

THE OCTAGON

Newsletter of the M.G. Owners Club & the Peninsula T Register
The Northern California Centre of the M.G. Car Club



Photo by Jeremy Palson

Gary Kennedy's MG TF on Mt. Diablo

May 2010

About *The Octagon* and MGOC...

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 on the second Thursday of 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 M.G. 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 2010

President: Sam Gearhart, 510-530-2267, swg3@comcast.net

Vice President: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, j2george@pacbell.net

Treasurer: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.com

Secretary: Bob Trencheny, 925-984-2472, tbobx@aol.com

Registrar: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.com

Captain of Fun (Activities Director): Randy Grossman, 510-483-3171, r.m.grossman@comcast.net

T Register Director: Jim Carlson, 408-224-3992, mgjim@comcast.net

Corresponding Secretary: George Steneberg, j2george@pacbell.net

Membership Development: Bob Stine, 650-349-5128, rbrtstine@gmail.com

The Octagon Editor: Jeremy Palgon, 510-378-1821, alistaircookie@gmail.com

Commercial Advertising: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.com

Historian: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, j2george@pacbell.net

Photographer: Jeremy Palgon, 510-378-1821, alistaircookie@gmail.com

CLUB ADVISOR PROGRAM

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

MGB 1962-74: Marty Ray, 831-475-6204, martyray@cruzio.com

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

MGB V8 Conversion: Tony Bates, 408-666-6174, Tony@BatesFamily.net

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

MG Midget: Craig Kuenzinger, 925-934-3130, mrcraigk@aol.com

MGA/Coupe/Twin Cam 1955-62: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125

Z-Magnette Saloon: Eric Baker, 510-531-7032, mgbp36@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, mgbp36@yahoo.com

S.U. Carburettors: Marty Ray, 831-475-6204, martyray@cruzio.com

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or MikesMuseum@yahoo.com. 2010 rates are: monthly (yearly): full page \$25 (\$240), half page \$18 (\$175), third page \$12 (\$120), business card \$8 (\$75). All ads expire on January 1, 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*.

MGOC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Information on the MGOC finances is available upon request from the treasurer.

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 20th of the month preceding the issue in which you want them to appear. Please email all contributions to mgowners@gmail.com or send them to: MGOC, 7230 Silver Lode Lane, San Jose, CA 95120.

RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR THE MGOC

Have you helped recruit any new members lately? Bob Stine is in charge of new member recruitment and can send you flyers. The Club roster is available to members from Mike Jacobsen upon request.

MGOC.ORG

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

Forthcoming Events

MGOC Events in bold

May 1 – **Detailing Tech Session**, Walnut Creek, Craig Kuenzinger

May 1-2 – [VARA British Extravaganza](#), Buttonwillow

May 8 – **MGs by the Bay**, Danville Livery

May 16 – [Friendship Day](#), Redwood City, [Mid-Peninsula Old Time Auto](#)

May 16 – [Marin Sonoma Concours d'Elegance](#)

May 23 – [All British Meet at Woodland](#), UBSCC

May 29 - Jun. 6 – [British Car Week](#)

Jun. 5 – [Hayward Field Meet](#), Cal State East Bay, [Mini Owners of America-SF](#)

Jun. 12 – **South Valley Wine Tour**, Morgan Hill, Bill Hiland

Jun. 27 – [Palo Alto Concours d'Elegance](#)

Jul. 12-16 – [GoF West](#), Big Bear Lake, [Vintage MG Club](#)

Jul. 29 - Aug. 1 – [Rendezvous 28](#), Tillamook, Oregon, [Club T MG](#)

Aug. 28 – **Annual Picnic**, Joaquin Miller Park, Oakland

President's Ponderings...

Sam's Scribblings

I hope that you are well and are enjoying our recent nice weather. As I sat to ponder, that is reflect and consider, what to write this month, I realized I was more than likely going to simply ramble – wander through and scribble some thoughts.

As all of you know, we are about to kick off what is typically our most active season, beginning with MGs by the Bay in just a couple of weeks. Our featured show will be followed by many tours and events throughout the summer and fall.

Of course, there have already been some great events. Speaking of which, I want to thank member Ken Gittings for his efforts planning and leading an exciting and wonderful tour over Mt. Hamilton on April 10. Though the weather that day was not very cooperative, the ride was great (in my view as an event rookie). I personally had as much fun as I have had in some time. It reminded me of why I enjoy driving an MG! Granted, it was foggy, windy, and cold at the summit; but driving back down into the Livermore Valley through forests and mountain meadows was fabulous. Thanks Ken, we all had a great time.

Upcoming, there's the aforementioned MGs by the Bay. What a show we have

this year! We have a spectacular venue, special offers from the merchants, music, and more. We have advertised the show more widely than at any time in recent memory. We expect a great crowd of MG owners, their cars, and casual observers. Who knows, maybe some youngster will get bitten by the MG bug just because he was out shopping with Mom or Dad!

As I have in earlier columns, I'd like to again thank everyone who participated in our membership survey earlier this year. The ad hoc Survey Committee has completed its review and is preparing its final recommendations to the board for action. Meanwhile, the survey results are posted on our Web site at mgoc.org. I urge you to log on, see what others feel about the Club, how we are doing, and the directions we might travel.

Finally, although I attempt to reach out to you each month with my, well, scribblings, I seldom get any feedback. Perhaps just due to the nature of my role, I don't know all of the members. In that light, please look me up at MGs by the Bay, introduce yourself, and just say hi. I look forward to meeting you.

Sam Gearhart

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)	Scall	
BRAKES: sleeved and rebuilt		
MGB, Midget caliper.....	\$85.00	
MGA, MGC caliper.....	\$155.00	
MGA, Midget twin master 1968-87.....	\$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.....	\$60-\$90	
Front end A-arm (Midget).....	\$95.00	

CARBURETORS: COMPLETE REBUILDING
Disassembly, cleaning, bodies rebushed, new std. size throttle shafts, jets, needles, float valves, gaskets. **FLOW BENCH TEST.....** \$375-\$415/pair
CARB BODIES REBUSHED
and new throttle shafts.....\$85 each

*Prices shown are for Exchange or Yours Rebuilt.
Core charges apply if items are ordered prior to
(and are refunded after) our receiving old units.*

Free catalog. www.applehydraulics.com

APPLE HYDRAULICS

1610 Middle Road, Calverton, NY 11933
631-369-9515, FAX: 631-369-9516

Toll Free 800-882-7753

VISA, MC, DISCOVER, PAYPAL, COD

OCT09

From the Editor...

Why are we here? As Sam pondered what to ponder this month, I wondered: why are we here? No, not why are we alive or why are we here on Earth, but why are we in the MG Owners Club and presently reading *The Octagon*? Or in my case, why am I sitting here editing *The Octagon* and thinking about what to write this month?

And as I thought about it, I realized that the answer was perhaps more complex than the question I had idly asked. Why *am* I doing this? It was clear, at least as clear as it can be when one is straining for what to write, that this question would require a bit of inquiry.

So I thought back to when I joined the MGOC some years ago. Why did I join? Some years ago I decided to attempt to get my family's 1974 ½ MGB back on the road. But I knew little about cars, and even less about British cars. So I went in search of help.

At first, I relied on my friends with automotive knowledge (and tools). We made some progress: got the engine turning, cleaned the electrical contacts, released stuck brakes, and generally got the car moving. But we never really got it to run well. We were at sea tuning the dual carbs, and had problems deciphering the manual. (Remove castellated nut? How?!) So I went in search of expertise.

That's when I stumbled upon the MGOC. I joined, went to a few events, and found a network of MG enthusiasts who were helpful and welcoming. A number of fine folks went out of their way to either work on my car or point me in the right direction.

So I joined because I needed mechanical help. But why then, after the car was running well, did I stay? Certainly not because I was anxious to see another dozen MGBs or T-Series cars. At some point, beautiful as they are, I'd seen enough. I stayed because of the fun events, because of the camaraderie, and because of the wonderful friends I'd made.

And why, then, did I get involved? I had received so much help, and met so many great people, that I came to care about the MGOC. Because I cared, I became invested in the Club's welfare. And because I cared, was invested, and had some spare time, I volunteered to help edit the newsletter.

So why am I here? I'm here because I went looking for help some years ago, and found not just help, but also a community of MG enthusiasts. I stayed for the community; and because I became a part of the community, I wanted to contribute to it.

We recently completed a member survey that sought to find out why you're here, what you like and don't like about the Club, and what you'd change. You can download the results of the survey from the Club Web site at mgoc.org. We received a lot of good feedback suggesting things that might be improved, but we did not receive many offers to help.

I presume if you're reading this, you want to be here. And I presume, if you filled out the survey, that you care about the Club enough to have spent time offering feedback. If I'm right in those presumptions, and you have a bit of free time, why not take the next step and volunteer. We could always use more help.

Jeremy Palgon

Show and Shine Tech Session

Saturday, May 1

Walnut Creek

Want to have a clean and shiny car for MGs by the Bay?

Ever wondered how to safely detail and polish your MG?

Member Craig Kuenzinger invites you to his home, once again, for a detailing tech session. Craig will cover all aspects of car washing, vehicle cleaning, interior and seats, safe paint-cleaning and polishing, and full vehicle detailing and car prep for shows and displays. He will have supplies, equipments, polishes, and towels available for the session; so everybody can get hands on. Feel free to bring your dirty car. The group will use the cars in attendance for demonstration and learning. Snacks, lunch, coffee, and sodas will be served.

When and Where: The tech session starts at 10 am on May 1 at the Kuenzinger's home at [1751 Lilac Drive in Walnut Creek](#).

Contact: Craig Kuenzinger at 925-934-3130 or mrcraigk@aol.com.

VARA British Extravaganza

Vintage Race and Car Show

Buttonwillow Raceway Park

Saturday and Sunday, May 1-2

The Vintage Auto Racing Association invites you to attend the 15th Annual British Extravaganza. The Extravaganza features a popular choice British car show (with lots of prizes and trophies), a track drive on both days, a slalom event (with instruction), a BBQ on Saturday night, a pre-war exhibition tour in period correct clothes, British feature races, and two days of racing with over 200 cars. Dress in the period of your car for extra fun and prizes.

Where: [Buttonwillow](#) race track is located a quarter mile west of I-5 on Lerdo Highway, near Bakersfield.

Cost: \$35 per person (with pre-registration before April 20, \$45 thereafter).

More information and registration form at VARARacing.com.

Save the Date

Annual Picnic

August 28

Joaquin Miller Park, Oakland

Friendship Day Sunday, May 16 Cañada College



Featuring hundreds of cars, from Model Ts to modern machines, Friendship Day is one of Northern California's largest, friendliest, and happiest collector car events. No judging, no awards, no vendors, and no need to pre-register. Just show up, pay at the gate, park your car, and enjoy the wide array of autos. You are the show, and we look forward to seeing you there. Bring a picnic lunch or buy a dog or burger and a drink there.

Wayne Veatch, a member of the MPOTAC and the MGOC, will forego his Studebaker in favor of his MGB for Friendship Day this year. He's hoping for a big turnout of MGs from the MGOC and Sorry Safari.

Wayne will be at the gate from 7 am to steer you to the MG corral. Please contact Wayne at 415-821-1806 or veatchlaw@gmail.com if you plan on coming, so he will have an idea of how many MGs to expect.

See photos of previous shows on the Mid Peninsula Old Time Auto Club website at: <http://clubs.hemmings.com/clubsites/mpotac/gallery.html>

When and Where: Cañada College, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., in Redwood City, just east of 280 at the Farm Hill Blvd. exit. Come early as the gates open at 8 am and many people leave by noon.

Cost: \$15 per car at the gate includes a goodie bag, dash plaque, coffee, and doughnuts.

Contact: Bob Moll at 650-851-4944 or FriendshipDay10@aol.com.

Marin Sonoma Concours d'Elegance Sunday, May 16

The second annual Marin Sonoma Concours d'Elegance will be held at the Marin County Fairgrounds in San Rafael on May 16. With beautiful rolling lawns and a large lagoon, this site promises to deliver a superb event. Three MGOC members have cars entered in the Concours. Come on out, support your fellow members, and see some fabulous cars.

More information at MarinSonomaConcours.org.



All British Motorcar Show And Swap Meet

**Presented by the United British Sports Car Club
May 23, 2010, Woodland California**

Polish your wing, dust off your bonnet, check out your boot, clean your windscreen, fill up with petrol and come eat a pastie because more than 300 daily drivers and trailer queens are expected to show on our huge grassy field. Not only do we offer the largest all British car show, but in our swap meet you'll find all sorts of new and used parts to help you get your British car fix. Don't be left out – come see and show your favorite roadster, estate, saloon, or lorry!

Cost: \$25 per car (with pre-registration before May 6; \$35 at the gate), free for spectators.

Directions from the Bay Area: Take I-80 East toward Sacramento and go north on CA-113 toward Woodland. Take exit 36 for Gibson Road. Keep left at the fork, and follow signs for Gibson Rd. Turn left at Gibson Rd. and watch for the gate on the right to enter the fairgrounds.

More information and registration form at UBSCC.org.

Hayward Field Meet

All British Car Show and Swap

Saturday, June 5

The San Francisco Chapter of the Mini Owners of America will be holding the 20th annual Hayward Field Meet at Cal State East Bay (Hayward) from 9 am to 2 pm on Saturday, June 5. The meet has returned to its previous location on campus – the lawn with the panoramic view of the Bay Area.

All restorations, daily drivers, and works in progress are welcome in the show. Come for a fun, low-key day of cars, parts, sun, food, and fellow car crazies.

Cost: \$20 to display your car or sell at the swap meet (with pre-registration before June 1; \$30 at the gate), free for spectators.

When and Where: 9 am on Saturday, June 5 at the Cal State East Bay soccer practice field below parking lot B, near the intersection of Harder Road and West Loop Road.

Pre-registration: http://www.moasf.com/hayward/hfm_registration.html

Contact: Nick Becker at 925-932-7886 or becker2226@astound.net.

More information: <http://www.moasf.com/hayward>

The Third Annual

South Valley Wine Tour

Saturday, June 12

Come tour the scenic South Valley foothills, taste some wine, and enjoy a BBQ lunch with your friends from the MGOC. For the third installment of this tour, we'll again gather at On the Road Again before departing on a backroads tour to a few of the Morgan Hill area wineries. Afterward, we'll return to On the Road Again for a late lunch/early dinner of BBQ tri-tip with green salad, fruit, and beverages.

Cost: \$10 per person to cover the cost of food.

When and Where: 10 am on Saturday, June 12 at On the Road Again, 16840 Joleen Way, Unit G4, Morgan Hill.

Directions: Take 101 South to Morgan Hill. Exit at East Dunne Ave. and go Right on E. Dunne. Turn Left onto Joleen Way (2nd street), and follow Joleen to the end. Enter the parking lot and go straight to the back. On the Road Again is in the back on your left.

Please RSVP to Bill Hiland at bhiland@ontheroadagainclassics.com or 408-782-1100 by June 9.

Cecil Kimber Tour Report

By Sam Gearhart

Early in the morning of April 17, a hearty band of MG enthusiasts met in San Jose to embark on the famed Cecil Kimber Tour over Mt. Hamilton. Always unpredictable, the weather was less than cooperative and looked rather ominous “up the hill”. There were purists of course, top down and dressed like folks you might see at the North Pole. There were also less hardy passengers who insisted that the tops be put back up lest they freeze to death. Some attendees brought dubious MGs: an “MJee” (produced by Jeep) and that MG that Porsche produced (you had to be there).



Ken Gittings, our tour leader, handed out directions and offered cautions and insights – most importantly, that there were bathrooms at the summit!

Departing San Jose we began our ascent with the weather worsening along the way. Upon arrival at Lick Observatory at the summit, the fog was thick and cold, the wind was roaring. The Observatory itself was closed (fortunately the restrooms were still open). After a very brief stay, huddled in a corner away from the wind, we began our descent down the east side of Mt. Hamilton into the Livermore Valley.



Photos by Bob Luebert



While the climb up had at times been challenging, watching for seemingly hundreds of bicyclists, the ride down was just spectacular. The greenery of mountain forests and meadows was astounding: there were wild flowers of all colors, horses and livestock, and even a bit of sunshine and warmer temperatures. It must really be amazing on a clear and sunny day.



Photos by Bob Luebbert

At a stop on the way down from the summit, Ken handed out a fact-filled Cecil Kimber Quiz. Who knew that Cecil Kimber's father owned a printing company, or that a young Cecil bought his first car with insurance money from a motorcycle accident?

We then continued on along the valley floor and back around the mountain. Most everyone ended the day with a late afternoon snack at Bronco Billy's in Niles. All in all, we had a great time.

The MG Owners Club

presents

MGs by the Bay

Saturday, May 8, 2010

The Danville Livery



This annual event is a gathering of MGs from across Northern California.

The show opens at 10 am, rain or shine, with trophies awarded at 2 pm.

Same-day registration will open at 8 am.

Returning to Danville, under the trees at The Livery shopping center!

400 Sycamore Valley Road, Danville, 94526 – One block west off I-680

Featuring: Music, raffle prizes, contests, trophies, food and drink, plus more!

Valve Cover Races: Bring your MG valve cover racer and enter the competition. Rules are available at <http://www.mgoc.org/valvecoerrules>.

Awards: Judging is by popular vote, with trophies awarded for People's Choice, Best Daily Driver, Premier (from previous winners), and for every class, with classes determined according to the number of cars registered by May 1, 2010.

Entries: All MGs are welcome, from daily drivers to complete restorations.

The \$25 entry fee includes a dash plaque, an event t-shirt, and special coupons from our sponsors. Additional cars registered to the same owner are \$10 each, which includes a dash plaque only. All cars must arrive by 10 am sharp! This is necessary to allow for proper placement of the cars.

If you arrive late, we **cannot** guarantee placement of your car with others in its class.

Return the registration form below with the entry fee. Photocopies of this form are acceptable. One form is required for each MG.

Mail before May 1, 2010 to:

MGs by the Bay
320 B Monterey Blvd.
San Francisco, CA 94131

For information call
415-333-9699 or 925-899-1218
or visit www.MGOC.org

Make checks payable to **MGOC**

Show Use Only		
\$	/	#

Please Print:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip code: _____

Email address: _____

Daytime phone: (_____) _____

Short description of car: _____

MG model: _____ Year: _____

Body style: ☐ Coupe ☐ Roadster

☐ Saloon ☐ Race car

☐ Other: _____

Car color: _____

T-shirt size: ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL

Bringing a valve cover racer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Has this car ever won First in Class at *MGs by the Bay*? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Release: Neither I nor my heirs will hold the MG Owners Club or The Danville Livery Shopping Center liable for any loss, damage, or injury done to me, or my party, while engaged in this event or traveling to and from this event.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Pre-registration has been extended until May 4.

The MG Owners Club presents the 17th Annual

MGS BY THE BAY

Saturday, May 8, 2010 • The Danville Livery



1955 TF owned by
Gary Kennedy



© Jeremy Falgon
MG Owners Club
MGOC.org
2010

The Paddock
AT THE LIVERY



O'CONNOR CLASSIC AUTOS
British Car Parts
New Used
Rebuilt
1-888-346-3647
800 Pine Mills
1-800-727-0430
Fax: 1-800-727-3887
www.oconnorclassics.com
email: mg@oconnorclassics.com

FOREIGN AUTO SERVICE
British Sports Car Specialist
510-886-2266
Repair/Parts
By Appointment Only
4001 Marshall Blvd.
Hayward, CA 94541

On the Road Again
English Road Restoration
William Hild



Unfortunate Engine Trouble

By Samantha Lee

I was looking forward to the MG driving season but we had another breakdown even before it started. My dad was driving on the freeway when his engine started to rattle and lost power. We had to call for a flat-bed again to bring it to the shop. They said the second exhaust valve and piston broke and scratched the cylinder. So now we

are waiting for the car to be fixed. But we were still able to do the Mt. Hamilton Drive with one of our German cars, disguised as a MG Turbo Cabriolet. I went to the Mt. Hamilton Drive last year and liked seeing the big telescope. They were closed and ^{it} was much colder than last year so we went to Deer Ridge for wine tasting then went to Bronco Billy's for pizza.



Samantha Lee in front of the "MG Turbo Cabriolet"

Photo by Felix Lee



May 29 to June 6

It's British Car Week. Get out there and drive!

FREE Parts & Accessories Catalogs

Choose From These Catalogs:

- Austin Healey
- MGA
- MGB & MGC
- AH Sprite & MG Midget
- Sunbeam Alpine & Tiger
- TR2 TR3 TR4 TR4A TR250
- TR6
- TR7 & TR8
- Spitfire & GT6

Order Toll Free
7 Days A Week

1-800-255-0088

SUNBEAM



Order Catalogs & Parts Online at

www.VictoriaBritish.com

On the Road Again

British Auto Restorations



Thinking about that Rubber Bumper conversion for your MGB?

Come down to Morgan Hill and talk with the only shop that can do the entire job, bumper to bumper, under one roof. With a Morris Garage trained mechanic, and an in house body shop, our Moss Motors Distributorship gives us the ability to do a top quality job at a most competitive price. Check out the only all MG show room in Northern California when you visit!

*Hours 8-5 Monday-Friday
Saturday by appointment*



*16840 Joleen Way, #G4, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
408 782 1100 - www.ontheroadagainclassics.com*

**O'CONNOR
CLASSIC
AUTOS**



***MG TRIUMPH
AUSTIN-HEALEY***

**TOLL-FREE ORDER LINE
1-888-346-3647 (FINE-MGS)**

408-727-0430

408-727-3987 FAX

3485 WOODWARD AVE, SANTA CLARA, CA 95054

mg@oconnorclassics.com

www.oconnorclassics.com

PARTS DEPARTMENT

We have a large inventory of new, used and rebuilt parts, and will help you make the best choices for your car. We will be happy to answer questions and provide information to help with your repair or restoration. We are an authorized distributor for Moss Motors products and will provide you with their catalog to assist you in ordering from us.

WE'VE MOVED!

**Please Note Our New Address
1-888-346-3647 (FINE-MGS)**

REBUILD PROGRAM

If you are involved in a major repair or restoration, this program offers a substantial benefit. Place an initial parts order for \$1500 or more and receive a 12% discount off the published prices for new parts. Subsequent order of any size will receive the discount for one year. During sale periods, your orders will receive the sale discount, or 12%, whichever is greater.

Monday thru Friday, 9 to 5. Other hours by appointment.

Free Shipping Applies to Orders in the 48 Continental States

MGOC Business Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Sam Gearhart at 7:06pm. Also attending were Randy Grossman, Mike Jacobsen, Craig Kuenzinger, George Steneberg, Bob Stine, and David Wright.

The March minutes were approved as printed in *The Octagon*.

Treasurer's Report: We're still solvent. Our annual California Corporation renewal has been filed.

Registrar's Report: Same number of members as last month: 200 Regular, 56 Auxiliary, 0 Associate, and 12 Corresponding for a total of 258 members. We have one new member, Paul Allinson; and one deceased member, Larry MacKenzie. Sam will send Lynda MacKenzie a sympathy card on the Club's behalf.

Secretary's Report: Absent.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Nothing to report, other than a lot of unsolicited MGOC credit card applications to shred.

Regalia: Sold a pennant.

The Octagon: The wrong MGs by the Bay registration form was included in the April issue – it's missing the valve cover race option. Mike will ask Jeremy to send an email update about bringing valve cover racers.

Past Club Events

Electrical System Tech Session: Report in *The Octagon* by Tim Polidoroff.

St Patrick's Day Tour: Report in *The Octagon* by Bob Stine.

Upcoming Club Events

Cecil Kimber/Mt. Hamilton Tour: April 10, 2010 – Notice in *The Octagon*.

Show and Shine Tech Session: May 1, 2010 – Notice in *The Octagon*. Mike will ask Jeremy to send a "flash" email four days or so before the event.

MGs by the Bay: May 8, 2010

- i) Donors/Sponsors – Some donations received. The event is listed in several publications.
- ii) Awards – Gary Kennedy is sponsoring the TF award, or rather his TF is.
- iii) Valve Cover Races – The registration form has been updated to include racers.
- iv) Other – Vests & signs are ready. Arrangements are finalized with the shopping center.

Other Upcoming Events

North Meets South, Pismo Beach: April 16-17, 2010 – Several MGOC members are going, and taking Friday to drive down.

Pacific Coast Dream Machines, Half Moon Bay: April 25, 2010.

Old Business

Annual Picnic: August 28, 2010 – We have the event permits in hand.

New Business

Membership Survey Report: Randy presented the Survey Committee's recommendations. The main areas identified for improvement by the survey were the Club Web site, recruitment, events, and the newsletter.

Web site – The Web site should be revamped, perhaps by an outside (professional) firm. Possible additions include calendar and photo sections that members can contribute to, an online membership application, and a link to a Facebook page for the MGOC.

Recruitment – Membership reflects strong participation in the South & East Bay, and we should emphasize recruitment in those areas. The committee recommended against establishing sub-chapters.

Events – Members like large events, such as the NAMGAR Regional held last year, and several members are unable to attend events out of their immediate area. Recommendations include 1) A Show-n-Shine event for all local British clubs, perhaps also with a BBQ, to encourage increased participation without increased overhead. 2) Start a program to give older members rides to events in other members' MGs. This was dubbed the Co-pilot Program. 3) Use Evite as an invitation system for MGOC events along with the "flash" email now used.

Newsletter – The survey showed that *The Octagon* is the only reason some people are members. Starting a "Starbucks Article of the Month" award (or some other reward mechanism) to get articles submitted by the membership was proposed. Articles could be general, technical, event reports, and so on, with selections made by the editor. Published articles would receive the award.

During the following discussion, it was pointed out that these were very similar to other recommendations, coming down to finding new people to carry out the tasks, plus spending some money. What to implement, in what order, and at what effort and cost were discussed at length. The recommendation to concentrate recruiting where membership was already strong was also questioned. The Committee was asked to prioritize their suggestions, estimate their cost, determine if volunteers are available if needed, and provide more details, to present to the Board at a later date. The details would be in the form of who will be responsible for developing recommendations, what will exactly be done, and by what time – in short, an action plan.

We will make the survey results available to the membership via PDF from the Club Web site.

San Francisco Tour: Tour leader and event date needed. Mike will contact Lee Sheldon for tour info. Date should be in the fall.

Changes to allotment for MGs by the Bay and Electrical Tech Session expenses: A motion was made to reimburse the Kuenzingers for their expenses for MGs by the Bay for signage, vests, and other materials.

Classified Ads

Ads are free to MGOC members and \$6.00 per month for non-members. Please send copy (and check **made payable to MGOC** if a non-member) to MGOC, 7230 Silver Lode Lane, San Jose, CA 95120. Members may also email ads to the editor at mgowners@gmail.com.

Cars for Sale:

1968 MGB. \$8,500 OBO. Purchased in 1968 by my father, who is the only other owner. Original dash, gauges, grill, rims, leather top. New seats, brand new battery, newly-dipped chrome. Runs and sounds great. Original British plates in the trunk! Contact Steven at (415) 683-1248 or stevelekart@gmail.com.



1961 MGA Coupe, 1600 cc engine, 5 speed gearbox. California car, completely restored by third (and present) owner in 2002, rust free, body straight, no accidents, 7,800 miles since rebuild. Original body panels, new front spoiler below bumper. All good original chrome, new rubber gaskets for body and glass. Painted "Paprika Red" (Jaguar color). New clutch slave and brake master cylinders, 2004. Pictures and further information upon request. Asking \$25,000. Contact Member Viggo Riddersholm at (650)341-9064 or vriddersholm@yahoo.com, or Gordon Craig at lismoregordon@sbcglobal.net.



1949 MG TC British racing green, right hand drive in excellent condition. \$35,000. Contact Member Larry at (415) 999-2362.

1980 Triumph TR8 Platinum Silver. 86k miles. \$12,000. Contact Member Frank Oglesby at (775) 322-5179 or flogles@sbcglobal.net.

1973 MGB GT. Nearly completed restoration. I redid the mechanicals, had body and paint done professionally. Upholstery is dark blue cloth as originally fitted. Has two nearly new six-volt batteries, correct rubber mats, and original carpeting. Has refurbished Rostyles with like-new 165-14 Dunlop radials. I have a professionally rebuilt OD gearbox, which is not installed, redone by Jerry Redmon of Napa Valley Auto Restorations. The car does need completion - some interior pieces need to be installed, and it needs some tidying. \$4,500. I'm in Napa Valley. Contact Member Don Scott at (707) 942-0546 or don@napanet.net.

1977 MGB roadster. \$2500. Recent work done by Dan at Exclusive British European includes rebuilt carb. Many parts included in price, including new seat rebuild parts and new roll bar. For more information, visit <http://77mgbforsale.shutterfly.com> or contact Member Craig at netrider117@yahoo.com.



1953 MG TD. \$28,000. Purchased in 1972 with a possible racing background. Completely rebuilt in early 2000 and raced since then two or more times per year at Infineon and Laguna Seca. Toured with several sport car clubs in the Wine Country. Contact Member Ferdinand at ferdinands@att.net.



1977 MGB with 54,000 original miles, overdrive transmission, original "Sandglow" paint and autumn leaf interior. Well maintained by third owner. Price \$6,400. Contact Member Ellis at Bovet177@gmail.com.



Parts for Sale:

MGTD/TF Parts: Factory 4-speed gearbox: This core and shifts easily in all gears. Top-cover-off inspection shows nothing broken or otherwise damaged. Inside is nice and clean. Fits TD and TF, \$400. **Two piece hood top with hinge:** I have two sets. Both are straight and in good shape, one has surface rust that sands off easily. Your choice, \$100 each. **Hood right side:** very good shape, \$50. **TD/TF foot rest:** passenger side for under carpet. I have two, your choice, \$40 each. **TD driver side door:** no rust and wood is good, \$60. Contact Member Rod Schweiger at (650) 296-1108.

MG Midget Rolling Chassis Body Shell. No VIN. No Title. No engine, transmission, differential, front bumper, or windscreen. Not crashed but rough. Rubber bumper car. Make Offer. Contact Member Nick Becker at (925) 932-9778 or becker2226@astound.net.

MG TD parts: drive shaft with u-joints, **rear end** with axles, **front and rear shocks.** I'm selling these items because I've upgraded my 1953 TD to a MGA rear end, brakes, and rear springs. \$200 for all. Contact Member Bob Luebbert at (510) 276-0365 or r.luebbert@sbcglobal.net.

Wanted:

Pre-1968 MGB roadster. Long-time MG nut seeking early B roadster. My preference is one that is a preserved original or one redone to original specifications; but I will consider most any steel-dash car, depending on its price and its needs. Contact Member Don Scott at (707) 942-0546 or don@napanet.net.

Business Meeting Minutes

Continued from Page 19

Also for their expenses from the Electrical Tech Session, beyond the money approved originally. During the discussion it was pointed out that the signs and vests are durable and will last many years, and that the tech session's attendance was much greater than planned. The motion passed and an additional \$121.76 was authorized, bringing the total authorization for both to \$321.76.

Newspaper articles for MGs by the Bay: A motion was made to run an ad in the Bay Area Newspaper Group's *Preview* section. The rates are \$210 for an eighth page or \$370 for a quarter page for one Friday appearance. The estimated total number of people that see an issue is over one million, with a circulation of approximately two-thirds that many. The approved motion was to run a quarter page ad, with layout based on the event flyer, on May 7.

Announcements: Randy had two events to announce, but they conflicted with previously-scheduled MGOC events.

Next Meeting and Natter: 7 pm on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at The Englander Sports Pub, 100 Parrott Street, San Leandro, CA.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

Submitted by Mike Jacobsen.

Club Meeting Natter & Noggin

May 6, 7 pm

The Englander Sports Pub & Restaurant

101 Parrott Street, San Leandro

<http://www.englishpub.com/>

(510) 357-3571

The Englander is an enjoyable place where we have our own cozy room.

The food is good so bring your appetites.

Directions to The Englander:

From Northbound I-880, take the Washington Ave. exit within San Leandro and turn right on Washington St. Travel 2.2 miles until you see Parrott St. Turn right on Parrott Street. You will see The Englander on your right.

From Southbound I-880, take Davis St. exit and turn left on Davis. Travel 1.3 miles, then turn right on E. 14th St. Travel 0.3 miles, and then turn right on Parrott Street.



Collins

Classics

Repair • Restoration • Parts

by

Tom Collins

&

J.R. Boye

609 California Drive

Burlingame, CA. 94010

(650) 685-4477

collinsclassics@comcast.net

MGOC Octagon
If undeliverable please return to:
7230 Silver Lode Lane
San Jose, CA 95120

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Forthcoming Events	3
President's Ponderings	4
From the Editor	5
Show and Shine Tech Session / VARA British Extravaganza	6
Friendship Day / Marin Sonoma Concours d'Elegance	7
UBSCC All British Motorcar Show and Swap Meet	8
Hayward Field Meet / South Valley Wine Tour	9
Cecil Kimber Tour Over Mt. Hamilton	10-11
MGs by the Bay Registration Form and Flyer	12-13
Unfortunate Engine Trouble	14
British Car Week	15
Business Meeting Minutes	18-19
Classified Ads	20-22