



CENTRAL OKLAHOMA SECTION  
OF THE  
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

SOONER STAR NEWS  
FEBRUARY - MARCH  
2011

*THE NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY MERCEDES BENZ OF OKLAHOMA CITY AND G W & SON AUTO BODY.*

### President's Message

I have spent my adult life repairing Mercedes-Benz automobiles. I started working for Hammer & Dolly in October 1978. I was 20 years old. The next Sunday I celebrated my new job by buying a 1969 Cutlass convertible "needs work". I still have it. I was the defender of "Detroit iron" around the shop and didn't buy my first Mercedes until 1989. It was a 1981 240D, needed paint, since it had been in a house fire. Gray with a blue interior. Automatic transmission. Slowest car alive. I don't still have it.

A few years later I joined the Mercedes club. "Professional

obligation". What I discovered was the nicest group of people I could imagine. Inclusive, friendly and helpful, they gave the lie to the "snotty European" stereotype.

Through the years I have come to own over 10 Mercedes-Benz autos. Some of them are nice, most aren't, but I love them the same for whatever crazy reason. What hasn't been crazy is the respect I have for club members. You are a group I have grown to love and be grateful for the opportunity to serve. Without doubt the only reason I sought the presidency of this chapter is my love for this group.

Thank you all for your faith in me, I hope to be a worthy chapter president.

Jeff Leatherock



Ed Hoag presents Jeff Leatherock with Member of the Year award at Christmas party.



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ASTHENEWSLETTEREDITOR, I WELCOME ANY ARTICLES OR SUGGESTIONS FOR ARTICLES THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE. CLASSIFIED ADS ARE FREE TO MEMBERS, SO TAKE ADVANTAGE! IF YOU HAVE A CONTRIBUTION FOR AN UPCOMING NEWSLETTER, PLEASE SUBMIT TO ME BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH.

CONTACT PERSON: MFWilliams3@att.net, OR SNAIL-MAIL AT MARY WILLIAMS, 916 NW 19TH, OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73106 OR CALL ME AT: 405-525-0633

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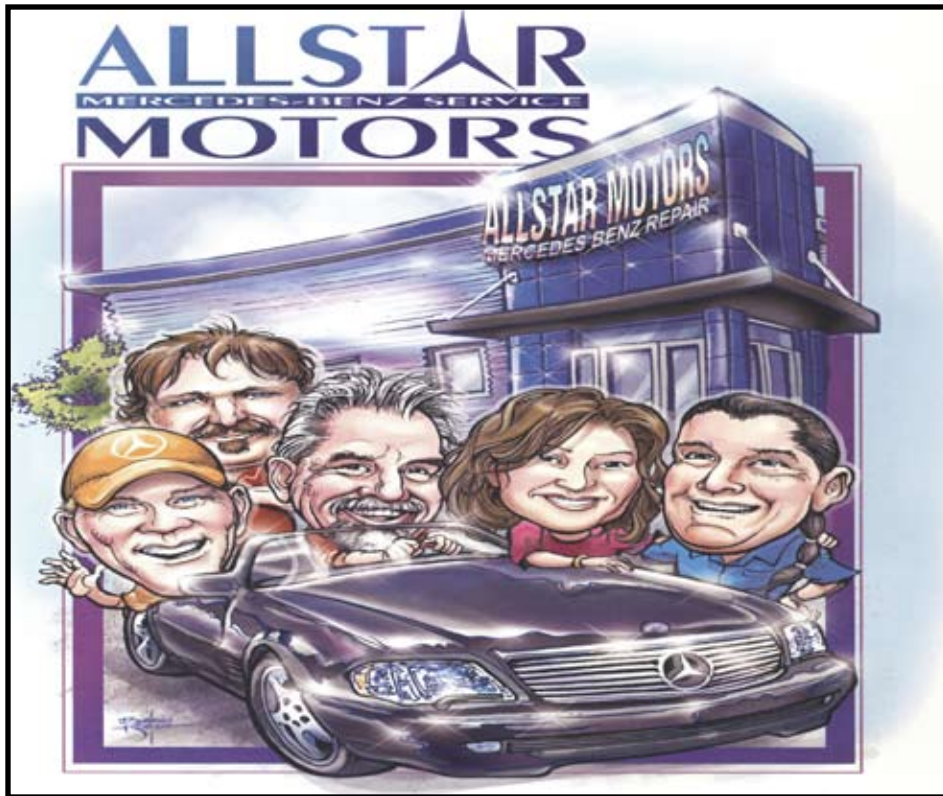


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**2010 Central Oklahoma Section's Christmas Party at Petroleum Club**



**Carl & Claren Denning**  
Ahh how sweet!



**Teresa & Don Pope**



**Bobbye & Brooke Van Horn**

**Please patronize our supporters!**

I would like to thank Mercedes Benz of Oklahoma City and GW & Son Auto Body Shop for sponsoring our newsletter. They help offset the cost of publication and mailing of our newsletter. We appreciate all of our advertizers who have supported our Club for many years--our Club would not be a success without ALL of you. — THE EDITOR

**Classified Advertising**

**Mercedes Collector has parts** available on a variety of MB autos, ie. 300D's 190E's, 240D's, 450, 380SEL etc. Call with your part request at 598-3540 or 274-3580, or email, jesse.mcgaha@tinker.af.mil

**NEW-- For Sale:** Almost new AMG wheels for S or CL class. Wheels were only on car for four months. Size is 20x8.5 Front, 20x9.5 Rear. E-mail for pictures. Asking \$3,000. William Martin, wamartin1\_1@yahoo.com, 735-7750.

**For Sale--1983 500SEC AMG** - dark blue on dark blue. Beautiful, great body and paint. No rust that I can find. Few upholstery problems. Wood faded some. Engine.....I don't know. Had jumped timing once. Good A/C and climate control. I will also furnish parts for special projects. E-mail for more details and pictures. \$3,000 as is. The more I fix it, the more it'll cost.

**Pete Williams, hwilliamsjr2@att.net**

**WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS  
AT THE NEXT MEETING!**

**NEW MEMBERS**

BOB & KIM ADAIR, OKC  
CLAUDE & DARLA BLACKWELL, MOORE  
GEORGE GUGLIEMETTI, LAWTON  
ARILTA HARRIS, BETHANY  
JAMES PATTERSON, OKC  
TIM WHITLEY, OKC

WELCOME TO  
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA  
SECTION

**Your Email Address Is Needed!**



Please send your email address to mfwilliams3@att.net.  
(new email address for the editor.)

## Board of Directors Recognizes Long-Term Members

The Central Oklahoma Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America was incorporated on December 11, 1984. The Board would like to recognize the following long-term members. Their continued support for our Section is truly appreciated.

Member/Associate Member	Member Since	City	Consecutive Years of Membership
Paul & Amalia Silverstein	October 1985	Nichols Hills	25
Tim Wilson	May 1990	Hill AFB Utah	20
Mack & Sandy Roark	January 1991	Shawnee	20
Glen & Jeannette Hoskins	February 1995	Edmond	15
Howard Berry, Jr	March 1995	OKC	15
Bud & Shari Norman	November 1995	Nichols Hills	15
Joseph Phillips	May 2000	OKC	10
*JD Ogle	September 2000	Choctaw	10

\* Although JD had a brief break in his membership he certainly deserves special recognition for his contributions to our section.

Bill Nash

Membership Chair

Central Oklahoma Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America

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### STAR TECH 2011

April 29th to May 1st

Here's an MBCA bi-annual National Event that will truly focus on Repairs and Restoration for our Member's Mercedes-Benz cars. It's being hosted by the Wisconsin Section of MBCA.

For the first time in StarTech history, Attendees will have full access to an actual working Mercedes-Benz repair and restoration shop. Located just 2 miles away from the hotel venue in Milwaukee, Black Forest LLC will open its entire 13,000 square-foot facility to StarTech participants, presenters and vendors for up-close and hands-on technical seminars that could never be held within the confines of hotel conference room.

The Radisson Milwaukee North Shore Hotel will serve as the Event's weekend home and will be the venue for the Vendor-Expo, the Saturday night Banquet featuring a special guest speaker, and more technical presentations in the tradition of StarTech.

Interested? Then you are urged to check out [www.blackforestllc.com](http://www.blackforestllc.com) and click on the "What's New" tab. Then go to [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) for regularly updated information on attending StarTech 2011.

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### HEIMATFEST

20 May- 23 May 2011

Birmingham, Alabama

Vintage races at Barber Motorsports Park

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Visit to the Mercedes-Benz Museum

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For more information: <http://section.mbca.org/Alabama> or [jertoosaver@bellsouth.net](mailto:jertoosaver@bellsouth.net)

Jim Roberts at (800) 228-2997

The Rodesney's and Hoag's attended this Regional Event in May 2010 and had a Great Time! If you are thinking about a spring trip to the South, give me a call for more on this great opportunity to expand the benefits of your MBCA Membership.

Ed Hoag 405-341-3578

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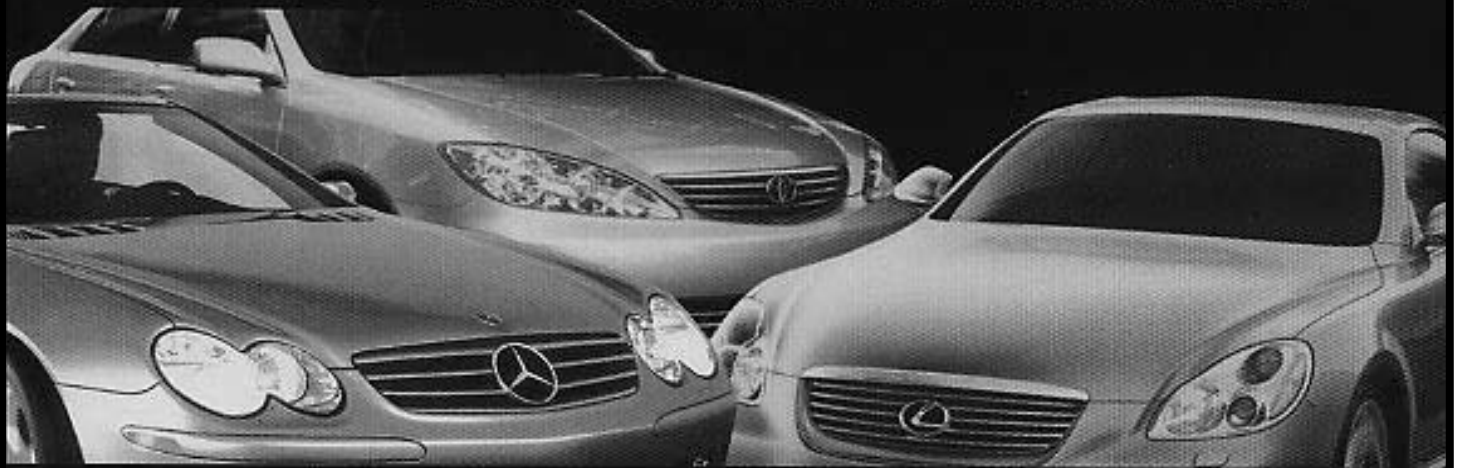
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## **Jack Finks' Model A Town Sedan turns 80 this year!**

A brief story of a proud old Ford still on the roads of Oklahoma.

It was summer 1931, Des Moines, Iowa, amidst the great depression and on the edge of the dust bowl when the Model A Ford Town Sedan rolled off the assembly line. Body number 1217 was placed on a chassis with a four cylinder 200 cubic inch 40 hp engine. It was given a classic dark maroon and black paint job with red pin stripes. The car was top of the line and fitted with extras including cowl lights, adjustable seat, rear dome light, and upgraded upholstery. All this added up to over a \$700 dollar selling price as compared to the coupe which cost under \$300. In the four years of Model A production over 3 million were made in the US but of these only 55,000 were Town Sedans. The Town Sedan designation indicated the purpose of the vehicle, having a large comfortable interior for driving around town, but lacking any designated space for luggage needed on a long trip. A travel trunk was soon designed to be bolted on the rear bumper for additional storage.

After years in Iowa the car moved to Kansas and was treated to a restoration. The new owner, who was associated with McPherson College, then placed the car into his private museum. In 1978 he sold off cars in his collection and the Town Sedan made its way south to Oklahoma City. The car, happy to be out of the museum, cruised the OKC streets, participated in parades, and associated with other A's of the local club until 2001, when the owner decided to sell.

A Model A Coupe, was my first car and although my parents sold it after I was away at college I always dreamed of some day having another A. "Several" years later in 2001 I saw the Town Sedan and knew that day had finally arrived. With wife's blessing (or should that be permission) I wrote a check, turned on the fuel valve, turned the key, pulled out the choke, pressed the starter, adjusted the spark advance and released the clutch heading home. The first month was spent cleaning, polishing and doing lots of maintenance chores. By the end of the summer we had car show trophies, parades, and several driving events to prove the car was not an old mare but a young filly ready to roar down Mustang Road at speeds approaching 50 mph.

At the last Yukon Czech Day Parade my 7 year old grandson Jacob came along to blow the horn and wave to the crowds. Enroute to the parade he wanted to open a window, so leaned over and asked me where the button was to open the window. How quickly times change – few in the younger generation have ever seen roll down window cranks. Once instructed on how to manually roll down a window he was most impressed with the mechanism and wanted to install them in his parent's cars right away.

## Jack Finks' Model A Town Sedan



Just to keep this all in perspective for this newsletter there is an SL 500 in the garage and it's a little faster and has a few more amenities than the Model A, but most of all I hope the Model B, as I often call it, will be cruising around Route 66 when it is 80 – more importantly I'd like to be there too!!

**From the Editor  
Jack, thank you for the wonderful article.  
Mary Williams**

***Any member who would like to submit an auto article for the April/May issue of the Sooner Star News, please e-mail me the article and photo by March 25th, 2011. Thank you, Mary @ mfwilliams3@att.net***

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

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

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

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(list year and model)

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

Membership dues are \$45 annually, \$87 for two years, or \$127 for three years.

The 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**

**Current MBCA members:**  
**Feel free to give this application to potential members!**