



Tampa Bay Star

March 2024

Cars, Charity and Coffee Event Feb 10, 2024



Coming Events

March 24, 2024
Lunch at Great Catch

April 19th – 21st
Triple Play Event

May 19, 2024
Car Rally & Lunch

Kurt Komaromi 2022 Audi A-4



Adam Baker 1977 Pontiac Can
AM

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 is delayed a 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**

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Photography Dave Hutchinson

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Meeting Dates

Mar 4 Monday 6:30PM

Apr 1 Monday 6:30PM

May 6 Monday 6:30PM

Jun 3 Monday 6:30PM

Jul 8 Monday 6:30PM

Business Meeting & Dinner after each meeting on the above scheduled dates.

Event Dates

Mar 26 Lunch at Great Catch Zephyrhills
Details in this issue

Apr 19–21 **Overnight event**
Navy Seal Museum
Ragtops Museum
Busch Wildlife Sanctuary
Details in this issue

May 19 Car Rally & Lunch
Details in next issue

About the Newsletter

The Tampa Bay Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America Inc., publishes this bi-monthly newsletter. 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 15,000 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 \$85
Two Years \$165

Call 719-633-6427 Tues-Thurs 9:00AM to 3:00PM or sign in to MBCA.org

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

Hello friends,

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of our long time member Linda Cooper. Linda passed away on January 30th after a very brief hospital stay. Linda had been a member of MBCA since 1977 or almost 47 years. Linda's passing was very unexpected and she will be greatly missed by her husband Paul, her children, and especially by the members of our club. Many of us will remember Linda for her many achievements in our club as our former newsletter editor, event planner, creator of our monogrammed shirts and a good friend. Our condolences go out to Paul Cooper and his family for their loss.

For our March/April events we have already scheduled a lunch at the Great Catch restaurant in Zephyrhills, on Sunday, March 24th. For April, we will be having our first overnight event in Stuart. This will be a Triple Play event with 3 venues to visit. First event starts at 1:00 PM Friday April 19th in Ft. Pierce. Early sign up is recommended to secure your hotel and admission to these events. More details on both events are in this newsletter, along with the sign-up sheets to confirm your attendance.

Last month was our first ever Cars Charity and Coffee event in partnership with Crown Eurocars, Pinellas Park, for the benefit of Habitat for Humanity. See the review of this event in this newsletter.

I'm looking forward to your ideas of the many great places to go and sharing the good times with our friends.

Regards,

Greg Watson



Linda Cooper
March 28, 1949 – January 30, 2024

Please note the MBCA national business office mailing address and main phone number have changed as follows:

Mercedes-Benz Club of America
10 Boulder Crescent Street, Suite 200
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Please note the 800# is no longer in service. The existing non-toll-free number will remain as the sole number.

(719) 633-6427 (Tues-Thur, 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. Mountain time)

Lunch at Great Catch, Zephyrhills, FL



Important Info

When: March 24, 2024
Where: Great Catch Restaurant
 5039 1st St, Zephyrhills, FL
 813-782-7770
Call: Pat or Greg Watson
 Home 941-776-7194
 Cell 941-539-8700
Email: gwatson511@verizon.net
Time: 1:30PM
Reserve By: March 17, 2024

Details: Join us for a delicious lunch at the Great Catch Restaurant in Zephyrhills. The club favorites are fried catfish, frog legs, and the lobster roll. See the menu above for other interesting lunch options.

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location or call Greg Watson, 941-539-8700.

Lunch at Great Catch March 24, 2024

Name(s) _____
 Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Email _____
 Address _____
 # _____ for lunch \$2.50 Per Person enclosed \$ _____

Make Checks payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

Must be received by Mar 17, 2024
 Mail to: Pat or Greg Watson
 1801 6th St E
 Palmetto, FL 34221

Triple Play Event - US Navy Seals Museum, Ragtops Motorcars, Busch Wildlife Sanctuary



Important Info

When:

April 19th - 21st, 2024

Where:

See schedule below

Call or Text:

Greg Watson
941-539-8700

Email:

gwatson511@verizon.net

Time:

See schedule below

Lunch:

On your own

Reserve By:

April 3, 2024

Details: Be prepared for a busy fun filled week-end. Join us for the first overnight event of 2024. We are going to Florida’s east coast to 3 special venues. Make sure you book your room soon to ensure you receive the hotel’s best rate. It is recommended to be at each location at least 15 minutes early. See the schedule of events below:

Date	Time	Event	Location
Fri April 19 th	1:30PM	US Navy Seals Museum	3300 N Hwy A1A, Ft. Pierce, FL
Fri April 19 th	4:30PM	Hampton Inn	1150 NW Federal Hwy, Stuart, FL
Sat April 20 th	10:00AM	Ragtops Motorcars	701 N. Dixie Hwy, Lake Worth Beach, FL
Sat April 20 th	1:30PM	Busch Wildlife Sanctuary	17855 Rocky Pines Rd, Jupiter, FL

Make your own reservations at the Hampton Inn. Rates are \$109 for suites and \$99 for standard rooms. The group code is MCC.

Lunch will be on your own due, but we are working to get dinner reservations for both nights.

Triple Play Event

April 19th - 21st

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

Make Checks payable to:
Tampa Bay Section MBCA

Must be received before April 3rd

Mail to: Greg Watson
1801 6th St E
Palmetto, FL 34221

_____ Coming

\$25.00 Per Person enclosed \$ _____

Covers all 3 events

Cars, Charity and Coffee

February 10, 2024

By: Greg Watson

On Saturday Feb. 10th, we had a perfect spring like day for our club, in partnership with Crown Eurocars, Pinellas Park, to host our first ever Cars Charity & Coffee event. Crown Eurocars provided the coffee, donuts, deluxe parking accommodations and more. This event was primarily a charity event to help raise money for Habitat for Humanity, Pinellas and West Pasco County. Katie Rockman, the Director of Development for Habitat for Humanity volunteered Veronica Anderson their Development Manager to meet us with their promotional material of pens, sunglasses, water bottle sleeves and more. While our club wanted to do something good for charity, we also wanted to have a good time and this event allowed our members to do both. We contributed over \$400 to Habitat for Humanity.

Our Tampa Bay section provided over 14 very different Mercedes-Benz vehicles and specialty car brands. We had vehicles from 6 different decades represented, from 1975 to 2022. In addition to our member's cars on display, Crown Eurocars had hundreds of both new and used "ICE"s, "EV"s and "PHEV" vehicles of every category on display both outside and in their showroom. Crown Eurocars also showcased four different Mercedes-Benz Maybachs which we tried very hard not to drool on.

After the event we met at La Teresita Cuban restaurant for a great lunch. All in all it was a great day at Crown Eurocars and we appreciate all of their efforts to accommodate our Tampa Bay section event. Enjoy the pictures of the cars with their owners in this newsletter and view additional photos on the Tampa Bay Section Facebook page.



Chris and Margaret Gregoriou with his
1990 560 SEC



Kathy and Jonathan Sones with their
1991 300 SL



Frank Pinto and his 1975 Bricklin SV-1



Jose Uranga with his 2015 SL 400



Gladys Cochran and Rodger Baker with Gladys's 2015 S65 AMG



Bob and Catherine Martino with their 2013 SLK



Lee Kalessis and his 1982 380 SL



Susan and Chris Cotronei with their 2008 550 SL along with Lynn Hutchinson, Connie & Gary Dolin

Welcome to Crown Eurocars

Over 50 Years Serving St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Tampa and Beyond!
Your Ultimate Destination for Mercedes-Benz, Sprinter and AMG

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Proud Partner of the Mercedes-Benz Club of Tampa Bay
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Michal Niezbecki,
General Manager



SPRINTER

AMG

CrownEurocars.com