

# Golden Gate Star

e-newsletter



San Francisco Bay Area Section, Mercedes-Benz Club of America

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

November 2014, e-mail edition

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## ***DECEMBER 6 - By Popular Demand!***

**Elegance! Superb Dinner!  
Music and Dancing! Mix and Mingle!  
Holiday by the Bay- SFBA Style  
*Member Appreciation Tribute***

Join us at the spectacular Chaminade Resort, the mountain-top retreat in Santa Cruz, from 6 to 10 PM on Saturday, December 6th 2014, for our Annual Holiday Gala honoring our members.

By popular demand we're returning to this luxurious hotel nestled in 300 acres among sprawling eucalyptus and redwood trees. The hotel will be all dressed up for the holidays. Our club members have voted the Chaminade as an amazing venue, and we've enjoyed wonderful times there before.

## Quick Links



[First Sunday Drive](#)  
**Monterey to Paraiso  
Vineyards**  
*November 2*



[Holiday by the Bay](#)  
**Santa Cruz**  
*December 6*

Our elegant and sumptuous plated, sit-down dinner will include hors d'oeuvres, salad, your selection of entree, trio of desserts and two bottles of wine per table.



### Hors d'oeuvres

Your evening culinary adventure will be started with -

- Miniature Beef Wellington with Tarragon Aioli
- Sweet Potato and Pancetta Latkes with Asiago Souffle
- Sesame Chicken with Teriyaki Sauce
- Baked Brie wrapped in brioche with caramelized onions and apple filling, garnish, baguettes and crackers

### Sumptuous Entrees

We are certain that you will find a favorite entree among the four wonderful selections available -

- Roast Prime Rib
- Herb Encrusted Rack of Lamb
- Bronzed Salmon Filet
- Miniature Pumpkins filled with herb winter vegetables



Please select your entree when you register. See below for registration information.

### Music and Dancing



By popular demand, the group Classy Jazz will provide live music for our listening and dancing pleasure. Before and after dinner, you can also bask in the warmth of the blaze in

the fire pit as you are renewed by the crisp night air. You can preview Chaminade photos at <http://www.chaminade.com>.



[Disney Museum Event](#)  
San Francisco Presidio  
January 10

### **Future MB Owner**



Ida Covets David and Roberta Sears' 300SL and Plans Her First First Sunday Drive



Trio of Desserts Awaits  
Dec 6 Revelers

Your MB Interests and MB Experiences Can Be Featured in a Coming Newsletter

Many members have expressed an interest in hearing the great stories of club members with and around their MB autos and their club experiences.

Please send in your recollections

## **Registration**

The dress for this great evening will be cocktail attire, and this gala is value priced at \$65 per person. To register for this event go to our new Club website at [www.sfba.mbca.org](http://www.sfba.mbca.org) and then click on the link for the Gala. That will take you to [MotorsportReg.com](http://MotorsportReg.com). You can then electronically register for the Gala and make your menu choices.

Please register on or before December 1st.

## **About Mix and Mingle**

Mix and Mingle is all about you and about the Board's appreciation of each of you. For Mix and Mingle the Board members, who will be seated at different tables, will get up and move to another table after each course so everyone will meet new people! This event promises to be a fun and interactive evening of friendship and celebration.

## **For A Complete Weekend To Remember**

To weave the evening into a true weekend to remember, we have arranged a special overnight room rate at the Chaminade Resort Hotel - which is Four-Diamond rated by Triple AAA - of only \$99 with parking and resort fees included! Stay overnight and then wake up to the treat of the Chaminade's award-winning champagne brunch!

Call 831-475-5600 for room reservations ASAP to get this great rate. Ask for room block SFBA Mercedes Benz Club. To register online for your room over the Internet visit this link:

[https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g\\_reservation.cfm?groupID=1292158&hotelID=15334](https://reservations.ihotelier.com/crs/g_reservation.cfm?groupID=1292158&hotelID=15334)

## **For Further Information**

For further information or to ask specific questions contact:

Gloria Loventhal  
Ron Franke at

[glorialov@gmail.com](mailto:glorialov@gmail.com)  
[ron@rdfranke.com](mailto:ron@rdfranke.com)

of your favorite experiences and what you enjoy in our club along with pictures you may enjoy and look for them in future issues.

Submit your stories and photos to Bertha Benz - email: [sfbambca@gmail.com](mailto:sfbambca@gmail.com)

## **Classified**

FOR SALE:

**1973 450SL Parts**

**1985 300TD Wagon**



FREE:

**1962 190 Sedan Bumper**



## 2015 S550 Unveiled As Members Follow Greater Marin-Sonoma Cheese Trail

On October 5, a contingent of twenty MBs and owners rendezvoused in San Anselmo under the direction of drive leaders Doug Strokovich and Sydney Reed for the start of our First Sunday Drive to the fine cheese factories dotting pastoral Marin and Sonoma Counties.

And there were surprise oohs and ahhs even before the drive started as member Paolo Malabuyo treated us to an unveiling of the new 2015 MB S550.

Even though the S550 it is not yet even available at dealerships, Paolo was able to provide this major score to your club because he is the Vice President of advance User Experience Design for Mercedes Benz R&D, North America.

The drive itself focused on what have been landmark cheese producing facilities since way back in 1865, and we certainly enjoyed some of the most famous producers along with some of the most beautiful roads in California all on the same drive.



Happily, the trip was navigator friendly, since in most cases there was only one way to go, so your navigation system can't give you an unwelcome detour over the "fastest" way.

### Handcrafted And Swiss Heritage Cheeses

Our first stop was the Cowgirl Creamery, located in Point Reyes Station, CA. In 1997, Sue Conley and Peggy Smith built a small creamery in downtown Point Reyes Station and began making handcrafted cheese with local organic milk. They have since prospered and their product line now includes three fresh and six aged cheeses.

We continued to our next stop at the Nicasio Valley Cheese Company in Nicasio. Since the Lafranchi family had always enjoyed the traditional cheeses of their Swiss homeland and had dreamed of making their own, their organic dairy provided the perfect resource to enable them to recreate their homeland cheeses, to build a vibrant business and to honor their heritage all at the same time.

### Oldest Cheese Factory in America

Our last stop was the Marin French Cheese Company, located in Petaluma. The Marin French Cheese Company is the oldest continuously operating cheese factory in America! Marin French has specialized in hand made Brie and Camembert since 1865. In 2005 it was the first American cheese producer to outscore France in international competitions.

To cap off this awesome drive (believe me, we really did try NOT to say the word "awesome"), the Marin French Cheese Company has an inviting picnic area with a pond, complete with ducks

and Canadian geese, where we also made it our lunch stop to relax under the large shade trees and to enjoy the afternoon with good friends.

Between the S550, the great back roads, the fine cheeses and the hospitality of the fine cheese companies chronicled above, the ride was a terrific success and left all awaiting the next Club First Sunday Ride outing.

*Shawn Merrill, Doug Strokovich and Sydney Reed all contributed to this story. We thank them for the great content! - Ed.*

## **Mulfords to Lead FSD On November 2 From Monterey to Santa Lucia Highlands**

Our next Sunday drive is November 2, 2014, when drive leaders Bob and Leslie Mulford will take us to beautiful Monterey County!

Bob and Leslie have said that the November drive will take us up and down hills on long twisting roads, through beautiful countryside, past horse ranches, ancient oak trees, and vineyards as we wind our way from Monterey through Carmel Valley and Cachagua, to Paraiso Vineyards in the Santa Lucia Highlands.

Until then, drive safely!

## **SFBAMBCA Elections**

The SFBAMBCA Nominating Committee has worked hard to select candidates for your Officers of the Board for the coming year. We are pleased that the following individuals have stepped forward to assume the leadership of our club:

- President                      Geoff Paulsen
- Vice President                Steve Robinson
- Secretary                        Eric Wee
- Treasurer                        Lou Piccinini

### **How To Send In Your Ballot**

We encourage each Club member to vote at the earliest time for these candidates. You may do so by email to [jweir39@aol.com](mailto:jweir39@aol.com) or by sending a written ballot to the attention of Jack Weir, 31 Banbridge Place, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Your emailed or snail mailed ballot should indicate that you support the slate of Officers for the coming year.

### **Strong, Participatory Club Direction**

Following the election, it is envisioned that the new Officers of the Board in conjunction with other established Club leaders will be working to implement a leadership strategy that will employ a collective leadership model, where the formal title of each executive position is less important than the ability of the board and the executive team to ensure that all necessary tasks are identified and discharged effectively. We believe that this will help provide a stream of qualified and energetic leadership to continue our fine traditions, inject ever more vitality into our Club, and provide fun ways for the members at large to contribute and to participate in new

activities.

Thank you for your early votes to ensure our forward progress, along with fulfillment and fun for the entire membership.

## Upcoming Activities

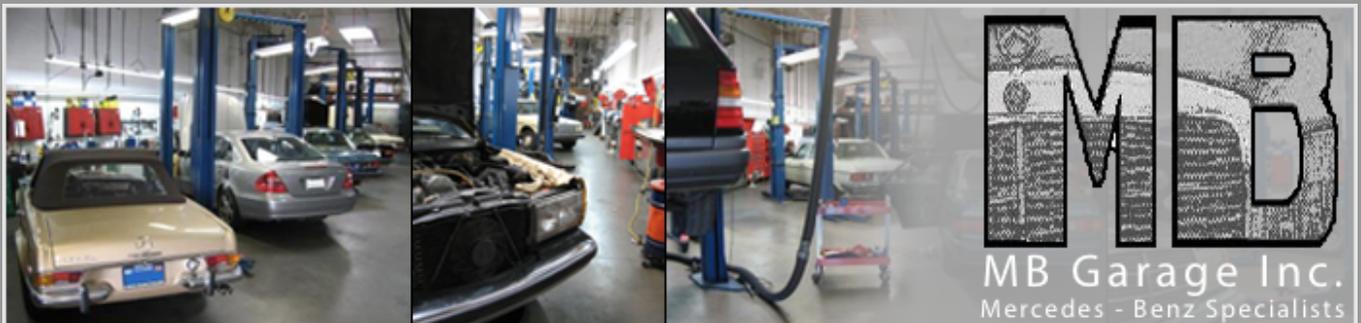
November 2 [First Sunday Drive](#)  
December 6 [Holiday by the Bay, Mix and Mingle](#)  
January [Disney Museum Event](#)



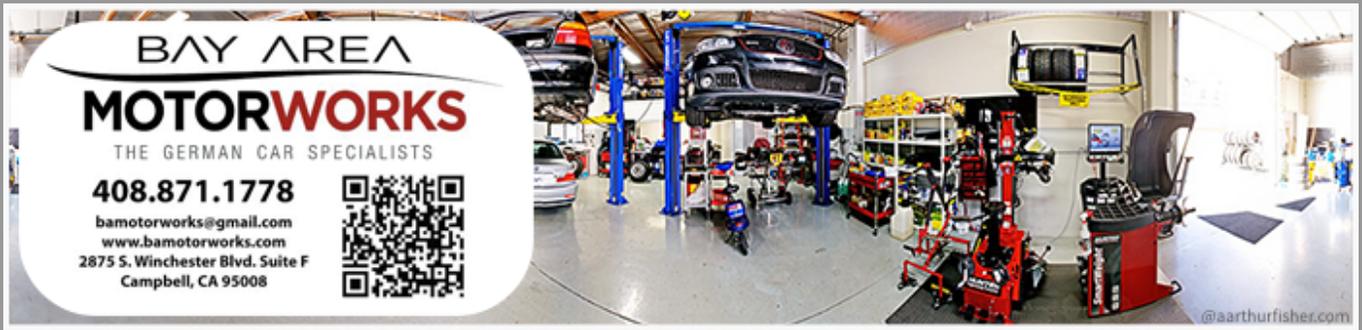
Learn more by visiting our [website](#) and watching our [video](#)

## Shops In Your Area

Mid-Peninsula, San Mateo



[MB GARAGE](#) 2165 Palm Ave., San Mateo



Bay Area Motorworks 875 So. Winchester, Campbell

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