



San Francisco Bay Area Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America  
Connect to Website at: [www.sfba.mbca.org](http://www.sfba.mbca.org)

June 2017 e-mail edition



Save the date  
December 3, 2017

Sparkling benzes and champagne, Holiday style

At

Blackhawk Automotive Museum

Danville, ca

Sumptuous lunch, Bottomless champagne & Beautiful cars

Have we peaked your interest?

Check the newsletter and website for additional information as the date approaches.





- Friday, August 18th
- 9AM-3PM
- Nicklaus Club, 100 Pasadera Drive
- Monterey, California

Legends of the Autobahn® is an all-German marque Concours d'Elegance held at the prestigious Nicklaus Club-Monterey during Monterey, California's famed Pebble Beach Concours week. MBCA members are invited to enter their car in the judged Concours, the Silver Star Preservation Class, or the display-only corral.

In 2017, Legends of the Autobahn celebrates 50 Years of AMG with special classes dedicated to pre-merger and post-merger AMG. From the legendary Hammer to the new GT-S, spectators will be treated to an amazing display of rare high performance automobiles from Mercedes-Benz and AMG.

MBCA Members are invited to register at:  
<http://www.legendsoftheautobahn.org/>

#### Volunteer at Legends!

Be a volunteer at Legends of the Autobahn and receive an event polo shirt and boxed lunch!

Two volunteers are needed on Thursday August 17th to help mark the show field and set up the MBCA tent. Five volunteers are needed on Friday August 18th in four hour shifts - morning field placement of cars, and the afternoon trophy presentation. Contact Allen Stephens if you are interested in volunteering at 503-708-0397, or at [allen.c.stephens@gmail.com](mailto:allen.c.stephens@gmail.com)



## First Sunday Drive Report



### Ely Stampede - Trip Report

Nine stalwarts from the SF/Bay Area section gathered in Carson City for the start of an epic early summer overnight First Sunday Drive through the steppes of central Nevada. After a pleasant meet-and-greet, with various lubricants and restoratives, we enjoyed a wonderful 5-star dinner at Adele's Restaurant, a short walk from our hotel.

Although they could not make the drive to Ely the next day, Howard and Portia Strause joined us for dinner. Howard, our former long-time SFBA treasurer, demonstrated the world-famous "hang a teaspoon from your nose" party trick, pointing out that a Jewish heritage helps. On a bet, our current treasurer, Mauna Wagner, not only successfully dangled a spoon from her dainty little (non-Jewish) nose, but walked gracefully and spoon-adorned clear around the dining room (fortunately a private one, so the dignity of the section remains intact).

In addition to our Mercedes-Benz machines, our fleet included a beautiful Corvette, owned by Jack and Mauna's neighbors Jon and Barbara Longworth. At dinner there was lively discussion as to the possibility of blowing out some California carbon on US-50 the next day. Our section vice-president Barton Lane suggested that his AMG SL might give the "Vette a run. Our Western Region Director Allen Wrenn muttered a stern "harrumph." (Allen's SL is not an AMG model...)

It was gratifying to this observer how the conversation turned to the many trips and cruises diners had all enjoyed in their retirement years and about future plans for more. Mercedes owners may be graying (or "Grey Goosing") some, but all dwell in the House of Fun. This is, of course, the top priority of the Golden Gate Star's section.

After bidding the Strauses adieu at breakfast, our caravan headed for Fallon, and the rubber hit the pavement of US-50, the "Loneliest Road in the US." This wonderful highway is a series of climbs through the Diamond Mountains, and then arrow-straight traverses through the intervening high desert valleys. The panoramic views of thousands of square miles of scenery are simply spectacular. Unlike our decrepit California roads, the US-50 pavement is impeccable, with nary a pothole to jar suspensions.

US-50 rest stops are spaced about an hour apart, and our first sojourn was in the funky little town of Austin (pop. 450), where we met for lunch at the International Hotel. Its usual signage is almost completely covered by a collection of "Trump/Pence" campaign signs, and the decor is best described as "Western Eclectic." After some hearty fare and a group photo, we continued easterly through the town of Eureka (pop. 650), which is the complete opposite from "everything's about to collapse" Austin. As the county seat, Eureka boasts substantial brick buildings, and the whole town is neat as pins.

We arrived at our destination mid-afternoon, with ample time to check out Ely's sights and features. Ely (pop. 6500) began life as a mining town, and although the 1900's mine is still operational - producing thousands of tons of copper and some gold. Ely's primary economy is represented by dozens of

## Welcome New Members

Levent Arabaci, Los Gatos  
 Bhagdeep "Dee" Dhaliwal, Diablo  
 Lynn Friedman, San Francisco

John Friesen, Danville  
 Ali Javidan, Sunnyvale  
 Richard Kline, Aromas  
 David Lloyd, Santa Rosa  
 Nat Maple, Campbell  
 Larry Martinez, Sunol  
 Balazs Moldovanyi, Lafayette  
 Timothy Naple, Cupertino  
 Chehoo Ng, San Martin  
 Joe Ottati, Walnut Creek  
 Stephen Van Liere, Greenbrae



Once again we soothed our road-weary psyches at a hospitality event, and then enjoyed an excellent dinner at the Cell Block restaurant, continuing to discuss past and future vacations and various upcoming club events. Allen recruited several of us to register for a tour of Beale Air Force Base later this month. There was also lively discussion about the impact of technology not only on the future of automotive affairs, such as autonomous cars, but on life in general. Jon's suggestion that paper books are now obsolete triggered heated defense of paper media by those who love their tomes, but all agreed that shedding unwanted books is a challenging experience.

As a 37-year club member, I have many fond memories of past drives, but the memories of the 1000-mile Ely Stampede will be truly unique. Many thanks to Barton for volunteering to capture some photos to enhance the story, and to my fellow stampedeers for the fellowship and fun. Thanks, too, to Gottlieb Daimler, Karl Benz, and the Chevrolet brothers. And, a very special thank you to Karl's wife Bertha, the very first Sunday Driver. Bertha would be happy to know we no longer have to purchase our benzine fuel by the liter at the local drug store...



## Upcoming Events



Show & Shine

**What:** Show & Shine

**When:** *Postponed - New Date TBD*

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Classic Car/Tech Event at Nissi Motors, San Francisco

**Date:** Saturday, July 15, 2017

**Time:** 9:30AM to 1PM

**Location:** 135 Clara Street, San Francisco, CA 94107

**Host:** Andy Chan and Benny Lui

Have you ever thought of owning your own classic Mercedes-Benz? Whether you're considering entering it in a Concours d'Elegance or for everyday use, you will be presented with guidance necessary to select the best example that would fit your criteria. Having been a multiple show winner, Andy Chan will present a series of his classic Mercedes-Benz vehicles that fit each of the following categories, namely

### MBCA/SFBA 2017 Events

Month	Event	Category
June		
2	First Sunday Drive - Ely, Nevada Leader: Jack Weir	FSD
July		
2	First Sunday Drive Leader: TBD	FSD
15	Mechanic Session Nissi Motors - 135 Clara St., San Francisco Organizer: Andy Chan	Tech
23	MBCA/SFBA Board Meeting	Board Meeting
August		
6	First Sunday Drive Leaders: Sally Hinds & Marc Lehwald	FSD
18	Legends of Autobahn	National
18	After Legends Party - Tarry's Restaurant Organizer: Sandor Drobilisch	Social
September		
3	First Sunday Drive Leader: TBD	FSD
9	Parts Swap Meet - Nissi Motors in SF Organizer: Andy Chan	Tech
23	Night Tour of Alcatraz Organizers: Kara Pannu, Sandor Drobilisch	Social & Education
October		
1	First Sunday Drive Leader: Rico Bautista & Mike Vasquez	FSD
22	MBCA/SFBA Board Meeting & Planning Meeting	Board Meeting
November		
5	First Sunday Drive Leader: Geoff Paulsen	FSD
TBD	Open - Still Need an Event	
December		
3	Blackhawk Holiday Party Organizers: Gloria Loventhal &	Social

Your suggestions for club activities are always welcome!  
Please feel free to contact your Officers to talk about any club-related matter!

Visit our club website for up-to-date information on club events.  
[sfba.mbca.org](http://sfba.mbca.org)

### Section Leadership

- President: [Lou Piccinini](#) (650) 291-2805
- Vice President: [Dr. Barton Lane](#) (650) 948-2492
- Secretary: [Sally Hinds](#) (408) 480-6826
- Treasurer: [Mauna Wagner](#) (925) 934-7220
- Activities: [Kara Pannu](#) (415) 205-0790  
[Barton Lane](#) (650) 948-2492
- Technical Events: [Neff Castro](#) (650) 619-6653
- Advertising: [Theo Burger](#) (650) 906-5275
- Membership:
- First Sunday Drives: (703) 474-4215  
[Harry Andreades](#)
- Newsletter: [Denise Sheehan](#) (925) 683-2708
- Webmaster: [David Sears](#) (408) 916-8100

MBCA National Business Office  
Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.  
1907 Lelaray Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909-2872  
(800) 637-2360 (Toll Free)  
(719) 633-6427 (O); (719)633-9283 (F)

Benz vehicles that fit each of the following categories, namely, Concours, Collectors and Drivers condition. He will display these examples to demonstrate the various factors to consider prior to making your purchase keeping these categories in mind.

The event will then be followed by a tech session, which master technician, Benny Lui, will be open to discuss any electrical or mechanical mysteries that you might have with your Mercedes-Benz. He will point out some of the issues to be aware of when considering a used Mercedes-Benz by different model series. If time permits, participants may bring in his or her car for an instant diagnostic using various equipment at the shop to locate the root cause of the issue.

This will be a casual get together event for every Mercedes-Benz enthusiast to enjoy.

Light breakfast, coffee and drinks will be served.

Event fee \$10.00  
[Register here.](#)

### Our Website

Check it out at: [sfba.mbca.org](http://sfba.mbca.org)

- Upcoming Events
- How to Get Involved
- Members Recommend Non-club Events
- Mercedes Trivia
- And More!

### Other Events of Interest



Patrick Ottis's 1934 Alfa Romeo 8C 2300  
WELCOME TO FIRST SATURDAY

**BISCOTTI & CARS**

**Biscotti and Cars**  
First Saturday Each Month  
Sausalito



### For Sale



[2000 S430 4-door Sedan](#)



### For Sale





**Canepa Cars and Coffee**  
 Second Saturday Each Month  
 April to October  
 Scotts Valley



2004 SL600

## Local Shops

San Francisco



Pete's Inc., 1745 Clay Street, San Francisco, 415.441.5896

Mid-Peninsula, San Mateo



MB Garage, 2165 Palm Ave., San Mateo

South Bay, Campbell



Mercedes Connexion, 155 Kennedy Ave., Campbell

San Carlos

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**EUROTECH SERVICES DOES NOT VOID FACTORY WARRANTY.**

**What is a warranty?**

A warranty is a promise, often made by a manufacturer, to stand behind its product or to fix certain defects or malfunctions over a period of time. The warranty pays for any covered repairs or part replacements during the warranty period.

**Do I have to use the dealer for repairs and maintenance to keep my warranty in effect?**

No. An independent mechanic, a retail chain shop, or even you yourself can do routine maintenance and repairs on your vehicle. In fact, the Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act, which is enforced by the FTC, makes it illegal for manufacturers or dealers to claim that your warranty is void or to deny coverage under your warranty simply because someone other than the dealer did the work. The manufacturer or dealer can, however, require consumers to use select repair facilities if the repair services are provided to consumers free of charge under the warranty.

That said, there might be certain situations where a repair may not be covered. For example, if you or your mechanic replaced a belt improperly and your engine is damaged as a result, your manufacturer or dealer may deny responsibility for fixing the engine under the warranty. However, according to the FTC, the manufacturer or dealer must be able to demonstrate that it was the improper belt replacement — rather than some other defect — that caused the damage to your engine. The warranty would still be in effect for other parts of your car.



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