







Volume 44 - Vol 1 | February 2022



Thru The

**Happy New Year!** And welcome to another year of events! Peachtree Section doesn't shut down for the winter.

You've heard me say before that events are the essence of the Section. A wide and diverse variety of events, from cars and coffee, mountain drives, weekend destination drives, concours, performance driving, social events, and anything else that isn't illegal or immoral.

While we've been successful in putting on a full event schedule, these events are being run by a small group of people and there is certainly room for more event planners. What does it take to be an event planner? An idea of something fun to do and an interest in sharing it with friends. Our experienced event planners are glad to help, and we've got an event planning guide to use. You can even watch YouTube videos of our event planner training.

We try to give an event planner a free hand in running events, generally as long as the events break even. Since we want to encourage people to be event planners, we want to make it as easy to plan events as possible. Our event coordinator, the Vice President, isn't going to give you a lot of rudder orders; we want to welcome new event planners, we want to make the process as easy as possible, you might get some suggestions, some "have you thought about" but don't expect onerous obstacles in your path.

**Read More** 

## Roger McKissick Wins MBCA Lifetime Achievement Award



A man who has devoted many years to MBCA Peachtree Section, Roger McKissick certainly deserves the **Lifetime Achievement Award**, which was presented to him by Peachtree President, Gary Edwards at the Section's holiday luncheon in December 2021. Roger joined Peachtree Section within five months of its founding in 1979 and since then has contributed significantly to the Section's success.

In 1983 Roger was elected President of Peachtree Section and worked on the newsletter for 32 years, most of which as editor. He has held almost every position within the Board of Directors as well as being advisor to the Section, Sponsor Director, and Budget Committee Chair, and has served as Treasurer since 2019.

Roger and his wife, Fran, have owned a number of Mercedes automobiles. Their first was a 1969 280 SE sedan, followed by a 1979 300 TD, a 1973 220 D, a 1983 300 DT sedan, and a 1993 400 E sedan. He currently owns a 1997 E 420 – and a 1967 250 SE/C coupe, a beauty that has won numerous awards. In recent years, the coupe has received the following awards:

**READ MORE** 

#### The Event Rundown

#### **February**

2/5 - Cars and Coffee at Halcyon

2/12 - Cofer Collection Tour

2/19 - Vintage Metal Works

2/26 - Andersonville Historic Site Drive

2/27 - Karting at Lanier Raceplex (Date Change)

#### March

3/4 - 6 - Amelia Island Concours

3/5 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

3/6 - Autocross with PCA

3/12 - Twin Peaks Mountain Drive

3/20 - Karting at Atlanta Motorsports Park

3/26 - Providence Canyon Drive

3/27 - Garland Mountain Clay Shooting

#### June

6/4 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

6/8 - Tech Talk Oil Analysis

6/11 - MBCA High Performance Driver

Education at TGPR

6/12 - Autocross with PCA

6/25 - Fried Green Tomatoes Rally

#### July

7/2 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

7/24 - Autocross with PCA

7/30 - Members Appreciation Event

#### **August**

8/6 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

#### **April**

4/2 - Cars and Coffee at Halcyon

4/9 - Hills and Dales Estate Tour

4/10 - TSD Rally 1

4/16 - Augusta Cars and Coffee

4/23 - Miles Through Time Museum

4/28 - 5/1 - Nashville Music City Medley Weekend

#### May

5/7 - Cars and Coffee at Halcyon

5/14 - Mountain Drive to Paradise

5/29 - Autocross with PCA

#### September

9/3 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

9/17 - Peachtree Concours d' Elegance

9/25 - Autocross with PCA

#### October

10/1 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

10/16 - Autocross with PCA

10/30 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

#### November

11/3 - 11/6 - Hilton Head Concours

11/6 - Autocross with PCA

#### December

12/3 - Peachtree Holiday Luncheon

12/4 - Cars and Coffee at Halycon

## FULL EVENT SCHEDULE /2022

#### Letter from the Editor, Diana Quinn

As I write this letter and put this issue together it reminds me of the great number of events and opportunities, to interact with other Mercedes-Benz car owners in 2022. If you have not yet attended one of our events this is the year to do so! The Peachtree Section offers all members a great variety of events from Social, Technical, Performance Driving, Concours and more.

One of my favorite events each month is our Cars and Coffee at Halycon in Alpharetta. (Check out the Event Run Down for a list of dates as this event does move between Saturdays and Sundays). This is a very casual event where you can just bring yourself and your car whether it is dirty or clean. Grab a cup of coffee and chat up an old friend or make some new friends. Pick up your calendar, pick an event, and I hope to see you there!

## Nothing says Mercedes-Benz more than Buckhead.

Mercedes-Benz of Buckhead



MercedesOfBuckhead.com (800) 399-5856

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

#### Welcome our Newest Members

- Johnny Balderrama
- Fritz Hammersen
- Kimberly Herring
- Leland Jacobs Jr
- Jennie Langer
- Joseph Long
- Shaun Nelson
- Raymond Powell
- Ronnie Riggs
- Joyce Scanlon
- William Scott III
- Rick Shearer
- Brandon Taylor

#### Big Thanks to our 29 Loyal Renewing Members

- Jack Baird
- William Bernays
- Robert Bingham Roy
- Karl Boegner



Peachtree Section

by Reijo Haarla, Membership Director

At the end of December 2021 Peachtree Section had 522 members. This means an increase of 45 members in the Peachtree membership during the year 2021. However, we faced a slight decline in the membership in December 2021.

On our MBCA Peachtree website we maintain our up-to-date event schedule. We'll have very active event calendar for this year. For instance, once a month Rubin Howard keeps organizing Cars & Coffee social event in Halcyon, Alpharetta GA, to get together with existing members and to welcome

- David Brown
- Dewey Chase
- Luther Clark, Jr
- Eldon Collier
- Patricia Davis
- Mark Dawley
- James Fekete
- Scot Gibson
- James Gussman
- Alex Hennigar
- Bruce Herstowski
- Tim Hurst
- Paul laderosa
- John Kent
- Oluwagbemiga Kuye
- Paul La Penta
- R Lackey
- Lawrence Moore
- John Noell
- Craig Petek
- Joeph Pirola
- Wayne Schrader
- David Tatum
- Bernie Taylor
- Geri Whaley-Ewers



new members.

I want to remind about the member Auto-Renew program. To enroll to Auto-Renew is easy, you can simply select Yes to Auto-Renew option when renewing your membership on-line at mbca.org. Or, you can contact the MBCA National Office at 800-637-2360 and enroll to the Auto-Renew over the phone.

Advantages of the Auto-Renew:

- Never miss an issue of the Star® Magazine
- Stay informed of local section and national events.
- Continue your eligibility for club Discounts and Membership Rebates.
- Have a chance to participate on our annual Germany trip to visit Mercedes-Benz headquarters in Stuttgart, when again available.
- Have a chance at winning a new Mercedes-Benz by participating in annual raffles.
- Never worry about your membership lapsing.
   You support the financial stability of your club.

If you are planning to purchase or lease a new Mercedes-Benz vehicle, please consider participating in MBCA Member Rebate Incentive program. The Member Rebate program is an incentive program sponsored by MBUSA to encourage MBCA members to purchase or lease a new Mercedes-Benz vehicle and receive a cash incentive towards the purchase or lease of the vehicle. There is another article in this newsletter about the Member Rebate Incentive program with further details.

**READ MORE** 

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

SPECIAL TIRE & WHEEL PRICING FOR CLUB MEMBERS HI-SPEED ON-THE-CAR BALANCING FOUR-WHEEL ALIGNMENT NITROGEN TIRE INFLATION

MARIETTA - 770.973.8622 AUSTELL - 770.941.7422

BUCKHEAD - 404.303.1114

ALPHARETTA - 678.893.0502







butlertire.com

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**



#### Cofer Collection Tour - Saturday, February 12, 2022

This collection of classic American Cars is not normally open to the public, but event planner Eric Gilmer has arranged for the curator to host a tour for us. MBCA members and guests only, free admission but preregistration is required as we have a limited number of slots.

**REGISTER** 

Vintage Metal Works Tech Session - 2/19

Andersonville Historic Drive - 2/26



On February 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m., you are invited to learn about the restoration process of automotive metalwork through a tech session-style tour of Vintage Metal Works This session is **FREE** to all members.

**REGISTER** 



If you are into nice drives and history then this event is for you. On February 26th we will meet up at the Mercedes Benz dealer in Macon GA at 10 a.m. and then drive down to Andersonville National Historic Site (NHS). We will take a Ranger led tour of the park around 2 p.m. and then we will have a picnic style lunch afterwards.

**REGISTER** 

#### **Spring Mountain Drives**



March 12 - Twin Peaks Run - Come drive with us as we hit two of the highest points in North Georgia in the same run. Bell Mountain and Brasstown Bald. Pack a picnic and bring your binoculars to enjoy the amazing views.

May 14 - Mountain Drive to Paradise Come with us as we make our way through winding North Georgia roads to

## Garland Mountain Cars and Clays - Sunday 3/27



Plan on joining your MBCA friends at Garland Mountain Sporting Clays on Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. I've been a sporting clays enthusiast for several years and recently joined Garland Mountain with my family due to the generosity of my wife Stacey as a Father's Day gift in 2021. I want to share the enjoyment of this incredible place with my Mercedes-Benz Club family!

We will meet at Garland Mountain Sporting

one of our favorite spots, Paradise Hills Winery Resort and Spa. Our trip last year was tremendously fun. The winery is a hidden north Georgia gem. Of course we will sample their wines and charcuterie once we arrive!

Clays at 11 a.m. Each Sunday, brunch is served beginning at 11 a.m., with shooting starting at 1 p.m. Lunch and the costs for shooting will be on your own. *Read More* 

#### **Providence Canyon Drive - 3/26**



Providence Canyon is a beautiful part of Georgia southeast of Columbus GA in Lumpkin. On March 26th we will have everyone meet at the park around Noon. We will have a picnic style lunch afterwards. We have a picnic pavilion rented but everyone will need to bring their own food and drinks.

**REGISTER** 

#### Hills and Dale Estate Tour - 4/9



Join us on Saturday, April 9, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. for a tour of the historic home and gardens of the Hills and Dale estate (1916 Hills and Dales Drive LaGrange, GA 30240) home of the Fuller E. Callaway family. Hills and Dales is a beautiful 35-acre historic estate located in LaGrange, GA, with a history that expands over 180 years. The property includes the Ferrell Gardens, the Fuller E. Callaway family home, and the surrounding outbuildings and landscape.

**REGISTER** 

**Augusta Cars and Coffee - 4/16** 

## Miles Through Time Museum and Drive - 4/23





Join us for a Joint Peachtree Section/Carolina Section Cars and Coffee at Mercedes-Benz of Augusta on Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 1 pm. We haven't had an event in Augusta for quite a while

We will II enjoy talking about cars, plus the dealership will be kind enough to feed us as well. No fee to attend, come and join us, it's about two and half hours from Atlanta and about an hour and twenty minutes from Columbia.

Let's take a scenic ride up to North Georgia via Clarkesville to visit a unique collection of automobiles at the Miles Through Time Museum. We'll meet in Oakwood GA at the McDonalds on Munday Mill Road. Driving directions will be mailed prior to the event for you to print out.

The Miles Through Time brings you a stunning, ever-changing collection of automobiles, memorabilia, signage, and art. Displays have been donated to the museum or are privately owned by people in the community showcasing their beloved automobiles and memorabilia for everyone to enjoy.

**REGISTER** 

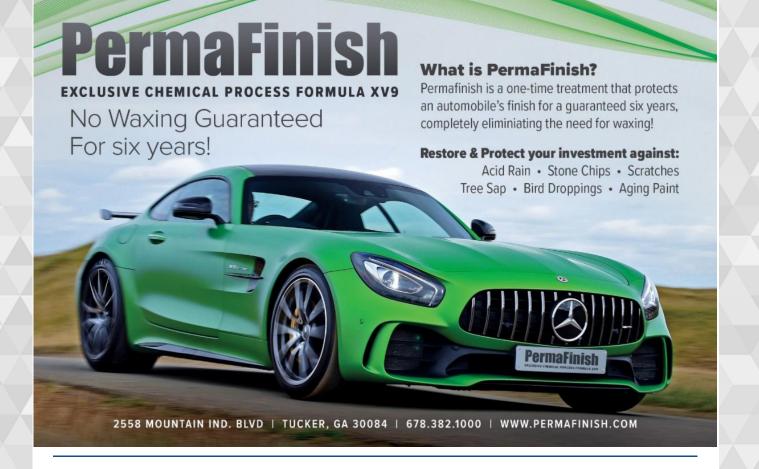
REGISTER

## 2022 Rally Season begins on April 10, 2022 RALLY WINDER



The Rally Winder is going to be the first rally of the 2022 MBCA Peachtree TSD Rally Championship Series! This rally is scheduled to take place starting on Sunday, April 10, 2022.

The rally is going to be "tour" – style Time-Speed-Distance (TSD) competition. It will be relatively straight-forward, all significant turns are clearly identified with mileages provided on the Route Instructions. The goal on the rally is to maintain "on time" driving on the timed portions of the rally according to given instructions. <u>Learn More.</u>



#### Nashville Music City Medley Weekend - April 28 - May 1, 2022



Join us for a wonderful spring weekend in Music City, Nashville Tennessee. We're going to Music City this coming April! 28-May1, 2022. If haven't been to Nashville in a long time or you've never been to Nashville, then you need to join us for a fabulous weekend of fun and nostalgia.

Here's a preview of some of the weekend events, Private Tour of The Historic Ryman

Auditorium, Dinner at a the fabulous Bavarian Bierhaus,.a Saturday drive with members of the Nashville section, Tickets to the Grand Old Opry and lots more. Hotel information and details about all the weekend events can be viewed at <a href="Music City Medley Spring">Music City Medley Spring</a> Fling Weekend

#### **REGISTER**





One-day High Performance Driver Education (HPDE) co-hosted by Peachtree and Alabama/NW Florida Sections. A wonderful track for novices, only 5 turns in 1.4 miles with minimal elevation changes and wide, smooth runoff areas, but challenging enough to be fun for advanced drivers. We will provide both classroom and in-car instruction. Only \$300. Also offering the Performance Driving Experience (PDE) \$100 which includes classroom and highway speed on-track instruction.

For more information and to Register: http://msreg.com/MBCAatTGPR2022



## Fried Green Tomatoes Rally - June 25, 2022

Grab a navigator and join us on June 25th for a leisurely drive along the country roads in Middle Georgia for the Fried Green Tomatoes Rally. We'll start at the Original Chick Fil-A Dwarf House in Hapeville. We'll down old GA 85 stopping along the way at a historic water mill, in several quaint Georgia towns, an

historic covered bridge, and the former Buggy Capital of the world before ending up in Juliette the town made famous in the movie, Fried Green Tomatoes. There you can stroll through the quaint shops on main street and, if so inclined, enjoy the world famous fried green tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Café.

REGISTER



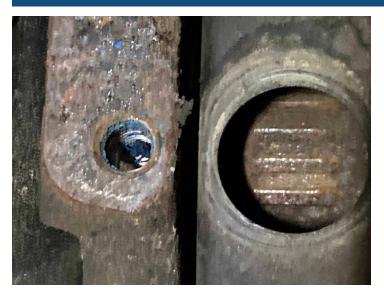
#### **Member Appreciation Event - July 30, 2022**

Saturday, July 30, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. is the date for MBCA Peachtree Section's annual Member Appreciation Luncheon. Barbecue and all the fixin's will be served buffet style. All the food – except buns and pickles – will be homemade and ready for your enjoyment. Barbecued pork and chicken will be accompanied by potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, and walnut brownies.

A mountain drive will precede the luncheon, which will be held in the lakeside pavilion at *Fort Mountain State Park* (181 Fort Mountain Park Road Chatsworth, GA 30705). You may make the drive or come directly to the park. Join us for this celebration of all Peachtree Section's members!

#### REGISTER

#### **Technical Digest**



## Fault Codes and What They Don't Tell You

by Gary Edwards

A while back I wrote on fault codes, and how they don't necessarily tell you what you think they do. I recently ran across another instance of this.

Earlier this year, I acquired a 1998 SL500 with several warning lights on the dash. They would be off when you start the car, but as soon as your

speed went above 5 miles per hour, two warning lights would illuminate simultaneously, BAS/ESP and ABS. (BAS stands for Brake Assist System, ESP stand for Electronic Stabiilty Program and ABS is Anitlock Braking System). Reading the codes shows a BAS Pressure Sensor fault. I didn't even know the car had a BAS pressure sensor, and the timing of the lights appearence looked like an ABS wheel speed sensor to me, despite the fault code. I was also a little suspicious of the code, since my code reader isn't supposed to be capable of reading an R129 earlier than late 1999. *Read more* 

#### **PAST EVENTS**

#### 2021 TSD Rally Championship Series Winners Announced !!!



Congratulations to **Reijo and Arja Haarl**a – Winners of the inaugural MBCA
Peachtree TSD Rally Championship!

Time-Speed Distance road rallies made their debut on the Peachtree section calendar in 2021, with a series of four events. These events were straightforward, brisk "tour" style rallies with no complex instructions, traps or other

unfunny stuff. The goal of the organizers was to keep competitors on the route and get to

the end for fellowship and refreshments. The goal for the competitors was to keep "on time" through 80-100 miles of paved, predominantly secondary roads. *Read More* for a recap of scores and details of the four rallies.

#### **Peachtree 2021 Holiday Luncheon**

Seventy-two members, significant others, and two guests attended the section Holiday Luncheon at Petite Violette restaurant in Atlanta neighborhood Brookhaven. Lunch was followed by remarks first from President Gary Edwards, who presented his vision for the upcoming year and the Past President's award to Steve Chapman. This was Steve's third tenure as Section President. Steve presented the 2021 Member of the Year Award to Membership and Social Media Chair Rubin Howard, who reviewed upcoming events in his new position as Vice President. The Partain Award, named for Jim Partain who founded Peachtree Section, was presented to Rusty Duncan. Rusty contributions included, but were not limited to, most notably organizing a series of mountain drives and interning under the tutelage of outgoing Treasurer and Sponsor Director, Roger McKissick in preparation to serve as Sponsorship Director. *Read more* 









## The Mercedes-Benz Experience at HALCYON-FORSYTH

Conveniently located at McFarland Parkway and GA 400.



Mercedes-Benz Experience

by RBM of Alpharetta

All in-store merchandise

10% off

Excludes vehicles. Must show this ad to redeem offer. Expires 12/31/2022

6345 Halcyon Way, Suite 835 | Alpharetta, GA 30005 | 678-726-6726



#### MERCEDES-BENZ REPORTS 2021 SALES

Mercedes-Benz USA (MBUSA) reported Q4 2021 sales of 60,326 MercedesBenz models. Additionally, Mercedes-Benz Vans recorded Q4 sales of 15,705, bringing MBUSA to a grand total of 76,031 vehicles for the quarter, a decrease of -20.2% over the comparable period last year.

On a year-to-date basis, MBUSA recorded sales of 276,102 Mercedes-Benz passenger vehicles and 53,472 Vans. This brings MBUSA's total year-to-date sales to 329,574 units, an increase of 1.1% versus 2020.

"Results for 2021 demonstrated the incredible demand for the Mercedes-Benz brand in the U.S. and worldwide despite ongoing supply challenges," said Dimitris Psillakis, President and CEO of MBUSA. "Together with our Mercedes-Benz dealer partners, we will advance our position with the electric EQS-sedan, all new SL, new C-Class, EQE, EQS SUV and EQB in 2022 and further accelerate our long term ambitions for an electric future." *Read More* 

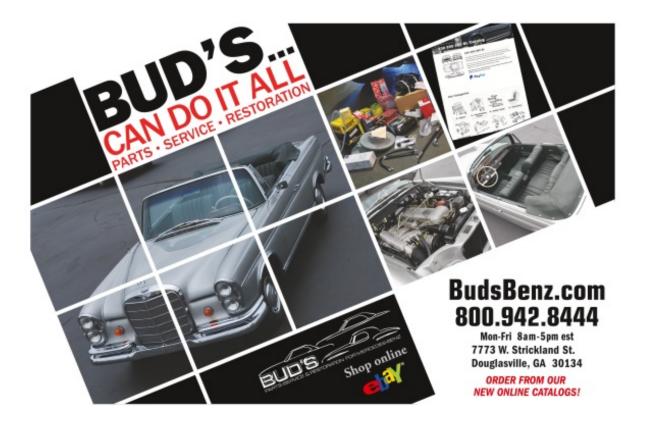
#### **VISION EQXX**



VISION EQXX – taking electric range and efficiency to an entirely new level

The road trip reimagined with a new technology blueprint for series production

Stuttgart. Range and efficiency are set to define the electric era. Exceptional range will make electric cars suitable for every journey and help to increase overall adoption. Reduced battery size and weight will improve efficiency, allowing us to go further with less. Mercedes-Benz is determined to lead the way. We are already leading the way in terms of real-world range with the EQS with 245 kW, as evidenced by the recent Edmunds test where an EQS 450+ travelled 422 miles on one charge, 77 miles further than any other car previously tested. *Read More* 



#### MBUSA REBATE INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Primary U.S. members are eligible for exclusive rebates on the lease or purchase of select Mercedes-Benz vehicles after 30-days of consecutive membership. Members must login and scroll to the bottom of this page, click the **Generate Rebate** button, then submit their information. This will create a **Control Number**, **CAN** and **Generated On Date**, to give to the participating dealer at time of purchase. After the form is submitted, the rebate information can be found at the bottom of the rebate page while logged in, or in the My Membership area of your profile. If have any problems generating your rebate information after you are eligible, please contact the National Business Office.

For a full list of eligible vehicles visit: <a href="https://www.mbca.org/mbusa-incentives">https://www.mbca.org/mbusa-incentives</a>

For more information and answers to your questions about the program, visit. <u>MBCA U.S</u> <u>Rebate Program FAQ's</u>





#### SOCIAL MEDIA

#### **Social Media**

by Rubin Howard, Social Media Director

If you haven't already, Join our Facebook group <u>MBCAPeachtree</u>. Keep up to date with the latest events, chat with members, and make the most of your membership with our Facebook group. As well, follow us on Instagram @MBCAPeachtree. Our Youtube Channel <u>MBCA Peachtube</u> is full of



excellent resources for club members. We feature videos such as technical sessions, concours judging schools, Rally schools, as well as features from events.

Facebook Group link:

Peachtree Section

<u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/mbcapeachtree</u>
Instagram link <u>https://www.instagram.com/mbcapeachtree/following/</u>
MBCA PeachTube link: <u>MBCA Peach Tube</u>



2019 DEALER OF EXCELLENCE







Thank you to all our loyal customers and employees. Theses distinctions are all because of you! We are extremely grateful.



RBM of Atlanta - Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Connection since 1964!

Take 10% off your next repair or parts and accessories purchase at RBM of Atlanta - Sandy Springs

Excludes specials, tires, and certain menu items.

Offer good thru 7/31/2022 on one service visit per member. Discount available to Club Members only & you must show Club ID at time of use.



7200 Roswell Road + 7640 Roswell Road

770-390-0700

www.RBMofAtlanta.com

#### **Peachtree Section Officers**

Peachtree Section, MBCA Officers and Board of Directors and Leadership Support Members

#### Officers

Gary Edwards
president@mbcapeachtree.com
Rubin Howard
vicepresident@mbcapeachtree.com
Rusty Duncan
secretary@mbcapeachtree.com
Roger McKissick
treasurer@mbcapeachtree.com
Steve Chapman

#### **Directors**

directors@mbcapeachtree.com
Jim Fekete
Dean Prince
Ben Everest

exofficio@mbcapeachtree.com

#### **Past presidents**

Joe Martin Ernie Smallman JoAnne Taylor

#### **Committees**

Reijo Haarla - Membership membership@mbcapeachtree.com
Diana Quinn - Newsletter newsletter@mbcapeachtree.com
Rusty Duncan - Sponsors sponsor@mbcapeachtree.com
Dean Prince - Technical technical@mbcapeachtree.com
Diana Quinn - Webmaster webmaster@mbcapeachtree.com

## **Director at Large**Sam Kamber

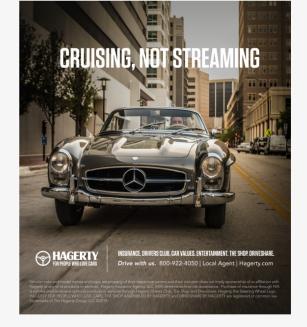
directorsatlarge@mbcapeachtree.com

Eastern Regional Director
Diana Quinn

mbcadirectoreasternregion@gmail.com

**Director at Large/Natl V.P.**Doug Geganto

mbcanationalvp@gmail.com



#### **Events**

events@mbcapeachtree.com

Rusty Duncan Rubin Howard Gary Edwards Jim Fekete

For information or questions about the Peachtree Section, please contact us at 770-376-0669.



Order Name Tag

# SPORTS IMPORTS

### COLLISION INC.

Guaranteed Satisfaction with Original Factory Parts and Factory-Trained Technicians Factory Recommended Celette Repair Benches

> 3400 McDaniel Rd Duluth, GA 30096 770-623-6300

WE PROUDLY SUPPORT MERCEDES-BENZ ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR MEMBERS



Mercedes-Benz Club of America Peachtree Section | www.mbcapeachtree.com