



Star-Gazer

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

www.MBCASeaLevel.org

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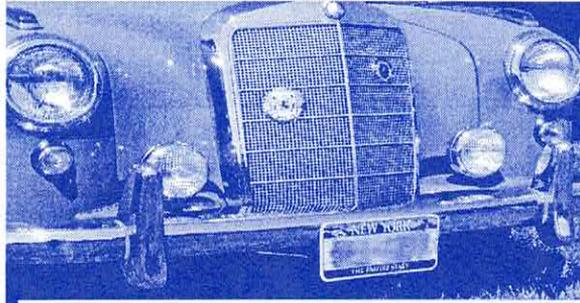
CONCOURS & POPULAR CAR SHOW

from the
editor

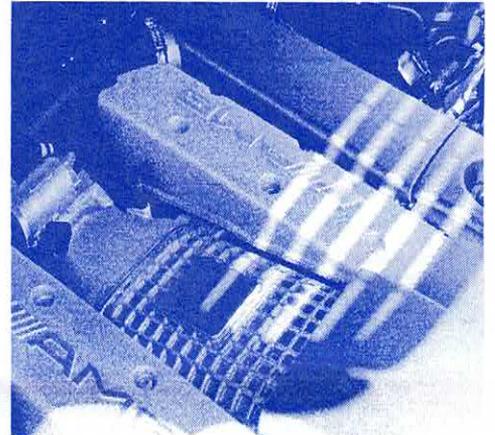


No words this
issue, gone
fishing!

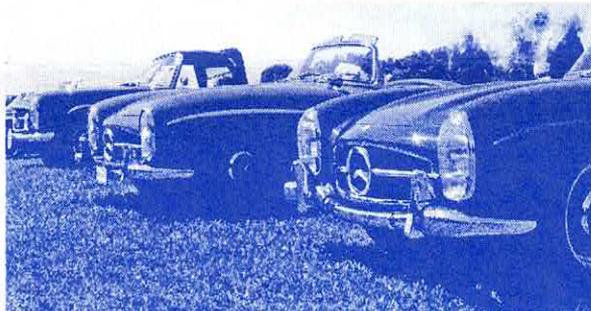
J. Betsch



Jim Nickerson's Award Winning 220S



Dick Weiss's mean, mean driving machine with its engine autographed by the assembler, classy!



All lined up and ready to be judged!



Surveying the field, Tom Grilli deciding his vote



Creighton Philips ,
Event Chairman

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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.

Henry Arango
Joseph Berardino
Rod Bosse
Thomas Calabrese
John DiBattista
John Dorch
George Ellis
John Fitzpatrick
Nick Fucci
David Goldstein

Salvador Gonzalez
Darryl Hair
Mike Harrison
John Katsoudas
Peter Kobsa
Uldis Liuzemnieks
Anthony Lumsden
Usman Malik
William McCaffrey

Richard Morales
James Nickerson
Robert O'Neill
Douglas Owens
Michael Pasquale
Michael Polcino
Charles Romano
Vicki Biegler Satin
Thomas Sevcik

Laurie Sullivan
George Tasso
Warren Tobin
Modesto Torres-Ullauri
Kenneth Torti
Charles Wagner
William Wahlig
Allan Warren
Fabric Weill

Sea Level Officers & Staff

President:	Peter Busacca	121 Norwood Ave., Port Jefferson Sta., NY 11776	(516) 810-3745
Vice-President:	Joseph deFilippe	19 Chester Street, East Northport, NY 11731	(631) 368-6934
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
Webmaster:	Jim Baldea	350 Northern Blvd., Suite 326, Great Neck NY 11021	(516) 466-5858

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 Director

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)



The *Star-Gazer* is published quarterly by the Sea Level Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. for the sole benefit of its members. Information and opinions expressed therein, including advertisements, should not be construed as an endorsement of the editor, MBCA, MBUSA, or DBAG. Permission to reproduce material originating in this newsletter is freely given, provided acknowledgement of the source is given (i.e. from the MBCA Sea Level Section Newsletter: *Star-Gazer*).

President's Message

Dear Members:

I have just finished reading **ADVENTURE CAPITALIST** by Jim Rogers, a fellow Sea-Level member. It is quite an eye opener. It informs us as to what is going on in the world today with our Global economy as seen through the eyes of an investigative money wise traveler. He assesses the financial, social, and geopolitical landscape that he and his wife encountered. He points to new opportunities to invest in, and to the outdated assumptions and investments to steer clear of. It is a mind-blowing action adventure that will keep you captivated from the trip's beginning in Iceland and continuing on through six continents. Jim and his bright yellow SLK-on-top-of-a G-wagon-chassis automobile will be at our "Revolutionary Road Rallye" on September 14th. We will give away free copies of his book to the first 15 people who respond to the invitation, all others will be able to purchase it

at a special one time discounted price on the day of the rallye.

If you're really a rallye buff, you may like to try the Alternatives for Children Benefit Road Rallye. I have participated in this rallye many times and it is a real blast. It benefits children with disabilities and developmental delays in both Nassau and Suffolk Counties. They are also having a raffle for a new C-230 sedan...see below for more information.

Our October event will be at Rallye Motors Auto Body shop in Carle Place located at 245 Glen Cove Road near the McDonalds, Fleet Bank and Mobil station north of Old Country Road. We will learn all about modern day Mercedes-Benz paint finishes and body work. We may even meet Der Spangler. Don't forget to check out our Website MBCASeaLevel.org.

See you at the Revolutionary Road Rallye... *Peter*

Win a 2003 Mercedes C-230 Sedan and Support Alternatives for Children

Formerly the
St. Charles Educational and Therapeutic Center

Recognized as one of the leaders in early childhood education for over 15 years, Alternatives for Children, formerly the St. Charles Educational and Therapeutic Center, is a not-for-profit school with a history of serving young children and those with special needs across Long Island.

Alternatives for Children offers the following services for children with disabilities and developmental delays, and their typically developing peers, ages 6 weeks to 6 years, in both Suffolk and Nassau Counties.

- Tickets are \$25 each or a book of 5 for \$100 *Limited to 3500 tickets.*
- Winner responsible for applicable taxes.
- Use cash, check, Visa or MasterCard to purchase tickets.
- Credit card orders may be placed by telephone call 631-331-6569, ext. 220
- Drawing to be held on September 20th, 2003 at the 7th Annual Classic & Sports Car Rally.
- Winner need not be present to claim prize.
- Drive in the rallye! Enter your car for \$100 (includes car registration and reception for Driver and Navigator at Jamesport Vineyards).
- Sponsorships available.



Order tickets by phone: (631) 331-6569, ext. 220 OR
Download ticket order form: www.alternatives4children.org/rally
and fax to (631) 331-6865 or mail to Alternatives for Children, PO Box 819, East Setauket, NY 11733.

Special Thanks To Competition Auto Group

◆ Mercedes-Benz of Huntington ◆ Competition BMW of Smithtown ◆ Competition Imports of Smithtown ◆ Competition Infiniti of Smithtown ◆ Competition Toyota of Middle Island

CONCOURS & POPULAR CAR SHOW - July 13th Planting Fields Arboretum



Popular Car Awards

◆ *Most Popular Modern Car (tie)*

1992 500E - Ron Fernhout

2003 C32 AMG - Dick Weiss

◆ *Most Popular Classic Car*

1958 220S - Napoleon Jenkins

◆ *Best High Performance Car*

2003 C32 AMG - Dick Weiss

◆ *Best Family Car*

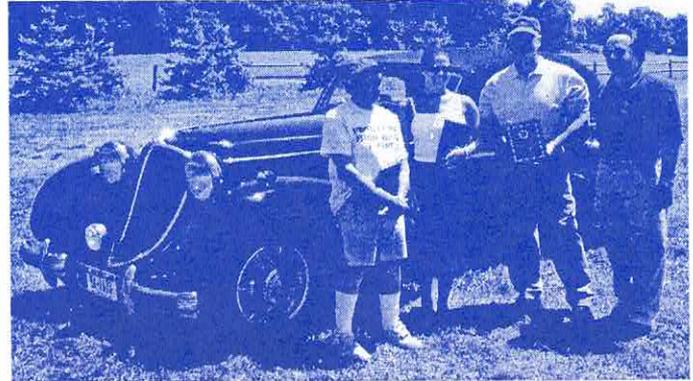
1985 300TD Wagon - Napoleon Jenkins

◆ *Best Roadster / Cabriolet*

1958 220S - James Nickerson

◆ *Best Coupe / Sedan*

1973 280SE - Michael Altimari



Concours d'Elegance Awards

◆ *1st Place - 1959 300SL*
Bob Fisher

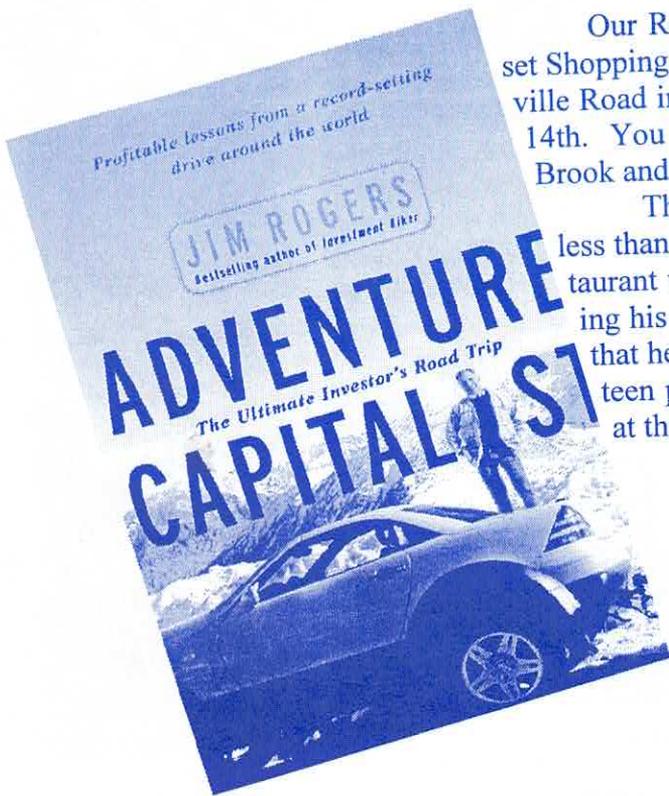
◆ *2nd Place - 1985 300D*
Linda Stampler

◆ *3rd Place - 1965 230SL*
John Betsch

◆ *Board of Directors Award*
1937 540K
Roy Jaffe



A Revolutionary Road Rallye— September 14th



Our Revolutionary Road Rallye will start from the Nesconset Shopping Center on Route 347 (Nesconset Highway) and Terryville Road in Port Jefferson Station at 10am on Sunday September 14th. You should bring a map of Port Jefferson, Setauket, Stony Brook and Port Jefferson Station.

This rallye will be shorter than in the past and will be less than forty miles in length. We will eat at a Zagat rated restaurant where Jim Rogers will be our guest Speaker, and signing his latest book ADVENTURE CAPITALIST. I am sure that he will have many interesting stories to tell. The first fifteen people to mail in their sign-up will receive a free copy at the road rallye. Cost 25. Per Person

Tech Meeting — October 11th Rallye Motors Auto Body

On Saturday, October 11th, we will visit the Rallye Motors Auto Body Shop in Carle Place. It is located at 245 Glen Cove road, south of the Northern State Parkway and north of Old Country Road. We will hear from Ken Faath, the Shop Manager explain all want to know about paint finishes, interiors, body panel replacement and frame straightening. Bring your questions!

This Technical Meeting is scheduled to start at 10am. Refreshments will follow the meeting.

Please return the sign-up form on page seven to Peter Busacca.



Steinway & Sons Factory Tour September 23rd

The story of the Steinway piano founded in 1853 by German immigrant Henry Engelhard Steinway is fairly well known; not so the connection between Daimler-Benz and Steinway. In 1888, Gottlieb Daimler made a business deal with William Steinway to produce Daimler's products in the United States. From 1904 until fire in 1907, Steinway produced Mercedes passenger cars, Daimler's light trucks and engines.

Today, Steinway & Sons crafts approximately 5000 pianos a year worldwide.

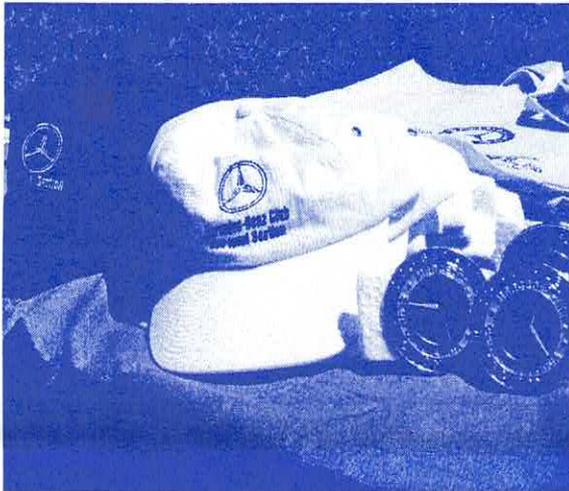
We have been invited to tour the Steinway Factory in Long Island City located on Steinway Place (38th Street and 19th Avenue). The tour, on Tuesday September 23rd, is scheduled to start at 9:30am and should be quite interesting to those who appreciate the combination of technology and fine craftsmanship (sounds like a MB owner). The factory is accessible either by mass transit or auto. Directions from LaGuardia Airport are included below:

Follow Grand Central parkway past La Guardia Airport to Marine Terminal-Steinway Street Exit, turn right (north) at the light at top of exit ramp and follow (left) curve around to Ditmars Boulevard. Follow Ditmars (west) to Steinway Street, right onto Steinway to 19th Avenue where you will make a left turn to the Steinway & Sons Factory. (718) 721-2600

Sea Level Shop

The Section is now offering multi-colored, chrome-plated grill badges priced at \$15 when purchased at Section events and \$20 when mailed.

Get yours before the present supply is gone!



The Sea Level Shop also offers white or blue caps and cloth tote bags, all with our Sea Level name and 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.

GRILL BADGE MAIL REQUEST (return to John Anaischik)

Please send me _____ badge(s) @ \$20.
each.

Enclosed is my check payable to MBCA.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____



StarTrails 2003



Pikes Peak Section

October 10-13
Cripple Creek, Colorado

Give your four-wheel-drive Mercedes-Benz a little off-road experience! We'll have trail options for beginners to experts, and a road rally for autos. Space is limited; register now for this first-ever national off-road event.

For more information:

You can register online at <http://www.pmbca.org> or email SDierks002@aol.com or call Steve Dierks, (719) 593-9557; or write to:

MBCA Pikes Peak Section
Attn: Dori Wald, StarTrails 2003 Registrar
P.O. BOX 8070 • Colorado Springs, CO 80933

M-B Marketplace

Marketplace is a free service to Sea Level members. Simply mail your ad to the editor by the applicable deadline noted on page two.

FOR SALE: Owners Manual, Maintenance Booklet (covers 280SE, 280SE4.5, 280SEL4.5) and Parts Catalog B 1971 (covers 250S, 250SE, 280S, 280SE, 280SE4.5, 280SEL, 280SEL4.5)
\$20-all John 631:549-3564

(516)742-3320



Gullwing Motors, Inc.
Imported Motorcar Specialists

LOUIS PALUMBO

100 WINDSOR AVENUE
MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501

REVOLUTIONARY RALLYE

Sunday, September 14TH



Return To: Peter Busacca (516 810-3745)
121 Norwood Avenue
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776

Enclosed is \$25 per person. Make checks payable to MBCA

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone _____ No. attending _____



Response
Due
Sept 16th

Steinway Piano Factory Tour LI City - September 23rd

Dr. Jonah Berman (917 530-3510)
300 East 33rd Street, Apt 1E
New York, NY 10016-9402

Yes, I will be attending Sea Level's tour of the Steinway Factory.



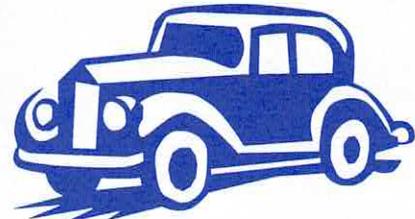
Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ No. of People in Party: _____



Tech Meeting—October 11th Rallye Motors Auto Body

I will be attending the Tech Meeting!

Return To: Peter Busacca (516 810-3745)
121 Norwood Avenue
Port Jefferson Station, NY 11776



Name _____ Address _____
Phone _____ Number attending _____





Star-Gazer

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



Three Upcoming Events!
Sign-up Forms Inside

STAR-GAZER

2003 EVENT SCHEDULE

<i>Saturday, March 15th</i>	<i>Technical Meeting Mercedes-Benz of Huntington</i>
<i>Sunday, April 27th</i>	<i>Spring Surprise Rallye Starting: New Hyde Park</i>
<i>Sunday, July 13th</i>	<i>Concours d'Elegance & Daily Driver Show Planting Fields Arboretum, Oyster Bay</i>
<i>Sunday, September 14th</i>	<i>A "Revolutionary" Road Rallye Port Jefferson (see inside)</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 23rd</i>	<i>Steinway Factory Tour Long Island City (see inside)</i>
<i>Saturday, October 11th</i>	<i>Technical Meeting Rallye Motors Auto Body (see inside)</i>
<i>Sunday, December 7th</i>	<i>Holiday Party Bonwit Inn, Commack</i>