

The SILVER STAR



Mercedes-Benz Club of America • Sierra Nevada Section • September 2021



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SEPTEMBER 18, 2021
TRUCKEE DINNER & DRIVE
 (SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS)



NEW FRIENDS & OLD HAD A GOOD TIME AT THE STEAKHOUSE.



Duke's Steakhouse Club Hits the Jackpot at Elegant Casino Restaurant in Carson City, Nevada

by Marcus Dodson, Newsletter Editor

Last month's First Wednesday Dinner was held in Nevada's capitol city at Duke's Steakhouse inside Casino Fandango. The evening was hosted by Gail and Vencil Wells, and there were many couples who exclaimed that Duke's is one of their favorite restaurants in the area. For this particular club

event, 27 people were present, which proves that the recent increase in attendance is here to stay.

The inside of Duke's Steakhouse is stunning, with stamped metal ceilings, lush leather booths and chairs, and white tablecloths. The dark, nautical-themed restaurant is recognized as one of Northern Nevada's

(Continued on Page 3)

PRESIDENT'S EXHAUST



Holy Smokes

Summer is Winding Down in Northern Nevada



Thank you to everyone who attended our August First Wednesday Dinner at Duke's Steakhouse inside Casino Fandango in Carson City, Nevada. Vencil and myself hosted this particular dinner event, and 27 people decided to join us at one of our favorite Northern Nevada restaurants. As always, the food was delicious and the ambiance set the tone for an elegant evening with friends. I am elated to see the attendance at our recent events has continued to grow, and it has been wonderful to meet new club members.

Sadly, our much-anticipated Annual Picnic and Play at Bartley Ranch Regional Park in Reno was canceled due to the unhealthy air quality. We are all looking forward to clearer skies and some respite from the hazardous, smoky air. I hope that all of you are staying safe during this extended wildfire season, whether you're being directly or indirectly impacted by the smoke and fires.

Our next club event is tomorrow, and it is a dinner and drive to the historic Iron Door Restaurant in Johnsville, California, hosted by Vencil and myself. We have another exciting event happening on September 18 at Zano's Family Italian and Pizzeria in Truckee, California, hosted by Tessy and David Albin of the San Francisco Bay Area Mercedes-Benz Club of America. The Albins have been to a few of our club's events and have enjoyed our group so much that they wanted to host an event for us. We look forward to seeing our friends from over the hill and catching up.

You can find a list of our remaining 2021 club events in the back of this newsletter, and be sure to RSVP to events you'd like to attend. If you have an idea for a dinner or a drive, please reach out to one of the board members so that we can help you get started.

Gail Wells
President



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SIERRA NEVADA MBCA FORMER PRESIDENTS

Marc Dodson • 2011
Gary Dyer • 2012 & 2013
Sherry Avilla • 2014
Don Williams • 2015 & 2016
Gary Dyer • 2017
Bill Shepherd • 2018 & 2019

The Silver Star is the official publication of The Sierra Nevada Section of MBCA, however, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Sierra Nevada Section, MBCA, or its officers.



THE GROUP ENJOYED A GREAT EVENING OF FOOD & FUN.



Duke's Steakhouse

(Continued from Page 1)

premier dining establishments, and has even been voted the Best Steak in Carson City.

The Mercedes®-Benz Club was divided between five tables in the main dining room, and guests enjoyed Duke's full bar, which included an exceptional wine list. All of the tables had either steak or seafood, and many

mesquite, giving it a smoky wood flavor. Duke's has been around since 2005, and many club members were excited to finally try one of the best steaks in Northern Nevada. 



people opted for soup and salad as a precursor. Popular hors d'oeuvres were the delicately wrapped mini beef Wellington, escargot, and frog's legs.

One thing that sets steakhouses apart from the litany is the quality of the meat that is being served. At Duke's, the meat is corn-fed, all natural, Angus Prime that is dry-aged for 28 days in the restaurant's own dry-aging room. It is then grilled over a combination of hickory, oak, and



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SEPTEMBER
18, 2021



HISTORIC TRUCKEE DRIVE & ITALIAN FOOD

PRE
PAY
EVENT



hosted by
David & Tessa Albin



Italian & Pizzeria

We will drive to the Donner Museum where we will peer into the area's history. Afterwards, we will take a scenic drive out old highway 40 to the historic Rainbow Bridge, & then head back to Truckee for an Italian dinner at Zano's restaurant.



LEAVING FROM STARBUCKS
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\$38 per person for dinner. RSVP to marcus@dodsonpublications.com or (775) 997-9901

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THE NEW AIRSTREAM INTERSTATE 24X HAS AN AGGRESSIVE STANCE & IS GEARED TOWARDS A RUGGED OUTDOOR CLIENTELE.



Rugged Touring Coach

Airstream's Most Versatile Camper Van Yet

by Ali Turner, Reporter for the Automotive Industry



More people than ever are flocking to campsites and other outdoor recreation vacation spots. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the somewhat forgotten art of interstate travel, and Airstream® has unveiled its latest build this summer. The 2022 Interstate 24X Touring Coach, which sits on a Mercedes®-Benz 3500 Sprinter chassis, was recently introduced and has been a big hit.

entire family on an adventure, the 24'-long touring coach is maxed out with premium features within a roomy cabin. The Interstate 24X seats up to six people and can sleep two peo-

(Continued on Page 6)



"RVing has been cemented as a mainstream travel option that is here to stay," said Craig Kirby, President and CEO of the RV Industry Association.

The Interstate 24X is a new addition to the luxury lineup of Class B touring coaches from the iconic recreational vehicle maker. Known for its sleek, tiny silver homes on wheels, Airstream designs its vehicles for the open road and beyond, including this fully loaded adventure van. The Interstate 24X has an aggressive stance, extreme comfort, abundant space, cutting-edge amenities, and best-in-class safety and performance.

Whether you're heading out for a solo trip, or taking the

A blue and red advertisement for Mike's Automotive. The logo features the name 'Mike's' in a white, stylized font with a red outline, and 'AUTOMOTIVE' in a white, sans-serif font below it. The background is a solid blue color. Below the logo, the text 'CAR & TRUCK REPAIR SPECIALIST' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Underneath that, 'Licensed Smog & Repair Station' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the phone number '775-972-8863' and the address '9205 Lemmon Drive • Reno, NV 89506' are listed in white, sans-serif font.

Rugged Coach

(Continued from Page 5)

ple. It is Airstream's most rugged option of touring coach yet, and includes six all-terrain tires, 4x4 capabilities, and rugged body protection. Plus, a powerful, advanced off-grid solar-power system allows owners to enjoy the touring coach no matter where they trek.

The interior of the Interstate 24X includes all of the creature comforts needed after a long day on the trail or wherever you've chosen to explore. Get cleaned up in the on-board restroom, prepare dinner in the kitchen space, and relax in the convertible living area. The kitchen features a solid-surface countertop, deep sink with Moen® pulldown faucet, two-burner propane cooktop, microwave, refrigerator/freezer, and large storage cabinets. Dark grey marine-grade Simtex-carbon seating is complemented by red accents



throughout the cabin. Bright oak and steel mesh laminates are used in the kitchen, walls, and rear living areas.

For those that have lots of adventure gear, the new Airstream offering has you covered. Bicycles, kayaks, fishing equipment, paddle boards, storage containers, and much more can be secured on the touring coach's aluminum aircraft L-tracks. Plus, smaller items can be hidden away out of sight underneath the bench seating, or overhead in the interior storage racks. Two outdoor showers allow you to clean off your gear, or yourself, and tactful charging stations have your electronics covered, too.

A powerful Mercedes-Benz 3.0-liter V8 turbo diesel engine packs 188 hp

and 325 lbs. of torque, making the Interstate 24X the ultimate adventure vehicle. Drivers can navigate blacktop and dirt roads alike with unwavering confidence. Standard Mercedes-Benz safety features, such as active lane keeping assist, active cruise control, rear-view and side-view cameras, airbags, and the MBUX Infotainment System, are included on the luxury touring coach. A front LED light bar allows drivers to see the trail ahead, and a protective body

coating covers the bumpers, sides, and wheels.

The rear of the new Airstream is equipped with air ride suspension, which adjusts automatically to bumpy roads and strong crosswinds, allowing you to concentrate on and enjoy the drive. When you pull into your destination, the coach even adapts to uneven ground and levels itself. Plus, the Interstate 24X can tow up to 5,000 lbs., mak-

(Continued on Page 7)

reservierungen bitte
marcus@dodsonpublications.com

A vintage-style poster for Oktoberfest. It features a woman in a red dress with a white collar, smiling and holding a tray of beer mugs high in the air. The text 'Hurra! Bier!' is written in a large, stylized font. Below it, the date 'Freitag 1 Oktober 2021' and location 'der Stadt Reno' are listed. At the bottom, the time '3:00' and venue 'Dodson's Garten' are mentioned. A circular logo for the 'Mercedes-Benz Club Sierra Nevada' is also present.

Hurra!
Bier!

Freitag 1
Oktober
2021
der Stadt
Reno

3:00
Dodson's
Garten

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB
SIERRA NEVADA

Oktoberfest



AIRSTREAM'S NEW INTERSTATE 24X HAS A POWERFUL MERCEDES-BENZ 3.0-LITER V8 TURBO DIESEL ENGINE.

Rugged Touring Coach

(Continued from Page 6)

ing it an even more versatile addition to your adventure arsenal.

Airstream's new Interstate 24X blends the luxury of Mercedes-Benz with

the rugged off-grid capabilities of touring coaches. Those that are interested in the Airstream Interstate 24X, with a price tag of \$213,850, should act fast.

The secret's out that endless adventure is just a drive away, and top-quality vehicles like these are flying off the shelves at record speeds. 



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The Fintail

American-Inspired Space Age Style for 1960s Mercedes Sedan

by Ali Turner, Reporter for the Automotive Industry

From 1959 to 1971, Mercedes-Benz produced the Fintail, or Heckflosse in German, which was a car with a modest tailfin-era styling that reflected the trend that was overtaking the United States. Short rear fins were called sights and were meant to facilitate reversing. The production series included the W110, a four-cylinder saloon car; and the W111 and W112, which were six-cylinder saloon cars. They were known to the public as the 190, 190 D, 220, 220 S, 220 SE, 300 SE, and 300 SE Long Wheel Base. After 1965, these models were replaced by the 200, 220 D, 230, and 230 S.

Prior to the Tailfin's debut, Mercedes-Benz wasn't exactly known for its avant-garde designs. In fact, the Ger-



man automaker was viewed as rather conservative, but the American Space Age trend was in full force during the 1960s, and Mercedes was quick to latch on. The wraparound windshield and

rear glass in the Fintail sedans were especially reminiscent of American automotive styling.

The W110 was the entry-level line of

(Continued on Page 10)



FINTAILS WERE THE FIRST IN A LONG LINE OF SAFETY-FOCUSED SEDANS THAT INCLUDED A PADDED STEERING WHEEL & DASHBOARD.

The Fintail

(Continued from Page 9)

midsize automobiles from Mercedes-Benz in the mid-1960s, and it was introduced as a replacement to the W120 and W121. Production lasted a little bit more than three years, and this Fintail saloon car was the first series of Mer-

cedes vehicles to be extensively crash tested for passenger safety.

The Mercedes-Benz W111 series of cars included four-door saloons and two-door coupes and cabriolets. For this production vehicle, tailfins also

gave the car a distinctive look. Like many of its brethren, the four-door W111 made its debut at the Frankfurt Auto Show in 1959, and it was presented as a replacement of the 218, 220

(Continued on Page 11)

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The Fintail

(Continued from Page 10)

S, and 220 SE Ponton saloon cars. The Mercedes-Benz W111 Fintail model was also the first production vehicle to feature rear crumple zones, meaning it had front and rear crash absorption in conjunction with a rigid passenger compartment.

From 1961 to 1967, Mercedes-Benz produced the luxury W112, which was marketed as the 300SE. It was available as a coupe, convertible, sedan, and stretched sedan, and looked pretty much the same as the W111. It had a 3.0-liter fuel-injected six-cylinder engine, which at the time was Mercedes' largest. The W112 had luxury features, including power steering, automatic transmission, and pneumatic self-leveling suspension.

The Fintails play an important role in the history of Mercedes-Benz. They were the first in a long line of safety-focused sedans, and they blazed the trail for occupant safety across the automobile industry. The steering wheel and dashboard top were padded, the windshield was designed to pop out if struck, the rearview mirror was breakaway, and all switches were made from flexible materials. The dashboard had a vertical speedometer, which contemporary safety experts say heightened a driver's feeling of danger as the needle rose towards the top.

Despite selling more than 300,000 units during its life cycle, by the mid-1960s, the Fintail craze had passed. The W111 and W112 were replaced by the W108 and W109, which employed a more squared off and widened design. Also, the iconic S-Class series chassis was being designed during this time, too. While the Fintail, or Heckflosse, was only produced during a small slice of the luxury automaker's timeline, its legacy lives on, with many original owners still driving their Space Age sedans on the road today. 

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**October 26
6:00 Dinner**



TACO TUESDAY

Join the Sierra Nevada Section
for a Mexican Night Out
at Señor Tequilas
1490 E 4th Street in Reno
Hosted by Robyn & Patrick Doyle



**Oct. 26
6:00 PM**

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ITEMS of INTEREST

The National Automobile Museum

Sierra Nevada MBCA is a Proud Sponsor of This Great Museum Here in Reno



Here in Reno, we're lucky to be home to one of the top-rated auto museums in the world, The National Automobile Museum. Your Sierra Nevada MBCA Section is a proud sponsor!

What does that mean to you? Well, since your club is the sponsor of a 1955 Mercedes-Benz 300SL Gullwing on prominent display at the museum, all of our members get special benefits:

- Members get free admission into the facility, plus a 50% discount for any guests, during normal business hours.

- Members can request free guided tours of the museum, subject to the availability of the tour guides.

- Members receive a 10% discount at the National Auto Museum gift shop.

The museum has our member list on file, so just tell the cashier your name and that you're a member of the Sierra Nevada Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

The National Automobile Museum is located at 10 South Lake Street in Reno, (775) 333-9300.

EVENTS

September 2, 2021: Sierra Nevada MBCA First Thursday Dinner & Drive, hosted by Gail & Vencil Wells, The Iron Door Restaurant, Graeagle, California. To RSVP, contact Gail Wells at blackswan342@gmail.com or (307) 763-1701

September 18, 2021: Sierra Nevada MBCA Dinner & Drive to Zano's Family Italian & Pizzeria, Truckee, California, hosted by Tessa & David Albin. To RSVP, contact Marcus Dodson at marcus@dodsonpublications.com or (775) 997-9901

September 18, 2021: Hot August Nights Classics & Cocktails, location to be determined. www.hotaugustnights.net, (775) 356-1956

October 1, 2021: Sierra Nevada MBCA Oktoberfest, Christy & Marcus Dodson's home, 1840 Wendy Way, Reno, Nevada. To RSVP, contact Marcus Dodson at marcus@dodsonpublications.com or (775) 997-9901

October 2, 2021: Hot August Nights Fall Frenzy 2021, Baldini's Casino, Sparks, Nevada. www.hotaugustnights.net, (775) 356-1956

October 26, 2021: Sierra Nevada MBCA Tuesday Dinner, Señor Tequilas Mexican Kitchen & Cantina, Reno, Nevada, hosted by Robyn & Patrick Doyle. To RSVP, contact Robyn Doyle at robyn3402@icloud.com or (775) 813-0927

November 2, 2021: Sierra Nevada MBCA First Tuesday Dinner, location to be determined

December 2021: Sierra Nevada MBCA Christmas Party, hosted by Ray Rich, location & date to be determined. To RSVP, contact Ray Rich at rayrich@sbc-global.net or (775) 560-9592

January 4, 2022: Sierra Nevada MBCA First Tuesday Dinner, location to be determined

July 29-30, 2022: Hot August Nights, Virginia City, Nevada. www.hotaugustnights.net, (775) 356-1956

Advertisement of the Month



Selling a used car is tough, which is why used car salesmen have gained the unfortunate reputation for using all kinds of dirty tricks to get the job done. This guy had probably the most boring, average, and thus most difficult car to sell on Craigslist. But instead of resorting to sly ruses, he used the unremarkable qualities of the 1999 Toyota Corolla to his advantage and created a hilariously funny Craigslist ad. "You want a car that no one will ever compliment you on? Well Look no further! Bluetooth: nope. Sunroof: nope. Fancy wheels: nope. Rear view camera: nope..."

IN CLOSING

Funny Mercedes

Some Mercedes Memes Circulating on the Internet

by Marcus Dodson, Newsletter Editor

(Editor's Note: The following story may have absolutely nothing to do with Mercedes or automobiles, but we feel it's interesting nonetheless. If you have a humorous or interesting story you would like to submit for this column, call us at (775) 997-9901.)



emes, pronounced "meems," are all the rage among internet culture right now. They usually consist of text on top of an image, and they often make fun of something. We found these hilarious Mercedes memes online, and we hope you enjoy them

as much as we did.

