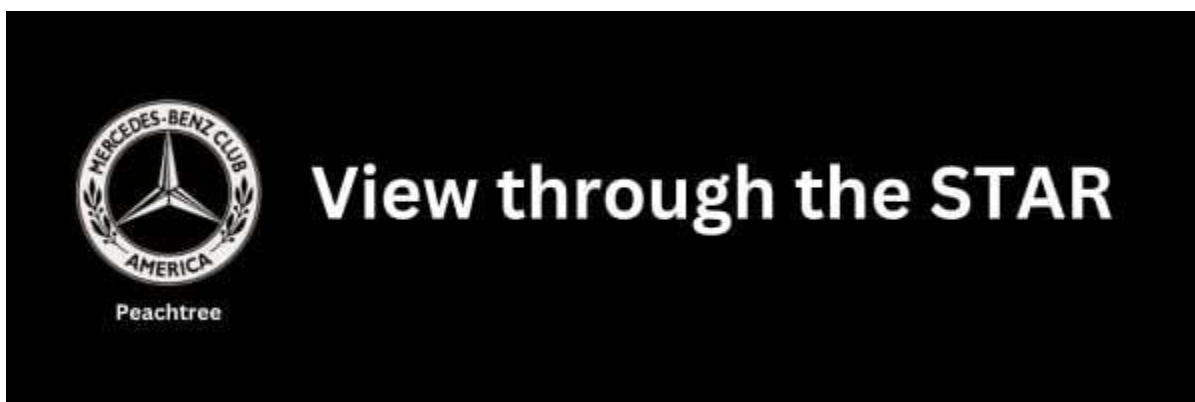




Volume 47 - Vol 2 | April 2025



Rusty Duncan, President

Welcome to Spring!

Spring has finally arrived, bringing with it some of the best driving weather of the year! For those of us with convertibles—like my 1978 450SL and 2007 CLK 63—this is the season we’ve been waiting for. There’s nothing quite like hitting the road with the top down, enjoying the open air and the incredible roads that Georgia has to offer.



As we embrace this perfect driving season, I encourage everyone to join us for our monthly Cars & Coffee at Halcyon. Whether you’re a longtime club

member or simply a Mercedes-Benz enthusiast, this is a great opportunity to connect with fellow car lovers, share stories, and admire some incredible automobiles. We also have several exciting driving events and tours lined up for the next few months—you can find more details on our event page: [MBCA Peachtree Events](#).

Upcoming Events

- April 5th: STARS & Coffee at Halcyon – A great way to start the month with fellow members and their cars.
- April 19th: Drive to Savoy Automobile Museum – Enjoy a scenic drive and explore an incredible collection of classic cars.
- April 26th: Tour to Comer, GA – A beautiful spring drive through the Georgia countryside.
- May 3rd: STARS & Coffee at Halcyon – Another chance to gather with fellow enthusiasts.
- May 10th: Drive to Wolf Mountain Vineyard – Includes an exclusive tour of owner Karl Boegner’s private car collection.
- May 31st: Fundraiser Drive for Southern Cross German Shepherd Rescue – A dog-friendly drive supporting our sponsor Adrienne Donahue of My Mercedes Place, collecting funds and items for Southern Cross German Shepherd Rescue and the Forsyth County Animal Resource Center.
- June 3rd: Submarine Tour at Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base – A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour a Trident Submarine, the Trident Training Center, and the St. Marys Submarine Museum.

Read more President’s Message



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Member Spotlight - Dale Garber




by Marisa Hegyesi



Dale, 79, is originally from Virginia. He is married to Janice, has two children and grand kids. Dale graduated with an MBA from the University of Virginia. He approaches life with a good sense of humor and “respect” for people. He gets a lot of joy and laughter from his family and friends, and comedians older than himself.

Dale works very hard at being retired. His first job was being a Road Salesman for Honest Charley Speed Shop. Then, he spent the next 60 years in the marketing and product development of performance parts in the automotive industry. According to Dale, he is "literally a life-long gear head." Before he could drive, Dale built his first ride, a '56 Chevy. That Chevy soon traded its 6 cylinder for a Chevy 327, with a 4 speed.

His free time is spent with his family. Dale also has an interest in race cars, hot rods, and anything mechanical. Dale's favorite place in the World is Maui, primarily due to the weather and the people. [Read More about Dale](#)




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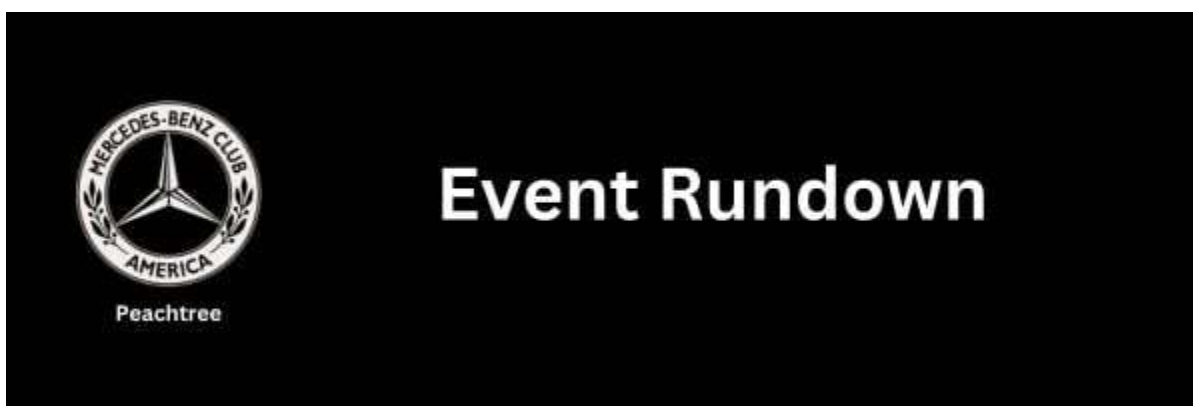
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April and May Events

- 4/5** | Cars and Coffee | [register](#) | [map](#)
4/12 | Peachtree Board of Directors Meeting | [Contact President](#)
4/19 | Mountain Drive to Savoy Car Museum | [register](#) | [map](#)
4/26 | Tour to Comer GA | [register](#) | [map](#)
- 5/3** | Cars and Coffee | [register](#) | [map](#)
5/10 | Wolf Mountain Drive to Karl's Garage | [register](#) | [map](#)
5/31 | Southern Cross German Shepard Rescue Fundraiser | [register](#) | [map](#)

June and July Events

- 6/3** | Submarine Tour | [register](#) | [map](#)
6/7 | Cars and Coffee | [register](#) | [map](#)
6/21 | MBCA Driving Academy | [register](#) | [map](#)
- 7/5** | Cars and Coffee | [register](#) | [map](#)
7/12 | Mountain Drive | *watch for details*
7/19 | Members' Appreciation Lunch | [register](#) | [map](#)

SAVE the DATES for these Events

10/4 | Peachtree Concours d' Elegance | *watch for details* | [map](#)


12/13 | Peachtree Holiday Luncheon | *watch for details* | [map](#)



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Membership

Peachtree

Welcome NEW and Rejoining Members

Mark Collins
Rex Foster
Tim Jennette
Christina Lee
Alex Louw
Charles Mion
Mark Pecce

Thank you to our RENEWING Members

Michael Balk
Robert Barrow
Hans Ehrnrooth
Paul Finegan
Paul Harman
David Parker
Byron Shanklin
Rick Shearer
David Tatum
Pierce Williams
Keith Waldrop
Geri Whaley-Ewers



By Reijo Haarla, Membership Director

Spring time is here! Mercedes-Benz Club of America – Peachtree Chapter has again organized lots of interesting events for this spring members of the club can join:

Stars and Coffee events at Halcyon , April 5th and May 3rd. Drive to Savoy Car Museum, April 19th. Tour to Comer GA, April 26th. Wolf Mountain Vineyard and Auto Collection Drive, May10th.

Please visit our website

www.mbcapeachtree.com to find additional information about these events and to register for the events.

I want to remind you about the member Auto-Renew program. To enroll to the Auto-Renew is easy, you can simply select Yes to Auto-Renew option when renewing your membership on-line at www.mbca.org. Or, you can contact the MBCA National Business Office at 719.633.6427 Mon - Fri 9am – 5 pm MT and enroll to the Auto-Renew over the phone.

Advantages of the Auto-Renew:

- Never miss an issue of the Star® Magazine.
- Stay informed of local section and national events.
- Continue your eligibility for club Discounts and Membership Rebates.
- Have a chance to participate on our annual Germany trip to visit Mercedes-Benz headquarters in Stuttgart.
- Have a chance at winning a new Mercedes-Benz by participating in annual raffles.
- Never worry about your membership lapsing. You support the financial stability of your club.



Time to Renew?

Renewing your Membership is EASY!

1. Renew from the email reminder that comes in your email *
2. Log into your MBCA account and Renew from your Membership profile *
3. Mail a check to the National Business Office:
Mercedes-Benz Club of America
3472 Research Pkwy Ste 104 PMB 464
Colorado Springs, CO 80920
4. Call the National Business Office and renew over the phone Monday - Friday 9 am - 5 pm MT Phone: 719.633.6427

** 60 days before membership expiration, must log into mbca.org*

Logging into your Glue Up Account with your MBCA login credentials. If you have not established your MBCA login, you can easily register by clicking on "**Register**". ⚠️ *If the system warns you that the email is already linked to an existing Glue Up account and you forgot your password, click "forgot password" to recover it before logging in.*



Peachtree

Technical Digest

If It's In, It's Tight!





by Gary Edwards, Technical Advisor

My New Year's Resolution was to get all my cars working. This meant getting around to working on some cars that I had set aside due to the nature of their issues. What I found on a couple of them was quite unusual and I thought this one was worth sharing.

When I bought the 1973 450SLC via on-line auction, the seller wanted me to fly out and drive it home. I could tell that the car had not been driven much recently so I prudently decided to have it shipped. As soon as the car was delivered, I noticed a loud clunking. I was able to quickly determine that it was road-speed related but I couldn't tell whether it was front or rear. Listening as it was being driven past me allowed me to isolate it to the rear.

I jacked up the rear of the car one side at a time and found that I could hear the noise when the right rear wheel was raised and turning and could not hear it when the left rear wheel was raised and turning. It also sounded like the noise was from the differential or the inner end of the axle shaft. I thought that it was probably either the right axle shaft or the differential itself.

[Read More about If it's in it's tight](#)






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Events

Savoy Auto Museum

Sat April 19



Austin Hoffer and Abel Beck, Event Planners

Please join us on Saturday, April 19, 2025 at 9:15 am for MBCA Peachtree Chapter's April drive event to the [Savoy Museum](#) in

Tour of Comer GA

Sat April 26



Geri Whaley-Ewers, Event Planner

Please join us for an unforgettable trip to the quaint city of Comer, GA on Saturday, April 26, 2025.

We will meet in Comer at eleven

Cartersville, GA. The Savoy is a new facility, a couple of years old, and the museum is one of the nicest in the region.

o'clock, All of the activities are within walking distance.

Savoy Museum

Tour to Comer



The Mercedes-Benz Experience at HALCYON-FORSYTH

Conveniently located at McFarland Parkway and GA 400.



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Wolf Mountain Drive to Karl's Garage

Saturday May 10, 2025



Dietmar Schmid, Event Planner

The May 2025 Mountain Drive will bring us one more time to the North Georgia Mountains. WE have received an invitation from Karl Boegner, founder and owner of Wolf Mountain Vineyards, about 15 minutes north of Dahlonega.

We will start our tour on Saturday May 10th 2025, gathering starting at My Mercedes and Bimmer Place , ([4345 GA-400, Cumming, GA 30028](#)) at 8:30

am for breakfast.

We will leave not later than 9:30 am for our drive to Wolf Mountain. Karl will open his garage at 11:00 am, with hidden gems waiting behind the door. After the tour we will have lunch with wine tasting, appetizers, and Flat Bread Pizzas served.

We will leave Wolf Mountain at 2:30 pm heading to Dahlonega, for a guided City tour in Dahlonega. The tour will end with a visit at the Gold Rush Museum downtown Dahlonega.

Wolf Mountain

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& BIMMER PLACE**
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A large red Mercedes-Benz SL convertible is shown in profile against a black background. Below it, a white SUV is parked outdoors with three dogs visible in the back seat. The SUV has the following text on its side: "My Mercedes & Bimmer Place", "770-205-4011", "mymercedesplace.com", and "SERVING NORTH EAST GEORGIA". To the right of the SUV, a red Mercedes-Benz SL convertible is shown from a rear three-quarter view, parked on a paved surface.

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Home of
Southern Cross
GSD Rescue

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Southern Cross German Shepard Rescue Fundraiser

Saturday May 31, 2025



Austin Hoffer and Abel Beck, Event Planners

Join us for a heartwarming day in support of [Southern Cross German](#)

Shepherd Rescue! Meet the incredible dogs and learn more about the mission of this dedicated organization.

The day begins at **9:30 AM** with a **breakfast gathering** at **My Mercedes and Bimmer Place** ([4345 GA-400, Cumming, GA 30028](#)), hosted by **Adrienne Sharpe Donahue**, founder of **Southern Cross German Shepherd Rescue**.

We'll visit the **Forsyth County Pet Resource Center**([4065 County Way Cumming, GA. 30028](#)) shelter, Adrienne will share insights into her journey in rescue work and how their efforts differ from traditional shelters.

After the shelter visit, we'll split the group in two. **Group One:** Stay local and enjoy a picnic lunch at Central Park, Cumming (2300 Keith Bridge Rd, Cumming); **Group Two:** Embark on a scenic mountain drive through Douglasville, Dahlonega, Stonepile Gap, and onward to Helen, meeting at Bodensee Restaurant (pet-friendly) for a 1:30 PM lunch.

\$ Participation Donation. Each participant is requested to donate \$25 to Southern Cross German Shepherd Rescue when registering, plus bring needed supplies for the shelter (see list on registration site). You may donate directly to the Southern Cross German Shepard Rescue here: **SCGS Donations** Please note, this is the current need for the rescue and does benefit the SCGS Rescue.

Come meet the dogs, support a great cause, and enjoy a fun day with fellow animal lovers! 🐾

German Shepard Rescue

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Sub Tour at Kings Bay

June 3, 2025



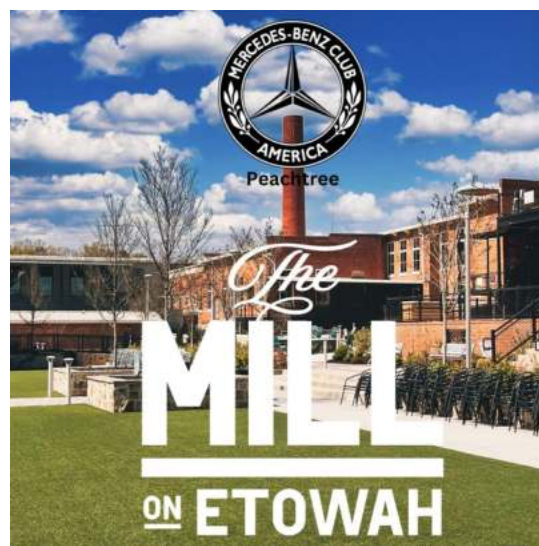
Gary Edwards, Event Planner

Tour of a Trident Submarine, the Trident Training Facility and the St Marys Submarine Museum). We'll have lunch in the galley and also stop at the missile display in front of the Strategic Weapons Facility Atlantic Headquarters.

This event is current sold out, however get on the wait list. You just never know!

Members Appreciation

Sat, July 19, 2025



Ernie Smallman and Pat Duer, Event Planners

Peachtree has reserved a private tasting room in Reformation Brewery for the 2025 Member Appreciation event. The main fare will be Ingalls fried chicken (a local favorite endorsed by the Canton American Legion Post) and Honey Baked Ham with vegetables and cut fruit plus nonalcoholic beverages. A tubing adventure is available near the brewery for those who want to float down the Etowah River after dining.

Sub Tour**Members Appreciation****MBCA Driving Academy Driving Skills Course****Saturday, June 21, 2025****Gary Edwards, Event Planner**

On Saturday, June 21st, spend a day behind the wheel and learn life-saving advanced driving skills, including wet weather, evasive, and defensive handling skills.

Instruction will be provided in your own car, which does not have to be a Mercedes. This course is intended to provide you with training and experience in handling your own car in emergency situations.

The day starts at 8:00 AM with classroom instruction, but plan to arrive before 7:45 so that you have time to check in. You'll need to sign a facility waiver and MBCA waiver at registration. The day will conclude at about 5:00 PM. **The cost is \$100**, which includes lunch. This event will be held rain or shine

Driving Skills Course



Sat Oct 4, 2025

Sat Dec 13, 2025



ModaMiami: "Silver Stars from Stuttgart" shine on the East Coast





March 4, 2025 – Stuttgart

- **Mar 4, 2025 – Stuttgart Exclusive classics on the golf course in front of the Biltmore Hotel in Coral Gables, Florida**
- **Homage to the Silver Arrows of the successful motorsport year of 1955**
- **Mercedes-Benz showcases itself as the most valuable classic car brand**

Modern and luxurious: ModaMiami is one of the top events for classic cars. Mercedes-Benz brought "Silver Stars from Stuttgart" to the second edition last weekend. These included the Mercedes-Benz 300 SLR racing icon from 1955, the Mercedes-Benz SLR McLaren "Stirling Moss" (Z 199) high performance sports car as well as more recent coveted classics from the brand with the three-pointed star, and current MANUFAKTUR top products. With this array, the world's most valuable classic automobile brand strengthens its presence in the U.S. market.

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Peachtree

Event News

Truist Braves Tour - March 15, 2025





Ernie Smallman and Pat Duer, Event Planners

Twenty-one Peachtree members and guests participated in a guided tour of the Atlanta Braves sports venue Truist Park. Attendees were able to visit the press box, the Braves dugout, playing field, player lockers and training rooms, plus private club areas. The group dined together after the tour at the adjacent Yard House restaurant located in Battery, considered a lifestyle destination developed around the Trust Park exterior.

MotoEscape Visit - February 8 2025





Rusty Duncan, Event Planner

Nineteen MBCA Peachtree members enjoyed a morning of coffee and pastries while touring the garage of MotoEscape. Members enjoyed walking through the various spaces and taking in the various different cars. Owner Chris Fabina raffled hats, t-shirts and a 6 month free storage rental. Congratulations to Dean Prince who won the six-month rental.

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The logo features the word "SHOWCASE" in a stylized, outlined font with a camera lens icon replacing the letter "O".The logo consists of a circular emblem with "AMERICA" at the top and "Carolinas" at the bottom.

MBCA Carolinas is pleased to announce we've been invited back!

This will be our 4th year and we're excited to be a part of this outstanding event in Hilton Head. In years past, we've selected our own theme and solicited members' cars to fit the concept.

In 2025, however, the Car Club Showcase committee has challenged us to help promote the concept of "Hot Rod Reunion". Now I know what you're thinking: "Mercedes Benz doesn't do hot rods". Well, Mercedes-Benz has produced some very high-performance history making cars over its 100+ years.

So, we are looking for stock, modified for racing, pure racing, rally, prototypes, anything AMG, and especially a Chrysler Crossfire.

We're really asking for help from all members of MBCA nationwide who might have, or know of, a good example of Mercedes Benz performance. If you have, or know of someone who has an eligible car or work in progress, have them contact:

John Hameline at 843.315.4320 or mbcacarolinas.ipp@gmail.com for complete details and how to get a slot on the field.

Your chance to get your vehicle appreciated by thousands !

Happy Motoring!

Peachtree Chapter Officers

**Peachtree Chapter, MBCA Officers
and Board of Directors and
Leadership Support Members**

Rusty Duncan

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Sam Kamber

vicepresident@mbcapeachtree.com

Brett Butler

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Jim Fekete

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Reijo Haarla

Marisa Hegyesi

Joseph Ruda Jr.

Past presidents

Steve Chapman

Ernie Smallman

JoAnne Taylor

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Diana Quinn - Newsletter

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Rusty Duncan - Sponsors

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Gary Edwards - Technical

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Diana Quinn - Webmaster

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Directors at Large

Abel Beck

Will Coloma

Austin Hoffer

Dietmar Schmidt

MBCA Vice-Chair

Diana Quinn

Events

events@mbcapeachtree.com

Rusty Duncan

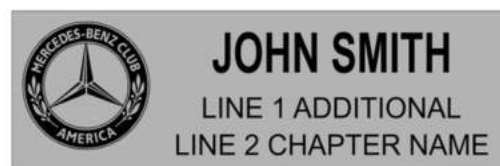
Sam Kamber

Gary Edwards

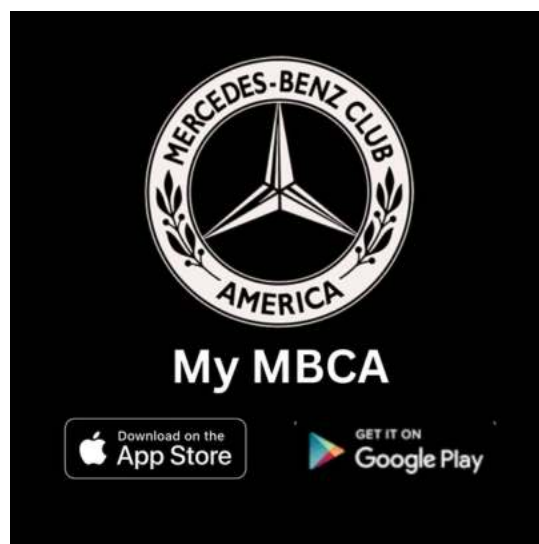
Jim Fekete

For information or questions about the Peachtree Section, please contact us at 770-376-0669.

MBCA Name Tags



Order Name Tag



Your MBCA Membership card is now in the **My MBCA** mobile app (Available for IOS and Andriod).

- Log into the app with your MBCA email and password. To set/reset your password go to www.mbca.org > Login > Forgot Password
- Select the **Mercedes-Benz Club of America** organization

dianaquinn@me.com

- Click on **Profile**
- Click on **Memberships**

***TIP:** Take a screen shot of your membership card and save to your photos in your phone*

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