



THE OCTAGON

Newsletter of the M.G. Owners Club
The Northern California Centre of the M.G. Car Club



Since 1957!



Photos by Kirk
Prentiss

October 2018

About *The Octagon* and the MG Owners Club

The M.G. Owners Club, formed in 1957, is the Northern California Centre of the M.G. Car Club, formed in England in 1930. The Peninsula T Register was formed in 1973 and is now an informal sub-group of the MGOC. We receive a copy of the MGCC's *Safety Fast*, available to members on loan from the Corresponding Secretary. The club is also associated with the North American MGB Register, the North American MGA Register, and the New England MG T Register. The MGOC holds a business meeting each month at an event known as the "Natter and Noggin" in the style of English clubs. *The Octagon*, our newsletter, is published monthly by the MG Owners Club. Opinions expressed in *The Octagon* are not necessarily those of the MGOC, its members, or Board of Directors.

DIRECTORY of MGOC OFFICERS for 2018

President: Andy Preston, andypreston@att.net
 Vice President: Kirk Prentiss, kirkprentiss@gmail.com
 Treasurer: Marla Preston, marlapreston@hotmail.com
 Secretary: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Member-at-Large: Craig Kuenzinger, 925-234-3313, mrcraigk@aol.com
 Member-at-Large: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.com
 Member-at-Large: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, j2george@pacbell.net

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CLUB ADVISOR PROGRAM

Feel free to call these members, who have volunteered to help with purchase, repair, and restoration of various M.G. models, etc.

MGB 1962-74: Steve Lilves, 415-924-3173,

slilves@sbcglobal.net

MGB 1974-1980: Ed Adams, 510-483-6821

AdamsEddie77@yahoo.com

MGB V8 Conversion: Tony Bates, 408-666-6174, avbates@yahoo.com

MGC: Kent Leech, 925-253-9757, kent@kentleech.com

M.G. Midget: and Overall Auto Technician: Craig Kuenzinger, 925-934-3130, mrcraigk@aol.com

MGA/Coupe/Twin Cam 1955-62: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, j2george@pacbell.net

Z-Magnette Saloon: Eric Baker, 510-531-7032

mgpb36@yahoo.com

T-types: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125,

j2george@pacbell.net

Pre-war Midgets-Magnas-Magnettes: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125

PA/PB Midget 1934-36: Eric Baker, 510-531-7032,

mgpb36@yahoo.com

S.U. Carburettors: Craig Kuenzinger, 925-234-3313,

mrcraigk@aol.com

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or MikesMuseum@yahoo.com. 2005 rates are: monthly (yearly): full pg. \$25 (\$240), half page \$18 (\$175), third page \$12 (\$120), business card \$8 (\$75).

All ads expire on Jan. 1st, and fees for a partial year will be pro-rated to that date. Deadline for ad materials is the 10th of the preceding month. The MGOC makes no claims as to the reputation or quality of work performed by businesses advertising in *The Octagon*.

MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO *THE OCTAGON*

Your stories, photos, tips, questions, and anything MGOC-related are always welcome in *The Octagon*. Please make your contributions by the 15th of the month preceding the issue in which you want them to appear. Please email all contributions to magnut_dan@hotmail.com or send them to: Dan Shockey, 10 Willis Rd., Scotts Valley, CA 95066.

RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR THE MGOC

Have you helped recruit any new members lately? The club roster is available from Steve Kellogg upon request.

MGOCSE.ORG

Upcoming events, MGOC history, photos, membership forms, *The Octagon*, and helpful links are posted on the Club Web site at <http://mgocsf.org>.

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Oct. 13 - 14

The Seventh Annual British Fall Classic Show

The event is being held a little later this year on October 13th and 14th, still in beautiful downtown Morgan Hill. This exceptional event will feature exquisite British classic sports & saloon cars representing revered marques such as Rolls Royce, Aston Martin, Jaguar, MG, Morgan, Triumph, Austin Healey, Lotus, Morris, and more! There also will be British motorcycles as well as race cars!

The event was made possible by the generous donations of our Title Sponsors, the organiser On the Road Again Classics, classic & British car restoration and repairs shop, and Ladera Grill, – both in Morgan Hill.

Special thanks also to Silver Sponsors Heritage Bank of Commerce, and Guglielmo fine wines, for their contributions to make this event happen.

Schedule

October 13th and 14th.

Saturday, October 13th

12:00 Meet at Cal Trans Station on Butterfield, Morgan Hill

12:30 - 3:30 Afternoon Car Tour (Departs at 12:30 sharp)

4:00 - 6:00 Wine reception for registered participants at On the Road Again Classics

Sunday, October 14th

8:00 - 10:00 Cars arrive and park in assigned spaces

10:00 - 2:30 Public viewing

11:00 - 1:00 Lunch on your own, downtown (try **Ladera Grill!**)

2:30 - 3:30 Drive-up Awards Presentations



Registration Information

Registration closes at 5:00 pm on Sunday, October 7th.

Sorry, no exceptions.

Please note: There will be no drive-in, judged or non-judged, registrations the day of the show.

***** This is a Fundraising Event. All net proceeds benefit local nonprofit organizations.***



From the Editor

October 2, 2018



Fall is in the air, perhaps some rain today. I am late this month. Thuy's son was married Saturday so we had to prepare and travel last week. There are many event photos this month. I hated to give up space for the constitution changes but it is important. Andy and Mike put a lot of time and thought into it. So please vote on it. The original bylaws required members to attend all the meetings or be dropped! I will catch up on event photos over the winter months.

I had to miss some really good events in September. We were in Yellowstone during the Bertolotti tour, at the wedding for the Ranch Run and I couldn't take the time off for the GOF West. I feel left out! We did make the Highland Games and the Roaring Camp event. Roaring Camp is 5.5 miles from my house so we were able to drive the PA.

The PA was missing on the way home so I decided it was time to tune it. I hadn't touched it except for minor (sticking, etc.) repairs since I rebuilt it in 2005. I found many issues. The distributor advance is not working and the valve timing is a few degrees off. It is a wonder it ran so well. I am hopeful it can run much stronger with those things fixed.

The original distributor in the P is not a great design and rotates backwards from nearly all other cars. Remarkably a VW Bug distributor is also 'backwards' and a Bosch style unit is easily adapted to fit. It slides right in! I had a used unit but this one turned out to rotate the 'wrong' way but I was able to buy a new Asian copy complete for \$25!

There are many more good events in October and November so there is still time to get out before winter. Hope to see you!

All the best,

Dan

Be sure to share your MG with young visitors. You will influence a new generation! At Roaring Camp (Shockey photo)



MG

TC-TD-TF-MGA-MGB-C-Midget

SHOCK ABSORBERS:	Front	Rear
MGTC.....	185.00	185.00
MGTD & TF.....	185.00	85.00
MGA, MGB, MGC, Midget.....	102.00	75.00
HEAVY DUTY UPGRADE.....	10.00	10.00
SHOCK LINK (New or Rebuilt)	\$call	

BRAKES: sleeved and rebuilt

MGB, Midget caliper.....	\$85.00
MGA, MGC caliper.....	\$155.00
MGA, Midget twin master 1958-67.....	\$225.00
MGB, Midget master 1968-80.....	\$125.00-145.00
MGB brake booster servo.....	\$175.00
MGC booster servo.....	\$445.00
Cylinders sleeved only, brass or SS.....	\$50-\$95
Kingpin swivel axle rebushed.....	\$80-\$90
Front end A-arm (Midget).....	\$95.00

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OCT09



MGOC & SSTS

Sonoma Tour 2018

Sat, Nov 10, 2018

This is a Rain or Shine tour so if raining bring an umbrella and drive a car with wipers.

Date: Saturday, Nov 10, 2018

Tour leaders: Andy and Marla Preston 707 795 3480

Meeting Place: Starbuck's, 1716 East Cotati Ave (Wolf Den Plaza), Rohnert Park, opposite Sonoma State University.

Time: Meet at 9:30 and leave at 10:00 departure

Tour: This year the Sonoma tour will be starting in Rohnert Park and ending in Petaluma so it's an easy off and on Hwy 101. We will be heading east for a change and taking one of my favorite drives over Sonoma Mountain and down into Napa. As we descend into the Napa we get a breathtaking view of the entire Napa Valley.

Our first stop will be at the V Marketplace in Yountville which is always a fun place to visit and there's great coffee and pastries at the Bouchon Bakery.

We will leave Yountville and travel by country roads again through some of the premier wine growing regions of both Napa and Sonoma Valleys, surrounded by vineyards.

Our final destination and lunch stop will be at Flamez Grill on Sonoma Mountain Parkway in Petaluma and we will be able to order off the open menu.

Lunch should be between 12:30 – 1:00 pm.

RSVP PLEASE: Andy or Marla Preston at: 707 795 3480 or

marlapreston@hotmail.com prior to Nov 7th so we can confirm lunch reservations.

Please bring cash because there will be one check for each table.



New Member Eric Stang

Hi Dan, I'm happy to provide some info. I just got the car about a month ago. I signed up for the Bonham's auction at the Quail, became enamored by an MGA listed in the catalog, decided to look online, found what seemed like the perfect car on my first search, called the guy, and bought the car after half an hour on the phone. Sometimes it just all seems right.

The car had a bolt off restoration about 8 years ago and I could tell the seller cared deeply about the car. She is in

fantastic shape. I neglected to tell my wife until the car arrived on a truck, thinking it would be fun to surprise her but I'm not sure that was the best approach.

By the way, after I'd made the purchase and before the car arrived I saw one parked along a road way with the driver standing with the hood up and a big wrench in his hand. I stopped and said hello and told him I'd just bought one. I was worried it might be prophetic but it turns out my car runs great! Anyway, I'm now a proud MGA owner!

Best regards, Eric

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President's Ponderings

First of all, many thanks to John Bertolotti for showing us his fabulous car collection of both European sports cars and early Brass Era cars. It was the first time I had been there and this was something not to be missed; even Marla was impressed and she not too keen on car shows! For more details see my report and photos later in this issue.

And the next day was the start of the GOF West in South Lake Tahoe. Over 17 MGOCers made the drive but we were out numbered 2 to 1 by SSTSers. Who, by the way won the award for most attendees by a single club. Well done! Our own Tom Doyle did a wonderful job organizing the administrative side of the event helped by Andy Killian and the local British Car Club organizing activities. These 4 day events are hard to organize and kudos to Tom for taking it on. Everyone I spoke to said they had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed it as did we. Well done Tom!

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ THIS.

In this issue you will see 2 documents relating to the club's "Constitution and Bylaws." It has been over 5 years since they were last updated and there have been a number of changes and revisions to club operations that need to be amended. The first document gives a summary of changes and also includes a **ballot for voting** on them. The second document is the amended "Constitution and Bylaw" with "strike outs and insertions" to highlight the changes. Under the Constitution and Bylaws any changes to them must be voted on by the membership so please take a look at both documents and send in your ballot either by mail or email to Mike Jacobsen. Thanks for your participation.

And continuing with club business I'm pleased to announce that all of the MGOC Officers have volunteered to run again in 2019. They are Kirk Prentiss for Vice President, Marla Preston for Treasurer, Mike Jacobsen for Secretary and myself for President. If any members would like to run for any of these positions please contact Mike Jacobsen to add your name to the ballot which will be in the November Octagon. We're always looking for members to organize events so if you'd like to get more involved please contact any Board Member.

Back in my garage I was making final preparations on the TF prior to the drive to South Lake Tahoe for GOF West when I noticed a small coolant leak on the bottom radiator tank. Rather than take any chances we changed cars at the last minute and drove the GT instead. I leaned out the SU carbs before making the drive and I'm pleased to say that we had no problems. Remember that at over 6000' the air is thinner so there's less oxygen in the air so carburetors tend to run rich unless they are leaned out a bit.

John Twist had a very busy time at the 2 rolling road tech sessions adjusting the timing and carbs on lots of MGs. Take Care and drive safely,

Andy





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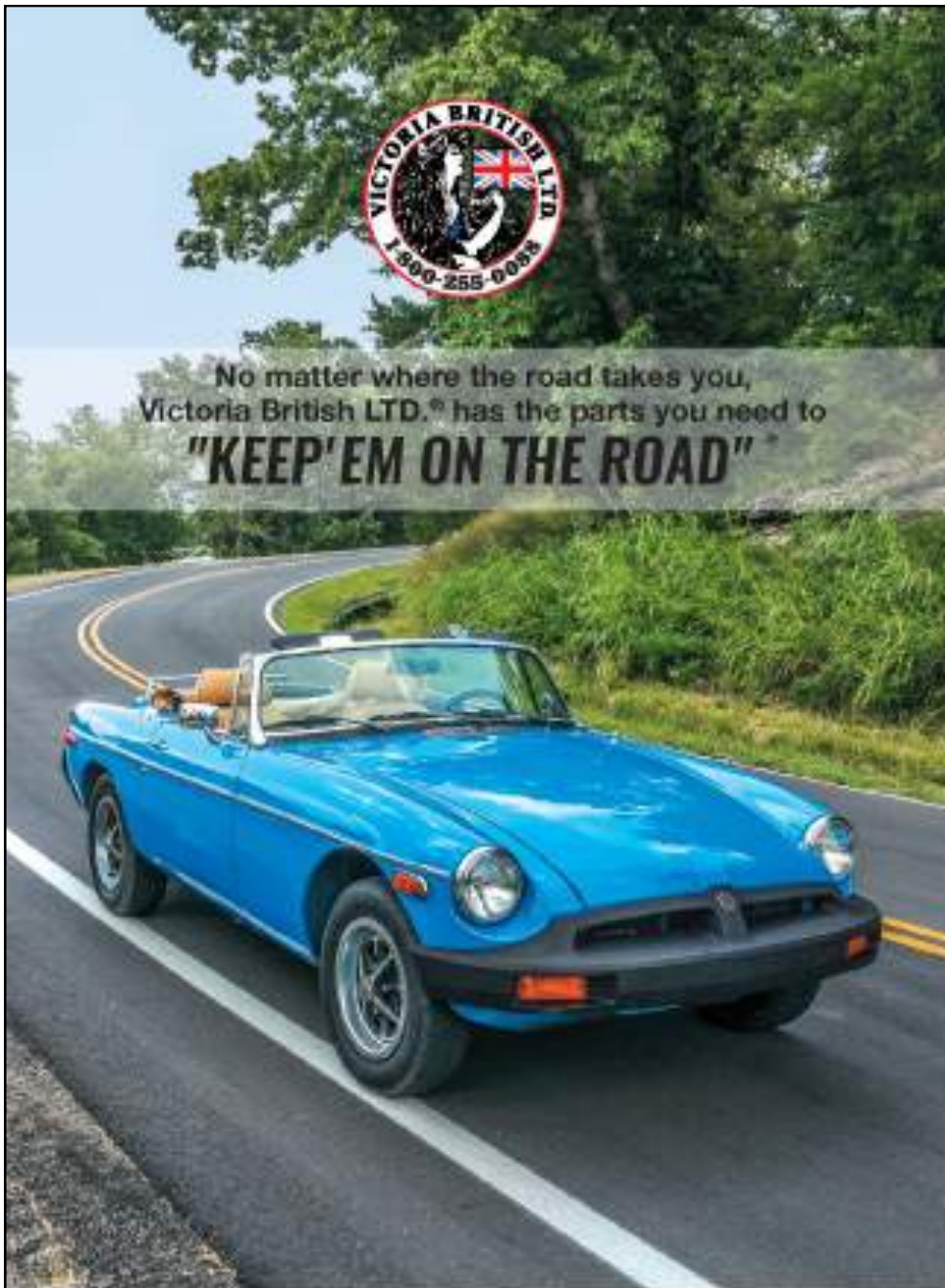


George is Older!

There appears to have been a celebration at the recent GOF West in respect of George Steneberg reaching the grand age of 86. This was to spite all those who said he would never reach 20.

Vickie Kellogg seems to have a role in providing the cake to suitably add sweetness to the auspicious occasion.

Photos by Kirk Prentiss



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Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws

October 2018

The MGOC Constitution and Bylaws were last amended in 2013, and since then there have been a number of changes and revisions to Club operations that need to be documented. There has been a significant reduction in the number of members attending Board meetings but General (Club) meetings are still well attended and popular.

Below is a summary of proposed changes, listed in the order they appear in the Constitution and Bylaws. You can use this summary to see the changes proposed, or you can use the merged Constitution and Bylaws to see the exact changes. On the merged summary, the changes are in red, with the deleted sections ~~struck through~~ and the additions underlined.

There will be a vote on approving the Constitution and Bylaws changes at the December 15, 2018 meeting. Please attend the meeting or send your vote by mail or email, including any comments, to the MGOC Secretary, Mike Jacobsen, at 320 B Monterey Blvd., San Francisco, CA, 94131-3141 or MikesMuseum@yahoo.com. All ballots must be received by December 14, 2018 to be counted.

☐ For ☐ Against Update the Constitution and Bylaws as described in the October 2018 issue of *The Octagon*.

Summary of Changes to the MGOC Constitution and Bylaws

Constitution

All Articles in the Constitution are unchanged except as listed below.

Article III (amended)

The term “General Meetings” has been replaced with “Club Meetings” to clarify that these are meetings to participate in club activities and events. Club Meetings shall be held monthly as far as possible and Board Meeting shall be at least once a quarter or more frequently as required.

Bylaws

All Articles in the Bylaws are unchanged except as listed below.

Bylaw II, Section I (amended)

It specifies that it is the intent of the club to hold at least one Club meeting monthly. Board meeting are changed to once a quarter unless any Board member requests an additional meeting. A definition of a Club Meeting has been added.

Bylaw III, Section I (amended)

Annual dues have been increased from \$20 to \$25 per annum with an additional \$15 for delivery of the Octagon by mail to help cover production and mailing costs. A new membership category “Lifetime Member” has been added.

Bylaw III, Section II (amended)

The initiation fee has been dropped but new members must now obtain their own name badges.

Bylaw III, Section IV (amended)

The initiation fee has been dropped from membership requirements.

Bylaw IV, Section III (amended)

The word “general” replaced by “club”.

Bylaw VI

An article and photos of the club’s last event replaces “a synopsis of the minutes”.

MG OWNERS CLUB, INC.

CONSTITUTION

Article I – Name, Purpose, Structure

Section I

The name of this club shall be the MG Owners Club, Inc., also referred to in this Constitution and the Bylaws as “the Club.”

Section II

The purpose of the Club is to:

- Encourage members in the acquisition, preservation, restoration, exhibition and use of MG automobiles;
- Promote and schedule events, tours, tech sessions, and gatherings for MG owners;
- Further the interests of drivers and owners of MG automobiles;
- Foster good fellowship and cooperation among its members.

Section III

The Club shall be structured as a not-for-profit social and educational organization.

The Club’s fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

The Club is a registered, dues-paying Centre (Chapter) of the MG Car Club headquartered in England and shall be governed and administered, insofar as practicable, in accordance with their Rules.

Article II – Membership

Membership in the Club shall be open to anyone with an interest in MG automobiles. Ownership of an MG automobile is not a requirement for membership.

Article III – Meetings

~~There~~The Club shall endeavor to hold ~~be~~ at least one ~~regularly scheduled~~ Club meeting each month.
The Board of Directors shall meet periodically as deemed necessary by the membership (General meeting) and President or by any other of the Board (Board meeting) each month. Directors but not less than once per quarter. These meetings may be run concurrently.

Article IV – Officers

The Officers shall consist of: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Article V – Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Club’s Officers and three “At Large” members.

Article VI – Appointees and Advisors

Appointees perform functions and activities. Advisors provide members with technical support regarding the care and restoration of various MG models and component systems.

Article VII – Elections

Officer elections shall be held annually and determined by a majority of member votes cast. “At Large” Board members are elected annually by a majority of the Officer votes cast.

Article VIII – Publication

The Octagon is the official publication of the Club.

Article IX – Amendments

Any Constitutional Articles may be amended by a two-thirds majority of votes cast.

BYLAWS

Bylaw I – Purpose

The purpose of the Bylaws is to document the rules and regulations by which the general business of the Club is conducted. The Bylaws clarify the intent of the Constitution.

Bylaw II – Meetings, Rules of Order, and Voting

Section I – Meetings

~~General Club~~ meetings shall be held monthly. ~~Additional General meetings may be held, if declared as far as is practical. Club meetings shall include, but not be limited to driving events, car shows, technical session, lunches, and dinners, planning meetings, social events, overnight trips and holiday parties.~~

~~The Board of Directors shall meet periodically as deemed necessary by the Board President or by any other of the Directors but not less than once per quarter. These meetings may be run concurrently. Prior to any Board meetings Meeting the President will be held in conjunction with the Club's General meetings, unless the Board chooses to meet separately.~~ prepare the meeting agenda and circulate it by email to all other Directors for comment and addition of other items.

The Board, at its discretion, may also hold “virtual meetings” (by phone, email, etc.) to resolve issues that require expedited attention.

All Club meetings, except virtual Board meetings, are open to any Club member to attend. ~~Meeting announcements and minutes of all meetings are~~ The date, time and place of Club Meetings and Board Meetings shall be announced in *The Octagon* and the meetings are open to all Members. Minutes of Board meetings shall be published in *The Octagon*.

Section II – Rules of Order

Meetings will be guided by *Roberts Rules of Order*, revised, insofar as there is no conflict with the Constitution and the Bylaws.

Section III – Voting

A quorum of Board, being four members must be present in any meeting where Club issues are to be resolved by vote. Approval of non-financial matters requires a majority vote of the members present. Approval of financial matters requires a majority vote of the Board members present. Voice/hand voting will be used unless a secret ballot is requested by the Club President. Voting for Club Officers shall be by secret ballot. Voting at “virtual” Board meetings will be captured by electronic (email) ballot.

For passage of special assessments, impeachment of Club officers, and/or amendments to the Bylaws, an officer will either mail or email a ballot, together with an explanation of the issue to be decided, to all members no later than two (2) weeks before the meeting. To be counted, ballots must be returned by the start of the meeting. The question must have a two-thirds majority of the total votes cast to carry. In special circumstances, changes to these Bylaws may be approved on a six month trial basis by a majority vote of the membership present at a meeting following notification to the members of the proposal.

Bylaw III – Membership

Section I – Membership Categories and Dues

Regular membership dues are ~~\$20~~\$25.00 per annum per family (the family designation covers all persons living at the same physical address) ~~and an additional \$15 per annum for delivery of *The Octagon* by mail.~~ Dues are due and payable on the first day of July annually. After that date the member may be dropped from the roles and their membership automatically canceled.

Corresponding Membership is available to those who live outside the nine counties of the San Francisco Bay Region (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma counties). Corresponding members shall have all the privileges of membership, including the right to use and display the club badge. Dues for corresponding members are \$10.00 per annum.

Lifetime Membership may be awarded to certain members who have been club members for a long period of time and made significant contributions to the club subject to a vote by the Board. A Lifetime Member is exempt from paying annual dues.

Section II – Initiation Fee

There is ~~anno~~ initiation fee ~~of \$5.00 per person~~ but new members are responsible for obtaining their own name badges. The registrar will provide instructions on how to cover do this on their acceptance letter to the cost of a name badge, etc club.

Section III – Guests

Guests are welcome to participate in Club events. Guests who attend more than one event shall be encouraged to become members.

Section IV – Procedure for Joining

Once the membership application, and dues, ~~and initiation fee~~ are received by the Club Registrar, the prospective member shall be duly accepted into full membership.

Section V – Members

A member shall have voting rights, the right to hold office, the right to participate in all Club activities, and the right to display Club regalia.

Section VI – Termination of Membership

Any member failing to comply with any requirements of this Constitution and/or Bylaws, other than non-payment of dues, shall be notified by mail and shall be dropped from the membership unless the member can show cause before the Board within thirty (30) days after the notice is mailed.

Section VII – Leave of Absence

Leave of absence from the Club may be granted at the discretion of the Board.

Bylaw IV – Board Members, Officers, and Appointees

Section I – The Board

The Board has seven voting members who share common duties. Four officers elected from the general membership: a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer; and three non-elected “at Large” Board members selected by the officers.

The Board has the authority to operate the Club and perform all functions of the Club’s business. This includes, but is not limited to; the purchase of regalia to be sold, pay the Club’s expenses, selection of a liability insurance carrier for the Club, preparation and approval of an annual budget, allowance of expenditures outside or in addition to the approved budget, appointment of assistants to officers, designation of additional duties for officers, and the formation of committees.

Section II – Election of Officers

At the October business meeting the general membership shall select a committee of three members who shall, at the November meeting and in the newsletter, present the nominees for each office to the members. This shall in no way limit or prevent nominations from the floor. Ballots must be sent to all members at least two (2) weeks prior to the December meeting. Voting is done at the December business meeting by secret ballot. In the event one candidate fails to receive a majority, there shall be a run-off vote between the two candidates receiving the largest pluralities. Officers are elected at the December meeting and serve from the first day of January for one year. In the event of resignation, impeachment, etc., the Board shall appoint an officer to serve out the unexpired term.

Section III – Duties of Elected Officers

Common duties of elected officers are to attend Board meetings, vote on matters before the Board, and to represent the responsibilities of their offices at ~~general~~club meetings. Any elected officer who fails to fulfill responsibilities of elected office may be subject to replacement at the discretion of the Board.

President: Nominates staff; presides at meetings and acts as general representative of the Club.

Vice President: Substitutes for the President when the President is absent and serves as permanent Chairman of the Board.

Secretary: Takes minutes; handles or delegates correspondence; and keeps Club records except financial reports.

Treasurer: In accordance with the Bylaws, collects and disburses monies as approved by the Board; reports at meetings of the general membership; arranges a periodic audit of the Club's financial records; keeps a roster of members in good standing, and notifies the Secretary of changes.

Section IV – Appointees and Advisors

The Board selects "Appointees" to lead key club activities such as Commercial Advertising, Registrar, Historian, *Octagon* Editor, Photographer, Webmaster, Membership Development, etc. as needed. Similarly, the Board selects "Advisors" to support the various MG models and component systems as needed. A member shall be eligible to hold one or more Appointee or Advisor position.

Bylaw V – Government Forms, Liability, Indebtedness

Section I – Government Forms

It shall be the responsibility of the Board to file Federal and State tax forms as required.

Section II – Liabilities of Members

No member who is now, or who later becomes, a member of this Club shall be personally liable to its creditors for indebtedness or liability, and any and all creditors of this Club shall look only to the assets of the Club for payment.

Section III – Incurrence of Indebtedness

No officer or member shall incur any obligation, debt, or other liability on behalf of the Club without the approval of the Board.

Bylaw VI – Publications

The Club's monthly newsletter, *The Octagon*, shall contain ~~a synopsis of an article about~~ the ~~minutes of the club's~~ last ~~monthly meeting~~ event with photos, minutes of the last Board of Directors meeting (in the issue following such meeting), a listing of all Officers and Board members with contact information, a Calendar of Events for both official Club activities and other events involving MG automobiles, an MG-related classified ad section, free to Club members.

The Octagon shall be sent (by mail or email) in a timely manner, to reach the membership in adequate time to allow participation in monthly Club events and activities.



A Visit to the Bertolotti Car Collection on Sept. 8

I had never been to John Bertolotti's car collection before so didn't really know what to expect and to be honest didn't know much about early "Brass Era" cars. WOW! Was I overwhelmed and impressed! John must have one of the largest collections of 1900 era cars that I have ever seen; even bigger than Bill Harrah's back in the day. BTW several of his cars came from that collection.

But I'm getting ahead of myself so let me back up. We entered John's "Shop" in the center section which is the maintenance shop surrounded by automobile memorabilia. John greeted us with coffee, juices and pastries which were very welcome after our long drive. Thank you John.

To the left was a room filled with European sports cars from the 50s and 60 all in running condition which John drives. Jaguars, Porsches, Alfas, Triumphs, MGs, Austin Healeys, Alfa Romeos, a vintage Bentley, a Sunbeam Tiger and a rare twin cam MGA Coupe and even rarer MGA Deluxe and a line or early single-seat race cars. I could have spent many hours just in this one room. My favourite car though was a blue Alfa Romeo Giulietta Sprint from the early 60s and I'm a British car guy.

After about an hour John ushered us into another room to the right of the maintenance area which was filled with around 40 "Brass Era" cars from the early 1900s. I can't remember all the different makes but there were Pierce Arrows, Thomas Flyer, Mercer, Stutz Bearcats, Packards and a Simplex and many more. John talked about every car as we walked around the room listening to his expert technical knowledge on each one. John talked about the engine size, design, bores, strokes, transmissions and rear axles. John's knowledge of each car is truly amazing and he knows the history and provenance of each and every car. He is truly passionate about all of them and a wonderful caretaker of these historic mobile works of art. It was a real joy to listen to John and I developed a renewed interest in cars of this era. John belongs to vintage car clubs and does drive them and said he'd be doing a tour in one of them soon.

Following John's wonderful car collection tour, 14 of us jumped into our cars and headed off to Livermore for lunch. We followed John in his early MGB Roadster on backroads and through Niles Canyon into Livermore which is a spectacular drive. Lunch was at downtown pizza restaurant which was very enjoyable.

Again, many thanks to John for taking the time out of his busy schedule to share his passion for these early "Brass Era" cars. - Andy Preston

John's Passion
by Kirk Prentiss



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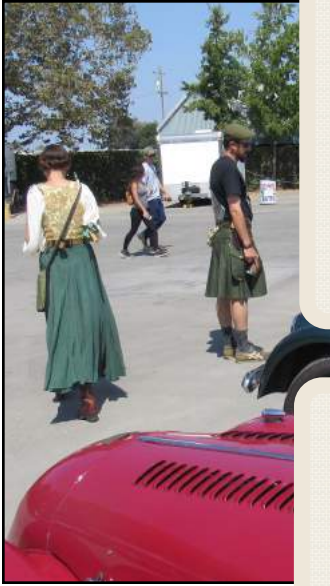
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Kirk Prentiss Photos

Keep Planning for 2018 ...



MGs and Morgans at the Highland Games. Great place to reach kids and a broad audience!



FALL

CSRG Vintage Races, Sears Point, 10/6-7

"Sea-Air Ahhh Tour", Sorry Safari, Pacific Grove, Shukaits, 10/12-14

British Fall Classic Morgan Hill, Bill Hiland, 10/13-14

MGOC Sonoma Tour, Prestons, 11/10

Fabulous Fall Foray, SSTS Tour, 11/17, Livermore area, MGOC welcome



WINTER

MGOC Holiday Tea, 12/15, George & Marcia's, Berkeley
Spud Joint Crab Co., Bodega Bay Tour & Feed, 12/29, John Hunt, MGOC

Planning Meeting, 1/5/19, San Francisco

MGOC Annual Brunch, 1/20/19, Moss Beach Distillery
GOF West, Prescott, AZ, Aug. 12-16, 2019



Shockey Photos

What's LBL591E?

by Member John Hunt

It's the registration plate number of one of the most famous MG racecars from the 1960s. This 1967 MGB GT car was the only MGB/GT 4-cylinder racer produced and raced from Abingdon. The color was British Racing Green and it had Minilite wheels and Dunlop tires.

What made this car so cool was its results and drivers. In 1967, it finished first in its class at 12 Hours of Sebring in Florida. Over-all, it placed 11th behind Ford GT 40s and Porsche 906s, plus a number of Shelby GT350s. This MG ran with the best.

The driving force behind these results at Sebring was legendary Irish driver, Paddy Hopkirk. Paddy who? Paddy is Mr. Mini. He drove a Mini Cooper S in the Monte Carlo rally in 1964 and lead the British to an outright victory! (Note: in 1965 with Timo Makinen the Mini won the Monte Carlo Rally again and they should have won it again in 1966. They did finish first, however, Hopkirk and Makinen were disqualified over a technical head lamp issue.) Although Mini Coopers were not built in Abingdon, all the Mini race cars were prepared in Abingdon in its competition department. Another interesting side note, all the Minis for the 1969 movie The Italian Job with Michael Caine were prepared at Abingdon's competition department as well.

Shifting gears back to LBL591E and 1968. That was the year this car was entered in the Targa Florio. This is an open road (municipal street roads) endurance race that was held in the mountains of Sicily, Italy not far from the capital of the island, Palermo. It started in 1906 and it kept running until 1977 when safety concerns led to its end. Over the years, a who's who of drivers have won here, including Tazio Nuvolari, Sterling Moss, Brian Redman, etc.

At the helm from England for MG was Paddy Hopkirk and Andrew Hedges. They lead the mighty B to a respectable second place in their race category and 12th place overall. In this process, they out paced a number of Alfa Romeos, a Ferrari Dino and a number of Porsche 911s.

One interesting point to keep in mind. MGs may not have been the fastest cars of the 1960s. However, when handling and dependability where key, they often thrived in the spotlight.



SEA-AIR-AAAH TOUR

Save the date information!

Who: Shukaits are hosting!
Where: A weekend on the beautiful coast between Half Moon Bay and Pacific Grove
When: October 12th, 13th, and 14th
What: A tour of three lighthouses

Accommodations may be made at the Sea Breeze Inn & Cottages in Pacific Grove
Call: 800-575-1805 - Ask for Sorry Safari Touring Society Rate!

Room rates are:
\$139/night for a queen
\$155/night for a queen cottage
\$165/night for two queens

Continental breakfast is included! Parking is free! Three blocks from the ocean! Rooms are limited, so please book NOW to ensure your room and rate!



For my kind of motoring -



LBL591E



*Slot car version is nice but
spendy*

*Surprisingly stock in
appearance*



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Brit Meet at Roaring Camp
Photo: Marja van den Hende

Classified Ads

Ads are free to MGOC members and \$6.00 per month for non-members. Some ads may be from other clubs.

1948 MG TC: Former member Betz Miller, Almond Green, New tires, leather interior & top. Asking \$37k/offers. 707-481-0924 (Posted 10/18)

Oregon Club Cars: 1965 MGB, tourer w/hardtop, one owner, \$10k, Peggy (503) 709-3616. 1971 MGB tourer BRG, 2nd owner, garaged entire life, sell to good home, Christine (562) 682-8260 (Posted 10/18)

MGA 1500 Roadster: Member Paul Williams reports he has found a guy with an MGA in a barn in Gualala. He has stopped work on it due to his wife's illness. Asking \$3000. Contact Paul for info: cell 415 233 0422, pwilliamseu@gmail.com (Posted 9/18)

1952 MGTD Mark II: 5 Speed Manual Transmission, Higher ratio rear axle, Racing Windshield, Show car in Vancouver, B.C. Canada, Pauline, paulineewboyle@hotmail.com 604-325-9252 (Posted 9/18)



1976 MGB: Orange/Black Roadster with 4-cyl 1798cc Engine (95hp). 33,000 miles. New Retro Radio. All maintenance records. Won the Premier Class twice at MG-by-the-Bay. 12 awards from other regional car shows. Featured in the SF Chronicle and other national car magazines since. Condition between 1 and 2. Tom Doyle at 520-220-6228, wtdoylei@gmail.com Asking \$18,000. Purchased an MGC! (Posted 8/18)

1969 MGC: 6 cyl, 4 speed/overdrive. Green roadster. 55,411 original miles. One of the best. Non-Member Bill Hebal 920-823-2187 (posted 8/18)

Enclosed Trailer for Rent: Enclosed car trailer for rent (16' x 8'). Trailer has integrated braking system and lights, 12 volt Electric Winch. Reasonable rates. Eric Baker (510) 517-2165

We list ads for 3 months. Advise if you want them extended. For additional ads, see prior issues of The Octagon. Prior issues of The Octagon and other classified ads may be found on our web site.

GOF West! Lake Tahoe

Steve Kellogg Photo



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Another GOF West into the Sunset



Photo: Pam Shukait