



MBCA | SMOKY MOUNTAIN SECTION

233 Briarcliff Avenue
Oak Ridge, TN 37830



May 2019 Newsletter

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About the Newsletter

The Smoky Mountain Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. publishes this quarterly newsletter. Opinions expressed are those of the authors. Express permission is hereby given to other Sections of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America to reprint articles contained herein, except as noted. Articles should be mailed to the Editor, 233 Briarcliff Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. Copy deadline is the 15th of odd-numbered months.

An Overview of the Club

Established in 1956, MBCA has more than 20,000 members in over 80 Sections across the nation. These local Sections organize hundreds of events each year, ranging from social gatherings to specialized technical sessions. MBCA is a non-profit organization.

Join the Club	Call 800/637-2360
One year	\$55
Two years	\$107
Three years	\$157

Moving? Send address change to
www.mbca.org

Local Activities

Your dues include membership in the Section of your choice. Each Section publishes a newsletter with news of its activities and their year-round calendar of events, including rallies defensive driving courses, car shows, and dinner meetings. Many Sections host special events such as StarTech, our national technical meeting and StarFest, our National Convention. Any MBCA member may attend any Section, Regional or National event.

Web site

www.mbca.org/smokymountain

The STAR

A subscription The STAR, MBCA's award-winning national magazine is included with your membership. Each issue includes technical information, a historic feature car in color, and the latest news from Daimler-Benz and MBUSA, articles on restoration, new car road tests, and advertisements from companies providing products and services for your car, plus free classified ads to members.

May 2019 Event – Smoky Mountain Drive & Dine

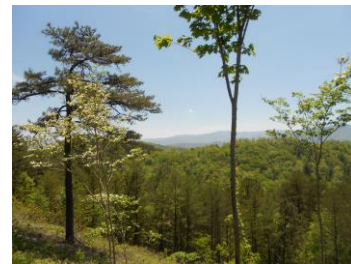
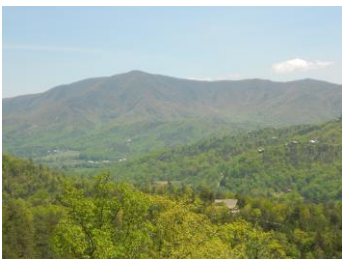


For those who have not yet experienced the Foothills Parkway completion, we are planning a drive on Saturday, May 18 from Townsend to Pigeon Forge via the Parkway. Upon arrival in Pigeon Forge, we plan to meet at one of the area's newest restaurants - Local Goat (www.localgoatpf.com)

Details are as follows:

Meet at 10:30 am May 18 at the Apple Valley Mountain Village in Townsend (Next to the Cades Cove Winery). We plan to depart at 11 am for the Foothills Parkway entrance a few miles north of the winery on Route 321.

Take your time to stop and enjoy the spectacular views along the way.



The Parkway joins Wears Valley Road at its north end, and proceeds to Pigeon Forge. When you reach US 441 – The Parkway, go left and get in the right lane. The Local Goat is at 2167 The Parkway on the right.

We plan to meet for afternoon luncheon at the Local Goat - arrive 1:30 to 2 pm.

The restaurant would like a count of diners in advance, so please contact George Murphy at murfsmb@gmail.com or 865-482-9175 by May 17 if you are planning to join us for lunch.

If you prefer to make a weekend at the area, make your own hotel reservations. I recommend a visit to the Titanic attraction – very much worth the time. (www.titanicpigeonforge.com).



For Sale

2017 GLC43 AMG - Diamond White with Premium Beige Leather Interior. 29,800 mostly Highway miles. Just serviced and new tires installed at 29,500 miles. Loaded with Active Park Assist, Parktronic, Distronic, Blind Spot Assist, Active Lane Assist and Steering Pilot, Panoramic Sunroof, Wood Trim Interior, Heated/Cooled Seats. Garage kept. Dealer maintained. Just under 2 years factory warranty remaining. Asking \$51,500. Vehicle is in Chattanooga.

Contact:

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Tech Article

MERCEDES-BENZ LATE IGNITION LOCKS

These ignition switch keys do not have a metal blade for the ignition like the early switches above. They are electronic and depend upon a code in the "key" to allow starting the car. Replacement of these type keys can be very expensive if you order a replacement from your MB dealer.

First of all – is the battery in the key depleted? Try inserting a new battery according to your owner's manual. If a new battery does not work, there is another solution.

Contact www.dealerkeys.com for a locksmith in your area who can re-program your electronic key to work properly again.

Here in our local Knoxville area, try contacting Jeremy Arnwine at Jeremy@dealerkeys.com or 865-405-5359. He can come to your location and using his computer-laden minivan, he can re-program your car (and key) to work again.

Jeremy has the ability to reflash the ECU and program it back to its factory settings, like new. He provides simple instructions on removal of your unit and proper handling. You can then send the unit to him and he will return it with new keys ready to start the car. You need only worry about removal and replacement of the ECU and if a remote is required he will send you simple instructions to program it yourself. With free phone and email tech support you can feel confident in getting yourself back on the road with little headache.

Better Safe Than Sorry

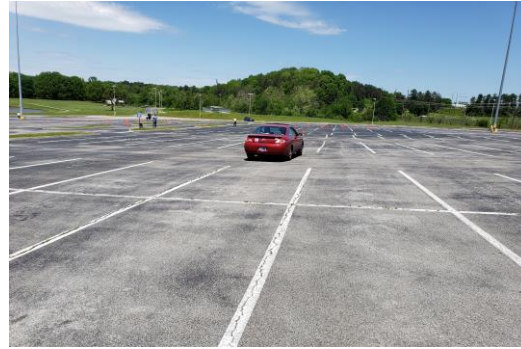
There's no denying that modern keys are expensive. And so the best defense against losing them is a good offense. It is better to get a spare key now, on your terms, than to stress out and spend the money in what might be an emergency. You can take advantage of the cost-cutting methods here and avoid the labor charges by programming the key yourself. Finally, if you are someone who is tempting fate by only having one set of keys, consider this: If you lose all the keys to your car, you will need to get it towed to a dealership and it can potentially cost you close to \$1,000 to replace the locks on your car.

Street Survival 2019
www.streetsurvival.org

The local Street Survival Defensive Driving course was held this past Saturday at Pellissippi State Community College in Hardin Valley. We instructors were there at 6:30am setting up the individual exercises using traffic cones. The “Emergency braking exercise” was followed by “Turning under braking” and then a “Slalom course with decreasing radius braking”. These exercises were interspersed with some very important classroom discussions. Each class of 15 to 20 year olds (22 attending) received instruction about the care it takes to drive safely, especially with all the crazies on the roads nowadays. The morning session is followed by lunch and then more difficult afternoon exercises combining multiple skills in different orders. One of the favorites is the wet/dry skid pad. The emphasis is always on avoiding accidents by staying vigilant and forecasting driving safely.



Skid pad action



Braking exercise

In many cases this course will allow a student’s auto insurance costs to be reduced by 10 -15%. George Murphy and I participated as Driving Instructors at the event sponsored by Tিরerack Inc. and the BMW CCA. Several car clubs have become sponsors with Tিরerack including Porsche, Audi, and SCCA. Mercedes-Benz USA has officially started their own Defensive Driving course in Los Angeles, but it has many differences, primarily high cost and little defensive driving. However, we here in the Smoky Mountain section have been supporting this Street Survival program for about 15 years . . . that’s about how long I have been a driving instructor for this program. George has missed a few over the years due to MBCA Board commitments but he has done about 10 courses here, too.

Our only wish (George and I) is that more MBCA Smoky Mountain Section members would encourage any young drivers in their family or among their friends to sign up and take this course next year.

Submitted by Dr Bill Lenihan

St Patrick’s Day (Late) Brunch




Sixteen Section members made it to Finn’s Restaurant & Tavern for Saturday brunch on March 23. All enjoyed traditional Irish fare in an elegant setting in historic Baker Peters House. We saw some folks we hadn’t seen in a while. Andreas and Loreena Tillack came and brought our newest member, 10 month old Clara. She is a beautiful engaging young lady who charmed everyone with her smile. It was easy to see that the parents are smiling a lot at her. What a great debut for Clara. Suzanne Bowman and Mike Parker did their best to charm her. We had many topics of conversation from wine to wine cellars and our next event, an after-Mother’s Day drive from the Townsend area via the new section of the Foothills Parkway to early dinner in Pigeon Forge. Brunch was very well done by Finn’s with a menu gleaned from life in Ireland (except for the Bloody Mary’s and Mimosas - Excellent!)

Submitted by Membership Chair
Bill Lenihan

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Sampling Kit w/prepaid analysis \$14.95	3 Sampling Kits \$39.95	Topsider Oil Changer \$49.95
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(Change oil through dipstick tube – no crawling under car)

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Advertising Rates – Newsletter – 6 issues

Full page – 8½ x 11	\$150
Quarter page – 4¼ x 5½	\$50
Half page – 8½ x 5½	\$100
Business card	\$25

Our Smoky Mountain Section newsletter reaches about 120 Mercedes-Benz owners in East Tennessee from Chattanooga to the Tri-Cities. Send ad copy and check to: George Murphy (perfanalysis@comcast.net) or 233 Briarcliff Avenue, Oak Ridge, TN 37830

FUTURE EVANTS

July 20, 2019 - Tour Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary

September 15, 2019 (Tentative) – picnic at Sgt. Alvin C. York State Historic Park

November – TBD (Ideas invited)

December – Holiday Dinner at TBD