



The Constellation

January, 2020

Newsletter of the Mile-High Section • Mercedes-Benz Club of America

OVER 500 COPIES DISTRIBUTED MONTHLY IN COLORADO, WYOMING, AND UTAH

IN THIS ISSUE.....

MERCEDES-BENZ E-CLASS AMG



Subject	Page(s)
Letter from the President, Stan Rios	2
Board Officers	3
Board Members	4
Find Us on Facebook	5
2020 Event Calendar	6
2020 Pikes Peak Event Calendar	7
Stan Rios' Purchase Of A Mercedes-Benz E-Class AMG	8-10
280SL Mercedes-Benz	11-12
Event Summary:	
Brown Palace Tour	13
Mercedes-Benz Club Pot Luck	14

BROWN PALACE GUIDED TOUR



When February 8, 2020

Location: Brown Palace @
1:30PM

**Welcome New
Members**

Letter From The President

Stan Rios
President, Mile-High Section



December – ‘All About The Benz

Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and could spend the holiday with family and friends. I would like to say “Thank You” to everyone who helped with an event and/or social this last year. Our Annual Holiday Party was a fantastic one. We had hit the maximum capacity that the room could hold and a wonderful meal at such a great venue. Also, we had members bring in toys for “The Marine Toys for Tots Program”. Special Thanks to Luke Driscoll and Jerry Seubert from Mercedes-Benz of Littleton for the many door prizes awarded. I handed awards out to Whitlow Wong for the Member of the Year and Max Townsend named the Rocky Mountain Region Officer of the Year. Max Townsend awarded me the Otto Saborsky award.

Our section looks forward to an exciting 2020, including some overnights/weekend trips, vintage tours, a car show, scenic drives and so much more. Stay tuned and please read our newsletter.

I’m looking forward to seeing everyone!

Drive Safe

Stan

**Mile-High Section, Inc. of the
Mercedes-Benz Club of America**

Executive Board Officers

President

Stan Rios 720-404-6362 rican6987@gmail.com

Vice President

Bob Mashburn 303-988-2710 bob_mashburn78@yahoo.com

Secretary

Mike Redel 303-637-0219 mikeredel@outlook.com

Treasurer

Max Townsend 303-770-1128 [dianmax@aol.com](mailto:diamondmax@aol.com)

2020 Mile-High Section Board Members

Greg Birkett	303-919-1980	gdb2@comcast.net
Michael Davison	720-233-7411	mhd539@msn.com
Karen Maestas	720-862-6675	km80031@gmail.com
Mike Redel	303.637.0219	mikeredel@comcast.net
Henry Zabarsky	303-355-6363	zabarsky@msn.com
Lou Rogers	303-550-6543	lou.rogers@comcast.net
Eleanor Wong	303-693-9931	eleanorwong@comcast.net
Whitlow Wong	303-693-9931	whitlowwong@comcast.net

Constellation Editor – Mile-High Section

Karen Redel 303-637-0219 karenredel@outlook.com

Membership Sponsor

Karen Maestas

MBCA

1-800-637-2360 www.mbca.org

**For a list of all MBCA Board Members,
please refer to the STAR Magazine.**

The Constellation

Newsletter of the Mile-High Section, Inc.,
Mercedes-Benz Club America, Inc.

Mile-High Section, Inc. MBCA, Publisher

KAREN REDEL, Editor

P.O. Box 16913, Golden, CO 80402

Phone: 303-637-0219 or Email:

Constellation.mhs@comcast.net

Readers please support the advertisers appearing in this publication. However, no inference should be made that advertising in *The Constellation* implies approval of products or services by the publisher, the Mile-High Section, its officers or members, or by the Mercedes-Benz Club of America. We encourage editors of other Mercedes-Benz Club newsletters to reprint articles that may be of interest to their Section's members. We appreciate credit being given to *The Constellation*. Those articles reprinted in *The Constellation* with permission from owners of copyrights on those articles may not be used without written permission from the original owners. Members are welcome to submit articles. **Deadline for submission is the 10th of the month prior to the month the issue comes out.** Articles should be relevant to the interests and activities of MBCA and its members. The Publisher reserves the right to edit or reject any article.

Classified Advertising in *The Constellation*

Members of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. may advertise in *The Constellation* to buy, sell, or trade Mercedes-Benz automobiles and related items at no charge, provided no commercial venture is involved. Ads may include a photo. Copy for the classified advertising must be received in writing by the 10th of the month prior to the month of issue. Ads will be published one time. **To re-run, the ad must be resubmitted. Current membership number must be included for free ads.**

LET US KNOW IF YOUR ITEM SELLS—MAKE ROOM FOR ADS FOR OTHER MEMBERS.

Non-member and commercial venture advertising will be published at the rate of \$10.00 for 3 lines per issue, plus \$10.00 for a picture. Advertising in this category may run one, two or three times as requested and paid for in advance by the advertiser. Copy for the ads must be received by the 10th of the month prior to the month of issue and must be paid in advance, payable to Mile High-MBCA.

Mail ads to: MILE-HIGH SECTION MBCA, 12245 HELENA ST., BRIGHTON, CO 80603 or Email to: constellation.mhs@comcast.net
The publisher reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.

Commented [MR1]:

2020 MERCEDES-BENZ BOARD MEMBERS



Stan Rios, President



Bob Mashburn, Vice President



Mike Redel, Secretary



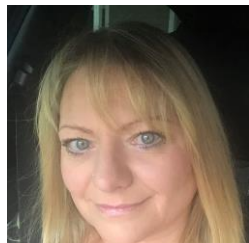
Max Townsend, Treasurer



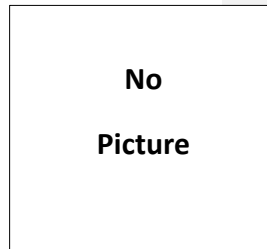
Craig Birkett, Board Member



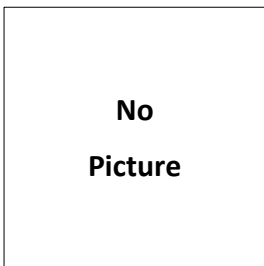
Michael Davison, Board Member



Karen Maestas, Board Member



Henry Zabarsky, Board Member



Lou Rogers, Board Member



Eleanor Wong, Board Member



Whitlow Wong, Board Member

NEW FACEBOOK PAGE - MBCA MILE-HIGH SECTION



Please check out our new Facebook page at [MBCA Mile-High Section](#)

MILE HIGH SECTION 2020 EVENT CALENDAR

Most Events Occur the Second Saturday of the Month

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	CONTACT INFORMATION
JAN			
Jan 12 th (SUN)	Boulder Dinner Theater –Play: – Mama Mia – Matinee	Karen Redel	Cancelled due to lack of interest by membership
FEB			
Feb 8 th	Brown Palace Tour	Karen Redel	303-637-0219, karenredel@outlook.com
Feb 25 th	52/80 Restaurant Week - TBD	Stan Rios	720-404-6362, rican6987@gmail.com
MAR			
March 14	Mercedes-Benz Club Pot Luck	Karen Rios	720-862-6675, km80031@gmail.com
APR			
Apr 2	Board Meeting - 240 Union Restaurant - Reservation Under Mercedes Benz Club	Michael Davison	720-233-7411, mhd539@msn.com
Apr 11	Scenic Drive - Loveland To Estes Park	Whitlow Wong	303-693-9931, whitlowwong@comcast.net
MAY			
May 9 th	Man Cave Car Tour (Westminster)	Stan Rios	720-404-6362, rican6987@gmail.com , Host: Michael Burgan
May 30 th	Vintage Car Tour @ Salida	Karen Rios	720-862-6675, km80031@gmail.com
JUN			
Jun 7 th (SUN)	Tech Session - Littleton MB	Stan Rios	Host: :Luke Drisc- Littleton Mercedes-Benz
Jun 13 th	New Members Event – Scenic Trip to Mt Evans	Mike/Karen Redel	303-637-0219, karenredel@outlook.com
JUL			
Jul 2 nd	Board Meeting-Connie's House	Michael Davison	720-233-7411, mhd539@msn.com
Jul 10 th -13 th	Regional Event-Palisade Winery/Restoration Event	Stan/Karen Rios	720-404-6362, rican6987@gmail.com
Jul 25 th	Joint Picnic-Royal Gorge Drive	Whitlow Wong	303-693-9931, whitlowwong@comcast.net
AUG			
Aug 8 th - 9 th	Grand Lake Drive//Theater	Whitlow Wong	303-693-9931, whitlowwong@comcast.net
Aug 14 th -16 th	Gunnison Car Show Reservations@ Holiday Inn Express \$164/Night - 25 Rooms Reserved	Stan/Karen Rios	720-404-6362, rican6987@gmail.com
SEP			
Sep 10 th - 14 th	South Dakota – Mt. Rushmore	Karen Rios	720-862-6675, km80031@gmail.com
OCT			
Oct 10 th	Annual Dinner Meeting/ Elections – Location: TBD	Michael Davison	720-233-7411, mhd539@msn.com
Oct 24 th	Botanic Gardens - Glow In The Dark – Family Fun	Karen Redel	303-637-0219, karenredel@outlook.com
NOV			
Nov 14 th	Mercedes-Benz Planning Meeting – Location: TBD	Michael Davison	720-233-7411, mhd539@msn.com
DEC			
Dec 5 th or 6 th	Annual Holiday Party-TBD	Michael Davison	720-233-7411, mhd539@msn.com
Dec 19 th	Zoo Lights -Family Fun	Karen Rios	720-862-6675, km80031@gmail.com

Check monthly events, subject to change.

2020 PIKES PEAK SECTION EVENT CALENDAR

JAN			
January 25th	Pot Luck at the Meander Dealership	Glenn Hamill	719-575-7931
February 14th	Valentine's Day Dinner	Call Judy	719-576-9737 bennett912@comcast.net
March 14 th	Rosemont Castle Tour	Wendy Adams	wenpen@me.com /719-268-6806.
April 19th	Car Coaching Session	Glenn Hamill	719-575-7931
May 16th	VMCCA Car Show Caravan		
June 13-14th	Sand Dunes Movie Weekend		
July TBD	Joint Section Picnic (Mile High Section) 18 Scenic Drive		
August 15th	President's Rally		
Sept. 18-20 th	Winefest Weekend		
October 13th	Section Elections		
Nov. 14th	Fall Rally		
Dec. 6 th	Holiday Party		
Dec. 12th	Christmas Lights Tour		

STAN RIOS' PURCHASE OF A MERCEDES-BENZ

E-CLASS AMG

Year: 2007

Make: Mercedes-Benz Model: E-Class 4dr Sdn 6.3L AMG RWD

Engine: 8 Cylinder Engine

Transmission: 7-Speed A/T

Exterior: Arctic White

Interior: Black

MECHANICAL

- 6.3L DOHC SFI AMG-built 32-valve V8 engine
- 7-speed automatic AMG-enhanced driver-adaptive transmission-inc: Touch Shift: optimum gear programming, comfort mode: AMG SpeedShift. direct-access manual mode: steering-wheel shift paddles, electronically controlled shifting
- Electronic stability program
- Rear wheel drive
- Independent 4-link front/5-arm multilink rear suspension
- Airmatic AMG-calibrated semi-active suspension w/adaptive damping system
- Enlarged stabilizer bars
- 245/40ZR18 front/265/35ZR18 rear high-performance
- AMG 18" x 8.5" front/18" x 9.0" rear 5-spoke aluminum wheels
- Vehicle-speed-sensitive pwr rack & pinion steering
- 6-piston front/4-piston rear perforated/ventilated AMG pwr disc brakes
- 4-wheel anti-lock disc brakes system w/brake assist system
- Polished chrome exhaust tips

EXTERIOR

- PWR tilt/sliding tinted glass sunroof w/1-touch express open/close, memory
- Black grille w/ chrome ribs: chrome surround
- AMG-designed front air dams w/mesh air intakes: rear apron
- Variable-focus halogen headlamps-inc: projector low beams: selectable light- sensing headlamps, automatic lamp substitution
- Front halogen foglamps
- Single red rear foglamp
- Programmable daytime running lamps
- Dual auto heated pwr mirrors-inc: memory, integrated turn signals. auto-dimming driver mirror
- Blue-tinted glass
- Rain-sensing windshield wipers w/heated windshield washer reservoir

INTERIOR

- 10-way pwr AMG-designed heated front sport seats w/3-position memory. adjustable lumbar support pwr-adjustable active head restraints
- 60/40 split folding 2nd-row seatbacks w/flip forward seat cushions
- AMG-designed Nappa leather upholstery w/Alcantara shoulder inserts
- Hand-polished Black Birdseye Maple wood trim
- Center console-inc: wood-trimmed rolltop cover: enclosed storage, removable dual front cupholders
- 12V pwr outlet
- Stainless-steel pedals w/rubber studs
- AMG-designed leather-trimmed sport steering wheel-inc: raised thumbgrips, shift-paddle controls: audio/multifunction display controls
- 4-way pwr tilt/telescoping steering column w/memory, programmable easy-exit feature COMAND cockpit management/data system-inc: large color-LCD screen: soft key. controls for AM/FM/weatherband radio: CD changer. Sirius satellite
- Multifunction display in instrument cluster-inc: trip computer: exterior temp gauge, digital speedometer, audio status: reminder/malfunction indicator: driver-programmable settings, resettable trip meter: AMG RACETIMER
- AMG-designed black gauges w/white markings
- Instrumentation-inc: fuel/coolant temp electronic bar-graph, tachometer, digital touch shift/mode selection display, quartz clock
- Audible reminders & message-inc: open door: exterior lamp failure: headlamps on, parking brake on. low fuel/oil/coolant/washer fluid: remove ignition key
- Mercedes-Benz Maintenance System Plus display
- PWR windows w/1-touch express down/up
- PWR door locks w/drive away locking
- Cruise control
- Tele Aid GPS stolen vehicle recovery system w/remote door unlock: automatic collision notification alert
- SmartKey infrared-remote-inc: trunk unlock: opening/closing windows/sunroof: panic alarm: fuel filler door, lock/unlock all doors or drivers
- HomeLink compatible universal garage door opener
- Touch turn signals times w/1-touch
- Automatic quad-zone climate control-inc: electrostatic dust/pollen filter. humidity/dewpoint sensors: tunnel mode w/ touch closing of all windows/ sunroof Electrically heated rear window w/auto shut off based on time/exterior temp AM/FM/weatherband stereo w/integrated single-feed 6-disc CD changer, fiber- optic communication among components
- Harman/kardon Logic7 digital surround sound system-inc: speakers. 7.1 channel amplifier, multichannel digital surround sound technology. digital dynamic volume control
- Sirius satellite radio
- Audio auxiliary input jack in glovebox
- Auto-dimming rearview mirror
- Alcantara sun visors/headliner/pillars

- Illuminated entry system w/locator lighting

Night security illumination

- AMG-designed leather-trimmed shift knob w/matte chrome inlay
- Folding rear armrest w/enclosed storage, dual cup holders
- Cargo area 12V pwr outlet

SAFETY

- 4-wheel anti-lock disc brakes system w/brake assist system
- Driver/front passenger dual stage air bags w/front passenger adaptive feature
- Front passenger Occupant Classification System
- Window curtain airbags
- Side impact airbags
- 3-point driver/front passenger shoulder belts-inc: height adjustment, emergency tensioning device: adaptive belt force limiter
- Rear 3-point seat belts w/outboard emergency tensioning device: adaptive belt force limiter: outboard automatic height adjustment
- Outboard rear universal lower anchors & tethers for children
- Electronic stability program
- Programmable daytime running lamps
- PRE-SAFE-inc: electrically tensioning front seat belts: front passenger seat adjustment for favorable airbag/seat belt effectiveness: closing of sunroof

NEW

Premium PKG 2

- Hands-free communication system
- Active ventilated front seats
- DVD navigation
- PWR rear window sunshade
- Bi-Xenon headlamps w/active curve illumination system
- Keyless go

Parktronic Parking Assistant

Rear Side Window Blinds

PWR Trunk Closer

280SL MERCEDES-BENZ



Hello, my name is Henry Platts, I'm a semi-native as we moved here in 1996 and I grew up in Boulder! I got my start in the car business after writing a barn find article in Hot Rod Magazine, then I was a contributor for that publishing company before landing a job at Ford Motor Company as the SVT and Performance Communications Manager. While at Ford I launched the PR campaign for the 2011-2013 Shelby GT500, 2011-2012 SVT Raptor, and the early Focus/Fiesta ST communications! After a winding road I've landed back in Denver, so happy to be back!

Last Fall I was pheasant hunting in Kansas, after the days hunt we were sitting around playing cards at a cabin. The phone rings of my retired doctor pal. On the other end of the line was a nice lady and neighbor, Doris Sutton. She was calling Doc to see if he knew anyone who'd want to buy her 280SL. As I overheard the conversation my anxiety rose! I had no idea there was still a 280 in this little town. My grandmother had one new in around 1970 and an oil man had one as well. I'd thought I'd caught the glimpse of a gold one once but was not sure as it was dark! Turns out sure enough, Doris and her husband had purchased a 280SL in Kansas City in 1980 from the original owner. It was their anniversary weekend and she encouraged her husband to buy the car.

I had just launched my accredited car and firearm appraisal business while working on a contract job at the local historical society. I figured perfect, I can perhaps lend my services and help her sell the car. I spoke to Doris that afternoon and arranged a time to see the car. Upon arriving and evaluating the car I took it for a short spin, lots of little issues. Her husband had died a few years earlier so the car had been sitting but was driven once month by her helper. Fantastic, I even found all the service records and Benz documents dating from 1969 to 2018 in the trunk.

After my evaluation and pouring over the car taking images, I informed Doris that she should sell the car at auction. I was more than happy to get her car serviced and have the various drive-

ability issues fixed and have the car detailed to prep it for an auction. Doris was firm, she said my son doesn't want this car he's busy with his kids and I just want YOU to buy it.

To be honest I had fallen in love with her car immediately, all the real heavy lifting had been done by her husband's mechanic over the years and the car just needed some more love and a new set of tires! I took the car to my friend Gary Neal and together we performed a pre-purchase inspection. Gary surprised me, he produced all his notes and books from his first trip to the Mercedes Benz Mechanics School that was held in Chicago in 1969! Gary worked in a small Benz dealership in Hutchinson, Kansas until the town could no longer support a dealership. His friend and fellow Benz mechanic had serviced my car since 1980. Gary even remembered working on this car and was laughing when I pulled up. He'd thought the car had left town for one of the coasts long ago! Gary taught me a lot about this car as we poured over it for a couple hours.

I returned the car to Doris and it was leaking lots of fluids and really needed some attention. I went on a ski-trip and got busy for a few weeks. When I finally was able to contact Doris again she asked me to come over. She had lowered her initial price to something much more manageable and I purchased the car.

None-too soon, around New Years, I was off skiing again... My house sitter called in a panic, informing the kitchen smelled of gasoline. I asked her to shut the power to the house off at the breaker, and to look under the Benz. I was correct the fuel pump gave out and was leaking terrible! My friend came over and pushed the car out of the garage and I hurried back to Kansas the next day.

Gary changed the fuel pump after a very long wait and then serviced all the cars various little needs. All this was performed in time for midsummer enjoyment of the car before I moved to 14 Denver. Since arriving in Denver I've taken the car to the Jaguar Concours in Colorado Springs and to Vail to see the terminus of the Colorado Grand. I was a longtime listener and first time caller on vintage Mercedes and now I understand the infatuation!

Thanks for reading my story, I look forward to meeting you all and participating in Club Events!

Henry Platts

BROWN PALACE GUIDED TOUR



Event: BROWN PALACE TOUR (LUNCHEON BEFORE THE TOUR)

When February 8, 2020

Luncheon: **11:30AM** at La Loma Mexican Restaurant, **Prior to the Tour**
801 Broadway, Denver, CO 80202
Directly Across the Street from the Brown Palace
Valet Parking Available @ La Loma Mexican Restaurant
801 Broadway, Denver, CO 80202

Location: **Brown Palace @ 1:30PM** - 321 17th Street, Denver 80202
Directly Across the Street from La Loma Mexican Restaurant

Price: \$20.00/Person – Private Tour (No Refunds)

Name(s): _____ **Number Attending** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

**Make Check Payable to Mile-High Section MBCA, Send Check & This Form
To Karen Redel at 12245 Helena Street, Brighton, CO 80603
Call: 303-637-0219; Or Email: karenredel@outlook.com**

Total Dollar(s) Paid: _____

**RSVP & PAYMENT DUE: JANUARY 27, 2020, INCLUDING THE \$20.00 PER
PERSON TOUR FEE**

Mercedes-Benz Club Pot Luck

DATE: March 14, 2020

**NOTE: Additional information to follow in next month's
issue.**