



# The Constellation

Newsletter of the Mile High Section

April 2025 [mbcamilehigh.org](http://mbcamilehigh.org)

MBCA Mission Statement: To Elevate the Mercedes-Benz Experience Through Knowledge, Camaraderie and Exceptional Events.

## President's Message – 'All About the Benz'

By Whitlow Wong

What a beautiful day we had for our potluck on Saturday, March 8 at Piney Creek Clubhouse in Centennial. Whitlow and Eleanor, thank you so much for acquiring this venue for us. Everyone brought something to share to supplement the delicious roast chicken.

### Welcome Our New Members

- Roger Woo
- Mohammad Karbassi
- Richard Gleason



Nineteen of us enjoyed chicken, various types of salads, and several desserts. The shamrocks on the cake were rings.





Showing off our shamrock rings.



On Saturday, April 12, we'll enjoy lunch at **Scileppi's at The Old Stone Church**, 210 Third St, Castle Rock. We will meet at 11 am to enjoy a delightful lunch at this unique, historic restaurant with a charming ambiance. After lunch we will take an optional **scenic drive to Deckers** (weather permitting). The drive is 2.5 hours roundtrip. We'll take in the breathtaking views of Colorado's countryside with this fun and relaxing drive. A great way to unwind and enjoy nature. After our drive, or directly after lunch if you are skipping the drive, we'll meet for gelato at **Gelato & Co.**, 830 New Memphis Ct, Suite B-100, Castle Rock. This will wrap up the day by treating yourself to some delicious gelato! A perfect sweet ending to the day.

Please RSVP by April 9 to Patt Clark at [pattcl02@aol.com](mailto:pattcl02@aol.com). Patt will send an email to confirm your reservation. This is a no host event. Separate bills will be issued for payment.

### **Our Kansas Adventure**

Come join us on an adventure into Kansas! Some of the highlights of the trip include: Walter P. Chrysler Boyhood Home and Museum, The Garage Museum, Cosmosphere and Space Center, Mcpherson Car Show, Lindsborg (Swiss town), Eisenhower Museum and Home, and a ride on the Abilene and Smoky Valley Railroad.



The homebase will be at Homewood Suites by Hilton Salina Downtown, 115 E Mulberry St, Salina, Kansas. A block of rooms has been reserved for the event. Book your room early to receive the discounted rate. The deadline for the room discount is April 4, 2025. The group code is **MBC**. Call the hotel at 785-515-2600 and speak to Guest Services and provide them with the "group code". – OR –

1. Search for **Homewood Suites by Hilton Salina Downtown**.
2. Enter the date of stay (GOOD FOR THE NIGHTS OF MAY 1ST-4TH, 2025 ... check-in May 1, check-out May 5 for a 4-night stay).
3. Click **Special Rates** box.
4. On the box highlighted below labeled **Group Code**, enter **MBC**.
5. Click **Check Room Rates**, select room type and then enter your information.

**You are cordially invited to the Mercedes-Benz Club regional gathering at the McPherson College Car and Motoring Festival**

**Event:** MBCA Regional Gathering at McPherson College

**Where:** McPherson College, 1600 E. Euclid, McPherson KS 67460

**When:** Saturday, May 3rd, 8AM to 2PM

**Cost:** \$30 per car



The McPherson College Car and Motoring Festival is hosted by the McPherson College C.A.R.S club every year. It is one of the largest car shows in the Midwest and the variety of cars that show up are really astounding. This show is not just about old cars either. You will see cars and trucks ranging from the

early 1900's all the way up to today. Additionally, there are usually displays of motorcycles and tractors. This year the event venue has a special spot set up just for MBCA members and guests. Participants will park their cars in this area and have an opportunity to check out the Benzes and see the rest of the show. The Wichita Chapter will be hosting a BBQ lunch as part of this event.

If you are interested in attending, you can register by sending an e-mail to [rkfilbey@gmail.com](mailto:rkfilbey@gmail.com) or [mbca.wichita@aol.com](mailto:mbca.wichita@aol.com) . In your e-mail please include

your name, your MBCA Chapter, the number of people in your party, and the year and make of your car. The cost of the event is \$30 per car. Please bring cash to the event. Please **do not** register through the McPherson College car show site, we are handling registration separately for our event.

Entry to the Car Show opens at 8AM. Getting to McPherson College is pretty straight forward, the school is off of US 56W in McPherson, KS. When entering the school grounds, follow signs to the show participant entry point. At the entry point you will be directed to the MBCA area. During the show you will have an opportunity to wander all over the show grounds. McPherson College is one of the few colleges with a 4-year degreed program in auto restoration. During the day you can take an opportunity to tour the restoration area and classrooms. Throughout the day there will be live music, refreshments, and some special highlighted cars. The show wraps just after 2PM.

Some things to remember...we will try to have enough seats for everyone, but it is highly recommended that you bring an outdoor chair or chairs with you. Don't forget sunscreen and a hat....and a coat because you just never know what the weather will be like.

The Wichita Chapter is very excited to host this event and looks forward to meeting you! If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to ask.

Kirk Filbey  
President  
MBCA Wichita Chapter

Our tentative schedule of events for the year follows:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>
Apr 12	Drive and then lunch @ Old Stone Church	Castle Rock
May 1-5	Kansas Adventure	Kansas
Jun 14	Adams Mystery Playhouse	Denver
Jul 19	Joint Picnic @ Castlewood Canyon State Park	Franktown
Aug 9	Gardens on Spring Creek	Ft. Collins
Sept 26-28	Fall Color Tour w/Pikes Peak Section	?
Oct 18	TBD	?
Nov 8	Members Meeting	?
Dec 13	Holiday Party	?

**A very important plea** ... we are looking for members to join our Board of Directors. All are invited. We are especially looking for new members to join the Board because we'd like fresh ideas. We really need your help so please consider joining the team. If you are interested or want additional information, please contact Whitlow Wong at [whitlowwong@comcast.net](mailto:whitlowwong@comcast.net).

## **Your Handy 1963-71 Mercedes-Benz SL Buyer's Guide**

Rob Sass

27 March 2025



Mercedes-Benz has had an on-off relationship with its two-tiered sports car lineup. More recently there has been the SL/SLK, but the original was the [300SL/190SL](#) dichotomy. The 300SL, whether in Gullwing or Roadster form, was of course a classic for the ages, while the 190 was a handsome but relatively heavy, underpowered boulevardier. Both had run their course by the early 1960s—the 190 was outdated, and the 300SL was both complex and very expensive to produce. M-B saw its next

generation SL—the W113—as the way to replace both. And while its lack of any racing heritage along with its luxury focus and lower price were a marked shift away from the old 300SL, the 230/250/280SL (often referred to as the W113 for its internal code, or as “Pagoda” for the shape of its hardtop) has become an elegant and desirable classic in its own right.

Being an old and expensive German automobile, though, there are things to look out for before going out and buying one.

While the Germans tend to favor “evolution over revolution” in their approach to car design (see the 3-series BMW and Porsche 911), the Paul Bracq-designed W113 was a clean sheet design stylistically, albeit one that took mechanical elements from the W111 “Fintail” and the new W112 sedans. It also eschewed the 300SL’s complicated tubular spaceframe in favor of more conventional but still advanced unibody construction.

Continue reading the story here:

<https://www.hagerty.com/media/market-trends/hagerty-insider/your-handy-1963-71-mercedes-benz-sl-buyers-guide/>

## 7 Mercedes Easter Eggs and Hidden Features

The Mercedes-Benz is one of the most popular cars in the automotive industry, but did you know these features existed?

By [Bassem Girgis](#) - April 14, 2017

### 1. C-Class Trunk Key Hole

With the current Mercedes technology, we never actually think about keyholes. In the end, how would we stick the oddly-shaped key into any key-hole? Well, since you can remove the metal part of the key (which is there so you can lock your glove box when you valet your car) you can use it to open the trunk with the hidden key hole. Look for it on an angle above the license plate on the trunk lid. If you didn't know this one, then it may save you some time in the future if your battery dies.

### 2. Open Window/Sunroof By Remote

On a hot summer day, the last thing you want is to get into your Mercedes and get baked. One of the hidden features that your Mercedes salesman never bothered to tell you is that you can open your windows and sunroof with your remote. Stand five-feet away from the driver's door, press the unlock button on your remote once, then press it again and keep it pressed. This should open your windows and sunroof and air out your Benz before you get in. To close the windows and sunroof, do the same

thing, but use the lock button instead. It may take you a few tries before successfully doing it.

### **3. Tunnel Mode**

By pressing the air circulation button and keeping it pressed, all of your windows should close, which is called "Tunnel Mode." If you're past the tunnel and you want to reopen all of your windows, press the air circulation button again and keep it pressed, and your windows should open back up to their original position.

### **4. Throttle Reset**

If you're looking to get more throttle response out of your Mercedes, try resetting the throttle. Step on the gas pedal all the way down, then put your key in the ignition, turn it all the way to on, but don't start the car. Wait for 60-seconds, then turn the key off, and remove it from the ignition. This should reset your throttle. If you don't feel any difference in throttle response, you may want to try it again.

### **5. Battery Voltage**

Whenever you're in doubt of your battery's condition, use this trick to display the voltage on your instrument cluster. Put your key in the ignition and turn it to the ON position, but don't start the car. With the screen in front of you set on the miles, press the reset button three times in a row, and the battery voltage should display. This trick works on the W203 Benz and may work on others.

### **6. W211 Oil Check**

If you don't want to get your hands dirty, you can actually check the oil from the comfort of your W211 driver's seat. With your engine warm, but not hot, and your Benz on a flat surface, put your key in the ignition and turn it to the ON position. Press the reset button and keep it pressed, don't let go until the car beeps once, it may take up to 30 seconds. Once the display changes, start the car and wait a few seconds for the oil reading.

### **7. Key Fob**

Press the lock and unlock buttons on your W203's key fob at the same time for three to five seconds, and wait for the led to flash on it. If you do it once, it will be set to unlock the driver's door when you press the unlock button, and if you do it again, it will change to unlock all doors the first time you press the button. If it's set to only unlock the driver's door, then it will unlock the rest of the doors the second time you press the unlock button.

by Larry Webster • 3/21/2025

I've been meaning to check in on **the state of driverless cars**, and a new [video](#) from YouTuber Mark Rober provided the perfect entry point. Rober is the former NASA and Apple engineer who has developed a knack for explaining complex scientific and engineering concepts, garnering an audience of tens of millions along the way. This week, he ingeniously and hilariously illustrated the performance difference between two driver-aided hardware setups: Tesla's camera-only system against the camera-plus-lidar arrangement used by Lexus.

*(Pro tip: Don't be put off by the first 8 minutes of this video, during which Rober smuggles a lidar sensor onto Disneyland's Space Mountain to explain the principles of lidar. It's a hoot and leads logically to the Tesla vs. Lexus smackdown that follows.)*

## **Classified Items for Sale**

**Ad Terms:** Members of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. may advertise in *The Constellation* to buy, sell, or trade Mercedes-Benz automobiles and related items or services at no charge provided that no commercial



**Francis E. Abate**

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promotion is involved. Ads may include a photo. Submitters are asked to contact the editor immediately upon the sale of automobile or item, or conclusion of a business or service advertised.

**For Sale:** 1958 Mercedes Benz 220S Coupe, very good to excellent condition. Located in Falcon CO. Contact Regina at 719-332-1537.

**For Sale:** 1991 300se. High mileage, Highly maintained car. 263K miles, has been a daily driver for over 25 years. Large receipt file. Rebuild trans @4 years ago. Mechanically in great condition. Asking \$7500. Dont let the mileage bother you, this is a great driver car, you can drive long distances with no worries. Comfortable and smooth to drive. Contact [rvunfug@msn.com](mailto:rvunfug@msn.com) 970-980-7151



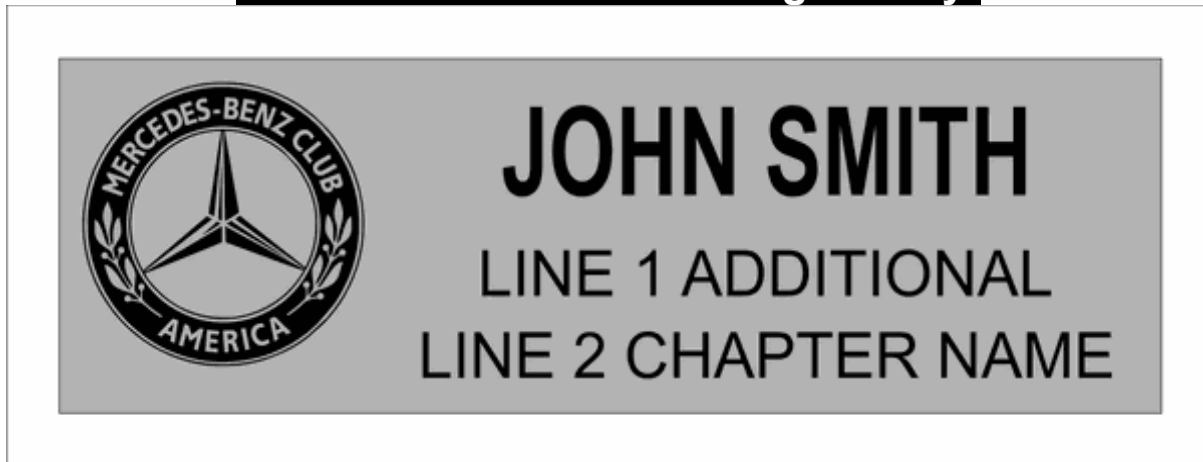
**For Sale:** 2017 S550, VIN # WDDUG8FB1HA314773, 36,500 miles

Purchased March 1, 2022 from MB Westminster for \$65,500 with 31,600 miles. Second owner, the first owner was the F & I Manager at the dealership. MB Westminster sold it new and has all the service records. I have the new window sticker of \$120,000. I believe it has every upgrade package available. Includes two keys & manuals.

From what I found online there are a few of these around the country listed for sale at \$37,000 to \$42,000. Depending on features and miles, I would consider offers in the high \$30,000s, not desperate, but would be as reasonable as possible working with a buyer. Contact Brad Hendrix at 303 946-9112.



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MBCA logo name badges serve as excellent identifiers at MBCA Sectional, Regional, or National events, fostering camaraderie among members.

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