

## Havasupai 2009 -- Tucson to Bisbee Friday/Sunday, September 25/27, 2009

Come join in the fun as this year's Havasupai tours through some of Arizona's most scenic and famous sites of the old west. Our starting point will be Arizona's original territorial capital. The English name *Tucson* derives from the Spanish name of the city, *Tucson*, which was borrowed from the O'odham name *Cuk Son* meaning (at the) base of the black (hill), a reference to an adjacent volcanic mountain. Tucson is sometimes referred to as "*The Old Pueblo*". The first known "village" dates back 4000 years. Jesuit missionaries visited the Santa Cruz River valley in 1692. They founded the Mission San Xavier del Bac in 1700 about 7 miles upstream from the site of the settlement of Tucson. This was followed by the building of a walled fortress, Presidio San Agustin del Tucson in August of 1775. Eventually the town came to be called "Tucson". It became part of Mexico after they gained independence from Spain in 1821, and, following the Gadsden Purchase in 1853, became part of the United States of America. From August 1861 until mid 1862, Tucson was the capital of the Confederate Arizona Territory. From 1867 to 1877, Tucson was the capital of the Arizona Territory.

We'll begin our adventure in Tucson where the hospitality and accommodations will be first rate. Our Friday evening reception and overnight stop will be at the newly renovated Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites located at 5151 E. Grant Road. The reception is for everyone, including members that live in Tucson, (who may fore go an overnight at the hotel). For those staying at the hotel, come early and enjoy the pool, gym in the afternoon, or the jazz bar on Friday evening. We have a special hospitality

room and will be serving snacks and adult beverages from about 5:00pm to mid evening as we welcome friends and fellow M-B enthusiasts. The cost of lodging, the evening hospitality and Saturday morning breakfast are included in the Package Price for those who stay over Friday night. We look forward to participants from the Chaparral Section in Tucson for the evening "hospitality" so that you can get acquainted with other Southwestern Region attendees.

Following a hearty poolside breakfast on Saturday we'll



**Bisbee and the Copper Queen Hotel in the early 1900's**

begin departing the Sheraton promptly at 8:00am and you'll be on your way to Bisbee Copper Country.

**Continued on page 4.**

## Attention! Guys & Gals! Listen Up! Polish Up Those Rallye Skills for Havasupai

Join us for our annual "Practice Rallye for Dummies" on Saturday afternoon, September 12, 2009. Although our previous practice runs were held in North 'Snobs'dale by our pro-rallyemaster, this one will be held in beautiful South Scottsdale by our former poker-run meister.

A short 20-30 mile easy tour through scenic and interesting areas will be followed by dinner and awards at a Scottsdale restaurant. The driving portion will include turn instructions, observation questions, an odometer correction section, picture identification and even an entombed body visit.

Please complete the registration form found on page 7 and mail it to us so we receive it before the September 7 deadline. We will contact you with our meeting place and time.



*Bob Yoder*

President's Message:



The dog days of summer are almost upon us so you don't want to miss out on the Escape the Heat Auto Tour up in the cool mountains of northern Arizona. Jim Boyle has arranged a relaxing weekend at Bison Ranch with an auto tour. Be sure to bring your camera as this area abounds with wildlife and majestic scenery. You can find more information about this event in the May issue of the *StarDust* or on our website at [www.desertstars.org](http://www.desertstars.org), just click on the event link under **Upcoming Events**.

I mentioned in my last message that I would update you on the National Presidents Meeting in Indianapolis. Fifty-Two sections were represented from all over the United States and Canada. We discussed many topics including better Dealership relations, membership participation and

recruitment of new members to name a few. Nationally membership is somewhat static after a small decline in the past few years. Some sections in economically depressed areas such as in the Rust Belt around the Detroit area find it hard to maintain membership and host events. Others sections such as ourselves are growing and have a full calendar of events. It was great to network with other sections to learn new ideas and to support each other.

One of the topics that were of most interest to me was communication between members and the need for more members to be engaged with the club. My thoughts on this were that a Social Network or Community would be helpful in achieving both. After considering networks such as *Facebook* and *MySpace* the decision was made to use a more academic or business like network such as *Ning*. Not that I have anything against smiley faces, I just felt as professional people we should have a professional network. For more information on The Desert Stars Online Community please see page 3. I would like to thank Desert Star Member Dave Barnhart for helping me set up this community and showing me how to organize and administrate it. Also I would like to thank my Daughter Jamie. She educated me on the finer points of social networking and most of all the language. LOL JJ :-).

Hope to see you at an event soon,  
*Bud Cloninger, President  
 Desert Stars Section*

**July 2009 Volume 45 Number 4**  
**©2009 MBCA Desert Stars Section**

The *StarDust* Newsletter is published by the MBCA Desert Stars Section bi-monthly. All rights reserved, except permission to reprint original articles is expressly granted to all MBCA Sections

**Newsletter Editor:**  
 Rick Stacio

**Contributing Credits for this Issue:**  
 Bud Cloninger  
 Chuck Landenberger  
 John Hutchison  
 Rick Stacio  
 Bob Yoder

**Photograph Credits for this issue:**  
 Dee Cloninger & Jamie Lucken  
 Chuck Landenberger  
 Chuck & Ava Stanford

**Advertising Manager:**  
 Rich Schulte

For advertising inquiries:  
 • Email [ads@desertstars.org](mailto:ads@desertstars.org);  
 • Write to the address below the Stardust Masthead on the back page; or  
 • call (401) 225-2090.

**Website:**  
[www.desertstars.org](http://www.desertstars.org)

**Highlights Inside:**

Havasupai.....	1
Training Rallye.....	1
President's Message.....	2
M-B Chandler's E Class Intro.....	2
New Members.....	2
Online Community for Desert Stars....	3
Annual Business Meeting.....	3
Havasupai Registration Form.....	6
Training Rallye .....	7
Memorial Day Weekend Auto Tour....	7
Featured Mercedes.....	7
Feature Your Mercedes.....	8
Save These Dates.....	10

Desert Stars at M-B of Chandler for Introduction of 2010 E Class

The local dealership, Mercedes-Benz of Chandler, invited the section to provide several of the cars that contribute to the E-Class heritage. The following were prominently displayed on the evening of June 12th to coordinate with the introduction of the 2010 E Class Sedan and Coupe. A big thanks to these deserving members:

- Mark Anderson      1969 220D      115 body
- Richard Seaman    1982 300DT    123 body
- Rich Schulte        1992 500E     124 body

Many members took advantage of the invitation to get a close up look at the new 2010 E Class, Wine tasting and Hors d'oeuvres. We had the opportunity to meet other potential MBCA Members and had a display table set up with club applications and information about the Desert Stars Section

and the MBCA. Many thanks to MB Chandler for their positive encouragement of the Desert Stars Section.

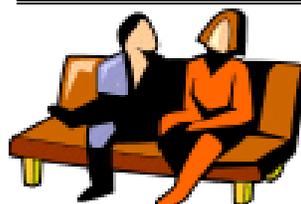
*Chuck Landenberger*



May

- Susan Schirm
- Morris Crout
- Michael & Ralph Goldenberg
- Lee & Jane Hathaway
- Daine & Richard Oltmann

New Members



June

- Carey Hobson
- Ogbonna Abarikwu
- Stephen & Courtney Schein
- Carole Spackman

## Desert Stars' Board



- President:**  
Bud Cloninger (602) 326-6210
- Vice President:**  
Bryan O'Connor (602) 620-4795
- Treasurer:**  
Richard Sharp (480) 661-1325
- Secretary:**  
Brynn Burton (480) 832-1504
- Immediate Past President:**  
Rick Stacio (623) 582-6694
- Directors:**  
Ron Borino (602) 550-9939  
Don Burton (480) 832-1504  
Michael Broadston (623) 876-2632  
Lou Horwin (480) 707-0320  
Bryan O'Connor (602) 620-4795  
Robert Schmelzer (480) 247-3093  
Rich Schulte (401) 225-2090  
Rick Stacio (623) 582-6694  
Bob Yoder (480) 998-0194
- Chairs:**  
**Activities & Events:**  
John Hutchison (480) 473-4887
- Membership:**  
Louis Horwin (480) 707-0320
- Publicity:**  
Michael Broadston (623) 876-2632
- Newsletter Advertising:**  
Rich Schulte (401) 225-2090
- 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.

## The Desert Stars Have an Online Community

As some of you already know our Desert Stars Online Community is up and running and very active. For now this community is closed off to the outside world and is by invitation only to Desert Star members and their family's. We have just completed sending invitations to all Desert Star members that have correct and current e-mail addresses registered with MBCA. Out of the 229 invitations that we sent out, approximately sixty members have so far subscribed. There are likely several reasons for such a moderate turn out:

- Some members may not want to participate.
- Invitations end up in your junk mail not to be seen.
- Many members use their company or work e-mail. Most larger companies or businesses will filter out all but work related mail so you may not have received it.
- Invitations have a time limit on them and will "time out" if not used promptly.
- Most of all e-mail addresses are old and inactive. This a good reason to update your information with MBCA the next chance you get.

All that said, I would like to personally invite all members that are interested to join the Desert Stars Online community. If you'd like an invitation please contact me at 602-326-6210 or [scottsdale3@mac.com](mailto:scottsdale3@mac.com). It's a great place to connect with other members that enjoy all things Mercedes Benz.

*Bud Cloninger*

## Desert Stars hold Annual Meeting at the Camelback Inn

On Sunday, June 7, 2009, we held this year's Annual Business Meeting at the Camelback Inn. It was an excellent venue to conduct our elections and Club Business. Robert Schmelzer arranged for us to meet at the BLT Steak House where we had full access to the Camelback Inn's famous Buffet and beautiful surroundings.

After much conversation and a first class meal our meeting was called to order. We reviewed the year's membership, Club financials, improvements to the newsletter and our long awaited Section Online store. After recapping our events of the last year, our four retiring board members, Joan May, Jim Boyle, Brian O Conner and John Teichgraeber were recognized. All received recognition awards for their years of service to the club as Directors.

Former Desert Star President Rick Stacio then took the floor

to conduct elections for the coming year's officers and board members. The following new officers and board members where chosen by the unanimous acclamation of the members present:

### Officers:

- President: Bud Cloninger  
Vice Pres: Bryan O'Connor  
Treasurer: Dick Sharp  
Secretary: Brynn Burton

### Directors for 2012:

- Ron Borino  
Don Burton  
Rich Schulte  
Rick Stacio

After concluding the elections, Events Chair John Hutchison talked about upcoming events and Chuck Stanford updated membership on our SW Regional Event Havasupai.

*Bud Cloninger*

*Editor's Note: See photos on page 9, more on our website.*

## Havasupai 2009 (cont'd from page 1)

Around noon we will stop for lunch at a "wild west" saloon and outpost in the middle of nowhere! Following a hearty buffet lunch of chicken and ribs we'll head toward Bisbee, an out-of-the-way jewel, very well known in the old Arizona Territory.

If you've never been there, you'll be fascinated by our destination. The rise of Bisbee began as a result of a military party discovering heavy signs of "mineralization" on one of their scouting expeditions to the southernmost part of the Arizona Territory in 1877. After that discovery, mining claims were quickly filed – just like in the California gold rush of 1849. Bisbee began to grow and prosper and was incorporated in 1902. By 1910, the city was considered the largest in the territory, with over 25,000 people -- the most populous city between St. Louis and San Francisco. Supposedly, under its "rough edges", it was the most cultural city in the Southwest. There was also an active Stock Exchange (the stock board is still on the wall in one of the saloons very near the hotel) and other amenities you would expect to find only in a large Eastern community, not in a community like Bisbee in the wilds of the West. Many more interesting facts will be included in our rallye. Arriving Saturday afternoon in Bisbee, reserved parking will be available, and we'll check into the Historic Copper Queen Hotel, Arizona's longest continuous operating hotel – since 1907. You'll have your choice from a variety of quaint and historic rooms, including several unique specialty rooms (John Wayne had his favorite... really!), but hurry because choices are limited. When we

receive your reservation we will tell you how to make your room reservation at the Copper Queen. Although we have arranged for a basic rate that includes Saturday night lodging and Sunday morning breakfast, you may want to "upgrade" to one of the specialty rooms. Because of the different room rates, if you choose one of the specialty rooms, we are not including the cost of the Copper Queen in our rallye fee; you will need to make your own reservations and charge it to your own credit card.

Our Saturday evening awards banquet will be at

Bisbee's finest restaurant, just a short walk from the hotel. We'll enjoy a five-course dinner and there'll be prizes for those most like-minded with our devious rallyemasters (not necessarily something to be proud of...)

After breakfast Sunday in the Copper Queen's Victorian dining room, we have space for 35 people to take a tour into the Copper Queen underground mine; first come, first served; so get your reservation in fast. However, for those that might not like the dark and closed space of a mine, an interesting alternative is the Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum.

We are looking forward to hosting another fantastic Southwestern Regional Event, and would like to see you there. Send in your final reservation and payment fast as we only have 25 rooms; 16 are already spoken for by those who made advance reservations. **Registration deadline for this event is Friday, August 21, 2009; save \$25 by sending in your registration and check by Monday, August 10!!!** You can find a registration form on page 6 of this issue of the *StarDust*.

Full details of the rallye will be mailed out to all registrants in early September, providing driving directions and other information that you will need to know about the rallye.

If you have any questions, please call your Rallyemasters, John & Marianne Hutchison at (480) 473.4887 or your Hospitality Hosts Chuck and Ava Stanford at (480) 585.0785.

*John Hutchison*



Everyone's Ready to Enter the Queen Mine as part of our Havasupai in 2004

Another Valley summer smothering and glaring at you?  
Don't sweat it.

**Protective Film Solutions has you covered.**



You likely have your vehicle windows tinted to fend off the heat. How good of a job is that tint doing? Are you still cranking the A/C on high and sweating long after you've turned it on? Are you worried about all the sun bearing down on your skin and your interior? Is the tint turning purple? We have the solution: **3M Crystalline**.

3M Crystalline is a premium window tint that:

- comes in a **variety of shades, including virtually invisible**
- **rejects up to 59% of total solar energy** (depending on film), so you feel cooler and use less A/C
- **blocks 99.9% of UV rays**, so your skin, eyes and interior are protected
- **helps cut the blinding glare**, so you drive more comfortably and safely

**Once our customers have 3M Crystalline, they can't believe how they ever lived without it.** In fact, many of them wind up having us install the film on their other vehicles.

Give us a call so you can experience the 3M Crystalline difference for yourself.

**Now through August 31, 2009, Protective Film Solutions is offering  
15% off 3M Crystalline installs for any and all of your vehicles**

(car club members only)



**480.609.3787 | [www.ProtectiveFilmSolutions.biz](http://www.ProtectiveFilmSolutions.biz)**

(conveniently located in the Scottsdale Airpark)

**3M** Authorized Window  
Film Dealer



## Havasupai 2009 Registration Form

Friday/Sunday September 25/27, 2009

Names \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ # Attending \_\_\_\_\_

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

Contact Information: Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Night \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Rallye Car Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

1. For Chaparral attendees, will you be staying at Hotel Friday Night? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

2. For all Friday overnight participants, I prefer: \_\_\_\_\_ King Bed \_\_\_\_\_ Double Accommodations

3. Will you be coming to the Hospitality Suite Friday night? \_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

4. Saturday lunch will be a chicken and ribs buffet in an old Wild West Saloon.

5. Saturday Banquet Dinner selection: (Indicate number of dinners in each space)

\_\_\_\_\_ Braised Short Ribs of Beef  
Rosemary Potatoes and Roasted Vegetables

\_\_\_\_\_ Grilled Filet of Norwegian Salmon or Sea Bass  
Gorgonzola/Dill Crust and Smoked Potato Cake

\_\_\_\_\_ Roasted Half Duck  
Rosemary Potatoes w/ cranberry, honey, merlot sauce

\_\_\_\_\_ Gulf Shrimp tossed with Lobster Ravioli  
in a broth of white wine, garlic and roasted tomatoes

6. Sunday morning activity (10:00am)

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Queen Mine Underground tour (first 35 to sign up)

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum

7. Registration Fees If received BEFORE August 10 If received AFTER August 10

• Double, with Friday night hotel **\$310** **\$335**

**Please call John Hutchison at 480.473.4887 for special rates if you are signing up as a "single" or if you elect NOT to stay in the hotel in Tucson on Friday evening.**

For those who have already paid a \$100 advance reservation fee, please deduct that amount from your payment at this time.

Make your check payable to: MBCA Desert Stars and mail to: MBCA Desert Stars  
c/o: John Hutchison  
9726 E Cavalry Drive  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262

Practice Rallye

Saturday, September 12, 2009  
Registration Form

Contact Information:

Name(s):  Number Attending:

Address:

City:  State/Prov.:  Zip:

Phone No.:   Day  Night

Email Address:

We need your registration form and check before September 7, 2009 Call Bob Yoder or Elaine Petrick, 480-998-0194, with any questions. Cost, which includes dinner, is \$35.00 per person.

Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to: **MBCA Desert Stars**  
c/o Bob Yoder  
6344 E Cactus Wren Road  
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

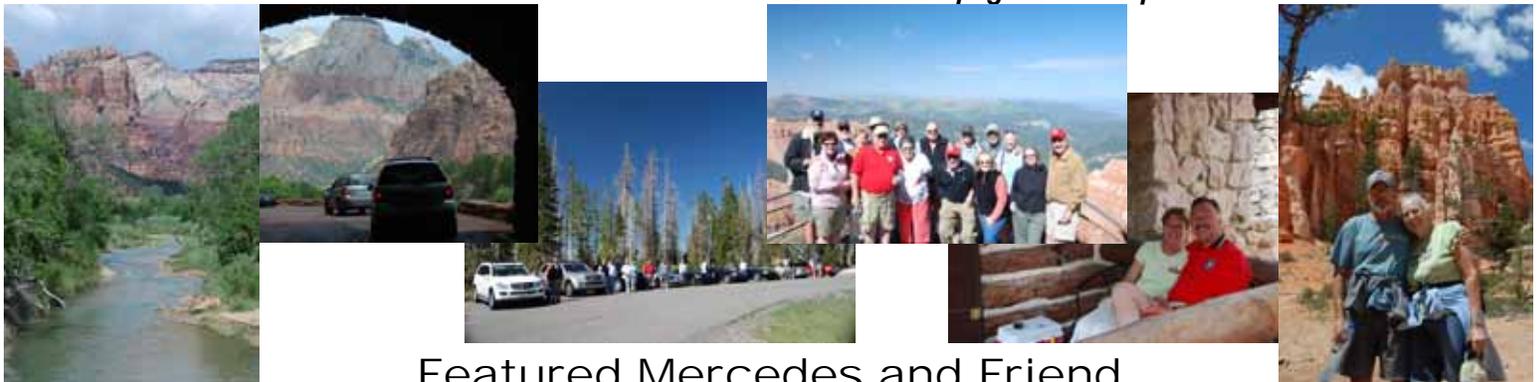
Desert Stars Tour Southern Utah for Memorial Day Weekend

As usual, the team Sharp hosted an exceptional Memorial Day Weekend event. Our stomping grounds this year were southern Utah with overnight stays at Zion and Bryce National Parks. All accommodations were first class and the event was executed without a hitch. As the saying goes, 'A picture is

worth a thousand words', so here are the pictures. Many thanks to Dick and Mindy for the event and to Chuck and Ava Stanford for the photographs. The full photo-gallery can be seen on our website at [www.desertstars.org](http://www.desertstars.org).

See the back page for more photos.

Rick Stacio



Featured Mercedes and Friend



This issues featured Mercedes is Chuck Landenberger's 1987 190 E 2.3 16 valve. Less than 3,000 of these high performance 190's were sold in the United States and that makes it a very special Mercedes. This car has a five-speed manual transmission, limited slip differential, ABS brakes, Ricaro seats and the factory aerodynamic package with rear deck spoiler; all standard equipment for this model. When you purchased a US version 16 valve you pretty much got it all. These cars where only available in two colors, Smoke Silver and Pearl Black with only one choice for interior color, black. With only 128,000 miles on this car, it's a premium example of Mercedes racing heritage.

Chuck is leaving us to be with his family and relax on the beaches of Hawaii next month. He is having the car shipped to Oahu and will be the envy of many on the island as he drives the winding roads of Hawaii. As a Mercedes Club member for almost twenty years and a current MBCA Director at large the Hawaii section will be getting a huge asset. I'm looking forward to the photos of the 16 valve with the surf board on top.

**Maika'i pomaika'i, Chuck.**



Artfully Uniting  
Extraordinary  
Properties  
With  
Extraordinary  
Lives

Rhonda Borino  
602-989-6833  
rhonda@borino.com



www.rhondaborino.com



*The Finishing Touch  
Body Shop, Inc.*

480-837-3355

16940 E. Colony Dr. Fountain Hills, AZ  
lthshop@qwestoffice.net

# Dent + Medic Inc.

Paintless Dent Removal  
Specializing in Door Dings

Gregg Smith (602) 809-6766



Photo speed camera detectors

www.CheetahUSA.com

The Cheetah GPS detector alerts you with audible and visual alerts to photo-enforcement cameras. Email and mention this ad for 10% off any order. sales@CheetahUSA.com

CLASSIC M-B Restorations

Technical Assistance, Repairs and Mobile Caretaker Service

CRAIG CROUCH

30208 N. 66th St. - Cave Creek, AZ  
Ph. 480-206-3860  
E-mail: classicmbz@aol.com  
www.classicmbz.com

Award Winning, Factory Trained, 25 yrs. Experience

Tuning  
Rebuild  
Sales  
Repair

## Feature Your Mercedes in the StarDust

Would you like to have your Mercedes showcased in the *StarDust* as the **Featured Mercedes**? If so, send me a digital photograph of your car with a little information and your car could be used in a future issue. The photo can be with or without you in it, but must be of high enough resolution to print. The higher the better, but no less than 850x640 pixels.

Whether your car has just come off the showroom floor or is a vintage model, all are welcomed. Only one photo per issue but feel free to mention other Mercedes you may own.

Email your photos to me at scottsdle3@cox.net with the following information to get started.

- 1) Your name and contact phone number;
- 2) A high resolution digital photo;
- 3) The year of your Mercedes;
- 4) The Mercedes model;
- 5) The mileage of your Mercedes; and
- 6) Note any special options (Sport, 4matic, AMG, etc.)

Bud Cloninger

Don't miss an issue of the **Star** or **StarDust**.



Keep your mailing address current with **MBCA's** Nation Business Office. You can change your address online at <http://www.mbc.org>, by phone at (800) 637-2360 or mail your address change to:

MBCA  
1907 Lelaray Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Your Direct Source For 1972-2009 Mercedes-Benz® Parts & Accessories

# PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS

**888.882.3051**  
When ordering, please mention  
**PRIORITY CODE 1XX9C21**  
**LOCATIONS**  
IN CALIFORNIA & FLORIDA

**PerformanceProducts.com®**  
**The SUPERSTORE For Your Mercedes-Benz®**

## FREE CATALOG

MENTION PRIORITY# 1XX9C21

**Low Price Guarantee We Will Not Be Undersold!**

**Buy 4 Wheels & Get 4 Tires FREE!**

**EUROMEISTER® CHROME REPLICA WHEELS**  
Fits 107, 113, 116, 123, 126 Chassis. 2 Year Warranty. Center caps, mounting & balancing not included. Lug bolts not included (15" wheels) Call for details.

	Was!	Now!
15" Chrome Replica Wheel (S Hole Design) Kumho KH16 Tire 205/65R15	40-521 1119.92	\$759.99 SET
14" Chrome Replica Wheel Kumho Power Star 205/70R14	40-502 999.92	679.99 SET

\*Offer Ends August 31<sup>st</sup> 2009

Not affiliated with Daimler AG. "Mercedes-Benz" is a registered trademark of Daimler AG for its goods. This ad uses the name "Mercedes-Benz" for identification purposes only. Performance Products, and PerformanceProducts.com® have no affiliation with Daimler AG.

**az mobile tire**

"Tire Store At Your Door"



**Products & Services:**

- Unique mobile service – onsite installation
- Luxury and performance tires (all major brands)
- Custom Wheels
- OE Wheels
- Chrome Exchange Program
- Wheel Repairs
- Personalized service and better care for your car
- "Touchless" tire changers (no damaged wheels)
- Precision guaranteed balancing
- Flat tire repairs and replacements
- Nationwide Road Hazard Warranty



**az mobile tire**

9376 E Bahia Drive  
Suite D106  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85260

Phone: 480-563-8928  
www.azmobiletire.com

Annual Meeting Photographs



**Save These Dates:**

<b>'Escape from the Heat' Auto Tour (Overgaard)</b>	<b>Weekend of August 14 – 16, 2009</b>
<b>Practice Rallye</b>	<b>Saturday, September 12, 2009</b>
<b>Havasupai Southwest Region Rallye (Bisbee)</b>	<b>Weekend of September 25 – 27, 2009</b>
<b>Tech Session / Clean Car Event</b>	<b>Saturday, November 14, 2009</b>
<b>Holiday Party @ FireRock County Club</b>	<b>Sunday, December 6, 2009</b>

Don't Miss Our Annual 'Escape From the Heat' Auto Tour, this year at Bison Ranch in Overgaard, AZ. See Our Website for Details



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

**More Memorial Day Weekend Pictures**



Keep your address updated with the MBCA National Business Office at (800) 637-2360, or <http://mbca.org/mbca/addchange.htm>

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