



Star-Gazer

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

Volume 39, Issue 1

First Quarter, 2002

from the editor

"In the future everybody will be world famous for 15 minutes."

Andy Warhol, 1928-1987

Here's your chance.

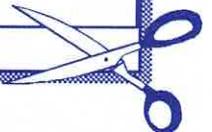
There will be at least six Section events this year where you can achieve that fifteen minutes of fame. You may not be world famous but at least famous within Sea Level. Cut out the calendar at the right and

START YOUR ENGINE'S 2002 Planning Calendar Announced!

Get out that Palm Pilot, that Franklin Planner or that Calendar that's on the side of the refrigerator and mark the dates below with a big Mercedes Symbol! Plan now on joining your Club Members at the events below!

PRELIMINARY EVENT SCHEDULE

<i>Saturday, March 10th</i>	<i>Defensive Driving Course Bobby Hull Insurance, Port Jefferson</i>
<i>Sunday, April 28th</i>	<i>South Fork Rallye Starting: (see article, this issue)</i>
<i>Saturday, May 18th</i>	<i>Acceleration Run LI Motor Sports Park, Westhampton</i>
<i>JUNE</i>	<i>Sea Level Concours d'Elegance LIU: C.W.Post Campus, Brookville, Date: TBD</i>
<i>JULY/AUGUST</i>	<i>Popular Car Show Date/Location: To be announced</i>
<i>August 11-16</i>	<i>National: StarFest 2002</i>
<i>Sunday, September 22nd</i>	<i>Rambo XI Rallye Starting: To be announced</i>
<i>OCTOBER NOVEMBER</i>	<i>Special Event planning underway</i>
<i>Sunday, December 8th</i>	<i>Holiday Party Bonwit Inn, Commack</i>



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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.

Beau Baker	James Emden	David Hall	Oyeniya Oyediran
Maria Bartell	Anthony Falsone	Daniel Homan	Hugh Powers
Ralph Bieber	Frank Fileccia	Carl Izsak	Yuri Radzievsky
Margaret Brown	James Franklin	Mark Jacobsen	David Rawlings
Michael Castoro	Carlos Garcia	Lawrence Kaplan	Willie Ricks
David Cohen	Richard Gibbs	William Khisivitch	Elliott Rittenband
Frederick Collins	Madeline Gray	Joseph Lebar	Robert Rizzi
James Couri	Stephen Grayer	Marie Loguercioi	Francis Seow
Robert Depalo	Angelo Greere	Richard Mancogna	Mark Stern
Graeme Dey	Massimino Gronta	James Molyneaux	Ramesh Tejpal
Shon Ellis	George Haas	Marc Odrich	Gino Trunzo

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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start planning
that strategy.

It should also
be noted that
many of
events past
winners have
been first
timers,
whether it be
a rallye, the
popular car
show, an
acceleration
run or even
our Con-
cours.

Now's your
chance.

Achieve that
fifteen
minutes of
fame or at
least the
satisfaction of
having a
good time, or
maybe your
picture in an
upcoming
issue of
Star-Gazer.

Make
Andy Warhol
proud.

John Betsch
ed.

President's Message

Dear Members,

It is my pleasure to welcome each of you to the 2002 Calender of Events. At the January meeting, the Club Officers and the Board of Directors voted on eight events for this year. We will try to provide the opportunity for more members to participate with some requested events.

The opening event in March is the Defensive Driving Course. This event was given about three years ago. It might qualify you for a discount on your auto Liability or Comprehensive Insurance, which is good for three years. Check with your insurance company.

The next event is the Spring Rallye. This is an event that I have hosted for the last several years. The Rallye that the Club runs is for fun and enjoyment. It is different from the Motor Sports Rallye seen on television where cars and trucks race through unpaved muddy roads at high speeds, sliding off and on the road in an attempt to get to the finish line first. Our Rallye is similar to those of days in the 1920's and 30's, when some cars were called "Touring Models" and people went for a Sunday of motoring. If you choose to join the Spring Rallye, the event won't require you to do your usual driving, such as taking the children to school, running errands to the supermarket, or commuting to work. When you join the Rallye, you get to take your beautiful Mercedes-Benz for a drive in the countryside. The event ends at a beachfront restaurant where you can talk with other members and guests about your drive on the Rallye route. We discuss the ques-

tions and the answers and awards are presented. The directions on the route are in street names, turns are direction of "right", "left", "East", "West", "North", "South". The expected time is set by the posted speed limits, traffic, and light delays along the route. The distance is strictly adhered to, and questions are asked to be sure that you stay on the route. First time participants have done well! The only items you will need are a map of Suffolk County, a pen, and sometimes a compass is handy. I will be looking forward to seeing you at our Spring Rallye on April 28th.

I will conclude this message with the input of our members who have participated in the autocross events. The autocross track that was set up at the Nassau Coliseum did not have adequate room for deceleration. The Club has decided to meet at the Long Island Motor Sports Park in Westhampton on Saturday, May 18th at 12:00 noon. In the past there have been members with 2.3 turbo charged SLK's and members with E55 sedans at our driving events. So there will be two classes one: 3 liter an over, the other less then 3 liters. Members will only compete against other members. Awards will be presented after the event. A "SNELL 90" or better helmet is required. The \$45 fee is charged by Long Island Motor Sports Park. I hope to see those members who wish to showcase their performance-oriented cars at this event. If not competing, plan to come and watch!

With my best regards,

John

John A. Anaischik

Jonah Berman, OD named Member of the Year at Holiday Party



John A. & Santa's helper



In his quiet and unassuming way, Jonah Berman can always be counted on to get the job done, whether it's serving on our Board of Directors or coordinating a Manhattan event. Anyone who has attended one of Manhattan MB's Tech Sessions, or the historic Steinway-Daimler Commemorative Celebration this past Fall has benefitted from his expertise. Congratulations Jonah!

Congratulations Jonah!



Sergio Sedita, John & Dolores Betsch, Susan & John Anaischik



Checking out last year's events (or are they eyeing those toys)



Donna & Bernie Berberich and Creighton Phillips



The many Sea Level members who enjoyed the Holiday Party



Tom Grilli & friends



John A with Spencer Dworkin and Dick & Shirley Weiss



John A & Vinny Milo

Overheard:

"I think I will ask Santa Claus for a Snell 90 Helmet"



The Milo Clan

Sea Level Shop

*The popular Sea Level Grill Badge
is back!*

*Thanks to the efforts of John Anais-
chik, the Section is now offering
multi-colored, chrome-plated grill
badges for your MB. The badges
are priced at \$15 when purchased at
Section events and \$20 when mail-
ing is required.*

*Get yours before the present supply
is gone!*



The Sea Level Specialty Shop also offers white or blue caps and cloth tote bags, all sporting our Sea Level name and the Star logo at a price of \$10.

These items are for sale at all of our events. Bring a few extra dollars and take home something useful from your favorite car club.

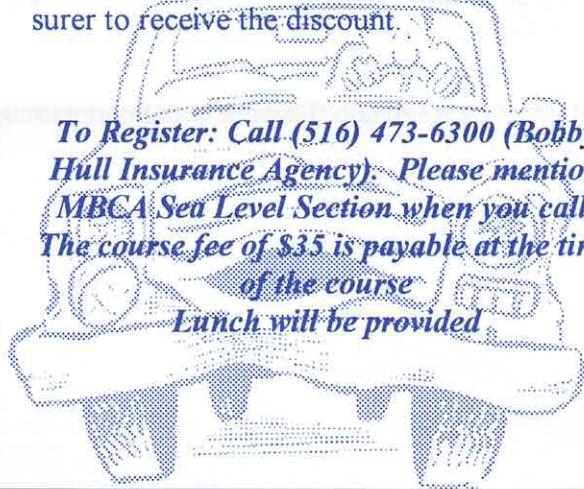
NYS Approved Defensive Driving Course

**Sunday, March 10th,
9:30 - 3:30pm**

**Place: Bobby Hull Insurance Agency
517 Route 112
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776**

An opportunity for members to attend a NYS approved Defensive Driving Course. Completion of this six hour course allows you to save 10% on your auto insurance and remove up to 4 points from your driver's license. The NYS Department of Motor Vehicles will be notified of your attendance and you will be provided a certificate to present to your insurer to receive the discount.

*To Register: Call (516) 473-6300 (Bobby
Hull Insurance Agency). Please mention
MBCA Sea Level Section when you call.
The course fee of \$35 is payable at the time
of the course
Lunch will be provided*



(516)742-3320



Gullwing Motors, Inc.
Imported Motorcar Specialists

LOUIS PALUMBO

100 WINDSOR AVENUE
MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501

What's New for 2002

C-Class: Three new models expand the C-Class into a comprehensive model family of its own. All C-Class models feature industry-leading dual-stage/dual threshold front airbags, head protection curtain airbags and side airbags.

- **C230 Sports Coupe:** 192-hp supercharged engine; six-speed standard; five-speed Touch Shift automatic optional; dual-zone climate control standard. (\$25,615 msrp)
- **C320 Wagon:** 215-hp V6; five-speed Touch Shift automatic standard. (\$39,115 msrp)
- **C32 AMG sedan:** 349-hp supercharged and intercooled handbuilt V6 engine, AMG SpeedShift transmission, AMG suspension, racing-derived brakes, twin-spoke alloy wheels. (\$50,615 msrp)

E-Class: New standard alloy wheel design for E320 model. Two new paint colors: Alabaster White and Everest Green. (\$49,115 - 72,015 msrp)

S-Class: Air conditioning refinements, including MAX COOL setting; new 3rd memory position. Two new paint colors: Alabaster White and Everest Green. (\$72,815 - 115,865 msrp)

CL-Class: Air conditioning refinements, including MAX COOL setting; new 3rd memory position. Two new paint colors: Alabaster White and Everest Green. (\$91,415 - 119,615 msrp)

CLK-Class: New CLK55 AMG Cabriolet model expands the line to three coupes and three Cabriolets:

- **CLK55 AMG Cabriolet:** with 349-hp handbuilt V8 engine, standard Charcoal *designo* Edition (\$79,665 msrp)

Nappa leather interior, unique multipiece alloy wheels, AMG suspension, racing-derived brakes.

- CLK320 now available with Sport package. (\$43,215 - 50,265 msrp)
- CLK430 coupe and Cabriolet models receive new five-spoke alloys wheels. (\$50,915 - 57,965)

SLK-Class: New SLK32 AMG model expands the line to three models. (\$40,065 - 55,565 msrp)

- **SLK32 AMG:** with 349-hp handbuilt supercharged and intercooled V6 engine, racing-derived brakes, AMG SpeedShift transmission programming, AMG suspension calibration, twin-spoke alloy wheels.
- For SLK230 and SLK320, a redesigned optional Sport package features new side sills, front air dam, and rear fascia, plus new 5-spoke AMG Monoblock alloy wheels and projector-beam fog lamps.

SL-Class: Both SL500 and SL600 continue through the 2002 model year without changes, including a limited production run of 1,500 Silver Arrow Editions. (\$54,465 - 129,615 msrp)

M-Class: Revised for 2002 with new bodywork and interior design. New ML500 model replaces the ML430. Redesigned climate controls with automatic setting functions, new-design 17-inch alloy wheels for ML320 and for ML500, second-row ventilation fan and vents, larger fuel tank, redesigned center console with large cupholder. (\$36,965 - 66,565 msrp)

- **ML500** replaces ML430 SUV, with a 5.0-liter V8. (\$45,615 msrp)

G-Class: New model, New Class – a rugged, no-compromise off-road sport utility with supreme luxury.

- **G500** is handcrafted in Graz, Austria, powered by 5.0-liter V8 using a sophisticated four-wheel drive system employing three locking differentials & four-wheel traction control for go-anywhere capabilities. Comes standard with: GPS Navigation system, 9-speaker audio system with CD changer, heated seats in front/back, full leather upholstery, ESP stability control, ABS and Brake Assist. (\$73,165 msrp)

(Prices include \$665. destination charge.)

South Fork Rallye

April 28th

Starting from the rest area on Sunrise Hwy Eastbound after exit 65 Canoe Place. This rallye will take you to small villages, harbors, bays, and other points of interest in the Town of Southampton and will conclude at a beautiful beachfront restaurant. Lunch has a choice of three entrees. Enjoy discussing the route with fellow members and maybe leave with an Award

Arrive at the starting point before 9:15, we will start the first car at 9:30AM

Return To: John Anaischik
 200 Floral Parkway
 Floral Park, NY 11001-3439

**RSVP by
 April 18th**

I will be there at the Rallye on April 28th! Count me in!

Name: _____
Address: _____ **phone** _____

Enclosed is \$25 per number of people attending, make checks payable to MBCA

Acceleration Run

Saturday, May 18th

On Saturday, May 18th, The Club will meet at the Long Island Motor Sports Park in Westhampton for timed acceleration runs. We expect to have two classes based on engine size: 3 liter and over and less than 3 liters, If there is a need for an additional class it will be added. Awards will be given after the event. Requirements: A Snell 90 Helmet, and \$45 fee. **TO SIGN UP FILL OUT THE MAILER**

Directions: LONG ISLAND MOTOR SPORTS PARK, Old Country Rd. Westhampton, NY.

Take Sunrise Hwy Eastbound, Exit 61, stay on the service road and follow the signs to Eastport. At the stop sign turn right onto Eastport Manor Rd. At the light, turn left onto Old Country Rd. Proceed 2.8 miles. The entrance is on the left just before the Suffolk Police Academy.

Return To: John Anaischik
 200 Floral Parkway
 Floral Park, NY 11001-3439

I will be there at the Acceleration Run at the LI Motor Sports Park Count me in!

Name: _____
Address: _____ **phone** _____

Enclosed is \$45 per number of people attending, make checks payable to MBCA





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Sea Level Section
MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA, Inc.
J. F. Betsch, Editor
Three Wincester Lane
Huntington, New York 11743-2152

First Class Mail
U.S. Postage
PAID
E. Northport, NY
Permit #76

**2002 Events Calendar
Inside!**

STAR-GAZER

0 License Plate, thy Name is Vanity.....

Just a few of the special plates which appear on Member's Mercedes. Do any look familiar?

87 SL107

14MYBA B

230SL 65

EDEO

U4EA

CLASSEE

PS '84

16V 190

RED E2GO

70 BENZ