# Bill Stanley Sells 1964 Mercedes 300SL to Robert Horton & 36 Years Later

# Bill Stanley Sr Piedmont Motor Sales

1964 Mercedes Benz 300SL Coupe-Roadster Serial #003128

# Sold to Robert Horton May 2, 1964

36 Years Later at
Gull Wing Group International
(Owners of 300SLs)
October 4-8, 2000
Quality Inn Biltmore

Bought in 1999 by Sam & Emily Mann
350 E Palisade Ave Englewood NJ 07631
Lovely Couple, Peggy and I are invited
to visit them in Hackensack NJ

Bill Stanley, Sr was a car salesman most of his adult life. In 1958 he went to work at Piedmont Motor Sales, Inc. on N Patterson Ave. in Winston-Salem, NC as the General Manager. At the time he lived in Mt. Airy and commuted for about a year until the family moved to Winston-Salem.

Piedmont Motor Sales, Inc. was owned by Shirley Mitchell who at the time a was a very successful business owner. Besides the car dealership, Mitchell owned Hennis Freight Lines (a national trucking company), a tire company, a mobile home business, a service station and finally a restaurant all located on 50 acres at Patterson Ave. Piedmont sold Studebaker, Mercedes Benz and Porsche cars. Bill did so well selling Studebakers the first year, he won a European trip for him and his wife Peggy.

Business was going great and in 1964 the dealership obtained the last 12 Mercedes Benz 300SLs made. Americans had been slow to buy German cars after WWII but by the 1960s the quality cars were becoming very popular. The 300SLs sold fairly well including one to Norman Vincent Peale. Bill ran an advertisement in "The Mercedes Benz Star" magazine in early 1964. He received a post card response from Robert Horton, the huge television star of Wagon Train fame. At this time Horton was living in New York City as his wife Marilynn was working on Broadway.

Horton and Uncle Bill completed a deal on the phone for a red 300SL. The sticker price was \$11,740.65 and the final negotiated price was \$9,361.75. Horton put \$3,000 down and came to Winston-Salem to pick the car up. The Hortons flew into the old Greensboro Airport. Uncle Bill always thinking as a salesman picked them up in a Porsche. He was hoping Robert would buy that car also but that did not pan out. They went to Uncle Bill's house and I remember that my Dad (John-Bill's brother) along with my Mom, me (John Jr) and my sister were invited over. I was only 10 and did not realize just how big a movie star Horton was.

The Hortons drove the car back to New York City and then onto his home in Encino, Ca. He rarely drove the car and it was maintained in a climate controlled garage. In 1999 it had only 18,000 miles when Horton decided it was time to sell it. As one article mentioned it was in the finest condition of all original 300SLs known. He sold it to Sam and Emily Mann from Englewood, N. J for \$500,000 (not bad for a \$9,400 investment). The Manns amassed a world class car collection over many years.

Bill had connected with Dr. Frank Spellman from Chevy Chase, Md. who also loved 300SLs. Frank had written an article on Horton owning the 300SL for the Gullwing International Club. In October, 2000 the Club met in Asheville, NC for their annual meeting. Uncle Bill and Aunt Peggy got to meet the Manns and the Spellmans and see the 300SL one last time. It was a great weekend for them and was especially moving for Uncle Bill.

Uncle Bill left Piedmont Motor Sales in 1966 and worked at a couple of other dealerships before finishing his career at Vestal Pontiac-Buick in Kernersville, N. C. He passed in January of 2012. Robert Horton passed away March of 2016. Bill's son, Bill Jr., told me that in 1965 he got to ride in the first Porsche 911 in the United States as professional driver, Bill Binker, was taking the car to dealerships around the country on a demonstration tour. Binker took Bill Jr. on a ride up to the mountains and was driving extremely fast on narrow roads. For a thirteen year old it was a little terrifying.

# The Mercedes Benz Star Magazine Ad 1964



WANTED—300SL coupe factory tool kit, also owner's manual. State condition and price. M. Manos, 21-17 24th Drive, Astoria 2, New York.

FOR SALE—1955 Gullwing, excellent condition. Red with black leather interior. Becker Mexico AM-FM radio. Michelin X tires, nearly new. \$4,800. Have had heart attack and must part with this beautiful automobile. F. L. Bretch, 6918 Coronado, Parkville, Mo. Phone 816—SH 1-1753.

AVAILABLE—1963 SEb coupe. Sky blue with cream interior, briar dash. Has fuel injection, air conditioning, automatic transmission, bumper guards, AM-FM import radio, seat belts, new road tires, etc. Approaching 18,000 miles. Personal body care, regular M-B service. Absolutely a dream. New was \$10,426.26. Write or call P. M. Knowlton, Three East Second St., Dayton, Ohio. Phone 222-7811.

FOR SALE—300SE 2-door coupe. Last 1957 model made. Silver grey color, black leather seats. Excellent condition, this is a collector's item. \$5,500. George Dudinsky, Marion Country Club, P. O. Box 35, Marion, Ohio. Phone DU 3-3174.

FOR SALE—1964 230SL 3-passenger coupe/roadster.

Dark brown exterior, genuine beige leather interior—exquisite. It is fully equipped, including automatic transmission and power steering. Car lists over \$9,100, is dealer's own car, performs fabulously and is at our price of \$6,900 a buyer's dream. Call or write Henry Hart, c/o Kemwel Corp., 247 W. 12th Street, New York City 14.

FOR SALE—Two new 300SLs offered for a limited time at regular dealer invoice cost. Also 1956 300SL Gullwing, 20,000 actual miles, like new. Contact Bill T. Stanley, P. O. Box 3194, Winston-Salem, N. C., or Phone PA 3-0323.

FOR SALE—Early body style, one owner cars: '61 220 SE coupe, #608 ivory and black leather interior. '60 220SE sedan, #516 medium red, #1060 tan leather interior and automatic clutch. Bickelhaupt Motor Company, Iowa and Western Illinois' Oldest Mercedes-Benz Dealer. Clinton, Iowa.

FOR SALE—300SL roadster 1959 in Concours condition. All original. Showcar with low mileage, fitted luggage, Continental lights, Becker Mexico AM-FM radio. Mercedes red with black leather, black top and black leather luggage. A second car driven only in nice weather. Relocation forces this sale. Any inspection invited. Records available. Asking \$4,500. B. Sternlieb, 109-20 71st Road, Forest Hills, New York 11375. Telephone 212—BOulevard 8-8886.

FOR SALE—1957 300SL Gullwing. Showroom condition and mechanically perfect. Under 50,000 original miles. Two pieces fitted (factory original) luggage. Becker Mexico AM-FM radio with shortwave. New Michelan X tires. New paint Mercedes light blue with grey interior. \$5,200. W. E. McLaughlin, Apt. 304, 2217 East 59th Street, Tulsa, Okla. Phone 918—747-7204.

## The Verlornes Rally . . .

(Continued from page 10)

The results (and least "verlornes"):

1st Overall (Junior and Senior)

Chernier and Bodefeld 300SL—853 points

### JUNIOR DIVISION

2nd—Bob and Irene Windstrup 190SL—977 points 3rd—John and Barbara Henning 190SL—1562 points 4th—Don and Pam Angerhofer 220S—2068 points

#### SENIOR DIVISION

2nd—Ben Bruhn and Mike Dekker 190SL—1562 points 3rd—Bill Lotts and Bud Roderick 300SL—2678 points 4th—Al and Harriet Bishop 220SE—3265 points



BE SURE TO VISIT PARISIAN MOTOR'S SPECIAL SALON SHOWING OF THE WORLD'S FINEST MOTOR CARS.
SALES AND SERVICE • FACTORY-TRAINED MECHANICS • GENUINE PARTS



1964

CORRESPOND-EASE MR. Bill Stanley P.O. Box 3194 Winston Salem Postcard sent to Bill Stanley by **Robert Horton** blean Mr Stanley: wanting to buy the 1964 Mercedes Benz 300SL. the 300 Shi-Color combinations in and out: 1050 5 th One N.2/ C. - N.2/. Le - 4-1051

CRESTVIEW 4-6681

EDWARD TRAUBNER & CO., INC.
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
132 SOUTH RODEO DRIVE
BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

April 3, 1964

Mr. Bill Stanley c/o Piedmont Motor Sales, Inc. P. O. Box 3194 Patterson Avenue Extension Winston Salem, North Carolina

Re: ROBERT HORTON

Dear Mr. Stanley:

Enclosed herewith Mr. Horton's check in the amount of \$3,000.00 to be retained by you as a deposit on the 1964 300SL convertible.

I would appreciate your sending on to Mr. Horton at 1050 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York, all of the necessary documents requiring his signature. Mr. Horton in turn will then complete them and forward them on to me at which time we will add whatever information Mr. Horton has omitted.

Inasmuch as this is a sizable deposit, we would appreciate your forwarding immediately to Mr. Horton at his New York address the owner's manual and any other specified sets in order that Mr. Horton may familiarize himself with the operation of the car prior to his accepting delivery.

It is Mr. Horton's intention to pick up the car in approximately three to four weeks. You will hear directly from him regarding the date and time of his arrival in North Carolina.

Many thanks for your kind cooperation.

Very truly yours

WILLIAM C. OUEAL

WCQ:ms

Encl.

cc: Mr. Robert Horton



# PIEDMONT MOTOR SALES, INC.

Sales & Service

STUDEBAKER PACKARD

MERCEDES BENZ

P. O. Box 3194 - Patterson Avenue Ext. - Winston-Salem, N. C.

PHONE PArk 3-0323

April 6, 1964

Mr. William C. Quealy 132 South Rodeo Drive Beverly Hills, California

Re: Mr. Robert Horton 1964 Mercedes Benz 300 SL, coupe-readster, serial number 003128

Dear Mr. Quealy:

We received your letter of April 3, 1964 with the check in the amount of \$3000.00 to be retained by Piedmont Motor Sales, Inc. as a deposit on Mr. Horton's 300 SL.

The owner's manual and other title papers will be mailed from here to Mr. Horton today, as you requested. Upon Mr. Horton's arrival in Winston-Salem, we plan to go over the car and thoroughly familiarize him with it, in addition to the information he will get from the owner's manual.

We want to thank you again for your help in handling our transaction with Mr. Horton. If there is anything further we can do, please call or write. Again we appreciate your patronage.

Sincerely yours,

Bill T. Stanley

General Manager

BTS: skw

CC to Robert Harton

# 300 Star Letter

March 1999 • Gull Wing Group International



PURCHASED FROM BILL STANLEY OVER THE PHONE 1964 AT PICTURED ABOVE
THIS BOOKLET SENT TO ME BY DR. FRANK SPELLMAN WINSTON SALEM. N.C.

# Frank Spellman

# Tall in the Saddle



As a first grade student in 1957-1958, I was "into" two things...cars and westerns. Bowman Motors, one the first dealerships to sell Mercedes vehicles in the Washington, D.C. area was located a few blocks north of my school. It was love at first sight when I saw a 300 SL Roadster there for

the first time. I became determined to own one. Little did I know that it would take 30 years. As the oldest of five kids (eventually the oldest of eight), I noticed that there were no Mercedes in our garage and there certainly were no trips to Disneyland.

Family entertainment centered around our black and white TV where we gathered to watch our favorite shows which included "Wagon Train", "Gunsmoke" and "Have Gun Will Travel". If I close my eyes, I can still feel the excitement and taste the popcorn. To this day I still enjoy westerns.

My 300SL Roadster began as a dream, later became a reality and finally became a hobby. I certainly never dreamed that my membership in the GWG would allow me to meet Robert Horton and his beautiful wife Marilyn. Robert was the star of "Wagon Train", which became the #1 show on television during the 1961-1962 season.

I remember him as trail scout, Flint McCullough who wore a knife and gun, was a great horseman and who always seemed to get the settlers to their destination safely. My wife Beverly and her girlfriends remember him only as "the best looking guy on TV".

300SLs were a big hit in Hollywood. Other original owners apparently included Clark Gable, Tony Curtis, Jean Crain, Yul Brynner, Frank Sinatra, Robert Stack, Glenn Ford, Sophia Loren, Howard Hughes, Skitch Henderson, Don Ricardo, Otis Chandler and Jackie Cooper. Robert grew up around the corner from Robert Stack in Beverly Hills and admired Stack's roadster. His first ride in a 300SL occurred in Jackie Cooper's gullwing. Robert found his roadster while he starred in the Broadway musical "110 in the Shade", the musical version of "The Rain Maker". It was May of 1964 and 300SL production had been discontinued.

There were few, if any, new 300SLs left in the

country and certainly there were none in Los Angeles or New York. Horton's #534 red roadster with black interior and hard top was located at a dealership in North Carolina. It was driven to New York and ultimately back to Los Angeles, where it was stored at the home at the home of Robert's parents while Robert and Marilyn remained in New York for 20 years.

Although Robert loves the roadster, he has driven it infrequently over the years. Apparently the contour of the roaster seats aggravated episodes of back pain. It has not been driven in 12 years and has remained in his dry Los Angeles garage. Given the recent merger between Daimler-Benz AG and Chrysler, it is ironic perhaps that the Horton collection also includes a one owner 1957 Chrysler 300C convertible. He is thus the original owner of two of the most highly sought after 300 series cars in the world. Other cars in the collection include an Aston Martin, a '57 Thunderbird and a Morgan drop head coupe.

His roadster, #3128, left the factory with the hard top installed and the boot cover in its special crate. A Becker Mexico radio with semi-automatic antenna was installed by the dealer. It rides on its original Continental white wall tires and retains its original paint, interior, soft top, tool kit, jack and service records. The only time I have ever seen it left me stunned. I had never before seen a 25 year old car of any model which had never been nicked, hit or rusted. "This car is unbelievable," I muttered. Robert's roadster is perhaps the finest low mileage one owner, all original roadster in the world. "Frank, that's just what the other guy said." My heart sank as I wondered "what other guy"?

"Some guy called a few years ago. I had never heard of him. He asked if he could visit my car collection. I agreed. He came by, looked at all my cars and seemed to really like the red 300SL. Before I knew it, he opened a suitcase with \$40,000 inside and offered it to me for my car. I told him I had never



Roadster #3128 as discovered in the Horton's garage having been "lost" there for 12 years.

# Tall in the Saddle (continued)

seen so much cash in my entire life...and that my car was worth more. I later learned Mr. Barrett runs a well known auto auction."

In a conversation with noted 300SL historian/restorer Scott Grundfor, Scott recalled that in all of the years he worked on 300SLs in California he had never seen an original car better preserved than Bob Horton's. Scott indicated he could make any 300SL more perfect for the right amount of



Actor Robert Horton with future Gull Wing Group member Frank Spellman, Jr.

money, however, if given a choice, what would one rather have, an original Monet or an extremely accurate copy?

Robert's parents wanted him to become a physician. The Cum Laud graduate of UCLA was too smart for that. He became a star instead and has had thousands of loyal fans over the years. One lady he'd never met left him her entire estate - "a substantial sum".he reports. One fan wrote to say that as a child she lost her eye sight. She wanted to commit suicide, but thought about Flint and knew that wasn't something he would do. She later regained her sight and wrote to thank him.

Now 75, Robert has decided to dissolve his collection and hopes to find exactly the right home for his roadster. Like every other GWG member, he wonders what his car is really worth. It is difficult to determine because so few 300SLs like his exist.

During my 12 years of 300SL ownership, I have only met 3 or 4 members who are the original owners of a gullwing or roadster. Mr. Horton appears to be the only original owner of a low mileage later model roadster left in the GWG. Most seemed to have

Continued on page 10



# Tall in the Saddle (continued)

Continued from page 9

let their cars go during the wild days of '89 and '90.

Robert had no great hopes for later appreciation when he bought his 300SL. He thought it was a great car, he liked it and he preserved it. Looking back 10 years, the prices for which the alloy-engine, disc brake roadsters sold seem staggering. Chassis #3064 in similar condition with similar mileage was sold by its original owner for \$600,000 in 1990, believed to be the all time record. Chassis #3257 sold for \$500,000 in 1990. Chassis #3171 sold for \$440,000, #3063 for \$425,000.... The list goes on, however, those days are probably gone forever. When GWG member Skip Berg purchased #3228 in 1979 with only 4,700 miles, he paid the then all time record price for a roadster...\$29,000. Clearly timing rather than condition is the determining factor in value.

In the last 12 years only one other all original DB534 red with black late roadster with less than 20,000 original miles has ever come on the open market (#3127). Well known GWG member Ann Fagan pursued it with the tenacity and skill of a lioness. If you think Mr. Horton is tough, call Ann and try to buy her roadster.

The nicest all original 300SL roadsters I have ever personally seen are #3209, #3127 and #3128. Photos suggest that #3067, #3210, #3213 and #3258 are also spectacular. I have come to the conclusion then when you buy a 300SL what you are really getting is the devoted care of its prior owner/owners.

GWG member Gordon Beck, is a Mercedes mechanic who has been in the business for 20 years. As the owner of #3255 he is extremely knowledgeable regarding late roadsters. He recently told me, "The best 300SL I have ever driven was #3123. This 18,000 mile roadster was detailed and sorted out mechanically by GWG member Andrew Back of Pound Ridge, New York. It looked like a show car and had a certain smoothness that can only be found in a low mileage original car. Most of today's 300SL enthusiasts have never had the opportunity to drive a 'new' 300SL which has been properly sorted out and simply do not understand. Such a car is the most pleasant to drive."

In recent weeks I have interviewed fellow GWG member and restorer, Paul Russell. "At our company we restore not only 300SLs, but also multi-million dollar pre-war automobiles. The most wealthy and sophisticated collectors of post war cars seem to be moving toward completely original un-restored cars. A car can only be original once."

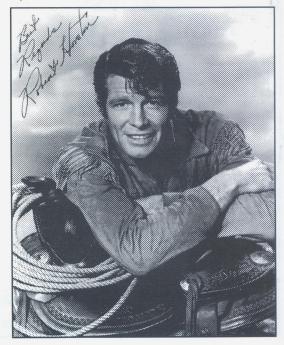
I spoke with 1963 world champion race car driver, John Surtees on December 10, 1998. "I have driven 300SL prototypes, 300SLRs, production gull-

wings and production roadsters. However, I have never driven one of the Paul O'Shea competition roadsters. I am the former owner of a low mileage, original, alloy-engine, disc brake roadster #3151, although my wife drove it more often than I did. I never had maintenance problems with my roadster. In fact, my gullwing has an alloy-engine and I have never had problems with it either. If I were ever to own a 300SL roadster again, it would be a disc/aluminum car. They represent the final development. All the bugs were worked out and all the refinements were in. With less weight up front, I found them to have better handling."

Mr. Horton, in his own way, is one of the most impressive people I have met. In 1963 he turned down offers in the area of 2 million dollars to stay on Wagon Train and instead went to Broadway to pursue his dreams and face a higher challenge. He is a gentleman in every sense of the word. He is as patient as a rock and has determination which demands respect.

Robert, given that the GWG is devoted to the preservation of all 300SLs, in my opinion you are to be congratulated. Your roadster is a "time warp" vehicle. To paraphrase a line from the western movie "The Outlaw Josie Whales", "I was as proud as a struttin' buck just to have ridden with you." May you always ride tall in the saddle.

(This is the first in a series of articles about late 300SL roadsters and their former/present owners.)



# He was one of the wonders of the Wild West, a Boy's Own hero, a man's man and a TV heart-throb all rolled into one in the character of lean, rugged, fearless Flint McCullough, the Wagon Train scout who led gruff Ward Bond and his merry band of pioneers each week.

When Robert Horton first visited Britain in 1960, he was met by a welcoming committee of hostile Teddy boys – who didn't like their girl-friends sighing over him – and 2000 teenage girls who turned into precocious terrors when they tried to corner him at his hotel with propositions that left him a brighter shade of pink.

Then there was the British press. They expected to see a Western sex symbol, complete with spurs all rough and ruddy in buckskin, and there I was in my Savile Row suit and Italian shoes. They wrote the most horrendous things.

But he forgave us everything and the next year he was back, with Sammy Davis Jr, Nat King Cole and Liberace, for a Royal Command performance at the Pallacium doing so well that he returned the following year for another show. Then he quit Wagon Train with big plans and even bigger dreams and rode off into the sunset.

And he's rarely been heard of, certainly on these shores, for the past 27 years.

So what became of Flint McCullough? What happened to the rosy future Horton had mapped out? Where is he now?

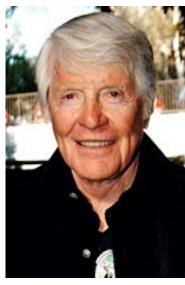
Actually, he was easy to track down – in a lovely house half an hour from Hollywood, where he and his wife Marilynn have been living for the past 15

# Why Flint ain't finished yet...

Thirty years ago, Robert Horton was the sexiest thing on —- or off —- a horse. Today nearly 65, he Still gets loyal fan mail from Britain



Above: Robert Horton with Linda Darnell in an episode of the "Wagon Train" series that made him a Wild West hero. Right: Horton today.



# Dateline America by Leslie Salisbury in Hollywood

years – and he was much amused to hear that Wagon Train was being reshown in Britain. These 17-year-olds might take a fancy to poor old Flint and then when they see me in TVTimes they'll say: "God he's old enough to be my grandfather!".

Now nearly 65, he continues to get loyal fan mail from Britain and other parts of the world where the series is still running. His career on Broadway as a musical theatre star didn't take off the way he hoped it would, back in 1962. "I left Wagon Train because I had other dreams, so to speak. I can't say they have been fulfilled on the level I would like them to have been. But I did most of the things I wanted to do along the way."

He had more than his share of bad luck and mistiming along the way, too. He had excellent reviews for the

Broadway musical 110 in the Shade but other projects were stopstarts. A proposed Las Vegas nightclub act bit the dust, as did a new TV series, A Man Called Shenandoah in the mid-Sixties, which lasted only one season, and an accompanying album never got off the ground. He made two films in London in 1968/69, *The* Spy Killer and Foreign Exchange, and then concentrated on regional theatre, appearing all over the US in musicals with his wife, actress Marilynn Bradley. They met in 1959 when she was his leading lady in a production of Guys and Dolls. "We've been married 29 years this coming December. It's not bad, is it? Especially in this business.

He has made the odd B-film and recently spent two years in New York in a day-time TV soap opera, playing a Blake Carrington-type character, a sort of sex

symbol to the blue rinse set. But his heart is obviously in the theatre and he says he has no regrets whatever about the years he and Marilynn toured the country playing Oklahoma, Carousel, The Man From La Mancha, There's A Girl in My Soup, Zorba the Greek and many more.

The last musical they did together was in 1982, *I Do, I Do* – and since his soap opera stint finished, he has done the occasional TV role (the remake of Red River is his latest), traveling in Europe or taking it easy at their home, which is overflowing with mementoes from their travels and their past. Now, says Horton, a slim, elegant man whose good looks have lasted, they're thinking of leaving Los Angeles behind for good and starting anew in Austin, Texas. Property is cheap there, and he can fly his plane in empty skies, drive his beloved

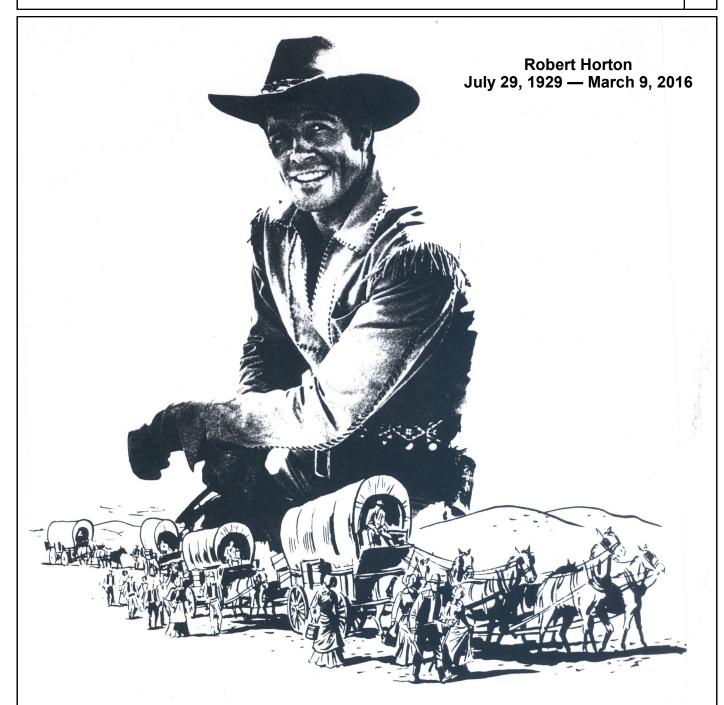
Aston Martin and Morgan sports cars on empty roads, and Marilynn can concentrate on her late start in life as a very talented artist.

Wherever he lives, he wants to continue working - and wherever he goes, his fans are sure to find him. The driver who took him to the studios in London in 1968 still writes regularly, and one fan from Bradford flew out to see him last summer - Horton spent the day with her showing her Hollywood sights. One fan wrote me a letter that was so moving, saying I'd touched her life in such a way even though I'd never met her, that I've put it in a box of special memorabilia. She told me about a friend of hers, who's probably about 80 now. and how she lives in a mobile home with just her dog for company, and how she lives with memories of me.

I put together a package of pictures I'd had taken over the past couple of years and wrote: "Now I'm about to become a senior citizen, I thought you might like to see what's happened to Bob. This is the way old Bob is now – I'll be 65 years old in July".

But, I didn't get an answer. I hope I didn't hurt those memories. That show has withstood the test of time very, very well. I understand how she must feel. There's a song I used to love to sing, written for a man my age: "Somewhere the years of my youth lie inside me growing old"...It goes on and then it ends up: "because I'm a voung man and I don't want to die". Lovely, lovely song. It says it all.

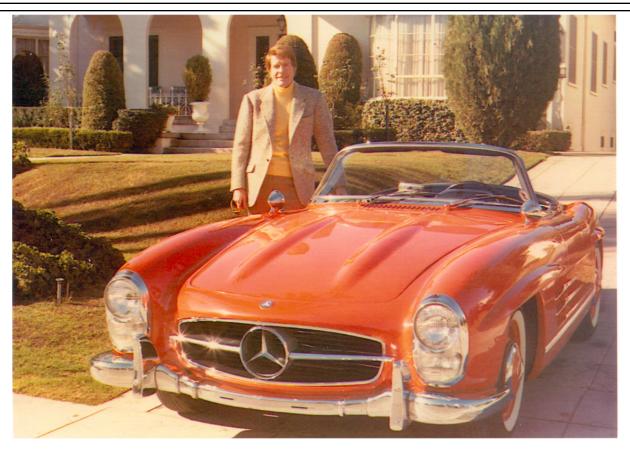
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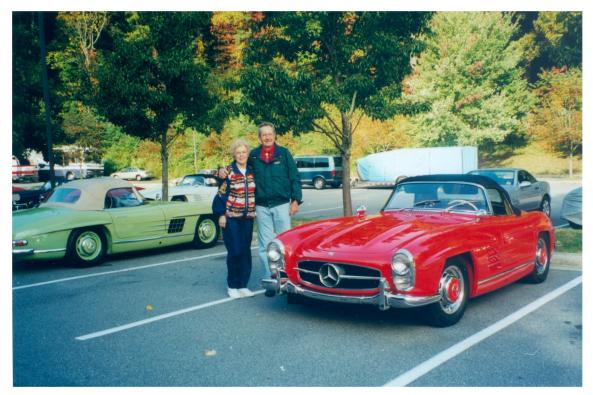
Robert Horton was born on July 29, 1924 into a Mormon family in Los Angeles, California as Meade Howard Horton Jr. He began his contract career at MGM in 1952 and adopted the acting name of Robert Horton.

Following his final role (as a guest star on Murder, She Wrote (1984)), Horton retired from acting in 1989. He had appeared in films, musical theatre, and many television series in both starring and guest roles, including Apache War Smoke (1952), Alfred Hitchcock Presents (1955), Wagon Train (1957), The Barbara Stanwyck Show (1960), Matinee Theatre (1955), As the World Turns (1956), and The Green Slime (1968).

Horton was thrice married: to Mary Catherine Jobe, to Barbara Ruick, and to Marilynn Bradley, who survived him. He died on March 9, 2016, aged 91, in his native Los Angeles.



Horton at his parent's home in 1969



Peggy & Bill with car at Asheville, NC 2000

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MAKE	MODEL	NEW OR	SERIAL NO.	MOTOR No.	KEY No.		
ercedes Benz	1964 300 SL CpeRdstr.	new	300SL 003128			TRANSPORTATION CHARGE	\$ 9229.75
	INSURAL	VCE C	OVERAGE INCLUI	nes		sales tax License	120.00
GROUP	OPTIONAL E		Stock No. MI		PRICE		
						SALES TAX ON EXTRAS  TOTAL CASH PRICE  COST OF FINANCING  (INCL. INSURANCE)	\$ 9361.75
						TOTAL TIME PRICE	
						DEPOSIT  CASH ON DELIVERY  USED CAR  TYPE  SER. NO.  MOT. NO.  PAYMENTS:	\$ 3000.00 6361.75
							\$ 9361.75

plean Bill + Peggy:

Ini heen meaning

to answer your note sine last March:

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is more fun to cheve and at least

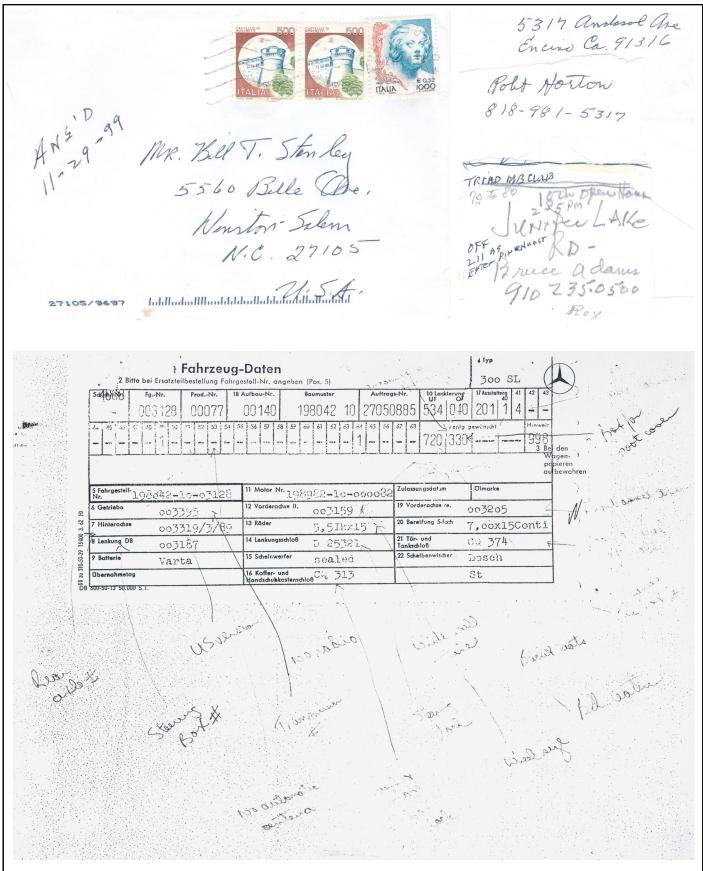
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Mr. Spellman, Frank, in formed me

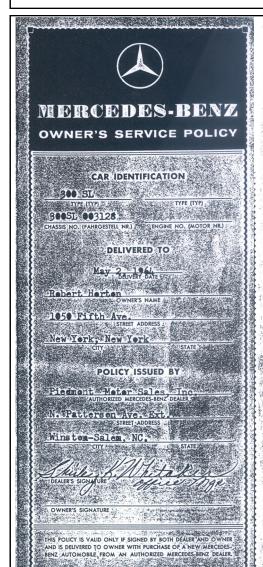
that you had not been faking will - I knewfunt

logic that has been corrected. The inculual of my busing the 300 from you is a fond

Memory for me too, and the contact with your formily. The 300 is the only car I even purchased on the phone. We were in W. Sa purchased on the phone. We were in W. Sa few years ago - maybe 20 - at the climen the afew years ago - maybe 20 - at the climen the table. I shought about you - that couldn't re
afew. I shought about you - that couldn't re
afew. I shought about you - that couldn't re
tall the name. Glad this repatiently to hinch bure tall the name. Glad this repatiently to the Mr. I'm to



1964 Mercedes Benz 300 SL Vehicle Data Sheet



### WARRANTY

Dealer warrants to Purchaser each part of each Mercedes-Benz product sold by Dealer to Purchaser to be free under normal use and service from defects in material and workmanship until such product has been driven, used or operated for a distance of four thousand (4,000) miles or for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of delivery to the original Purchaser, whichever event shall first occur. Dealer makes no warranty whatsoever with respect to tires or fubes. Dealer's obligation under this Warranty is limited to replacement at Dealer's Service Department of such parts as shall be returned to and acknowledged by Dealer to be defective.

This Warranty shall not apply to any product which has been subject to misuse, negligence or accident, or in which parts not made or supplied by Mercedes-Benz Sales Inc. are used if, in Dealer's sole judgment, such use affects its performance, stability or reliability, or which shall have been altered or repaired after delivery in a manner which, in Dealer's sole judgment, affects its performance, stability or reliability.

formance, stability or reliability.

This Warranty is expressly im lieu of all other warranties, express or implied and of all other obligations or liabilities on the part of Dealer, Mercedes Benz Sales, Inc. and Daimler Benz AG.

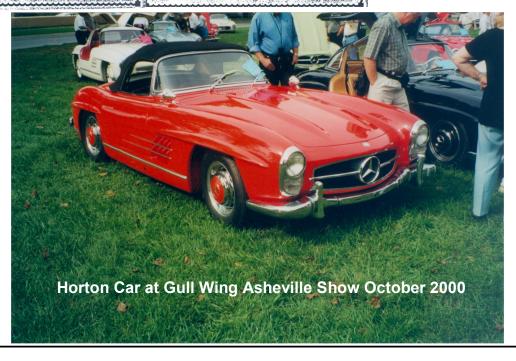
The manufacturer has reserved the right to make any changes in design or to make additions to or upon its products without incurring any obligations to install the same on motor vehicles previously built.

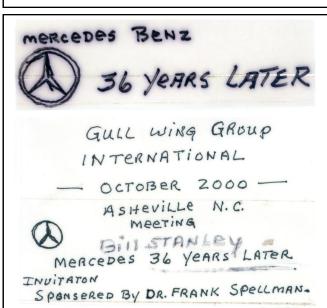
PLEASE KEEP THIS CERTIFICATE WITH YOUR INSTRUCTION ANNUAL IN THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT OF YOUR CAR.

Printed in U.S.A.



Mercedes Benz Owner's Warranty and part of the original car window sticker. Retail was \$11,740.65

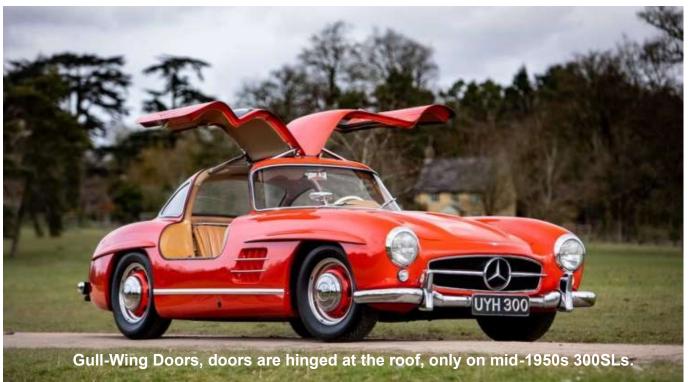






Above: Frank Spellman's 300SL

Below: Mercedes Benz 300SL Gull Wing car



Right: Bill Stanley's list of /. DR. Pellar the last six people who bought new 300SLs. They were the last six ever made by Mercedes Benz.

- 6 PEOPLE WHO BOUGHT THE LAST 6 NEW ONES
- 2. ROBERT HORTON N.Y. + CAL.
- 3. DR. GRADE-MIL BRAVES Wis. DOCTOR OF
- 4. DR HYLTON CROTIS W. SALEM, NC
- 5. OLIVER D. JUSEPH, VA. WORLDS OLDEST Bellevice, ILL.
- R. PELLAR

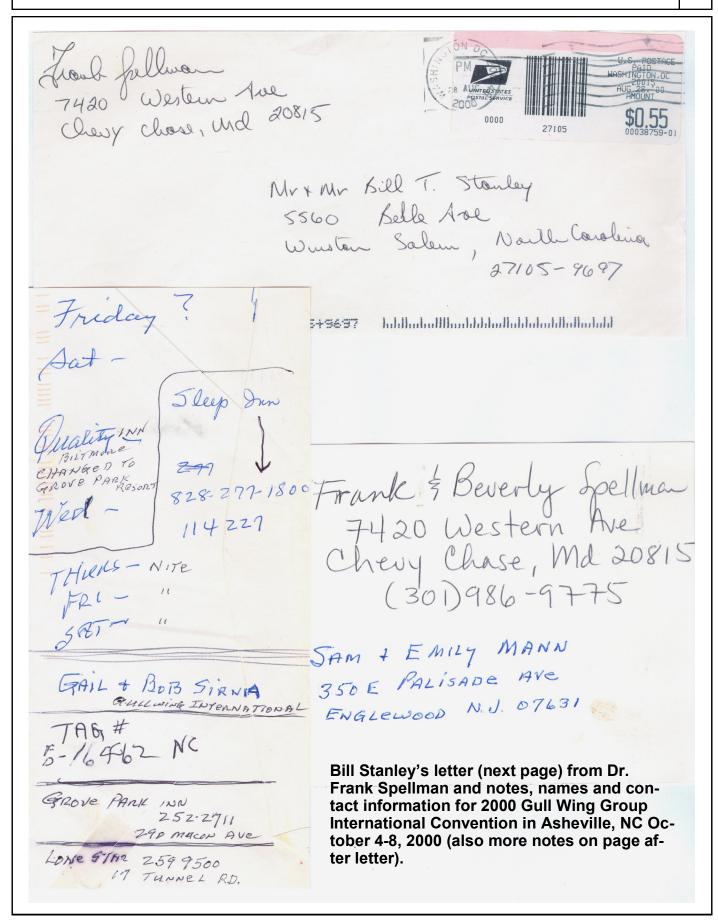
  LITTLE ROCK ARK. 6 ALLEN OWEN

  PIEDMONT CONSTRUCTION

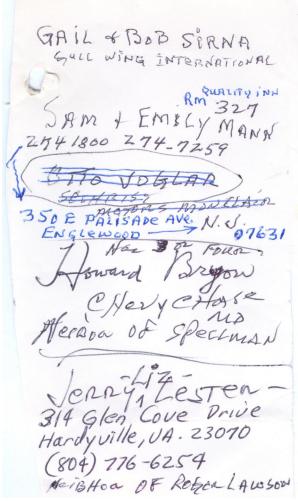
  WINSTON SALEM

  N.C.

202-726.4088 DR. FRAKIC SPELLMAN HASTRACED + VERIFIED ALL BUT ONE ABOVE IN YEAR ZOOO



Sleep Inn From Jellman 627th Oct. 7420 Western Ave 1-828-277-1800 Confirmation # 114227 Clevy chose, ud 2085 8/28/2000 Deently relieved from November and realized that I missed some deadlines on the Gullwing Group Convention 10/4 > 10/8/2000 in Ashall INC. I will small you, with my comblements, as an Associate number of Club. Would you like to be my guests for the denner on Salenday viglet or would you prefer the register yourself for the entire convention? I have enclosed Please guil me a - che uformation. I will be driving down on 10/4/2000. believe chat the owner of Robert Hortons roadster will be bringing I from New Tersey. hest wile, Thank



ROSER F MELANIE LAWSON STONEVILLE N.C 27048 800-384 334 8331

Menceses CARZOOSC Samuel J. Mann
EMILY

350 E. PALISADE AVENUE, ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631 201-568-0013 • FAX 201-568-8054













115 Hendersonville Road, Asheville, North Carolina 28803 Phone: (828) 274-1800 • Fax (828) 274-5960

# HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

Completed form **must be received** by August 15, 2000 Arrival \_\_\_\_ Departure \_\_\_\_ Reservation We reserve the right to release the unused portion Deadline: of your room block for sale to the general public after August 15, 2000 this date. Please Reserve: Room(s) at \$95 for single or double occupancy. An additional \$10 will be added for each additional adult. Prices do not reflect 9% tax. Check In Time: 3 p.m. Check Out Time: 12 Noon **Deposit Policy:** A deposit for one night's room rate is required on all reservations. Cancellation Deposits are refundable **only** if we are notified 72 hours Policy: prior to your scheduled arrival. Deposit This is a reservation request and must be guaranteed by Payment: a deposit or an accepted credit card number and sianature: Guaranteed by my first night's deposit (check or money order enclosed) Guaranteed by my credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, etc.) Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ I understand that I am liable for one night's room and tax which will be deducted from my deposit or billed through my credit card. Cancellation will be subject to current hotel policy and handling charges. Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Name\_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ State Zip Country \_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Share With Please Mail, Phone or Fax this information to the Quality Inn Biltmore no



Gull Wing Group International 32nd Annual Convention

October 4-8, 2000

**Please Mall, Phone or Fax this information to the Quality Inn Biltmore** no later than August 15, 2000. Quality Inn Biltmore, 115 Hendersonville Road, Asheville, NC 28803. Phone: (828) 274-1800, Fax (828) 274-5960.

# MARCH 1999

# **Market Place**

FOR SALE: 1954 300SL Gullwing. Red/Grey. 62,000 Original miles. Documented History, matching numbers. Original paint and leather. Outstanding, well maintained, original car both cosmetically and mechanically. Can be driven regularly or shown. \$199,500. Contact Nick Soprano at (914-997-9133 or Fax (914) 997-9136.

FOR SALE: 1955 300SL Gullwing. Red with Tan Leather. All numbers correct. Chassis #5500339. Excellent Condition. Rust Free. California/Nevada Car. \$190,000. Contact Mick Powell at (702) 255-6049.

FOR SALE: 1955 Gullwing. White with Red Leather interior. Fully restored. Spare short block. All correct numbers. Rebuilt engine, transmission and rear axle. \$225,000. Contact Hyatt Cheek, Jr. by phone or fax at either (214) 368-3679 or (214) 327-6890.

FOR SALE: 1955 Gullwing. Silver (DB-180) with Red Leather interior. Chassis #198-040-45-00060, Engine #45-00061, Body #45-0059. Excellent condition, well maintained. Only modified per GWG Tech-Tip Manual. No trades. \$195,000 Contact Harry Bedrossian at (253) 851-6337

FOR SALE: 1955 300SL Gullwing. Red/Black interior. California car, no rust or damage. 72,000 documented miles. Belly pans. All numbers correct. Chassis #5500650. Asking \$188,000. Contact Lee Wolff at (440) 442-5200 days or (440) 442-2042 fax.

FOR SALE: Divorce judge has ordered sale of two Gullwings. 1955 with race history, never rusted or wrecked 57,000 original miles. Fresh mechanicals and nicely restored in fire engine red/tan. Also 1956 Red/black nicely restored with 52,000 original miles. New mechanicals, new chrome, paint and leather. Original belly pans are beautiful. Lets talk wholesale price. I need to sell them now. Contact Dave Jahimiak at (608) 788-8544 days or (608) 788-7610 eves. 3/99

FOR SALE: 1958 300SL Roadster. Blue (353H) with burgundy leather interior. 33,000 original miles. Cosmetic restoration. \$195,000. Contact Hyatt Cheek, Jr. by phone or fax at either (214) 368-3679 or (214) 327-6890. 11/98

FOR SALE: Two piece '54 Gullwing concave star, good chrome, front and rear bumpers with early flat-filled guards and brackets, new Englebert tire on original rim, jack, door struts, brake and throttle pedals, misc. engine parts, trunkmount fuel pump, hood hinges, tail lamp buckets, cowl grille, visors, etc. CHEAP. Accepting offers! Contact Curtis Brubaker at (310) 472-4766 or email at bcat@pacbell.net 3/99

FOR SALE: NOS windshield for Roadster, still in box. Labeled "Sud Glas Kristal", no delamination, \$250 + shipping. Contact Mike at (219) 262-1037 or Fax (219) 266-1026. 2/99

FOR SALE: All are 300SL NOS parts. Brake master cylinder \$200, Fuel return valve (198-470-02-93) \$325, Fuel injection non-return valve (000-074-02-84) \$250, Generator field winding set (4 coils) \$100, GW left and right taillight lenses \$275 each. Contact Bill Beckers at (209) 728-3208 or Fax (209) 728-9331

FOR SALE: Original factory 300SL Roadster shipping/storage crate for 300SL Roadster hard top. \$1100. Contact Frank A. Spellman, M.D. at (202) 331-1188.

FOR SALE: Dual-point, single-coil ignition distributor as fitted on competition coupes. New cap, rotor, points, condenser \$450. Contact Joe Tompkins at (617) 522-7863.

FOR SALE: New N.O.S. Temperature Gauge #198-542-01-05. It is approximately 2.125" in diameter with a chrome bezel and is from 100-250°f. It also has the numbers VDO KR1800 9.77 10/8/2 stamped into the gauge housing. Contact Christopher Batterman at: cindybat@ptd.net

FOR SALE: US Headlights for 300SL Roadster \$1500 pair. Also 14 years of 300 StarLetters 1984-Present. Contact Greg Eden at (703) 519-5772

FOR SALE: I have the original owners manual pouch for a 1960 300 SL serial #002594. It includes the owners manual, catalog, vehicle data cards, directory of dealers (1960), service book with stamps and service stickers, early (2194 miles) service invoice. Also, Motochron W-198 chronometer (300 SL speedometer watch face), #007 of 300. New with box and papers. \$995 retail. \$750. Contact Bruce Perrone at (412) 881-9205, fax (412) 881-9204.

WANTED: Gullwing or Roadster Pitman Arm. Contact Bill Alff at (408)741-0422 3/99

WANTED: Gullwing in any condition. Will trade up or down for 1936 Packard Super 8, Rumbleseat, Convertible Coupe. Packard City Ivory exterior, Red Leather interior with Tan top. National AACA 1st place winner. Contact Jack Bunda phone or fax at (727) 866-3475 or after 5/99 at (920) 854-2976. 1/99

WANTED: 300 SL Coupé or Roadster, original car preferred. Must be complete. Principals only. Contact Bruce Perrone at (412) 881-9205, fax (412) 881-9204. 4/98

### MARKET PLACE GUIDELINES

RATES: Member's personal items & spares, first 6 lines free, then \$1 per line. Run on a space-available basis. Commercial vendors, \$1 for each line payable with order to GWG International.

Hun on a space-available basis. Commercial vendors, \$1 for each line gayable with order to GWG International.

GUIDELINES: Provide a written (postcard) acknowledgement of orders with an estimated delivery date to not leave buyer hanging. We prefer to do business with GWG members, but when parts are no longer available, let the prospective buyer know so alternatives can be pursued.

DEFINITIONS: A. ORIGINAL: First manufacturer's production items; may be new, used, or newly produced. B. NEW: Parts never installed or used. C. USED: Parts installed or put into service. D. NEW/OLD STOCK (NOS): Original parts made by the manufacturer and never used. Like-new cond, though possibly some "shelf-wear." E. NEW, REPLACEMENT STOCK (NRS): Made by an aftermarket source, as contrasted to D above. Not always identical in appearance, size, or specs. Like-new or "shelf-worn." F. NEWLY PRODUCED ORIGINALS: Contemporary manufacture by original manufacturer to original specifications. G. REPRODUCTIONS OR REPRINTS: Copies, not always faithful duplicates, and not by the original manufacturer/supplier.

CONDITIONS OF SALE OR PURCHASE: Seller will ship within 10 days of payment or 10 days after check is honored. If buyer is not satisfied, buyer may

payment or 10 days after check is honored. If buyer is not satisfied, buyer may return item(s) in same condition at buyer's expense within 10 days of receipt, seller will refund the price. Seller assumes risk of non-delivery on returns. Unless otherwise stated, cost of shipping will be in addition to the price of item. By placing ads in the 300 StarLetter, seller agrees to these conditions. By ordering, buyer agrees to these terms.

### **Advertising Rates**

# Marketplace Rates (per month):

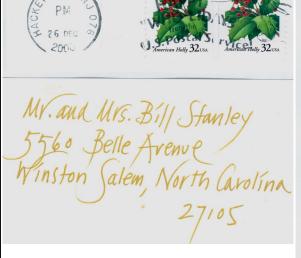
1st 6 lines free, then \$1 per line Commercial Vendor Rate,...... ..\$1 per line

### Commercial Display Rates, Sizes and Specifications

(Members & Non-Members) (per month) Full Page, 7"W x 10"H, ......\$100 ..\$100 (Memb.), \$150 (Non-

Half Page Horizontal, 7"W x 4 7/8" H, \$50 (Memb.), \$75 (Non-Memb.) Half Page Vertical, 3 3/8"W x 10"H,.....\$50 (Memb.), \$75 (Non-Memb.) 1/4 Page, 3 3/8"W x 4 7/8"H,.......\$25 (Memb.), \$40 (Non-Memb.) ..\$13 (Memb.), \$25 (Non-Memb.) 1/8 Page, 3 3/8"W x 2 3/8"H,.

Ad prices based on camera-ready art. Professional ad layout available at extra charge. Ads with photos \$20 extra 1st month only. Submissions MUST INCLUDE PAYMENT MADE OUT TO GULL WING GROUP INTERNATIONAL and are due by the 1st of the month prior Submissions can be received as late at the 14th of the month prior with prior notice.



Bill & Peggy's letter sent by Sam and Emily Mann after the October 2000 Gull Wing Convention. Hope this could finds

Jan both well. Song

for the delay in zetting

you these photos. Emily

and I were so thicked

Wishing YOU A SEASON

FILLED WITH WARM MOMENTS

AND CHERISHED MEMORIES

the together with you

foth ... a lovely deprience.

All our fordest wishes

SAM AND EMILY MANN

for the holiday season and

the new you.

SYNTHON SERVING THE SERVI

Sam and Emily Mann Car Collection
(Sam comments from Leo Levine article New York Times 2-21-2014)

Sam and Emily Mann amassed one of the world's best collection of vintage cars totaling over 60 cars.

In August 2016 Sotheby's Monterey auctioned five of his cars with four being sold.

- 1) 1939 Alfa Romeo 8C 2900B for (Estimate \$20-25 million) (Price realized \$19,800,000)
- 2) 1956 Ferrari 250 GT Berlinetta Competizione "Tour de France" (Estimate \$7-9 million), (Sold for \$5,700,000)
- 3) 1908 American Underslung 50 hp roadster (\$1.4 million to \$1.75 million) (Not Sold)
- 4) 1926 Miller Locomobile Junior 8 Special (\$750,000 to \$1 million) (Sold for \$770,000)
- 5) 1926 Bentley 3-4 1/2-litre tourer in the style of Vanden Plas (\$600,000 to \$750,000) (Sold for \$682,000)

Sam lamented the fact the hobby had become investor driven. That auctions have taken away much of the joy of collecting. "I get to thinking about those years I spent seeking out cars all over the world, from ads, dealer calls and other leads and how much fun and adventure it was, as well as all the research I had to do," he said. "Now you open up an auction catalog and sit there, bored, in the hope that someone won't outbid you. No travel to new places, no real childish anticipation, no new friends, no test drives through wonderful French, or British or American countryside. "Nothing but commerce," he said.



Encino: Thirty-Six years later Lots of Memories!!!
Just before selling in 2000 18,000 Miles



Horton's Garage Encino Cal Dad's Environmental Protected Garage Picture taken by Frank Spellman 1999



Parking Lot 300SL's Parking Lot Motel Thursday Afteroon



55 Cars Lined Up Judging About 11AM



Left Robert Horton Car (Red One) Biltmore Estates



Bill Stanley Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Biltmore Frank Spellman Car



Peggy beside the Horton Car



Bill Stanley Fri Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Robert Horton Car Looking at it 36 years later Goose Bumps Came Over Me (Bill)



Bill & Peggy Stanley Beside Spellman 300SL Fri Oct 6<sup>th</sup> 2000



Peggy Beside Spellman 300SL Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Biltmore House



Spellman Car Got 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Should have gotten First Place!



Beverly Spellman & Peggy Stanley Fri Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Biltmore Beautiful Lady with Peggy, Real Classy Lady



Frank & Bill Fri Oct 6<sup>th</sup>
Dr. Frank Spellman
One of the Nicest People He Ever Met



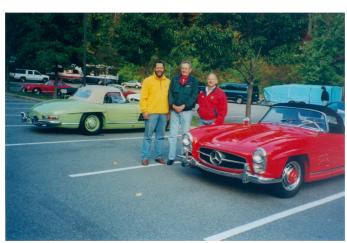
Taylor's Ranch Fri Oct 6<sup>th</sup> Bill with Sam & Emily Mann New Owners of the Horton Car



Frank & Beverly Spellman Oct 7<sup>th</sup> 2000 Asheville NC Deer Park Inn Sat. Nite



Liz & Jerry Lesten 10-7-2000 Deer Park Inn



Frank, Bill & Sam Oct 7th Sam, Bill & Frank (Right Picture)



Roger & Marlyn Lawson Oct 7, 2000 Deer Park Inn Roger said they would go eat with us if Bush got elected Lovely Couple



**Canadian Couple Gull Wing Convention Dressed like Mounted Police** 300SL International Club to meet in Vancouver BC 2001





Saturday AM Parking Lot Motel Emily Mann 300SL Oct 7<sup>th</sup>



Bill, Frank Spellman, Sam & Emily Mann



Sam, Bill & Frank



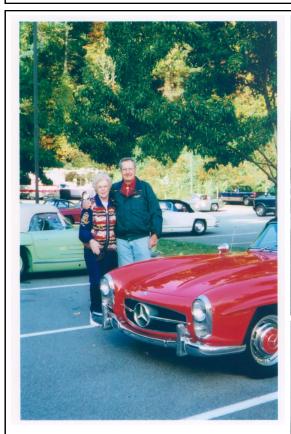
Frank, Bill & Sam



These Two Pictures Sent To Bill By Sam & Emily Mann



Frank, Bill & Sam



Peggy & Bill beside the Horton 300SL

Right: Three pictures of Piedmont Motor Sales, Inc. as it appeared in 1958

Bill & Peggy at the Deer Park Inn at the Gulf Wing International Convention Asheville NC Oct 4-8, 2000







