



# Around the Benz

the official Central Florida section club newsletter

Volume 2018 - 5th Edition  
September-October



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## Elegance and Horsepower in the Heat of Summer



Tom Quinn, Section Secretary, snaps a classy photo while on business in Paris, July 2018

## The Presidential Address

Well, summer is finally over, the kids are back in school and it's going to start getting cooler soon (I hope!). In this edition, we'll review the last few months within the club, and take a look towards upcoming events.

First off, September is election month, and Bob Rolle has put together a proposed list of officers for the coming year. We will be holding the elections electronically, with exact instructions coming in the near future. While this list does not preclude other volunteers throwing their name in the hat, it is our best guess as we move forward into our second year of resurrection. On that subject, we are always looking for additional volunteers to help us plan and engage on future club functions and activities. Needless to say, without the core group that have volunteered to date, little if anything would have happened with our club. Therefore, I ask for those of you who haven't had a chance to be involved to step up and join in.

Our section Photographer Ed Ho is moving north. Ed, you will be missed!

Submit your photos : [mhcacf@gmail.com](mailto:mhcacf@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Events

For map  
see page 4

1. Sat, Sept 15 - Speedway Tour  
10:30am tour, 12 noon lunch  
Daytona International Spwy  
1801 W Int'l Speedway Blvd  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

- A. Mon, September 17  
6:00p, Dinner at 7pm  
Ace Cafe Orlando Meetup

2. Sat, October 13 - 4pm  
Oktoberfest and Concours  
Mercedes Benz of Orlando

- A. Mon, October 15  
6:00p, Dinner at 7pm  
Ace Cafe Orlando Meetup

3. Sat, October 20  
Lakeland  
Mid-Florida Auto Show

4. Sat, November 3rd  
Hilton Head Island  
Cars & Coffee

5. Sun, November 11  
Sanford Rally

- A. Mon, November 19  
6:00p, Dinner at 7pm  
Ace Cafe Orlando Meetup

6. Sunday, December 9  
Holiday Party  
6:00p, Dinner at 7pm  
Mission Inn  
Howey In The Hills, FL



## The Presidential Address (cont)

Speaking of future events, there are several in the upcoming months. First, we will have a private tour of the Daytona international Speedway in mid-September. If you haven't already made your reservations, time is moving quickly. October will have several events as well, culminating on October 13th with an Oktoberfest and Concours event sponsored by our good friends at Mercedes-Benz of Maitland - Orlando. To get into the holiday spirit, we will be having our annual holiday brunch party at the Mission Inn and Resort on December 9th. Details on how to register will be forthcoming and we look forward to seeing all of you there again.

Finally, as I mentioned earlier, we have a great group of individuals who are currently working to bring about some new and exciting events. While I can't reveal all of the details, we are planning to have our first "Fun Rally" early in November. We hope you will be able to join us for what will prove to be a different and wonderful event. Until then, drive safely and follow the three pointed star!

Hey Nort, thanks for letting us stop by and pick up some great Mercedes stuff!

-Jon



Ace Cafe August: Mario Einstein with his 1975 blue 300D with the Prez

## Member Benefits

There are additional and sometimes unknown benefits to being an MBCA member in the Central Florida Section, above those that everyone receives with [National Membership](#):

-Mission Inn Resort, Howey in the Hills: purchase two nights and get a consecutive 3rd night for free.

-Pierre Hedary and Company: \$5.00 off per hour (pre-1995 models only).

-Backhaus Bakery and Deli : 10% off for club members.

Businesses that provide a Member Benefit receive free newsletter advertising. For more info, write the club mailbox.

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'The Prez' Bob Hartmann

## Section Leadership

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[Open]

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# Around the Benz

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## About the Club

The MBCA was established in 1956, and currently has approximately 30,000 members across the nation. There are over 84 local Sections organizing hundreds of local and National Events each year. You can enroll as a member of MBCA by calling 1-800-637-2360, or by using the National Website at [www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org). Cost is: One year = \$55.00 | Two years = \$107.00 | Three years = \$157.00 You may select your Section, or be assigned the closest local Section by your zip code to be closest to Events and activities in your area. More information can be found on the MBCA website: [mbca.org/membership](http://mbca.org/membership).

## About our Section

The MBCA is a nationwide club, with our local Central Florida section spanning as far north as Palatka, as far west as the Villages and Lakeland, as far south as Sebring and just north of Sebastian Inlet on the coast up to Palm Coast, and includes Orlando Metro, Daytona, Melbourne and Avon Park. Our calendar continues to fill more and more with social, technical, and driving events. Come join us and celebrate the car brand with an unparalleled history, second-to-none engineering, undiscovered performance and first-class safety record. Classic or late-model, Diesel or petrol, Saloon or Gelandewagen, high mileage daily or road rocket, we look forward to them all. See you soon!

## AMG Lounge event: Atlanta Mercedes-Benz Stadium

This summer, I had the opportunity to visit the Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, Georgia. Built as the home for both of the Atlanta Falcons of the NFL and Atlanta United of Major League Soccer, this particular occasion was to take in a soccer game between the Orlando City "Lions" and the Atlanta United "Five stripes". Thanks to the generosity of Mercedes-Benz USA, I had an opportunity to get a ringside seat to view the game. As an added bonus, I was able to enjoy the AMG Private Lounge.

While the game did not turn out as I had hoped (Orlando ended up losing 4-0), The stadium experience was everything I had imagined. Built at a cost of \$1.5 billion, the Mercedes-Benz Stadium ranks as one of the newest and most glamorous of stadiums. All of the flooring and interior trim elements are first rate; however, the accommodations in the AMG Private Lounge are even more spectacular. One advantage to the AMG Lounge is the fact that it is at ground level and spectators are allowed to sit at field side tables to enjoy the action. I prefer to watch the game from a higher vantage point, and so I ended up in the 7th row, midfield.

If you have an opportunity to be in Atlanta with some time to spare, I strongly suggest that you take a tour of this amazing facility. Finally, I'd like to thank Bob Berryhill and the fine people at Mercedes-Benz USA for their generous hospitality.

Bob Hartmann



 Member & Contributor

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## About the Newsletter

The Mercedes-Benz Club of America—Central Florida Section, Inc. publishes this newsletter every two months (six editions) starting in January. Opinions expressed are those of the Authors and Editors. Express permission is hereby granted to other Sections of the MBCA to reprint articles contained herein, without exception.





## Event Summary and Membership Map

### LEGEND

  NORTH (39) +1  
DAYTONA, VILLAGES, PALATKA

▲ MB OF DAYTONA  
1188 N Tomoka Farms Rd  
Daytona Beach, FL 32124

  NORTH CENTRAL (70) +4  
SANFORD, EUSTIS, MAITLAND

▲ MB OF NORTH ORLANDO  
1100 Rinehart Rd  
Sanford, FL 32771

▲ MB OF ORLANDO  
810 N Orlando Ave  
Maitland, FL 32751

  CENTRAL (33) +1  
ORLANDO, DISNEY, MERRITT ISLAND

▲ MB OF SOUTH ORLANDO  
4301 Millenia Blvd  
Orlando, FL 32839

  WEST/KISSIMMEE (24) +4  
KISSIMMEE, CLERMONT, LEESBURG

  SOUTHEAST (25) -1  
MELBOURNE, PALM BAY, COCOA

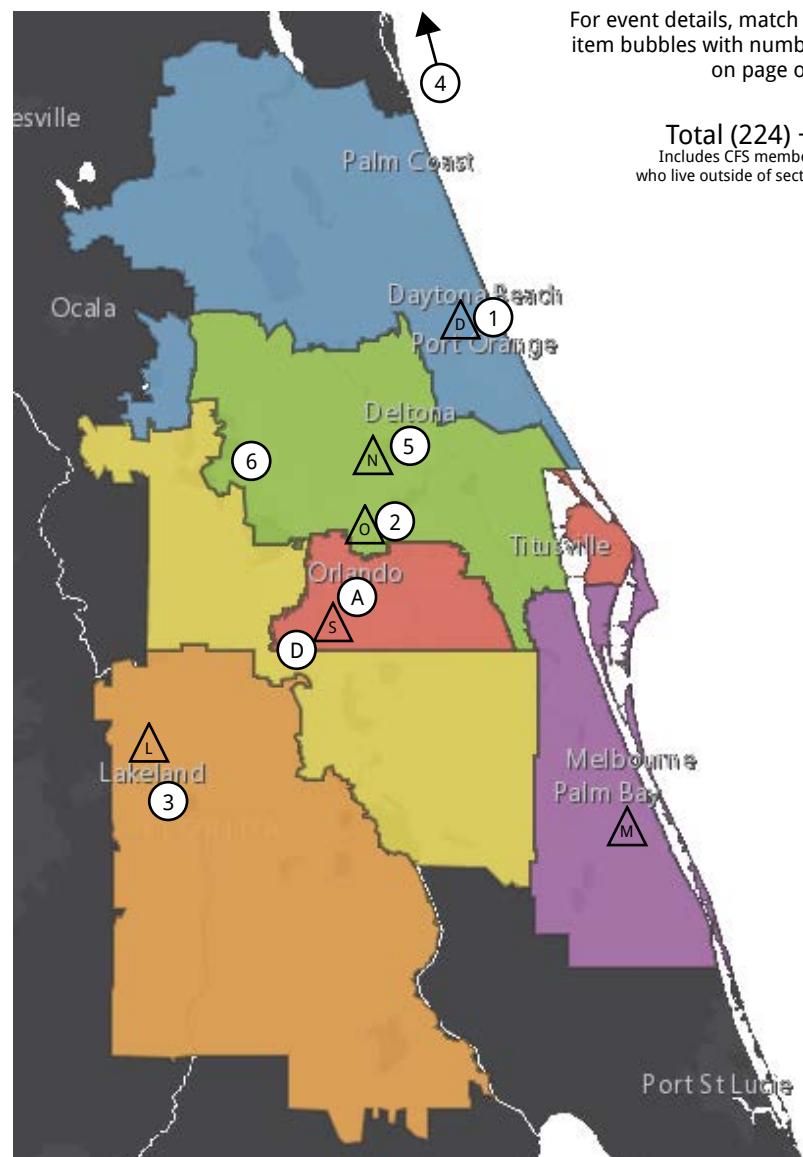
▲ MB OF MELBOURNE  
509 E Nasa Blvd  
Melbourne, FL 32901

  SOUTHWEST (14) +0  
LAKELAND, DAVENPORT, SEBRING

▲ FIELDS MOTORCARS  
4141 N Florida Ave  
Lakeland, FL 33805

For event details, match the item bubbles with numbers on page one.

**Total (224) +9**  
Includes CFS members who live outside of section



### New Members

A listing of new members since this time last year. Welcome new members!

Barry A.	Phillip B.	Robert C.
Norma A.	Francis B.	Gail C.
Kris A.	Rose B.	Paul D.
Fabio A.	Art B.	Horace D.
Tom A.	Daniel B.	Jamie D.
Kenneth A.	Linda C.	Roberto D.

Judy C.	Jon D.	Mick K.	Michael P.	David S.
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John C.	Charlotte D.	Fran K.	Harrison R.	Shelly S.
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Michael C.	Carmen F.	Dominic M.	Richard R.	Sean S.
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Richard C.	Carmen F.	Henry M.	William R.	Kevin S.
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Derek F.	Miguel M.	Steven R.	Dennis S.	Eric W.
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Ray H.	Brian M.	Steven R.	Peter T.	Jeremy W.
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Richard H.	Cheryl N.			
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Harold J.	Sandra O.			
-----------	-----------	--	--	--

Jaimeson J.	Edward P.			
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Roberto D.	Michelle K.	Robert P.		
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Interested in receiving a printed copy of the newsletter?

Write the club mailbox: [mbcacfs@gmail.com](mailto:mbcacfs@gmail.com)!



# Around the Benz

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September-October

## Upcoming Events

### 1. Daytona Speedway All Access Tour

The Daytona International Speedway is the home of the Daytona 500, the most prestigious race in NASCAR. In addition to NASCAR, the track also hosts races of Motorcross, AMA Superbike, IMSA, and many others.

When: Saturday, September 15th

Where : 1801 West International Speedway Blvd, Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Time: 10:30 AM- group tour lasting 90 minutes

Cost: \$18 per person

Lunch: 12 Noon at Charlie Horse Restaurant "Home of All You Can Eat Snow Crab" 810 S Atlantic Avenue. Ormond Beach, Fl

Voted "Readers Choice Award" 11years in a row by the Daytona Beach News Journal.

Please note --A reservation is required to protect the date and time and in July an Event Notice will be sent out requiring an initial deposit.

For more details, contact: Peggy Bohl

c: 407-951-5062 e: [peggy.bohl@gmail.com](mailto:peggy.bohl@gmail.com)



Advertising Rates

Size	Per Issue	Yearly (6 Issues)
Full Page	\$120	\$675
Half Page	\$65	\$375
Quarter Page	\$50	\$275
Business Card	\$25	\$150

Suffice to say, there is something for everyone to see, as well as a large variety of food and drink to help keep up one's stamina. Sunday's main concourse event, with its eclectic variety of cars from the early 1900s up to contemporary racing cars, finishes off this stellar event. Trust me, you will not be disappointed by either the people, the event or the locale.

 Mercedes-Benz

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### D. Dellagio Luxury Car Event

The Dellagio Town Center on Sand Lake Road, right in the heart of the Doctor Phillips area, is having a monthly car show the first Sunday of the month from 4-7pm. Each show is dedicated to a specific brand, with the backdrop around one of Orlando's largest Italian-inspired Fountains. Grab a bite to eat and have some drinks all in one swoop. For those that bring a car, they will be able to dine at any participating restaurant and enjoy their meal with a discounted rate of that restaurant's choosing. A club event is being planned for 2019, stay tuned for updates. In the meantime, check out updates on their [facebook page](#).

### 6. Hilton Head Island Concours de Elegance

Mark your calendars for the weekend of November 3-4 to attend the Hilton Head Concours de Elegance in South Carolina, <http://www.hhiconcours.com/hilton-head-island.html>. Starting on Saturday November 3rd is the Car Club Showcase, featuring roughly 175 automobiles displayed on the beautiful Port Royal Golf course. Would you like to join in the fun? As one of the participants of the Car Club Showcase, MBCA has a number of display slots available. Contact Meredith Kronz, Exhibitor Concierge, at (843) 785-7469 ext. 4 or [MKronz@HHIconcours.com](mailto:MKronz@HHIconcours.com) to request an application.



## A 240D Spotting on an Evening in Winter Park

When I saw this beauty in the parking lot, I immediately thought how nice it would be to converse with the owner to get some history on the car in addition to inviting him or her to our events. When people show up at our events, they immediately find out that the members in our club are a group of passionate car people who enjoy sharing their passion for their Mercedes-Benz automobile(s) and we always welcome newcomers and their cars. If you are interested in gaining technical information or talking diesel engines, you will find people to talk to. If you are interested in the history of the marque, proper care of your paint or just anything Mercedes-Benz related, you will find resources at our events.

Hospitality Larry Barnes



We certainly enjoy seeing all of the various models of Mercedes-Benz around town, but when you spot one that really peaks your interest, we invite you to send us a few photos, along with a storyline if possible, so that all of us can share in the moment.

## Club Dinner at Hollerbach's Willow Tree Café



Our club and guests had a Saturday night to remember at Hollerbach's Willow Tree Café restaurant in Sanford on July 14.

It was a typically hot July evening in Central Florida and the popular German restaurant was packed, even all the outside seating was taken.



Several other groups such as the German Club of Maitland were seated together and convivially socializing as an oompah band led the entire dining area in singing German drinking songs.

We sat in ring side seating right in front of the band in the air-conditioned area where we could view or join in German folk dancing by patrons some in



traditional dress (lederhosen or aproned frocks for the ladies).

The German draft beers facilitated the boisterous fun where everyone felt a part of the action as they sang along with the accordion player. Several tables stood and passed a giant Stein of beer around for a turn at chugging.



Bob Hartmann through his friendship with Hollerbach arranged for the special seating and made the experience more fun.



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## MBCA's 2018 Fall Raffle

### Details & Dates

- Prize: 2018 Mercedes-AMG E63 S
- MSRP: \$128,920
- Tickets are \$50 (US) each
- Last day to purchase tickets is Wednesday, December 5, 2018
- Drawing is Thursday, December 13, 2018
- For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [raffle.mbc.org](http://raffle.mbc.org), call the NBO at **800-637-2360** or check your mailbox for an official mail-in order form.

Open to MBCA Members only. Must be 18 years of age or older. No limit on the number of tickets one member may purchase. The winner will choose an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealership where a check in the amount of \$96,690 (US) will be sent. The winner will shop for their vehicle at the dealership of their choice. If fewer than 5,150 tickets are sold, the raffle prize will be one-half (50%) of the gross raffle ticket sales - less Federal withholding of 25%, or at least \$5,000 (less withholding), whichever is greater. Vehicle featured in this ad is representative only. Odds of winning depend on the total number of tickets sold. Must be a current Member of MBCA at the time of purchase and day of the prize drawing. Members may attend the drawing (not required to enter or win). 100% of net raffle proceeds shall be devoted exclusively to the lawful purpose of MBCA International Stars Section. License Number R49608.

Image in contest promotional materials does not entirely represent actual prize being won.  
Photo Credit: Mercedes-Benz USA



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# Around the Benz

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## Survey Says...

Secretary Tom Quinn

I want to thank all of you who participated in our first section survey! We tried to make it as short and painless as possible yet still providing needed and valuable information on what you, as members, want to see from our club. Other surveys simply disappear once the submit button is pressed, but I promised you the results! So without further delay, here we go!

Activities: Wow! You want it ALL and in equal measure (you are MB owners after all, so I guess no one should be surprised!) You want to hold tech sessions, hold social activities, visit points of interest and attend car shows. Voting came in at a nearly a dead split between the four options at 25% each. Impressive!

As a club, members wish to attend activities three to five times a year (80%), prefer destinations in or around central Florida (77%), and feel activities should cost \$50 or less (80%).

Communications: Ok, Ok... no Facebook! Got it. Message received! You prefer emails over all other forms of communications and feel the newsletter and event notices are working well at keeping you informed on activities in a timely manner. Members overwhelmingly (72%), would like to begin receiving the monthly meeting minutes (via Facebook - Just kidding!).

We focused this survey on Activities and Communications and you have spoken clearly! Your MBCA Central Florida section leadership, and directors, will do our best to consider your voices each and every time we plan events!

Got a Mercedes you want to sell?

Some parts or tools?

For Sale

Personal Ads for members are free!

Write the club mailbox for more info.

## 2019 Section Elections



It's time for Board elections again! Please submit your vote by September 27th, 2018. Write in candidates must be club members. Cast your vote to section Secretary [Tom Quinn](#). Results of the election will be announced in October.

### Executive Board

President - Bob Hartmann

Secretary - Tom Quinn

Treasurer - Larry Barnes

Vice President - open

## Ace Cafe July - A Stunning 190 SL-'R'

On a warm July evening, within eyesight of I4, the air was electric; energized with the presence of a freshly restored 190SLR. Mr Santiago, pronouncedly making the car's first public appearance in possibly as many as 42 years. Pulled from under an old house in Puerto Rico just 5 years ago, and restored from original stock from Poland, expertise from the Midwest, and some fine touches here in east Orlando, such a prime example of a classic car, restored to perfection. Here's to awesome classics!





## Stories from the Road: The Water Pump from Hell

Pierre Hedary

Between 1966 and 1967 Mercedes made a splendid model called the 300 SEL. This unique model relied on some interesting technology and one of these odd pieces was a generator that drove the water pump mounted along the passenger side of the engine block. Most water pumps are driven off of a belt at the front of the engine, Mercedes Benz included. My good friend Keith Morgan owns one of these excellent cars, But after hibernating in Michigan for several decades in someone's backyard garage it needed a lot of help. Keith wanted me to come up to sort some major items out on this car and at the time his normal mechanic could not get to the water pump in a reasonable time frame. At the time I was also strapped for cash, because I needed to finish the engine rebuild on my 1972 280 SE 4.5. I was excited to have this opportunity where I could earn a few thousand dollars in about a week. The best part of this job was that I got to spend a week with Keith, who's a very good friend and has taken great pains to preserve a number of classic Mercedes.

After removing the Subframe from the bottom of the car, the engine hung dangerously over our heads. Carefully, I removed the items associated with the water pump and everything went fairly well up to that point. I was surprised because I knew at some point something had to go wrong since we were dealing with old aluminum and lots of corrosion. The water pump eventually came out, but much to my dismay there was an aluminum flange attached that looked like it would be impossible to remove, having been on there for 45 years. When Keith and I looked at the flange mounting, my worst fears were confirmed. The aluminum flange had corroded onto the pump's cast iron shaft. Despite the fact we tried to knock it

off, beat it off, and press it off, it would not budge. That flange was also obsolete. Mercedes did not supply it anymore, and the only person I knew who had it would want a fortune and take about three weeks to supply a used one.

I was scared that I was going to break it, and if I broke it, that was it- game over. I don't get paid unless I perform, so I had to be careful.

Then I had an idea (after 6 hours of trying this and that to get the flange off). "Keith, why don't we find a machinist and ask him to drill the center of the water pump out of the flange?"

"I don't know of anyone directly (keep in mind, this is small town Maine), but we can try."

Finally, after making several calls, we found a guy. I have a hard time trusting normal people with Mercedes parts, but I decided it was worth the risk. I was certainly going to destroy it if I kept trying.

The machinist was a good natured chap, who insisted he could "make us a new flange". I explained that I didn't want a new one- I just needed the old one extracted. I explained to him

*Mercedes Benz Club of America - Central Florida Section Presents:*  
**Ace Café Orlando** 100 W Livingston St, Orlando, FL 32801  
Monday evening, August 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm



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See Theirs  
Trade Stories  
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Drink Together  
Admire New Models  
Admire Impeccable Restorations  
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Laugh  
Repeat next month....

Bring your Mercedes, see other Mercedes. See other European Models including Porsche. Enjoy meeting new friends, and sharing a meal together... all in the presence of some of the finest cars in the Orlando area! Don't miss it!

Check out our new Ace Cafe meeting notice!



visit [centralflorida.mbc.org](http://centralflorida.mbc.org) for more info

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# Around the Benz

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## Stories from the Road: (Continued)

my idea of drilling the water pump mainshaft out, which he agreed was feasible. From that point I was pretty excited, but we still had a lot of work to do. When you remove a front subframe on a 300SEL, you still have leveling valves to replace, as well as subframe mounts, coolant hoses and a thermostat.

No water pump job is complete without a new thermostat, and the one for the M189 engine is compressed in an unusual Aluminum housing that is prone to corrosion. Needless to say one of the bolts broke as soon as I (carefully) tried to remove it, and my attempts to drill the bolt out was only successful in getting the old housing loose and not necessarily getting the bolt out. An attempt to remove the housing resulted in me cracking it. This meant that we had to find someone who could weld aluminum, which was going to be a challenge as well. Oddly enough, Keith remembered a gentleman who had fabricated an aluminum fitting for him and decided to call him. One of my main gripes about people in the metalworking industry is they never know if they can actually do something or not until they have completed the job, so they leave you waiting in suspense. Thankfully, we had the right idea the first time and everything went very smoothly with the thermostat housing. Now there was only one more mistake I had to fix: I had attempted to drill one of the bolts out , and hadn't really done a perfect job. the hole was off center and it was eating into the aluminum of the bottom

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Benno & Heike Deifel (Owner/Manager)



Benno, Jon, Rose, Bob H, Larry (Bob Rolle not pictured) at the July Rally club meeting. Tim Majors, Kat and Keith at MBar were very gracious to allow us to meet spontaneously.

half of the thermostat housing. This was not what I had intended to happen after all the time we had put into this operation , so I began to carefully reassess what options I had. I noted that if I could get my drill hole back on center I still had enough depth to correct my mistake. I fabricated a guide, and with careful use of the drill I was able to remove the remains of the bolt in the aluminum housing and not make a huge mistake. After we went back to the Machinist and picked up our water pump with the flange installed, I fully installed the new water pump and managed to put the thermostat and housing back in. We still had no idea whether the system would leak or not , and we still had to install the front subframe. I realized that one mistake in this entire 30 hour job would result in me having to take everything apart again. It would mean that my trip was in vain and that I would be a complete failure if I did not do this right. My getting paid depends on a final result. After five more hours of reinstalling the front subframe, filling the cooling system and finally starting the engine I was relieved to discover that everything worked as it was supposed to without leaking. Even a substantial test drive went well with none of the joints in the cooling system leaking under pressure. Keith and I celebrated with an ice cream cone at the eleventh hour. The next morning I packed my bags, and Keith and I drove down to New Jersey for the Mercedes-Benz Club of the America's June Jamboree event.



## The Grand Finale... Recent Member Photos



Keith Valley, MBar's Director of Hospitality, and his 2015 C250 'Mildred'



Time under the hood is good time



Benz Money O.G.



Ace Cafe August: R. Meghnat with his silver SLK55



Ace Cafe August: Mike Danganan with his white Geländewagen



A little post-repair sketch -ed.



Ace Cafe August: B. Kalicharan with his white GLK 350



Ace Cafe August: Jeremiah with his C43 AMG



Ace Cafe August: Angle Jaramillo with his 2011 black C300



Bob with the Hollerbach's, July in Sanford



Ace Cafe August: Benno Deifel, Heike and Son with his W124 Cabriolet



Ace Cafe August: Mr. & Mrs. G. Varga with his black C55



Ace Cafe August: Duane Jackson with his white GLE



Ace Cafe August: R. Ricks with his red E300

**Coming up next issue: Pierre's service stories from the road, Event reviews, and much more!!!**

