



# STAR VIEWS

SOUTH FLORIDA SECTION NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014



### 3rd Members' BBQ Event

Submitted by Victor Rodriguez and Elias Fleites

On October 4, 2014, the South Florida Section's members gathered for the 3rd Members' BBQ event. Originally we were going to have the BBQ in May like we usually did but due to the heat and the humidity we had it when the temperature was 'supposed' to be cooler. It was maybe 5 degrees cooler because that is Miami weather, and we were determined to enjoy our 5 degree cooler temperature.

As Elias Fleites, the perfect host, and myself, the grill master, coordinated this event we were experiencing the members' excitement as they arrived. The members parked their cars, lined up for display. As each car arrived, the members greeted each new arrival, and as they parked, one can see the enthusiasm of each members' pride and joy as they showed off and talked about their cars.

As the grill master, I had two grills going, one with hot dogs and chicken wings, and the other with hamburgers. A table full of condiments, potato



ships, potato and macaroni salads, dessert, and the coolers full of water, and soda. It was all you can eat, and everyone enjoyed the meal.

To cover from the rays of the sun, some of us sat under a tent while the others took the shaded areas. The conversations varied from each Mercedes-Benz cars, to many other different topics. After everyone ate (many times), Michael Chrusch, President, and Maria Rodriguez, Vice-President, announced it was raffle time. Everyone walked off as a winner because at all of the events all members are winners, and the Board of Directors makes it a point that everyone walks off with a prize.

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### Upcoming Events

Homestead Redland Road Rally  
1/17/15

3rd Annual Concours De Eleganz  
1/18/15

TBD ??? 3/14 or 3/15

TBD ??? 4/11 or 4/12

TBD ??? 5/16 or 5/17



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**Greetings from the President, Michael Chrusch**

I am honored to be your new President. I look forward to a great number of exciting events we have planned for this year and beyond. I am excited to work with the regular members I know so well, but I am equally excited to meet and work with all of the members I have not yet met. I look forward to meeting you all at our many events and remember it is the members that help dictate our

events so please let the Board and myself know what YOU would like to do.

Let's recap our events to date since our annual meeting in September 2014. We had our annual BBQ in October, which attracted several new members with their several new Mercedes to enjoy! In November we all gathered at the Nexxt Cafe (for the second year in a row) on Lincoln Road to have lunch together prior to attending the Miami Beach International Car Show. I am happy to report that it was one of largest lunch events in our club's history. We ended the year with our annual holiday party brunch at the 94th Aero Squadron (for the second year in a row) in Miami. Each member and guest received a white Mercedes Benz Club of America South Florida Section coffee mug with our blue logo. They are beautiful mugs. I would like to thank our member Matt Bell for arranging\creating the mugs! In addition, I would like to thank Mercedes Benz of Coral Gables\Bill Ussery, for all of the wonderful gifts donated to our raffle. In particular, I would like to thank Robert Corso, a sales person for MB of Coral Gables, for his constant support of the Club. Our Club would not be as great as it is without MB of Coral Gables and Robert Corso.

**Welcome to our New Members!**

Since our last publication in September 2014

Drew Bawcombe  
 Latees Belo-Osagie  
 Amilcar Cascais  
 Marisabella Gold  
 Manuel Jaramillo  
 Robert Kronenberg

Oscar Mederos  
 John Miller  
 Leonardo Peterssen  
 Fernando Rengifo-Dussan  
 Alcy Vidal

What are we planning next you ask? Well, we are planning for our 3rd Annual Concours De Eleganz! For the 3rd consecutive year we will host our car show at TY Park in Hollywood, Florida on Sunday January 18, 2015 from 10 am - 2 pm. Please check out our website for more details and to register your car! It's only \$25 to register each car and each person registering a car gets a free commemorative gift as our way of saying "thank you". Remember, these cars do not have to be in showroom condition. We want people to have fun and display their Mercedes. Come join your fellow members and guests as we display some of the finest old and new Mercedes. It's a great time for everyone and who knows, you may walk away with one of our 33 awards, be a big raffle winner, and/or enjoy a new food or dessert made by one of the many food trucks that will be there.

I started my fascination with Mercedes Benz at the age of 7 when I saw my first Mercedes. I remember the details very well. It was a classic 1965 Cherry Red MB 280 SL with saddle tan interior. From that moment, I have never admired nor wanted another car so much as I wanted that Mercedes. The Mercedes brand still runs very strong with me. For me, owning a Mercedes is not just owning a car, it's a way of life.

I am interested in hearing your story. Send your story to me via email - maybe your story will be published in one of our Star News magazines!

Well, I look forward to meeting you (on the road and/or at one of our events) and having a great year. Come Join the fun.

Happy Holidays to you and your family.

**Board Meetings**  
 at Beef 'O' Brady's  
 (8655 Stirling Rd, Cooper City,  
 FL 33328)

January 11th, 2015 *3rd annual concours de eleganz details* at 10am at T.Y. Park

January 14th, 2015 *3rd annual concours de eleganz details* (last meeting before event) at Beef 'O' Brady's

January 18th, 2015 *3rd annual concours de eleganz* at T.Y. park (event set-up)

February 11th, 2015 at 730pm

March 11th, 2015 at 730pm

April 8th, 2015 at 730pm

May 13th, 2015 at 730pm

Website: <http://southflorida.mbca.org>

**Officers**

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Later, after everyone settled down, Mike, the Chair of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concours De Eleganz began talking about the Concours event and asked for volunteers to be in the Committee. Just about everyone signed up.

It was a successful BBQ event, so we hope to see you at the 4<sup>th</sup> Members' BBQ event in 2015.

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**About Our Newsletter**

*Star News* is published four times a year: March; June; September; December.

Opinions, and stories are articulated by the author and editor for the sole purpose of informing and reading enjoyment of the members.

If you have any stories or articles relating to your Mercedes-Benz, or of general interest, e-mail them to the Editor, Moises Levy, at [levy1902@gmail.com](mailto:levy1902@gmail.com).

**To advertise in Star News**

Email Moises Levy at [levy1902@gmail.com](mailto:levy1902@gmail.com), to set it up. The annual advertising rates are as follows:

Full Page	\$600
¾ Page	\$400
½ Page	\$325
¼ Page	\$175
Business Card	\$100



## Miami International Auto Show Event

Submitted by Genesis Mendoza and Maria J. Rodriguez



The day of the International Auto Show, Saturday, November 8, 2014, was spectacular! The weather was sunny, yet breezy and dry, it was perfect; the kind of weather that embodies Miami and attracts snowbirds. That morning we met for breakfast, or rather brunch, at Nexxt Café on Lincoln Road. This restaurant was voted (again) this year to host our meal before attending the event, and I could see why. It was my first time at this restaurant and let me say that it exceeded my expectations. The menu was a booklet itself, with several pages listing plate after plate. The variety of food was stupendous and the food was delicious. I will definitely be returning to Nexxt Café.

The members and guests in attendance were myself, Michael Chrusch, Maria Rodriguez, Victor Rodriguez, Tom, Pasquale Bettino, Gregory Seller, Calvin Kohli, Elias Fleites, Martha Campos, Kaming Lo, Richard Eldridge, . There were several new faces that joined us for our brunch, some were new members and others were member's guests. Everyone seemed to have had a good time as they shared interesting conversations over some good food. Upon the end of the meal, we gathered for a couple of pictures before heading out to auto show. We appreciated that Matthew Bell, one of the members, was able to get us 20 free tickets which we truly enjoyed.

At the end of the meal, we grouped together outside of the restaurant, and decided to meet at the Mercedes-Benz displays for group pictures. As the group walked to the auto show we got separated in the midst of walking, talking and then getting mixed with the crowd in front of the Miami Beach Convention Center. It was a lively and pleasant ten minute walk, through the crowded Lincoln Road.

As we walked into the Miami Beach Convention Center, one can see the enthusiasm of everyone wanting to see not only the new Mercedes-Benz' on display but also all the other vehicles. Some members that could not make it to the lunch met us at the specified location. A couple of us took pictures, some discussed future purchases, and after a while each member, and their guests, went their separate ways. It was fun to see everyone enjoying themselves as they shared their taste in the beautiful Mercedes-Benz vehicles.

It was a successful and enjoyable event. Something as simple as getting together for lunch, as a group, then walk together towards a car show. Hoping to see you next year!





## Holiday Brunch & Celebrating Our Members

Submitted by Maria J. Rodriguez



On December 14, 2014 the South Florida Section's Holiday Brunch and Celebrating Our Members event was held at the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant, in Miami, Florida. One could not have asked for a perfect weather on that day. In the early part of the morning it was a little cold, and the restaurant provided us with a warming fire pit, throughout our brunch, in the middle of our gathering.

As the members pulled up to the reserved area for our cars, they selected where to park their beautiful Mercedes-Benz, for our photo shoot later. Some parked in the green-grassy areas, and those that got their early got to park their cars by the actual planes. The thrill of seeing the cars, with the green and water backgrounds, and the planes were breathtaking.

The South Florida Section would like to thank Mercedes-Benz of Coral Gables for providing very nice gifts to raffle. We appreciate their support and their attentiveness to the club's needs. In addition to the gifts, Robert Corso, a club member and sales representative brought a red 2014 SLS 63 to display with our cars.

In addition to these gifts, were other gifts to raffle, and gifts to exchange. This year the South Florida Section wanted to celebrate our members so a gift was given to each member, and their guests. Furthermore, a certificate of appreciation was given to each member in attendance. We are proud to have you in the club and hope to see you at all of the other events.



Every year at the holiday party we give the 'Member of the Year' award, and this year we congratulated Moises Levy with this award. Moises is currently a Board member, but in the past year and a half, he has been attending events, participating in the Board meeting, coordinating events, and is now the editor of our newsletter, the STAR News.

In attendance were myself, Michael Chrusch, Ratih Simmons, Victor Rodriguez, Bill Calore, Kenny Arroyo, Siegfried and Dorrit Marks, Henry Ovaes, Robert Corso, Ivette Fernandez, Pasquale Bettino, Gregory Seller, Matthew Bell, Richard Eldridge, Ann Eldridge, Elias Fleites, Martha Campos, Moises Levy, Genesis Mendoza, Kaming Lo, Marcos Maldonado, Mr. & Mrs. Max Sawicki, Scott Katsaras and guest. The gathering was not small, nor large, just right, making it more personal and everyone was able to talk to each other without any reservations.

As everyone enjoyed their delicious food, talked, pictures taken, raffles, gift exchanged, awards and gifts given, time went by fast, and as the saying goes, "Time flies when you are having fun". Noone wanted to leave so we all went back to where the cars were parked, on the grass by the planes, and took more pictures, and chatted some more. While some left, also some stayed.

Hoping everyone enjoyed this wonderful time, and we hope you can join us next year at this wonderful and warming event.

**Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!!**









Mercedes-Benz Club of South Florida Hosts

# The Third Annual Concours De Eleganz

All lovers of fine Mercedes-Benz automobiles are invited to a spectacular car show and food truck festival featuring the finest new and vintage Mercedes-Benz automobiles and a collection of gourmet Food Trucks

- Open to Mercedes-Benz cars of all ages -

**Sunday, January 18, 2015 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm**

**T.Y. Park (Topeekeegee Yugnee Park) - 3300 N. Park Road, Hollywood, Florida**

**RSVP required by January 9, 2015**

### General Information

**All cars are eligible for magnificent trophies.** Judging is by people's choice ... everyone gets to vote as all admirers of Mercedes-Benz cars are by nature connoisseurs and fine judges.

**Judging will start at 11:00 am – Please have your cars on the grass no later than 10:00 am**

- Class I - Vintage - Sports Cars and Coupes - Pre 1988: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Class II - Vintage Convertibles - Pre 1972: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Class II - Vintage Convertibles - 1973 - 2000: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Class III - Vintage Sedans - Pre 1988: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Class IV - Contemporary Sports Cars and Coupes - 1988 - Present: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Class V - Contemporary Convertibles - 2001 - Present: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Class VI - Contemporary Sedans - 1989 - Present: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- AMG - 2015 and older: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- SUV and Wagon - 2015 and older: 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
- Preservation Award to be awarded to the most original unrestored Mercedes-Benz arriving under its own power and showing obvious affection by its owner
- Highest Mileage Mercedes-Benz • The One I wish I could take home
- Gentlemen's Choice • Ladies Choice • The Best of Show



### Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Car: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone 2: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Participation in Concours per car \$25 - Qty: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_\_ By Check (Payable to Mercedes-Benz Club of America South Florida)

Additional forms and last minute information will be available on the Mercedes-Benz Club of America South Florida website at: <http://southflorida.mbca.org>

Driving directions: From I-95 North or South. Take exit 21 for FL-822/Sheridan St. Go West onto FL-822 W/Sheridan St. Take the 2nd right onto N 33rd Ave/N Park Rd. Take the 1st right onto Atlanta St. TY Park is on your right side.

Sunday admission to the park is \$1.50 per person.

**Release:** The undersigned, on behalf of himself/herself and all those participants and guests for whom registration has been purchased above, does hereby release the Mercedes-Benz Club of America South Florida and the Mercedes-Benz Club of America from any and all liability arising from the entire event.

**Important:** Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please RSVP. Complete and mail this form to: Michael Chrusch, President, Mercedes-Benz Club of America South Florida, 14368 SW 142 Avenue, Miami, FL 33186. For more information you may email: michaelchrusch@yahoo.com

Name tags and vehicle identification placards will be issued at the Concours site.

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Sunday, January 18, 2015  
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

For more information  
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Cordially invites you to attend

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Hosted by Mercedes-Benz Club of America South Florida

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To register your car please visit:

<http://southflorida.mbca.org>

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c/o Moises Levy, Editor  
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