

# 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: Don Davis

MGs readying for the Dyno

## July 2007

# 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 2007

**President:** Bob Stine, 650-349-5128, [rastine@rcn.com](mailto:rastine@rcn.com)

**Vice President:** Nina Barton, 510-845-7212, [ninaba@mindspring.com](mailto:ninaba@mindspring.com)

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**MGOC Photographer:** Jeremy Palgon, [alistaircookie@gmail.com](mailto:alistaircookie@gmail.com)

## 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:** Marty Ray, (831) 475-6204, [martyray@cruzio.com](mailto:martyray@cruzio.com)

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

**MGB V8 Conversion:** Tony Bates, 408-666-6174, [Tony@BatesFamily.net](mailto:Tony@BatesFamily.net)

**MGC:** Kent Leech, 925-253-9757, [kent@kentleech.com](mailto:kent@kentleech.com)

**MG Midget:** Kingsley Klarer, 707-226-1955

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

**Z-Magnette Saloon:** Eric Baker, 510-531-7032, [mgpb36@yahoo.com](mailto:mgpb36@yahoo.com)

**T-types:** George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, [j2george@pacbell.net](mailto: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](mailto:mgpb36@yahoo.com)

**S.U. Carburetters:** Marty Ray, 831-475-6204, [martyray@cruzio.com](mailto:martyray@cruzio.com)

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Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or [MikesMuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:MikesMuseum@yahoo.com). 2007 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. 1<sup>st</sup>, and fees for a partial year will be pro-rated to that

date. Deadline for ad materials is the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the issue in which you want them to appear. The editor's address is: Bob Trencheny, 601 Greylyn Drive, San Ramon CA 94583. Or, you may email contributions to [Tbobbx@aol.com](mailto:Tbobbx@aol.com).

### **RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR THE MGOC**

Have you helped recruit any new members lately? Bob Stine (650-349-5128) is in charge of new member recruitment and can send you flyers. The club roster is available to members from Mike Jacobsen upon request.

## **Forthcoming Events**

**MGOC in bold, SSTs:** Sorry Safari Touring Society

July 2-6 – GoF West, Park City, Utah, Area clubs caravan

July 12 – **MGOC Meeting & Natter**, see page 23

July 16-20 – **MG 2007 in Sonoma County**, see [www.MG2007.org](http://www.MG2007.org)

July 23-27 – NAMGAR GT-32, Whistler, B.C., **MGOC caravan?**

Aug. 11 – **MGOC Picnic**, Junipero Serra Prk, San Bruno

Aug. 11 – Classic Yacht and Car Show, Marin Yacht Club

Aug 11-12 – Monterey Pre-Historics

Aug 14 – Carmel-by-the-Sea Concours <http://www.motorclubevents.com/>

Aug. 17-19 – Monterey Historic Races; Pebble Beach Concours, etc.

Aug 26 – **Miniature Golf and East Bay Tour**, John Hunt

Sept. 8 – **Possible Swap Meet**, All British, Randy Grossman

Sept. 8-9 – **Palo Alto British Field Meet**

Sept TBD – **Mt Hamilton Tour**, Bob Trencheny

Oct. 20-21 – Autumn Classic, San Juan Bautista, **SSTs/MGOC caravan**

Oct 28 – [Brisbane Marina Festival](#)

Nov. TBD – **Kart Races, MGOC**, Bob Stine, Go Kart Racer in Burlingame

Nov. TBD – **Canyon Tour, MGOC**, John Hunt

Dec. TBD – **Holiday Tea**



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# President's Ponderings...

**MG2007 Just Around the Corner** – As I write this I'm expecting to attend two more planning meetings before MG2007 begins. I'll be glad when the planning is done and we can enjoy the event! The core planning group has been meeting, on average, every two weeks for awhile now. We have many fun and educational things planned for you. It's not too late to register.

**Tour Leader Training Session/Trial Run** – The tour training session/trial run (for MG2007) took place June 17. Mike Jacobsen lead it and I performed the duty of the "sweep car"...making sure nobody got separated from the group. Part of the training was the effective use of the communication radios we plan to use for the tours in MG2007. The first thing we learned about that was that it's very important to make sure you have freshly charged batteries in the radios and that everyone is on the same frequency. Only about half the radios worked! Of course, that's why we did the dry run. We had a good time, though, and a great lunch at an Irish pub.

**Out with the Old–In with the New** – At the monthly membership meeting June 14 several members of the board of directors announced that we **won't** be running for office next year. That means that other members are going to have to "step up to the plate" if the club is to continue to provide the services and events we've all come to expect. Although we have over 200 members in this club, it continues to function with the volunteer efforts of very few people. Now is the time for you to start planning on how you can jump into the limelight and take the reigns. The offices of President, Secretary and Treasurer will be vacated in December. Additionally, we'll need a new Registrar and a new *Octagon* Editor. This is not some kind of "coup" or anything like that. Simply, coincidentally, personal situations have led each of us to make this decision more or less simultaneously. A nominating committee will be appointed in October to present candidates in November. If you value your club and the activities it provides you, please consider running for office.

**Farewell to Dan Shockey and Nancy Shane** – As noted in the previous item, our Secretary, Dan Shockey will be leaving the club. He and his wife, Nancy have sold their home and are moving to Illinois. Dan has been very active in the club for a number of years, planning and helping facilitate events, providing his services as Secretary and generally supporting our efforts. He's also been very involved in the planning of MG2007. We have greatly benefited from Nancy's artistic abilities. She has done the artwork for most of our posters and awards for MGs by the Bay for some time now. Dan and Nancy will be greatly missed by our club. We wish them the best of luck in their new environment. I'm sure they'll find a local club in the Lincoln State to keep them busy.

**Annual Picnic Scheduled for August 11** – Our annual picnic will be held on the San Francisco Peninsula side of the bay this year. We'll be at Junipero Serra Park in the Upper Meadow in San Bruno. We've used this

# From da Ed...

It certainly is looking like an MG summer. The weather has been nearly perfect for top down driving and I am taking advantage of it. I have driven the MG to work nearly every day in June and plan to keep it up through July and August. Today it was a perfect 76 degrees.

Here in the East Bay we have had only had a very few of those super hot days that make driving the MG a little uncomfortable with the top down. You know those days, when the sun beats down so hard you just pray you catch a shady spot to hide in at the next red light. And by the time you get to your destination the back of your shirt and your hat are soaked. Hopefully we will not have too many more of those days.

One of the things that drives me buggy is rattles in the car. I had one develop recently and got around to tracking it down yesterday. The muffler hanger had worked loose just enough to allow the muffler and tail pipe to rattle against the underbody. A few turns with the socket and everything was back to normal. If you have a rattle of your own get out there with the wrenches and track it down before it drives you buggy too.

And lastly, MG 2007 is just days away. We have around 30 MGOC members attending. The organizers have put a lot of time into this spectacular event. I know everyone will have a great time. If you are going, please look for an opportunity to help out the club. There are lots of quick and easy things to do. Lend a hand!

Let's Ride,  
Bob



## MG

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# Dyno Day II Report



The Line Up



Seen on a Datsun 2000 roadster



Ken on the rear bumper gets power down



Dave McCann from Utah

Photos by Don Davis

Back in April, the Z Car Garage's dynamometer couldn't handle the advanced technology of Bill Webb's supercharged 1947 TC. On June 16 we reconvened to test a new batch of MGs – and try again on Bill's TC.

We decided not to try the TC right away, hoping to get some cars tested before the dyno quit again. We ran the MGBs of Don Davis, Jim Carlson, Dave McCann, Ken Gittings, and Bill Hiland, the MK II MGA roadster of Mark Lambert, the TD of Dan Shockey and, once again, the TC of Bill Webb. Other club members came to encourage us, some with and some without their MGs. Don Pat brought his son along to celebrate an early Father's Day.

Bill Hiland and On the Road Again again provided some great eats including hand-made sausages. Z Cars provided coffee and donuts. It was a perfect day and a fun one for seeing and talking sports cars.

The Z Cars guys are real enthusiasts and appreciate our cars as well as the high-tech wonders they build. They have a lot of experience in tuning for best performance.

I didn't get the full results but remember that Don Davis's MGB got good numbers for a stock car, around 70 horsepower at the rear wheels, and the others were making good power as well. My stock TD recorded 39 horsepower and 51 foot-pounds of torque. I was really pleased with the shape of the curves showing no problems except for a bit lean running at high RPMs. I then felt confident to drive the TD to Sonoma the next day.

As for Bill Webb's TC, the Z Cars team made several valiant efforts but were still unsuccessful in getting readings from this car. It could be the positive ground though that shouldn't be the issue. If it is any consolation for Bill, the crew thought his car was running well and making a lot of horsepower, possibly more than any of the other MGs tested that day. By reporter Dan Shockey

(See also Note from Don Davis on page 15.)

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# MG Help Wanted

By Sam Gearhart

What: Volunteers for *MG2007*

When: July 16 to July 20, 2007

Where: MG2007 Doubletree Hotel - Rohnert Park, California

Hey, fellow MG enthusiasts and MGOC Members, it's almost show time for MG2007!

As you know MGOC is hosting the NAMGBR Annual Convention in only a few weeks. A small but energetic group of club members has been meeting, planning, and organizing the many scheduled events for more than a year. We have a very exciting and unique convention planned that is sure to impress MG owners from all across the U.S. If you haven't done so already, log onto [www.MG2007.org](http://www.MG2007.org) and take a look at the highlights of the many special events that will take place.

Unfortunately, it will take more than a handful of members to make sure the Convention is successful and that MGOC is remembered by all attendees as having hosted a very memorable event during this, our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

We need lots of help, so come on out and volunteer, lend a hand, and help make the show a success!!!

We can use help setting up the actual car show area on Tuesday July 17, directing traffic, tour leaders & sweepers for the many local rides we have planned, assisting with regalia and souvenir sales, policing the show for trash & litter and any number of other things.

For more information and to volunteer contact any one of the following:

Sam Gearhart – [swg3@comcast.net](mailto:swg3@comcast.net)

Bob Stine – [RAStine@rcn.com](mailto:RAStine@rcn.com)

Dan Shockey – [mgmogul@earthlink.net](mailto:mgmogul@earthlink.net)

Tom Balutis – [Tbalutis@aol.com](mailto:Tbalutis@aol.com)

Andy Preston – [andypreston@sbcglobal.net](mailto:andypreston@sbcglobal.net)

Mike Jacobsen – [mikemuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:mikemuseum@yahoo.com)

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## ***MG 2007 Donations***

Want to contribute to *MG 2007* but can't find the time? Wish you could find the perfect way to help out the club? Why not donate that special MG part or car-related product to MGOC to auction at *MG2007*? Perhaps you have a business or know someone that can donate something to the club. We are looking for anything and everything that can be put into a silent auction. If you have extra car parts or new unopened supplies please consider donating them to the club. While we can't give you a receipt for your 2007 taxes they are still going to a good cause. For details please contact Dan Shockey, 408-923-3927; or Sam Gearhart, 510-530-2267.

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## ***In Memory***

Long-time MGOC member Carl Euranius passed away on February 26, 2007 at the age of 87. In a short note to let us know of his passing, Carl's daughter Sharon Gragg said, "He loved his little red MG and truly enjoyed his yearly reunion with his fellow MG enthusiasts." Sharon now has Carl's MG and has joined the MGOC. We hope to see her at some future events.



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# Tour Leader Course 101

By Sam Gearhart

On Sunday 6/17/07, expecting a crowd of dozens, 6 of us showed up for Tour Leader 101 led by none other than Mike Jacobsen. Sam, Tom Baulitis and Dan Shockey met at Denny's in Emeryville, had some breakfast then headed north to Rohnert Park. There we met Mike, Andy & Marla Preston and Bob Stine. Dan braved the entire trip in his red TD and I'll admit to watching him recede into the distance a couple times as we headed north up 101. Tom did a great job keeping all three of us within eyesight. It was, of course, Father's Day so although we love our cars, it's a day many of us are occupied with different activities.



Andy & Marla follow Dan out of the parking lot.

We enjoyed a quick 45 minute meet, greet, and “here’s what we’re trying to do today” get-together at the DoubleTree then off we went, heading towards Sonoma on a portion of the MG2007 Mission Tour. Mike did a great job preparing a list of do’s & don’ts and things Tour Leaders need to think about. One of the more important is be sure to have a driver’s meeting before you head out. It’s really important that everyone have a general understanding of what the tour is like – road conditions, bio (potty) breaks along the way, etc. Leaders could also advise how long a tour might take might take and what to expect at the destination; parking instructions, where to eat, what to see, return time deadlines and the like. Of course, we took off without having that strongly suggested driver’s meeting. Let’s just say we were anxious to get wheels turning – we didn’t really forget it!

While we had attempted to get to know our two-way radios in the hotel lobby, at tour end it was obvious we had some problems. Among them, three of us heard little but some static or nothing at all, and little or none of the chatter between the other cars.



We are still together after three miles and can navigate a left turn.

(A note to any & all Tour Leaders – do a radio check and synchronization with all participants before departing on a guided tour!!!)

Though we all arrived in Sonoma just past noon we somehow ended up going different directions on the same street? No, I'm kidding, parking is at a premium at noon most any day in Sonoma so we had to find anything available. Little MGs, like Andy's, and Bob's PT can turn a pretty small circle – they parked on the other side of the street. Mike needed to help Dan out of his TD.



Tom & Sam decided to head back to the immediate Bay Area rather than have lunch in town. Traffic down Route 101 at San Rafael and on I-80 through Berkeley was heavier than I anticipated and with the top down sitting in the sun, it wasn't very pleasant. I was happy to have the shade from the upper deck of the San Rafael Bridge to cool off a bit, having been in stop & go for 15 miles.

# Tour Leader Tips and Tricks

By Sam Gearhart

I've never led a tour, so I'm sure it'll be an experience. Although much of it seems to be common sense I'm sure there are things that can go awry. It's up to us as tour leaders to be ready for them. We're going to have lots & lots of folks attending MG2007. Read up on links on "How To Do" tours. I've come across any number of articles on the subject. Surely it'll take more than the few of us that were able to get to Tour Leader 101 to assure our success at MG2007.

There are a couple more things to note:

- Registration "Goody Bags" will include directions for all tours – make sure your participants have the correct one in hand.
- Make sure participants have a cell phone number for the Leader and the hotel phone number. Caution that cell service could be spotty.
- Remind them of the radio frequency being used on your particular tour and perform a radio check to confirm frequency.
- Advise the participants there will be a sweep car (on tours of more than ten) in case of mechanical problems.
- Explain how lane & directional changes should occur. Lead car will advise the sweep or interim car to change lanes and that should hopefully allow a clear path for everyone up ahead to change lanes as well.
- Stop Lights – with a number of tours, it's unlikely that all will make it through. It's up to interim cars or the sweep car to alert the Lead to slow down or even to pull over to allow the group to catch up.





# **The Last Waltz**

## **Final Year at El Camino Park**

by Rick Feibusch

It is with great regret that I must report that this year will be the last for the 30 year old Palo Alto British Car Meet. The park is going to be reconstructed into an emergency reservoir for Palo Alto and rebuilt using Astroturf on the fields. No more car shows as oil and gas will damage the new surface. Park and Rec officials have offered the city streets as an alternative, to be held in conjunction with other special events like art & craft shows. While we appreciate the offers, this is not what we envisioned three decades ago, a reasonably priced, all-British concours, that would serve as a convention to not only bring enthusiasts, local shops, publications, and national parts suppliers together, but to showcase our automotive passion to newcomers and enthusiasts from other corners of the hobby.

This year will be our last at El Camino Park in Palo Alto. We are planning the same show that you all have come to expect – lawn, jazz coordinated by musical director Herb Gibson, proper British breakfasts and lunches by Dennis Bedford and his The Ministry Of Food. Prizes in a bunch of classes, club displays and specialty vendors. Plans are underway to bring back the Saturday Swap Meet one more time and our Saturday tour to the coast will be better than ever. Come join us for the last waltz at El Camino Park on September 8th & 9th, 2007.

We are already looking for a new venue for 2008 and we will keep you posted in The British Car Network. We would like to thank all of you, especially the marque clubs, both in LA, where we lost our park a few years ago, and in the San Francisco Bay Area, for 30 years of enthusiastic support and all of the fun and good cheer that you have brought to these meets and our hobby in general. As one of the first in the US, we know that we sparked a movement that spread all over the country and our offspring can be seen in all corners of the nation.

## **Dyno Day Note from Don Davis**

I am also attaching a scanned image of the results of my '67 MGB/GT from the Dyno Test; this was supplied to every one whose car was dyno tested. Also, note the "heavyweights" on the back of Bill Webb's TC in order to get good contact with the dyno from the small tire patch of Bill's TC.

It was a GREAT DAY...thanks to Bill for arranging it.

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# Web Sites of Interest

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

<http://www.mg2007.org/>

## New Members

Jonna Palmer and her husband Rich Saskal. Jonna has a 1964 MGB that she's owned for 17 years, which may be longer than she's had a driver's license. Jonna & Rich are in Alameda.

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## English Countryside BBQ

By Stuart Locke

With Jeremy Palgon leading the way, What FUN we all had 6/23/07 going the back roads, driving Lew's antique tractors around the farm, eating Nancy's great BBQ and scrumptious desserts. What a relaxing scenic time we all had. If you haven't been to Nancy and Lew's, it is such a beautiful country farm. We had a great group: Stuart & Joyce Locke, Neal & Lillie Kirkham, Jeremy Palgon, Bob Zacher, Marshall & Mary Kroot, Jesse Bregman, Jose Vega, Terry Sanders, Allan & Linda Chalmers, Herb & Judy Guidry, Walter & Carole Kilik, Jim & Anne Carlson, Vern & Dona Lindsey, Bob & Kathy Lange, Dan, Liz & Luke Lange, Joe, Allison, Sophie, & Lisa Elliott. There were MGBs, MGTDs, TF, TC, MGTB Tickford,

MGSA, MGL type and a '63 Chevy. Thanks to Nancy & Lew Reader.

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## Minutes of the MGOC Meeting

### Minutes of the MGOC Business Meeting, June 14, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 p.m. by President Bob Stine. Also present were: Dan Shockey, David Wright, Randy Grossman, Mike Jacobsen, George Steneberg, and Bob Trencheny.

May Minutes accepted as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Renewals are coming in, boosting the bank balance. The MG2007 account is up to \$17,000 since we haven't paid out for the banquets and much of the regalia. Mike thinks we may make about \$2000 profit on the event.

Registrar's Report: The renewal notice went out. Mike has received 84 already. We have a total of 290 members. We lost one member, Carl Euranius of El Cerrito, who passed away in February. He had the TD with plaid trim.

Secretary's Report: Sent email reminders. Send a card to Carl's family. Dan notified the Club that he and Nancy are moving out of state for work and family reasons. July will be his last regular meeting.

Corresponding Secretary: Receiving credit cards offers for club officers and shredding them.

## Minutes of the MGOC Business Meeting (Continued)

**Regalia Report:** Sold an MGOC grille badge for a Father's Day gift. David is making an inventory of all items. We are nearly out of clings. Our new 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary pins are on their way. John Milsap is ordering more club jackets. We sold many items at *MGs by the Bay*.

**The Octagon Report & Web Site:** We had a couple date mistakes in *The Octagon*. Bob plans to put up a regalia page on the Web site. He suggested that we consider using a service to sell our regalia. Cafe Press does this. The consensus was that service didn't fit our needs.

### PAST EVENTS

#### MGs by the Bay:

**Financial Results:** We made \$400 (not counting future sales of left-over T-shirts) despite the lower attendance. We had 72 MGs registered this year. The weather may have had a negative impact on attendance. Dan mentioned that several people suggested that we encourage early registrations by raising the price for at-the-door registration.

**Awards Issues for *MGs by the Bay*:** We had a mix up on award titles, some made & not used, some required and not made.

**Niles Location:** Dan suggested we consider Niles as a location for *MGs by the Bay*. It has the shopping and restaurants we seek plus the parking areas and they are accustomed to hosting such shows. The disadvantage is that it is less convenient for many members, especially those in the North Bay. Dan sent an email asking if they would be interested in discussing it with us.

**Tech Session:** We got the transmission swapped in Dave McCann's MGB. We also installed a gear reduction starter which was a nice conversion. We had a great turn out for this short-notice event.

### UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

**Dyno Day II:** Scheduled for Saturday, June 16.

**North Bay Tour:** Mike Jacobsen moved the date for this event to Sunday, June 17 (Father's Day), to not conflict directly with the rescheduled Dyno Day. This is intended to both test another tour for *MG2007* and to provide tour leadership training to tour guides for the event.

**Country BBQ:** We'll get to drive an antique tractor around the property.

**MG2007:** Next planning meeting is June 23. Time is getting very short. We will sell club regalia including T-shirts left from *MGs by the Bay*. David Wright will attend with certain regalia items for sale.

**Annual Picnic:** August 11. Bob Stine has reserved a spot at Junipero Serra Park. The cost is \$70 for the first 50 people plus \$1.25 per person in addition. Parking will be charged in addition. Beer & wine is okay but no hard alcoholic beverages.

**Mt. Hamilton Climb:** Bob Trencheny will lead the tour in September. Dan to assist with route.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Regalia:** Done at last. The lapel pins will be here this month. Thank you to Mike Jacobsen.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Appreciation Gift for Dan:** The motion was made and passed to spent up to \$100 for a gift to be made to Dan.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

**Brisbane Marina Festival:** Bob Stine reported that we are invited again this year. Add the date to the Club calendar. Unfortunately the event is again the same date as our Annual Picnic.

**Next Meeting & Natter:** July 12 at the Englander.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Daniel Shockey, MGOC Secretary



## MGOC Picnic

Couldn't make it to MG 2007 and want to hear how great it was? Then come to the MGOC Annual Picnic on August 11 and get all the details. This year's picnic is on the Peninsula at Junipero Serra Park in San Mateo. Come out and enjoy the day with your MG friends. Watch the [www.mgoc.org](http://www.mgoc.org) Web site and check the August *Octagon* for more details.

## Kobe Japan MG Club



"Rick" Hara has been a Senior Member of the Kobe MG Car Club since 1988. Rick found the MGOC while visiting his daughter in San Jose. He has owned a TC, TF, several MGBs and is the current owner of a 1979 MGB. The club is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. The club's Web site in English is <http://lalabsd.shiga-med.ac.jp/kmgcc/index.html>

The above photo by Mr. Hara was taken at their recent show at a yacht club in Kobe.

## Corrections and Omissions:

Last month there were a few errors in *The Octagon* that need to be corrected. First, that was Verna Kelsey's blue B/GT at MGs by the Bay, not Bob Luebbert's. Bob also has a nice blue B/GT. Second, the Dyno Day was on June 16, not June 11. Hope no one showed up looking for a free lunch from Bill Hiland on the wrong day. And finally, Mark and Debbie Hertz also represented the MGOC in the winner's circle at the Dixon All British Car Show by taking 1<sup>st</sup> place with their MG Midget.

The Ed.



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*Continued from page 5*

venue for the picnic several times in the past and everyone seems to like it. The club will provide charcoal for a barbecue. As usual, we'll have a car show and raffle prizes. Don't sit home and wish you were doing something fun...come on out and join us!

Fraternally,  
Bob Stine  
President, MGOC  
[rastine@rcn.com](mailto:rastine@rcn.com)







## The Story of the B/GT and the B-17

By John Hunt

On May 1 I heard on the radio that a B-17 plane would be at Buchanan Airport in Concord the next day. Having some free time on my hands, I decide I shouldn't miss this opportunity.

The B-17's nickname is the Flying Fortress. Everything on that plane was built out of aluminum. It carried a crew of 10 and had a maximum speed of 287 mph and a cruising speed of 182. Each of the four engines gave off 1,200 hp, so another way of looking at each engine was equivalent to 12 MGBs. The plane helped the Allies win World War II.

The plane was a sight to behold; an impressive example of American engineering and design. They were offering rides at \$500 which was out of my price range. However, for \$10 they let you climb inside and walk through the plane while it was parked. This was a priceless experience. I found it shocking how thin the plane's skin is from the inside as well as how small everything was. From the outside it looked big, but from the inside it was all business.

Before touring the plane I started to chat with one of volunteers. Turned out that he was one the key local organizers. On a lark, I told him I have a vintage car and said it sure would be great to have a photo of my classic next to another classic. He said he would see what he could do. Turned out he had a soft spot for MGs. His cousin owns one. Also, it made me realized, it never hurts to ask, you never know?

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# The Classifieds

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, 601 Greylyn Drive, San Ramon CA, 94583. Members may also email ads to the Editor at [Tbobx@aol.com](mailto:Tbobx@aol.com).

## Cars:

**1963 MG Midget for Restoration:** Mostly straight and rust free and has wire wheels. Side curtain car; disc brakes. \$200. Member Dan Shockey, (408) 923-3927, [mgmogul@earthlink.net](mailto:mgmogul@earthlink.net)

**1953 MGTD** Stored 40 years \$2,500.00 very complete, matching numbers, factory original high luggage rack, original jack with handles, radiator grille shell good, fenders need body work. Estate Sale Jim 510-656-5378

**Two '59 MGA Racecars** and a big stack of parts. Contact: Member Tom Morgan. Phone: (650)588-4960

## Parts:

**Aftermarket MGB hardtop:** Flashy. Keep warm & dry! Member Eric Baker, Oakland, 510-531-7032.

**Wanted MG TD Seat Slider:** Member Walter Kilik (408) 996-0385, [wallylk@juno.com](mailto:wallylk@juno.com).

**MGB/GT 5/8" Dia. Sway Bar:** For Sale. Member Ken (510) 791-8445

**Bolt-on Wire Wheel Adapters:** Set of 4 from TR4. Use for MGA or early MGB roadster. \$125. Member Dan Shockey, (408) 923-3927, [mgmogul@earthlink.net](mailto:mgmogul@earthlink.net)

**For Sale:** Lots of parts for a '67 roadster: engine and non-OD transmission, windshield, exhaust, chrome, windows, electrical. Non-member Chantal (650) 570-5350

**For Sale:** Complete top bows for an MGB. Excellent tonneau cover for an MGB. Two good tires. All for \$350. Member Roger (415) 927 4209



# Club Meeting & Natter

## July 12, 2007 (2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs.), 8 p.m.

The Englander, 101 Parrot Street, San Leandro  
(510) 357-3571 <http://www.englishpub.com/>

For the June Natter we will meet at 8:00pm at The Englander. We will not be going slot car racing before the meeting. The members attending the April meeting decided to make slot car racing an occasional event every 2-3 months. Keep watching *The Octagon* and the MGOC web site for the next opportunity to go racing.

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. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Travel 0.3 miles, and then right on Parrott St.

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# MGOC Annual Picnic

## Saturday August 11 at Junipero Serra Park in San Bruno

The picnic starts around 11:00 AM and goes until the food is gone and everyone is tired of talking about MGs and MG 2007! The club provides ice, charcoal, table cloths, and other necessities. Members should bring their own food and drink. Last year we had so many drinks left over we decided that everyone should bring what they want to drink. We will have plenty of ice. Parking is \$5.00 per car. Come early and hold some parking spaces with us if you have nothing else to do!

**Directions from the North:** Take 101 South to I-380 West to I-280 South. Take the Crystal Springs Road Exit and merge onto Cunningham Road. Turn right onto Crystal Springs Road to 1699 Crystal Springs Road. [Map Here](#), if you're reading this online.

**Directions from the South:** Take I-280 North to San Bruno Avenue. Turn left on San Bruno and left again to **DOUBLE BACK ONTO I-280 SOUTH**. Take the Crystal Springs Road exit and merge onto Cunningham Road. Turn right onto Crystal Springs Road to Junipero Serra County Park, 1699 Crystal Springs Rd, San Bruno, CA [Map Here](#).

MGOC Octagon  
 If undeliverable please return to:  
 320 B Monterey Blvd.  
 San Francisco, CA 94131-3141  
<http://www.MGOC.org>

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# Celebrating 50 Years of Fun!