



The Constellation

Newsletter of the Mile High Section

May 2025 mbcamilehigh.org

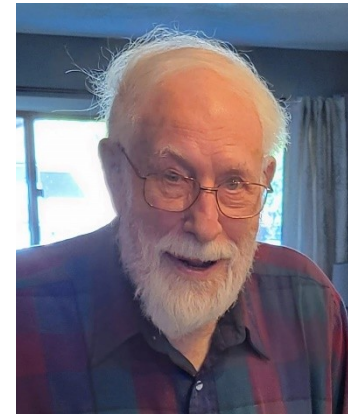
MBCA Mission Statement: To Elevate the Mercedes-Benz Experience Through Knowledge, Camaraderie and Exceptional Events.

President's Message – 'All About the Benz' By Whitlow Wong



In Memoriam – Reiner Haubold

It is with great sadness that we inform you of Reiner Haubold's passing on March 31, 2025. He was 93 years old. Reiner was an exceptional man. Max Townsend states, "He was the backbone of the Mile High Mercedes-Benz Club for many years, serving many



different Presidents and board members. He organized our track events and drove his Mercedes diesel wagon in every one of the events. Reiner was a great friend to all of us and was one of the threads that kept this club alive through the 80's and 90's." Reiner's son Niels said, "Those of you who were privileged enough to have met my dad know that his soul is one of kindness and encouragement. A most generous man, overflowing with wisdom. It took him 93 and a half years to complete his mortal tasks, and he is finally resting peacefully. I love you, Dad. Who will I look up to now?"



On Saturday, April 12, our event in Castle Rock was spectacular.

It was a beautiful day for a drive, and 25 of us enjoyed a fabulous lunch at Scileppi's at The Old Stone Church, a unique place for lunch. The church was built in 1888 transporting us back in time.

There was a lovely patio where we spent a bit of time catching up.





Only four cars took the drive to Deckers. Dan & Liliana Beer, Robert & Theresa Unfug, Ron & Laura Lass, and Eleanor and I drove CO-67 on what turned out to be a dirt road with lots of hills and tight curves. We were rewarded when we stopped for ice cream. Look at the size of that sundae! Go to Deckers Event Center, 8570 S State Hwy 67, Sedalia, CO to enjoy the ice cream.

Deckers is an unincorporated community (housing



three people in two houses) along the South Platte River in Douglas County, Colorado,

United States. Stephen Decker built a general store here in the 1890s. He later added a saloon and called the settlement "Daffodil." The presence of natural springs led him to establish Deckers Mineral Springs and Resort in the popular region for fly-fishing.

Coming back following the South Platte River was delightful. Thank you, Patt Clark for organizing such a wonderful outing. We were happy to see everyone who attended this event. We are looking forward to the next trip.

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.

Welcome Our New Members

- Bob Knapp
- Renate Kheim
- Tom Trahey
- Kristina Tilley
- Patricia Thorpe

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 or 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.

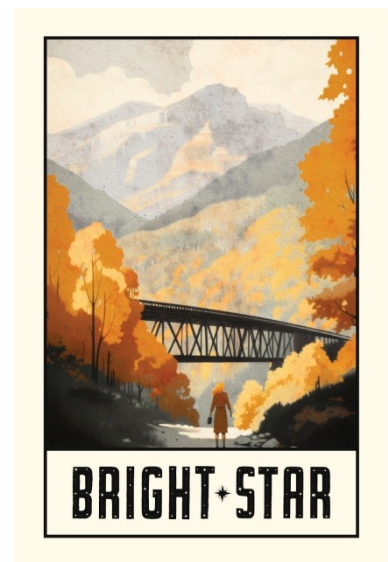
Entry to the Car Show opens at 8AM. Getting to McPherson College is pretty straight forward, the school is off of US 56W in McPherson, KS. When entering the school grounds, follow signs to the show participant entry point. At the entry point you will be directed to the MBCA area. During the show you 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

On Saturday, June 7, join us for an afternoon of good food and entertainment at the **Candlelight Dinner Playhouse**, 4747 Marketplace Drive, Johnstown, CO 80534 from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm. BRIGHT STAR is a Broadway musical inspired by a true story and features a Tony®-nominated score. The show is set in the American South in the 1920s and '40s, following a literary editor as she meets a young soldier just home from World War II. It is a powerful journey of love, redemption, and self-discovery.



Please **RSVP by May 5** with a check made out to MBCA Mile High for \$82 per person, and then send the check to Whitlow Wong, 5379 S Olathe Circle, Centennial, CO 80015.

The tickets include the show, a side salad, an included entrée from the menu, coffee, tea, and soda, tax, and gratuity. Additional items will be for sale at the theater (appetizers, upgraded entrée, alcoholic beverages, and desserts).

Our tentative schedule of events for the year follows:

Date	Event	Place
May 1-5	Kansas Adventure	Kansas
Jun 7	Candlelight Dinner Playhouse	Johnstown
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.

Mercedes Vision V Concept Is the Minivan to End All Minivans

Built on the VAN.EA platform, the Vision V previews an opulent, chauffeur-driven EV that may soon outshine luxury sedans.

By [Verdad Gallardo](#) - April 22, 2025

https://mbworld.org/how-tos/slideshows/mercedes-vision-v-concept-is-the-minivan-to-end-all-minivans-993339?utm_source=2025425&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=content#design-far-from-frumpy



Mercedes-Benz accelerates the transformation of its production network by Integrating AI and humanoid robots at its Digital Factory Campus in Berlin



Mar 18, 2025 – Berlin.

- **The Mercedes-Benz Digital Factory Campus (MBDFC) reinforces its status as global innovation center for production and digitalization**
- **Unveiling of humanoid robots, artificial intelligence and new patented production methods marks significant milestone**
- **New processes and standards developed for digital production technologies to be rolled out across global production network**

Mercedes-Benz is driving the transformation of its production network by reinforcing Berlin-Marienfelde's role as the center of innovation for MO360 digital production technologies, now enhanced with Artificial Intelligence (AI), humanoid robots, and pioneering innovations such as the production of high-performance electric axial-flux motors.

In 2022, Berlin-Marienfelde established itself as the global center of expertise for production digitalization through the Mercedes Benz Digital Factory Campus (MBDFC), promoting the

development of future software applications in a real-world production environment. The central basis of these endeavors is the Mercedes-Benz Cars Operations 360 digital production ecosystem, or MO360, which contains all the important software applications and data within the global production network. At the MBDFC, the development and testing of new processes and technologies are seamlessly integrated with the swift global implementation of pioneering MO360 software applications for automotive production.

Mercedes-Benz has now enhanced its MO360 production system with AI features, including the Digital Factory Chatbot Ecosystem and the MO360LLM Suite, along with humanoid robots from U.S.-based Apptронik, further establishing Berlin-Marienfelde's status as a center for global innovation. Today, new production processes and features, including those enabled through the Mercedes-Benz Operating System (MB.OS), are being tested before implementation on real production lines at other Mercedes-Benz assembly plants. Marienfelde, for example, played an important role in preparing the Rastatt plant for its ramp-up of the new Mercedes-Benz CLA, the first vehicle to feature MB.OS, which was unveiled just a few days ago.

“Mercedes-Benz Berlin-Marienfelde remains at the cutting edge of automotive production and keeps Germany on the map as a global center for innovation. Artificial Intelligence and humanoid robots open up an exciting new frontier which make automotive production more sustainable, efficient and more intelligent.”

Jörg Burzer, Member of the Management Board Mercedes-Benz Group AG. Production, Quality & Supply Chain Management

Berlin-Marienfelde: proving ground for highly automated robotics in production

Mercedes-Benz is committed to empowering its workforce with state-of-the-art technology, introducing Apollo, one of world's most advanced commercial humanoid robots, to its manufacturing facilities. To underscore its commitment to deploying humanoid robots in automotive production, Mercedes-Benz will make a low double-digit-million-euro investment into Apptронik, which was founded in 2016 at the Human Centered Robotics Lab at the University of Texas at Austin.

Mercedes-Benz has utilized industrial robotics technology to perform particularly monotonous and physically demanding tasks since the 1970s. The company is currently testing the integration of humanoid robots in production, initially focusing on repetitive tasks within intralogistics. Apptронik's Apollo can transport components or modules to the production line for Mercedes-Benz's highly skilled production staff to assemble and conduct initial quality checks on components.

Apollo robots have been collecting data in a production environment to train for specific use cases within MO360. Mercedes-Benz employees with hands-on production experience have transferred their knowledge to Apollo using teleoperation processes and augmented reality. The next significant development at the Digital Factory Campus Berlin involves enabling Apollo's robots to perform autonomous operations, marking a technological milestone toward a flexible, intelligent assistance system for production.

In December, the AI-powered humanoid robotics company Aptronik announced a strategic partnership agreement with the Google DeepMind robotics team to merge best-in-class artificial intelligence with cutting-edge hardware, advancing humanoid robots to be more helpful to people in dynamic environments.

Artificial intelligence for everyone: smart assistants in everyday production

Artificial intelligence is changing the world, and at the MBDFC, Mercedes-Benz is proactively shaping and developing new smart technologies for the global production network. With the MO360 AI Factory, artificial intelligence is being integrated directly into production, making it intuitive, accessible, and usable for everyone. The in-house “Digital Factory Chatbot Ecosystem” development allows employees to access production databases: Inquiries about machine maintenance or best-practice methods for manufacturing processes can simply be asked via chat, with the AI immediately providing precise answers in multiple languages.

“AI takes over the tasks we usually enjoy less, giving us time to focus on real innovation, creativity and value-adding activities. I’m convinced that it makes a significant contribution to business success when applied strategically and executed pragmatically. So, let’s embrace it as key part of our solution moving forward.”

Katrin Lehmann, Chief Information Officer of Mercedes-Benz Group AG and Mercedes-Benz AG

Another example of the practical use of AI is the virtual multi-agent system. AI-supported virtual assistants analyze complex data in real-time, which, for example, can help to quickly identify the causes of sudden quality deviations in production. Instead of laborious, manual root-cause analysis, engineers rely on AI agents from a virtual data science team. These AI agents quickly and reliably analyze available data, identify patterns and anomalies, and provide well-founded analyses and suggested solutions at the touch of a button, driving real efficiency gains in production.

Transforming Marienfelde with Axial Flux technology

In addition to the development of new production processes, the Marienfelde site has served as an important part of the global powertrain production network for decades, with the production of various drive technologies. As the global automotive industry gradually shifts from combustion-engine technologies to an all-electric future, Mercedes-Benz is establishing Berlin as a center of excellence for the manufacturing of high-tech performance electric motors. Starting next year, the cutting-edge axial-flux motor will roll off the production line at Marienfelde. The production of an axial-flux motor involves approximately 100 processes with around 65 being new to Mercedes-Benz and 35 entirely new to the industry. Innovative applications of laser technologies have been combined with bonding processes and AI, to name just one example. These new production techniques have predominantly been developed in house, resulting in more than 30 patent filings, underscoring Marienfelde’s pioneering role in production process innovations globally.

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Steer-by-wire becomes reality at Mercedes-Benz: a completely new steering experience combined with maximum safety

Stuttgart, April 22, 2025

New steering feel for an unparalleled customer experience

- Responsive on the open road, agile in the city, parking without re-gripping the steering wheel
- Superior driving characteristics and perfect interaction with rear-axle steering
- Flatter steering wheel design and overall greater freedom in interior design
- Adaptable to customer preferences, architectures and vehicle variants; innovative gaming possibilities
- Fall-back functions at vehicle level for maximum safety
- Extensive testing on test benches and in traffic

Read the rest of article here:

<https://media.mercedes-benz.com/article/2429f68b-9fe7-4f00-a938-6cc61aeb4489>

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 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.



Francis E. Abate

BS Automotive Restoration Technology,
McPherson College

240.401.4624

francis@firstriderestorations.com
Steamboat Springs, CO

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. Asking \$7500. This is a great driver car, you can drive long distances with no worries. Comfortable and smooth to drive. Contact Robert at rvunfug@msn.com.



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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JOHN SMITH

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LINE 2 CHAPTER NAME

[Click this link:](#)

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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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