



## December 2007 Newsletter

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### Section Contacts

**President** Tony Moore  
tonynkaren@aaahawk.com 865-945-3888

**Vice-President** Aaron Householder  
benz220@aol.com 865-680-8888

**Secretary** Tom Sayres  
tomsayres@gmial.com 865-769-8826

**Treasurer** Gerald Poats  
gdpoats@hotmail.com 423-507-7312

**Technical Help** George Murphy  
perfanalysis@comcast.net 865-482-9175

**Membership Chairman** Walter Myer  
wgmyer@bellsouth.net 865-207-5375

**Past President** Bill Lenihan  
wlenihan@comcast.net 865-482-7325

### About the Newsletter

The Smoky Mountain Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. publishes this quarterly newsletter. Opinions expressed are those of the authors. Express permission is hereby given to other Sections of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America to reprint articles contained herein, except as noted. Articles of general interest should be mailed to the Editor, 233 Briarcliff

Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. Copy deadline is the 15th of odd-numbered months.

### Mercedes-Benz Roadside Assistance

Call 800-FOR-MERCEDES 24 hours a day

### An Overview of the Club

Established in 1956, MBCA has more than 22,000 members in over 80 Sections across the nation. These local Sections organize hundreds of events each year, ranging from social gatherings to specialized technical sessions. MBCA is a non-profit organization.

### Join the Club

Call 800/637-2360  
Enroll as a member in MBCA:  
One year \$45  
Two years \$87  
Three years \$127

### Moving?

Send address change to:  
MBCA, 1907 Lelaray Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909  
or call 800/637-2360 or [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org)

### Local Activities

Your dues include membership in the Section of your choice. Each Section publishes a newsletter with news of its activities and their year-round calendar of events, including rallies defensive driving courses, car shows, and dinner meetings.

Many Sections host special events such as StarTech, our national technical meeting and StarFest, our National Convention. Any MBCA member may attend any Section, Regional or National event.

### Trip Routing Service

MBUSA offers a free trip routing service for MB owners regardless of the age of your car. You must provide your complete VIN. Call 800/367-6372.

### The STAR

A subscription The STAR, MBCA's award-winning national magazine is included with your membership. Each issue includes technical information, a historic feature car in color, and the latest news from Daimler-Benz and MBUSA, articles on restoration, new car road tests, and advertisements from companies providing products and services for your car, plus free classified ads to members.

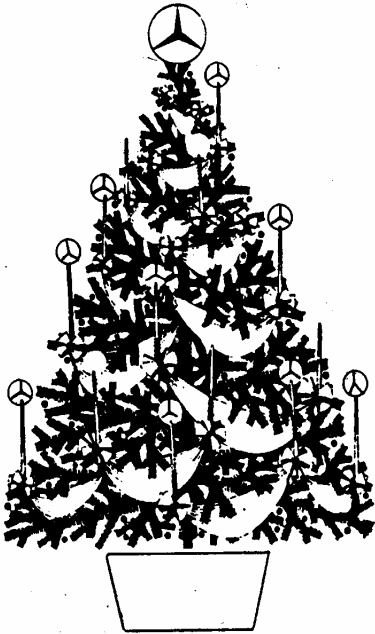
### Technical Manuals

MBUSA has a number of Technical Manuals, Wiring Diagrams, Owner's Manuals and other technical information available for owners. CD-ROMs or DVDs of Technical Manuals for your car can be ordered from MBUSA at 800/367-6372.

## Smoky Mountain Section Holiday Dinner

Calhoun's  
Lenoir City, Tennessee

Friday, December 28, 2007  
6:00 p.m.



All Smoky Mountain Section members and their guests are invited. Come and meet the interesting people who enjoy what you enjoy - your Mercedes-Benz automobile . . .

Cost is \$20 per person.

Questions? Call George Murphy at (865) 482-9175 (d)

Be sure to mail this form by December 18, 2007 to assure your reservation

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Reservation form - MBCA SMOKY MOUNTAIN SECTION HOLIDAY DINNER

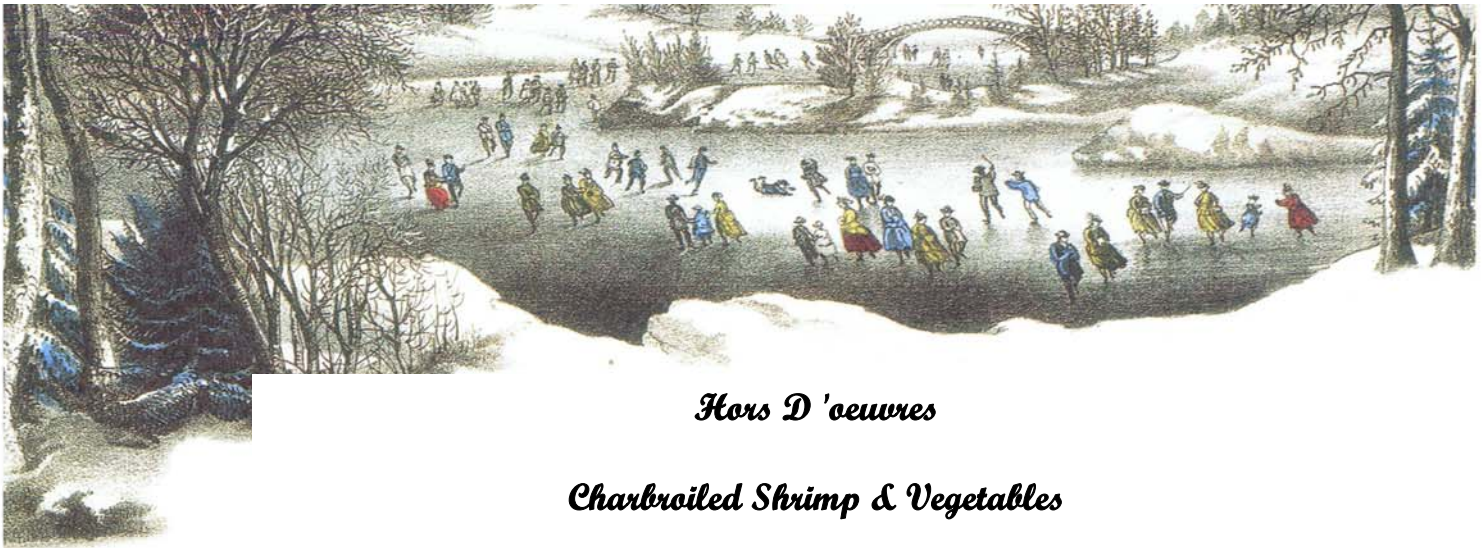
NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

Enclose \$20 per person - Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make check out to MBCA Smoky Mountain Section)

Your phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: George Murphy  
233 Briarcliff Avenue  
Oak Ridge, TN 37830



*Hors D'oeuvres*

*Charbroiled Shrimp & Vegetables*

*Spinach Artichoke Dip*

*Served Hot with Tortilla Chips, Salsa, and Sour Cream*

*Homemade BBQ Meatballs*

*Dinner*

*Calhoun's Award-Winning Baby-Back Pork Ribs*

*Chicken Teriyaki over Rice*

*Southern Fried Catfish with Tartar Sauce*

*Country Slaw*

*Spinach Maria*

*Smoky Mountain Baked Beans*

*Freshly Baked Biscuits & Corn Muffins*

*Chocolate Iced Cake*

*Freshly Brewed Coffee & Tea, Soda*



From the Curtis & Ines Collection in the Museum of the City of New York

Geographics

**Calhoun's  
4550 City Park Drive  
Lenoir City, TN**

**Directions**

**From Interstate**

I75 South (From North) - Turn left at Lenoir City Exit 81. Follow 321 for approximately 3 miles until you come to a large hill with stop light at end. Keep going straight approximately 1/2 mile until you come upon City Park Drive to the right. There is a small sign by it that says "Lenoir City Park". (If you cross the dam, you have gone too far. Turn around and turn at the first left). Turn here, and then keep left. Follow this road approximately 1 mile and you will see the Calhoun's parking area to the extreme right.

**From Tellico Village**

Take Tellico Parkway approx. 8 miles. Go across the dam, and then take the first left. Follow the road approximately 1 mile until you see Calhoun's parking lot to the extreme right.



**Don't forget to patronize our  
advertisers . . .**

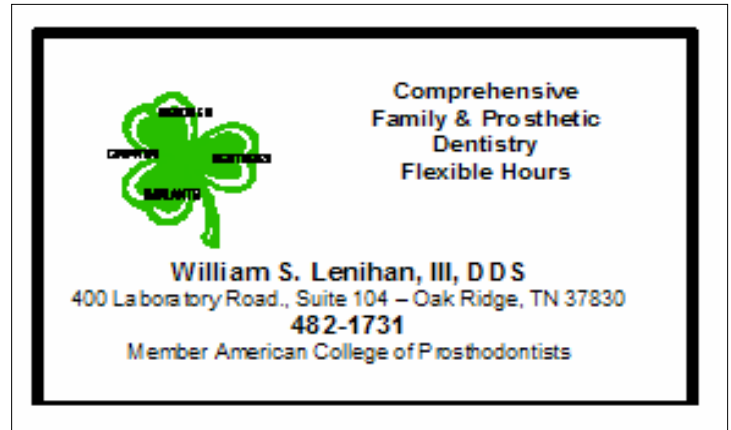


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Fax: 865-482-4893                      Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
Phone: 865-482-4061                      95 Midway Lane



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**William S. Lenihan, III, DDS**  
400 Laboratory Road., Suite 104 – Oak Ridge, TN 37830  
**482-1731**  
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**Reach out to area Mercedes-Benz auto owners - Advertising Rates – Newsletter – 6 issues**

**Full page – 8½ x 11 \$150**  
**Quarter page – 4¼ x 5½ \$50**  
**Half page – 8½ x 5½ \$100**  
**Business card - \$25**

**Our Smoky Mountain Section newsletter reaches about 150 Mercedes-Benz owners in East Tennessee from Chattanooga to the Tri-Cities. Send ad copy and check to:**

**George Murphy**  
**233 Briarcliff Avenue**  
**Oak Ridge, TN 37830**

**Or email ad to: [perfanalysis@comcast.net](mailto:perfanalysis@comcast.net)**

**Note: A-1 Alignment (Troy Simcox) one of our advertisers, is losing his lease at his present location. If you need an alignment on your MB (or any car) make an appointment to have it done by December 28, 2007. Troy is one of the best alignment men in the business and knows MB chassis alignment. We need to give him our support – if you know of a business location that may be available, let him know at (865) 482-7502**

**Performance Analysis Co. 865-482-9175**  
**MONTHLY SPECIALS - CLEANING OUT THE GARAGE**

- Hella license plate light fixture w/bulb \$10
- Heat/AC switch for 114/early 107 models \$195
- Bendix rear brake caliper kit -123 \$16
- 108 window motors: new (1) \$200; used (2) \$75
- Right front 123 window mechanism \$95
- 103 engine fan bearing and mount \$99
- 103 Fan clutch \$98
- Set new black floor mats for 140 LWB \$80

# Mercedes Benz Technical Session

Bud's Benz, Douglasville, GA

1100 a.m. 26 January 2008

## Smoky Mountain Section members are invited

George Murphy, Technical Director of the Mercedes Benz Club of America and contributor to the STAR, will repeat an update of his successful 1998 and 2004 presentations with handouts and valuable information for servicing and maintaining the value of your Mercedes Benz automobiles. George is nationally recognized as a leader in the field of Mercedes Benz maintenance, and since 1999 has authored bi-monthly service and maintenance articles in the STAR magazine.

The presentation will include areas to inspect when considering the purchase of an older Mercedes Benz model, plus recommendations for do it your self-repairs in emergencies or just to maintain value and avoid costly garage charges for minimal problems. The seminar is particularly helpful for Mercedes Benz purchasers who purchased an automobile with an uncertain maintenance or ownership history. George's seminar will assist you in maintaining an older model in good condition by addressing non-routine items that should be checked form time to time to maintain value. Routine maintenance problems will also be addressed with recommended inspection intervals for such items as degradation of rubber parts, changing fluids, and other common problems that can occur as your automobile ages.

If you were unable to attend last January's tech session and receive a tour of Bud's facility plus learn of their services, you have a reprieve and can do so at this event. David Latham of Bud's Benz has graciously offered to host George and grill hot dogs and brats for lunch. A Honey Baked Ham will be available for Yankees who are not accustomed to grilling in the winter. Expect salad and an assortment of vegetables to complete your food pyramid needs for the day. Please bring a collapsible chair so you will be comfortable in the event you fall asleep during the presentation. Where else can you get lunch that isn't fried for \$6.50? Register early as we have invited both the Alabama Section (we told them we were having fried baloney for lunch so expect a bus load) and the Smoky Mountain Section.

**DIRECTIONS:** Drive to Atlanta on I-75. Take I-285 west, then exit #10B proceeding west on I-20 to exit #34, turn right off the ramp and proceed 200 yards and follow Highway 5 north until it dead ends. Take a right onto Highway 78, then the first left across the railroad tracks. Finally take an immediate left onto Strickland and Bud's Benz is 3/4 mile down on the right at 7773 Strickland Street, Douglasville GA 30134. The telephone number at Bud's is 770-942-8444 for those directionally challenged.

**WHAT TO BRING:** A lightweight collapsible chair similar to what you would utilize at a concourse and a thirst for knowledge.

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## Technical Session at Bud's Benz Saturday 26 January 2008

Name of Attendee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$6.50 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make Checks payable to Peachtree (not Alabama) Section, Mercedes Benz Club of America and respond by **19 January 2008** so the caterer can adequately prepare.

Send reservation form to **Ernest Smallman, III, 3946 Chamblee Tucker Road, Atlanta, GA 30340.**

## Summary Report of the MBCA National Board meeting in Naples, Florida November 10, 2007 by Frank Cozza

### I. NATIONAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

- A. **ADS FOR NATIONAL EVENTS** - Each section hosting National events in the future will be given 2 full page ads per event. Starting in 2008, to keep ads uniform, the NBO is requiring that free MBCA event ads be coordinated by the art director. There will be a modest charge for this service. Sections may still design their ads, but it must be sent to the NBO at least 2 months prior to publication.
- B. **USED TIMING EQUIPMENT FOR SALE** - The used Brower timing equipment is FOR SALE for \$500 per set. Please contact me if your section is interested.
- C. **SILVER STAR PRESERVATION CLASS** – This is a work in progress and a few minor changes have been made, as well as a few changes to the Standard Concours Score sheet.
- D. **PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT** – Legal counsel, Tom James and I have been working to keep the participation agreement up to date. A newly revised edition will be available for 2008. **WHEN HOLDING EVENT, ALL SECTIONS MUST USE THIS MBCA APPROVED PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.**
- E. **INSURANCE** – David Cummings and I spoke with the club's insurance company, J.C. Taylor, concerning non-members at club events. The club is covered under this policy if a non-member is in attendance at a club event. David is also looking into a medical policy which is required by many tracks today.
- F. **TWO NEW NATIONAL EVENTS** – I proposed adding 2 National events to be held during a StarFest year. Previously, during a StarFest year (even numbered years), no other National Event could be held. The proposal was accepted and **sections interested in hosting a National event during StarFest year (2008) may send a proposal to me.** The National Events Committee will review and make a decision. The main concern is that it does not conflict with StarFest either in date or in location.
- G. **STARTRIP** – Werner Fehlauer of the South Jersey Section is planning a StarTrip. It will begin in Gettysburg and end at StarFest in San Francisco via the Lincoln Highway. More information will appear in THE STAR.
- H. **LAKE MICHIGAN CIRCLE TOUR** – Oct. 6-13, 2008 – This will be a multi-Regional rally. This sounds like a great event. Mark your calendars—more information will appear in THE STAR.
- I. **STARFEST 2008** – Sept.26-Oct. 1, 2008 – StarFest will begin in San Francisco, with the concours being held at Treasure Island, home of the 1939 World's Fair. On Sunday a rally will take participants through the Napa Valley to Willows, CA where the track events will be held. Thunderhill Raceway Park is an incredible track, just waiting for you. Mark your calendars.
- J. **NATIONAL TEEN DRIVING TASK FORCE** – Joe Wozney, chairman, gave a report on the AutoWeek Teen Summit most of the committee attended in August. The entire National board is 100% behind the teen driving program. The MBCA Educational Foundation will take on this project

**II. MEMBERSHIP** – Josie Lesler, membership chairman informed the board of the many projects of the committee. Following are just a few:

- 1) Recruitment of AMG owners
- 2) Providing section membership retention form letters
- 3) Promotional recruitment materials for section newsletter editors
- 4) Pop up display and up right banners for section use
- 5) Complimentary materials to take to your dealer (call Karen at NBO)
- 6) Family programs
- 7) Tech sessions for ladies
- 8) Star calendar schedule
- 9) Holiday tear out application in THE STAR

**III. PROCEDURES MANUAL** – is being simplified and updated.

### IV. NEWLY ELECTED NATIONAL OFFICERS:

President: Peter Lesler                      Vice President: Rodger VanNess  
Secretary: Roy Kuck                         Treasurer: George Murphy

**V. MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION** -MBCA elected seven members to serve on the MBCA Education Foundation. Less than half of this board can come from members of the National Board. Those elected:

- Joe Wozney – Greater Washington Section
- Mary Alice Cozza – Western Reserve Section
- \*Werner Fehlauer – South Jersey/Greater Washington Sections
- \*Doug Dees – Toronto Section
- David Cummings – NBO – Pikes Peak Section
- \*Greg Magnus – Central Virginia Section

Richard Simonds – San Francisco Bay Area Section

\*denotes member of National Board

Officers were then elected by the MBCAEF:

President: Joe Wozney Vice President: Mary Alice Cozza

Secretary: Werner Fehlauer Treasurer: Doug Dees

The MBCAEF has taken on the teen driving program and will work with the BMW Club and its STREET SURVIVAL PROGRAM.

**VI. MBUSA REPS ATTEND** – Michael Kuhns, Manager of the Classic Center and Valentine O'Connor, MBCA's liaison with MBUSA attended the National board meeting as well as committee meetings. It was great to have such representation from MBUSA.

**VII. LOYALTY PROGRAM FOR 2008** – The 2008 Loyalty program is as follows:

- a. Begins Jan. 3, 2008-Dec. 31, 2008
- b. MBCA membership must be current with no lapses and must have been a member for 1 year.
- c. Gift cards in varying amounts will be offered upon completion of requested form. Gifts cards are redeemable at Mercedes-Benz dealers on parts, service, personal or vehicle accessories.
- d. On new or pre-owned Mercedes-Benz vehicles from authorized Mercedes-Benz dealer:
  - \$1500 gift card – new MB (not AMG)
  - \$ 750 gift card – pre-owned MB (all models)
- e. Purchase of a Mercedes-Benz from a licensed independent U.S. dealer:
  - \$250 gift card – all models

**SECTION INFORMATION:**

1. SECTIONS ARE REMINDED TO SEND IN YOUR SECTION OFFICER UPDATES TO THE NATIONAL BUSINESS OFFICE (forms are online at mbca.org under club reference- please copy me when you file this report)
2. FINANCIAL REPORTING FORMS WILL BE DUE IN JANUARY TO THE NATIONAL BUSINESS OFFICE. (Forms are online at mbca.org under club reference – please copy me when you file this report)
3. ANY SECTION INTERESTED IN PURCHASING USED TIMING EQUIPMENT SHOULD CONTACT ME AT [fcozza@neo.rr.com](mailto:fcozza@neo.rr.com)
4. ANY SECTION INTERESTED IN HOSTING A NATIONAL EVENT DURING A STARFEST YEAR SHOULD CONTACT FRANK COZZA.