



Mercedes-Benz Club of America — North Texas Section

## 2015 Annual Christmas Party

December 19, 2015  
6:30pm – 11:00pm  
Heritage Ranch Country  
Club – Fairview, TX



### Section Leadership

Brett Jurick, President  
Lee Ewing, Vice President  
Gayle Brewer, Secretary  
Craig Halverson, Treasurer  
Thomas Lovell, Membership  
Brett Jurick, Webmaster,  
Newsletter  
Darrell Booker, Technical Chair  
Jose De La Garza, Events  
Chairman  
Thomas Charles Mako,  
Ex-Officio  
Tom Manion, Board Member  
Ron Seifert, Board Member  
Maurice Nahas, Board Member  
Gene Jurick, Regional Director  
Ramzi Baransi, Park Place  
Motorcars Liaison  
Larry Reeg, Mercedes-Benz of  
Plano

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### Our Sponsors:

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The club enjoyed having the Christmas Party at The Heritage Ranch Golf and Country Club, that we are once again having it there. As a great many of you who attended it last year know, it is beautiful, and will be decorated with an array of lights and gorgeous holiday decorations. The setting is wonderful, the food delicious, and Pete, the DJ will provide us with any kind of music you can request for dancing or just for enjoyment. All in all, it will be just what you need to keep you in that holiday mood.

The festivities will begin with cocktails and an assortment of delicious cheeses, crackers, fruits and berries. After our salad, our buffet will include Prime Rib with au jus and creamy horseradish and/or Roasted Sliced Turkey Breast crusted with sage and mustard. Rosemary garlic Yukon potatoes and grilled zucchini, broccoli and squash, accompanied by fresh dinner rolls. After dinner, you may choose from an assortment of desserts displayed for your convenience. Coffee, tea and water will be available throughout dinner.

There will be a pay as you go bar with wine, beer and mixed drinks.

We will have prizes to give away and will be drawing throughout the evening for the lucky winners! **Also, there will be a silent auction and a 50/50 cash raffle to benefit our charities, so be sure to bring cash, checks and/or a credit card!**

Heritage Ranch Golf and Country Club is located just off Stacy Road @ Highway 75 North at 465 Scenic Ranch Circle, Fairview, Texas 75069.

Dress is Cocktail Attire.

Cost per person is \$40.00 for an evening of celebrating, enjoying friends, music and food. Reservations by December 10th can be made via PayPal. To ensure everyone has a name tag, please include all names of attendees, regardless of payment type.



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## President's Message



Think it will rain? Holy smokes, we have been just about rained out lately. I am ready to get my SL back out on the road, but I don't want to drive that beauty in the rain. Keeps her shiny inside out, top and bottom! I get grief from some about not driving her in the rain, but I think to each his own. I am just

happy to get to spend so much great time with all of you and enjoying these great Mercedes-Benz cars.

Our membership continues to grow, driven by the vibrant economy and friendly environment in Texas. We see folks flocking to our state from all over the country. Our members renew at a fantastic pace due to the variety of events we have, the focus on these great cars and open communication we have with our membership through our weekly email alerts, our website and this newsletter.

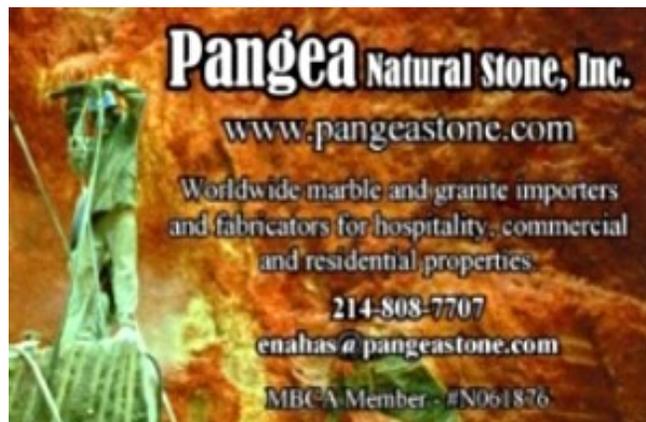
Please join our now 1,000+ North Texas members at an upcoming event to take advantage of the great local benefits of your membership. We have coming up,

Monthly Membership meetings, our Christmas party, Tech Sessions, plus many more fun events planned.

REMINDER: If we do not have your email address, you are missing out on the majority of the communications from the Club. Please go to [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org), log in and update your info to stay updated on all we have going on.

Brett Jurick

President, North Texas Section



## Welcome!

The North Texas Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) is dedicated to enhancing the ownership experience of the finest automobiles in the world. We engage in a variety of activities throughout the year that hopefully appeal to a broad section of our membership.

Currently our membership totals over 1000 members who are committed to furthering their experience and enjoyment of their cars. Whether you're a gear head, performance driver, rally enthusiast, cultural maven or social mingler, the MBCA North Texas Section had an upcoming event for you. Check out the Events section to see what's coming up during the year, and for details on events that are just over the horizon.



December/January

# STARFEST® 2016

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

August 3-6, 2016



Mercedes-Benz Club of America

## MBCA's Premier 2016 Event

StarFest® 2016 will take place in Connecticut's "Quiet Corner" with lush green valleys and picturesque hilltop farms, it's also known as the Antique Capital of Connecticut. From the seashore near the host hotel, to the lush greenery near the host track, the two linked by a short trip on I-395. Spectacular scenery and iconic New England towns await your discovery.

Mohegan Sun, the host hotel, is known for World Class shows, Spas, Restaurants, Shopping, and of course the Casino. Located 2 hours from New York City, 1.5 hours from Boston, and 30 minutes from Hartford and Providence, there is something for everyone to enjoy. Mystic Seaport and the seashore are close by.

Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, the nation's oldest Closed Road Course, is the site of all Track Events. Newly renovated in 2014, it incorporates sections of the original track and new turn complexes over its smooth 1.7 mile layout. Fun for the novice, yet challenging for the expert. With onsite restaurants and championship golf course, it's the premier motorsports destination in New England.

The Concours d' Elegance Presented by Intercity Lines, will be held at The Golden Lamb Buttery, a picturesque 1,000 acre New England Hilltop Farm. It's the perfect backdrop for the Stars to Shine.

Other Events Include ...

Nautical Cruises from Mystic Seaport, The Ladies of Mercedes-Benz event, and of course the Rallye.



Get updates online at:  
[starfest2016.mbca.org](http://starfest2016.mbca.org)

## December/January

### Mercedes-AMG To Start New Engine Production Line To Meet Demand

By Jeff Keplac

Strong demand for its high-performance cars has forced Mercedes-AMG to open up a new production line for engines. Currently, the official Mercedes-Benz tuner produces all of its V-8 and V-12 engines at its main facility in Affalterbach, Germany, but from February 2016 all V-12s will be built at a second facility owned by Daimler in nearby Mannheim. Mercedes-AMG's four-cylinder engines are sourced from a plant in the German city of K lleda.



With V-12 production moved to the new site, Mercedes-AMG will be able to expand production of its V-8 engines in the freed space. Staff that has until now assembled the V-12 engines will be working on V-8s in Affalterbach, while over in Mannheim new staff will be trained. In Mercedes-AMG tradition, each engine will be assembled by just one staff member also at the new site as part of the 'one man, one engine' philosophy. Mercedes-AMG has been pumping out some impressive cars lately, so it's little surprise that demand for the models is booming. And since 2012, Mercedes-AMG has built all V-12 engines for Mercedes-Benz. It also supplies V-12 engines to Italian supercar marque Pagani, and soon it will start supplying V-8 engines to Aston Martin.

"Supplying our customers as fast as possible is highly important to us," Mercedes-AMG boss Tobias Moers said in a statement. "We do not have any possibilities for expansion in Affalterbach at present, so we have decided to transfer the assembly of the twelve-cylinder engines to the Daimler site in Mannheim.



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### Mercedes-Benz touts fun-to-drive 'California car' 2017 SL roadster

**Automotive News** - November 18, 2015

LOS ANGELES -- Mercedes Benz is looking to add some California fun to its formula of German engineering.

At the Los Angeles Auto Show, the premium car maker unveiled a new 2017 SL roadster -- a pure fun-to-drive car that the company expects to sell for more than \$100,000 and hold strong appeal to upscale customers on the west coast.

The new model is amped up in almost all aspects, offering more horsepower than its predecessor, a nine-speed transmission, five driving modes and enhanced driving dynamics as well as an automatic drop top that can fold away even while the car is moving up to a speed of 25 miles per hour. It also sports a new diamond grille and a long muscular hood.

Mercedes revealed the car in Beverly Hills, around the corner from the posh shops on Rodeo Drive, a location representing the types of customers the German automaker is after, said Steve Cannon, CEO of Mercedes Benz USA.

"This is a California car. It's a performance car. It's about driving enjoyment," Cannon said. "In California there's a very healthy car culture, so there is a place for cars like this here."

The U.S. is the largest market for the SL, and California is the source of a big chunk of its U.S. sales, Cannon noted. It is expected to compete against cars such as the Porsche 911 and the Aston Martin Vantage.

But selling the car will pose some challenges. The luxury roadster segment collapsed when the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009 wiped out billions in net worth of upscale car buyers. As a result of the new economic reality, ostentatious displays of wealth -- like buying a \$100,000 car -- became less socially acceptable, more so in Germany but also in the U.S., Cannon acknowledged.

Sales of pricey, two-seat roadsters like the SL have not yet rebounded, despite the recovery of the broader U.S. auto market. In the first 10 months of this year SL sales are down 18 percent, at 3,384 units. A decade ago, in 2005, Mercedes sold more than 10,000 SLs in the U.S. market.

Cannon said he's not sure when the roadster segment might recover, but added that the SL serves as a "dream car" that draws customers to other lower-priced models like its CLA entry car and the C-class compact.

"The importance of the SL in our portfolio is not connected to its volume," Cannon said.

#### **\$100,000 plus**

The SL also gives Mercedes an updated model priced over \$100,000 -- a range the German automaker aims to dominate.

The 2017 SL is available with a 3.0-liter V6 or 4.7-liter V8 engine, offering 362 and 449 horsepower, respectively. AMG versions are fitted with either a 577-horsepower, 5.5-liter V8, or a massive 6.0 liter V12 with a dizzying horsepower rating of 621.

The car can operate in eco, comfort, sport or sport plus, or an individual mode in which the driver can customize the suspension settings and other driving dynamics.

The diamond radiator grille teased by the German luxury carmaker earlier this month comes standard on all models, as do the redesigned LED headlights that automatically adapt to light and driving conditions.

"The SL is an all-season vehicle that is fully suited for daily use, but above all it is a dream car for those special moments as a couple," said Ola Källenius, a member of Daimler AG's management board, in a statement. "Whatever its owner desires -- it fulfills the expectations with technical perfection."

#### **Front end inspiration**

A sportier front end is among the roadster's more notable updates and features a "diamond" grille, of which similar designs appear on the S-class coupe and A-class compact car. The new LED headlights wrap around the side of the car.

Inspiration for the front-end's appearance "came from the legendary 300 SL Panamericana racing car with its steeply raked radiator grille," a Mercedes press release said.

# December/January

Continued from page 6

The large, rear taillights are also retouched, and 19-inch, five-spoke wheels come standard on the roadster.

Two new colors -- brilliant blue and designo selenite grey mango -- will also be available for the 2017 model.

The interior, which appears to be largely similar to the 2016 model, can now be customized with "saddle brown" leather, joining Nappa and Exclusive Nappa leather.

The SL comes equipped with Active Brake Assist, known as Collision Prevention Assist Plus in other model series, which can cause the car to automatically brake when a potential collision is detected.

The last major redesign for the SL came during the 2013 model year.

Source: [Automotive News](#)



## Event Report

### Fall Day at the Range - North Texas Section



On November 14<sup>th</sup> The North Texas Section had another installment of Day at the Range. This was a great event. It was the largest group ever for this event and we were at capacity with 25 folks who enjoyed shooting and a great barbeque lunch. Armadillo Guns in Nevada TX hosted us again. The shooting competition was the best we have had in over two years of having this event.

After the day of shooting the group went to Big Daddy's Roadhouse Barbeque an award winning Texas Barbeque for a great lunch.

The response from everyone was fantastic. Both the shooting with Armadillo Guns and the Barbeque with Big Daddy's were a huge hit. Keep a look out for the next installment of

MBCA Day at the Range coming up in May 2016. The activities concluded at 4:00pm, Central Time, most of the members were already looking forward to next year.



## December/January

### Welcome New Members!

Yolanda Abner	Kent Conine	William Jackson	Juan Carlos Olmedo
Zemara Asyoon	Toyin Falana	Paige Kennedy	Phonexaisack Phanouvong
Fouzia Aziz	James Frost	Imran Khan	Raju Pillai
Mohammed Babar	Cindy Gautreaux	Tracy Kutch	Arthur Przytulski
Dale Bailey	Uma Grandhe	Douglas Lang	Cristina Ramos
Mekonnen Beyene	Robert Grayson	Michelle Love-Baker	Selvaratnam Sajitharan
William Bledsoe	Sankara R. Gunna	William McCarthy	Elena Sanchez
Barbara Brown	Steve Haugen	Adda Medina	Barry Sarnacki
Charles Campolo	Dawn Hazley	Steven Mobley	Avinash Sati
Richard Carlson	Keely Helton	Joyce Molen	Ronyelle Stallworth
Peter Clendenon	Roosevelt Holiday	Hector Negron	Henry Tomarelli

### Many Thanks to Our Renewing Members!

Christina Adams	Eurico Francisco	Patti Loe	Hebert Sedas
Michael Adell	James French	Steve Loudon	David Sheets
C D Alford	Mark Friedlander	Barbara Lyle	Dallas Sherman
Mary Ellen	Linda Frost	Kevin Mammaing	Timothy Spack
Govind Balabommala	Adnan Fuqaha	James Martin	Charmaine Stradford
Orlando Barrett	M. Scott Garrett	Julissa Martinez	Tom Strohm
Michael Bennett	Rudy Gerdes	Michael Memmer	James Talley
Curtis Berry	Peter Hacker	Tony Ortega	Tom Thompson
Narasimha Bhogavalli	Patricia Hall	Ross Parker	Rickey Turner
Effie Booker Dennison	Lisa Handley	John Russell Patrick	Gerry Van Zandt
Alvin Burns	Michelle Henderson	George Poston	Kenya Walton
Deborah Carter	Dr. Tamiko M. Hickman	Daniel Rajaratnam	Scott Wible
Jose De La Garza	Jouni Hiltunen	Ali Rizvi	
Jan Edwards	Amy Hoover	William Robertson	
Dianne Egenes	William Inselmann	Patricia Robertson	
Michael Eldridge	Bill Jackson	Paul Ruckman	
Robert Falbey	Rodney Jones	Kathryn Russell	
Larry Fisher	Michael King	Len Schalkwyk	
Jason Fogler	Ouida Lee		
	Barbara Levy		



## The Mercedes-Benz DFW Dealer Network Continues to Grow

By Brett Jurick

### October 19, 2015 – Mercedes-Benz of Plano



New Location – 6455 North Dallas Parkway, Plano, TX  
Brand new facility built from the ground up to served Collin County for Mercedes-Benz. Featuring 31 acres dedicated to MB, 155,000 sq. ft. with 1,600 parking spaces, children's play area, 100 bay vehicle service area, state of the art customer lounge, work areas & café. They were gracious enough to invite the MBCA NTX to the Grand Opening Celebration held on November 19 where folks got to see the great new facility, had great company, with great food and great drinks. Fun was had by all! Be sure to stop in and see Larry Reeg, he serves as the liaison between MBPlano and the MBCA NTX.

### November 10, 2015 – Park Place Motorcars Arlington



An exciting occasion for the Park Place family, as [Park Place Motorcars Arlington](#) – our 18th dealership in North Texas, opened its doors on Monday, November 2nd. Construction on the new, two-story dealership kicked off in summer 2014.

[Park Place Motorcars Arlington](#) is a stunning, multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art facility featuring two [Mercedes-Benz](#) showrooms designed to showcase 16 new vehicles.

The 91,000-square-foot dealership has plenty of automobiles as well as amenities.

Don't miss a beat when you take your vehicle in for service. The shop is equipped with 35 service bays and 10 make-ready bays, as well

as several beautifully appointed client lounges complete with TVs, Wi-Fi, and several personal work stations; there's even snacks, and a private playroom for the kids.

Next year, Mercedes-Benz will introduce 10 new vehicles, including a new 4-door mid-sized SUV, several new diesel models, a plug-in hybrid C-Class, and a sleek new SLK roadster.

Come see us and experience [Park Place Motorcars Arlington](#), located at 4201 Beltway Place off Interstate 20. We look forward to seeing you!

- For **New Car Sales** inquiries, please contact News Car Sales Director, **Richard Wasson** ([RWasson@parkplace.com](mailto:RWasson@parkplace.com)).
- For **Pre-Owned Sales**, please contact Pre-Owned Sales Director, **Joel Moss** ([JMoss@parkplace.com](mailto:JMoss@parkplace.com)).
- The Parts and Service Departments are open Monday – Friday 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- The Showroom is open 8:30 a.m. – 8 p.m. Monday – Friday and 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday.

These great new facilities join Park Place Dallas, Park Place Grapevine and Park Place Ft. Worth in service the DFW Metroplex.

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## Mercedes-Benz Club of America Membership Application

Please call the National Office at 800-637-2360 to join by phone or go to [www.mbca.org/](http://www.mbca.org/) to join online.

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Associate Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Mercedes Cars Now Owned \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(list year(s) and model(s))

I hereby apply for membership in the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_!

(Signature)

### New U.S. Membership Rates

**\$55.00 for one year**

**\$107.00 for two years**

**\$157.00 for three years**

### New Canada & Int'l Rates

**\$65.00 for one year**

**\$127.00 for two years**

**\$187.00 for three years**

Annual dues include six issues of "The Star" each year, plus your local section's newsletter.

Make your check payable to MBCA, and mail it along with the application to:

**Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc.**

**National Business Office**

**1907 Lelaray Street**

**Colorado Springs, CO 80909**

## Help!

### Calling All Members...

We are always looking for new folks who are interested in participating in Club activities. Whether through events, driving, etc. Please contact Brett Jurick at [bjurick@tx.rr.com](mailto:bjurick@tx.rr.com) to learn more.

### New Ideas Wanted

We're always looking for new ideas for events, get-togethers, drives, overnight tours, etc. If there's a particular type of event you would like us to host, let us know. Contact Jose De La Garza at [josedelagarza@yahoo.com](mailto:josedelagarza@yahoo.com).

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website?

[www.ntx.mbca.org/](http://www.ntx.mbca.org/)



[www.facebook.com/mbcantx](http://www.facebook.com/mbcantx)

Date	Event
December 5, 2015	Membership Meeting - Watch Email for Details
December 19, 2015	2015 Annual Christmas Party

Event dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please check out our website at <http://ntx.mbca.org> for the most updated information.