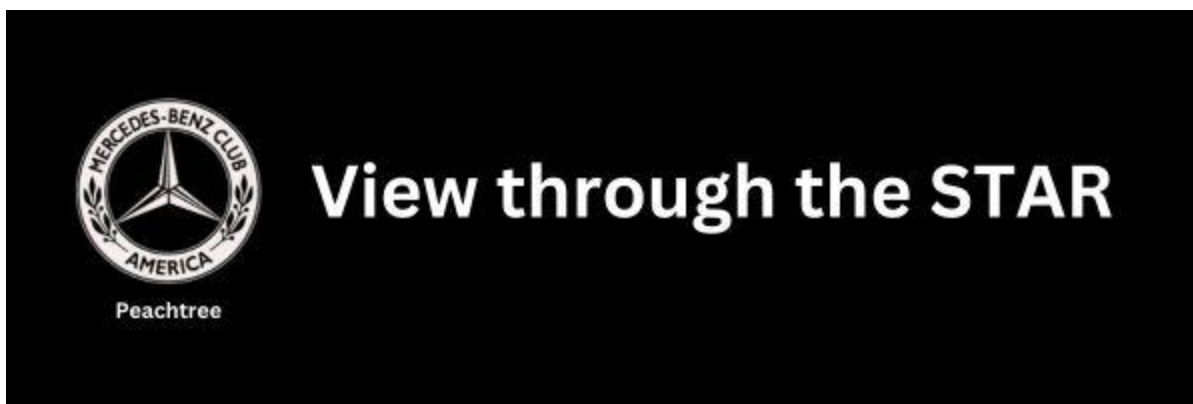




Volume 48 - Vol 5 | October 2026



View Through The Star

by Marisa Hegyesi, President

As I take the gavel in hand to complete Rusty Duncan's term, I look forward to the challenge of leading our chapter into 2027. I am grateful for the opportunity to help our chapter grow and for the friendships that have come from being a member.

For those that do not know me, I have served as a Board Member at Large, Secretary and Vice President. Some members have read the

Member Profiles I have written over the last three years. I also assist with aspects of Membership and the Concours. I was honored to receive the Jim Partain Memorial Award in 2025.

The dedication of Peachtree's remarkable officers and volunteers makes this club successful. To finish 2026, we have several exciting events on the schedule:



October 11th: WAGONfest (at MBUSA Headquarters in Sandy Springs).

October 18th (rescheduled from October 4th): **Concours d' Elegance** (Several Categories of Competition, even a Lemon category for "Project" cars). While at the Concours, RBM has asked us to assist them in writing postcards to the Veterans at the Decatur Veterans Hospital. RBM will provide the postcards, and I will provide helpful ideas in case you cannot think of something to write. RBM will deliver postcards for Veterans Day to the hospital. Please participate and let them know that they are not forgotten! [Read More](#)

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Member Spotlight

Karen Myers



by Marisa Hegyesi

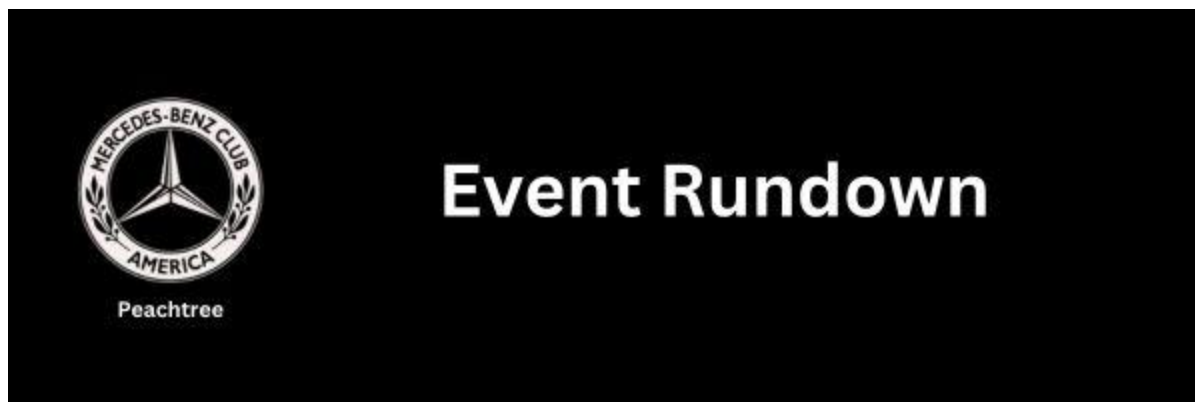
Karen Myers

Karen was born in Pennsylvania, moved to New Jersey, and landed in Atlanta in 1983. She is divorced and not looking. Karen has two sons in the Atlanta area, a daughter in Nicaragua, and three grandchildren (1 Atlanta/2 Nicaragua). Her grandchildren are what makes her laugh the most. She has a BA in Biochemistry/Nutrition from UNC-Chapel Hill and an MS from NCSU in Food Science. Karen was a nationally ranked swimmer and received a full ride to college.

Karen worked in food manufacturing directly out of college. Her first job was as a Chemist at Kraft Foods in Decatur. When she left, Karen was the Lab Supervisor. After her children were born, she switched careers and

worked as a pre-school teacher for 25 years (obviously she has a lot of patience).|

In her spare time, Karen enjoys working on her 25-year-old R129. “There are a lot of old plastic items to replace” and “I’ve done much bigger jobs on it than that.” She stated that she is enjoying her MBCA Peachtree membership where she has “met may really nice people.” [Read More](#)



October

- 10/11 | WAGONfest | [register](#) | [map](#)
- 10/16 | Trunk Show at J. McLaughlin | [register](#) | [map](#)
- 10/17 | MBCA Peachtree Board Meeting | [Contact President](#)
- 10/18 | Peachtree Concours | [register](#) | [map](#) **RESCHEDULED from 10/4**
- 10/17 | DC Motorwerks Octoberfest 5-9 pm | [map](#)
- 10/24 | Deutsche Car Show | [register](#) | [map](#)
- 10/25 | GAS ATL Meetup Noon-3pm | [map](#)
- 10/29 | Event Planning Workshop for 2027 | [register](#) | ZOOM

November, and December

- 11/1 | STARS and Coffee | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 11/28 | Holiday Lights Drive | *watch for details* | [map](#)
 - 12/5 | Holiday Luncheon | [register](#) | [map](#)
 - 12/6 | STARS and Coffee | [register](#) | [map](#)
-
-



Peachtree

Membership

Welcome NEW Members!

- Jason Clay
- Jeffrey Cohen
- Emerson Davis
- Jeremy Epstein
- Richard Morris
- Dexter Sanders
- Bill Sullivan

THANK YOU Renewing Members!

- Howard Austin
- Grant Cleveland
- Mike Dougherty
- Carl Frasher
- John Gilbert
- Eric Gilmer
- Alan Granath
- Reuel Hamilton
- Fred and Harriet Harwell
- James Hughes
- Philip Hungate
- Ira Isaacson
- Alfonso Jessie
- Zackary Johnson
- Wayne Jones
- Kai Kimmel
- Nelson Loh
- Tom Murray
- Terry Newby
- John Olson
- Mahesh Patel
- Marvin Psalmond
- Noman S Rashid
- J Richey
- Joseph Ruda
- H Sardelli
- Kent Sauter
- Chris Seastrom
- Ken Sidwell
- Robert Slayden
- Steve Smoak
- Mark Soesman

by Reijo Haarla, Membership Director

Fall is here, bringing crisp sunny days and the beautiful colors of changing leaves in the Georgia mountains.

Don't miss the Annual always-popular **Peachtree Concours d'Elegance** event planned for Sunday **October 18th**. The Concours will take place at a new location, at our sponsor RBM of Alpharetta Mercedes-Benz dealership. Please attend the event and enjoy a perfect fall day with fellow enthusiasts.

Be sure to check the event calendar in this Newsletter for details and register to attend for other upcoming events as well. Attending club events is the best way to meet members who share your passion for Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

Membership Renewal is Easy!

When it is time to renew your membership, you have several convenient options:

- Logging into the MBCA website at mbca.org and renewing from your membership profile.
- Renew from the renewal reminder email from MBCA.
- Call the MBCA National Business Office at 719.633.6427, Monday through Friday 9 am to 5 pm MST
- Mail a check to: MBCA National Business Office, 3472 Research Pkwy Ste 104 PMB 464, Colorado Springs, CO 80920

To ensure your membership stays active,

- Dee Stables
- Sandy & Terry Thomas
- Demian Torres-Bohl
- Robert Watson

simply select **Yes** to the **Auto-Renew** option during renewal.



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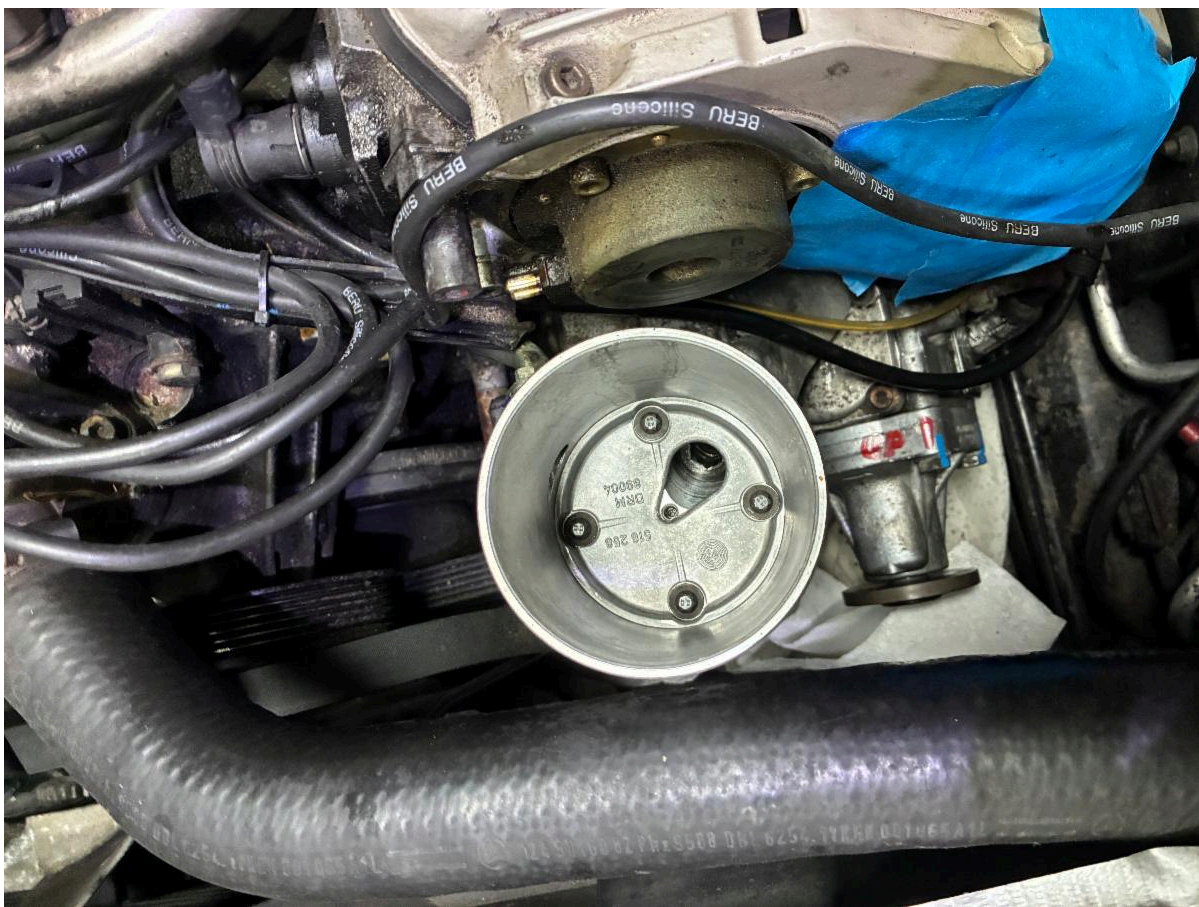
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Peachtree

Technical Digest



by Gary Edwards, Technical Advisor

W124 400 E Power Steering Pump

When I lived in Chesapeake Virginia, my next door neighbor was a nuclear engineer and Mercedes enthusiast, Jim Freeh. I was a long term Porsche hobbyist and Jim was always trying to lure me over to Mercedes. One day, when my 1983 Porsche 944 was driving me up the wall intermittently not starting, Jim brought over a 1993 400E, wanting me to drive it and saying he was thinking of selling it. I drove it for a day and was surprised by how a relatively stodgy looking car with a relatively comfortable ride could corner so well. The next day I told him I wanted to buy it, he said he wasn't sure he wanted to sell it. He did sell it to me, however, and it became my first (of many) Mercedes. I used it as a daily driver for many years, but lately I'd been neglecting the car.

I finally decided to fix its issues and start driving it more often. The car had a large power steering fluid leak to the point where I had to add fluid every couple of days. Researching this, I learned that there are generally two power steering leak sources for these cars. One was the rubber hose that leads from the power steering fluid reservoir to the pump inlet. The other was the pump seal itself. I also learned that there are two different manufacturers of power steering pumps for these cars and the pump rebuild kits are different, so it was necessary to

determine what pump I have. The name plate data on the pump is on the side of the pump and if you have a leak, I can guarantee that this will be totally obscured by grime and dirt. I expended about a can of brake clean on it and with the help of my iPhone camera I was able to determine that I had a ZF pump, so I was able to order rebuild kits (I ordered two). I was also to use this information to order the right hose for the pump inlet line (they are also different).

[Read More](#)



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Events



Peachtree

Concours d'Elegance Sunday, October 18, 2026 10:00 am - 2:00 pm



RBM
of ALPHARETTA



RBM Alpharetta
345 McFarland Pkwy
Alpharetta, GA 30004

MORE TIME TO SHINE UP YOUR MERCEDES – **Event Rescheduled**
from **October 4, 2026**

Registration is open for the 2026 Peachtree Concours d'Elegance, and we want YOUR Mercedes-Benz on the field!



Sunday, October 18, 2026



9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for participants

This year is extra special as we celebrate the 140th Anniversary of the Mercedes-Benz automobile and the 70th Anniversary of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America!

You don't need a perfect show car to participate. Enter your Mercedes in Concours, Street, Custom, or Show & Shine—there's a class for almost every Mercedes you love to drive and display.

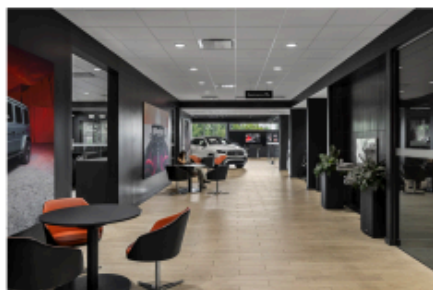
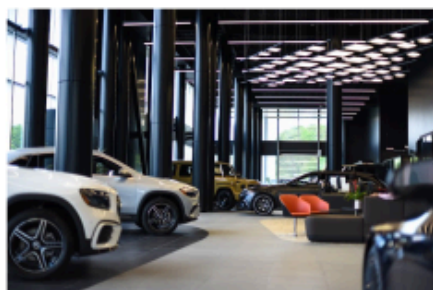


Registration: \$45 per car

Deadline: October 14

Wash it. Wax it. Show it off. Register today and join us for one of Peachtree's signature events!

CONCOURS REGISTRATION



A new chapter begins, built around you.

Our expansion is complete!
Enjoy a more spacious showroom,
upgraded facility, and an elevated
Mercedes-Benz experience designed to
make every visit more comfortable,
convenient, and exceptional.
We look forward to welcoming you.

In addition, we are now the new
destination for the MBCA Peachtree
'Stars and Coffee' events, effective
August 2, 2026. Gatherings occur
the first Sunday of the month from
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM and are open
to all Mercedes-Benz models.

RBM
of ALPHARETTA



345 McFarland Parkway | Exit 12 off GA 400
678-637-2333 Main | rbmofalpharetta.com

Event for the Ladies of Mercedes!

Av

**Trunk Show at J. McLaughlin's
Avalon
Friday, October 16 11:00 - 1:00 pm**



Geri Whaley-Ewers Event Planner

Join the ladies for a stylish afternoon at [J. McLaughlin](#) in Avalon. Browse the latest fall fashions, enjoy great company, and shop for a good cause.

J. McLaughlin will donate a portion of event sales to *Second Chance Greyhounds*, helping retired racing greyhounds find loving homes.

As an added highlight, we will be treated to a live performance by Philla, a talented cello artist, providing the perfect musical backdrop.

Fashion, friendship, and philanthropy—all in one delightful afternoon!

J. McLaughlin's

OCTOBER FEST



FOOD - BEER - MUSIC

OCTOBER 17 2026

5 PM - 9 PM

640 JAMES RD, ALPHARETTA, GA 30004

**DC
MOTORWERKS**

EVENT PLANNERS WORKSHOP

October 29, 2026 7:00 pm



2027

Event Planners

Workshop

Oct 29 | 7:00 pm

Zoom

Have a great idea for a Peachtree Chapter event? Help us put it in gear!

Join us for an upcoming MBCA Peachtree Event Planning Workshop as we brainstorm drives, tours, social gatherings, technical sessions, dining experiences, and other fun activities for our members.

No event-planning experience is needed—just bring your ideas, enthusiasm, and willingness to help. Whether you'd like to lead an event, assist behind the scenes, or simply contribute suggestions, we'd love to have you involved.

Help us map out the road ahead and make the next year of Peachtree Chapter events our best yet!

EVENT PLANNING

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON
December 5, 2026 11:30 am

Av

*Holiday
Cheer!*

Join us for a

**HOLIDAY
LUNCHEON**

DEC
5

**Saturday
11:30 am**

*Table and Main Restaurant
1028 Canton Street
Roswell, GA 30075*



Ernie Smallman, Event Planner

Celebrate the season with your fellow Peachtree Chapter members at our Annual Holiday Luncheon on Saturday, December 5 at 11:30 a.m. at the award-winning Table & Main in Roswell.

Enjoy wonderful Southern cuisine, holiday cheer, and time with friends as we wrap up another great year together.

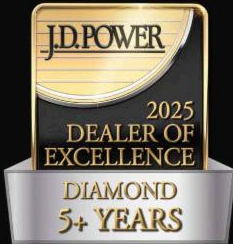


Don't forget to bring a new, unwrapped toy for oys for Tots and help us share a little extra holiday joy with children in our community.

We hope you'll join us for this special Peachtree holiday tradition!

Registration is OPEN. Please register by Saturday, November 28th.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON



8x Honoree

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7200 Roswell Road + 7640 Roswell Road | 770-390-0700 | www.RBMofAtlanta.com



Market Platz

Mercedes-Benz Model Cars for Sale

A longtime Mercedes enthusiast is downsizing and offering several high-quality 1:18 scale die-cast metal models from his personal collection.

Models are \$20 each, with one approximately 6-inch glass paperweight model available for \$10. These are priced to find new homes with fellow Mercedes enthusiasts.

Contact: Keith Waldrop at kawaldrop@earthlink.net if your interested in any of these Mercedes-Benz model cars.

Keith plans to attend the October 4 Peachtree Concours and can bring purchased models for pickup there. Other pickup arrangements can be made for buyers unable to attend.



Rare Mercedes-Benz Picnic Basket

Douglas Geganto, is a Past President of the Peachtree Chapter, Past Regional Director, and Past National President of MBCA is selling this unique collectible for the Mercedes-Benz enthusiast! This **Mercedes-Benz Picnic Basket** is brand new and never used, complete with its original

packing material. It is no longer available through the Mercedes-Benz Lifestyle Collection. Price: \$195 — shipping (estimated \$40 value) included. For more information or to purchase, contact: Douglas Geganto, [✉ dgeganto@charter.net](mailto:dgeganto@charter.net) 404-754-9955.



Event News

MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION
Saturday, July 25, 2026



Ernie Smallman, Event Planner

Fifty-two registered Peachtree members and guests registered for the event. J.D.s on the lake is an old Georgia fish camp that has been somewhat updated-a deck added and new restrooms. The weather cooperated with a mild temperature as attendees dined in an enclosed screen area and on the deck.

The buffet lunch included three entrees-fried Mississippi Catfish, spicy blacken Grouper, and fried Chicken Tenders. Both fried entrees were a specialty of the house-J. D's Calabash fried with the moist meat. Calabash is a specific style of lightly breaded flash fried fish and chicken that originated in the small fishing town of Calabash, North Carolina. The entrees were accompanied by sauteed southern green beans, spicy Mexican corn, cold slaw, and desert of banana pudding. Several commented how good the fish was indulging in second helpings. The deck provided a view of boat dockage on Allatoona Lake.

After lunch Rashaum Bosley provided a video of scenes he filmed for a documentary he is producing on Peachtree and the Mercedes Benz Club.

As an older club member once remarked, "Peachtree knows how to eat when they are not driving".

Mountain Drive Poker Run – A Winning Day! September 19, 2026



Nineteen participants joined us on September 19 for the Mountain Drive Poker Run, enjoying a beautiful drive through North Georgia with stops at several area wineries along the way.

Participants collected playing cards at each stop, hoping to build the best five-card poker hand by the end of the route. The day wrapped up at Stoney J's Winery with lunch, plenty of conversation, and the announcement of our winners.

A big congratulations to **Allen Smith, our first-place winner!**

Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this a fun and memorable Peachtree event. Great roads, beautiful scenery, friendly competition, and Mercedes-Benz camaraderie made for a wonderful day!

Tea, Treats & Great Company!
September 25, 2026



Photos by Rashaun Bosley

Eight Ladies of Mercedes enjoyed a delightful afternoon at The Ginger Room in Alpharetta on September 25. The group shared tea, sandwiches, scones, sweet treats, plenty of conversation.

It was a charming afternoon filled with friendship, laughter, and Mercedes fellowship!



Mercedes-Benz News

**Mercedes-Benz Celebrates the Brand's
Legendary Heritage and Future Icons at the
2026 Pebble Beach Automotive Week**



August 11, 2026

- The Mercedes-Benz Future Classics Auction House debuts at the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance.
- A beautifully curated display showcases future collector vehicles from Mercedes-Benz, Mercedes-AMG and Mercedes-Maybach.
- A near-identical twin of LeBron James' personal Mercedes-Maybach S 680 showcasing MANUFAKTUR craftsmanship highlights how personalization, exclusivity, and bespoke design are shaping the collector vehicles of tomorrow.
- Mercedes-Benz Classic celebrates 140 years of innovation and proudly displays the 1905 American Mercedes and 1938 Mercedes-Benz 540K Streamliner.

For 140 years, Mercedes-Benz has created vehicles that define their era and endure as benchmarks for generations. From the game-changing invention of the automobile and the iconic 300 SL to today's highly compelling product portfolio, the brand has continually shaped automotive culture through an unwavering commitment to innovation, performance and design. At the 2026 Pebble Beach Automotive Week, Mercedes-Benz will celebrate this legacy while exploring a question central to collectors and enthusiasts alike: Which vehicles from today will become the collector icons of tomorrow?

Mercedes-Benz Future Classics Auction House

This year, the prominent Mercedes-Benz brand presence includes the Future Classics Auction House, an immersive showcase inspired by the world's most prestigious collector car auction houses. Seamlessly blending vehicle displays, collector-inspired installations and exclusive experiences, the exhibition

presents a carefully curated selection of Mercedes-Benz, Mercedes-AMG and Mercedes-Maybach models and offers a compelling perspective regarding the qualities that elevate exceptional automobiles into collectible automotive icons connected by the brand's unmatched legacy of innovation.

[Read More](#)

Peachtree Chapter Officers

Peachtree Section, MBCA Officers and Board of Directors and Leadership Support Members

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president@mbcapeachtree.com

Open

vicepresident@mbcapeachtree.com

Brett Butler

secretary@mbcapeachtree.com

Diana Quinn

treasurer@mbcapeachtree.com

Directors

directors@mbcapeachtree.com

Reijo Haarla

Sam Kamber

Dietmar Schmid

Past presidents

Steve Chapman

Gary Edwards

Ernie Smallman

Directors at Large

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Allan Smith

Committees

Reijo Haarla - Membership

membership@mbcapeachtree.com

Diana Quinn - Newsletter

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Rusty Duncan - Sponsors

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Gary Edwards - Technical

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Diana Quinn - Webmaster

webmaster@mbcapeachtree.com

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

MBCA Name Tags



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LINE 2 CHAPTER NAME

[Order Name Tag](#)

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