



San Francisco Bay Area Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America

www.sfba.mbca.org

July 2021

From Our President



Across the Globe

As California lifted most of its COVID-19 restrictions on June 15th, 2021, Taiwan has been experiencing a drastic increase in COVID-19 cases since May. Although I was vaccinated back in April, I was still required to

quarantine for two weeks when I arrived in Taipei. The government of Taiwan requires people to shelter at home until further notice and wear a mask, except at home. This trip was intended as a family vacation, and I planned to meet and have dinner with our ten-plus SFBA members in Taiwan while waiting for my sons to complete their quarantine. Due to the restrictions, no indoor dining was allowed and no more than five people could gather indoors. However, I was fortunate to meet briefly with a few of our members individually and exchanged gifts with them without breaking the law.

I will be back in the Bay Area on the 1st week of July, and I am looking forward to the two exciting events in the coming weeks. On July 11th, the First Sunday Drive through Pescadero Creek will be organized by Carol and Darby, both are experienced leaders in First Sunday Drives; you'll enjoy this FSD like many other great events we planned for you; you'll be encountering fine automobiles, driving through beautiful scenery, meeting wonderful people, and dining at a variety of restaurants offered at the destination.

On July 24th, the Canepa Motorsports Museum is an event you will not want to miss! This is an exclusive members-only event, guided by Mr. Sean Chambers, a former VP of Acquisitions at Canepa Design and a

close friend of the event organizer, Ty McConney. If you're a race car fan and/or a classic car enthusiast, you'll be thrilled by the stories told by Mr. Chambers. Space is limited; please register using the link below.

Upcoming Event

Canepa Motorsports Museum

Guided tour

Saturday, July 24, 2021



The Canepa Motorsport Museum is dedicated to the spirit of automobile and motorcycle competition, and the celebration of engineering excellence. On display are a broad spectrum of racecars and motorcycles from the golden age of motorsport to modern times. The museum showcases examples from multiple disciplines with everything from Can-Am to NASCAR, Indy to Le Mans.

[Click here for details and registration](#)

EVENT REPORT

First Sunday Drive, June 6, 2021

Lafayette to Niles



FIRST SUNDAY DRIVE RECAP SUNDAY, June 6, 2021 LAFAYETTE TO NILES

What is so rare as a day in June? Then, if ever, come perfect days! Well, we of the SFBAMB Section had a perfect June day traveling over winding roads through beautiful east bay hills and canyons and regional parks with stunning vistas over valleys and reservoirs, ending in the little village of Niles (Fremont).

We had 32 attendees in 23 cars, most of them Benz's but also a Ferrari, Saturn Sky, and Aston Martin! The start of this drive was Philz Coffee in Lafayette. Here greetings were exchanged, newbies and first-timers were introduced, and directions reviewed. From there we wound our way up to Inspiration Point on Wildcat Canyon Road, overlooking San Pablo Reservoir. After a brief stop there, the road then took us to Grizzly Peak with stunning views over Berkeley and the Bay. We eventually connected with Redwood Road, which took us down to Castro Valley; from there we entered the very scenic Palomares Canyon.

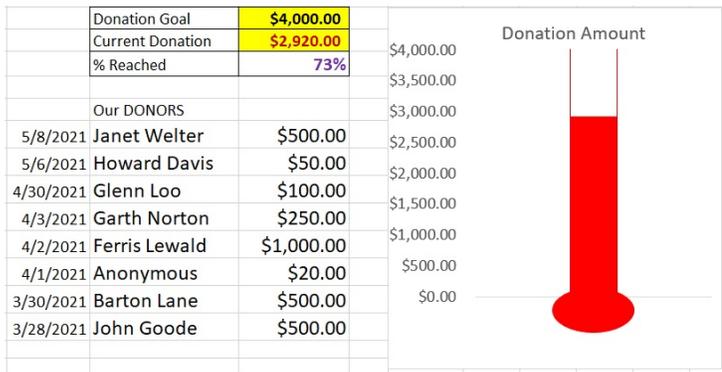
This canyon then intersects with Niles Canyon, along which we made our way into Niles.

Most of us gathered for a great lunch at Joe's Corner Cafe, where we dined inside; some members ambled down to the nearby Bronco Billy's pizza, which was closed for dining in, but the takeout pizza was rated highly!

Total count: 32 members & guests, driving 23 automobiles, 120 bicyclists passed, and seven regional East Bay Parks!

— Nadine & Barton Lane

[Click here to view album](#)



Meeting our Targets

[Click Here to see how to make a donation to SFBA -MBCA](#)

[Click here to Order a Name Badge for SFBA Events.](#)

Coming: First Sunday Drive

July 11, 2021 Pescadero Creek



[Click here for details](#)

August 1, 2021 Marin Cheese Tour



Stay tuned for details

Event Calendar 2021

Zone	Dates	Events	Organizers
East Bay	February 7th FSD	Mountain View to Blackhawk - Danville	John Goode
North Bay	March 7th FSD	Lake Berryessa	Tim Bonifay
Reno	March 26th - 28th (Fri-Sun)	Reno Overnight Road Trip (Sections) - Calling all 4Matics	John Goode
East Bay	April 18th (Sunday)	Grand Island Mansion	Doug and Sydney
Sunol	April 25th (Sunday)	Unofficial M-B Classics and Coffee - Pilot run	Philippe/John Goode
Fort Bragg	May 8th-9th (Sat-Sun)	Napa/Skunk Train/HWY 1 Overnight Road Trip - Calling all Convertibles	John Goode
Burlingame	May 16 (Sunday)	M-B Classics and Coffee Members-only event (Zone 2)	John O'Brien/John Goode
East Bay	June 6th FSD	Lafayette to Niles through the East Bay hills and regional parks	Dr. and Mrs. Lane
Palo Alto	July 11 (Second Sunday)	Pescadero Creek through Redwoods	Carol and Darby
Burlingame	July 16 (Friday)	Board meeting - Holiday party and 1st half of 2022 events planning	The Board
Scotts Valley	July 24 (Saturday)	The Canepa Motorsport Museum	Ty McConney
North Bay	August 1st (Sunday)	Marin Cheese Factory	Eva Schlosser
TBA?	August 22 (Sunday)	Location: TBA M-B Classics and Grand Opening (Pastry)	Philippe Do Carmo
TBA?	Sept FSD	TBA - Need volunteer	Could be you!
St. Luis Op	Sept 24th-26th (Fri-Sun)	Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant	Jack Weir
TBA?	October 3rd FSD	TBA - Need volunteer	Could be you!
TBA?	October 9th (Saturday)	Annual Planning Meeting (Members welcome)	Dr. and Mrs. Lane
Southbay	October 23rd (Saturday)	Oktoberfest Dinner at Teske's Germania - Calling all Hi-Performance	John Goode
TBA?	November 7th FSD	TBA - Need volunteer (Last FSD of the year)	Could be you!
SF City	November 13th (Saturday)	Social Event	David Sears
East Bay	December 4th (Saturday)	Casa Bella in Sunol -Member Appreciation Holiday Banquet	The Board

We are looking for volunteer leaders and organizers for the following events.

Date	Events	Leader/Organizer/Helper
August	Members-only Event	
September 5 th	First Sunday Drive	
October 3 rd	First Sunday Drive	
November 7 th	First Sunday Drive	
December 4 th (Saturday)	Holiday Party -	
Marin Area	MB Classics and Coffee	
Monterey Area	MB Classics and Coffee	

If you're interested in leading or organizing one of the events above, please contact.

Barton Lane blane@stanford.edu (650) 888-8952

SFBA MBCA SECTION LEADERSHIP

President	John Goode	(650) 215-3402
Vice President	Barton Lane	(650) 888-8952
Secretary	Denise Sheehan	(925) 683-2708
Treasurer	Nadine Lane	(510) 335-5931
President Pro Tem	Jack Weir	(925) 899-4289
Activities	Barton Lane	(650) 888-8952
Membership	John Goode	(650) 215-3402
Advertising	Open	—
Director at Large	Jack Weir	(925) 899-4298
Director at Large	Doug Storkovich	(510) 912-1838
Director at Large	Sydney Reed	(415) 254-8773
First Sunday Drives/ Social Media	Tim Bonifay	(707) 712-5402
Newsletter	Denise Sheehan	(925) 683-2708
Web/Newsletter	David Sears	(408) 916-8100



Welcome New Members

Mark Essman, Novato

Dakarai Aarons, San Jose

Brent Waldman, Monterey

Jim Miller, San Francisco

Dana Ford, Danville

HAO CHUAN WANG, Taipei

MING YUAN LIN, New Taipei City

Shu-Ping Chu, Milpitas

Alexander Shyshko, Livermore

Blair Herbert, San Francisco

Kurt Common, Half Moon Bay

Andrew Lloyd, San Jose

Robert McClellan, Woodside

Willie Lincoln, Lucerne

Benson Chang, San Francisco

Anniversaries

For those that were not acknowledged last year

36 Years

Edward Fang, San Francisco

21 Years

Derek Koida, Livermore

11Years

Barton Lane, Oakland

6 Years

Ferris Lewald, Redwood City



Anniversaries

30 Years

Dave Downs, Santa Cruz

10 Years

Elaine Mott, El Dorado Hills

5 Years

Nicholas Veronico, San Carlos

Bejan Rafii, San Mateo

Nick Ryan, Sunnyvale

Christian Krogsgaard, Walnut Creek

Jim Patton, Antioch
Benjamin Wright, Mountain View
Mark Borgatta, Brentwood

Events you might be interested in

Annual Member Appreciation Holiday Party



Saturday, December 4th, 2021

10:00AM-3:00PM

Casa Bella, Sunol, California

[Click here to Register](#)

Electric Cars

Joel Camarda

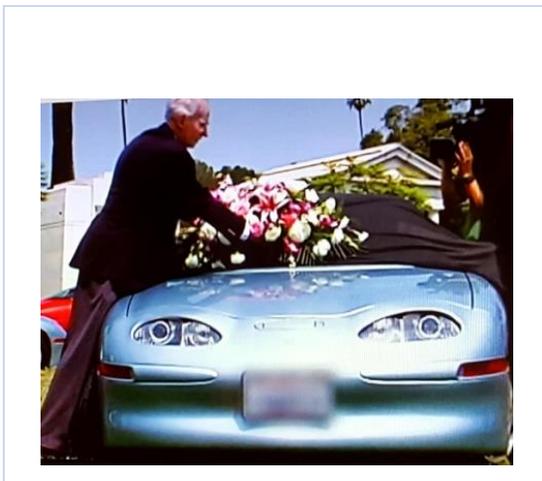
Electric cars have been around as long as gasoline powered cars. In the early 1900s, there were actually more electric cars on American roads than gasoline cars. Ferdinand Porsche produced electric cars (1 motor per wheel) for the German military during WWI (Ed. 6). I think Henry Ford is largely responsible for reversing the trend. The electric car market virtually disappeared for the next 90 years until General Motors introduced the EV1 in 1996, addressing the oil shortages of the 1970's, the rising oil prices of the 1980's, and the California Zero Emission Vehicle Mandate of 1980. Let's face it, where California, the largest auto consumer goes, the rest of the country will follow.

They came a long way, baby, in 90 years.



There's a very good documentary movie, "Who Killed the Electric Car." It's not exactly "Ford vs. Ferrari", it's a little slow and scary, and I shall not retell the whole story here. Let's just say the oil industry obviously opposed it and so did GM itself since EVs could have undermined their entire profitable manufacturing (and service) infrastructure for gasoline engines, transmissions, and almost everything else mechanical.* The EV1's were never really sold. They were leased, only. They were immensely popular with the lessees, including celebrities like Tom Hanks and James Garner. They looked and drove like sports cars. But sports cars are not a big market in the U.S. (Ed.7).

The California law was eventually defanged with Fed government assistance. GM unceremoniously stopped renewing leases in 2005. All the EV1's were collected by GM crushed, and ground into metal sawdust. Other EVs, such as Toyota (also leased only), suffered the same fate.



The EV1 funeral and fate. I told you it was scary.

Are you ready for something a little more cheery? Let's talk about Tesla and new electric cars.

Austrian born engineer, Nikola Tesla (1886-1943), was a pioneer in electrical power generation and distribution. He worked at Edison (U.S.) before starting his own company. South African Elon Musk., educated in S.A., Canada, and the U.S. (U. Penn. & Stanford) founded and is CEO of Tesla and Space-X. The first electric Tesla automobile, a 2 seater sports car, was introduced in 2009 with a British Lotus fabricated chassis and body, very similar to the Lotus gas powered, mid-engine Elise model. It was an instant hit, and sedan and SUV models soon followed. The luxury Model S sedan was introduced in 2012, the luxury Model S SUV in 2017, the more moderately priced (but still pretty luxurious) Model 3 sedan in 2017, and the Model Y Crossover in 2020. I still don't know what a "crossover" is.

Without the legacy infrastructure, little Tesla could do what the big guys would not, plus now buoyed by global warming social and political pressures, better batteries, and favorable stock market support. GM now states it is committed to an EV conversion program, as are other global manufacturers.**

There are even Formula-E race cars, looking much like Formula 1, but much quieter (Ed. 3.5), and it takes two cars to complete a race due to battery life. Neighbors Leighton and Lynda ordered the Tesla Model 3 Performance version on day one and waited 2 years for delivery in 2018: dual motor, AWD, autopilot, 450 HP, 0-60 in 3.2 seconds, 310 mile range, the works. In 2 years, they have logged 22,000 miles including road trips to Oregon, Washington state, SoCal, and Arizona. The Tesla Supercharger network plus other networks facilitate adequate charging stations along the way.

Having owned Mercedes, BMW, Ford and Citroen, the Tesla is their favorite car. The Tesla has radar, ultrasonic motion sensors, 8 cameras (smile), 15" touchscreen, and a security sentry system. They passed on a couple of options which were a bit over the top, like sonar (recommended for Louisiana residents during hurricane season), and the eye retina detection ignition. Personally, I might like that retina stuff. Maintenance cost is minimal, and it is FAST. That's true. Their solar powered home charges the car. A good friend Ellen has a 2018 Model S,

400+ HP, and has accrued 14,000 miles. She loves the car. The longest trip has been to Tahoe (200 miles). Even though the car has 220 mile range, driving highway speed, up hill all the way, she and Paul made it to the Truckee charge station with just 2 miles of juice left. The car has large touchscreen, self-drive, which she has yet to use, and there are automatic software updates. 220V charge station installed in garage. Marvin has a 2019 Nissan Leaf. This is his third Leaf so he really likes the car. He trades in for a new one every three years, and there is a nice government rebate. He gets around 160 miles on a charge, and makes trips to Santa Rosa and around Napa. 150 HP provides adequate “oomph”. He and his wife also have a gas powered Toyota, but the Leaf is the primary driver. He had a 220V charge station installed in the garage which the rebate paid for. Maintenance cost is very low. No oil changes, spark plugs, etc.

Model 3, deep blue metallic, fully loaded. Nissan Leaf



As mentioned in Ed. 2, Doug has a 2020 Jaguar I-Pace all electric SUV: dual motor, 394 HP, 231 mile range, and good to pull the race car and trailer to the track and back. Look for pic in photo gallery edition. Doug recently installed home solar power which also charges the car. Another neighbor has the BMW electric i3 compact (Ed. 6).

For myself, I am certainly tempted to try electric for all the good reasons: eco-friendly and available performance. But there’s something about that engine sound, and the occasional odor of burning oil (more that occasional if you have an Italian car). And at the race track: the smell of methanol in the air, the course grumble of American V8s, the roar of Indy cars, and the banshee screams of F1. Don’t even think about NHRA. Harley Davidson has introduced an electric motorcycle. No “potato-potato” engine idle?

Happy motoring, stay safe, and pass the Carnauba,

Joel

automoboli@outlook.com (NEW EMAIL)

Footnotes:

*** Let's not be too tough on GM. According to the U.S. Board of Labor Statistics, automobile manufacturing employed 1 million Americans in 2020. That infrastructure includes engines, pistons, O-rings, lubricants, transmission gears, fuel filters, air filters, gas hoses, on and on and on. Plus international employment. What do you do with all that? More than just business profits, a social-economic dilemma, but the planet demands a solution.**

**** Musk was also very adept in garnering investments and loans, including a \$465 M loan from U.S. Dept. of Energy (already paid back), a joint venture with Panasonic developing and manufacturing batteries, and \$40 M from Mercedes. Tesla turned profitable in 2020 with \$31 million revenue and a stock market valuation of \$540 billion. GM had 2020 revenue of \$37 BILLION and the stock market value is \$77 billion. GM has 12X the revenue but Tesla has 7X the market cap. I should have purchased Tesla stock.**

[Click here to view complete article](#)

New Members and Their Cars



Philippe do Carmo, Pleasanton 1967 250S

About my 1967 250S and me, it's kind of a "love story" as I found her in a barn in Byron on February the 14th 2021 (yes, Valentine Day)!!

She was like a "sleeping beauty" for many years, full of dust, hardly starting, and 4 month later, after having spent most of my weekends renovating her, she will try to be among the finishers of the Motherlode400 vintage car rally !

Me and my navigator Jesus (from Guadalajara, Mexico) will drive approximately 600 miles in 4 days (including the 2 days of transfer) and it will be very demanding for all of us (including her) because the weather is already expected to be very hot: in the 100's F !!

Usually only 2/3 of the cars registered (older than 1976) make it to the finish line in Murphys (CA) on Sunday evening!!

Fingers crossed for us then ... as it will be our very first participation in this rally!

Tim Bonifay – a “car guy”

I’ve been a “car guy” all my life. My mother used to tell me I would play with miniature cars for hours, just running them up and down the couch as a little boy. I was very much into cars all through high school, owning all the cool muscle cars from Mustangs to Corvettes to Trans Ams to even a hot rodded ‘57 Chevy.



As I got older my tastes have refined a bit you could say. I joined the MBZ Club after I bought a Mercedes - actually, I was inspired by my son who bought a really nice 2012 C250 for his first car. I’d always admired Mercedes-Benz autos, but never really appreciated the quality until I actually owned one.

Now, I have four; my daily driver which is a 2016 C300, "Grace" - a 1979 450 SLC, "Old Yeller" - a 1973 280 (similar to one I had years ago) and "Jeeves" - a 1958 220s which I purchased a couple years ago as a birthday present for myself since we were both ‘born’ the same year.

I still enjoy playing with my cars, although I can’t really run them up and down the couch anymore!



Elon Rosenfeld – Fairfax, Marin

I currently own 4 MB’s, and I have collected cars for a long time, mostly Mercedes-Benzenes and Porsches. I belong to the local Porsche club. I look forward to join in some future events.

Po Yi Ho (our member in Taiwan)

I have three Mercedes-Benzenes in my garage. 1991 190E 2.3, 1999 C230, and 1997 SLK230 in Taiwan.

What attracted me of buying my first Mercedes was when I saw my neighbor’s C230 and I fell in love at first sight. Then I bought my SLK because when I was in college, I was so impressed with the SLK’s triangle taillights



design. The 190E is one of my favorite classic collections.

Classified

1966 200D [Click picture for details](#)



Do you have a Mercedes-Benz you would like to sell to an appreciative buyer?

[Click here to see how to submit a classified ad to the Golden Gate Star](#)

Local Independent Service for your Mercedes-Benz

San Francisco

Pete's
Automotive Services
For Mercedes-Benz & BMW –
Serving San Francisco since 1971

Specializing in MBZ & BMW
1745

The advertisement features the logo for Pete's Automotive Services on the left, which includes the name "Pete's" in a stylized script and "Automotive Services" in a sans-serif font. Below the logo, it states "For Mercedes-Benz & BMW – Serving San Francisco since 1971". On the right, there is a photograph of the service center, a light-colored building with a sign that reads "Specializing in MBZ & BMW" and the address "1745". Several cars are visible in the service bays, and a white van is parked outside.

Campbell

MERCEDES CONNEXION

Service & Repair of your Mercedes-Benz

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