



Tampa Bay Star

November 2024



October Event lunch at Pier 22

Attendees:

Laura and Frank Angelelli
Terri and Dave Barcza
Ben Berman
Susan and Chris Contronei
Diane and Chuck Cooper
Connie and Gary Dolin
Margaret and Chris Gregorio
Lynn and Dave Hutchinson
Joanne and Lee Kalessis
Elaine and Jimmie Lee
Catherine and Bob Martino
Pat and Greg Watson



Important Dates

Officers

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C941-539-8700
gwatson511@verizon.net

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941-355-2469
bib1946@aol.com

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PaulJCooper@verizon.net

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Membership Paul J. Cooper
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C727-644-6837

Activities Lynn Hutchinson

Photography Dave Hutchinson

Historian Lynn Hutchinson

Webmaster Pat Watson

SE Regional Director
David Wommer
davidwommer@gmail.com

MBCA Nat'l 719-633-6427 (Tues-Thur,
9:00AM-3:00PM MT time)
MBCA of America
10 Boulder Crescent Street,
Suite 200
Colorado Springs, CO 80903
MBCA.org

Note: The night for the monthly business meeting is the **FIRST MONDAY** of each month (except for September and sometimes July & January when it is delayed a week) and is open to **ALL** members. Attending members go to a nearby restaurant for dinner after the meeting. Please join us and help us with your input. All meetings are held at **Crown Eurocars, 8302 US Hwy 19 N, Pinellas Park, FL**

Meeting Dates

Nov 4 Monday 6:30PM

Dec 2 Monday 6:30PM

Jan 6 Monday 6:30PM

Feb 3 Monday 6:30PM

Business Meeting & Dinner after each meeting on the above scheduled dates.

Event Dates

Nov 17 Tampa Water Taxi
Lunch at Colombia

Dec 1 Holiday Brunch at
Safety Harbor Spa

Jan 17 Historic Spanish Point
Lunch at Bella Vino &
Cucina

About the Newsletter

The Tampa Bay Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America Inc., publishes this bi-monthly newsletter. Opinions expressed are those of the authors. Express permission is hereby granted to other Sections of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America to reprint articles contained herein without exception. Articles of general interest are solicited for inclusion in the newsletter and should be mailed to the Editor or e-mailed to pwatson511wedge@gmail.com. Copy deadline is the first day of the month.

An Overview of the Club

Established in 1956, MBCA has more than 15,000 members in over 84 sections across the nation. Those local sections organize hundreds of events each year, ranging from social gatherings to specialized technical sessions. This is a not-for-profit organization.

Join the Club

Enroll as a member of MBCA for
One Year \$85
Two Years \$165

Call 719-633-6427 Tues-Thurs
9:00AM to 3:00PM or sign in to
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 its year-round calendar of events, including rallies, defensive driving courses, car shows, technical sessions, and dinner meetings. Many sections host special events. Any MBCA member may attend any section, regional, or national event.

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President's Message

Hello to all Tampa Bay Chapter Friends,

It's almost over ! Both our Hurricane Season (November 30th) and our last Newsletter for 2024. While I'm sure all us us will be glad to say goodbye to the Hurricane season, it's also our last Newsletter of 2024. This issue will cover the last two events of this year and a quick recap of what we accomplished in 2024.

First, for November 17th, Ben Berman has arranged for a Historic tour of Tampa, by boat. This not to be missed excursion will be a narrated tour of the waterways around Tampa Bay. Next, for December 1st, we will be having our annual Holiday Brunch at the Safety Harbor Spa. Both event sign-up sheets are in this issue, and we must have your responses and your checks this month.

Here is a brief list of our 2024 events that we enjoyed, thanks to those members that volunteered.

Jan 21 Lunch at Harvey's 4th St. Grill to kick off Festival of Speed - Jonathan Sones
Feb 10 Cars and Coffee at Crown Eurocars and Lunch at La Terisita - Greg Watson
Mar 24 Lunch at Great Catch in Zephyrhills, FL - Pat Watson
Apr 19-21 Triple Play- Navy Seals Museum, RagTop Cars, Busch Wildlife Sanctuary- Greg Watson
May 19 Car Rally- Rained out, Lunch at Casa Tina, Dunedin- Jonathan Sones
Jun 23 Imagine Museum and Red Mesa lunch St. Petersburg- Connie Dolin
Jul 13 Lunch at Ruskin Old Castle - Lynn Hutchinson
Aug 18 Tampa Historic Theatre and lunch at the Original Columbia-Pat Watson, Lynn and Dave Hutchinson
Sept 29 Lunch Jacks London Grill- St. Petersburg - Pat Watson
Oct 26 Spanish Point- Closed by Hurricane-Lunch Pier 22, Bradenton- Connie Dolin
Nov 17 Tampa Bay Historic Boat Cruise, Lunch at Colombia - Ben Berman
Dec 1 Safety Harbor Spa-Holiday Brunch - Lynn Hutchinson

We hope that all of our members have enjoyed this years events. We are always looking for our other 285 plus members to volunteer to host an event.

You may contact me on my email to get the "Event Planning" form. Remember, Be Safe and Have Fun and best wishes for a very happy holiday season.

*Best Regards,
Greg Watson*



December's Showcase of Member's Cars



Frank Selph, Jr's two mercedes. On the left a 1967 250 SE coupe with a sunroof option with about 80,000 miles and on the right is a 1968 early addition 280 SL with original motor, rebuilt with about 39,000 miles.

Tampa Water Taxi Tour and Lunch at Colombia



Important Info

When: Sunday, November 17, 2024
Where: Tampa Water Taxi Company
 801 Water Street
 Tampa, FL 33602
 813-900-3288
Call: Ben Berman
 Home 941-355-2469
Email: bib1946@aol.com
Time: 12:30PM arrive 15 minutes early
Lunch: Colombia Cafe at 2PM
 801 Water Street, Tampa FL
Reserve By: ASAP

Our November event is the Tampa History tour from the Tampa Water Taxi Company. Please send in your checks for \$20 pp as soon as possible to Ben Berman. The company requires us to prepay so no refunds will be available. If you definitely are going please let Ben know while we wait for your check. We have a limit of 30. If you decide to just go for lunch you still need to let us know so that we can make reservations with the restaurant.

Trip is scheduled to leave the dock at 12:30 on Sunday, November 17th. Participants should plan to arrive 15 minutes in advance. It's a Tampa History Tour and will take approximately 90 minutes. Lunch will be at the Colombia Restaurant which is at the same location, time 2PM.

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location

Tampa Water Taxi Tour and Lunch at Colombia November 17, 2024

Name(s) _____
 Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
 Email _____
 Address _____
 # _____ Coming \$20.00 Per Person enclosed \$ _____ Will attend lunch _____

Make Checks payable to:
 Tampa Bay Chapter MBCA
 Must be received by Nov 12, 2024
 Mail to: Ben Berman
 4223 Mackay Falls Terrace
 Sarasota, FL 34243

Holiday Brunch and Gift Exchange, Safety Harbor Spa



Important Info

When: Sunday, December 1, 2024
Where: Safety Harbor Resort & Spa
105 North Bayshore Drive
Safety Harbor, FL
Call: Lynn or Dave Hutchinson
Home 727-726-6711
Cell 727-420-0424
Email: dhutch@verizon.net
Time: 11AM – 2PM
Reserve By: November 24, 2024

Details: Limit 2 per membership. Please join us for what promises to be a most enjoyable and unforgettable Holiday Brunch. This year's party begins at 11AM and I'm sure you will agree will be filled with much delicious food and the usual MBCA fun. We will have our famous Chinese Auction. Bring a gift costing about \$15 (car or holiday related in good taste) if you want to participate in this gift exchange. If you bring a gift you will get 1 ticket and 1 gift to take home. If you participate in the gift exchange, we request that you stay until the last gift has been opened. Please put the gift in a gift bag rather than wrapping it to make it easier to unwrap. We will be taking a collection for Season of Sharing for Hurricane Relief, if you would like to donate. The club will match the total donations up to a \$500 maximum.

Sunday Brunch at the historic Safety Harbor Resort and Spa is more than a collection of enticing entrees, savory soups, salads and delectable desserts – it's a sensory experience served up with a dash of history.

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location or call Lynn Hutchinson, 727-420-0424.

Holiday Brunch at Safety Harbor Spa December 1, 2024

Name(s) _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Address _____

_____ Coming \$60.00 Per Person enclosed \$ _____

Make Checks payable to:
Tampa Bay Chapter MBCA

Must be received by Nov 24, 2024
Mail to: Lynn or Dave Hutchinson
2104 Flamingo Place
Safety Harbor, FL 34695-4958

Historic Spanish Point, Osprey, FL



Important Info

When: January 17, 2025
Where: Historic Spanish Point
401 North Tamiami Trail
Osprey, FL
941-366-5731
Call or Text: Connie Dolin
941-720-8322
Email: c.dolin@verizon.net
Tour: Meet at 10:15 AM tour begins at 10:30 AM
Cost: \$22.00 Per Person
Lunch: Bella Vino Cucina at 12:30 PM
3983 Destination Dr, Osprey, FL
941-451-8110
Received By: January 9, 2025

Details: Our club's January event is a 1.5 hour guided tour of Historic Spanish Point. This will be a docent led walking tour of the Spanish Point Campus. Historic Spanish Point is nestled far back off Tamiami Trail in sleepy Osprey and is a verdant oasis rich with history. The 30 acre parcel of waterfront land has been inhabited by humans since 300 A.D. Although there are no longer any full time residents, there are plenty of inquisitive visitors every day eager to learn about its long and varied history. The charm and appeal of Historic Spanish Point can be easily summed up in four P's — Prehistoric, Pioneers, Palmer, and Plants. If you want to know more about the four P's of Spanish Point join us for the tour. **NOTE:** We are limited to 25 people for this tour and must have a final count by January 8th, so please get your reservations in as soon as possible.

Directions: Put the address into your navigation system, smart phone, GPS, google maps or Mapquest for specific directions from your location or call.

Historic Spanish Point and Lunch January 17, 2025

Name(s) _____

Make Checks payable to:
Tampa Bay Chapter MBCA

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Received by: January 9, 2025
Mail to: Connie Dolin
5037 Benito Ct
Bradenton, FL 34211

Address _____

_____ \$22 **Per Person** enclosed \$ _____ # _____ For Lunch

Lunch at Pier 22, Bradenton, FL

October 26, 2024

By: Connie Dolin

On Saturday, October 26th the Mercedes Club was scheduled for a docent led tour of Historic Spanish Point in Osprey. Due to damage from hurricane Milton, Historic Spanish Point was temporarily closed. We made a quick pivot and made lunch reservations at Pier 22 restaurant in Bradenton.

Pier 22 is a beautiful waterfront restaurant overlooking the Manatee River. We had 23 people attending and had a wonderful time eating and socializing. Ther food and service was excellent. We hope to reschedule the tour of Historic Spanish Point after the new year. Thank you to everyone who drove quite a distance (thank you Gregoriou's) to come to lunch..



Connie (Event Chair) & Gary Dolin



Dave and Terri Barcza



Joanne and Lee Kalessis



Jimmie and Elaine Lee



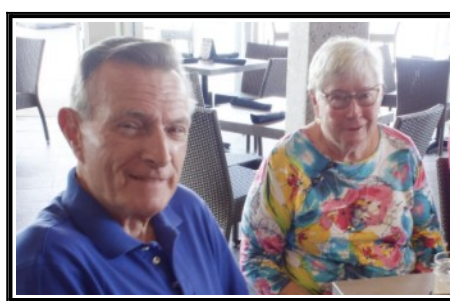
Chris and Susan Cotronei



Laura and Frank Angelelli



Chuck and Diane Cooper



Bob and Catherine Martino



Ben Berman

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