

Golden Gate Star-



## TOUR OF THE UNIQUE MALLYA AUTO COLLECTION

by Eva Gordon, Activities Director

**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](http://www.mallyacollection.com).

We have a limited amount of space available for this tour, and the reservation deadline (reservation form on page 9) is February 1—so act now! Please note that our tour will be on a Thursday evening! Questions, please contact Eva Gordon at [eva@well.com](mailto:eva@well.com) or (650) 834-2614.



## MERCEDES-BENZ SAFETY SYSTEMS

by Richard Simonds, Technical Director

**What:** Technical Event / Diagnostic Clinic / High-Mileage Award Certifications  
**When:** Saturday, March 31, 2012, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Park Avenue Motors, Palo Alto  
**Cost:** \$20 per person, including a catered German-style lunch

In the past 15+ years, Mercedes-Benz and other luxury manufacturers have been adding features to our vehicles to improve safety and usability. This technical event will provide you with an understanding of what they do, why they do it, and (to the extent possible) how they work. The Master Technician, Lance, at Park Avenue Motors will present technical information about:

- DISTRONIC PLUS active cruise control with PRE-SAFE® Brake
- ATTENTION ASSIST
- Blind Spot Assist / Active Blind Spot Assist
- Lane Keeping Assist / Active Lane Keeping Assist
- Night View Assist PLUS with pedestrian detection
- PARKTRONIC with Parking Guidance
- Adaptive High Beam Assist

After lunch we will provide two special services at no charge:

- Diagnostic Clinic / Safety Inspection
  - You can discuss your vehicle with the technician who will check all fluids and do under hood and under vehicle inspections. If you are having a challenging problem, bring your vehicle in to discuss it with the technician in real time.

(Continued on page 8)

### 2012 CALENDAR OF COMING ACTIVITIES

- FEB 5** First Sunday Drive
- FEB 9\*** Mallya Auto Collection, Eva Gordon (650) 834-2614
- MARCH 4** First Sunday Drive
- MARCH 10\*** Moffett Field Air Museum Tour, Cheryl Orth (650) 604-2381
- MARCH 31\*** Diagnostic Tech Event, Richard Simonds (650) 592-7613
- APRIL 1** First Sunday Drive
- APRIL 28\*** Filoli Estate Tour, Janet Migliore (650) 349-2744

\*Reservation form on page 9

# BOARD MEMBER'S MESSAGE

by Kara Christelle Pannu, Hospitality Director

Phenomenal February!

Fabulous February has finally arrived, and for me, visions of pudgy pink Cherubs are dancing in my head...or could that be a leftover sugarplum? Either way, the New Year has rung in so quickly, I may not be able to tell the difference! I hate to admit that I am selfishly wishing that Almighty Cupid will bring me a sleek E350 convertible...

I guess one is supposed to ask for another kind of love interest from Mr. Cupid, but, I assure you, I could easily fall head over heels in love with any sexy hunk of metal that only Mercedes-Benz can produce.

Since I really do not think Cupid will bring this in February, I find myself looking forward to all of the fun events Eva Gordon (Activities Director) has put such thought and creativity into for the coming year. Though it is hard for me to imagine a nice, warm, sunny drive at this point, driving down to LA for the Nethercutt Car Collection or possibly to Phoenix for a sizzling StarFest (sans top) seems quite tempting on these cold nights while I am trying to thaw my frozen feet by the fire.

And since Cupid has brought no snow yet, I have not had a chance to ski Tahoe, so the Tahoe Rally is sounding like a great option!

At this point I am just hoping that The Work Gods (are there such creatures??) give me enough time to enjoy all of these wonderful events! Whether I am there or not, I encourage everyone in the club to attend at least one or two of our fun and exciting days, weekends, or drives, as they are truly enjoyable. We have new members showing up all of the time lately, and it is so satisfying for me to meet with them and get their perspective on our outings and, of course, see their beautiful vehicles.

If you have not been to any of our rallies or Sunday Drives, I am telling you that it can be quite a show! Sometimes you will admire up to twenty or so Mercedes-Benz cars, different colors, makes, classic and new, all in a row through some of the most rural California routes! They are definitely sights to see and participate in.

Whether you enjoy socializing and having a cold beer at Oktoberfest, or you are a "gear head" and want to learn more technical information about your car, or simply prefer just to play your music and drive, we pride ourselves in offering very diverse options and have a wide member base, so please come out and join us. I would love to see more new faces and make more new friends in 2012!

Here's to a Magnificent Mercedes-Benz Year!

## MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA SECTION

[www.mbca.org/sfba](http://www.mbca.org/sfba)

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## The GOLDEN GATE STAR

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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](mailto:simondsl@pacbell.net) or FAX 650-592-6318. *Laura*

# TOURING THE MOFFETT FIELD AIR MUSEUM

by Eva Gordon, Activities Director

**What:** Moffett Field Air Museum Tour  
**When:** Saturday, March 10, 2012, 10:00 a.m.-noon  
**Where:** Moffett Field, Mountain View, CA  
**Cost:** \$10 per person

Many of us pass the Moffett Field hangers on Highway 101 daily, and we have no idea what goes on there. Moffett Field has a storied and important history in our national security. It's a history that includes major contributions to our national security and the advancement of science and technology from 1931 to the present. Our Moffett Field Air Museum tour is defined by eras, and we have an opportunity to visit and explore each of the eras in depth, including the Macon Era, Army Era, WWII, the Post War, and Moffett Field Today.

Please join your fellow members for this exciting opportunity. You will have an inside look with our docent and hostess, SFBA Section member Cheryl Orth, who is a 28-year veteran of the facility.

We have a limited number of 20 spaces available for this tour, so please **return the reservation form (on page 9) before the March 1 deadline**, to ensure that you are included in this tour. All visitors in each vehicle must present a current US government-issued photo ID (California Driver's License) upon arrival at the gate. Questions, contact Cheryl Orth at (650) 604-2381.



There are many reasons you have a passion for Mercedes-Benz.

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or contact Rick Stacio at  
[rstacio@desertstars.org](mailto:rstacio@desertstars.org)



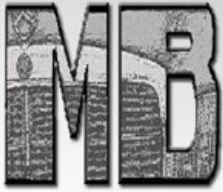
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## FIRST SUNDAY DRIVES

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](http://www.facebook.com/FirstSundayDrives), or go to [www.FirstSundayDrives.com](http://www.FirstSundayDrives.com), or send an e-mail to [join-SF@FirstSundayDrives.com](mailto:join-SF@FirstSundayDrives.com).

What a great way to kick off the 2012 New Year! Our First Sunday Drive joined up with the California Mille's "New Year's Day Anti-Football Run," and the turnout was nothing less than spectacular! More than 200 cars in all shapes, sizes, makes, and models. I think the Italians had the largest draw from Alfa's, Fiat's, and Ferrari's. But we Germans made a strong showing as well. Some of our MBCA members even brought their American classics. It was a grand international event. Can't wait until 2013! Here are some photos, but to see more photos, go to FSD's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/FirstSundayDrives](http://www.facebook.com/FirstSundayDrives).





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## 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!

**Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ireland**, Kentfield, 25 years  
**Bruce Lubarsky**, San Francisco, 15 years  
**David & Debi Hobson**, Provo, UT, 15 years  
**Dennis Hanley**, Menlo Park, 15 years  
**Harold Gallagher**, Pleasant Hill, 15 years  
**Julie & Ray Dormandy**, Danville, 15 years  
**Ronald Jones**, Seaside, 5 years  
**Ulysses De Guzman**, San Francisco, 5 years

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

**December 2011**

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

Durga Bobba, Hillsborough  
Robert Cole, Santa Rosa  
Mihir & Shweta Das, Dublin  
Bill & Natalie Miner, Sunnyvale  
Doug Poulton, Castro Valley  
Darrel Stickler, San Mateo  
Daniel Tatosian, San Francisco  
Elke Walz, Portola Valley

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## SPRING IN BLOOM AT FILOLI ESTATE

*by Janet Migliore, Advertising Director*

**What:** Tour of Filoli Estate & Gardens & No-host Lunch  
**When:** Saturday, April 28, 2012, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Filoli, 86 Cañada Road, Woodside, CA  
**Cost:** \$5 per person

Springtime is stunning at the Filoli Estate. Join us for this breathtaking tour of the Estate and Gardens, followed by an optional no-host lunch.

The Filoli Estate was built in 1915-17 for Mr. and Mrs. Williams Bowers Bourn, prominent San Franciscans whose chief source of wealth was a gold mine in Grass Valley and the property comprising Crystal Springs Reservoir. Mr. Bourn chose long-time friend and prominent San Francisco architect Willis Polk to be the principal designer of the house. Mr. Bourn arrived at the unusual name of Filoli by combining the first two letters of his credo: "Flight for a just cause, LOve your fellow man, Llive a good life." In 1937 the estate was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. William P. Roth of the famed Matson Navigation Company. Mrs. Roth attained world-wide recognition of her gardens. Filoli was her home until 1975 when she donated the house and gardens to the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the enjoyment and inspiration of future generations. The house is now an interpretive museum exhibit with an extensive collection of 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century English antiques.

The estate is recognized as one of the finest remaining country estates of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in the U.S. Filoli welcomes visitors to this remarkable 654-acre property, including the 36,000 square foot Georgian country house and spectacular 16-acre English Renaissance garden. House and garden docent-guided tours (up to 10 people each) take about two hours with optional no-host lunch following. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience an era of living long gone in our history. See [www.filoli.com](http://www.filoli.com) for what is blooming in the gardens and much more about Filoli.

Janet Migliore, our section's Advertising Director, has offered to sponsor this event for up to 40 of our members, on behalf of her enterprise, MB-Garage ([www.mb-garage.com](http://www.mb-garage.com)) in San Mateo. Members will be able to join this wonderful experience because of Janet's generosity. We only ask for a \$5 donation to help in the preservation of Filoli. Your donation will ensure your reservation and go to a worthy cause. Reservation deadline is April 15; send in your reservation form (on page 9) NOW to get on this space-limited tour.

Questions, contact Janet Migliore at (650) 349-2744 or [janetmigliore@hotmail.com](mailto:janetmigliore@hotmail.com)



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## February Special

Dare to Compare the Quality & Savings on Your Mercedes-Benz in the New Year! Tired of paying too much at your Mercedes-Benz dealer? Come & see us.



## 12 WAYS TO SAVE FOR THE NEW YEAR

\*Plus tax. Some models higher. Hazardous waste fee additional. Valid only at Eurotech Complete Auto Care. Mercedes-Benz makes only. Parts & accessories coupon only valid over-the-counter purchase. May not be combined with any other offer. Please present coupon when service order is written. Expires 02/29/12

<p><b>Smog Check Special</b> with certificate <b>\$35<sup>00</sup>*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>Complete Full Detail</b> <b>\$165<sup>00</sup>*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>FREE Check Engine Inspection</b> • Extract &amp; define the trouble codes • Our factory-trained technicians will advise you on proper course of action for any necessary repairs <b>FREE*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>FREE Brake Fluid Flush</b> with brake job <b>FREE*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>Bumper Repair</b> Includes repairing small dent &amp; scratches &amp; paint <b>\$480<sup>88</sup>*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>Paintless Dent Repair</b> <b>25%<sup>*</sup> off</b> Call for details.</p>
<p><b>FREE Windshield Repair</b> with service <b>FREE*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>FREE Head Lamp Lens Restoration</b> with major services <b>FREE*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>4-Wheel Alignment</b> Inspect all caster, camber &amp; set toe-in specifications (computerized) <b>\$85<sup>00</sup>*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>Collision Related Repairs</b> up to <b>\$1,000<sup>00</sup> off*</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>Insurance Estimate</b> for collision related repairs <b>10%<sup>*</sup> off</b> Call for details.</p>	<p><b>We Sell Tires at Cost</b> Firestone, Goodyear, Continental, Michelin, Dunlop, Uniroyal at the prices you'll want! Call for details.</p>

For the New Year, if you have been paying an arm and a leg to service your car from your Mercedes-Benz Dealer, come see us, we can help. At Eurotech Co., we provide Honest/Reliable/Qualified Experienced/Fully Equipped up-to-date trained Master Technicians. We are a one stop full Service Center without huge mark ups on your Mercedes-Benz Service and with over 30 years of experience.

Best Wishes and Happy New Year from all of us Eurotech Collision and Complete Auto Care Service.

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Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri: 8:00am-5:00pm | Weekend and after hours appointments may be available

# ENDING THE YEAR IN A SPIRITED WAY

by Eva Gordon, Activities Director

Your fellow club members rang in the holidays on December 4 at Hs Lordships Restaurant in the Berkeley Marina in their Victorian-inspired Forge dining room. We enjoyed a wonderful view of the bay and Berkeley hills on a crystal clear day, while dining on one of the most elaborate and sumptuous buffet brunches in the Bay Area, complete with unlimited champagne! No one went hungry! The tables were decorated with holiday centerpieces, and members had the opportunity to take one home.

Many members started the day off with the First Sunday Drive led by our President, Jack Weir, driving our enthusiasts through the East Bay hills and ending up at the Berkeley Marina for brunch.

This year we added a charitable element for those in the holiday spirit that wanted to give to those less fortunate. At the brunch we offered an opportunity to donate to a worthy cause, The Bicycle Exchange of Silicon Valley. This organization donates over 500 recycled bicycles annually to needy individuals by providing repairs, helmets, and training wheels for youth riders. These bicycles represent freedom, fitness, and adventure. We raised \$335! Thank you to all that gave!



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## DRIVING ENTHUSIASTS E-MAIL LIST

by Richard Simonds, SFBA Technical Director

If you are interested in having some track time, performance driving programs, or special meetings where competition drivers are making presentations, send me an e-mail with your e-mail address to be added to my master e-mail list of track driving enthusiasts. This list is kept for e-mail distribution because notices of track availability are sometimes received only a week or two in advance; not enough time to have the notice in the newsletter. Periodically I will forward information from organizers such as Colin Bach of Track Classics or David Ray of Hooked on Driving. Let me know at [rsimonds@pacbell.net](mailto:rsimonds@pacbell.net) to be added to—or removed from—the e-mail list.

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:simondsl@pacbell.net). To avoid being “undeliverable,” be sure to put our editor’s address ([simondsl@pacbell.net](mailto:simondsl@pacbell.net)) in your list of safe senders.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### NO ADS THIS MONTH.

**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](mailto:simondsl@pacbell.net), or (650) 592-6318 fax.]**

## SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL OFFER

Is your membership up for renewal in the next several months? If it is, MBCA now has special incentives when you renew for 2 or 3 years:

3 additional months of membership **free** when you renew for 3 years

2 additional months of membership **free** when you renew for 2 years

Renewing your membership is easy—online at [www.mbca.org](http://www.mbca.org) or with the renewal notice that you receive in the mail. We urge you to take advantage of this special offer—consider it MBCA’s gift to you!

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## MERCEDES-BENZ SAFETY SYSTEMS

*(Continued from page 1)*

- Others may observe if their vehicle is not being diagnosed/inspected.
- High Mileage Award Certification
  - Has your Mercedes-Benz reached certain milestones? You can apply for a high mileage award and grill badge. The magical mileage points are:
    - 250,000 km / 155,000 miles
    - 500,000 km / 312,000 miles
    - 750,000 km / 468,000 miles
    - 1,000,000 km / 625,000 miles
    - 1,000,000 miles
  - Bring your vehicle and supporting records to apply for this honor from MBUSA/DAG.

Snacks and coffee will start at 9:30 a.m. The technical presentation will start at 10:00 a.m. Lunch with German-style food will be served, and immediately afterward the Diagnostic Clinic-Safety Inspections and High Mileage Award certifications will be offered to those who want to participate or observe.

Send in your reservation (see page 9) by the March 26 deadline. Driving directions will be sent with your confirmation. Questions, contact Richard Simonds at [rsimonds@pacbell.net](mailto:rsimonds@pacbell.net) or (650) 592-7613.

**MERCEDES-BENZ SAFETY SYSTEMS**  
**Saturday, March 31, 2012**  
**RESERVATION FORM**

Names of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

First Event: Y N

\_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$20 each = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Participate in Diagnostic Clinic / Safety Inspection: Y N

Year and Model of Vehicle to be diagnosed:

Diagnostic Item Needing Attention: \_\_\_\_\_

Bringing a Vehicle for  
High Mileage Award Certification: Y N

Year, Model, Mileage of Vehicle to Certify: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to SFBA/MBCA and mail to:

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

Reservation deadline March 26 or when limit is reached.  
For confirmation, include e-mail or phone number above.  
Confirmation will be sent upon receipt of reservation.

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

Names of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

First Event: Y N

\_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$15 ea. = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to SFBA/MBCA and mail to:

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**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.

**MOFFETT FIELD AIR MUSEUM TOUR**  
**Saturday, March 10, 2012**  
**RESERVATION FORM**

Names of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

First Event: Y N

\_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$10 ea. = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to SFBA/MBCA and mail to:

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

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

**FILOLI ESTATE & GARDENS TOUR**  
**Saturday, April 28, 2012**  
**RESERVATION FORM**

Names of attendees: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

First Event: Y N

\_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$5 ea. = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to SFBA/MBCA and mail to:

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

Reservation deadline April 15 or when limit is reached.  
For confirmation, include e-mail or phone number above.  
Confirmation and directions will be sent upon receipt of registration.



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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.**

## **HOLIDAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH, DECEMBER 4, 2011**

