Golden Gate Star

VOL. 49 • NO. 12 SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA SECTION December 2011

AVIATION DAY AT UAL'S SFO-MOC

by Jerry Terstiege, Director at Large

What: Tour of United Airlines Maintenance Operation Center
When: Saturday, January 14, 2012, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Where: UAL, San Francisco Airport
Cost: $5 per person

Have you ever wanted to see an airliner cockpit up close, or what an airliner looks like taken apart for one of its many required inspections, or what the maintenance facility for a major airline looks like? If so, then you can satisfy your curiosity by taking this **tour of the United Airlines Maintenance Operation Center at San Francisco Airport** (SFO-MOC).

Depending on which aircraft are being worked on, you'll be able to view Boeing 777, 747, 767, 757 or Airbus 320 undergoing maintenance. A cockpit visit and perhaps a walk around under the aircraft will be included. One of the guides will be club member Ernie Ordasi, who organized this event.

Space is limited, so please make your reservations as soon as possible (form on page 9). Deadline is January 2, 2012. The guided tour will take approximately one and a half hours. You must wear closed-toe, flat shoes for safety reasons. Be prepared to walk about a mile and climb stairs. Bring your camera. Bring your picture ID. You will be issued a badge (you are entering the airport's security zone).

Plan to arrive at 9:30 a.m. The tour start time is 9:45 a.m. If this tour fills up, we may be able to add a later tour that day. A detailed map and parking directions will be sent to you once your reservation has been accepted. There is a nominal charge of $5 per person. Questions, contact Jerry Terstiege at jerryt94404@aol.com or (650) 574-9741.

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS AND YOUR MERCEDES-BENZ

by Richard Simonds, Technical Director

What: Technical Session
When: Saturday, January 21, 2012, 9:30 a.m. – noon
Where: Bay Area Motorworks, Inc., San Jose
Cost: $7 per person

There are several ways in which electronic systems can help you learn about what is going on in your vehicle and how to improve its performance. Bay Area Motorworks, Inc. will cover the benefits of using the **Mercedes-Benz Star Tester** and demonstrate how it operates. They will also demonstrate the brand new **Hunter Smart Weight Tire Balancing System** and provide a tire balancing for one member's car. Bay Area Motorworks, Inc. is one of three shops in all of California with this machine.

CEO William Sverdlov will demonstrate how the Mercedes-Benz Star Tester can help identify what is going on in the multitude of electronic, computer-controlled systems in your Mercedes-Benz. By running the Star Tester a trained technician can assess everything from fault codes to actual real-time data about how each system is performing. Further, adjustments can be made to electronic control modules in real-time. Given that modern Mercedes-Benz vehicles have 50 or more electronic control modules, the value in being able to see how they operate and change performance parameters is really significant.

After seeing the Mercedes-Benz Star Tester in operation, we will receive a demonstration of the Hunter Smart Weight Tire Balancing System and the newly released **Hunter Auto 28 Tire Changer.** This new tire changing machine provides the safest tire de-mounting and mounting of any device on the market. Tires and rims are touched by nylon or plastic parts, some of which roll along the rim to avoid any sliding contact or risk of scratching

(Continued on page 9)

2011 CALENDAR OF COMING ACTIVITIES

DEC 4	**First Sunday Drive**
DEC 4	**Holiday Party Brunch**, Eva Gordon (650) 834-2614
JAN 1	**First Sunday Drive**
JAN 14*	**Aviation Day**, Jerry Terstiege (650) 574-9741
JAN 21*	**Electronic Systems Tech Event**, Richard Simonds (650) 592-7613
JAN 22	**Section Board Meeting**, Mauna Wagner (925) 934-7220
FEB 5	**First Sunday Drive**
FEB 9*	**Mallya Auto Collection**, Eva Gordon (650) 834-2614

**Reservation form on page 9*

OFFICER'S MESSAGE

by Jack Weir, President

Our section will say goodbye to an eventful year at our Holiday Brunch on December 4th at Hs Lordships in the Berkeley Marina. We had a great time there last year, and I'm certain we will again this year.

We enjoyed many wonderful events this year, including our first-ever "off-road" event, co-hosted by the G-Wagon club. We had a great time at Legends of the Autobahn, mingling with BMW, Porsche, and other MBZ enthusiasts. Other events were well attended, and our treasury is adequate to sustain operations should something calamitous occur. We have met our goal of providing relatively low-cost events while maintaining a high level of member participation across a variety of focus areas—driving, interesting destinations, and fun social activities for all.

Of special note is the reactivation of our hugely popular First Sunday Drives program. Thanks to James Lindstrom for picking up the baton from Robert Schilling, FSD founder and multi-talented section leader.

The club continues to attract new members, and it serves us all well to seek them out and make them feel welcome. Hospitality is really everyone's responsibility. All members also share the responsibility to perform the leadership and planning functions of our section. To those volunteers who have served so long and so well, I thank you from the bottom of my heart on behalf of all our members. To those who have not yet stepped up, there is a spot for you where you can increase your reward from club participation, and help us keep this section the most successful in the national club. Contact me to chat about what might be the best match for your talents and interests.

Here's to 2012, and a stellar schedule of events and activities. I invite everyone to ***show up, stand up, and speak up!*** It's your club—get it in gear and join us on the road to fun, gratifying experiences, and fellowship!

E-NEWSLETTER NOTICE

All members with e-mail addresses in the national MBCA membership database automatically receive the e-newsletter. Be sure that the MBCA National Business Office has your current e-mail address to receive the e-newsletter by contacting Renee Herbert at (800) 637-2360. Or send your address correction to Ann Bornstein (SFBA membership director) at annstitcher@charter.net. Members with no e-mail addresses receive the printed and mailed newsletter. If you want to receive the printed and mailed newsletter, you need to opt-out of the electronic version by contacting editor Laura Simonds at (650) 592-7613 or simondsl@pacbell.net. To avoid being "undeliverable," be sure to put our editor's address (simondsl@pacbell.net) in your list of safe senders.

MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA SECTION

www.mbca.org/sfba

Executive Board

President, **JACK WEIR**
925.934.7220 Cell 925.899.4298
Fax 925.930.0446 jweir39@aol.com

Vice President, **GLORIA LOVENTHAL**
408.289.1933 Cell 408.823.6400
glorialov@gmail.com

Treasurer, **THEO BURGER**
650.906.5275 Fax 650.917.8775
morbier4u@gmail.com

Secretary, **MAUNA WAGNER**
925.934.7220
maunaw@aol.com

Ex-Officio, **ROBERT SCHILLING**
650.619.7550
res.mbca@offserver.com

Board of Directors

Activities, **EVA GORDON**
650.834.2614 Fax 510.234.4574
eva@well.com

Advertising, **JANET MIGLIORE**
650.349.2744
janetmigliore@hotmail.com

Editor, **LAURA SIMONDS**
650.592.7613
Ofc 650.691.9123 Fax 650.592.6318
simondsl@pacbell.net

Photographer & Historian
SANDY DROBILISCH
408.782.2305 Fax 408.782.1518
sandoreng@att.net

Director at Large, **DON PENNEY**
707.310.0460
don.penney@kp.org

Director at Large, **JAMES LINDSTROM**
415.601.6009
benzboi@FirstSundayDrives.com

Hospitality, **KARA PANNU**
415.205.0790
pannukara@yahoo.com

Membership, **ANN BORNSTEIN**
831.786.0782
annstitcher@charter.net

Technical, **RICHARD SIMONDS**
650.592.7613 Fax 650.592.6318
rsimonds@pacbell.net

Webmaster, **LOIS WONG**
415.601.1329
lois.h.wong@gmail.com

Director at Large, **JERRY TERSTIEGE**
650.574.0741
jerryt94404@aol.com

Director at Large, **VACANT**

Western Regional Director,
ALLEN WREN
916.988.0225
mbcawestrd@comcast.net

National Treasurer,
650.592.7613 **LAURA SIMONDS**
Fax 650.592.6318
simondsl@pacbell.net

The GOLDEN GATE STAR

Publisher — Anza Group - San Jose
Editor — Laura Simonds
Photographer — Sandy Drobilisch

The Golden Gate Star is published monthly by the San Francisco Bay Area Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America, Inc. Copy deadline: 10th of the month preceding the month of issue. Please type and double space copy.

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MEMBERSHIP information or renewal, call toll free 1-800-637-2360

You can send that wonderful article or ad via E-mail or FAX to me for inclusion in the Golden Gate Star simondsl@pacbell.net or FAX 650-592-6318. *Laura*

NEWS AND NOTES

Holiday Champagne Brunch, December 4. The reservation deadline was November 25. Did you make yours? If not and you're interested in attending, you can contact Eva Gordon at eva@well.com or (650) 834-2614 to inquire if there's still space available to attend. Our Holiday Champagne Brunch will be held on Sunday, December 4, at 12:00 noon, at Hs Lordships Restaurant in the Berkeley Marina.

2012 Election Results from Robert Schilling, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The ballots are in and after many tedious hours of counting and recounting, tabulating and re-tabulating, considering and reconsidering, your Nominating Committee is pleased to report that the nail-biting results of our 2012 election are in! It was a tough race—and close to call for many of the Executive Board positions but, by a margin that barely exceeded twenty votes in some cases, the incumbents won re-election across the board.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to welcome back Jack Weir, President; Gloria Loventhal, Vice President; Theo Burger, Treasurer; and Mauna Wagner, Secretary. Contact information for your Executive Board, and all other board members, can be found in the directory on page 2 of this newsletter.

FIRST SUNDAY DRIVES

First Sunday Events are casual driving events that are held on the first Sunday of every month. To be notified of the next First Sunday event and for more information to links, event photos, please find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/FirstSundayDrives, or go to www.FirstSundayDrives.com, or send an e-mail to join-SF@FirstSundayDrives.com.

November's drive had a great turn out—approximately 18 cars! A beautiful day, the weather was spectacular providing dramatic views with the mist and fog through the redwood forest. Our ending destination at Stanford University did not disappoint. The sun was shining as we lunched at the Cool Café and enjoyed the Rodin Garden and Museum.

For December, don't forget to get your reservation in for our Holiday Brunch at Hs Lordships Restaurant in the Berkeley Marina.

And now, a "heads up" announcement for our January 1 New Year's Day Anti-Football Run in Marin. If you want the sweatshirts, registrations need to be received no later than December 1. For the latest FSD e-mail for details and forms, go to our Facebook page www.facebook.com/FirstSundayDrives.

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Offers with an * may not be combined
Please call for an appointment: 800-876-5024

MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

From time to time, we recognize our SFBA Section members who have recently celebrated a milestone MBCA membership anniversary. We appreciate that you're part of MBCA and hope that you continue to enjoy the benefits of your membership for a long time. Congratulations!

William Horton, San Francisco, *25 years*
D. Nguyen, Atherton, *20 years*
Gerald & Lily Preiner, Hillsborough, *15 years*
Roberto DiGardo, Redwood City, *15 years*
Milton & Randy Wheeler, Saratoga, *10 years*
Gerald Moore & Marjorie Ferrer, San Francisco, *10 years*
John & Joanne Newland, Cupertino, *5 years*

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

October 2011

(Order name badges from the National Business Office, (800) 637-2360, or online at the Club Store www.mbca.org.)

John Bowen, *San Martin*
Leigh Bradley, *San Leandro*
Amir Ghaemi, *Lafayette*
Raymond Green, *Martinez*
Stephen Gross, *Discovery Bay*
David Hua, *San Jose*
Matthew Schoenberg, *San Francisco*
Christian Stratton, *Orinda*
Henry Tu, *San Mateo*
Rene Vishney, *Pleasant Hill*

TOUR OF THE UNIQUE MALLYA AUTO COLLECTION

by Eva Gordon, Activities Director

THE MALLYA COLLECTION

What Mallya Auto Collection Tour
When: Thursday, February 9, 2012, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Where: 28 Liberty Ship Way, Sausalito
Cost: $15 per person

We invite you to join your fellow club members to tour the famous Auto Collection of Indian liquor and airline baron Vijay Mallya. The collection consists of more than 260 cars worldwide, and a precious portion of the Mallya collection is displayed in Sausalito, California. Collection Manager Malcolm Page will share the histories and technological information of the cars and his adventures working for billionaire and entrepreneur Dr. Vijay Mallya. Malcolm's love for cars has grown to an overall enthusiasm and interest in transportation and the history of transportation, which includes cars, airplanes, trains, boats, etc. His expertise and knowledge in the history and values of cars associates Malcolm with a select network of other "CAR EXPERTS" across the globe that Malcolm interacts with on a regular basis. To find out more about Vijay, Malcolm, and the collection, go to www.mallyacollection.com.

We have a limited amount of space available for this tour, so please return the reservation form on page 9 before the February 1 deadline, to insure that you are included in this great opportunity. **Please note that our tour will be on a Thursday!** Questions, please contact Eva Gordon at eva@well.com or (650) 834-2614.

Your Holiday Wish Has Been Granted!

Now you can get All Superior Services +Huge $$$ Savings for your Mercedes on Peninsula

+Factory Trained Master Technicians+Pay less for Genuine Parts+New & Used Car Sales at better price+Honest & Caring Staff+Certified collision Center By MBUSA +The Best exotic Used Car Show Room on Peninsula. Visit Us @ LinkedIn & find out how Mercedes owners saved more than $100% compared to local Dealers !!!

Our Facility originally owned by Mercedes Dealer & established mid 1980 by cooperation of Mercedes Factory representative (Heinz Gunter) & Michael K, since then we have been serving local dealers & luxury car owners on Peninsula over 30 years. Now we are Independent Car Dealer.

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We refused to pay of any Mercedes Dealer or Insurance company for referral fees.

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Unlike other Dealers we use top of the line full synthetic Import Motor oil far above US standard at no extra charge.

We provide tires at cost by TireRack.com.

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Our collision department certified by MBUSA & we are The First Certified Official Mercedes-Benz Collision Center in N. California we give better warranty in writing + up to 40% less.

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ALL THINGS GERMAN CELEBRATED AT OKTOBERFEST

by Jerry Terstiege, Director at Large

The Menlo Circus Club in Atherton welcomed sixty-seven SFBA Section members and their guests to a gala Oktoberfest party on a glorious Sunday, October 22. We thank Circus Club member Evelyn Schlosser (Activities Director Eva's mom) for sponsoring our use of this wonderful venue.

A great variety of attendees' antique and new Mercedes-Benz were parked in rows on the Polo Field (no polo match that day!), and we all got to "ooh" and "aah" over some great looking autos, including Gloria and Richard's lovely 1960 220SE Cabriolet, Anthony Speno's meticulously restored 300SL Gullwing painted in a spectacular metallic crimson/purple, Robert and Melanie's 300SE Cabriolet, and Henric Nieminen's 500SEC AMG that will be on the cover of the next issue of *The Star*, to mention just a few.

We arrived and moved to the spacious open patio where we enjoyed German beer and other beverages, while visiting with old and new friends and enjoying the great day. Festive German music for listening and dancing was provided by the Karl Lebherz Bavarian Band. Many members wore dirndls, lederhosen, and other authentic Bavarian clothing and also brought their own beer steins in which to better enjoy the beer.

A German Oktoberfest Brunch Buffet was served, including potato and other salads, several varieties of German wurst and other meats, sauerkraut, braised red cabbage, and desserts, including apfelstrudel mit schlag.

Following the meal, distinguished guests and member anniversaries were recognized, and SFBA Section Member of the Year was announced. The club's 2012 Schedule of Events was presented and discussed. A goodly number of door prizes were distributed to the lucky winners.

We all had a great time at this traditional celebration.

2012 CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Be sure to check your monthly newsletter and the section's web site for the latest updates on activities.

JANUARY **1** First Sunday Drive **14** Aviation Day at UAL **21** Technical Session **22** Section Board Meeting	**MAY** **6** First Sunday Drive **TBD** Blackhawk Museum Tour	**SEPTEMBER** **2** First Sunday Drive **TBD** Nethercut Car Collection Tour **28-Oct. 3** StarFest in Phoenix
FEBRUARY **5** First Sunday Drive **9** Mallya Car Collection Tour	**JUNE** **1-2** Tahoe Rally **3** First Sunday Drive	**OCTOBER** **7** First Sunday Drive **TBD** Oktoberfest **22** Section Board Meeting & 2013 Planning Meeting
MARCH **4** First Sunday Drive **TBD** Moffett Field Museum Tour **31** Diagnostic Technical Session	**JULY** **1** First Sunday Drive **TBD** SF Old Mint Tour **22** Section Board Meeting	**NOVEMBER** **4** First Sunday Drive **TBD** Santa Cruz Sailing Cruise
APRIL **1** First Sunday Drive **TBD** Filoli Tour **22** Section Board Meeting	**AUGUST** **5** First Sunday Drive **17** Legends of the Autobahn **17** Dinner in Monterey	**DECEMBER** **2** First Sunday Drive **TBD** Holiday Party & Day @ SFBA Archives

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE: 2006 C230 Sport Sedan. Alabaster white with ash leather seats. 98,500 miles. All service performed, next service due in 12,000 miles ("A" service). New tires and battery. Front and side air bags, power driver's seat and steering column with memory, split fold down rear seat, 7-speed adaptive drive automatic transmission, Mercedes DVD command navigation system. Entertainment package: 320W Harman/Kardon 12 speaker LOGIC7 surround sound system, 6-disk CD changer. Electric sunroof package: glass sunroof, power rear sun shade, garage door open, auto-dimming left side/rear view mirrors, rain sensor. Asking $14,750. Contact Bill at (650) 224-6348 evenings.

FOR SALE: 2006 C230, 2.5L V-6 (M272) Engine Parts. Completely remanufactured 24V cylinder heads (machine work done by J & M Machine Shop in San Leandro, CA), two head set, $1,500 firm. M272 short block with 98,000 miles on it, assembled with all pistons, crank shaft, bearings, etc., $500. M272 engine wire harness, $200. Misc. M272 engine parts: intake manifold, valve covers, oil pan, etc.—negotiable. Drive shaft complete with u-joints, $150. Contact Bill at (650) 224-6348 evenings.

MISC. FOR SALE: MBZ original factory color brochures for 230, 250, and 280 SL's, $325. MBZ original factory tool kits for 230, 250, and 280 SL's, $375. MBZ SL hardtop carriers, $150. MBZ 280 SL hardtop handles with case, $275. MBZ SL car covers, $75. MBZ paint and upholstery brochures, $40. MBZ 190 SL original radio plate, $175. MBZ air gauge, offer. Contact Ron at (408) 265-1534.

Please support our commercial advertisers! They support our club. Be sure to tell them that you're a member of the club and saw their ad in this newsletter.

[Remember, classified ads are free to members, $25 for non-members. Your classified ad will appear both in the newsletter and on our web site for one month. Send your "for sale" or "wanted" ad to Laura Simonds, editor, simondsl@pacbell.net, or (650) 592-6318 fax.]

AVIATION DAY AT UAL'S SFO-MOC
Saturday, January 14, 2012
RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

First Event: Y N

____ persons @ $5 ea. = $_____

Make check payable to SFBA/MBCA and mail to:

Jerry Terstiege
700 Promontory Point, #1205
Foster City, CA 94404
(650) 574-9741, jerryt94404@aol.com

Reservation deadline January 2 or when limited is reached. For confirmation, include e-mail or phone number above. Confirmation will be sent upon receipt of registration.

MALLYA AUTO COLLECTION TOUR
Thursday, February 9, 2012
RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

First Event: Y N

____ persons @ $15 ea. = $_____

Make check payable to SFBA/MBCA and mail to:

Ann Bornstein
61 Devon Court
Watsonville, CA 95076
(831) 786-0782, annstitcher@charter.net

Reservation deadline is February 1st, or when limit is reached. For confirmation, include e-mail or phone number above. Confirmation will be sent upon receipt of registration.

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS AND YOUR MERCEDES-BENZ
Saturday, January 21, 2012
RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

First Event: Y N

____ persons @ $7 ea. = $_____

Year and Model of the vehicle you plan to drive:

_____

Use it to demonstrate the Star Tester? Y N
What you want to know about by testing it?

_____

Use it to balance a set of wheels and tires? Y N
Problem you are having with tire balance or wear

_____

Make checks payable to SFBA/MBCA and mail with to:

Richard Simonds
2909 Brittan Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070-3520
(650) 592-7613, rsimonds@pacbell.net

Reservation deadline January 14 or when limit is reached. For confirmation, include your e-mail or phone number above. Provide a SASE with your address to receive a mailed confirmation.

ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS

(Continued from page 1)

the rim or abrading the tire. Even the tire balancing weights have changed significantly over the past several years, and we will see what is new and how it can improve the ride quality and tire life of your Mercedes-Benz.

Snacks and coffee will start at 9:30 a.m. The technical event and demonstrations will start at 10:00 a.m. and end around noon. Send in your reservation (form on page 9) by the January 14 deadline. Driving directions will be sent with your confirmation. Questions, contact Richard Simonds at rsimonds@pacbell.net or (650) 592-7613.

Golden Gate Star

VOL. 49 NO. 12 • SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA SECTION • DEC 2011

MAILING ADDRESS: 2909 BRITTAN AVE. • SAN CARLOS, CA 94070

Please send any address changes directly to MBCA at 1907 Lelaray Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80909, or call 1-800-637-2360. We cannot process address changes locally.

OKTOBERFEST, OCTOBER 22, 2011