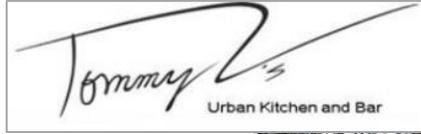




Holiday Party Time!

Sunday December 7, 2014

By Matthew Crawford & Debbie Ichiyama



Here we are ladies and gentlemen. There are only so many shopping days left until Christmas is here. Hanukkah starts before that and New Year's plans are just about set. So do

you know what that means? It's time for the Desert Stars Annual Holiday Party Luncheon with the always important Member Anniversary recognition celebration (see page 4). It is time to reflect back on 2014 as we spend time with friends and fellow members catch up, and welcome in the spirit of the holidays.

We have a treat this year! Mr. Zoran Klisara, owner of Tommy V's Urban Kitchen and Bar, has offered to open his restaurant exclusively for the Desert Stars for our annual party. Normally they do not open until 4pm on Sundays, however for us they are opening at lunchtime so we may celebrate. We will have the whole place to ourselves, with a private bartender and a specialized menu for our enjoyment. Tommy V's is located in the heart of downtown Scottsdale with its own parking lot right in front of the restaurant. So there is no need to hunt for parking spaces in Old Town. In fact, the location of the restaurant is perfectly suited for an afternoon of holiday shopping after lunch. Nearby are all of the local Western and Arizona themed stores for you to pick up a gift or two for friends and family.

Make this holiday season a special one by joining your Mercedes-Benz club for an always enjoyable lunch. Anniversary celebrants must attend to receive your recognition pins (or you need a really good excuse for not being there!) So we want to see you! Oh, don't forget we are collecting for Toys for Tots so please bring an un-wrapped gift! Please see Registration forms on page 8 for details.

Sunday December 7th · Tommy V's Urban Kitchen and Bar · 7303 E Indian School Road



United States Grand Prix Watch Party at Tanzy

Sunday, November 2, 2014

By John and Roberta Phin



Have you been watching the Formula 1 Grand Prix races? Hamilton and Rosberg have made the very most of the wonderful Mercedes Silver Arrows, while keeping fans on the edge of their seat with their intra-team rivalry and competition. Mercedes has already clinched the Manufacturer's trophy, while their two star drivers are in "a race" for the driver's championship. Come out and join Desert Stars on November 2nd as we celebrate Mercedes-Benz resurgence in Grand Prix racing and the stellar success of the U.S Grand Prix at Austin. We will enjoy brunch at Tanzy Restaurant in Scottsdale, and view the race on a big-screen TV in their private banquet room. We'll gather at 10:45 AM for the pre-race show and the prix fixe brunch, then enjoy the race which typically lasts for two hours. There will be cash bar service throughout the event. The menu choices and costs are shown on the sign-up sheet. Please RSVP NOW if you have not already done so. Contact John and Roberta Phin at 480-272-8851 for availability. Arrange payment and registration with Debbie Ichiyama 480-268-9535.



MB Enthusiasts Dinner

Saturday January 17, 2015

By John and Roberta Phin

The holiday season is imminent, and after the turkey, the candles, the presents, or whatever else you may plan to celebrate the season, after all that the real fun begins. The AUCTIONS!! January brings the beautiful cars with the stunning prices or unbelievable bargains, and so much eye car-candy that many dazed auction attendees are seen wandering the desert for days. So how do the Desert Stars celebrate the Auction-mania? We get some beautiful cars to gawk at and we eat a great meal together

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Please see *Auction Dinner* on page 3

President's Message

By Debbie Ichiyama

As the year draws to an end I would like to take time to thank everyone for all the work they do to make the Desert Stars the best it can be. We have an awesome group of people who work hard to ensure the success of the club.

This past September we held our annual Havasupai event with a coordinated effort from those amazing folks. I would like to give thanks to Roberta and John Phin for setting up the Go-Cart event and Dinner at Orange Sky on Saturday and to Bud Cloninger and Don Burton for the doing the Rallye on Sunday. Please see the articles and pictures in this Newsletter about the event. Also, there will be more photos to view at the annual Holiday Party. Did I mention the Holiday Party? Hint hint....come to the Holiday Party!

Looking forward, we have some really great events coming up next year. Can you believe, the 50th anniversary of the Havasupai Rallye is upon us? Watch upcoming issues for details and dates.

I would like to give a special welcome to all of our new members who joined The Desert Stars family this past year. It has been great to see many new folks coming out to events and getting to meet them and know them is why we get together.

I hope everyone is enjoying this beautiful fall weather and taking advantage of being able to spend time outdoors.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Holiday Season. Stay safe.



Debbie

Nov-Dec 2014 Volume 50 Number 6

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Newsletter Editor:

Matthew Crawford

• Email StarDustMBCA@gmail.com

Contributing Credits for this Issue:

Bud Cloninger

Matthew Crawford

Debbie & Mark Ichiyama

John & Roberta Phin

Photography Credits for this issue:

Bud Cloninger

Matthew Crawford

Debbie Ichiyama

Mark Ichiyama

John & Roberta Phin

Tommy V's

Advertising Manager:

For advertising inquiries please contact the

Editor:

Email StarDustMBCA@gmail.com

Website:

www.desertstars.mbca.org

New Members, "Welcome!"

August

Tom Gregory

Michael Guzzo

Bob Hale

Emanuel Novac

Philip Stephens

Kenneth Upchurch

Earl Zeig

September

Peter Jacomini

Barbara Lang

Christopher Pagnini

Natalie Price

Gilberto U Vargas

Reinhard Zorko



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Newsletter Editor:

Matthew Crawford

Auction Dinner from Page 1

and enjoy the fellowship of the group. And we add a sprinkling of information provided by classic and collector car experts. We will gather this year at Maggiano's, 16405 N. Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ for a family style meal in a "room with a view". The view will be of cars provided by Schumacher European, and perhaps a few of our own classic treasures.

Join us at 5:30 PM on Saturday Jan 17. The dinner includes two appetizers, two salads, two pasta dishes, two entrees, and two desserts, plus Ciabatta Rolls, coffee, hot or cold tea, and sodas, all for \$55 per person. The registration form is included in this newsletter and we require your paid registration by Jan 8, 2015. Call John and Roberta Phin at 480-272-8851 for more information. John and Roberta will make the arrangements at Maggiano's; please do not call the restaurant. We look forward to seeing you there. 

Tech Session

Saturday November 8, 2014

By Bud Cloninger

This year's tech session will be about how a pre-purchase inspection is performed, and what to look for when buying a used Mercedes-Benz. Whether you buy from a Dealership, used car lot or a private party, a thorough inspection can help you find the right car for you. Join us Saturday November 8th at 9:00 am at M.B. Motors. 2730 E. McDowell Rd. The event cost will be \$15.00 per person to cover the cost of a catered lunch. Please RSVP as this event fills up quickly.

You can pay by credit card by calling Debbie Ichiyama at 480-268-9535 or send check made out to MBCA Desert Stars and mail to Debbie Ichiyama, 6502 E Evans Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Contact Bud Cloninger with any questions at 602-326-6210 or scottsdale3@mac.com. 

Poker Run

Saturday February 21, 2015

By John & Roberta Phin

Desert Stars members love the Poker Run! It is one of our very best attended events each year, and that is a good thing since the Poker Run organizers put quite a bit of effort and creativity into its' design and implementation. We are fortunate to have Susan and Harman Cadis planning the event again this year. They promise something very different from last year – just to ensure new sights and venues for us to explore as a club. The event is to be run on Saturday Feb 21, 2015. There will be more event specifics and registration information provided in the next newsletter; for now all we ask is that you mark your calendars and SAVE THE DATE!! 

New Members, "Welcome!"

June

Steve Baker
Wayne King
Ruchir Patel
David Tiro



WE SLIPPED UP

Apologies to our new members! Due to a download error from National we mistakenly published the incorrect names in our last issue. June folks, here's your recognition and our sincere apologies. – Ed.

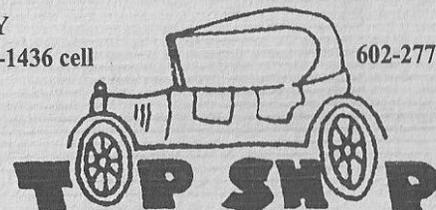


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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE MILESTONES EARNERS BELOW!

40 years:

Ann Richards

30 years:

Barbara Cramer
John Hutchison
Sterling May
Donald Siegel
Peter Thomas

25 years:

Jon Manalli
James Munier
Clarice Parker

20 years:

Gerry Fortier
Jennifer Harper
Kenny Hasanoff
Rick Stacio

25 years:

Arthur Curtis
Albert Dykes
John Killian
N Nichol
Kurt Nielsen
Robert Schmelzer

10 years:

John Ackalitis
William Bergner
Marvin Blank
Luc De Groof
David Gronsky
Brian Imdieke
Bill Korhely
Grace Meisner
Kris Pathuis
William Pishek
Bill Reichenberg
Gerald Rose
Eberhard Scheuing
Christopher Steed

5 years:

Richard Airhart
Jerry Barker
Eric Butler
Dale Carlton
Richard Cone
Matthew Crawford
Morris Crout
Don Finch
Andrew Flynn
Michael Goldenberg
Mark Ichiyama
James Labrie
Christina Mattingly
John Phin
Susan Schirm
Steven Silverstein
Michael Spellman
Jeff Tillery
David Vorenkamp
Chelle Wax
Richard Winter
Jessie Wu

Come to the Holiday Party & Luncheon to receive your anniversary pin!

Arizona Concours d'Elegance: Don't forget, The Arizona Concours d'Elegance, is looking for volunteers. January 11, 2015, including field spotters and class hosts. Avid car guys and gals are needed. Contact MikeMullan@ArizonaConcours.com for more information or contact the Desert Stars own Chuck Stanford at 602-549-4789 or CStanford@arizonaconcours.com.

Concours in the Hills: Saturday, February 7th will mark the second annual Concours held at the Fountain Park in Fountain Hills. Schumacher European Mercedes-Benz participating, and they have invited the Desert Stars to join them in a Mercedes Corral presenting a collection of old and new star cars. Registration forms available, contact the Desert Stars own Chuck Stanford at 602-549-4789 or azbenzguy@msn.com.



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In The Mirror: Havasupai Rallye

By John and Roberta Phin, and Bud Cloninger

The Desert Stars premier event of the year was just that – well attended events, great participation and camaraderie, some friendly competition, but mostly just good folks enjoying the spirit of motoring and the beauty of our environment.

We started the weekend with our speed event on Saturday afternoon. Octane Raceway Go Carts provided us with a great way to put the pedal-to-the-metal and zip around a well-designed course with curves and tight turns and just a little bit of bumping as the “fast kids” outpaced some of the more cautious drivers. We had a “baker’s dozen” of racers, including several women enjoying the thrill of the competition. Many of our members raced the course twice; one heat to get the feel of the track and then the second time to compete for the great prizes awarded the winners. Everyone got out of their go-cart with a big grin and a declaration of “that was FUN!” Our top driver was Matt Crawford, who showed up with his own racing gear, and then demonstrated how the race should be run. Close on Matt’s bumper in second place was Ron Borino, followed closely by Ken Borowitz in third place. Many vowed to return for a repeat challenge and to enjoy the well designed and managed go cart facility.

On Saturday evening a large group of Desert Stars members met for dinner at the Orange Sky Restaurant at the top of the Talking Stick Resort and Casino. The dining room is large, open, and has floor to ceiling windows that allowed us to watch the beauty of the Phoenix sunset and the rising of the night starlight. Orange Sky delivered excellent food and service, and after dinner we awarded those aforementioned great prizes to our day’s race winners. It was a full and fun day for all.

Please see *Rallye* on page 6



Rhonda Borino fighting to stay in front but John Phin was chasing her down!



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Rallye from Page 5

The actual Rallye on Sunday had a little different twist to it than what we've known in the past. Rallye masters Don Burton and Bud Cloninger laid out a photo rallye and scavenger hunt that kicked off at Schumacher Mercedes-Benz, and spanned the length of Scottsdale. Unlike the more conventional rallyes, participants were to bring a digital camera without knowing why, and then received turn-by-turn instructions as to where they were going. Imagine that, no guessing at what direction to turn, or where to stop. And with everyone equipped with a camera, that's when things got interesting. They were only given a hint as to what to photograph when they arrived at each of their ten destinations. And it was their job to bring a photo from each stop back to the rallye masters, knowing how they were to be scored. One point awarded for the correct photo. Two points if you were both in the photo (selfie). Three points if you are touching the object in the photo. Four points if your complete bodies are in the photo touching the object.

As no one brought a tripod along the rules and point scoring requirements made for some very interesting photos! With the rallye completed everyone meet at Mark and Debbie Ichiyama's for an authentic Hawaiian Luau. After Dinner and scoring was completed Ron and Rhonda Borino were awarded First place. John and Roberta Phin came in a close second place. Matt Crawford and Arnie

Brown made it into third place. A special mention must be made for Cary and Kathy Hobson. They took the Photo of the Saguaro Cactus with the most arms. With over forty members attending the Luau, I really want to thank Mark and Debbie Ichiyama for opening their home and hosting the Luau. We would also like to thank Rebecca Crawford and Dee Cloninger for lending a helping hand at the Luau. We are all looking forward to the next one!



Above: Schumacher European allowed us the use of their porte-cochere for our rallye meet.



Left, and below: The Luau was a lot of fun!



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Registration Forms

Holiday Party & Luncheon December 7, 2015

Please register and pay by November 30, 2014:

Contact Information:

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending _____
 Address: _____
 City: State/Prov.: Zip: _____
 Phone No.: _____ Day/ Night _____
 Email Address: _____

Cost is \$45.00 per person. Call Debbie Ichiyama with any questions at (480) 268-9535

Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to:

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Credit Card payments available: Call Debbie Ichiyama at (480) 268-9535.

MB Enthusiasts Dinner January 17, 2015

Please register and pay by January 8, 2015:

Contact Information:

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending _____
 Address: _____
 City: State/Prov.: Zip: _____
 Phone No.: _____ Day/ Night _____
 Email Address: _____

Cost is \$55.00 per person. After Jan. 8 call John Phin for availability.

Call John and Roberta Phin with any questions at (480) 272-8851

Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to:

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Credit Card payments available: Call Debbie Ichiyama at (480) 268-9535.

US Grand Prix at Tanzy Nov 2, 2014, 2014

Please Call John Phin for availability, immediately!

Contact Information:

Name(s) registering: _____ Number Attending _____
 Address: _____
 City: State/Prov.: Zip: _____
 Phone No.: _____ Day/ Night _____
 Email Address: _____

Cost is **\$31.00** per person which includes croissants, fresh fruit, coffee, tea or soft drink, and an entrée of your choice.

For questions call John or Roberta Phin 480-272-8851. Call John Phin for availability, immediately!

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ENTRÉE Selection(choose one per attendee)

| | |
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| -Three Eggs any Style, Brown Sugar Bacon | # _____ |
| - Traditional Eggs Benedict w/hollandaise | # _____ |
| - Brioche French Toast w/syrup and whip cream | # _____ |
| - Filet Medallions and Any Style Eggs (two) | # _____ |

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THE STARDUST

NOV-DEC 2014

SAVE THESE DATES!!!

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|
| November 2, 2014 | Sunday | U.S. Grand Prix - Tanzy Brunch |
| November 8, 2014 | Saturday | Tech Session - Pre-Purchase Inspection |
| December 7, 2014 | Sunday | Holiday Party |
| January 17, 2015 | Saturday | MB Enthusiast Dinner - Maggiano's |
| February 21, 2015 | Saturday | Poker Run |
| March TBD, 2015 | Sunday | Desert Stars Picnic |

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