



# Mercedes-Benz Club of America

## Keystone Star Keystone Section of Central PA

March / April 2018

### Keystone Section Events 2018

February 11 (Sun.): 2018 Kick-Off luncheon at First Post Restaurant, York, PA

\*\*\*\*\*Details Inside\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*March 24 (Sat.): Penn National Race Course Dining and Racing, Grantville, PA

\*\*\*April 28 (Sat.): Tech Session at Mercedes Benz of Lancaster, East Petersburg, PA

\*\*\*May 4 - 6 (Fri. thru Sun.): Annual Kentucky Derby Weekend in Cape May, NJ

May 19 (Sat.): Carlisle Import and Performance Nationals, Carlisle, PA

June: TBD

July 14 (Sat.): Deutsche Classic German Car Show, Oley, PA

August: Possible Auto Cross (TBD)

September 9 (Sun.): Keystone Section Picnic at Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, PA

October: Fall Road Rally

November 10 (Sat.): 2018 Planning Meeting, M B of Lancaster, East Petersburg, PA.

Share in the planning of our monthly events/meetings for 2019. Contact Marty Rexroth, 717-764-0624 or [marstang@aol.com](mailto:marstang@aol.com), to attend, or if you have ideas for events.

December 1 (Sat.): Holiday Party at Eden Resort Inn, Lancaster, PA

To reserve a room for the night, after June, contact the Eden Resort (717-569-6444) and mention you are attending the **Keystone Section MBCA party** to receive a special rate. Five rooms will be held until **November 1**. After that date, you will get a room only if one is available in the hotel. The Eden Resort is located on Oregon Pike (Rt. 272N), off Rt 30 in Lancaster. Contact Jan & John Kitner, [kitjan613@aol.com](mailto:kitjan613@aol.com) or 717-872-2988, for more information.

## Keystone Section Officers

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**Keystone Section Web Site:** <http://www.keystone.mbc.org>

**To Contribute to the Keystone Star:** Send material for publication to: Jan Kitner, 613 Crestgate Place, Millersville PA 17551, or email to [kitjan613@aol.com](mailto:kitjan613@aol.com). Any articles or "For Sale" ads are free to our members, and definitely encouraged. Publication is bi-monthly.

**To advertise in the Keystone Star:** Contact Jan Kitner for rates and ad sizes. Ads must be photo-copy ready. The Keystone Star is the official publication of the Keystone Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. All opinions, ideas, and suggestions are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily represent the views of the publisher, MBCA, MBUSA, or DBAG. No authentication of factory approval is implied by this publication or MBCA. The Keystone Section of MBCA assumes no liability for any of the information contained herein. Articles submitted are subject to editing and/or slight revision. Contents may not be reproduced without permission in writing, except by MBCA and its sections. No inference should be made that products or services advertised herein have the approval of the publisher, MBCA, its officers or members, or Mercedes-Benz of USA, Inc.

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## President's Message~~~~~

Thankfully, my son's C280 is again providing plenty of material for the newsletter President's message. I apologize to those who attended our annual kickoff meeting at First Post on February 11, who have already heard part of this story.

Back in February, my son Marty II, surprised me by coming home from college in Philly for my birthday weekend. As he went to leave Friday evening to visit his friends, he said, "Dad my doors won't unlock!" The lights flashed, disarming the alarm, but the locks stayed down. Marty ended up using the convenience window feature on his key to put down the windows and manually unlock the doors. Some diagnosis revealed that the vacuum pump inside the trunk had failed. I knew right away getting into the trunk would be a problem. Trying to use the metal key stored inside the electronic key to operate a lockset that hadn't been accessed in 21 years was going to be a problem. Sure enough, applications of CRC 3-36 into the lock yielded a rusty trail of lubricant, a reminder of neglected maintenance by the car's 7 previous owners. How am I going to get into the trunk to service the vacuum pump? I went on the internet. My first search revealed a YouTube video of someone removing the back seat of his W202, and cutting a 3 foot square of steel from the divider with a reciprocating saw allowing him to then crawl into the trunk. I began to feel ill. I continued to search. Finally I ran across a post in a Mercedes enthusiast forum from the UK. This English bloke found a clever way to gain trunk access by removing the first aid kit assembly from the rear parcel shelf revealing a small 3 inch square hole. Using a broom handle with a dental pick attached allowed him to snap off 2 small access covers, revealing 2, 10mm bolts that held the catch for the trunk latch. Just put together socket extensions to access the bolts and you were in! I ran to the garage and clamped a pick from my toolbox to a long 1 inch dowel rod. I fished the long rod into the trunk and popped off both access covers! Using long extensions I carefully unthreaded the 2, 10mm bolts. The trunk lid popped open! After replacing the vacuum pump with a used unit sourced from Ebay, the C280 was fixed!



What struck me about this experience was that there was someone in the UK that had the same car, a W202 that I was working on. Many Mercedes chassis occupy all continents with only slight differences: lighting, radio frequencies, safety equipment. It seems, until recently, Mercedes was one of the few manufacturers doing this. Back in the 80's, Ford wanted to bring their European Escort model to the US. When the car was finally introduced here it only shared 1 part, a gasket, with its European counterpart. Mercedes continues to lead, to be the benchmark of safety, style, performance, and my favorite, reliability.

Hopefully spring is just around the corner. Come on out and have fun with us at Penn National and/or the Tech Session.

Marty Rexroth

\*\*\*\*\***Editor's Note**\*\*\*\*\*

**Mercedes Benz of Lancaster's service department has asked that we remind our members to please inform the service writers that you are an MBCA member when you bring your car for service, so that they can insure you get your 15% discount, and it is written up before service. You may, also, be asked to show your membership card, so take it along. This will save you and the service dept. the time of having to do a refund after the fact. This would also work at Sun Motors or any other authorized dealer that offers MBCA members a discount.**

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## Penn National Race Course at Hollywood Casino in March

Join us on Saturday, March 24th. for a fun evening of dining and watching the races at Penn National Race Course, 777 Hollywood Drive, Grantville PA 17028, just off Rt. 81 at exit 80. We will meet in the Mountain View Restaurant at 5:30. The large windows offer a great view of Blue Mountain, and the racetrack. Catch all the horse racing action from our trackside table while their skilled staff prepare sandwiches, appetizers and entrees featuring grilled steaks, seafood and more, for your dining pleasure. Check out their menu at [www.hollywoodpnrc.com/racing](http://www.hollywoodpnrc.com/racing).

Contact John Kitner, [kitjan613@aol.com](mailto:kitjan613@aol.com) to RSVP by March 21, and/or for more info. We are planning some fun betting games for the evening, so bring your "good luck" and join us for some spring fun at the races!

## Tech Session at Mercedes-Benz of Lancaster April 28, 2018

The Keystone Section Technical Session for 2018 will be held Saturday April 28 at 10:00 am. Mercedes-Benz of Lancaster will be hosting the event for us. The dealership is located at 5100 Main Street (Rt. 72) in East Petersburg. Cost is \$5.00.

The subject for our day will be Mercedes Maintenance, which will no doubt be interesting and informative.

Mercedes Benz of Lancaster always provides a quality experience. Come out to enjoy the fellowship of other members and the dealership staff.

**Directions:** Take Rt. 72N from Rt. 283 or Rt. 30.

**Cost:** \$5.00. Payable either before or at the event. Make checks payable to: Keystone Section MBCA

Mercedes Benz of Lancaster Tech Session April 28, 2018

Name \_\_\_\_\_ # attending \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5.00 each

phone# \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Please RSVP by Thursday, April 19 to:**

Marty Rexroth  
1060 Detwiler Drive  
York, PA 17404  
(717) 764-0624  
[marstang@AOL.com](mailto:marstang@AOL.com)

**Please make checks payable to: Keystone Section MBCA**

## February 2018 Kick-Off Luncheon

Our first meeting of 2018 was a luncheon on Sunday, February 11th. at The First Post Public House in York. This is a very special luncheon because it is held each year to greet all new members who have joined MBCA, Keystone Section in 2017. We had 25 members attend. Marty Rexroth went over the events coming up for 2018 and we discussed some possible events for the future. We all had a very good time catching up from the holidays and all looking forward to the spring and summer events.

The First Post did a great job. We had our own room and the service was superb, as well as the food. Thank you to Donna Copenheaver, who sets this meeting up for us each year!

### For Sale

**1986 420 SEL.** Silver with Dark Blue leather interior.

Asking \$ 5995. Car is in good condition; new tires, front brake pads, no rust. Has 153,000 miles, is driven weekly, and inspected until 2017. Selling due to retirement (and purchase of a 2013 550 SL). Interested parties can email me at [hls550SL@gmail.com](mailto:hls550SL@gmail.com) or phone 814.742.9002.



**4 1978 240D wheel covers,** 3 blue and 1 gray. \$100 OBO Contact Larry Walters, 717-218-4713 (voice mail).

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### **Advertising**

Anyone who would like to advertise in our newsletter, or knows anyone who may be interested in placing an ad ~~~~ Please forward their name and address to Jan Kitner (717-872-2988) or ([kitjan613@aol.com](mailto:kitjan613@aol.com)) so that I can send them our ad information. Advertising helps to offset the cost of publishing our newsletter.

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### **Do we have your Email Address?**

If you did not give the national office your email on your membership application, **or it has changed since you joined MBCA,** please consider sending it to me at [kitjan613@aol.com](mailto:kitjan613@aol.com). It will be used for **only** Keystone Section communications! We are trying to compile as complete a list as possible of member email info. This helps us with last-minute reminders, changes or cancellation of events. It also, enables us to send the newsletter by email, and save the club some of the costs of printing and postage. You may always request to have a paper newsletter in the mail.

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## Pennsylvania License Plate Program for MBCA



Pennsylvania license plates with the Mercedes-Benz Club of America on them are now available. These organizational plates are only available to current MBCA members who reside in PA. The license plates may be put on any brand of vehicle. Please see the restrictions on PENNDOT MV-904SP.

They are only available through our club and not through any PENNDOT office. To get your special license plates, please download the application forms and instructions available on our

section website, <https://keystone.mbc.org/>, at this link [Pennsylvania MBCA Plate Form](#), fill them out (the three forms needed are "fillable" PDF files and are in the same PDF file), and send them to Donna Copenheaver, the program coordinator along with a check for \$42.00 for the Regular Plate or \$146 for a Customized Plate, payable to Keystone Section, MBCA. Need more information? Please contact Donna, your Program Coordinator at (717-764-5890) or [maxanddonna@verizon.net](mailto:maxanddonna@verizon.net).

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### Welcome New Members!

Dwayne Heckert & Ted Martin of Camp Hill  
Jed Karpinski of Lancaster  
Greg Meglic of Lititz  
Richard Eber of Hershey (Transfer Member)

**Hope to meet all of you at a future event!**

### Airbag Recall

At Mercedes-Benz, our highest priority is keeping you safe. So we'd like to share some important information about a recall involving Takata frontal airbags used in many vehicles, including certain Mercedes-Benz models. This safety recall is a result of inflators that may improperly deploy with excessive force in the event of a crash. Takata and other inflator suppliers are working with the U.S. Department of Transportation National Highway Administration (NHTSA) to coordinate availability of replacement airbags as soon as possible.

To learn more about the Takata recall, including information on free airbag replacement, visit [mbusa.com/mercedes/recall](http://mbusa.com/mercedes/recall).



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