



January February

The StarDust

DESERT STARS SECTION | ARIZONA

M-BEAT 2025

By Ron Borino

This year's M-BEAT should be more fun as we will be adding to the route and mixing it up a bit before we get to Prescott this year. Participants will begin the M-BEAT on the 26th of April with a staging event at a north valley donut shop. From this location we will head up to Wickenburg for a picture session at Coffinger Park. Once we leave the park in Wickenburg the route this year will be through Bagdad, AZ where we will have lunch. After lunch we will proceed from Bagdad through Skull Valley and into Prescott. In Prescott you can spend some time shopping or walking around the old state capital or proceed on to several other possible stops in Sedona, Williams, Cottonwood, etc. Our ultimate destination will again be Flagstaff with dinner and a stay at Little America. Event planners will have some suggestions for your consideration as we get closer to the event. The cost for this year's event is \$20 per person plus hotel and meals for Desert Star members and \$50 pp for all other participants. The hotel is ready to accept your reservation request which is listed under the Mercedes Benz Club. A discounted room rate of \$189/night is available. You can book this reservation right now by calling 928-779-7900. Book early to get the best rooms. If you are interested the hotel will extend the room rate for Sunday night too. The cutoff date for the hotel reservation is March 26th.

Registration form on page 8



President's Message

By Debbie Ichiyama

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year. It was great seeing many of you in 2024 and hope to see you in 2025.

Our next event is the MBEAT. This event is always fun, and the organizers have changed things up a bit. I know you'll have a great time.

Debbie



Welcome our new Members!

October

John Bennett

Patrick Franssen

November

Emily Tracy

"More Than a Car Club | We're a Community"

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Ron Borino

Newsletter Editor:

Debbie Ichiyama

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Facebook: [DesertStarsMBCA](#)

Instagram: [desertstars1962](#)

Club Email: desertstars@desertstars.club

Annual Business Meeting

By Debbie Ichiyama

This year we're going back to having a luncheon for the meeting. The meeting will be on Sunday May 4th and will be held at The Italiano located 9301 E Shea Blvd. Scottsdale

Details will be in the next newsletter. Mark your calendars and save the date.



Over the past five years we have asked for volunteers to run activities and folks to serve on the Board of Directors. We need people to step up and fill these positions as well as be willing to become officers. The officers and board members of the Desert Stars are made up of car enthusiasts like you that volunteer their time overseeing the various administrative functions of the club. These members give their support year after year so that you, as fellow club members, can enjoy the various activities, events, and gatherings that the club is known for. But we can no longer do it without help.

I am once again asking if anyone is interested in helping to keep the Desert Stars active. If you are interested, please reach out to me by January 15th

Debbie desertstars@desertstars.club

Holiday Party - 2024

By Debbie Ichiyama

I want to thank all who attended the party this year. It was great to catch up with everyone.

The weather was ideal, and we enjoyed the beautiful setting and once again the Grayhawk Golf Club which was a big hit. After a delicious meal, we proceeded with our tradition of recognizing our member anniversaries. Resident Emcee, Chuck Stanford, presented the anniversary recognition pins to the recipients who were in attendance. This year's recipients for 5 years was Ed & Annette Crawford, 10 years were John Berquist, Elliott & Harriett Gartner and Christopher Pagnini.. For 15 years Mark & Debbie Ichiyama and John & Roberta Phin. Thirty years Orestes & Jennifer Harper. Forty years John & Marianne Hutchison. Congratulations to all.

This year we did a Gift Exchange, Ed and Annette organized this part of the day. It was a huge success.

Thanks to all who brought toys for the 2024 Toy Drive, which were delivered to the Scottsdale Fire Department. As always, the firemen were truly impressed by all the toys collected and they expressed their gratitude for all the club's efforts.

Thanks to all.



Brynn & Debbie at Registration Table



Emcee Mark Ichiyama



Toys for Tots



Ed & Annette Crawford



John Berquist



Elliott & Harriet Gartner



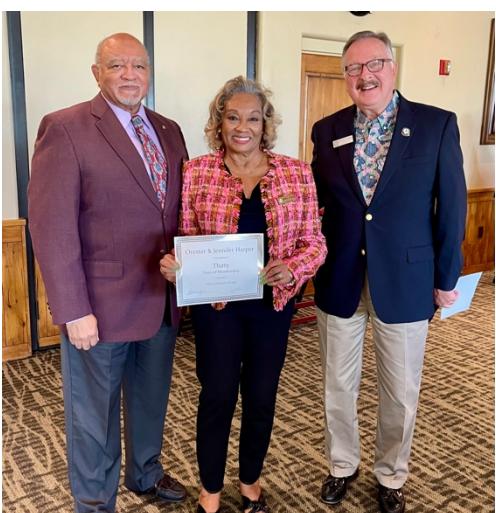
Christopher Pagnini



Mark Ichiyama



John & Roberta Phin



Orester & Jennifer Harper



Marianne & John Hutchison

Officer Of The Year

By Ron Borino

At the Desert Stars annual holiday party in front of approximately 50+ attendees Debbie Ichiyama was awarded Officer of the Year for the Southwest Region of the Mercedes Benz Club of America. Debbie's 10 years as president of the Desert Stars chapter was recognized as well as her many other contributions to making the local chapter a success. Included in her contributions is the outstanding newsletter she composes and publishes 6 times per year. Debbie also functions as both membership and interim activities director for the chapter. These two functions are critical to attracting and retaining members to the chapter as well as ensuring there are events for the members to choose from. Additionally, Debbie hosts all club board meetings monthly at her home and works with the national organization to implement changes and provide reporting as required. She single-handedly puts together both the holiday party and the annual business meeting from lining up the venues to selecting the menus. Additional contributions include working with other chapter presidents to understand and use the new website and associated software. Presenting this well-deserved, long overdue recognition was one of the best rewards of my tenure as the regional director for the national organization.



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Car Auctions 2025

By Mark Ichiyama

Here's the projected schedule for January 2025 Auctions:

Barrett Jackson - January 18th through the 26th – Westworld

www.barrett-jackson.com

Bonham's - January 24th at Westin Kierland Resort and Spa

www.bonhams.com/auctions/upcoming/?query=scottsdale

Motorsport Auction Group January 24th – 26th Cubs Stadium Sloan Park

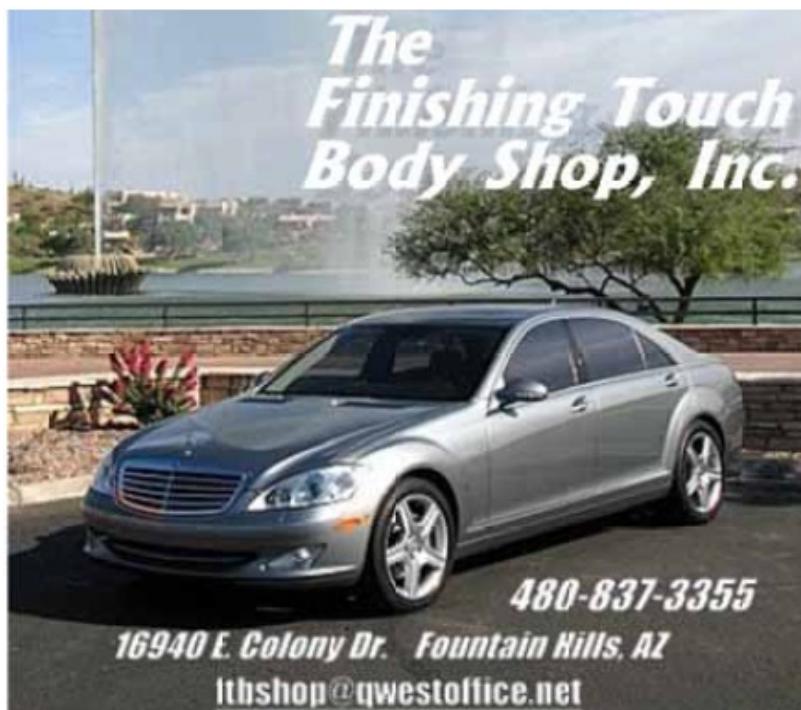
<https://www.motorsportauctiongroup.com/>

RM Sotheby's - January 24th at the Arizona Biltmore Resort

<https://rmsothebys.com/auctions/az25/>

Mecum Auctions March 18-22 Glendale

<https://www.mecum.com/auctions/>



M-BEAT

Please register and pay by April 11, 2025

Name(s) Registering: _____ Number Attending: _____

Phone No.: _____ Day/ Night Email Address: _____

Registration Fee is \$20 per person members and \$50 per person non-members

Make your check payable to: **MBCA Desert Stars**; and mail to:
MBCA Desert Stars c/o Debbie Ichiyama
6502 E Evans Drive, Scottsdale, AZ 85254

Credit Card payments available: Call Debbie Ichiyama at (808) 282-5249

Registration in this event requires signing the clubs Standard Release and Wavier of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Indemnity Agreement the day of the event.




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Mark your Calendar for the January 19th Arizona Concours d'Elegance

By Chuck Stanford

The Arizona Concours is an acclaimed showcase of 100 rare, classic and historic automobiles and motorcycles, presented in the luxury atmosphere of a stylish garden party. Period costumes representing various automotive eras are encouraged and rewarded for spectators and participants. *The Art of Automotive Engineering* was chosen as the theme for this seventh edition of the Arizona Concours, which is presented in partnership with Scottsdale Arts, the organization responsible for an array of artistic services in the city. The exhibition is held at the Scottsdale Civic Center in Oldtown Scottsdale.

A curated and judged exhibition of the world's finest collector cars, the Arizona Concours d'Elegance is a celebration of automotive engineering and design held every January. A point of pride for the region's car community, the non-profit event supports the arts and local artists, as well as Make-A-Wish® Arizona. Tickets are available on the event website at ArizonaConcours.org or at the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts box office.



2024 Arizona Concours



Best of Show 2024
post-war (1973 Lamborghini Miura) and pre-war (1932 Alfa Romeo 8C-2300 LeMans)

Any volunteers out there to put together some weekend drives? These might be fun and could give members a chance to plan a trip event that could include a lunch or a stay over at one of these destinations. The board will provide all the assistance you need. If you are interested in helping to plan an event/drive, please contact Debbie dichiyama@me.com or Ron at advertising@desertstars.club



WORTHY CRUISES

Sedona & Oak Creek Canyon

- Phoenix to Sedona: 116 miles
- Sedona to end of Highway 89A: 25 miles

Payson & Mogollon Rim

- Phoenix to Payson: 90 miles
- Payson to Mogollon Rim: 29 miles
- Rim Road Drive: 51 miles

Flagstaff

- Phoenix to Flagstaff: 145 miles

Prescot National Forest

- Phoenix to Prescott: 99 miles
- Prescott to Jerome: 35 miles

Mount Lemmon

- Phoenix to Tucson: 113 miles
- Catalina Foothills to Marshall Gulch: 26 miles

White Mountains

- Phoenix to Hon-Dah: 188 miles
- Hon-Dah to Eager: 37 miles

NEAR PHOENIX

please drive safely

Local Car Culture**Concours in the Hills**

Benefitting Phoenix Childrens Foundation

Fountain Hills

February 15, 2025 10am to 3pm

Highline Autos Cars & Coffee

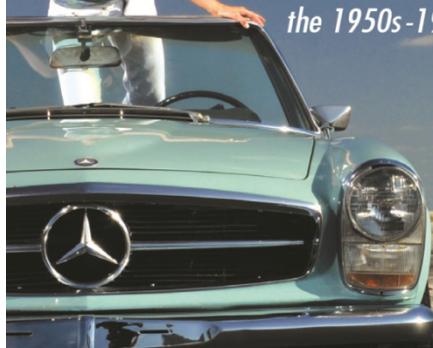
7:30 – 10:00 am on the first Saturday of every month.

5415 East High Street
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7:00 – 10:00 am on the second Saturday of every month.

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The advertisement features a pair of heart-shaped diamond earrings with a red gemstone center, set against a background of a starry night sky and clouds. The Hamra Jewelers logo is at the top, and the website and phone number are at the bottom.

As a Desert Star. You can list your for-sale Mercedes-Benz here and let all our readers know it's available for them to enjoy. Whether you have a high mile driver, or a collectible with more wax than miles on it, contact us and get your car listed in the Stardust. Contact info StarDustMBCA@gmail.com



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SAVE THESE DATES

April 26-27

Sat-Sun

M-BEAT

May 4

Sunday

Annual Business Meeting

<https://www.mbca.org/section/desert-stars>

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