



January-February 2020

The StarDust

DESERT STARS SECTION | ARIZONA

Mercedes-Benz Enthusiast Dinner

Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 5:30 PM

By Karen Manser

Venue 8600

8600 E Anderson Drive

Scottsdale, AZ 85255

5:30 - 6:30 Members Car Show and Mix and Mingle with Hors d'oeuvres and Cash Bar.

6:30 Dinner catered by Cafe Pranzo, Speakers and Perhaps Some Other Surprises.



As car lovers descend on Arizona for the great car auctions of the Valley, we will celebrate the classic car auction week with the Mercedes-Benz Enthusiast Dinner.

This year's event will be held on Saturday evening **January 18th**, at VENUE 8600, a contemporary event location five minutes from West World. Activities will start at 5:30 PM in the generous 200 spot parking area with the viewing and judging of the "People's Choice" contest featuring MBCA members personal cars.

Following the voting, join us for appetizers and a no-host bar followed by dinner catered by Café Pranzo, one of the valleys premier catering companies. Our program of speakers will give their perspectives on the past week's auctions and current state of the classic car market. Bring your questions and join the discussion.

While the dinner caps off the week of auction, there will again be guided tours at several of the auctions locations during the week. These tours offer "up close and personal" viewing of some of the exemplary cars being offered. More information to follow.

The registration form is on page 13. For questions or credit card payments please call Debbie Ichiyama at 480-268-9535.

“Legends of Speed” Exhibition at the Phoenix Art Museum

Sunday, February 9, 2020

By Chuck Stanford, Jr.

Arrangements are set and members are in for a great event. Join us on Sunday, February 9th for a tour of fast-rolling history followed by a culinary treat.

The Phoenix Art Museum is featuring a very special showing of exceptional Racing Cars – the first major exhibition of race cars ever shown at the Museum. **Legends of Speed** showcases an outstanding selection of Mercedes-Benz, Maserati, Ferrari, Ford, Bugatti cars and more, all on loan from internationally recognized collections and automotive museums, The display brings together in the Valley of the Sun, 22 of history's most successful race cars. Featured cars are winners of the world's most celebrated races including Le Mans, the Indianapolis 500, the Mille Miglia, Targa Florio and others. This is an exhibit NOT to be missed.

We'll meet at 2:30 pm on Sunday afternoon **February 9th**, at the Museum located at Central Avenue and McDowell in downtown Phoenix. Plan to tour this limited-time exhibition with personal, knowledgeable docents, and learn exciting details and history of these one-of-a-kind motorcars and their drivers. We'll also have time following our private tour, to peruse the collection on our own and shop in the Museum Store for memorabilia specially selected and designed for this event.

Keeping with a classic Italian motoring theme, we'll drive right to dinner at *Tutti Santi*, a cozy central-Phoenix trattoria for a dinner of Italian specialties just like the drivers of the Mille Miglia might have enjoyed. And we guarantee there will be some special surprises...

A discounted entrance fee and docents have been arranged with the Museum, and dinner details are sure to make for a great evening. The all-in price of \$65 per person includes the museum entry fee, the guided tour and a fabulous dinner! You may be entitled to an additional discount if you're already a member of the Phoenix Art Museum. Make a note on the entry form on page 13.

Don't miss this extraordinary exhibition of some of history's most important racecars! Sign up now to join the Desert Stars for a guided museum tour followed by Sunday Dinner. See you there!

President's Message

By Debbie Ichiyama

I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year!

The Desert Stars are very fortunate to have awesome members and volunteers who work hard to make the club the success it is. We do need your help though, our advertisers are very important to us. We ask that you check them and when you use them please let them know that you heard of them through their ad in The Star Dust.



If anyone has a favorite restaurant that they would like to share please consider doing a Star Night. If you are interested please reach out to Karen Manser for more info.

Thank you

Debbie

January-February 2020
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Newsletter Editor:
 Open
 • Email StarDustMBCA@gmail.com

Contributing Credits for this Issue:
 Ron Borino
 John Hutchison
 Debbie Ichiyama
 Steve Jensen
 Karen Manser
 Chuck Stanford, Jr.

Photography Credits for this issue:
 Mark Ichiyama

Activities & Events:
 Karen Manser
 • Email nspinaz@gmail.com

Advertising:
 Ron Borino
 • Email advertising@desertstars.club

Website: www.desertstars.mbca.org
Facebook: [DesertStarsMBCA](https://www.facebook.com/DesertStarsMBCA)
Twitter: [@MBCADesertStars](https://twitter.com/MBCADesertStars)



Welcome our new Members!

October

Tanya Altmeyer
 Dean Brayton
 Serge Campeau
 Jeanna French

November

Brett Rudin
 Robert Wells

"More Than a Car Club | We're a Community"

Desert Stars Section Officers and Board Members

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2020 Poker Run

Saturday March 14, 2020
By Ron Borino & John Hutchison

Are you ready for some Poker fun? We have a day of exciting card action planned for you as we visit several of the club's newsletter advertisers around the valley while gathering your winning hand. This year's event will start at 10:30 am on Saturday, **March 14, 2020** at Finishing Touch Body Shop, 16940 E. Colony Drive, Fountain Hills, where you will hear a bit about their Mercedes capabilities, and pick up your first card. After a short stay, you will then head for Schumacher European Mercedes, 18530 N Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85054.

At Schumacher, there will be a presentation by several of the Schumacher Mercedes experts on the new 2020 vehicles in the showroom (maybe there will be an EQC), as well as a discussion on any new safety features that are either standard or optional on the 2020 line of MB vehicles. The presentation will be followed by a light lunch, and the draw of another winning card.

Around 1:00 pm we will be off and running to learn more about the advertisers in the Star Dust Newsletter, and to pick another **5 cards** to build your winning hand!

But wait, there's more!! Past Poker Runs have not incorporated the long-term poker rule which allows discards and the opportunity to update your hand; we are bringing it back this year! At each stop, there will be a **simple** "challenge question"; if you have correct answers to some or all of the questions, you will earn "points" which can then be used to "buy" replacement cards at our final stop should your Poker hand be less than desirable. Each replacement card will cost you "points", so the better you do at answering the "challenge questions", you may have enough to purchase up to FOUR replacement cards. These replacement cards will surely "enhance" your draw to give you a much better chance of a WINNING hand!! Both the winners and those not as lucky will have an interesting drive and a great dinner with prizes presented during dinner.

The cost of this extravaganza is \$25 per person which includes dinner and prizes. Your only requirement is to provide your own transportation, fuel, \$ for a cash bar at dinner and brainpower to "ace" the "challenge questions", assuming you don't yet have the winning hand!

Fill out the registration form on page 13 of the Star Dust and send it in right away! Or call Debbie at 480-269-9535 to register. The final date to enter the Poker Run is Friday, March 6, 2020 so that we can have enough spaces and food for everyone at dinner.

Additional information and a reminder of the event will be provided in the March-April issue of the Star Dust.

For more information please contact: Ron Borino at ron@borino.com or 480-419-9466 or John Hutchison at johnhutchison@cox.net or (530) 304-2965



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The Hamra Story

For over 30 years, Hamra Jewelers has earned a reputation for impeccable quality, integrity and tradition of personal service.

Being third generation jewelers, Paul and Jeff Hamra offer luxury items to suit every watch and jewelry need. Based in Scottsdale, Arizona, the modern showroom presents the perfect environment to view renowned watch collections and exquisite custom-made jewelry. Savvy timepiece aficionados seek Hamra Jewelers' extensive collections of Rolex, Patek Philippe, Breitling and Tudor.

The staff's extensive international training and expertise are reflected in the featured fashions and the fine Swiss timepieces we carry. Our unique collection is only possible with a professional team combined with the excellent relationships earned within the global jewelry community. Hamra Jewelers offers exemplary after-sales service. These services include on-site jewelry and watch repairs, on-site certified and confidential appraisals and custom designs. The jewelry service includes ring adjustments, gemstone replacement, polishing and cleaning. Hamra Jewelers' talented artisans can incorporate your precious gemstones into new or re-created pieces. Our on-site authorized Rolex watchmaker specializes in fine timepiece service, as well as providing the impeccable Rolex standards.

Hamra Jewelers evaluates and purchases pre-owned timepieces, jewelry and gemstones from the public. We accept jewelry and timepieces for trade-in. Designer trunk shows and special events are hosted throughout the year. Please register for our newsletter to be contacted for upcoming events.

A lifetime relationship with every client created through trust, loyalty and caring for your precious jewelry. You are invited to speak with us today. Better yet, please visit our Scottsdale showroom.



January-February 2020

Tech Session Airpark Collision Center March 28th 9 AM

7333 E Butherus Dr. Suite A-200 Scottsdale AZ



Desert Stars,

By special invitation from Tina Small of Airpark Collision please join us **March 28th** for a special tech session sponsored by the staff. Snacks and refreshments included.

They will demonstrate how repair methods for aluminum panels differ from techniques and tools used for steel repair. Also, see their latest piece of high tech equipment-the Matrix Wand. An advanced camera system helping to ensure that vehicle measurements are properly restored to pre-accident condition.

Airpark collision was opened in 2006 by Gerald Small, a master auto refinish technician. Starting in the industry in 1988 at a BMW collision repair center, Gerald worked to be the best at his trade and eventually opened his own shop. To this day it continues to be family owned. You will find his wife Tina at the front desk and Gerald performing quality checks for each car in process.

Restoring vehicles to factory specification has always been the focus. Airpark Collision Center uses top notch materials, factory paint and

employs master technicians. This combination allows the shop to meet high customer expectations. Each year ACC continues to earn the highest certification in the industry, I-Car Gold Class. This certification means technicians train annually and use the latest industry repair methods. With technology and safety standards changing everyday, customers can count on a proper repair.

For 13 years, the level of attention and quality has earned Airpark Collision Center a reputation for repairing high end vehicles like Mercedes Benz and other premium brands. Their philosophy of competitive pricing, best quality, issuing completion dates and solid customer service has allowed ACC to strongly compete with other auto body shops in the valley.

RSVP to Tina Small at tina@airparkcollisioncenter.com

Local Car Culture: Ongoing Events and Gatherings

We have some of the country's most active car culture. You may find fellow Desert Stars and their cars hanging out at one of these casual car hangouts.

Alpios at Troon - Cars and Coffee

The Second Saturday of every month 7:00-10:00 am, Villages at Pinnacle Peak
www.facebook.com/carsandcoffeepinnaclepeak

Penske Racing Museum - Cars and Coffee Scottsdale

The Third Saturday of every month 8:00-10:00 am, 7125 E. Chauncy Lane
carsandcoffee.com/clubs/scottsdale/

Scottsdale Motorsports Gathering - Cars and Coffee Scottsdale

The First Saturday of every month 7:00-10:00 am

The Scuderia Southwest have had to transitioning this to a members-only event for car entry, but is still free and open to spectators. The is restricted to exotics, rare, high-performance, and collector cars. As space permits, non-members with a qualifying car will be allowed to show with registration. See www.scuderiasouthwest.com.

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Mercedes-Benz

Team Tino Ferrulli

480-748-4810

teamtino@mb-scottsdale.com
 Mercedes-Benz of Scottsdale
 4725 North Scottsdale Road • Scottsdale, AZ 85251

2020 M B.E.A.T. April 18th–19th

By John Hutchison

The days are getting longer, and with the amount of rain we've had, we will definitely start seeing flowers blooming in the desert on the back way through Wickenburg to Prescott, Jerome, Sedona and Flagstaff!! It will shortly be time to get your Benz out of the garage to prepare it for spring and summer driving around Arizona!! We have the perfect opportunity for you to consider: the M B.E.A.T. Run which is coming up on Saturday/Sunday **April 18/19, 2020.**

We will begin the Run with breakfast at Denny's Restaurant located behind the Chevron Gas Station at the Northeast corner of Carefree Highway and Interstate 17. Those drivers, navigators and back seat riders arriving by 6:30 am will receive FREE breakfast courtesy of Host Desert Stars Member Bob Yoder, who will then lead us on our back roads adventure to Flagstaff.

After breakfast, the run will begin with a driver's meeting around 8:30 am when each driving team will receive their Goody Bag. The driving instruction handout will be in the Goody Bag! Although still in the planning stages so that we can make sure all of the proposed roads are open, we are likely to follow past year routes with a mid-morning driving break in Skull Valley, and then continue on toward Prescott. On arrival around 11:30 am, we will break for lunch (on participants dime) at The Palace Restaurant & Saloon on Whiskey Row. After lunch you will have time to roam the quaint stores and Courthouse Square in downtown Prescott.

Between 1:00-1:30 pm we will take off heading for Jerome, where again you will have time to wander the streets or to stop at a winery tasting room or visit the unique Gold King Mine & Ghost Town where you can view a number of Studebaker Automobiles including an operable 1902 Electric. From there, we will head to Clarkdale (you may want to visit the very interesting and historic Copper Art Museum in the old High School building on Main Street) and Old Town Cottonwood for ice cream and more shopping.

Our next town on the route is Sedona which is always a pleasure to visit and browse. If you want to shop the downtown area, you will be lucky if you find a parking place on the main drag, but there is always limited parking on the back streets west of the business district. You should be on your way north by 4:00pm so that you can arrive at Little America Hotel in Flagstaff by 5:00 pm. After

registration, your first stop is to have your picture taken in the back area of the parking lot along with your vehicle.

Information on hotel rooms, costs and the Reservation telephone number will be communicated in an email blast as soon as arrangements have been completed.

Host Desert Stars member Bob Yoder will have a surprise for you if you are at the bar area by at least 5:30 pm. Dinner is on your own at any of the excellent restaurants in Flagstaff (be sure to make your reservations well in advance of the RUN), although many of us will remain at the hotel and eat in the main dining room.

The cost for registration for this event is \$15 per car to cover miscellaneous costs; see the registration form on page 13 in this issue of the StarDust newsletter.

If you have any questions on the 2020 M B.E.A.T., please call Bob Yoder at 480-510-8210.



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In the Mirror: Holiday Party

Held December 8, 2019

By Debbie Ichiyama

We had an awesome turnout for this year's Holiday Party, with 82 in attendance, and I want to thank all who attended. It was great to meet so many new members and catch up with everyone else.

With an Arizona chill in the air and some sprinkles to make seem like winter, McCormick Ranch Golf Club once again was a hit. After a delicious meal, we proceeded with our tradition of recognizing our member anniversaries. Resident Emcee, Chuck Stanford, presented the anniversary recognition pins to the recipients who were in attendance. This years recipients for five year pins were John & Elaine Bergquist, Jerry Bevins & Judy Espinosa, Elliott & Harriett Gartner, Christopher Pagnini, John & Lila Truttman and Mark & Lori Wilson. For ten years Mark Ichiyama and John & Roberta Phin. Twenty-five years to Jennifer & Orester Harper. Congratulations to all.

Something new this year was a photo booth where members had their pictures taken. To see a slide show of the pictures please go to <https://azpinksy.smugmug.com/Desert-Stars-Holiday-Party/>

Karen Manser, who was last years Member of the Year, presented the award for this year. The recipients were Ron and Rhonda Borino. They have been an invaluable asset to the club in not only putting on events but taking over the Newsletter advertising. In appreciation for all their hard work and dedication to the club we thank them.

Thanks to all who brought toys for the 2019 Toy Drive, which were delivered to the Scottsdale Fire Department. As always, the firemen were truly impressed by all the toys collected and they expressed their gratitude for all the club's efforts.

Our other fund raiser was a 50/50 raffle to benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Phoenix. John and & Roberta Phin won the raffle and the Ronald McDonald House was very thankful for the donation. Thanks to all who brought toys and raffle tickets. It is really an honor to be associated with a giving and caring group of people

I would also like to thank the staff at the Mc Cormick Ranch Golf Club. They did a great job.



Karen Manser and this years Members of the Year Rhonda & Ron Borino

Fun with Photo Booth



Dick & Mindy



Mindy Sharp showing the gift table at the Holiday Party



Carey & Kathy



Rhoda & Ozgur



Bob & Elaine

Anniversary Recipients



Top Row left-to-right: Orestre & Jennifer Harper, Mark & Debbie Ichiyama, Roberta & John Phin
Second Row left-to-right: Elaine & John Bergquist, Jerry Bevins, Elliott & Harriett Gartner,
Third Row left-to right: Chrisopher Pagnini, Mark & Lori Wilson
Bottom Row: Lila & John Truttman



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Autocross with the Porsche Club

We have an open invitation to join the Arizona Section of the Porsche Club of America (AZ PCA) when they host open Auto-X events. See az.pca.org for more information on Autocross. Check MotorsportReg.com for dates (search "AZ PCA"), and to register, and pay for the events.



In the Mirror: Tech Session

By Steve Jensen

The Desert Stars got together for a tech session at MBZ Scottsdale on Saturday November 9th.

Our host was the owner, Zach Peterson. Zach is a two-decade veteran of several authorized dealers and Schumacher Mercedes. He opened his shop to provide exemplary dealer quality services at an affordable price with personalized customer interaction. Zach aims for 100% customer satisfaction and has been able to consistently meet this lofty goal.

Zach is joined by Carl at the front desk and technicians Tad and John. Like Zach, they are all long time Mercedes dealership technicians trained by the factory in the correct servicing and repair of Mercedes vehicles.

MBZ Scottsdale recently expanded their facilities by purchasing the adjacent business. This has more than doubled their shop work area. They also added a computerized alignment rack to properly align vehicles to Mercedes specifications. The proper alignment of a Mercedes Benz was demonstrated by John during the tech session illustrating the complexities involved in ensuring the vehicle's four wheels are in proper alignment.

Zach and Tad discussed the current technology available to us in Mercedes vehicles. They covered safety and convenience features engineered into our vehicles as well features available through the command system. They also talked of the specific repair needs for each generation of vehicle and the need for proper servicing. Servicing done at independent shops will satisfy the warranty provisions of Mercedes Benz USA.

The tech session was well attended with 37 members present. Zach provided two free "A Services" which were won by Jim Boyle and John Truttman.



Steve Jensen introducing Zach



Left to right Zach, Carl, John and Tad





Alignment Demonstration



Mercedes Benz Repair

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Scottsdale, AZ 85255

Registration Information

Mercedes-Benz Enthusiasts Dinner
Saturday, January 18, 2020
Please Register and Pay by January 8, 2020

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending: _____

Phone No.: _____ Day / Night Email Address: _____

"Peoples Choice Car Show" List the Car you would like to show at the Dinner _____



\$65 per person.
Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to:
MBCA Desert Stars c/o Debbie Ichiyama
6502 E Evans Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85254
Credit Card payments available: Call Debbie Ichiyama at (480) 268-9535.

Legends of Speed
Sunday, February 9, 2020
Please Register and Pay by February 01, 2020

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending: _____

Phone No.: _____ Day / Night Email Address: _____



\$65 per person.
Are you a member of the Phoenix Art Museum? _____
Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to:
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6502 E Evans Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85254
Credit Card payments available: Call Debbie Ichiyama at (480) 268-9535.

Poker Run
Saturday, March 14, 2020
Please Register and Pay by March 7, 2020

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending: _____

Phone No.: _____ Day / Night Email Address: _____



\$25 per person
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6502 E Evans Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85254
Credit Card payments available: Call Debbie Ichiyama at (480) 268-9535.

M B.E.A.T
April 18-19, 2020
Please Register and Pay by April 10, 2020

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending: _____

Phone No.: _____ Day / Night Email Address: _____



\$15 per person.
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Classified Ads

As a Desert Star. You can list your for-sale Mercedes-Benz here and let all our readers know it's available. Whether you have a high mile driver, or a collectible with more wax than miles on it, contact us and get your car listed in the StarDust. Contact info StarDustMBCA@gmail.com



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Online at <http://mbca.org>

January-February 2020

Update your email address with The National Business Office
Contact our Membership Chair, Debbie Ichiyama, at 480-268-9535 or dichiyama@me.com

SAVE THESE DATES

Jan 18, 2020	Sat	MB Enthusiast Dinner
Feb 9, 2020	Sun	“Legends of Speed” Exhibit
Mar 14, 2020	Sat	Poker Run Rallye
March 28, 2020	Sat	Tech Session Airpark Collision
April 18-19, 2020	Sat-Sun	M-B.E.A.T. Driving Tour
May 17, 2020	Sun	Annual Meeting
May 31, 2020	Sun	Star Night-Sapiens Paleo Kitchen

Visit us at:
www.desertstars.mbca.org



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