENDAR" on the left. To the right is a grid of 24 race cards, each containing a race number (R1-R24), a flag, the race name, and the location. The races are as follows:

R1	29 FEB-02 MAR BAHRAIN SAKHIR	R13	19-21 JUL HUNGARY BUDAPEST
R2	07-09 MAR SAUDI ARABIA JEDDAH	R14	26-28 JUL BELGIUM SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS
R3	22-24 MAR AUSTRALIA MELBOURNE	R15	23-25 AUG NETHERLANDS ZANDVOORT
R4	05-07 APR JAPAN SUZUKA	R16	30 AUG-01 SEP ITALY MONZA
R5	19-21 APR CHINA SHANGHAI	R17	13-15 SEP AZERBAIJAN BAKU
R6	03-05 MAY MIAMI MIAMI	R18	20-22 SEP SINGAPORE SINGAPORE
R7	17-19 MAY EMILIA ROMAGNA IMOLA	R19	18-20 OCT USA AUSTIN
R8	24-26 MAY MONACO MONACO	R20	25-27 OCT MEXICO MEXICO CITY
R9	07-09 JUN CANADA MONTREAL	R21	01-03 NOV BRAZIL SAO PAULO
R10	21-23 JUN SPAIN BARCELONA	R22	21-23 NOV LAS VEGAS LAS VEGAS
R11	28-30 JUN AUSTRIA SPIELBERG	R23	29 NOV-01 DEC QATAR LUSAIL
R12	05-07 JUL UNITED KINGDOM SILVERSTONE	R24	06-08 DEC ABU DHABI YAS MARINA

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Hagerty State of the Market

By Sam Power

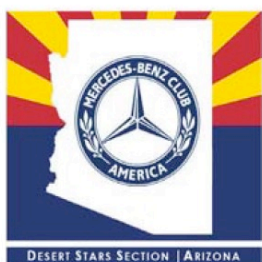
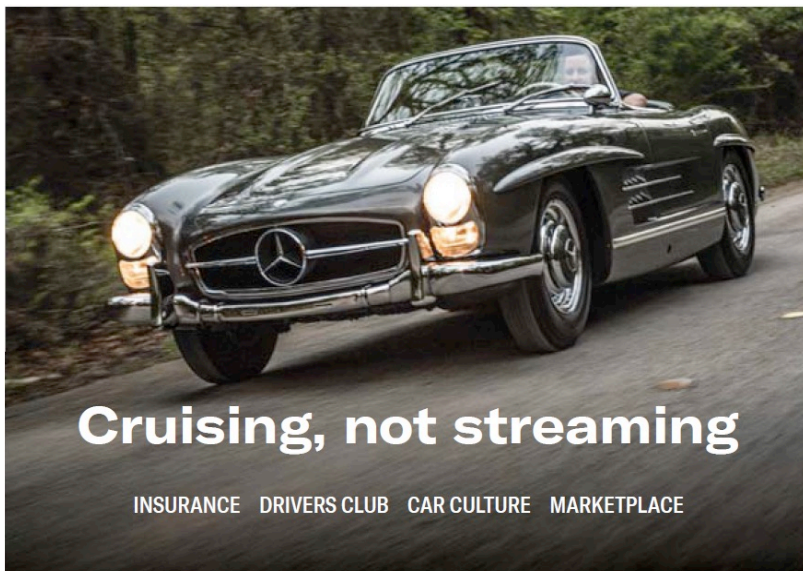
Dear Friends of Hagerty,

As the local contact for Hagerty here in the state of Arizona, I wanted to extend an invitation to an upcoming State of the Market event hosted by Alpio's at Troon. We hope you will join us on Wednesday, May 15th from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We will review the current state of the collector car market with an opportunity to discuss trends with industry experts. We will also be joined by a local Estate Planning Attorney to review effective ways to protect your collection. Dinner will be provided at the event.

Admission fee of \$50 will be collected at the door, cash or check. All proceeds go towards St. Vincent de Paul.

To register for the event, please follow the link to RSVP:

<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/21c6e4e01a75489fac696e98fd6f3e0d>



231-632-5837
 Sam Power
spower@hagerty.com

HAGERTY

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2023 AMG G 63

Mercedes-Benz

Team Tino Ferrulli

480-748-4810

tinoferrulli@gmail.com
 Mercedes-Benz of Scottsdale
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Tino Ferrulli

Thinking of Visiting Germany?

By Chuck Stanford, Jr

The June 3-9 MBCA trip to Stuttgart is preparing to depart this month, and "Trip Leiters" Chuck and Ava Stanford are ready to show their travelers an outstanding time in Germany with tours to many exciting Mercedes-Benz related sites. There's still room to join in the September 16-22, 2024 travel group, and May-June 2025 dates will be announced shortly! Call Chuck at 602-549-4789 for more information.



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An advertisement for "The Finishing Touch Body Shop, Inc." featuring a silver sedan parked on a paved area. In the background, there is a lake with a fountain and some trees. The text is overlaid on the image in a stylized font.

Mercedes-Benz of North Scottsdale



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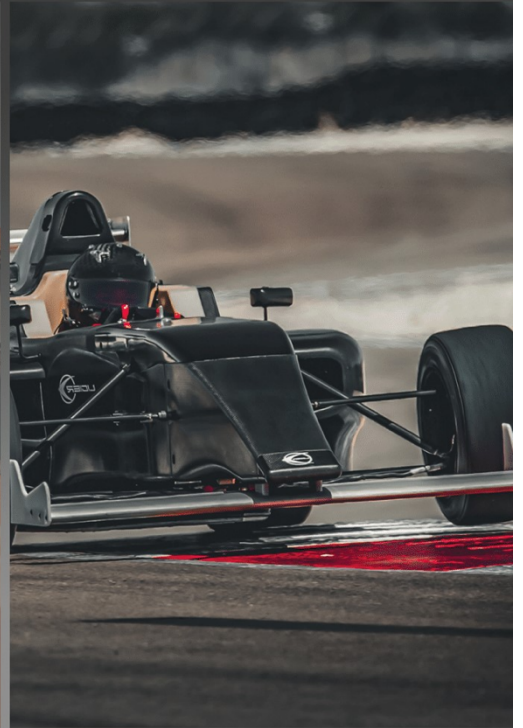
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As a Desert Star. You can list your for-sale Mercedes-Benz here and let all our readers know it's available for them to enjoy. Whether you have a high mile driver, or a collectible with more wax than miles on it, contact us and get your car listed in the Stardust. Contact info StarDustMBCA@gmail.com



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SAVE THESE DATES

May 4th	Sat	Annual Meeting
May 11	Sat	Martin Auto Museum
May 15	Wed	Hagerty State of the Market
Date TBD	August	Poker Run
Date TBD	Fall 2024	Cars & Coffee
October 26	Sat	Oktoberfest
Date TBD	Fall 2024	Havasupai
Dec 8	Sun	Holiday Party
Date TBD		Holiday Lights Tour

<https://www.mbca.org/section/desert-stars>

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