

INSIDE: NOVEMBER 14-15 FALL OVERNIGHTER DETAILS, 2016 EVENT CALENDAR!
FEATURE EVENT: Holiday Celebration at the City Club, Fort Worth, TX, Saturday, December 5, 6:30pm



Fort Worth Section's
 Holiday Celebration at the Fort Worth City Club
 Saturday, December 5, 2015, at 6:30pm

Our 2015 Holiday Dinner-Dance will be at the City Club in the heart of Downtown Fort Worth. The posh City Club has been one of Fort Worth's premier business and social clubs since its inception 25 years ago. Let us jump start the holidays with a night of good food, games, prizes, dancing and camaraderie with our fellow MBCA members. The agenda, menu and other details follow below.

When: Saturday, December 5, 6:30pm.
Where: The City Club, Presidents Room, 4th Floor, D.R. Horton Tower, 301 Commerce Street, Fort Worth, TX 76102. 817-878-4000.
Dress: Cocktail, Coat and Tie.

Cost and Signup: Please sign up as early as you can so we can assure enough food, drink and space for everyone. Family and friends of MBCA members are welcome. The cost of this event will be \$49 per person. Cocktails and wine can be ordered at additional cost. You have 2 ways to pay for the event fee:

1) To pay online using your credit card:

Go to our website, www.mbca.org/fortworth, click the [Event Calendar](#) button, then select this event. Locate the payment button for this event's online write-up, and follow the instructions.

2) To pay with a check:

Register and send your payment as soon as possible. Email DJ de Jesus, didejesus@charter.net, (817) 319 3033, and let him know you are coming. Make your check payable to MBCA, and send to DJ de Jesus, 4159 Charron Ln, Ft Worth, TX 76116.

AGENDA:

6:30 - COCKTAIL RECEPTION:

Hors d'oeuvres will be served. Cash Bar (cash only, please) is open.

7:00 - DINNER:

Our 3-course menu will include:

Salad: CAESAR.

Main Course: DUET OF GRILLED FILET MIGNON AND LEMON CRUSTED HALIBUT.

Dessert: RASPBERRY NAPOLEON.

Beverages: Coffee and tea included. Wine and other beverages may be ordered at the cash bar at additional cost. Cash only, please.

Special Dietary Needs: Please email DJ de Jesus, didejesus@charter.net, on your special dietary requirements when you book your spot(s).

8:15 to ?? - GAME, PRIZES, DANCING.

CASH BAR (cash only, please) will be open for liquor, cocktails, beer, wine, and other beverages.

Directions to City Club:

NOTE: The directions are the same whether you are headed either North or South. From I-35W, take exit 52A to enter Spur 280 toward downtown Fort Worth. (This is a right-hand exit from either direction.) Bear right onto 4th Street. Go just past the Bass Hall, then turn right on Commerce Street. Go one block and turn right on 3rd Street. Go one block and turn right on Calhoun Street. Enter the parking garage on your left via the last entrance. After parking, find the elevator at the northwest corner of the garage. Take the elevator (if necessary) to Level 3 BLUE. Walk across two sky-bridges to the DR Horton Tower. Keep bearing right until you come to Sherry's Gifts and Snacks. Turn left and find 4 elevators marked "3-12". Go to the 4th floor (City Club Meeting Rooms). On the 4th floor, follow the signs to the Mercedes Club Dinner.

Officers and Directors:

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| President: | Larry Vaughn (817) 237-4232 larryvaughn@charter.net |
| Vice President: | Jim Hannon (817) 294-0206 jameshannon@charter.net |
| Secretary: | Cecile de Jesus (817) 732-8773 djdejesus@charter.net |
| Treasurer: | Chris Watt (972) 393-1898 cwatt.tx@gmail.com |
| Communications: | DJ de Jesus (817) 732-8773 djdejesus@charter.net |
| At Large: | Gerry Goodman (817) 820-0360 motorcarsltd@aol.com |
| At Large: | Giff Marr (817) 232-2299 gamarr@charter.net |
| At Large: | Teresa Watt (972) 393-1898 t.watt.tx@gmail.com |

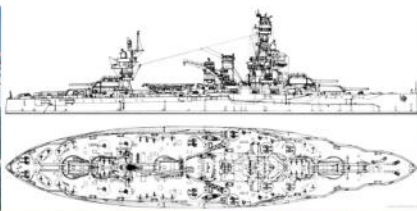
Fort Worth Section Meetings at Park Place Fort Worth

The Fort Worth Section board meets at 6:00 pm on the first Wednesday of every month. We encourage attendance, suggestions and exchange of ideas from any MBCA member. The meetings are held at Park Place Motorcars Fort Worth, 5601 S Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth, 76132.



invites you to avail of the 10% discount on parts and service offered to MBCA members. Simply show your current MBCA membership card when purchasing parts or service. The Park Place Fort Worth dealership is located at 5601 South Bryant Irvin Road, Fort Worth TX, or call (866) 431-4572. The Park Place Grapevine dealership is located at 1300 Texan Trail, Grapevine, TX, or call (888) 693-4087. Drop by and see both of their beautiful, state-of-the-art facilities.

Texas History Fall Overnighter, Galveston & La Porte, TX, Saturday and Sunday, November 14 & 15.



Our Fall overnighter will be a Texas history-themed trip to Galveston and La Porte, TX. On Saturday we will depart Fort Worth and drive to Galveston on a route which will avoid the I-45 tractor-trailers and Houston traffic to the extent possible. We will have lunch at the elegant Hotel Galvez in Galveston. After lunch, we will take a boat tour of the harbor side of the island. After the boat



ride, we will check in at the very nice Courtyard by Marriott on famous Seawall Blvd. Our dinner and social will be in a private room at Gaido's Seafood restaurant, locally owned and operated by the same family since 1911. On Sunday, we will depart Galveston and drive to La Porte, where the Battleship Texas, the only survivor of the early Dreadnought era, is berthed. There are no docent-guided tours of the Texas on Sunday, so Professor de Jesus, the club's resident battleship expert (our standards for "expert" have always been pretty lax), will discuss the 100-year-old battlewagon's general technical details and its place in history. After the USS Texas tour, we will visit the San Jacinto Memorial and take an elevator ride to the top. The San Jacinto Battleground is where Sam Houston secured Texas independence and avenged the Alamo by defeating General Santa Anna's Mexican Army.

HELP US PLAN - SIGN UP NOW! Registration instructions and event details are below. Questions? Email DJ de Jesus, djdejesus@charter.net, or call him at 817-319-3033.

I. Meeting Time and Place:

Time: Saturday, November 14. Briefing at 6:45am. Depart 7am. Please do not be late so we can be on time for our scheduled activities in Galveston.

Place: We will meet at the Starbucks near the intersection of I-35W and Everman Pkwy, south of I-20. It is at 8601 South Fwy, Fort Worth, TX 76134. It is next door to a McDonald's for those who wish to have breakfast.

II. Registration & Event Fee:

We will charge an event fee of \$65 per person for MBCA members and their immediate families. The non-member fee will be \$75 per person. The fee will include a nice 3-course dinner at Gaido's, the Galveston boat tour cost, admission to the USS Texas, the San Jacinto Memorial elevator ride, and the cost of prizes for our social. Members are responsible for the cost of hotel accommodations, Saturday lunch at the Galvez, Sunday breakfast and other travel expenses. Pay the event fee online or by check.

1) IMPORTANT! Make your hotel room reservation (see below), to assure your accommodation.

2) Pay the event fee online below, or by check, payable to MBCA, to Fort Worth Section Bill Collector DJ de Jesus, 4159 Charron Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76116. Email DJ de Jesus, djdejesus@charter.net, and let him know you are coming. Please sign up as soon as possible, so we know how many members to expect for accommodations, activities and meals. To pay online using your credit card, go to our website, www.mbca.org/fortworth, click the [Event Calendar](#) button, then select this event. Locate the payment button for this event's online write-up, and follow the instructions.

III. Hotel Accommodations:

Our hotel will be the very nice Courtyard by Marriott at 9550 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX. We will be there during cruise-ship season when hotel rates are at their peak. However, we have negotiated a discount for our members for a limited number of rooms. Our rate will be \$149 per room (plus taxes & fees) rather than the standard \$179 for our arrival date. To book your room, CLICK to email Fort Worth Section Hotel Clerk DJ de Jesus. Specify 2 Queens or 1 King. DJ will email you a confirmation number. When you check in, please provide your credit card to the front desk to pay for your room. Note that this hotel does not provide free breakfast. It has a small bistro in the lobby for a light breakfast if desired. Pay your own.

Please book your room ASAP, so we can try to amend our room commitment as appropriate.

- CONTINUED NEXT PAGE -

CONTINUED: Texas History Fall Overnighter, Saturday and Sunday, November 14 & 15.

IV. Meals:

Lunch Saturday, November 14 Group Menu at the Hotel Galvez (pay your own):

(Note optional items below)

Galvez Famous Shrimp Gumbo

Choice of:

- Caesar with grilled Free Range Chicken -- \$32
- Texas Fried Shrimp PO Boy with French Fries -- \$32
- The Club sandwich, Cajun Turkey, Swiss Cheese, Avocado on wheat with French Fries -- \$29

Choice of:

- Bread Pudding with Blue Bell vanilla Ice Cream
- Key Lime pie, an island favorite

Coffee or Iced Tea included.

Optional Items: Subtract \$8 if you won't have dessert. Subtract \$7 if you won't have the gumbo.

Libations are on your own.

Dinner Saturday, November 14 Fixed Menu at Gaido's (included in Event Fee):

Mixed Field Greens Salad with House-made Honey Pecan Vinaigrette Dressing

Choice of:

- Fried Seafood Platter
- Pecan-Encrusted Snapper
- Grilled 10oz Sirloin Steak

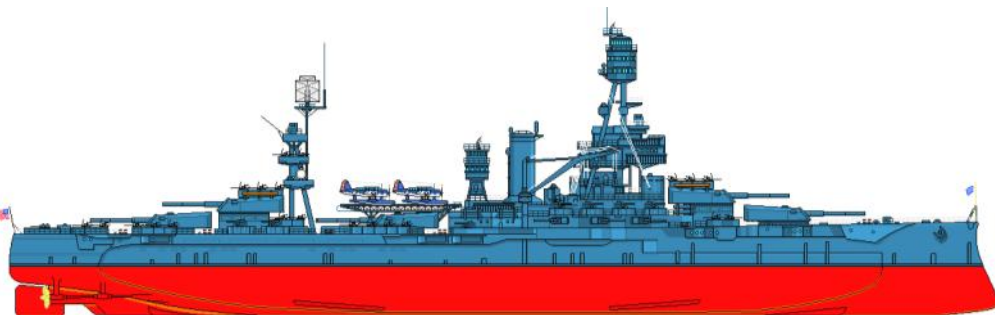
Pecan Crunch a la Mode

Coffee, Iced Tea, Sodas included.

Libations on your own.

Breakfast, Sunday, November 15.

Optional. Pay your own, not included with room charge. The hotel has a small bistro which serves a light breakfast.



Lunch, Sunday, November 15 will be on your own. Sorry, we could not find a suitable place for a group lunch near the San Jacinto Battleground.

V. Schedule of Activities (ETA's are approximate):

Saturday, November 14

06:45am: Meet and brief at the Starbucks, 8601 South Fwy, Fort Worth, TX 76134, (817) 551-2974. See map.

07:00am: Caravan departs from Fort Worth to Galveston

01:00pm: Lunch at the Hotel Galvez (2024 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77550 - (409) 765-7721. Pay your own.

03:00pm: Galveston Harbor Boat Ride. Included in Event Fee.

04:15pm: Check-in at the Marriott Courtyard, 9550 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77554, (409) 497-2850. Pay your own.

07:00pm: 3-Course dinner at Gaido's, 3828 Seawall Blvd, Galveston, TX 77550 (409, 762-9625. Included in Event Fee.

08:30pm: Game and social.

Sunday, April 19

07:45am: Optional pay-your-own breakfast. Check out.

08:30am: Briefing at the Marriott lobby.

08:45am: Depart for La Porte, TX.

10:00am: Tour of the Battleship Texas. Included in Event Fee.

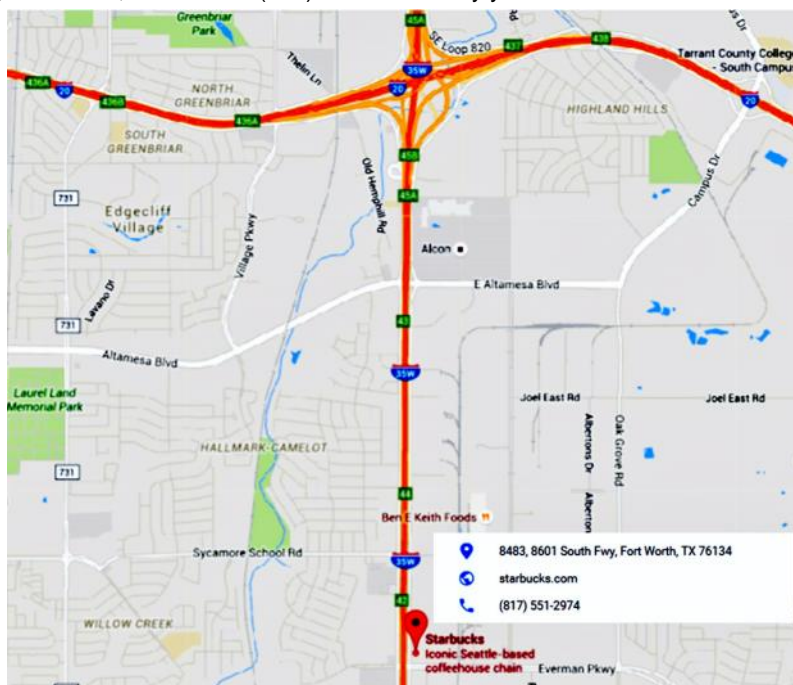
11:15am: Visit San Jacinto Battleground Memorial. Elevator ride included in Event Fee. Other activities on your own.

12:15pm: Depart for home on your own.

VI. Map of Meeting Place:

Saturday, November 14, 6:45am.

Starbucks near the intersection of I-35W and Everman Pkwy, south of I-20.



Prior Event Report - Summer Drive to the Lost Oak Winery, Burleson, TX, July 11, 2015



En route to Joshua.

Thirty-four folks in 17 cars joined us for a nice country drive, great food at Tortilla Flats in Joshua, and a visit to the Lost Oak Winery in Burleson for wine-tasting and a winery tour. Members from the Dallas and the Ozark sections joined us for this event.

We met at the Starbucks in Forest Hill for a briefing, then set out for a country drive to Joshua. We lunched at Tortilla Flats, a charming little Mexican restaurant which exceeded our expectations for food and service. Lunch was fresh and delicious. Service was friendly and quick despite our large group which filled the small restaurant. Our hostess and her chef/husband were genuinely glad to have us.



A cool stop during the winery tour.

After lunch, we proceeded to the Lost Oak Winery in Burleson. We had a pretty comprehensive winery tour led by our guide who obviously loved his craft. We were particularly impressed by the very nice grape crop which benefited from the recent rains in our area. We were under-terred by the summer sun and the near 100-degree heat.

After the tour, our group enjoyed a tasting of some Lost Oak wines. After we made our wine purchases, we drove back home on our own.



Lost Oak Winery.



Tortilla Flats Mexican Restaurant.



Briefing before the drive to Burleson.



Part of the winery tour.



Good rains will make a good crop.



Sampling some wines.

Prior Event Report - GE Locomotive Plant Tours, Fort Worth, TX, August 15 & 29, 2015



Locomotive Tour I.



Locomotive Tour II.

Two tours of the giant GE locomotive plant in Fort Worth, TX were set up to accommodate as many members as possible for these popular events. This factory makes state-of-the-art locomotives for GE's worldwide markets. Despite scheduling two tours, both were sold out, with sixty members in well over thirty cars attending.

We met at the Starbucks in Saginaw and traveled on back roads to avoid traffic congestion due to road construction north of Fort Worth. We were welcomed at the GE factory by Joe Mercado, MBCA Fort Worth member and GE associate. Joe personally guided our tours, explaining the process of building the huge freight locomotives as we walked through the factory. The attendees found the tours very thorough and fascinating, and many formed a beeline to thank Joe for an excellent job. After the tours, we caravanned to Roanoke for a great BBQ lunch at the Hard Eight BBQ.

Sorry, GE does not allow photographs inside the factory. However, a link to a GE video on the plant is provided on the Prior Events page on the Fort Worth Section website.

Many, many thanks to Joe Mercado for giving up his days off to arrange and guide both tours.



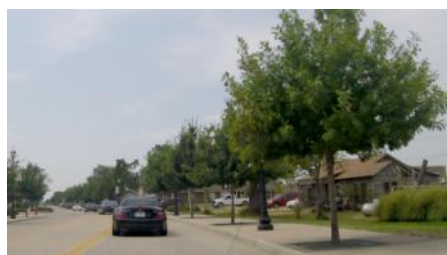
Benzes at the sprawling GE plant.



Hard 8 BBQ.



Hard not to eat too much.



Arrival at Roanoke.



Roads less traveled.



Approaching the GE Plant.

Prior Event Report - Cars, Food & Wine Tour, Nocona & St. Jo, TX, September 12, 2015



Line of Benzes parked at the Blue Ostrich.



Cecile de Jesus, Teresa Watt and a tall photobomber.

Twenty-nine members in 15 cars enjoyed an outing which featured almost everything desirable in it. We met at the Starbucks in Saginaw to avoid the maddening I-35 construction bottlenecks. After a short briefing, we began our trip on wonderful country roads.

Our first stop was the excellent Horton Classic Car Museum in Nocona, a fine facility which was home to over 50 beautifully restored American muscle cars. The museum staff even parked a Mercedes 190SL outside just for us, the only foreign example we could see. Lunch was at the nearby Times Forgotten Steakhouse located in Nocona's downtown. The restaurant did a fine job with great food and quick service despite our large group and their small staff. After lunch, we had a great drive to the Blue Ostrich Winery, nestled on the area's rolling hills and meadows, in St. Jo. We sampled some wines as our guide explained the winery's manufacturing process and took us around the facility. Many members purchased some Blue Ostrich wines to take home.



The 190SL (the only non-American car to see) was rolled out just for us.



Over 50 cars were displayed, soon to be 150.



Part of the Horton's superb collection.



En route to Nocona.



Winery tour.



Lunch at the Times Forgotten Steakhouse.

2016 EVENT CALENDAR

| | | |
|---------------|--|---------------------|
| January 16: | <u>Winter Getaway</u> | (Saturday) |
| February 6: | <u>Pre-Valentine Event</u> | (Saturday) |
| March 26: | <u>Nawlins Crawfish Boil, Azle, TX</u> | (Saturday) |
| April 16-17: | <u>Texas Hill Country Run</u> | (Saturday & Sunday) |
| May 14: | <u>Mercedes Car Show</u> | (Saturday) |
| June 11: | <u>Q&A Rally</u> | (Saturday) |
| July 16: | <u>Texas History Tour</u> | (Saturday) |
| August 20: | <u>Stay Cool Tour</u> | (Saturday) |
| September 17: | <u>Food 'n' Fun Road Trip</u> | (Saturday) |
| October 8: | <u>Track Day, Cresson, TX</u> | (Saturday) |
| November 12: | <u>Fall Driving Event</u> | (Saturday) |
| December 3: | <u>Holiday Celebration</u> | (Saturday) |

Please note all events are subject to change as plans progress.

CLASSIFIEDS

1974 450SL. First year for U.S. 450SL. Not grey market. Good mechanical maintenance, but high-mileage car- about 176,000. Factory upgrades and recalls done right. Over 10 year storage, after extensive body restoration. Very presentable exterior. With some interior restoration, would make very nice daily driver. Second owner since 1975-6. Both tops included. Original wheel covers, owner's manual and data plate. One seat hinge chrome plate (plastic) broken. Driver's seat back corner (leather) needs to be recovered. Brakes work, runs and drives. A/C needs charge, but apparently works. Stabilizer bar needs re-fit. New Bosch battery. Electric windows, antenna, working. Old tires. Hear it run, drive it around the block, but you should get it home on a trailer. In Fort Worth. \$5,000 'As-Is'. jbmark52@yahoo.com.

1979 450SEL 6.9. Very rare and desirable. Real - not clone, not grey market. Only about 500 imported to US that year. Only produced 2 years. 'World's Fastest Sedan' in its day. First of the modern 'S' Class. This car was in mint condition- with 40,000 miles- when purchased from the original owner. My family owned it from about 1984. A very solid rust-free, low-mileage example - now 71,000 original miles. It needs little reconditioning: the paint and leather are very good. There are a few small cracks in the dash - you won't see them unless you look very carefully. One piece of wood at the console shows some age. There are minor dings underneath - one dent- and the chassis has probably never been detailed. Has been in storage for about 10 years. Not perfect mechanically: running, and brakes work. Suspension is apparently working. It probably needs some A/C work. Needs a tune-up. I suspect an ignition relay needs replacing. Easily a show quality car. Sunroof. Light metallic blue with dark blue leather interior. Owner's manual and original toolkit, first aid kit, emergency reflector. Good tread, but old tires. Should not be driven home. Needs to get home on a covered trailer. \$20,000.00 for a car easily worth over \$35,000. Sold 'As-Is'. In storage near Auburn, IN. Jonathan Mark, (817) 685-8464, jbmark52@yahoo.com.

Package Deal: Both 1974 450SL and 1979 450SEL 6.9 above for \$24,000.

R107 EURO Headlights. Non-vacuum type. New clear lenses. \$1200 cash or best offer. Pick up in Arlington, TX. David Parrish, parrishd01@hotmail.com.

SL Hardtop Rack. Slightly-used Mercedes-Benz SL rolling hardtop storage rack. Metal with rubber bumpers. Sold my SL and need to free up garage space. \$100 or best offer. Marilyn Weiss, 8009 Cahoba Dr., Fort Worth, TX 76135, (817) 798-2718.



M G !

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2609 White Settlement Road - One half block west of Angelo's
Fort Worth, Texas 76107 817-820-0360

Service by Appointment: Monday thru Friday 8:00 - 5:00 & Saturday until noon

MBCA Membership Application
Please print clearly

Full Name _____

Associate member (spouse or dependent) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Business phone _____

E-mail address _____

Mercedes-Benz cars now owned (model and year): _____

(List additional cars elsewhere)

Interest: (please check)

- driving events car shows social events
 car care technical The Star

Please enroll me as a member of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America for the following term (check one):

U.S. and possessions:

- 1 year (\$55) 2 years (\$107) 3 years (\$157)
 Make check payable to MBCA; Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express also accepted.

All other countries (including Canada), US funds:

- 1 year (\$65) 2 years (\$127) 3 years (\$187)
 Overseas and Canadians: use international money orders in U.S. funds. Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express also accepted.

Applicant's signature

Fort Worth Section

Section preference (or we will assign by zip code)

Sponsor's name and member number (not required)

- Visa MasterCard
 Discover American Express Exp. Date _____

Account number _____

Or use www.mbca.org or telephone us at:
800/637-2360 8 AM - 5 PM (Mountain Time)

MBCA, 1907 Lelaray St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909

719 / 633-6427 Fax 719 / 633-9283

To contribute to the MBCA Educational Foundation

Please send (separate) check made payable to MBCEAF, 1907 Lelaray St., Colorado Springs, CO 80909, MBCEAF, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, will furnish you with a receipt for your tax deductible donation.

Enjoy all the benefits:

- The Star magazine subscription
- Local section events
- Loyalty awards
- Free classified ads
- National events and conventions
- Technical and restoration advice
- Club Store merchandise
- Raffle

Fort Worth Section members get 10% off parts & service from Park Place Motorcars!



Enjoy spending time among the stars?

Join the club.



Strozz/West Section

2006 Section of the Year



Join Now! It's Simple!

Complete the application form, enclose your payment by check or credit card and mail to:

MBCA

1907 Lelaray Street

Colorado Springs, CO 80909

You need not own a Mercedes-Benz to join MBCA.

Fort Worth's web site: www.mbca.org/fortworth



MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB OF AMERICA

4159 Charron Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76116

PLEASE NOTE: If you have received a paper copy of our newsletter via the USPS, this means that we are unable to contact you via email. Maybe your email address has changed or you have not provided one to the club.

To receive more timely information on the club (and maybe help save a tree or two), please provide a valid email address along with your name and member number (it is on the mailing label) to Sharon Appleman of the MBCA national office. Her email address is sharon@mbca.org. Your email address will be used for MBCA correspondence only. Thanks!!