

The StarDust

July 2007 | Desert Stars Section | Arizona



Sedona, The Backdrop for our Fall Havasupai'07



The Sedona Reäl Inn and Suites will be our base for both nights, and we've arranged for a discounted block of comfortable rooms and suites, some with fireplaces, ranging from \$112 to \$160 per night. You'll need to choose your room and make your own reservations by

The beautiful Red Rocks of Sedona will provide the backdrop for our 42nd annual rallye classic – Our Fall Havasupai'07. Set aside the last weekend in October, the 26th – 28th, for a pleasant road trip with the Benz, heading north to Arizona's stunning Sedona area. Plan to meet with friends and tour the surrounding towns and open spaces while learning about and visiting some of the out-of-the-way places you may never have seen before.

Rallyemasters John & Marianne Hutchison and Gerry Fortier & Sandra Allan have been busy working on the rallye details and, after a number of "test runs" this summer, promise it will be ready to offer you a challenge. Although we can't guarantee that you won't get lost, you will never be more than about 30 miles of gorgeous Red-Rocks country from your starting and ending points. Now that's "air" miles, and not necessarily "road" miles, unless you want to take a shortcut over Schnebly Hill Road on your way. Only Bob Yoder would be brave enough to attempt that route.

Late October is peak color season for foliage and we'll see why USA Today calls Sedona "The Most Beautiful Scenery in America!" Social Directors Chuck and Ava Stanford are handling hospitality arrangements including the Friday night reception, breakfasts, Saturday evening's awards banquet, and some special activities for Sunday morning.

calling the Sedona Reäl at 928-282-1414. Reserve your room for Friday and Saturday nights, October 26 and 27, mentioning that you are with the MBCA Desert Stars Section and Havasupai. The hotel has agreed to honor these rates for two days before and after the event — so why not take an opportunity to stretch your weekend.

The registration form is included on page 4 for you early birds who want to make sure you're included in the event. The Registration Fee of \$199, per couple, when you take advantage of early registration, covers the Saturday rallye, entry fees and prizes, and all meals including the special Awards Banquet on Saturday. Your room cost will **not** be part of the rallye registration fee, so we suggest that you call Sedona Reäl soon to assure your choice – the block is limited and only available until September 26. More details will be provided in the September StarDust.

For a special Sunday treat, we've arranged discounted rates for Sedona's world famous Pink Jeep Tours. This is an excellent way to see outback Sedona up close with a personable local guide to show you some of the beautiful areas the Benz just won't go. Guided tours range from 1-1/2 to 3 hours and cost \$46-74 including all taxes and gratuities.

For more information, please call John Hutchison at 480-473-4887 or Chuck Stanford, Jr. at 480-585-0785.

Chuck Stanford and John Hutchison

**If you're new to rallying or need a warm up to whet your skills,
then check out page 6 for our pre-Havasupai Practice Rallye, on Saturday, September 15, 2007**

President's Message:



We wrapped up our schedule of events for the 2006/07 season with our

Annual Business Meeting at FireRock Country Club. Event coordinator, John Teichgraeber, and Activities & Events Chair, Rich Leamon, did a fantastic job and the staff of the FireRock went out of their way to welcome us. See the story on page 7. We were a little short on space in this issue, so there's only picture of the event in this issue, but there a full photogallery on our section website at <http://www.desertstars.org>. Everyone has a terrific time; so we are going to do it again for our Annual Holiday Party in December. I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank our Board and all the members who helped in making this past event season such a great success.

As for this coming season, Rich Leamon has it pretty well scheduled. He discussed it in detail at the Annual Business Meeting and it is highlighted on the back page of this issue in the *Save These Dates* section. I'm sure Rich and the Board will come up with some

surprises to add to the schedule, so be sure to watch for them in the StarDust and on our section website.

Besides our schedule of event, all the sections in the Southwest Region have full schedules of events. For example, the Channel Islands Section has a winery tour during the weekend of September 14th – 16th. The Orange County section is having a weekend in Palm Springs on October 26th – 28th. They both sound like amazing events, but unfortunately, whose are the weekends we are holding our Practice Rallye and our Fall Havasupai'07. We have to work with the other sections to minimize these conflicts. If you are going to be in the Los Angeles area anyway on those dates and want to participate email me at pres@desertstars.org and I'll give you some additional information and a person to contact.

Speaking of Havasupai, John & Marianne Hutchison, Gerry Fortier & Sandra Allan and Chuck & Ava Stanford have put together a wonderful weekend in Sedona for this event. The details are on the front page and a registration form is on page 4. And don't forget the practice rallye to sharpen those clue hunting skills; details on page 6.

See you at an event soon,

*Rick Stacio, President
Desert Stars Section*

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Newsletter Editor:

Rick Stacio

Contributing Credits for this Issue:

Brynn Burton
John Hutchison & Chuck Stanford, Jr.
Chuck Landenberger
Rich Leamon
Elaine Petrick & Bob Yoder
Rick Stacio

Photograph Credits for this issue:

Rich Leamon
Rick Stacio

Advertising Manager:

John Teichgraeber
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New Members



April

Edward & Christine Taylor
Brian Coffelt & Chris Millar
Meredith Chenault
Arnold Davis
Marilyn Kay & Wayne Holsinger
Jackie Vandemark
Michael Gilbert
Robert Sellars
Richard & Gisela Ratcliff
Clinton & Margaret Smith
Mark Reeth
Michele & Darrell Stephens
Larry Ginddeman
Israel Vicente
Robert & Dana Hooper
Robert & Nancy Stoffer
Norbertnorb Yennie

May

Ray & Kathy Bucy
Norman Wegbreit
Susan & Bradley Willson
Mark Diamond
Larry Bricker
Joe Vigneux
Gary Smith
Dean Yelenik
Madelyne King
William Becker
Robert & Jennifer Decker
Astria Wong

June

David & Roberta Coalbank
Karen Andrews
Lynn Lee
John Johnson
Charles Moudry
Brian Zabel
Donald Andrews
Gladys & Todd Logan
Richard Bogatko
Alan & Alisha Waller
Calvin Cook
Albert Carlotti
Eric Wagner
Michael Stein

Desert Stars' Board

President:

Rick Stacio (623) 582-6694

Vice President:

Bud Cloninger (602) 392-0686

Treasurer:

Richard Sharp (480) 661-1325

Secretary:

Brynn Burton (480) 832-1504

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 Bud Cloninger (602) 392-0686
 Lowenski Garcia (602) 647-6806
 John Hutchison (480) 473-4887
 Chuck Landenberger (623) 748-1472
 Rich Leamon (480) 460-8356
 Joan May (623) 444-9988
 Bryan O'Connor (602) 620-4795
 Robert Schmelzer (480) 247-3093
 Chuck Stanford, Jr. (480) 585-0786
 John Teichgraeber (480) 837-3624
 Bob Yoder (480) 998-0194

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Activities & Events:

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Louis Horwin (480) 707-0320

Publicity:

Bud Cloninger (602) 392-0686

Newsletter Adveristing:

John Teichgraeber (480) 837-3624

Newsletter Editor:

Rick Stacio (623) 582-6694

Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month. All members are welcome. Check with a board member concerning place and time.

"Curves of Steel" Exhibit at the Phoenix Art Museum

Twenty-six Desert Stars members visited the Phoenix Art Museum on Saturday, May 12 to **ohhh....and ahhh...**at twenty-two gorgeous, elegant, visionary, rare, beautiful, sleek and certainly streamlined automobiles of the late 30's. Included marques were Bugatti, Delahaye, Hispano-Suiza, Talbot-Lago, Delage and from the USA were Lincoln Zephyr, Chrysler Air-Flow, Cord, Auburn and Tucker. Leslie Kendall, curator of the renowned Peterson Automotive Museum in Las Angeles, walked us through time with his narrative of these historical cars. We were very fortunate to have this "one-of-a-kind" exhibit in our city. What a special treat....and, while still in a state of "awe" after the exhibit, we proceeded to Durant's for drinks, conversation and a wonderful, delicious dinner. This was a number TEN event! Thanks to all for participating.

Elaine Petrick & Bob Yoder



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Breath-Taking Sedona, Fall Havasupai'07

October 26th – 28th, 2007

Registration Form

Contact Information:

Name(s): Section:

Address: Phone No.:

City: State/Prov.: Zip:

Phone No.: Day Night

Email Address:

Number Attending: Please check box to left if you have a Golden Age or Golden Eagle Passport.

Price: Before September 26th –\$199⁰⁰ per couple. Vehicle Model: Vehicle Year:
 After September 26th –\$215⁰⁰ per couple.

Separate Reservations are Required for the nights of October 26th and 27th at:

Sedona Reäl Inn and Suites
 call (928) 282-1414

Room rates from \$112⁰⁰ to \$160⁰⁰ are available until September 26th
 Mention the MBCA Desert Stars Section Havasupai when calling.

These rates are available to Havasupai participants from October 24th through the 29th. Those familiar with Sedona will know what fantastic rate these are for Sedona in October. So why not extend your stay in Sedona.

These rates are only available until September 26th and are limited; so make your reservations today.

Please check the box to the left if you are interested in taking part in a tour of the Sedona Red Rock area on Sunday, October 28th, in the famous Sedona **Pink Jeeps**. This is not included in the cost of Havasupai. If you check the box, we will contact you with further information and to make arrangements.

If you have any question, please call Chuck Stanford at (480) 585-0785.



Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to: **MBCA Desert Stars**
 c/o Chuck Stanford, Jr
 11405 East De La O Road
 Scottsdale, AZ 85255



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Practice Rallye for Beginners and Experts

The Valley of the Sun is world renowned for its beautiful resorts, each one unique. Whether you are a long-term resident or new to the neighborhood this is a chance to explore the beauty and history of three of Phoenix's finest while competing in a fun car rallye. Experienced rallyers can tune up their skills in preparation for this year's Havasupai and novices can learn the secrets for cashing in on those great prizes.

Rallyemaster Wayne Burford, assisted by Rallyemasters of the 2007 Spring Havasupai Brynn and Don Burton, have agreed to provide (almost) all of the secrets to achieving those high rallye scores. Wayne, Brynn and Don are in the process of planning a short and easy route to help even the most timid participants while giving the more experienced a pleasant afternoon with club friends.

Our trip begins with registration around noon on Saturday September 15th at an as yet undisclosed location. After registration, we will send you through various scenic neighborhoods and resorts in the Phoenix area. Along the way you can experience how fun and easy it is to find the answers to clues and questions while marveling at the splendor of some of Phoenix's classic resorts.

Upon arrival at the destination, your rallye sheets will be scored while you enjoy a social hour with the other participants. After dinner, we will go over the results of the rallye, discuss successful rallye strategies, and answer questions anyone might have. Participants will also get the chance to ask the upcoming Havasupai Rallyemasters to provide some foresight into this year's Havasupai Rallye which is scheduled to take place during the weekend of October 26 – 28, 2007.

So, round up your favorite driver or navigator and join us for what promises to be a delightful Saturday afternoon and evening. Please get your reservations in right away (the deadline is August 31st as space may be limited) so we can make all of the arrangements and prepare the rallye clue and question packages. Dinner plans are still in negotiations; we may ask for additional fund or have it as a no host affair. An instructional package will be sent to all registrants around September 7th providing directions to the starting point, the plans for dinner and any other pertinent information about the event. Please call Brynn or Don Burton at (480) 832-1504 if you have any questions.

Brynn Burton

Practice Rallye, A Warm Up for Fall Havasupai'07 Saturday, September 15th, 2007 Registration Form

Contact Information:

Name(s): Section:

Address: Phone No.:

City: State/Prov.: Zip:

Phone No.: Day Night

Email Address:

Number Attending: Price is \$30 per vehicle Vehicle Model: Vehicle Year:

If you have any questions, please call Brynn or Don Burton at (480) 832-1504.

Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to: **MBCA Desert Stars**
c/o Brynn & Don Burton
3734 East Oasis Circle
Mesa, AZ 85215

Don't miss an issue of the **Star** or **Stardust**. Keep your mailing address current with the MBCA National Business Office. You can change your address online at <http://mbca.org/mbca/addchange.htm>, call 1-800-637-2360 or mail your address change to:



MBCA
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Colorado Springs, CO
80909

We can not make these changes, locally.

Desert Stars Gather at FireRock Country Club

The Desert Stars gathered at the prestigious FireRock Country Club in Fountain Hills for our Annual Business Meeting on June 3. Our thanks go to John Teichgraeber for organizing this event and making this excellent venue available. As members arrived they were greeted by displays of Dick and Mindy Sharp's 2006 StarFest Concours Award winning vintage 1953, 300S and John & Dorothy Teichgraeber's beautiful new CLS63 AMG which were parked at the entrance to FireRock.

After a social hour to renew old friendships, we enjoyed a delicious mixed grill brunch.

The next order of the day was our annual business meeting, convened by our President Rick Stacio. Rick introduced the officers and presented Bob Yoder with a



Bob Yoder receives recognition for service as Vice President

beautiful engraved plaque for his contributions as Vice President over the past 2 years. Bob is stepping down from that office. Rick introduced each retiring Director and acknowledged their contributions to the Board. Rick also presented plaques to the retiring directors, Wayne Burford, Advertising Chair and Lou Horwin, Membership Chair. The proposed changes to the by laws were approved. We elected our 2006/2007 officers and directors.

Our officers for '07/08 are as follows:

- **Rick Stacio, President**
- **Bud Cloninger, Vice President**
- **Dick Sharp, Treasurer**
- **Brynn Burton, Secretary**

Our directors for '07/08 are as follows:

- **Jim Boyle, Class of 2009**
- **Lowenski Garcia, Class of 2009**
- **John Hutchison, Class of 2008**
- **Chuck Landenberger, Class of 2008**
- **Rich Leamon, Class of 2008**
- **Joan May, Class of 2009**
- **Bryan O'Connor, Class of 2009**
- **Robert Schmelzer, Class of 2010**
- **Chuck Stanford, Class of 2008**
- **John Teichgraeber, Class of 2009**
- **Bob Yoder, Class of 2010**

Rick recapped our 2006/2007 events schedule of 10 local and 3 national events and recognized all the efforts of the section organizers and supporting members. Rich Leamon then joined Rick in leading an event planning session for the coming year, 2007/08. See the back page's "**Save These Dates:**" for a summary.

Rich Leamon

Steinway/Mercedes-Benz Concours d'Elegance

This is a benefit event for Rosie's House in cooperation with the Desert Stars and Steinway of Phoenix on October 14, 2007, at the Steinway of Phoenix store, 11418 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale.

Plan on attending this event to hear wonderful compositions played by top-notch pianists and artists from Rosie's House. And, yes, seeing many beautiful vintage Mercedes-Benz cars.

You will learn of the connection between Gottlieb Daimler and Theodore Steinway and their unsuccessful attempt to build and sell an "American Mercedes". One car does remain at the MBUSA headquarters in Montvale, NJ. Sorry, it won't be here.

The details are still being finalized and, as soon as completed, will be posted on the Desert Stars website, www.desertstars.org and in the next StarDust newsletter.

If you are an accomplished pianist or just want to show off, you can get your chance at this event. Any questions - want to bring your vintage or unusual Benz? - want to play

a Steinway? Please contact Chuck Landenberger at 623-748-1472 or by email at pnrwgn@mac.com.

You will also hear some of the wonderful talent from Rosie's House at this event!

I'm looking forward to a wonderful turnout to support Rosie's House and your Desert Stars Section.

Rosie's House is a tuition free music academy, based on the conviction that every child should have the opportunity to play and master an instrument, regardless of family income. Their mission is to provide under-served youth of greater Phoenix with the gift of music, enhancing their daily lives by providing direction, stability and tools for future success.

For more information about Rosie's House visit their website at <http://www.rosieshouse.org/>, and our partner in this worthwhile event Steinway of Phoenix, at <http://www.shermanclay.com/phoenix/phoenixstore.html>.

Chuck Landenberger

Save These Dates:

| | |
|---|--|
| Practice Rallye | Saturday, September 15, 2007 |
| The Mercedes Steinway Connection | Sunday, October 14, 2007 |
| Fall Havasupai'07 | Sedona Weekend; October 26 – 28, 2007 |
| Holiday Party | Sunday, December 2, 2007 |
| Defensive Driving & Autocross | Saturday, January 26, 2008 |
| Family Picnic & Car Show | Saturday, February 9, 2008 |
| Kitt Peak Observatory Night Tour | Tucson Weekend; March 22 – 23, 2008 |
| Putting Session & Luncheon at Desert Highlands | Saturday, April 5, 2008 |
| British/Euro Auto Tour (The B.E.A.T.) | Weekend of April 19 – 20, 2008 |
| Memorial Day Weekend Auto Tour | Weekend of May 23 – 26, 2008 |
| Annual Business Meeting | Sunday, June 1, 2008 |

**Don't Miss Our Fall Havasupai'07, a weekend in Sedona, October 26th – 28th.
See the front page.**



Visit our section website at
<http://www.desertstars.org>



STARDUST Editor
3344 W. Taro Lane
Phoenix, AZ 85027-6157

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