



The Road Benz

The Newsletter from MBCA | Wichita

Mar/Apr 2025

Chartered in 1972

Wichita Chapter

President's Corner

Kirk Filbey, Section President

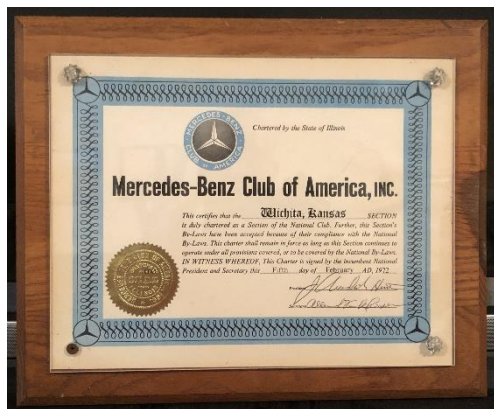


Kansas....oh how you like to fool with us. One week it's negative 4 and the next week it's in the 70s! In any case, more pleasant driving weather is just around the corner and car events are starting to pop up. Besides our three(!) March club events, don't forget to check out the Kansas Sunflower Swap Meet at Century II March 7 and 8 and the first Cars and Cockpits this season, March 15th, up at Stearman Field.

In my rush to get the previous newsletter out at the start of the year, I realize now that I missed an important date in February. On February 5th, 1972, the Wichita Chapter became officially chartered as part of MBCA. That's really impressive and it says a lot about the passionate people who have kept this club going for over 50 years. Thank you to members both past and present!

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

Kirk



2025 Chapter Event Calendar

Mar 12th: Race Simulator Session at Glas Haus

Mar 22nd: Visit to Auto Tech Program

Mar 29th: Enid Car show

Apr 26th: Winfield Car Collection

May 3rd: MBCA Regional Event and McPherson Car Show

May 31st: Poker Run

Jun: Salina Car Collection and visit The Garage

Aug 23rd: Membership meeting and lunch

Sep: Wichita Area All German Car Show

Oct: Salina German Car Show

Oct 11th: Chapter Oktoberfest Cookout

Dec 9th: College Hill Christmas Light Drive

Upcoming Chapter Events**Race Simulator Session at Glas Haus Racing**When: **Wednesday, March 12th, 6PM to 8:30PM**Where: **Glas Haus Racing, 7817 E 37th St N, Wichita KS 67226**

Have you ever wanted to experience driving a high-performance vehicle around a Formula 1 course? Well you are in for a treat because that's exactly what you can do at [Glas Haus Racing](#) without even having to leave Wichita. Glas Haus has state-of-the-art racing simulators that allow you to truly experience the track. Our chapter has reserved a 2-hour Introduction to Simulators session on Wednesday, March 12th. This event is open to all experience levels and the simulators can be customized for all drivers, so don't be intimidated if you've never operated a race simulator! The cost of the event will be \$60 per person. Pizza will be provided and you can bring whatever you would like to drink with your pizza. If you plan to attend this event, please let me know by Tuesday, March 11th, so I'll know how much pizza to get. Also please let me know if you have any dietary restrictions. Let's go racing!

Automotive Tech Program at WSU Tech City Center CampusWhen: **Saturday, March 22nd, 9AM to 11AM**Where: **WSU Tech City Center, 301 S. Grove St, Wichita KS 67211**

WSU Tech has expanded their Automotive Technology program, and we will have an opportunity to get a behind-the-scenes look at this program and all it has to offer. We will meet up at the City Center Campus which is on South Grove Street, just behind East High School. During the tour we will get to see state-of-the-art equipment used as part of the course of study along with classroom space. Some equipment and a car were donated by Mercedes-Benz of Wichita for this program. Following this event, we can head out to lunch if there's interest. If you plan to attend this event, please let me know by Friday, March 21st.

**ENID Car Show, Joint Event with Central Oklahoma Chapter**When: **Saturday, March 29th, 8AM to 3PM**Where: **Chisolm Trail Expo Center, 111 West Purdue Ave, Enid OK 73701**

A few of us attended this event last year and it was a pretty impressive car show. [Here's a link to the event itself](#). Following the car show we will meet up at Napoli's in downtown Enid for lunch. For those interested in attending, we will meet up at the parking lot of Il Primo Coffee and depart at 8AM for Enid. If

you plan on attending this event, you can register via the link above or you can send an e-mail to central.ok.mbca@gmail.com. Please let me know as well so I can get an idea of how many folks intend to convoy down to Enid.



Recent Chapter Events

Gullwing Tread Talk at Midwest Dream Car Collection, Saturday January 18th

Every month the Midwest Dream Car Collection museum hosts special car focused lectures called Tread Talks. Our chapter was given a heads up about the January tread talk because it was going to be centered around the collection's Mercedes 300 SL Gullwing! The event date got changed due to severe weather but eventually Will Tobin and Kirk Filbey drove up to Manhattan, Kansas to participate in the event. The lecture was very well attended, with a lot of members from the German Car Club of Kansas and MBCA members from Kansas City.

One of the museum docents, Ann Palmer, gave a presentation on the history of Mercedes-Benz and then the specifics on how the museum acquired their 1957 300SL Gullwing. As an added bonus, Rich and Rebecca Bonebrake were also in attendance. The Bonebrake's brought their 2012 Mercedes SLS Gullwing and Rich provided stories about the 4th Gullwing off the Mercedes-Benz production line. The 1954 car was purchased by Rich's father and now is in the care of Rich and Rebecca. It was interesting learning about the slight differences between the Bonebrake car and the museum car.



At the end of the presentation, the museum director then fired up the Gullwing and let it run for a bit. After that, everyone had a chance to actually sit in the car! Needless to say, Kirk and Will were absolutely thrilled to have this opportunity.

Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Chapter



Chapter Membership Meeting, Saturday January 25th

The chapter had its biannual membership meeting and lunch at our favorite German restaurant, Prost. Twelve members attended this festive lunch as we covered notes from the most recent chapter board meeting and discussed upcoming events for the new year. As always, it was great catching up with everyone following the holiday season.



Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Wichita Chapter**The Benz Bazaar**

Are you interested in getting a club magnet for your car? This is a great way to advertise for our chapter at car shows and other events. The magnet can easily be placed and removed from your car without damaging the paint. The magnets are \$25 a piece. If you're interested in getting one, please contact Will Tobin at wtobin45@icloud.com ,

**Cars for Sale!**

Club member Larry Fear has two cars for sale.

Car #1: Red BMW 2002 with black interior. The interior is in remarkable condition for its age. The driver's seat needs a minor repair. Paint is good and the air conditioner is available for installation.

Car #2: Mercedes Benz 280 SL is a European spec car with 5 speed manual transmission. It is in very good condition, silver blue with dark blue leather interior. The hard top is included.

Both cars have been stored for approximately 20 years. Receipts of repairs are on file. For more information, please contact Larry or John Fear at larryfear@icloud.com or 316-264-5833.

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 .



Chapter Membership News

Our section currently has **51 members**.

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.

Membership Anniversaries for 2025:

Bob & Teresa Poulseen – 10 Years
Stephen and Kathleen Barrett – 10 Years

John Rudd – 15 Years
Rick Knorr – 15 Years
Thomas Alm – 15 Years
Will and Kathy Tobin – 15 Years

Lee Elrick – 25 Years

Bob Cummings – 30 Years

Dave Busenitz – 35 Years

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



MBCA | Wichita Board

MBCA.Wichita@aol.com

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Kirk Filbey
(530) 848-3396

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Section Web Pages:

<https://mbcawichita.org>

[Wichita | Mercedes Benz Club of America \(mbca.org\)](http://Wichita | Mercedes Benz Club of America (mbca.org))

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