



MBCA Ozark Section Newsletter
The Star of the Ozarks

Local Events Regional Events Articles of Interest

Fabulous Fall Foliage Feast
October 24, 2015



Feasting our eyes on fall foliage will be the main theme of our October 14th event as we travel along the Talimena Trail in Eastern Oklahoma and Western Arkansas near Mena. The Talimena Scenic Drive winds 54 miles along the crest of Rich Mountain and Winding Stair Mountain in the Quachita National Forest. The trip takes one hour and ten minutes if you can possibly resist stopping along the way to enjoy the breathtaking views.

We plan to meet our tour guides, John and Dottie Miller, at 10 am, just south of Fort Smith and follow them as they lead our caravan through Oklahoma and then across the Talimena Trail to Queen Wilhelmina Lodge. At the newly renovated Arkansas State Park Lodge, we will enjoy a scrumptious buffet prepared just for us by the Queen's Restaurant. Following lunch, we can enjoy the scenic vistas around the Lodge and then head back home to enjoy more fall foliage. Larry and Wanda Altman will be sending you more detailed information about this event in future emails. 🕒



Welcome New Members

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Tyler Black | Springdale |
| Gary Carter | Ashdown |
| Jamie Pinchen | Rogers |
| Rebecca Vendel | Bella Vista |
| Patsy Wilcox | Fayetteville |

Northwest AR Mercedes-Benz Dealership
Offers Special Tech Event on November 14th

The NWA Mercedes-Benz Dealership in Bentonville, AR will host a special owner-assisted, hands-on clinic at its location on Moberly Lane Saturday, November 14th, between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. Nine technicians will be on hand to demonstrate their diagnostic procedures on each member's Mercedes-Benz vehicle. Each demonstration will take about 30 minutes and Ozark Section members will be paired with a technician as they go through the diagnostics together. This will be a unique opportunity for us to have our Mercedes-Benz vehicles checked out free of charge with no obligation. In the interest of time, the Dealership is limiting this offer to only one 2000-2015 Mercedes-Benz vehicle per membership. Please don't bring any earlier model than 2000 or any car other than a Mercedes for this particular event. More information will be provided via email announcements as we get closer to this event. You may director question to Larry Altman at larwan@cox.net or call 479-530-3019. 🕒





Star Reflections

Kathy Menold, Section President

Here is it October, and summer is over. I hope everyone has had an enjoyable summer this year with less heat and more rain. We certainly can't complain about how beautiful and green it has been, especially those days we could take a trip on the back roads of Arkansas and Missouri.

Did you read the latest September/October Star magazine and notice the Ozark Section had two short stories about our latest events? I would like to thank Wanda Altman for submitting the Kansas City Art of the Car Concours article, and I had submitted the article on our trip to Jackie Cooper Imports and the Philbrook Museum in Tulsa, OK. It is always nice to be acknowledged by the National Office. Remember that you can look up section news on the www.mbca.org website. Once you go into the website, click on the Local/Clubs/Sections and scroll down to South Central Region/Ozark. You can then go from there into ozark.mbca.org, where you will find all the section's newsletters, current and previous events, and information regarding the MBCA Ozark Section.

It is election time once again, and this year we have two director positions to fill. These are two very important positions that help to keep our group running smoothly. The nomination sheets were sent to all our members in August; I hope you submitted yours. The results of our process will be announced at the Queen Wilhelmina Lodge event on October 24. See Dave's article in this issue for a detailed explanation of the election process.

We have some wonderful events planned for the remainder of the year, and we hope you will be joining us: the October event to Queen Wilhelmina State Park (see the article about it in this issue), the November event to the Northwest Arkansas Mercedes-Benz Dealership in Bentonville, and especially our Christmas Party at the Shadow Valley Club in Rogers (also mentioned in this issue). Larry Altman will keep us informed on all of these events.

The MBCA Ozark Section Board meetings are held four times a year on the first Wednesday in the months of March, June, September, and December. These meetings are open to any Ozark Section member who would like to attend. We normally hold these meetings in a board member's home. If you would like to join us, please contact me prior to the meeting at menold1@cox.net or 479-756-6798.



Christmas Gala Celebration

Our Christmas Party on Saturday, December 12, at the Shadow Country Club promises to be a gala celebration. The festivities will begin at 6 pm with a social hour and special music. There will be games, a meal of delicious hors d'oeuvres, and finally, dancing. So mark your calendars now, dust off your dress-up clothes, put on your dancing shoes, and come out and join the 2015 culmination celebration! The cost will be about \$25 per person. Our charity of choice this year is the Arkansas Children's Hospital, so plan ahead and make this worthy cause a part of your holiday giving.



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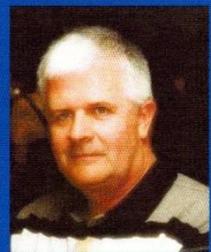
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| Michael Butler | 2011 |
| Clark Chastain | 2014 |
| John Terry Lee | 2009 |
| Carl Long | 2014 |
| Luke MacKen | 2013 |
| Paul Springmann | 1990 |

July 25th Ozark Membership Event

Submitted by Kathy Menold, President

Pictures by Patti and Bob Tetu



The Club couldn't have selected a more perfect day to hold its membership event in a nicely air-conditioned restaurant than on July 25th when we met at the El Pueblito Restaurant in Bella Vista. There were 32 members and 3 guests who endured the heat to attend. We were fortunate to have our new members, Don and Peg Shelton from Springdale, Arkansas, attend the membership event. They had recently purchased Bob and Patti Tetu's 1992 SL 300. Guests were Patsy Wilcox, a friend of Jane and Woodie Acord, Barbara Bryan, a guest of Tanny Jones, and Kevin Murphey's friend, Elaine Rosen.

Larry Altman and Patti Tetu had purchased door prizes for the event, and prizes were also donated by Bob and Sharon Frye from their trip to the MBUSI Visitor's Center in Vance, Alabama. As their names were called, winners selected their items from the generous display.

Larry and Wanda Altman presented an enjoyable time for us with a "This is Your Life" get acquainted questionnaire, for which we were asked to find out the answers from each other. We learned some very interesting facts about many of our members. For instance, did you know that Oleatha Sutter drove a dirt bike for 30 years and the last time was at age 70? Woodie Acord was a juvenile probation officer for Cook County Juvenile Court in Chicago. Sharon Frye appeared in two television commercials. Dave Jones was an Air Force Sergeant in 1962 in charge of a missile crew that assembled, transported, and installed nuclear warheads on the ICBMs during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Patti Tetu pitched semi-professional soft ball for the Nomads. John Miller was a bomb disposal specialist. Robin Retzlaff farmed 3000 acres in North Dakota. Diane Paulsen's first paying job was playing the accordion at a Luau in Redlands, California. Tanny Jones lived on a street with three frat houses and worked in the girl's dorm kitchen, Kathy Retzlaff was a stenographer for any Army Base Commander in the Netherlands, Joel Menold played the oboe for the Seattle Philharmonic, and Wanda Altman travelled throughout Europe recruiting high school students for the University Maryland. That is only a handful of some of the interesting things our members have done. Larry read the answers to the questionnaire after lunch. Ruth Shafer and I did our part, as did others, to make sure we spoke with everyone to solve the puzzle. Ruth and I tied, getting 27 out of 28 questions right. That was a lot of fun to "break the ice" and really get acquainted.

This year the Ozark Section had 10 members receive anniversary pins and certificates. I presented John Brennan with his 5-year pin and certificate and Robin and Kathy Retzlaff with their 15-year pin and certificate. Others, who were unable to attend, were Eric Bright (5-years), David Chance (20-years), Reid and Donna Fairchild (10-years), Barry Noll (30-years), Gary and Linn Reusswig (5-years), Paul and Penny Springmann (25-years), Samuel White (5-years), and Axel Wulff (10-years). Congratulations to all of you!

I would like to thank Larry and Wanda Altman for hosting a great membership event, Bob and Patti Tetu for their assistance, Bob and Sharon Frye for their donations, and Porfirio Gutierrez and Tanny Jones suggesting we have the luncheon at the El Pueblito. Remember the Board of Directors can always use your assistance to plan these events. If you are interested in helping to plan or present an event, please contact Larry Altman larwan@cox.net or me, menold1@cox.net. These events take time to plan and prepare. Your help is always appreciated by the Board of Directors.



Titanic Museum, Branson, Missouri

Submitted by Kathy Menold, President

Photos by Patti Tetu



On April 15, 1912, the brand-new, state-of-the-art ship, RMS Titanic sank near the coast of Newfoundland with 2,227 people aboard. Out of those 2,227 people, only 705 survived. Twenty-eight Ozark Section members entered the Titanic Museum on August 22, 2015, and each member was given a card with the name and information regarding a person who was aboard the ship at the time of her fate. The act of entering the museum created an eerie feeling because we didn't know whether or not our assigned person had lived or died. The replication of the staircase, the life boats, life jackets, artifacts, treasures, photos, film clips, etc., made us thankful we had not been aboard the Titanic when she made her maiden voyage. We spent two hours walking throughout the museum until we came to the end where we saw a large display of names telling us the fate of our passenger or crew member. Some of us were relieved while others were very saddened, especially those of us who had the name of a 3rd class passenger or crew member.

Once we all completed the tour and enjoyed checking out the museum's gift shop, we drove back up Highway 76 to Landry's Seafood Restaurant for a relaxing lunch. The restaurant had set aside a room for our section, giving us a time to review our thoughts about the museum, talk about upcoming events, and just spending some social time together. The food was outstanding!

I would like to thank Wanda Altman for all she did to make this event possible. Another thank you goes to Patti and Bob Tetu for their help in the form of a trial run before the event, and one more goes to Patti for being such an awesome photographer. If it weren't for Larry Altman, these events wouldn't be possible. Larry has come up with some wonderful event this year, and I can't thank him enough. For members who are willing to help, please contact Larry Altman larwan@cox.net or 479-530-3019 or me menold1@cox.net or 479-756-6798.



Cherokee Hills Scenic Byway

Submitted by Bob Frye



The Cherokee Hills Scenic Byway runs between Oklahoma towns Kansas and Gore and is made up of OK-10, OK-82, and OK-100. Tahlequah, capital of the Cherokee Nation, sits at about the mid-point. Generally the Scenic Byway follows the Illinois River from near Siloam Springs, Arkansas, to the Arkansas River near Webber Falls, Oklahoma. The route is mostly scenic two-lane highway with a mix of wooded areas and open farmland. I prefer using US-59 from Sallisaw, Oklahoma, to Siloam Springs, Arkansas, as a return route.

Deserving of its own trip, the Cherokee Heritage Center (21192 S. Keeler Dr.) in Park Hill, Oklahoma, offers a one-hour guided tour through a re-created Cherokee village from the 1700s. Also on the grounds is a museum that preserved more perishable items. Admission is \$7.50 for seniors. We spent about an hour and a half going through both. There are benches available along the tour for those who like to take a little break. As you follow OK-82 through Park Hill, you'll pass Greenleaf Commercial Nursery. This facility of 600 plus acres has about 16 million trees and shrubs and is impressive even from the highway. The Byway takes you around the east side of Tenkiller Ferry Lake. The lake holds about half as much water as Beaver Lake, but the Tenkiller Dam, which you cross on OK-100, is two and half times as tall as the dam on Beaver Lake. The traffic around Tenkiller Lake can be heavy in the summer and during holidays, but spring and fall have the potential for beautiful colors.

This outing is about a five-hour round trip, not counting stops, from Bentonville. For our River Valley members, it's also roughly five hours from the Fort Smith area. For our Fayetteville members, it's about four hours if you take US-62 west to Tahlequah and then take OK-82 and OK-100 south to Gore. During the summer months, OK-10 has a lot of traffic entering and exiting the highway for parks, camp grounds, and rafting businesses, so be cautious.



FOR SALE 1972 280SE 4.5



Guillermo Rosales has owned this Mercedes-Benz for 2 ½ years and has proudly driven it to car shows. Roger Shuler has serviced the vehicle since Guillermo purchased it. He feels his Mercedes would benefit from more consistent care which he currently doesn't have the time for. Price \$9,500

Contact Guillermo Rosales at 479-715-1130



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St. Louis Gateway Section Meets the Ozark Section

Submitted by Kathy Menold, President

Photos by Kay Frank, Section Photographer, Gateway Section

A few members from the Ozark Section were able to meet with the St. Louis Gateway Section at Copeland's of New Orleans Restaurant in Rogers, AR, on September 12, 2015. Thirty-eight Gateway Section members traveled to Bentonville to visit Crystal Bridges Museum. Among those attending were Rick Siefert, the Central Regional Director, and his lovely wife Patty. Rick had contacted Larry Altman a few months ago informing him that the Gateway Section would be coming to Arkansas and that they were hoping to meet with members from the Ozark Section. Sharon and Bob Frye made arrangements with Copeland's for a separate room to accommodate both sections. It was a very enjoyable evening, and it didn't take long to realize that we had a lot in common: to enjoy a good time, meet new people, and travel the highways and back roads in our Mercedes.



I want to thank Larry Altman and Sharon and Bob Frye, for making the arrangements for the dinner. I received nothing but praises regarding the restaurant and the food from both sections. "Good Job!" A special thank you to Kay Frank for the wonderful photos she took.



2015 Upcoming Ozark Section MBCA Events

| Date | Event | Location |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Oct 24 | Fall Foliage Tour | Queen Wilhelmina State Park |
| Nov 21 | NW Mercedes-Benz Dealership | Bentonville, AR |
| Dec 12 | Christmas Party | Shadow Valley Country Club Rogers, AR |
| Jan 2016 | Wine Tasting Event | Date, time, and place to be announced |



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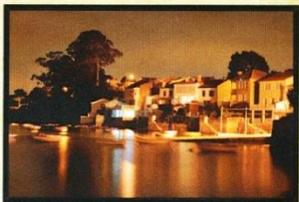


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OUR ELECTION PROCESS

Submitted by Dave Jones

How are members of our Board of Directors nominated and elected? Is it a secret process to which only a select few are privy and who don't reveal the results other than in general terms? Why do some of the same names keep recurring as section leaders? Does that matter?

This article answers those questions and related ones. I feel well qualified to do so. I'm a charter member of the section, one of its 1997 founders, a member of the board since its inception, a two-term past president, author of several of our administrative and governing documents, and the current chair of our Nominating Committee. For a triple-check on my statements, this was vetted by our current board, our section's president emeritus, and a past president. To be an aware member, you should read all of it and ask us to explain anything you don't understand or we didn't cover.

The method we used when our section was relatively small was rather informal. Recently, it has evolved into a more formal and structured one that relies on polling our membership statewide and further afield electronically and sending postal messages to the half dozen who don't get email, in the future, we may use a commercial service like Survey Monkey.

We have many new members and regulars who may want to know more, so our board asked me to address likely questions/concerns. They're below in bolded italics, with answers not in italics.

How are members of the board nominated and elected? It's done in a democratic manner, meaning all section members—wherever they reside and be they "primary" or "associate"—may participate. [*Primary* members were issued a membership number by the National Business Office (NBO) of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America (MBCA) and are on its official membership roster. *Associate* members are those the Primary named for inclusion on the roster, typically a spouse. The latter must be at least age 18 and in the Primary's household.]

Nominating: In early summer each year, the chair of the nominating committee (the section's immediate past president) posts a newsletter notice advising the election process is beginning and asking for a volunteer to serve on the committee. In mid-September, the chair uses email and/or postal means (SASE with the latter) to send our members a Nomination Form asking for names of members they suggest for election and saying to be considered it must be returned to the committee by September 25. The chair and/or volunteer then contacts each nominated person, informs them of board member duties (based on an extract from our *Guide for Section Leaders*), and asks if they're willing to serve if elected.

Electing: On or before October 1, the chair send our members an Election Ballot via email and/or postal means (SASE with latter). The ballot lists nominees who agreed to serve and says that, to be counted, it must be returned to the committee by October 10 and name at least one nominee for which the member is voting. Every even-numbered year—to stagger the experience level of the board—we nominate and elect at least one director but no officers. Officers serve two years; directors serve three.

What safeguards assure votes are legitimate? The chair must have a list naming those who voted by email or postal ballot and must ensure there are no duplications or votes by non-members or anyone not registered with MBCA as a Primary or Associate.

When and how are results made public? Locally: After the chair and section president tabulate the votes, the chair announces results at the October section event known as the Annual Meeting and prepares an article for our Nov/Dec newsletter. For posterity, our historian includes the data in our archives. Nationally: Our secretary sends an *Annual Section Update* to the NBO and the director of MBCA's South Central Region. It lists officers and/or directors and from-to dates of their terms office.

Is the process a secret one to which only a select few are privy and who don't reveal results other than in board terms? Absolutely not; however, we're continuing to seek a balance between transparency and reports having unnecessary minutia. You can help by letting the board know if you want more information. As to "a select few," see next paragraph.

Our Election Process continued:

Why do some of the same names keep recurring as section leaders? To be blunt, they're the ones who continue to volunteer when few or none others do. And yes, that makes it appear the board is a "clique." It's certainly not, and we've tried every way we can think of to involve more members as leaders. However, as in every volunteer organization we have a handful of enthusiastic and unpaid people, most of whom are couples, who do the work and a vast number who're content to let them do so without taking a turn. More's the pity. Those who don't may never discover how rewarding it is to have a Club-related purpose that helps guide the group's future and involves planning events our MB friends will enjoy. I speak for the board in saying we'd be delighted if others would step up. We need new ideas and fresh enthusiasm. To that end, our Nomination Form even stipulated you may nominate yourself for an open position!

Why does the election process matter? We want strong, enthused, and creative leaders. By nominating and electing members with those qualities, you help assure Ozark will continue to flourish so we'll all have fun. To quote our esteemed section president, "The more I do, the more fun I have." If you've never held a position on our board or hosted an event, try doing more.

What entities govern the process?

National: MBCA's board of directors, via their Procedures Manual. It's available as a link on the MBCA's website.

Regional: Director of MBCA's South Central Region, via monitoring activities we report on our website page, in our newsletter, and in other section documents, plus in-person visits.

State: Office of the Arkansas Secretary of State, via requirements for domestic non-profit corporations. We filed for that status when we formed the section, and we file an *Annual Disclosure Statement* naming our elected board members. In addition, we tell them our Registered Agent for process-serving is our section president.

Section: Our Board of Directors, via monitoring compliance with our *Constitution, By-laws, and Guide for Section Leaders*.

Individual: Every primary and associate member, by providing feedback to board members.

Who approves the procedures and assures it's properly conducted? Our board in general, and our section president specifically.

Who's eligible to serve on the board? Any Primary or Associate that MBCA considers a "member in good standing" (i.e., dues paid and not reported as derelict in meeting the responsibilities of membership). Candidates must also be willing to meet the expectations of our *Guide for Section Leaders*, specifically those in paragraphs titled *General Responsibilities of Section Leaders* and *Responsibilities of the Board of Directors*. None are very demanding. If you want specifics, I'll email them to you.

Are primary and associate members equally eligible to be nominated and elected? Yes

What safeguards assure the source of each nomination and vote is kept private? Only the chair of the nominating committee is allowed to know the names of who nominated and voted for whom.

Are nominations and votes vetted by at least two officials of our section? Yes, the chair of the nominating committee and the section president.

Why did the 2014 ballot say "Not eligible" beside the name of some officers who were subsequently elected? The statement was not clear (my fault); it meant that person was not eligible for that particular office but was for others. That will be made clear for the next election.

What report states who was nominated, who won, who agreed to run, and how many members voted? At present, no single report contains all of that. The reason, in part, is concern about privacy issues. Our board will wrestle with that in its next meeting.

If you want to know more, contact me via a means shown in this newsletter's *Who's Who* box—preferably an email to:

jonshafer@sbcglobal.net

Oleatha Sutter

I would like to let our members know that Oleatha Sutter is doing very well after her total hip surgery on September 16th. Joel and I went by to visit with her and Vern at Physician's Hospital in Fayetteville on the 17th, and she seemed to be as joyful as always. This was her second total hip surgery, and now she is on the road to recovery. All our prayers and best wishes are with you Oleatha.



We unfortunately lost some very dear friends and members to the Kansas City Section, when Al and Mary Marks moved to Warrensburg, Missouri to be closer to their family. Mary recently emailed me this picture of their new home in Warrensburg, and their three beautiful Mercedes-Benz vehicles. Al traded his Mars Red GLK in for a 2015 GLA. They love that Mars Red! We all miss you very much!

Ozark Section
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Ozark Section Birthdays

| | |
|----------------|--------|
| Oleatha Sutter | Oct 06 |
| Linda Concoby | Oct 09 |
| Lois Zimmerman | Oct 27 |
| John Brennan | Nov 06 |
| Bob Zierak | Nov 07 |
| Nick Schuh | Nov 07 |
| Mickey Hickman | Nov 08 |
| John Miller | Nov 08 |
| Tom Wissing | Nov 11 |
| Bob Frye | Nov 14 |
| Bob Tetu | Nov 14 |
| Jim Carter | Nov 17 |

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed, contact our Hospitality Chairman, Becky Deitz at bhdjd@att.net or 479-466-5066, so she can update her listing.

Ozark Section Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Tom & Barbara Jean Wissing | Oct 06 |
| Jim & DeEdra Carter | Oct 09 |
| Paul & Penny Springmann | Oct 26 |
| Nick & Patti Schuh | Nov 06 |
| Robin & Kathy Retzlaff | Nov 12 |
| Andrew & Vickie Spranza | Nov 21 |
| Congratulations to you all! | |



Ozark Section Supporter since 2015

Who's Who?

Ozark Section MBCA

4026 Jessica Lane
Springdale, AR 72764

Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| President | Kathy Menold | 479.756.6798 menold1@cox.net |
| Vice-President | Larry Altman | 479.530.3019 larwan@cox.net |
| Events Chair | Ruth Shafer | 479.756.6943 ruthshafer73@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Dr. Patti Tetu | 479.981.9389 mudmouse@hughes.net |
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| Past President | Vern Sutter | 479.855.6854 benzz99@cox.net |
| President Emeritus | Kathy Menold | 479-756-6798 menold1@cox.net |
| Director, Newsletter Editor | Gary Reusswig | Home: 417.206.0068 Cell: 417.434.0582 |
| Director, Advertising Chair | Bob Tetu | 479.981.9388 buckmtn@hughes.net |
| Director, Membership and Historian | Becky Deitz | 479.466.5066 bhdjd@att.net |
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Articles and Submissions – Copy should be emailed to the editor by the 10th of the month prior to the next issue. For example, submissions for the July/August issue should be received by the editor by June 10th. The editor reserves the right to edit all material; submission of material constitutes permission to edit and publish that material. No assumption should be made that the editor has authenticated any information in materials submit



Ozark Section Newsletter

Kathy Menold, Editor
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Change of Address?

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