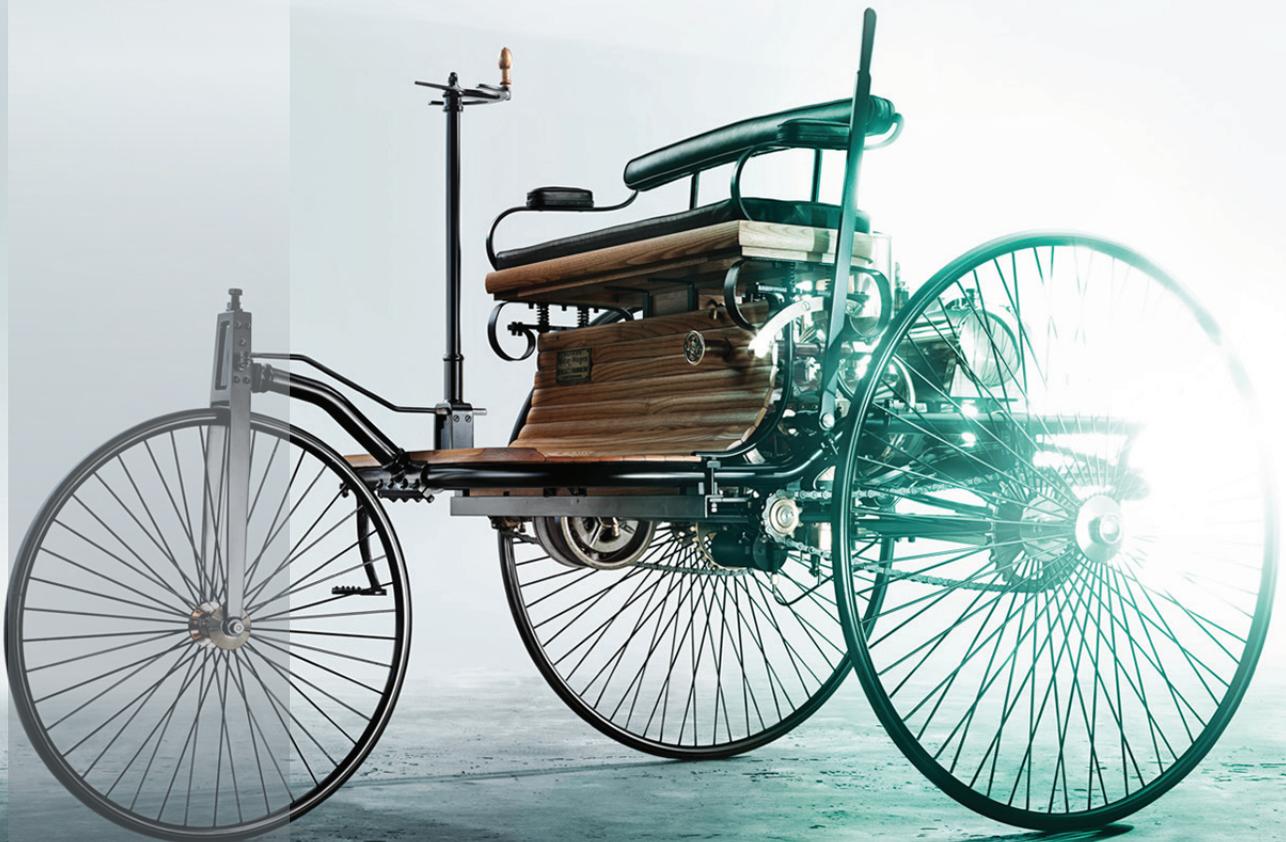




# The Texas Star

## Celebrating 125 Years!

You Are a Part of the Heritage



Mercedes-Benz

North Texas Section

March/April 2011 Vol. 2 No. 2



# The Texas Star

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

## Message from the President

By Lee Ewing

At the beginning of taking the position as your President, one of the things I wanted to concentrate on was communication. As a club, it is vital to know what you, the members of the club, want to do for activities and events, how we are doing as a section, and what improvements, if any, that you see could make our section better.

Not only that, we also like to hear all of the compliments of the new and improved newsletter, our events, and the small changes that we are slowly making. With this said, I want to take some time to reach out to you by calling you and taking more of a personal approach to really get your feedback on a one on one basis. Since we have a little over 600 members, it may take some time to get to you, but I will. I look forward to speaking with each and every one of you sometime in the near future!

## Largest MB Meet of All Time

By Christopher Bero

As part of its 125-year celebrations, the inventor of the automobile is inviting Mercedes-Benz enthusiasts, clubs and fans of the brand to attend a special event that promises a galaxy of surprises. In partnership with the official international Mercedes-Benz Clubs, Mercedes-Benz will be staging a major international auto event in Berlin in August 2011. This will be a world record attempt and be recorded in the Guinness Book of Records. For three days Berlin will become the venue for the automotive festival.

Now if you can't make it to Berlin this year, be sure to mark down on your calendar our local automotive festival here in your back yard, on October 15th; the North Texas MBCA Clean Car Show. This year is surely going to be the best show yet. Planning starts soon, so if you would like to be on the CCS committee contact Lee Ewing at 214/325-3147 [bnzowner@yahoo.com](mailto:bnzowner@yahoo.com).



Berlin



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## Celebrating 125 Years

Exactly 125 years to the day after Carl Benz registered his “vehicle with gas-engine drive” in 1886, Daimler AG has celebrated the anniversary of the automobile. Approximately 1,400 invited guests were hosted by the inventor of the automobile at the Mercedes-Benz World in Stuttgart, with guests of honor including the German Federal Chancellor, Dr. Angela Merkel. International guests from the automotive industry and the fields of politics, business, sports, society and the media, as well as members of Daimler’s Board of Management, Supervisory Board and many Daimler employees, attended the event.

More than 80,000 patents after the “vehicle with gas-engine drive”, Daimler was granted another technology patent during the anniversary celebrations, for the so-called bipolar flat-cell frame. This technology is now in the development stage at Daimler and is potentially a further step along the way to the industrialization of lithium-ion batteries.



The anniversary celebrations at the Mercedes-Benz World mark the official start of jubilee year 2011, which Daimler has given the motto “125! years inventor of the automobile.” The Mercedes-Benz brand has given the year the motto “125! Years of innovation.” Numerous events connected with the 125th anniversary of the automobile are scheduled to take place this year. More Information: [www.125-years-of-automobiles.com](http://www.125-years-of-automobiles.com)

## Super Bowl TV Spot

By Christopher Bero

I am sure you saw Mercedes Super Bowl TV commercial this year. What did you think of it? If you haven’t seen it be sure to watch the extended cut of the Mercedes-Benz Super Bowl commercial on You Tube. 125 years of Mercedes-Benz heritage is celebrated as hundreds of vehicles come to life and make a pilgrimage to greet their newest family members. You may even own some of the cars featured in the spot. Rapper Diddy gets in on the Super Bowl action by appearing in a commercial. The music mogul, clad in pajamas, is fast asleep in his mansion when he gets awakened by his S-Class sedan, which peels off into the night. This is the first time during Super Bowl XLV on 6 February 2011. BrandWeek reports that Mercedes bought 60-second spot that will run in the fourth quarter. Mercedes is celebrating its 125th anniversary next year. This is reason enough to blow a few million euros(about \$6 million) on advertising the Super Bowl.





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## Classic Center in the States

The Mercedes-Benz Classic Center in Irvine, California, is the ideal place for owners, collectors, and enthusiasts to connect with this legendary brand. In addition to meticulously restoring and selling classic Mercedes-Benz vehicles, the Classic Center offers appraisals, provides Genuine Mercedes-Benz Classic Parts. Visit the Classic Center and experience the most inspiring collection of vintage Mercedes-Benz vehicles outside the original Classic Center in Fellbach, Germany. Whether you are looking to restore a classic or buy one for your collection, the Classic Center can help meet your needs. Expert restoration and repair services - including spare parts information and sales - are available to assist owners in maintaining the prime condition of their classics to factory standards of originality and preservation.

Want to buy a Classic Car? They offer an ever-changing selection of pristine, carefully selected classic Mercedes-Benz vehicles, ranging from well-maintained daily drivers to frame-off restorations done by factory-trained craftsmen.

The Classic Center is your source for nearly 40,000 spare parts for classic Mercedes-Benz vehicles - from major assemblies like transmissions to small individual parts for virtually any need. Each product is made to Mercedes-Benz specifications and backed by the same factory limited warranty (12 months, unlimited mileage) that covers parts for brand-new Mercedes-Benz vehicles. They can even access your vehicle's original build sheet and other archival data, free of charge. It's all part of the exceptional customer service you've come to expect from Mercedes-Benz.

Of course, if you don't want to be shipping your classic off to SoCal every time you need to fix it, try coming to one of our "Do-It-Yourself" Tech Sessions. NTX MBCA folks at these Tech Sessions can help you with questions you may have about your MB and help point you to some of our local experts.

## Mercedes-Benz W123 - A Look Back at a True Classic

W123 is the internal chassis-designation Mercedes-Benz used for their executive line of cars, manufactured between 1976 and 1985. The W123 models surpassed their predecessor, the W114 and W115 models, as the most successful Mercedes, selling 2.7 million cars before replacement by the W124 after 1985. The additional range of smaller Mercedes-Benz W201 models were introduced in 1982.

Mercedes-Benz introduced the W123 four-door versions in January, 1976. (This is the year your newsletter editor was born.) While there were some technical similarities to their predecessors, the new models were larger in wheelbase and exterior dimensions. The styling was also updated, although stylistic links with the W115 were maintained. Initially, all models except 280/280E featured quad unequal-size round headlights and the latter large rectangular units. When face lifted these units became standard across the range. All W115 engines were carried over, with the 3 litre 5-cylinder diesel model being renamed from "240D 3.0" to "300D" (as it had already been called before in North American markets). The only new engine was the 250's 2525 cc inline-six (Type M123, a short-stroke version of the 2.8 litre six Type M110) that replaced the old 2496 cc Type M114 six.



In the spring of 1976, a coupé version was introduced on a shorter wheelbase than the saloon (2,710 mm (106.7 in) versus 2,795 mm (110.0 in)) for the saloon. This W123C/CE was available as a 230C (later 230CE) and as a 280C/CE in most markets; in North America there were additional 300CD versions with naturally aspirated, later turbocharged 3 litre diesel engines.



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It is a tribute to the car's instant popularity – and possibly to the caution built into the production schedules – that nine months after its introduction, a black market had developed in Germany for Mercedes-Benz W123s available for immediate delivery. Customers willing to order new cars from their local authorized dealer for the recommended list price faced waiting times in excess of twelve months. Hardly used models available at once were commanding a premium over the new price of around DM 5,000.

From August, 1977, long wheelbase versions (3,425 mm (134.8 in)) were produced. These were available as 7/8 seater saloons with works bodies or as a chassis with complete front body clip, the latter serving as the base for ambulance and hearse bodies by external suppliers like Binz or Miesen. These “Lang” versions could be ordered as 240D, 300D and 250 models.

At the Frankfurt Auto Show in September, 1977 the W123T estate was introduced; the T in the model designation stood for “Touring and Transport”. All engines derivative except “200TD” were available in the range. T production began in March, 1978 in Mercedes' Bremen factory.

In early 1979, the diesel models power output was increased; power rose from 55 PS (40 kW; 54 hp) to 60 PS (44 kW; 59 hp) in the 200D, from 65 PS (48 kW; 64 hp) to 72 PS (53 kW; 71 hp) in the 240D and from 80 PS (59 kW; 79 hp) to 88 PS (65 kW; 87 hp) in the 300D; at the same time, the 220D went out of production.

The first Mercedes turbo diesel production W123 appeared in September, 1979. This was the 300 TD Turbodiesel, available with automatic transmission only. In most markets, the turbocharged 5-cylinder 3 litre diesel engine (Type OM617) was offered only in the T body style, while in North America it was also available in saloon and coupé guises. June 1980 saw the introduction of new 4-cylinder petrol engines (Type M102). A new 2 litre four with shorter stroke replaced the old M115, a fuel-injected 2.3 litre version of this engine (in 230E/TE/CE) the old carbureted 230. Both engines were more powerful than their predecessors.



In 1980/81 the carbureted 280 versions went out of production; the fuel-injected 280E continued to be offered. In September, 1982, all models received a mild facelift. The rectangular headlights, previously fitted only to the 280/280E, were standardized across the board, as was power steering. Since February, 1982, an optional 5-speed manual transmission was available in all models (except 300 TD).

W123 production ended in January, 1986 with 63 T-models rolling out. Most popular single models were the 240D (455,000 built), the 230E (442,000 built) and the 200D (378,000 built).

W123 introduced innovations including ABS (optional from August, 1980), a retractable steering column and an airbag for the driver (optional from 1982). Available options included MB-Tex (Mercedes-Benz Texturized Punctured Vinyl) upholstery or velour or leather upholstery, interior wood trim, passenger side exterior mirror (standard on T models), 5-speed manual transmission (European market only), 4-speed automatic transmission (standard in turbodiesel models), power windows with rear-seat switch cut-outs, vacuum powered central locking, rear-facing extra seats (station wagon only), Standheizung (prestart timer controlled engine heating), self locking differential, sun roof, air conditioning, climate control, “Alpine” horn (selectable quieter horn), headlamp wipers (European market only), Tempomat (cruise control), power steering (standard after 1982/08), seat heating, catalytic converter (available from 1984 for California only, from fall (autumn) 1984 also in Germany for the 230E of which one thousand were built). Power (vacuum servo) assisted disc brakes were standard on all W123s.





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## Mystery Rally April 16th

By Gene Jurick

A fun Rally in North Texas! Never been on a Rally? Well now is the time to give one a try, they really are great fun. Get your navigator lined up, fill up your gas tank, bring a clipboard (much easier than writing on your knee); you will need something to write with, too. Prepare yourself for a “Saturday” drive where you can demonstrate your driving skills while working hand-in-hand with your navigator in locating designated objects, scenery, possible historic sites, etc. The distance you drive and the time it takes you will also play into your score and potential award.

There will be at least 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards. Dash Plaques for all entrants , too.

The Rally will end at a restaurant that we think you will like. The restaurant will be a mystery until you actually arrive. We have arranged for you to be able to order from their regular menu and receive individual checks. The food is great, the atmosphere appropriate and comfortable, and the prices moderate.

Place: The rally will start at Ewing Autohaus (map below) where the dealer will provide coffee and other refreshments. They will also provide morning snacks for us all.

Time: We will meet at the dealership at 9:00 AM for registration. The Driver’s Meeting at 9:15 AM and the first car out at 9:30 AM. Cars will depart at two minute intervals until everyone is on the road. You will receive your instruction sheets during that two minute interval before you start the Rally.

The Route: Still a mystery; but promises to be scenic, interesting, a little challenging and lots of fun.

Cost... \$20.00 per car, this is how we pay for the awards.

Registration... We would appreciate knowing you’re coming; we need to alert the restaurant of the number, be sure we get the right awards, dash plaques, etc.

Three easy ways to register...

1. The easiest, go to our website, [www.mbc.org/northtexas](http://www.mbc.org/northtexas), click on the registration button and fill in the blanks.
2. Clip the attached form, fill it out and mail it to me.
3. Call me with your name and information, Gene Jurick (972) 461-1981

We look forward to seeing you; it’s been awhile since we have had a Rally in North Texas, we plan to do this one well.

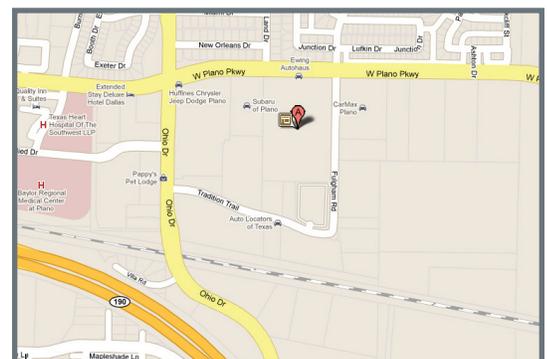
Please reserve a winning starting position for us in 2011 Mystery Rally and \_\_\_\_\_ seats at the restaurant and Awards Celebration. The cost is \$20.00 per car no matter how many people you bring along to help navigate and witness your Rallying skills. My check in the amount of \$20.00 made out to MBCA North Texas Section is enclosed.

Driver(s).....

Navigators(s).....

Phone:.....

Please mail to: Gene Jurick, 6008 Bracknell Dr., Parker, TX 75002 (972) 461-1981



Ewing Autohaus  
4464 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093



# The Texas Star

## Quarterly Dinner Buca de Beppo March 24th

We will be having our Quarterly Section Dinner at Buca de Beppo (Park Lane and I-75; 7843 Park Lane, Dallas) on Thursday, March 24th at 6:30pm. These section dinners are always enjoyable events and a break from the weekly norm. At these dinners we plan to have a special guest speakers attend and even local celebrities from time to time. Topics will focus on: Family & Children, Origin & History, Art, Culture & Lifestyle, Technology & Research, Travel & Pleasure, Environment & Sustainability, Motorsport & Tuning, Safety and Wellness & Health. Be sure to save the date, and visit our event website page for more info [www.mbca.org/northtexas.com](http://www.mbca.org/northtexas.com)

## “Do-It-Yourself” Tech Session March 19th

You know we have the best “Do-It-Yourself” Tech Sessions in the West! In March we will be meeting at Marshall Motors in Dallas at 8:00am. Now you don’t have to be Mr. Goodwrench to participate. We welcome new folks to join us. Visit [www.mbca.org/northtexas.com](http://www.mbca.org/northtexas.com) for more info.



Mercedes-Benz

### Executive Board

<b>President</b> Lee Ewing 214/325-3147 <a href="mailto:bnzowner@yahoo.com">bnzowner@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Vice President</b> Christopher Bero 972/824-3103 <a href="mailto:cbero@sta.samsung.com">cbero@sta.samsung.com</a>
<b>Secretary</b> Rosemary Nahas 214/548-4658 <a href="mailto:rnahas@tx.rr.com">rnahas@tx.rr.com</a>	<b>Treasurer</b> Gene Jurick 972/461-1981 <a href="mailto:gjurick@tx.rr.com">gjurick@tx.rr.com</a>

### Board Members

<b>Past President</b> John Spawr 817/478-0448 <a href="mailto:jspawr@att.net">jspawr@att.net</a>	<b>Advertising Chair</b> Christopher Bero 972/824-3103 <a href="mailto:cbero@sta.samsung.com">cbero@sta.samsung.com</a>
<b>Technical Chair</b> Hyatt Cheek, Jr. 214/327-6890 <a href="mailto:hyattcheek@att.net">hyattcheek@att.net</a>	<b>Social Committee</b> Lucia Ewing 214/325-3147 <a href="mailto:mbcantx@gmail.com">mbcantx@gmail.com</a>
<b>Membership &amp; Social Committee Chair</b> Lee Ewing 214/325-3147 <a href="mailto:bnzowner@yahoo.com">bnzowner@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Social Committee</b> Maurice Nahas 707/815-0828 <a href="mailto:maurice@mnaahas.com">maurice@mnaahas.com</a>
<b>Park Place Liaison</b> Doug Wofford 214/443-8290 <a href="mailto:doug_wofford@park-placetexas.com">doug_wofford@park-placetexas.com</a>	<b>Webmaster</b> Mark McGahan 214/827-3168 <a href="mailto:mcbenz@me.com">mcbenz@me.com</a>
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### Advertising Information

Would you like to advertise in the next edition of the MBCA Newsletter? Please contact our Vice President of Multimedia for more information:

Phone: 972/824-3103; Email: [cbero@sta.samsung.com](mailto:cbero@sta.samsung.com)

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Mercedes-Benz Club of America  
North Texas Section  
5656 Turner Street  
The Colony, TX 75056



# The Texas Star

## Calendar of Events

<b>March 7</b>	Board Meeting, Park Place Dallas 6:30pm	<b>July 16</b>	DIY Tech Session, Louden Motorcars 8am-12pm
<b>March 19</b>	DIY Tech Session, Marshall Motors, 8am-12pm	<b>August 1</b>	Board Meeting, Ewing Autohaus 6:30pm
<b>March 24</b>	Quarterly Dinner 6:30pm (Buca de Beppo)	<b>August 27</b>	Club Rally
<b>April 4</b>	Board Meeting, Ewing Autohaus 6:30pm	<b>September 6</b>	Board Meeting, Park Place Dallas 6:30pm
<b>April 16</b>	Mystery Rally by Gene Jurick, 9:00am	<b>September 17</b>	DIY Tech Session, Ewing Autohaus 8am-12pm
<b>May 2</b>	Board Meeting, Park Place Dallas 6:30pm	<b>September 24</b>	Election Dinner/ Octoberfest (TBD)
<b>May 7</b>	Burgers, Bratz, and Benzes, New Member- ship Picnic	<b>October 3</b>	Board Meeting, Ewing Autohaus 6:30pm
<b>May 14</b>	DIY Tech Session, ParkPlace Mid Cities 8am-12pm	<b>October 15</b>	Clean Car Show ( Location TBD)
<b>June 6</b>	Board Meeting, Ewing Autohaus 6:30pm	<b>November 7</b>	Board Meeting, Park Place Dallas, 6:30pm
<b>June 11</b>	6th Annual Texas MB Get Together	<b>November 12</b>	DIY Tech Session, Autoscope 8am-3pm
<b>July 5</b>	Board Meeting, Park Place Dallas 6:30pm	<b>December 3</b>	Christmas Party (TBD)
		<b>December 5</b>	Board Meeting, Ewing Autohaus, 6:30pm