First Sunday Drive - May 5, 2019

The Carquinez Strait/Mare Island Tour

May's First Sunday Drive will be a little different and a little shorter than most. It will highlight the under-explored beauty of resurgent Mare Island; the quaint hamlet and shops of Port Costa perched on the Carquinez Strait; appreciate the scrappy industrial reality of our coastal refineries as we cruise through Martinez, and culminate on the pier in the waterfront city of Benicia along the Straits eastern shores.

Enjoy winding country roads, open fields and blue water vistas, historical Mansions and Navy heritage, and glimpse unique perspectives of the Carquinez Bridge and Strait (the first of the Bay Area's bridges)! This combination back road drive interlaced with short bursts of Interstate lands the group at the Benicia Point Pier on the water’s edge in quaint, downtown Benicia!

Gather at the Panama Bay Coffee Company To get to our starting point, just take the Curtola Parkway exit off either East or West I-80 in Vallejo and follow it to the Panama Bay Coffee Company, in the same building as the Vallejo Ferry Terminal located at 289 Mare Island Way, Vallejo (Note: Curtola Parkway turns into Mare Island Way). There is ample parking either right next to the building or directly across the street. Between 10:00 and 10:45 am, we will assemble in the coffeehouse, go over last minute information, and will then leave the picturesque shores of the Ferry building at 10:45 to start the Tour.

Mare Island Loop We'll start the Tour with a serpentine loop through historic Mare Island. We'll drive by the grand Colonial Officers Mansions, St. Peters Chapel, Alden Park with its various armaments on display, the Mare Island Museum, and even swing down close to the shipyard to take a peek at the ships under repair in the dry-docks! (The road’s a little bumpy here, but we’ll take our time.) Then, it’s a nice drive along Vallejo’s scenic waterfront to I-80 and across the Carquinez Bridge (no toll heading east!) In Crockett, we’ll take the Carquinez Scenic Drive to Port Costa.

Port Costa We'll travel down a winding canyon road to the tiny but charming old Victorian town of Port Costa for our first stop. There, you'll be able to peruse and shop the various eclectic and unique merchants such as the Confused Peddler, the Theatre of Dreams, the Haberdashery, the Port Costa Mercantile, or even make a reservation for dinner at the Bull Valley Roadhouse, a very popular 5-Star restaurant. Don't forget to take a selfie with the 12 ft tall polar bear at the Warehouse Café! There’s a lot to explore in Port Costa, so we'll take a little longer than normal - around 30 to 45 minutes - at this stop. Parking can be very tricky, as it gets crowded for the Bull Valley Brunch, so we'll take our time until everyone gets settled. Leaving Port Costa, we’ll amble through the Contra Costa County backroads on McEuen Road, under the Cummings Skyway, and turn left on to Franklin Canyon Road.

Martinez and the Benicia Bridge As we follow along the winding Franklin Canyon Road, we'll circle the Carquinez Straights at a leisurely pace until we come to historic Martinez. Turning left on to Alhambra Avenue, we'll saunter through old-town Martinez with its turn of the century architecture; make a right at Escobar Street, swing past the gritty petroleum refineries and on to I-680 North across the Benicia Bridge. (Note that this is a toll crossing, so have your FasTrak ready!) Then, it's over the bridge and down I-780 a few short miles to the beautiful city of Benicia.

Benicia Waterfront We’ll exit I-780 and turn left at the Fifth Street exit, make a right on Military East, then turn left on First Street and the Tour will finish at the Benicia Point Pier which offers a one-of-a-kind view for photographing our cars near the water. Enjoy the scenery, or stop at one of Benicia's many and varied restaurants within walking distance from the pier. For those of you still adventurous, Benicia offers plenty of antique stores, upscale shopping, and other unique merchants for browsing and shopping.
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**Distance:** Approximately 35 miles total  
**Duration:** Approximately 1 hr 45min

### 2019 Events Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Charity, Driving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Drive for a Cure</td>
<td>Lou, Doug, Sydney</td>
<td>Social, Ed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Tech Event - Walnut Creek</td>
<td>Carol &amp; Darby</td>
<td>Technical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>USS Hornet</td>
<td>Barton</td>
<td>Social, Ed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Detailing Your Car</td>
<td>Doug &amp; Sydney</td>
<td>Social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Legends of the Autobahn</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Driving, Tech.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Monterey Yacht Club Dinner</td>
<td>Mikey</td>
<td>Social</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Napa Wine Tasting</td>
<td>Harry</td>
<td>Social, Ed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Planning Meeting</td>
<td>Mikey</td>
<td>Technical</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Oktoberfest</td>
<td>Sandy</td>
<td>Social</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Technical</td>
<td>Mikey</td>
<td>Technical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Holiday Party</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Social</td>
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### 2019 First Sunday Drive Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Where</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Tim</td>
<td>Carquinez Strait/Mare Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>Harry</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>Bill Manson</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Sally &amp; Mark</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>Carol &amp; Darby</td>
<td>Davenport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Mikey</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
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### April First Sunday Drive

For additional photos, [click here](#).

### Filoli Historic House and Gardens

**Sunday, May 19**

Join us for the May 2019 event at Filoli Historic House and Gardens. This state historic landmark established in 1917 is a worldwide recognized Georgian Revival house featuring an extensive collection of 17th and 18th century English and Irish antiques while the elegant formal gardens highlight many exquisitely beautiful English country gardens and grounds exuding serenity and charm.

After the tour enjoy browsing the well appointed gift shop and dine at the on-site cafe.

For complete details click here: [https://goo.gl/4LPKTg](https://goo.gl/4LPKTg)

Register at [motorsportreg.com](http://motorsportreg.com)

### For Sale

**2011 E550**

ONLY 42K miles, LIKE NEW. Black with Black interior, still under Warranty, never driven on wet roads, very nice assiduously, FACTORY

### A Tip from Tim Bonifay

Did you know that Hagerty offers a free site to list your classic vehicle and make it available for weddings, modeling, photo shoots?
I have created my 'garage' on the site; take a look here: https://www.driveshare.com/public-profile/10246/

Welcome New Members

Robert Arrigoni, Nicasio
Giovanni Celli, Sunnyvale
Jean-Louis Collard, Carmel Valley
Susan Dorn, Danville
Eugene Lee, San Francisco
Paul McKenzie, Alamo
Joseph Meyers, San Francisco
Kit O'Leary, Santa Cruz
Heidi Ohms, Palo Alto
Rhonda Provost, Forestville
Connie Tong, Los Altos
Marc Vittoria, Fremont
Jason Yurasek, Napa

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

Section Leadership

President: Mikey Vasquez (619) 734-1529
Vice President: Dr. Barton Lane (650) 948-2492
Secretary: Denise Sheehan (925) 683-2708
Treasurer: Nadine Prah (510) 486-0375
Activities: Dr. Barton Lane (650) 948-2492
Advertising: Theo Burger (650) 906-5275
Director at Large: Jack Weir (925) 899-4298
First Sunday Drives: Harry Andreades (703) 474-4215
Newsletter: Denise Sheehan (925) 683-2708
Webmaster: David Sears (408) 916-8100

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(800) 637-2360 (Toll Free)
(719) 633-6427 (O); (719)633-9283 (F)

1991 Mercedes 560SEC, Smoke Silver/Parchment, 54,000 miles on odometer but the actual mileage may be more, second or third owner according to the person from whom I purchased it, exterior is a 9, interior is a 9.5, late car with traction control, all maintenance up to date, climate control converted to 143a and has new AC compressor and lines, everything works as new. Runs and drives great. New Michelin. Always garaged during the three years of my ownership. Robert Hynote, hynote@msn.com, 707-294-7822. Located in Napa. Call or email for pictures. $15,000 OBO.

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1981 380SLC

An unappreciated, low-production run rarity (3789 units). Silver with blue interior. 245,000 miles on a recently jammed odometer. Pluses: louvered windows do not have flaking paint, great tires all around, working sunroof, replacement front leather in very good shape, A/C converted to 134a but not currently blowing cold. Recent smog. A great donor car for your other 107 project, or give it a little love and keep it on the road. Texas and California car. Spends too much time under a cover and needs a new home. $2,950.

Paul Hock 707-529-9141 /Sebastopol paulTHock@gmail.com

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2013 SL550

Diamond White; Black Premium Leather; Premium Package including PARKTRONIC, KEELESS-GO, Active Multi Contour Seats; Driver Assistance Package including DISTRONIC PLUS with PRE-SAFE BRAKING, Active Blind Spot assist & Active Lane Keeping Assist; Sport Wheel Package including Sport Brake Package & 19" AMG 5-spoke wheels; Soft Close Doors. Garage kept covered; all services current including a new battery; located in Benicia, CA; 39,500 miles; asking $40,250 obo
Contact Tom at 925-595-1727 (cell) or 707-748-5600 (message); email for more photos to: tomjsimonetti@aol.com

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1991 560SEC

2577
Other Events of Interest

Biscotti and Cars
First Saturday Each Month
Sausalito

Pampered California car. Two owners, always garaged. Recent work includes: new tires, new alternator, battery, hoses, steering shaft. Timing chain replaced at 110,000, brakes done at 130,000. Includes new convertible top as well as removable hard top, and garage hoist for hard top. A real show stopper! 148,250 Miles; $9,900.00; Jan Fischer 925-234-3391; bodadog@aol.com

Our Website
Check it out at: sfba.merca.org

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

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

Campbell
Mercedes Connexion, 155 Kennedy Ave., Campbell

San Carlos