

# THE MBCA STAR-GAZER NEWSLETTER

www.MBCASeaLevel.org



Sea-Level Section

VOLUME 43, ISSUE 1 FIRST QUARTER, 2006

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## LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS

03/11/2006 (SAT): TECH SESSION FROM 10:30AM TO 1PM ON WINTERIZING/DETAILING; FREE ENTRANCE @ MB MASSAPEQUA; SEE PAGE 5

04/02/2006 (SUN): SPRING RALLY; GREAT EVENT! SEE PAGE 5

04/22/2006 (SAT): MB MANHATTAN AUTO SHOW; SEE PAGE 7

THERE WILL ALSO BE:

- CONCOURS/POPULAR CAR SHOW (MID-JULY)
- 50TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER-DANCE (AUGUST)
- FALL RALLY (SEPTEMBER)
- JAMES BEARD EVENT (OCTOBER)
- HOLIDAY PARTY (DECEMBER)
- AND SEVERAL OTHERS IN THE PLANNING

EMAIL [JIMMYBALDEA@MBCASEALEVEL.ORG](mailto:JIMMYBALDEA@MBCASEALEVEL.ORG) IF YOU'D LIKE TO SEE ANY ADDITIONAL TYPES OF FUTURE EVENTS!

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## CHANGES OF ADDRESS / MEMBER MARKETPLACE

Change of address requests should be forwarded to: MBCA, 19071 Lelaray Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909; the telephone # is (800) 637-2360, and the URL is [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org). Sea-Level members may place a no-charge story in the Star-Gazer for an M-B

or related item by mailing necessary information to the Editor. Advertisement deadlines: January 15th (1st Quarter), April 15th (2nd Quarter), July 15th (3rd Quarter), and October 15th (4th Quarter). The Star-Gazer is published quarterly by the Sea-Level Section of

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Northeast Regional Director: Douglas Dees, 35 Birchcroft Rd., Etobicoke, Ontario, M9A2L5 Canada; (416) 233-6599

HOLIDAY & EVENT PICS ARE LOCATED THROUGHOUT THIS ISSUE! THE HOLIDAYS EVENTS WERE ENJOYED BY ALL WHO ATTENDED! THANK YOU TO ALL.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Theodore Conklin, Robert Hahn, Charles Hart, Steven Henebry, Elizabeth Hodgkin, Neil R. Keller, James Kerin, Major Morrison, Ruth M. & Richard Poniarski, and John A. & Geri Vicari.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, Fellow Sea-Level Section Members! A belated Happy New Year to all of you! I hope everyone's New Year is moving along splendidly. Our Annual Holiday Party was well-attended with over 60 members and guests getting into the Holiday Spirit, enjoying good food and good company. Our first Caravan through the Jones Beach Holiday Light Show was also a success thanks to the work of Board Member, Jimmy Baldea. We plan to expand on it for next year! Speaking of 2006, the Club has a variety of wonderful events lined up for this year. We hope to have a Tech Session or two in March and April, our Annual Spring Rally in April, our Annual Concours d'Elegance and Daily Driver Event in the Summer, and our Annual James Beard Dinner in New York City in the early Fall. There are more events in the works! The events are mentioned in this issue's Coming Events Section else-

where in this newsletter, and in upcoming newsletters in order for you to set aside the dates. Of special note is the fact that this is the 50th Anniversary of Mercedes-Benz Club of America and festivities are being planned around the country by the various sections. We are working on a Dinner Dance night. More of the particulars will be forthcoming in the next newsletter. All of this points to a varied and active year of events that you can take part in and enjoy the company of like-minded individuals who enjoy the lifestyle and driving experience of one of the finest cars, the Mercedes-Benz! Safe Driving and Happy Trails, Joe DeFilippe

gether for a picture, immediately after I unloaded all of the toys that were donated my members, from my ML. She had told me that the toys that we donated would serve to bring holiday cheer to young local residents, and to less-affluent families in Harlem.

## TOY DRIVE INFO

Vinny Milo & Jimmy Baldea delivered toys from our Holiday Toy Drive to the Holy Mary of Nazareth Community Soup Kitchen, in Harlem, to a community of nuns from the Sisters of Notre Dame. They appreciated our generosity. Attendees of our Holiday Party were responsible for providing toys and happiness to almost 50 needy children/families in Harlem in 2005! A jolly Sr. Theresa, & I, Jimmy Baldea, posed to-



## THE JIMMY BALDEA REPORT

The Toy Drive was a huge success! Almost 50 toys were collected. Vinny Milo and I set out to bring them to Sloan Kettering... but with the

many donations that they received, they thought it would be a better idea for us to help another needy cause. We selected a local commu-

nity center/soup kitchen in Harlem. The nuns that operate the center were overjoyed and thankful! Thank you to all who donated!

## HOLIDAY DINNER @ THE BONWIT INN, COMMACK

There was an amazing turnout at the 2005 MBCA Sea-Level Holiday Party. There were many members/their families

Present who attend every year, and there were many newly-joined members present. All attendees set the

tone for a festive event. In the spirit of tradition, everyone brought new, unwrapped toys for charity. Almost 50 toys

were collected. The food and drinks were delicious. We look forward to seeing you at the 2006 Holiday Party!



## JONES BEACH HOLIDAY LIGHT SHOW CARAVAN

The Holiday Light Spectacular was well enjoyed. There were over 8 cars filled with members and their families, who attended. I was delighted to speak with (and email) members before the event, as well as participate in

searching for each other during the event (through the other cars waiting on line to attend the event). The drive-through lasted approximately 15 minutes, and allowed attendees to see over 1,000,000 lights displaying animated holiday

scenery. We saw Santa driving a car, Rudolph and the other Reindeer, the 12 Days of Christmas, and many other amazing displays. While some of our caravan continued toward the exit, several other members stopped in

“Santa’s Village” to have some hot chocolate and mingle. We all took many photo’s, including the one in the parking lot, of a new ML (lic plate “DR JAW”), my ML, the Bermans’ G-Wagon, and a really hot E-Class!



## ABOUT OUR LOCAL DEALERS

Throughout the years, the Sea-Level Section has grown to rely on the help of our local M-B dealers to help make our events successful. We have received much help, in the form of sponsored tech events, discounts on parts, donated gift prizes, and special overall treatment. I am in frequent contact with several sales reps from various dealerships, and they love hearing about the many positive experiences that our members have with them. When going in for service, or when considering buying or leasing your next Mercedes, be sure to let your dealer/service rep know that the MBCA appreciates all of their help and support.

## UPCOMING EVENT: SPRING TECH SESSION WINTERIZING/DETAILING

Sat., March 11, 2006, from 10:30AM to 1PM: I would like to reserve a total # of \_\_\_\_\_ seats for the event @ \$0.00 ea.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

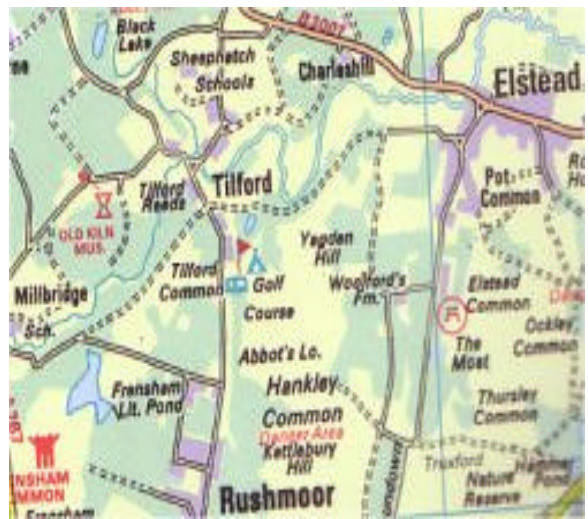
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

MB Massapequa: 101 East Sunrise Highway, Amityville, NY 11701; Tel: 800-799-3891. RSVP: March 5, 2006. Mail this to: Jimmy Baldea, 350 Northern Blvd., Suite 326, Great Neck, New York 11021. Remember to copy directions when mailing this/any other form. Email [JimmyBaldea@MBCASeaLevel.org](mailto:JimmyBaldea@MBCASeaLevel.org) or call 516-466-5858 x308 if you have any questions. **From West:** MEADOWBROOK PKWY to WANTAGH PKWY S / WANTAGH STATE PKWY via EXIT 33 toward JONES BEACH. Merge onto SOUTHERN STATE PKWY / SOUTHERN PKWY E via EXIT W4 E on the LEFT toward EASTERN LI. Merge onto BROADWAY / NY-110 S via EXIT 32S. Merge onto SUNRISE HWY / POW / MIA MEMORIAL HWY / NY-27 E toward MONTAUK. **From East:** SOUTHERN PKWY to BROADWAY / NY-110 S via EXIT 32S. Merge onto SUNRISE HWY / POW / MIA MEMORIAL HWY / NY-27 E toward MONTAUK.

## UPCOMING EVENT: SPRING RALLY

Starting @ 9am sharp, on Sunday, April, 2, at the Riverview Restaurant, 3 Consuelo Place, Oakdale, J. Andrew "Andy" Monahan and John Anaischik have planned a fantastic Sea-Level Road Rally for our members. What a great way to meet fellow members! A road rally is an event where members drive through a well-planned course of streets/landmarks,

to questions, in order to win prizes. This event requires both a driver and a navigator who rides "shotgun" so that both can participate. If you are solo, and would like to be paired up, arrangements can be made! Cost of participation = \$19.95 per person. RSVP ASAP. Contact John @ 516-775-3597, or Andy @ 516-316-3113. A street map of Suffolk County is strongly recommended.



Event: April 2, 2006. Please RSVP by: March 20, 2006: \$19.95/person. # of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need to be paired up with someone (if solo)? Circle one: Yes No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: J. Andrew Monahan, 76 Georgia Avenue, Long Beach, 11561. Directions: Take EXIT 53 toward SAGTIKOS STATE PKY / SOUTH SHORE / SUNKEN MEADOW PK. Merge onto EXPRESS DR S. Merge onto SAGTIKOS PKWY S toward BAY SHORE. : Merge onto HECKSCHER PKWY E / SOUTHERN STATE PKWY / SOUTHERN PKWY E via the exit on the LEFT toward HECKSCHER ST PK. Take EXIT 44E toward RT-27 E / MONTAUK. Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto SUNRISE HWY / POW / MIA MEMORIAL HWY. Take the RT-27A / CR-85 exit- EXIT 46A- toward OAKDALE / GREAT RIVER. Take the ramp toward OAKDALE. Turn LEFT onto NY-27A / CR-85 / MONTAUK HWY. Turn RIGHT onto VANDERBILT BLVD. Turn RIGHT onto SHORE DR. Turn LEFT onto CONSUELO PL. Remember to copy directions when mailing this/any other form.

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Have you logged on? If not, what are you waiting for? The Sea-Level website is an invaluable information tool, and gradually has updates being installed on a regular basis. For AOL, Yahoo, and MSN users: Emails from [JimmyBaldea@MBCASeaLevel.org](mailto:JimmyBaldea@MBCASeaLevel.org) are being placed into SPAM folders, and are preventing us from reaching you. Please consult with your Internet service provider to find out what steps you can take to ensure that Sea-Level emails are not filtered. If you have any questions, kindly call me, Jimmy Baldea, at

## ADVERTISEMENT

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## UPCOMING EVENT: MB-MANHATTAN TECH SESSION & AUTO SHOW

Congratulations goes out to new Board Secretary, Jerry Shapiro, for being elected 2005 Member of the Year. Jerry planned the 2005 Auto Show event, and has made many contributions to the Club, in terms of time, planning, & writing/publicity. Jerry's event updates appear in The Star, the New York Newsday, and many other places. Jerry will plan the 2006 MB Manhattan event. In his own words, Jerry would like to say, "the Sea-Level Section will have a Club event at Mercedes-Benz Manhattan located at 536 West 41st Street and 11th Avenue on Saturday, April 22, 2006. The time is 5PM to 7PM. The newest and most exciting Mercedes models will be on display and their sales staff will be available to explain the latest features. The Mercedes-Benz Classic Center will have a representative at the meeting to give a talk on these beautiful, and unique automobiles. After the meeting, members and their guests will have the opportunity to visit the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center located just across the street for the 2006 International Automobile Show. Refreshments will be served, and free protected parking will be provided courtesy of Mercedes-Benz Manhattan." Please complete the sheet below if interested in attending.

I would like to attend the Mercedes Manhattan event on Saturday, April 22, 2006:

Total # of guests @ \$0.00 ea. requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP: April 1, 2006. Mail this request to: Jerry Shapiro 6719 215 Street, Bayside, 11364.





THE MBCA STAR-GAZER  
NEWSLETTER

Attention: Jimmy Baldea, Editor  
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MESSAGE FROM JIMMY BALDEA:  
CHECK OUT THE NEW M-B CREDIT CARD  
ON PAGE 7

Place  
STAMP here

TO:

[Large empty rounded rectangular box for address]

Sea-Level Shop... Car Badges, Hats, & Tote Bags

*The Section is now offering multi-colored, chrome-plated grill badges, and white or blue hats, and tote bags bearing our authentic Mercedes-Benz Sea-Level logo. Please make all checks payable to the MBCA.*

There are two different order forms printed here. The left is for grill badges, & the right is for hats and tote bags.

Total # of Grill Badges @ \$20 ea. requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this request to: John Anaischik, 200 Floral Pkwy., Floral Park, NY 11001. Prices include ship/handl.

Total # of white hats @ \$15 ea. requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of blue hats @ \$15 ea. requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Total # of tote bags @ \$20 ea. requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this request to: Joe DeFilippe, 19 Chester Street, E. Northport, NY 11731. Prices include ship/handl.