



# STAR NEWS

SOUTH FLORIDA SECTION NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2014



## Bowling, Pool Table at the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole



at The Alley,  
in Hallandale Beach, Florida  
Submitted by Maria J. Rodriguez

It was a hot, but breezy afternoon as everyone walked out of their cars and came in to the VIP room at the 19<sup>th</sup> Hole at the Alley event on Saturday, August 23, 2014. Once everybody greeted each other, some got to business playing pool table, some went outside where the members' cars were lined up, and some just socialized, and got caught on whatever everyone else was doing in their daily lives. The VIP room was reserved just for us, so it was private and comfortable for the members to gather and chat.

As everyone came back in to the VIP room for lunch, the food was laid out, buffet style, all you can eat. The aroma of the food was intoxicating, so good that even if you were not hungry, you had to try some. Afterwards, raffles took place, and again everyone enjoyed talking and sharing photos of their cars, and car shows they had attended.

After lunch some of the members continued playing pool, pictures were taken, and then all went in to the bowling alley.

We had 3 lanes, and teams were formed

for the bowling performance (a.k.a. game). Some were professionals, came prepared with their bowling shoes, and balls, some were good and some were just having a great time. The majority of us fell into the latter category.

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### Upcoming Events

3rd Annual Members' BBQ and Go-Karts racing 10/4/14

Miami International Auto Show 11/8/14

Fundraiser TBD ??? 11/16 or 11/30

Holiday party and members' car show at 94th Aero Squadron 12/14/14

Homestead Redland Road Rally 1/17/2015

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

### **3rd Annual Members' BBQ / Car Show / Go Karts**

**Bring your Cars for the Members' Car Show**

**(Note: Go Karts Optional, AFTER the BBQ & Car Show)**

**WHERE:** 8324 NW 74th Ave, Miami, FL

**WHEN:** Saturday, October 4, 2014 - 11:00 am – 3:00 p.m.



Coordinated by Elias Fleites, Victor Rodriguez & Martha Campos



ALL you can eat! Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Chicken wings, and Soft drinks  
& You can also bring your favorite dish!

**RSVP by September 29, 2014**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 per person Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check, payable to MBCA South Florida Section, to:

Michael Chrusch  
10945 Ravel Court  
Boca Raton, FL 33498





**Greetings from the President,  
Maria J. Rodriguez**

This will be my last greetings to you as the President, and when you come to the end of any experience, there is always a mixture of emotions, relief that responsibilities are coming to an end, sadness that what you have come to enjoy

will no longer be there for you. These past 3 years, I have met wonderful people, difficult people, and I feel I have learned a lot from these two groups. Truly it has been an experience!

We have an amazing club, and if you are asked to take a leadership role, or any task or position, take it. The journey is worth it. Three years ago I attended an annual meeting, and by the end of the meeting I had volunteered to be the Editor of *Star News*, the newsletter. Three months later, the President resigned due to family issues, and I was nominated Interim President. Nine months later I was elected President for a two year term. In these two years, I was at one time interim Treasurer and later Memberships Chair. I was honored that this group trusted me with such responsibilities. We have had some major accomplishments these years, too many to name. These are found in our website, newsletter, and Facebook page.

Being a social car club, it made me want to engage in different activities, to learn what we actually did, and to actually do it. It made me seek other members out, to get to know the faces, the names and their stories, and trying to get them involved. The club's directors and volunteer members have done a fantastic job this year. I have enjoyed their support and valued their work with the committees. There has been a lot going on these last two years, and I am happy to say that it has made the club stronger.

We welcomed and farewelled a few people this past 2 years, but that is the challenge we need to address as a club. We have completed a lot of structural change within the club. We have restructured our board meetings to improve the experience of the members, in order to allow members to be

**Welcome to our New Members!**

Since our last publication in June 2014

- Luis Alfonso
- Pasquale Bettino, Jr.
- Jose Batalla
- Matthew Bell
- Stephane Burke
- Tari Wils Collins
- Alfredo Cordoba
- July Echavez
- Karen Francis
- Lizeth Gaitan

- Irene Katz
- Carlos A. Perez
- Bruce Rubin
- John Shawde
- Amy Shutter

on board discussions, where the club is heading, and how we can make it better. I believe that our core values of fellowship, fun and contribution are the key elements when this club was formed, and we need to adhere to these elements in going forward.

Now, three years later, seems like a blink of an eye, after stepping foot in that annual meeting, I am happy to hand over the presidential chains to Michael Chrusch, the new President of the South Florida Section Mercedes-Benz Club of America. I am also honored to be his Vice President, and I know that Mike has some great ideas about how we can build the club more, in the coming years. I am looking forward to working alongside Mike to help make it all happen. Stay tuned to our newsletter, website, and Facebook page, they allow the members to have a lot more ready access to information about the events.

Enthusiasm and a determination build a better club, so I am recruiting all members that want to be involved, to come to the Board meetings. These meetings are held once a month, the dates are posted in the newsletter, and you will receive emails, as reminders.

There are so many people to thank for supporting me these years. Special thanks go to Mike, Victor, Jay, Richard, our National Board, our Southeast Region Director, Scott Suits, Ken, Tunde, Gabriel, and all of you that have truly been there, I really have appreciated your support these years.

See you at the BBQ event on October, 4, 2014!

**Board Meetings**  
**at Umberto's Italian Restaurant**  
**(1320 N University Dr, Pembroke Pines, FL 33024)**

October 8th, 2014 at 730pm

November 5th, 2014 at 730pm

December 10th, 2014 at 730pm

January 10th, 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)

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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Next, after everyone was pretty much exhausted, we had refreshments. The fun continued when we went outside and gathered around our cars to admire our vehicles. Again, more photos were taken as the hoods of some cars were lifted. Each and every one showed their beautiful cars to the others. A member who had his shop across the street could not join us because he had to work, but he definitely brought his cars over. This was truly another dedicated club member.

**MBCA  
South Florida Section  
Club Shirts!!  
Place your order to-  
day!**

Only \$39.00 each  
2 for \$70.00  
3 for \$105.00  
4 for \$135.00

Price includes tax, plus shipping and handling.

Email  
[michaelcrusch@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelcrusch@hotmail.com)  
to place your order.

**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





## South Florida Section Annual Meeting

Submitted by Michael Chrusch



Mercedes-Benz of Ft. Lauderdale hosted the South Florida Section's Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 13, 2014. Attending were myself (Mike Chrusch), Maria Rodriguez, Victor Rodriguez, Richard Eldridge, Ken Robinson, Tunde Robinson, Genesis Mendoza, Pasquale Bettino, Dean Mielke, Elena Rodriguez, William Hegemann, George Levien, Matthew Bell, Byron Daugherty, Joe Schumann, Frank Owen, Harry Wardlow, and Anne Wardlow.

As members came in they helped themselves to lunch, which included several different types of sandwiches, chips, and drinks. The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am.

Richard Eldridge informed every attendee that the minutes from the previous annual meeting were in front of them. A motion was made by Maria to accept the prior annual meeting minutes, and the revisions, and Victor seconded the motion. Following was the Treasurer's report given by Mike Chrusch, and again a motion was made, and accepted by all.

Maria Rodriguez read the Membership Report Summary & Recruiting. We currently have 255 members from Boca Raton to Key West. We have 51 new members from 9/13/14 to 9/13/14. Maria Rodriguez then read the Upcoming & Tentative Events.

The next events include the 3rd annual members BBQ, on October 4, 2014, from 11 am to 3:00pm; the annual Holiday party, on December 14, 2014, which will be again held at the 94th Aero Squadron from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm; the Miami International Auto Show on November 8, 2014; and the 3rd annual Concours De Eleganz will be on January 18, 2015 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at TY Park in Hollywood, Florida. Name of volunteers to form the 3rd Concours Committee were taken and we will continue to seek others. Please let me know if you are interested in serving in any capacity.

Members are invited to attend the Board Meetings where decisions on events and other things take place. The upcoming meetings in 2014 will be held on October 8,

November 5, and December 10. The upcoming meetings in 2015 will be held on January 10,



January 14, January 18, February 11, March 11, April 8 and May 13. The usual meeting time is 7:30 pm and the usual meeting place is at Umberto's Italian Restaurant in Pembroke Pines, unless specified otherwise.

A unanimous election took place and the results were: Michael Chrusch – President; Maria Rodriguez – Vice President; Richard Eldridge – Secretary; Michael Chrusch – Interim Treasurer. The nominated Directors will be accepted at the October 8 Board meeting, by the new elected Officers. Those nominated were Moises Levy, Genesis Mendoza, Victor Rodriguez, and William "Bill" Harter.

After the meeting ended at 12:50 pm, AJ Modica, MB of Fort Lauderdale Sales Person, presented the history of the MB of Fort Lauderdale dealership. AJ also talked about the new Mercedes-Benz CLA and the Mercedes-Benz B class, which should be available in the United States sometime in 2015. AJ then took the members on a tour of the MB dealership, including the service area where AJ was met by the service foreman. Both spoke about the service bay and entertained questions by a lively membership crowd. The tour ended around 1:45 pm and the members delighted themselves in the showroom by looking at the newest cars, including the all new



GLA.

Overall, it was a relaxed, productive, and great meeting. All agenda items were discussed and members left the MB dealership excited about the upcoming events. I would like to thank again Benny Gates, GM of Mercedes Benz of Fort Lauderdale, for his hospitality, in letting us use one of the dealership's meeting rooms for our meeting.

On behalf of all of the officers and directors of the Mercedes Benz Club of America, South Florida Section, I would like to thank you for being a member and look forward to meeting you at the different events. And remember, driving a Mercedes Benz is more than just driving an awesome car, it's a way of life.





**Join the South Florida Section at the 44th Annual Miami International Auto Show**

**When:** Saturday, November 8, 2014

**Meet for Lunch:** Restaurant TBD

**Time:** 11:00 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

**then**

**After Lunch:** Walk over to  
1901 Convention Center Drive

Miami Beach, FL 33139

Meet up at the Mercedes-Benz exhibition section

<http://www.sfliautoshow.com/Exhibitors/Mercedes-Benz>

**Time:** 2:00 P.M.

**The first 20 members to RSVP, with registration fee, gets a free entry ticket to car show & RSVP is necessary for reservations at the restaurant for lunch.**

Please complete the following:

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

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$3.00 registration fee per person Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

For any questions contact:

Moises Levy, levy1902@gmail.com, 786-863-4483

Mail check, payable to MBCA South Florida Section to:

Moises Levy  
6619 S. Dixie Hwy #385  
Miami, FL 33143



**Join us for the  
Annual Holiday Party  
and to Celebrate  
Our South Florida Section  
MBCA Members**



**EAT, DRINK & Be MERRY  
Celebrating the Members  
Enjoy the company, the food and show  
off your beautiful Benz in the MEMBERS  
ONLY car show by the planes & the lake.  
Awards, Gift exchange and  
Raffles will take place.**



**Sunday, December 14, 2014  
Brunch Buffet at 10:00 a.m.  
Car Show at 1:30 pm  
94<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron Restaurant  
1395 N.W. 57<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Miami, FL 33126**



**RSVP required by December 8, 2014  
For more information, please contact:  
Maria J. Rodriguez, [lady mari21@hotmail.com](mailto:lady mari21@hotmail.com),  
305-776-8345**



**Please complete the information below :**  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone# \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$35.00 per person  
(all you can eat Buffet) Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Includes Brunch, Unlimited Mimosas , Soft Drinks, Gratuity and Tax).

**Make the check payable to MBCA  
South Florida Section, and mail to:  
Maria J. Rodriguez, Vice President  
14368 S.W. 142 Avenue  
Miami, FL 33186**



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**South Florida Section Mercedes-Benz Club of America**  
Cordially Invites you to attend the  
**3rd Annual Concours De Eleganz**

**When:** Sunday, January 18th, 2014, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Where:** T.Y. Park (Topeekeegee Yugnee Park) –  
300 N. Park Road,  
Hollywood, Florida

Need Volunteers and Judges for the 3rd Concours De Eleganz Committee,  
please contact Michael Chrusch at [michaelchrusch@hotmail.com](mailto:michaelchrusch@hotmail.com) or 954-260-6466

All lovers of fine Mercedes-Benz automobiles are invited to a spectacular car show, featuring the finest in vintage and contemporary Mercedes-Benz automobiles, and a collection of gourmet Food Trucks.

**Open to Mercedes-Benz cars of all ages.**

**See photos of the last 2 years Concours De Eleganz**

**Facebook page:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mercedes-Benz-Club-of-America-South-Florida-Section/237626926308315>

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



# GOOD THINGS COME IN SILVER PACKAGES



Enter to win the **MBCA MEMBERS-ONLY** raffle. Grand Prize is a 2015 Mercedes-Benz S550 valued at **\$94,400**. Plus **\$20,000** in cash!

## DETAILS

- One Grand Prize: a 2015 Mercedes-Benz S550 plus \$20,000 cash
- A minimum of 4,200 tickets must be sold to award the Grand Prize
- Tickets are \$50 (US) each
- Go to [www.mbca.org/raffle](http://www.mbca.org/raffle) to buy tickets or check your mailbox for an official mail-in order form

## DATES

- Last day to purchase tickets is December 4, 2014
- Grand Prize drawing is December 16, 2014

Open to MBCA Members ONLY. Must be 18 years of age or older to buy tickets and/or make purchases. The Grand Prize winner will choose an authorized Mercedes-Benz dealership where a check in the amount of \$94,400 (or less) will be sent. The winner will shop for his/her vehicle at the dealership of their choice. An amount of \$20,000 will be awarded as partial Federal withholding, if fewer than 4,550 tickets are sold, the Grand Prize will be one-half (50%) of the gross raffle ticket sales less Federal withholding of 25%, or at least \$25,000 (less withholding), whichever is greater. Vehicle featured in this ad is representative ONLY. Odds of winning depend on total number of tickets sold. Ticket buyers and Grand Prize winner MUST be a current Member of MBCA at the time of purchase and day of prize drawing. Members may request drawing (not required to enter or win). 30% of net raffle proceeds shall be devoted exclusively to the lawful purposes of MBCA International Stars Section.



More Than a Car Club. We're a Community.™

# Invest \$49, earn \$500.

Pay \$49 a year as a Member of MBCA and after 12 months, get \$500 off the price of a NEW Mercedes-Benz. Not a bad return for a 12-month investment ...



## How Members Qualify

1. You must be a "Member in Good Standing" with MBCA to qualify for the Loyalty Rewards discount. To check your member standing, go to [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org), click the login button at the top right corner of the page then enter your username and password. If you are a current MBCA member and have been a member for 12 or more consecutive months, a "Member in Good Standing" symbol will appear in the bottom left corner of your profile page.
2. From your profile page, go to "Click Here" to view time-sensitive terms and conditions and to print an official Loyalty Rewards Certificate, redeemable only at U.S. Mercedes-Benz dealerships. **NOTE:** Your Loyalty Rewards Certificate may only be printed ONCE. It will expire 60 days from the print date.
3. Go to your local Mercedes-Benz dealer to negotiate the best price for your NEW Mercedes-Benz vehicle. Remember to ask your dealer if they are offering any special price discounts like a summer or winter clearance sale. On the day of your purchase, present your Loyalty Rewards Certificate to the dealer to receive an additional \$500 off the price of your new vehicle.

## Can the \$500 Discount be Combined with Other Discounts?

Yes, MBCA members in good standing can take \$500 off a NEW Mercedes-Benz vehicle and combine that discount with a second MBUSA Incentive, including: Guest Appreciation Certificates, European Delivery, seasonal event discounts, clearance sales and other dealer offers.



## Which Mercedes-Benz Vehicles Qualify for the \$500 Discount?

You may apply your \$500 discount toward the purchase or lease of any NEW Mercedes-Benz vehicle except Sprinter Vans, smart, SLS AMG Coupes and SIS AMG Roadsters.

## Are there Dealer Incentives that CANNOT be Combined with the \$500 Discount?

Yes, there are some dealer incentives that may NOT be combined with the \$500 discount, including: DEI (Dealer Employee Incentive), MBDEA (Mercedes-Benz Drive Employee Appreciation), MLP (Master Lease Program), Diplomat (designated diplomat program), all Fleet programs (business-to-business purchasers). Your dealer can explain these exceptions in detail.



## Questions or More Information

Call the MBCA National Business Office at 800.637.2360  
Mon-Thurs 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. & Fridays 8 a.m.-4 p.m. MT

More Than a Car Club. We're a Community.™  
Learn more at [mbca.org](http://mbca.org)



c/o Moises Levy, Editor  
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