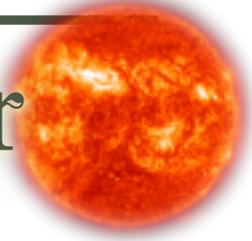


# the Orange County Star



Brought to you by



With that being said, you've likely been locked up inside all winter trying to escape the rain, and cold temps, so the second the weather gets nice you should head outside. Go for a bike ride, pull the Mercedes out and take a drive and explore a new road, take a hike, or have a beach day.

It might seem like you have plenty of time to do those things over the next few months, but summer and its scorching temperatures tend to sneak up fast. Head outdoors before it's too hot to bear.

Sincerely, Daniel Schwartz



### The Leprechaun

The original Irish name for these figures of folklore is "lobaircin," meaning "small-bodied. Belief in leprechauns probably stems from Celtic belief in fairies, tiny men and women who could use their magical powers to serve good or evil.

In Celtic folktales, leprechauns were cranky souls, responsible for mending the shoes of the other fairies.

Though only minor figures in Celtic folklore, leprechauns were known for their trickery, which they often used to protect their much-fabled treasure.



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Spring is upon us! We know you won't believe us with the current weather we've been having lately, but Spring is quickly approaching, lets keep our fingers crossed not to get anymore rain!

Spring is all about getting a fresh start. Trees get leaves again, flowers start to bloom, and the weather finally begins to pick back up. Speaking of fresh starts, boy, did we start the year off to a great start with our How to Show A Car At Concours.

I'd like to take brief moment to give a quick note of appreciation, for all of the work that Anne-Marie and Jeff had done in order to make the presentation a success. I want to thank Maurice also, for all his great assistance (behind the scenes), if you will. A well deserved congratulations to Anne-Marie, Jeff and Maurice for a job well done. Thanks for all that you're doing to help make the Orange County Section of the MBCA a great success story.



### Places to Spend St. Patrick's Day

1. There are seven places in the United States named after the shamrock, the floral emblem of Ireland including Mount Gay-Shamrock, WV; Shamrock, TX; Shamrock Lakes, IN; and Shamrock, OK.
2. Sixteen U.S. places share the name of Ireland's capital, Dublin. With 44,541 residents, Dublin, CA, is the largest of the nice, followed by Dublin, OH, with 39,310.
3. Other towns with the luck of the Irish include Emerald Isle, North Carolina and Irishtown, Illinois.

*St. Patrick's Day Origins*



St. Patrick's Day observes the death of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. The holiday has evolved into a celebration of Irish culture with parades, special foods, music, dancing, drinking and a whole lot of green.

The modern St. Patrick's Day celebrations taking place this month, at least in the United States, will likely be characterized by commercial lucky charms and green beer—all of which has very little to do with the historical figure of the saint. As it turns out, it took centuries for the holiday to accrue the elements that now seem crucial to its celebrations.

The March 17 celebration started in 1631 when the Church established a Feast Day honoring St. Patrick. He had been Patron Saint of Ireland who had died around the fifth century—a whopping 12 centuries before the modern version of the holiday was first observed.

But very little is known about who he actually was. We know that he was a Roman citizen, because Britain was Roman then, and then he was enslaved and taken to Ireland, where he either escaped or was released. And then he became a priest and went back to Ireland, where he had a lot of luck converting the Druid culture into Christians.

Legend says St. Patrick was actually born Maewyn Succat, but that he changed his name to Patricius (or Patrick), which derives from the Latin term for “father figure,” after he became a priest. And that supposed luck of his is the root of all the themed merchandise for modern St. Patrick's Day.

It wasn't until the early 18th century that many of today's traditions were kicked into high gear. Since the holiday falls during Lent, it provides Christians a day off from the prescriptions of abstinence leading up to Easter, and around the 1720s, the church found it got kind of out of control, it was to remind celebrants what the holiday actually stood for that the church first associated a botanical item—customary for all saints—with St. Patrick, assigning him the symbol of the likewise lucky shamrock.

It was emigrants, particularly to the United States, who transformed St. Patrick's Day into a largely secular holiday of revelry and celebration of things Irish. Cities with large numbers of Irish immigrants, who often wielded political power, staged the most extensive celebrations, which included elaborate parades.

Modern-day celebrations and themes continued to take shape during the rest of the 1700s. Boston held its first St. Patrick's Day parade in 1737, followed by the first New York City parade in 1762. It wasn't until 1798, the year of the Irish Rebellion, that the color green became officially associated with the day. Up until the rebellion, the color associated with St. Patrick was blue, as it was featured both in the royal court and on ancient Irish flags. But as the British wore red, the Irish chose to wear green, and they sang the song “The Wearing of the Green” during the rebellion, cementing the color's relevance in Irish history. Since 1962 Chicago has colored its river green to mark the holiday.

As for the green beer, that's an even later addition. In fact, it wasn't until the late 20th century that Ireland repealed a law that initially kept everything—pubs included—shut down for the day. Since then, thanks to a marketing push from Budweiser in the 1980s, downing beer has become a common way to celebrate, regardless of how closely it's tied to the actual meaning of St. Patrick himself.



Although some of these practices eventually were adopted by the Irish themselves, they did so largely for the benefit of tourists to mark the holiday.



*Did you know? Corned beef and cabbage are associated with the holiday.*



**Mercedes-Benz celebrates “125 Years of Motorsports.”**



**125 years ago: the start of a unique success story.**

In July 1894, the world’s first competitive Horseless Carriages Contest takes place from Paris to Rouen.

This is the initial spark that kindles Mercedes-Benz’s successful motorsport history as two of the winning cars are powered engines developed by Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach.

For 125 years, engines and vehicles made by Mercedes-Benz and its predecessor brands have secured countless triumphs.

**Innovation technology + the will to succeed = SUCCESS.**



From the first competitive car race in history in 1894 to current motorsport events: the motorsport activities of Mercedes-Benz and its predecessor brands tell a story that has its roots in the early days of the automobile.

Since the 19th century, these racing and rally cars have frequently been seen in winning positions in sporting competitions. Their

triumphs testify to innovative technology, the drivers’ uncompromising will to win and excellent teamwork. No other brand has the topic of motorsport built into its DNA over such a long period and as intensively as Mercedes-Benz.



Right at the front. The Mercedes 35 HP racing car owned by Baron Henri de Rothschild (alias ‘Dr Pascal’) wins the La Turbie Hillclimb at the Nice Race Week on 29 March 1901. At the wheel is Wilhelm Wainart, who later becomes the German emperor’s driver.

**A kaleidoscope of outstanding motorsport moments since 1894.**

Magic moments in the racing history of the brand are, for example, the successes at the world’s first car racing competitions in 1894 & 1895, the victory of the first Mercedes at the Nice Race Week in 1901 and the Mercedes triple victory at the Lyon Grand Prix in 1914. The victorious time of compressor cars starting in 1922 and, above all, the era of the Silver Arrows of the 1930s and 1950s as well as numerous successes in rallies and record runs provide highlights.



Fourfold win in the 11th Rallye Sanremo Côte d’Azur in 1979 in Mercedes-Benz 450 SLC 5.0 cars. The photo shows the winning team Hans-Mikola and Anne Perle during a water crossing.



Formula 1 World Champion in a Mercedes-Benz for the fifth time: Lewis Hamilton celebrates after winning the Mexican Grand Prix on 28 October 2018.

**Formula 1: the 2019 season begins this month!**

Such current victories as the five consecutive Formula 1 Driver and Constructor World Championships or the win of the driver, team and brand championships in the DTM 2018 as well as regular victories in customer sports serve to consolidate the success record.

And the story goes on: 2019 promises to be another strong motorsport season - in the current as well as historical context. The new Formula 1 car has already made an impressive start at the beginning of February: Lewis Hamilton and Valtteri Bottas will be out to register new victories in the F1 W09 EQ Power+. In the second half of the year, two all-electric Silver Arrows will be on the grid in Formula E with effect from the 2019/2020 season.

*Courtesy Mercedes-Benz Classic*



**MEMBER RECOGNITION**



MBCA OC MEMBER

FEBRUARY | MARCH

*Lidwina Funkhouser, Shaun Gallegos, Tyler Offenhauser, Mark Orgill, Dr. Curtis Platt, Luis Rubio, Richard Scherer, Abram Ungerr, Abraham Villanueva, Kevin Tan, Abram Ungerr, Lia Zaitsev, Ted Embry*

*Thank you to the following for Renewing Membership:*

N. BRANDT. ARTHUR HOLDEN. JERRY SOLODKY. PHILIP STOTTS. JAY PATEL. CRAIG EDGERCUMBE. RYAN BUNN. ARCHIE BRAINARD. BILL AINSWORTH

*If we've missed your name in this issue, we apologize. Please contact us and we'll be sure to get you in our next issue.*

*[ocmbca@gmail.com](mailto:ocmbca@gmail.com)*

- M. Ward



**MEMBER TALK**

**How to Change Your Merc Key Battery**

If your car key is no longer working properly, the battery most likely needs to be replaced. Here's how to change your Mercedes-Benz key battery step by step.

The number of batteries you need depends on the type of key you have. One type of key is the Chrome Key. This key comes in a metal casing and is for newer Merc models. Additionally, there are two versions of the Chrome Key: a newer version and an older version. The newer version needs one battery, and the older version needs two. To determine which ChromeKey you own, take note of what the panic button looks like: the older Chrome Keys have a circular panic button, and the newer Chrome Keys have a triangular panic button.

The other type of key you may have is the SmartKey, which is made for older Mercedes-Benz models. This key is usually made out of plastic and needs two batteries.

How to Open Your Key Fob:

Confused on how to open a Mercedes-Benz key fob? Opening a Chrome Key is different than opening a SmartKey®.

To open a Chrome Key: First, you have to pull down on the silver, square-shaped tab on the bottom of the key. Pull until it releases.

Once you separate the tab, you'll see a small gap in the fob. Push the key into the narrow and flat end of the fob to open the key cover.

Remove the old battery, and replace with the new battery. Make sure the new battery is facing the correct way.

To open a Smart Key: Pull on the latch end of the fob and the key should remove on its own.

After the key releases, there will be a visible slot at the end of the key fob.

Press the key into this slot to open the battery compartment.

Replace the old battery with the new one, after making sure it's facing the right way.





## FOLLOW THE STAR

### LIGHTING THE WAY

Over the last 140 years, automotive headlights have gone through huge transformations. From carriage lamps to halogen to HID, automakers have made leaps and bounds in both practical and aesthetic integration of headlights into the cars they sell. However, in the last 140 years of automotive history, headlights have only served one purpose: to illuminate the road in front of the driver so he/she can see more clearly. Thanks to Mercedes-Benz, all of this is going to change. Before we step into the future, let's take a look at the past.

The headlights we know them began as carriage lamps in the 1880s. Early automobiles, like their horse and carriage counterparts, were limited in terms of their lighting sources. Acetylene gas, with its wind and rain resistant flame, became popular and replaced kerosene oil but it had its drawbacks. The light from the headlamps could only reach short distances, which made driving after dark a challenge, and the acetelyne gas could also freeze during winter months.



In light of the practical limitations of acetylene headlamps, companies were eager for a better and more stable product. The Electric Vehicle Company debuted the world's first electric headlamp in their Columbia Electric car in 1898 but they were limited by the short life of the filaments. Automotive and lighting engineers worked diligently to provide practical alternatives and battery-run, carbon-based headlamp bulb debuted in 1908. Unfortunately, the bulbs were expensive and were only available as an upgrade option for cars that had already been sold.

By 1911, electric headlamps were the US auto industry standard and automakers and engineers embarked on historically significant innovation. The Guide Lamp Company debuted the first headlight in 1915, but they still required drivers or passengers to exit the vehicle to activate. Fortunately, Cadillac solved that problem and introduced interior-mount controls.

Safety laws in the United States began to catch up with technological advancements and by the early 1920s, most states required electric-lights on all automobiles. Some laws went even further and specified amounts of light and beam directions.



Pivotal changes over the next 20 years included replaceable glass lenses, integrated bulb and metal reflector headlight, and high and low beam settings. While World War II slowed car light innovations, automakers in the 1940s began debuting with hand-activated turn signals, which eventually became standard, and integrating lighting design with the overall design of the car.

Through the 1950s, US law required round sealed beams while Europe favored replaceable headlights. It wasn't until 1957 when lawmakers allowed the use of separate headlights for low and high beams, thanks to the introduction of sealed headlamps with brighter filaments. 1962 marked the next major innovation in automotive lights when Italian automakers introduced halogen lights, which resulted in a brighter glow. While most car brands were slow to adopt them, halogen lights eventually became universal in Europe. US manufacturers resisted making the switch and used tungsten incandescent light until the late 1970s.

The 1990s introduced the two most popular types of headlights: HID and LED. HID, short for high-intensity discharge (also known as xenon), headlights are a favorite among motorists who praise their energy efficiency, brightness, and durability. LED, short for light-emitting diode, also have superior brightness and life expectancy when compared to halogen lights. In 2001, BMW debuted halo headlights, which consist of illuminated rings. While it was first a signature BMW look, other manufacturers soon adopted them for their own cars.

Now, Mercedes-Benz has taken a leap into the automotive future – Digital Light. Each headlight provides a resolution of over one million pixels which is continually adapting to the driving conditions.



One of the key features of Digital Light is how it lowers the intensity of light hitting reflective surfaces and signs while maintaining its brightness on other parts of the road. Tiny cameras inside the headlights combined with super computers that process data in milliseconds provide constant adjustments to brightness.

My favorite feature of the headlights, and where I think Mercedes is forging ahead in new territory is that Digital Lights can project symbols and shapes onto the road for the driver to see. Not only will this provide driver information in a way that is less distracting as it will be projected directly in the driver's field of vision, technology will eventually allow for communication with other drivers. While currently available in small series production in the Mercedes-Maybach S-Class, I expect that it will become integrated into the entire Mercedes lineup in the near future.

*-Anne-Marie Alexander*

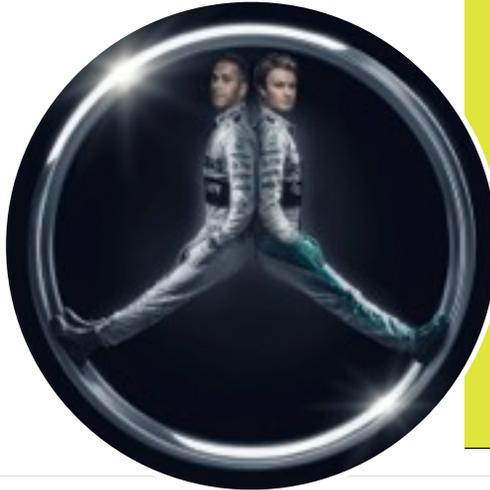


**DRIVER'S SEAT**  
POSITION 1



THIS JUST IN...

# Feeling Lucky



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## CHOCOLATE CHIP IRISH CREAM CUPCAKES



*For All the Cupcake Loving Adults Out There*



**INGREDIENTS**

- Cupcakes**
- ¾ cup miniatures chocolate chips
  - ¼ Tablespoon cake flour
  - 2 ¾ cups cake flour
  - 1 teaspoon baking powder
  - ¼ teaspoon salt
  - ¾ cup cream cheese, at room temperature
  - 10 Tablespoons butter, at room temperature
  - 1 cup granulated white sugar
  - 1 cup light brown sugar, packed
  - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
  - 2 large eggs
  - ¾ cup Baileys Irish Cream

- Buttercream**
- 1 cup butter (2 sticks), at room temperature
  - 2 cups powdered sugar
  - 4 Tablespoons Baileys Irish Cream
  - 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees (F). Line cupcake tins with 24 cupcake liners.
2. In a small bowl, toss together chocolate chips and ¼ Tablespoon flour.
3. Sift together dry ingredients: flour, baking powder and salt; set aside.
4. In a large bowl, use electric mixer to combine cream cheese and butter. Add sugars and vanilla; beat until blended. Add eggs and beat until incorporated. With mixer on low, add flour mixtures and liquor alternately, beginning and ending with the flour mixtures. Gently stir in chocolate chips.
5. Spoon batter into cupcake liners, filling them almost to the top (they shouldn't rise much). You can use an ice cream scoop to get the batter neatly into the liners. Bake cupcakes 18 to 22 minutes, or until centers of cupcakes are set.
6. To make buttercream: Place all ingredients in a large bowl. Use electric mixer to blend together; mix until smooth and creamy.



Cupcake Source: [RecipeGirl.com](http://RecipeGirl.com) (Adapted from Irish Cream Cake by Anna Ginsberg)  
Buttercream Source: [www.RecipeGirl.com](http://www.RecipeGirl.com) (Adapted from Food.com)





### Origin of "Kiss Me, I'm Irish" Saying



Okay, so you've done all your Valentine's Day smooching. To get you ready for all the smooching for St. Patrick's Day, the OC Section wanted to share the story behind that famous phrase "Kiss Me, I'm Irish".



Kissing someone who is Irish is pretty much the next best thing to kissing the stone in Blarney Castle, which is likely where this famous saying comes from. According to legend, kissing the stone will give you the power of eloquent and persuasive speech. Two different stories relate kissing the stone with luck.

One dates back to 1440s when the builder of the castle, Cormac Laidir MacCarthy, was in a lawsuit and needed some extra luck.

He sought out Clíodhna (goddess of love and beauty) and she told him to kiss a stone on his way to court. He did, and he won his case. Later he took that same stone and installed it into the castle.

Another legend suggests that Queen Elizabeth I wanted the land rights from Cormac Teige McCarthy. Cormac set off to try and convince the queen to change her mind, but was worried since he wasn't a strong speaker. While traveling he ran into an older woman who suggested that if he kissed a particular stone in Blarney Castle it would give him the gift of eloquent speech. Cormac did just that and went on to persuade the queen to allow him to keep his land.

Nowadays, the stone gets millions of visitors at Blarney Castle, outside Cork, Ireland, with the hope the stone has the same impact on their own lives.



Meeting adjourned. Next Board Mtg. April 6, 2019 @ 12noon  
- Ann-Marie Alexander



**DID YOU KNOW? THERE ARE 34.7 MILLION U.S. RESIDENTS WITH IRISH ANCESTRY. THIS NUMBER IS MORE THAN SEVEN TIMES THE POPULATION OF IRELAND ITSELF.**



AROUND THE BEND

Upcoming Events



STARTIVITIES CALENDAR

Dates: March 16-19 Classic Car Show

Website: <https://www.theclassicautoshow.com/los-angeles>

The show will exhibit over 2,000 classics indoors and outdoors at the OC Fair and Event Center including the rarely seen, museum quality classics displayed on the prominent Grand Boulevard, celebrity builds, and hundreds of classics from local car clubs representing all the Domestic and Foreign marques you love. Plus, special exhibit areas including: Hot Rods, Lowriders, Japanese Classics, Vintage Off Roaders, Women Builds, Motorcycles and more.

Dates: April - CHP Distracted Driving Event More Details to follow as we are working with CHP for location and date.

Dates: May - Malamut Tour - Thousand Oaks  
Finalizing Dates, etc. More Info Coming Soon!

Dates: June 8 - Nethercutt Collection Tour - RSVP ASAP [ocmbca@gmail.com](mailto:ocmbca@gmail.com)

June 1-2 - Huntington Beach Concours - Website: <https://www.hbconcours.org>



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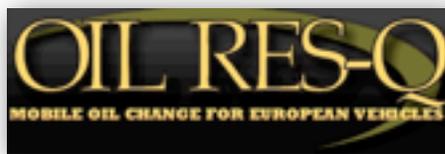
Everything put into AMG vehicles we learned at the track. Now you can share in that too.

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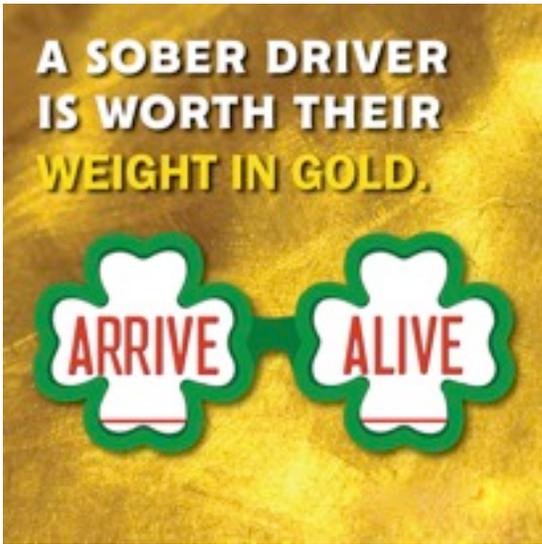
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For more info contact MBCA-OC StarExperiences at [ocmbca@gmail.com](mailto:ocmbca@gmail.com)



**June 1-2, 2019 - Huntington Beach Concours d'Elegance**

Over its thirty four year history, the Huntington Beach Concours has grown to be one of the outstanding automotive events in Southern California. First staged in 1986, the Concours has its home on the picturesque lawns of Huntington Beach Central Park in Huntington Beach. Central Park lies adjacent to the Huntington Beach Public Library & Cultural Resource Center at Talbert and Goldenwest. Our field of entrants includes the best domestic, British, European and Asian, vintage to current automobiles and motorcycles.

**JUNE 8, 2019 - NETHERCUTT COLLECTION TOUR**

**TOUR IS FREE! RSVP ASAP ONLY 18 SPACES TO GO!**

Back by Member Request, we have coordinating with the Collection to allow us to bring more members this time.

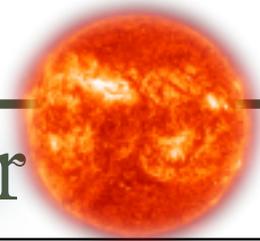
Head over to our site for Tour Restrictions & Guidelines!



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# the Orange County Star



## MEMBER UPDATE

Dear Valued Members,  
If you've either moved, changed numbers, email or addresses please login or call the National Business Office to update your information to receive the latest club info.

NBO# 800.637.2360



We're now on Facebook & Instagram, please take a moment to follow us.

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