



Star-Gazer

SEA LEVEL SECTION - MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB of AMERICA, Inc.

Volume 38, Issue 1

First Quarter, 2001

from the editor

*Snow, snow
and more
snow.*

*Will we ever
be able to put
those tops
down again?*

*Snow and
convertible
tops really
don't go well
together.*

*I'm sure there
are probably
many cars sit-
ting in*

*garage itch-
ing to be
taken for a*

*ride on that
open road.*

*You know,
cars can get
cabin fever
too.*

*If that cabin
fever is get-*

PRELIMINARY EVENT SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 10th	Technical Session Competition Imports, Smithtown
Sunday, April 29th	"Cross-the-Island" Rallye Starting: (see article, this issue)
MAY	Spanish Dinner Laguna Cafe, Roslyn
May 18-20	National: StarTech 20001, Colorado
JUNE	Sea Level Concours d' Elegance Duck Walk Vineyard, Water Mill
June 16-19	National: Gemutlichkeit 2001, Michigan
JULY	Museum Caravan Antique Car Museum, Mattituck
July 18-21	National: StarTrack: Pennsylvania
Sunday, August 19th	Winery Picnic, Tour and Car Show Pindar Vineyards, Peconic
August 4-7	National: Tri-O-Rama, Virginia
Sunday, October 21st	Fall Rallye Starting: To be announced
NOVEMBER	Weekend Leisure Rallye Scribner Hollow Lodge, Hunter NY
Sunday, December 2nd	Holiday Party Bonwit Inn, Commack



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Welcome New Members

The following individuals have recently joined MBCA and more specifically are now members of the Sea Level Section. Please introduce yourself to these fellow Mercedes enthusiasts at our next event.

Iyiola Aiyeku	John Failla	Sandro Makaj	Vance P Shaw
Robert Auerbach	Gregory Falk	Arek Malhas	Carol Simkin
Lawrence Boothe	Andrew Friedman	Raju Mirchandani	Anthony Sofia
James Byrnes	Richard Gochman	J. Andrew Monahan	Foad Tamaddon
Michael F Clarke	Sonny Grosfeld	Linda Nicolino	John Tecce
Alan Cleary	Peter R. Hacker	Michael Pace	Eleanor Ukoli
Henry Cortes	Michael W. Huffman	Mike Pope	Matthew Vitale
Elliott Cuker	Michael Jackson	Stanley Relkin	Robert M Wallach
Patricia P Daly	Alan D. Janzen	Filip Sanza	Robert Whitlock
Aurelien De Seze	Jack Lesko	Roger Schillizzi	Sallie Williams
Carl DiGregorio	Edward R. Logan	Mark Schwartz	Sergey Yutsis
	Robert Lovett	Stuart M Selip	

Sea Level Officers & Staff

President:	John Anaischik	200 Floral Parkway, Floral Park NY 11001	(516) 775-3597
Vice-President:	Richard Weiss	86 Kingsbury Road, Garden City, NY 11530	(516) 747-0679
Secretary:	Robert Muth	411 9th Avenue, East Northport, NY 11731	(631) 261-5074
Treasurer:	Bernie Berberich	104 N. Howells Point Rd., Bellport NY 11713	(631) 286-8086
Technical Advisor:	Louis Palumbo	C/O Gullwing Motors, Inc. 100 Windsor Avenue, Mineola, NY 11501	(516) 742-3320
Editor:	John Betsch	Three Winchester Lane, Huntington, NY 11743	(631) 549-3564

Members of the Board

John Anaischik	Bernie Berberich	Dr. Jonah Berman	John Betsch	Peter Busacca	Joseph Defilippe
Spencer Dworkin	Vincent Milo	Robert Muth	Creighton Phillips	Jerome Shapiro	Richard Weiss
		Viola Scarduzio (director emeritus)			

Northeast Regional Vice President

Roy O. Kuck
67 Terrylynn Drive
Angola, NY 14006-1243

Changes of Address: Requests should be forwarded to MBCA 19071 Lelaray Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909; 1-800-637-2360, or www.mbc.org

Member Marketplace Sea Level members may place a no-charge ad in the *Star-Gazer* for an M-B or related item by mailing necessary information to the Editor. Advertisement Deadlines: January 15th (February Edition) April 15th (May Edition) July 15th (August Edition) October 15th (November Edition)



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ting to you, here's your answer: Come to the first event of the year, our Tech Session at Competition Imports in Smithtown. Last year, Mercedes-Benz USA set records with the highest U.S. sales in its history with over 205,000 vehicles sold in 2000. Why not come to Competition and see some of the reasons for that record, and also get answers to that technical problem that's been bugging you. Sign up form is on page 7.

John Betsch
ed.

President's Message

Dear Fellow Members:

On behalf of the Section Directors, I extend to you and your families a very Happy and Healthy New Year!

Each new year holds the promise of beginnings, renewed hope, even change. This holds true for the Sea Level Section for 2001. At the first Director's Meeting on January 7th, we developed a preliminary list of events so that you can begin to plan for them in advance (trying to keep in mind that May and June have many family commitments). In fact, our annual Holiday Party has already been arranged to be the Bonwit Inn in Com-mack on December 2nd.

In the past, the Club's tradition has been to subsidize the luncheons that followed each event in order to reduce the individual costs for our members. For this year, each member participating in the event will be asked to pay the full luncheon subscription when it applies. It is our sincere hope that the Club can resume offering these subsidies at a later date. In light of this change in funding, we are very fortunate that

Competition Imports in Smithtown will be hosting the buffet following the Technical Session on March 10th. I personally request that you respond quickly to this invitation so that our gracious hosts will be able to accommodate the number of guests attending.

Don't forget the Spring Rallye on Sunday, April 29th, which will commence in central Long Island and conclude with a sit down luncheon in a South Shore restaurant. This Rallye offers a scenic ride through the countryside and the opportunity to lunch with other Club members while discussing the sites you were asked to locate. Hope to see you there. Two car shows have also been planned: The formal and traditional Concours d' Elegance, and an informal members choice of "The Most Popular Car"

Specific details of all the events will follow. The Directors and I truly hope you will enjoy participating in them as we have enjoyed planning them!

With warm regards,

John Anaischik

Is that an Old-Timer in Your Garage?

If that's an old-timer in your garage, you're in luck, as MBUSA has announced that it has expanded client support services to include classic car owners.

Beginning last December, classic car specialists armed with a complete set of technical data are on call between 9:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday to provide MBUSA retailers and clients with spare parts information for vintage Mercedes-Benz cars - which includes those models out of production twenty years or longer. By calling 1-866-MBCLASSIC (622-5277) with your car's chassis number or VIN, you can determine genuine Mercedes-Benz replacement part and part number, check availability and price, and obtain the phone number for the parts department at the nearest M-B retailer to place an order and take delivery of the part. Inquiries containing chassis or VIN can also be forwarded via e-mail to classic-parts@mbusa.com.

Holiday Party - 2000

If the "Grinch Who Stole Christmas" had only attended our Holiday Party, he would have been a different person. The atmosphere at the South Country Inn in East Patchogue just radiated that Holiday spirit. As we completely filled the restaurant [to the brim] with family and friends, enjoying good food and conversation, recalling the events of the year and anticipating next years, that Holiday spirit was contagious. (In fact, Section Elves gave a special Sea Level gift to each person). The Grinch would not have been able to resist.



The President's gavel was passed from Dick Weiss to John Aniaschik, and John also received recognition as *Member of the Year*.

"Congratulations to John and to the *Who's of Whoville*", ... the Grinch was heard to say as he was leaving.



photo courtesy of P.Sedita



Sea Level SPECIALTY SHOP

The Sea Level Specialty Shop opened at our Holiday Party in December and did a brisk business. Offered for sale were white or blue Caps and cloth Tote Bags, all sporting our Sea Level name and the Three Pointed Star logo. At a price of \$10 for any item, many attendees did some early Christmas shopping.

We will be offering these items for sale at all of our future events. Bring a few extra dollars and take home something useful from your favorite car club.

NYPD BLUE



The latest addition to the NYPD's Bike Patrol Unit is a police-duty version of the technologically innovative Mercedes-Benz All-Terrain Mountain Bike. The bike features a super-lightweight Alcoa all-aluminum frame, hydraulic rear shock absorber, front and rear disc brakes and Shimano Nexave drivetrain with 24-speed gearing. Police Duty models are fitted with a specific

rear sub-frame with a welded rack pack plus minor surface finish changes. Fifty mountain bikes valued at \$100,000 were donated to NYPD by Mercedes-Benz.

There are approximately 1,400 active bike patrol units in operation within local, city, state and federal law enforcement agencies across the country, according to the International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMPA). "Bike officers can travel faster and further than foot officers and they are able to patrol areas unreachable by car. They also have a stealth advantage," per Maureen Becker, Executive Director of IPMPA.

Plans are to donate 1000 Mountain Bikes to law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

M-B Marketplace

NEW

(4) P175 / 70R14

American Silver tires mounted on '84
190E Wheels;

Tom Smith
(718) 888-1910

WANTED

300TD, 1980-1985

Looking for a well maintained, low mileage,
frequent oil changed auto with no rust.
WILL CONTINUE FAITHFUL CARE!

Diesel Head, high school teacher
Andre (718) 634-6278

(516)742-3320



Gullwing Motors, Inc.
Imported Motorcar Specialists

LOUIS PALUMBO

100 WINDSOR AVENUE
MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501

"Cross-the-Island" Rallye

Are you up to the challenge! Beginning at 10:AM from the Park & Ride lot located on the North Service Road of the Long Island Expressway between Exits 50 & 49 North, the "Cross-the-Island" Rallye will be cruising thru the North Shore, several historic sites, State Parks and ending with luncheon at a South Shore restaurant. It's there that you can compare notes with fellow rallyists and possibly pick up an award!

When: Sunday, April 29th

Where: Park & Ride, LIE Exit 50/49N

Starting Time: 10AM

✓ **Sign-Up on Page 7**

FUN & GAMES

Bet it takes longer than you think!!

L	N	D	N	H	S	F	W	A	N	N	P	B	A	P
E	G	S	U	O	Z	E	W	Z	U	Q	I	P	R	F
S	E	Y	U	L	I	T	A	H	A	R	O	A	M	H
B	D	B	O	I	H	S	O	L	E	C	L	Y	C	A
W	A	A	K	D	B	X	S	Z	E	L	B	E	A	T
V	K	O	C	A	L	S	A	E	Y	V	N	M	R	R
B	M	G	M	Y	T	G	U	E	S	H	E	K	S	U
B	D	W	B	P	R	A	P	T	A	H	Q	L	H	O
P	I	N	D	A	R	P	I	C	N	I	C	O	O	T
U	N	S	T	R	A	S	U	B	M	W	M	E	W	Y
U	C	S	F	T	C	O	N	C	O	U	R	S	T	R
W	O	G	T	Y	O	U	T	Z	C	T	I	X	L	E
Z	N	E	B	S	E	D	E	C	R	E	M	H	D	N
N	Y	G	C	E	H	J	T	V	X	C	Z	X	N	I
D	N	U	Z	T	A	M	I	O	E	M	E	Q	I	W

Competition Imports Technical Session

Saturday, March 10th
Competition Imports,
Smithtown

Starting: 10AM

✓ **Sign-Up on Page 7**

- CAR SHOW •CONCOURS •HOLIDAY PARTY
- MBCA •MBUSA •MERCEDES BENZ
- PINDAR PICNIC •RALLYE •SEA LEVEL
- STAR GAZER •TECH SESSION
- WINERY TOUR ✓

courtesy: S. Johnson

Technical Session - March 10th

Return To: Peter Busacca
121 Norwood Avenue
Port Jefferson Stn, NY 11776-2552

Sign me up!
I will be there at the Competition Imports Tech Session
on March 10th!

NAME: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Number in party _____ *attending.*

**Registration
due:
March 7th**



"Cross-the-Island" Rallye - April 29th

Return To: John Anaischik
200 Floral Parkway
Floral Park, NY 11001

Sign me up! I want to be part of the Spring Rallye!
I am enclosing a check (payable to MBCA) for \$29. per person
participating.

NAME: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Number in party _____ *attending.*





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Sea Level Section
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**In this issue-
2001 Event Calendar**

STAR-GAZER

C32 AMG with new 349-HP Supercharged Engine was unveiled at the Detroit Auto Show

