

# THE OCTAGON

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



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

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MGs by the Bay poster photo shoot

# May 2011

Photo by Jeremy Palgon

## 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 2011

**President:** Sam Gearhart, 510-530-2267, [swg3@comcast.net](mailto:swg3@comcast.net)  
**Vice President:** George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, [j2george@pacbell.net](mailto:j2george@pacbell.net)  
**Treasurer:** Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, [MikesMuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:MikesMuseum@yahoo.com)  
**Secretary:** Bob Trencheny, 925-984-2472, [tbobx@aol.com](mailto:tbobx@aol.com)  
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**Photographer:** Jeremy Palgon, 510-378-1821, [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 MG models.

**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:** Craig Kuenzinger, 925-934-3130, [mrcraigk@aol.com](mailto:mrcraigk@aol.com)  
**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. Carburettors:** Marty Ray, 831-475-6204, [martyray@cruzio.com](mailto:martyray@cruzio.com)

## Club Meeting Natter & Noggin

May 12, 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. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Travel 0.3 miles, and then turn right on Parrott Street.



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**Parts for Sale:**

**Set of MGA seats** in ok shape, **MGA windshield frame** with glass that is broken. Contact Member Don Scott at (707) 942-0546 or [don@napanet.net](mailto:don@napanet.net).

**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 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](mailto:becker2226@astound.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](mailto:don@napanet.net).



Photo by Ken Gittings

**Congratulations to Mike Jamieson!**

Mike's article on noting MGs in TV shows and films is the Contribution of the Month for April. He wins a \$25 gift card to the store of his choice for his neat submission.

**COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON***

Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or [MikesMuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:MikesMuseum@yahoo.com). 2011 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 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*.

**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 20<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the issue in which you want them to appear. Please email all contributions to [mgowners@gmail.com](mailto: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 15 – **MGs by the Bay**, The Danville Livery
- May 22 – **All British Meet at Woodland**, UBSCC
- May 28 - Jun. 5 – **British Car Week**
- Jun. 4 – **Sonoma - Marin Tour**, Andy & Marla Preston
- Jun. 4 – **Hayward Field Meet**, Cal State East Bay, **Mini Owners of America-SF**
- Jun. 4-5 – **VARA British Extravaganza**, Buttonwillow
- Jun. 13-17 – **MG2011 All Register Meet**, Reno
- Jun. 18 – **SF Tour for the Rallye from Reno**, Mike Jacobsen
- Jun. 26 – **Palo Alto Concours d'Elegance**
- Jul. 9 – **Summer West Marin Tour**, Bud Alderson and Marty Rayman
- Jul. 29-31 – **Rendezvous 29**, Keizer, Oregon, **Club T MG**
- Sept. 29-Oct. 2 – **MG Fall Festival**, Petaluma

## From the Editor...

*The world's favorite season is the spring. All things seem possible in May.*

– Edwin Way Teale

Yes, all things seem possible in May. The sun is out, and yet some of the hills are still green. The outside world is warm, bright, and welcoming. May invites us to put down the top for the summer and get out on the road.

For the MGOC, May means MGs by the Bay and looking forward to months of top-down motoring ahead. MGs by the Bay will be under the trees at the Danville Livery again this year. If you haven't registered yet, please do so using the form on page 12. Pre-registration has been extended until May 8.

In addition to MGs by the Bay, there are a couple well known, local British car shows coming up: the All-British Motor Car and Swap Meet at Woodland (page 6) and the Hayward Field Meet (page 8). I've been to both and can confidently say that they are a good time.

There's also the much ballyhooed MG2011 All Register gathering in Reno in June. If you haven't yet, now's the time to make plans to attend.

Shows aside, we have all manner of tours lined up for the months ahead. Andy & Marla Preston will lead us on their rescheduled Sonoma – Marin Tour on June 4 (page 7). Mike Jacobsen has planned an SF tour for the Rallye from Reno on June 18 (page 10).

And there's still room for more. If you have an idea for a tour, or a picnic, or any sort of summer outing fit for an MG, please send it my way. The MGOC leadership will be happy to help you plan, promote, and lead your event.

Jeremy Palgon

*Sweet May hath come to love us,  
flowers, trees, their blossoms  
don; and through the blue  
heavens above us, the very clouds  
move on.*

- Heinrich Heine

### MG

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SHOCK LINK (New or Rebuilt)	\$call	

#### BRAKES: sleeved and rebuilt

MGB, Midget caliper .....	\$85.00
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MGA, Midget twin master 1956-67 .....	\$225.00
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**1969 MGB GT.** For sale by original owner, with records to prove it. Pearl white with new tires, upholstery, valve job, webber equipped. Almost showroom perfect. I have had the car for 42 years and it's been a blast to drive and own. She is a real cream puff. Come see for yourself. She won't last long at this price. \$6,000 or best offer. Contact T. Louis Giles at 707-552-3322.



**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](mailto: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](mailto:Bovet177@gmail.com).

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## 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](mailto:mgowners@gmail.com).

### Cars for Sale:

**1973 MGB GT.** Nearly completed restoration of a very nice example. I redid the mechanicals, had body and paint done professionally, colour is as original, upholstery is dark blue cloth as originally fitted, has two nearly new six volt batteries, has correct rubber mats and has 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 minor completion - some interior pieces need installing, needs some tidying up. Car has the original blue CA plates that were issued to it when sold new and it is currently registered. \$4,500. Contact Member Don Scott at (707) 942-0546 or [don@napanet.net](mailto:don@napanet.net).



**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](mailto:vriddersholm@yahoo.com), or Gordon Craig at [lismoregordon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lismoregordon@sbcglobal.net).



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

## President's Ponderings...

Well, gee whiz – what is with these gas prices just as our prime driving season is getting underway? I don't know about all of you but I sure take notice when the pump price is higher than four dollars a gallon (and a good deal more at some places). It stings a bit more when I fill my 22 gallon truck than my MG, but I am much more aware of it now than when the price was a dollar less per gallon.

So now you're thinking, "Okay, Sam, we all are facing higher gas prices. We know that, and besides what does this have to do with a car club like the MGOC?"

Well, I'll tell you. As I mentioned we're in the prime driving season, are hearing about gas prices up around five dollars a gallon by Memorial Day, and we cover a wide geographic area. Depending on where you live, high gas prices are almost certain to cause some thought when wondering whether or not to attend an event or participate in a tour. We're not unique in that regard either. The MG Car Club Northwest Centre in Seattle and the Canadian Classic MG Club in Vancouver are both very similar to our club. Both have a large geographic area, with lots of water and bridges. Like us, they each have regional tours like our South Bay tours and Sonoma-Napa rides.

They also have major centrally located events like our annual picnic and annual awards banquet. In those instances, they arrange separate tours from the four points of the compass to the main event. That way members are driving what is more or less an equal distance from places like Morgan Hill or San Jose, Novato or Rohnert Park, or Walnut Creek. Accordingly, since participation might be down for our already scheduled North and South Bay events – at least in part due to gas prices, we're hoping we might increase or at least maintain attendance at other major events.

We discussed this at the April meeting and decided we ought to give it a try. A bit of a rub is that most of the event calendar was set back in January; so it would seem the first big event would be the Annual Picnic on August 20.

The potential plan for touring from every region to the central event involves, **attention volunteers**, the North Bay folks meeting perhaps in Petaluma, South Bay folks in San Jose, and Peninsula members in Burlingame or San Mateo. From there a **volunteer** ride leader would lead a tour to the event with all of those regional members – either driving directly or with a stop for coffee or whatever along the way. Perhaps they'd even take a round-about, fun road route.

Right now the thinking is perhaps having the picnic in Niles, Hayward, or Fremont or someplace on the I-880 corridor. We'll need volunteer leaders from the various regions and of course your participation to make it work.

It's not much, but with gas as expensive as it is, we think you'd prefer to drive 35 miles to get to the event, rather than 60. And that's what it has to do with a car club!

Regards,  
Sam Gearhart



## Annual All British Motorcar Show and Swap Meet

**May 22nd, 2011**

Remember when steel and chrome dominated our motorways? Tired of all those plastic vehicles with little or no pizzazz? Remember yesteryear, when you took Sunday drives and cruised along country roads for fun? Time travel to an era when anything from A.C. to Wolsey motored along the roads in style. Relive the feeling of the rumbling engines, burning oil, and the sputter of petrol-filled carburetors. Dust off your favorite British motorcar or motorcycle and come on out to Woodland and the Annual All British Motorcar Show and Swap Meet.

**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](http://UBSCC.org)**

**Web Site Additions:** The board again discussed adding Flickr and Facebook to the web site but are reluctant to add the features without someone to coordinate the sites. No one has stepped forward for this position. If you are interested in getting more involved in the club and want to coordinate our social media please contact Sam or Mike.

### **New Business**

**Saturday Morning Coffee Klatch:** Mike Jacobsen proposed having a rotating Saturday Morning Coffee Klatch meeting and drive to different local locations. The board agreed it was an interesting idea and suggested planning three or four drives from around the Bay Area and ending at a common site. Members agreed that it would be a great idea to have the drives end at the MGOC Annual Picnic in August or September. Sam plans to find a picnic site and Mike will work out drive details. Check upcoming *Octagons* for details.

**San Francisco Rallye:** A motion was passed to set a budget of \$200 for the San Francisco Rallye from Reno after the All Register Meet on June 17. We hope to hold the event on Treasure Island. Fifty people have signed up for the drive.

**Mt. Hamilton Tour:** We are looking for someone to lead a tour up Mount Hamilton. Volunteers? The Abingdon Rough Riders would like to join us on the tour again this year.

**MG Fall Festival:** The board discussed advertising for the MG Fall Festival and decided to spend \$60 per month on internet advertising. Bob Trencheny will coordinate the effort.

**Gifts for MG Clubs in Natural Disaster Afflicted Countries:** We discussed sending an appropriate gift to MG Clubs in New Zealand and Japan to help them get back up and running after the recent earthquakes. No motion was made.

**Club Insurance:** NAMGAR is offering Officers and Directors insurance to the MGOC. We already have the same insurance through NAMGBR so do not need duplicate insurance. Mike will decline NAMGAR's offer of insurance.

**Classic MGOC Show Posters:** Mike has original copies of all the MG Show posters from MGs and Jazz, Jack London Square through MGs by the Bay. There are 17 posters total. Sam proposed having all the posters photographed for the club so they could be used on the MGOC web site and possibly published in book format. As part of the project we would then have to purchase rights to the posters (due to the Digital Millennium Copyrights Act) to use them in any digital format. The total cost for this would be approximately \$270 to archive the current posters. There was no motion on the proposal. Sam will get more details for next month's meeting.

**Next Meeting and Natter:** 7:00 pm on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at The Englander Sports Pub, 100 Parrott Street, San Leandro.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Submitted by Bob Trencheny.

# MGOC Business Meeting Minutes

## April 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Sam Gearhart at 7:05 pm. Also attending were: Ernie Bryson, Ken Gittings, Mike Jacobsen, Craig Kuenzinger, George Steneberg, Bob Trencheny, and David Wright.

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

Treasurer's Report: The checking account balance was lower than last month. We paid three months of *Octagon* bills, the bill for dash plaques for MGs by the Bay and other miscellaneous expenses.

Registrar's Report: The MGOC has 200 regular, 64 auxiliary, 11 corresponding, and 2 associate members for 277 total members. We have three new members this month.

Secretary's Report: Nothing significant to report.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: The State of California has confirmed our tax exempt status paperwork for 2011. The MGOC has been a tax exempt organization since May 5, 1958.

Regalia: David reported we sold no regalia this month. However, we did sell two sample MGOC shirts. Bob will find out about ordering tall shirts. Members are encouraged to order MGOC golf shirts and denim shirts.

The Octagon: The board discussed *The Octagon*.

### Past Events

St Patrick's Day Tour: Steve Lilves led. Ken Gittings said the weather just barely held out for the drive.

CSRG/MGVR Focus Event at Infineon Raceway: was an outstanding day. CSRG appreciated our hospitality and our MG award to Bill Angeloni as the favorite local racer of the day. Bill also led the parade laps for all of the MGs attending. Everyone had a great time in spite of the coffee pot fiasco.

MG Fall Festival Planning Meeting: was held in Oakland on April 10. The group is making good progress on the event. Check the event Web site at [www.mgfallfestival.com](http://www.mgfallfestival.com) for details.

### Upcoming Events

Spring Freshen-Up tech session on April 30: Craig Kuenzinger is hosting this general tech session at his home in Walnut Creek.

MGs by the Bay on Sunday, May 15: Held again at The Livery in Danville. Posters and t-shirts for the event are in work.

Sonoma - Marin Tour: Andy and Marla Preston's famous tour has been rescheduled for June 4. It's always a great drive with a stop or two at local wineries. Watch *The Octagon* for details.

### Old Business

Club Personal Privacy Policy: The board continues to discuss the Club's personal privacy policy. We have consulted an attorney for guidance and continue to work to protect all members' privacy.

# Sonoma – Marin Tour

## Saturday, June 4

This is the rescheduled date for the MGOC tour that was cancelled in February due to predicted severe weather conditions.

This joint tour of the Wine Country Car Club and the MG Owners Club and is designed to attract MGOC members who seldom drive north of the Golden Gate Bridge. The tour starts in Rohnert Park, heads west and then south, and ends in Point Reyes Station for lunch.

The first part of the tour takes us through the back roads and pasture lands of Sonoma County, and through the historic towns of Valley Ford, Freestone, and Occidental. We will leave Occidental over one of our favorite roads, Coleman Valley Road, which takes us out to the Pacific Coast and Highway 1. The views on the descent of the surrounding countryside and the Pacific Coast are stunning. Our first stop is at the Tides Wharf overlooking Bodega Bay, where you can have a cup of coffee and a pastry, and peruse their shops and deli.

We will leave the Tides Wharf and continue south on the Pacific Coast Highway, passing through the town of Tomales and continuing along the shoreline of the Tomales Bay.

Our final destination and lunch stop is the Station House Cafe in Point Reyes Station, West Marin. We will have a private dining room for our party and will be able to order off the open menu.

**When and Where:** Meet at 9:30 am on June 4 at Sonoma Valley Bagel, [350 Rohnert Park Expressway, Rohnert Park](#).

**Directions:** Take 101 North and exit at Rohnert Park Expressway. Head west for half a mile. Sonoma Valley Bagel will be on your right.

**Please RSVP to** Andy or Marla Preston at [andypreston@sbcglobal.net](mailto:andypreston@sbcglobal.net) or 707-795-3480 by June 1 so we can confirm lunch reservations.



## May 28 to June 5

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

# Hayward Field Meet

## All British Car Show and Swap

### Saturday, June 4

The San Francisco Chapter of the Mini Owners of America will be holding the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Hayward Field Meet at Cal State East Bay on Saturday, June 4. 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.

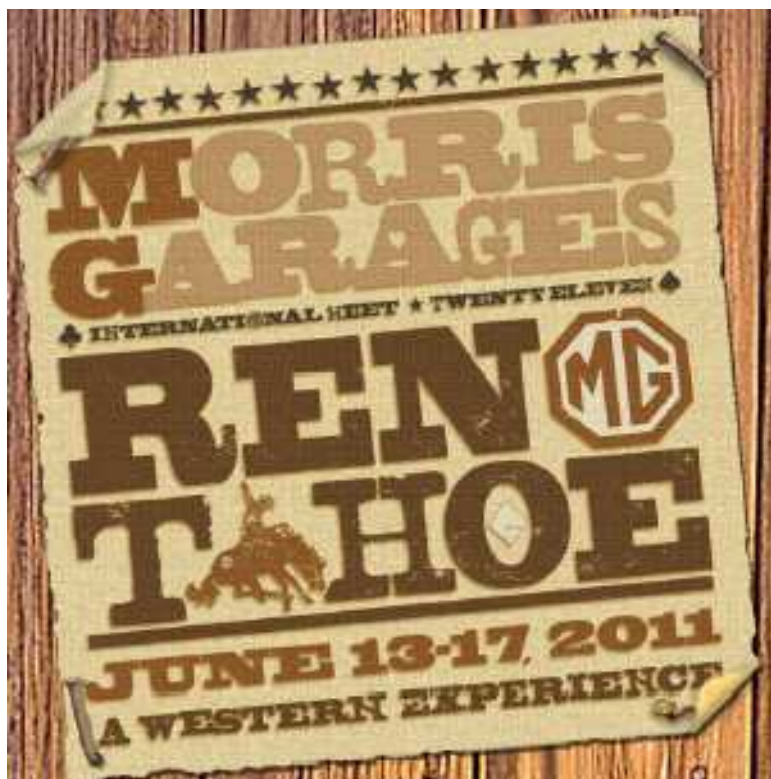
**Cost:** \$20 to display your car or sell at the swap meet (with pre-registration before May 31; \$30 at the gate), free for spectators.

**When and Where:** 9:00 am on Saturday, June 4 at the Cal State East Bay soccer practice field below parking lot B, near the intersection of Harder Road and West Loop Road.

**Registration Form:** [http://www.moasf.com/hayward/hfm\\_registration.html](http://www.moasf.com/hayward/hfm_registration.html)

**Contact:** Nick Becker at 925-932-7886 or [becker2226@astound.net](mailto:becker2226@astound.net).

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



# ❖ MGOC Regalia ❖

Description	Qty	Each	Total
<b>MG Owners Club Regalia</b>			
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Plaque – Black & white, 2" wide by 3" high		\$5.00	
50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pin – Black & white, 3/4" wide by 1.1" high, clutch back		\$5.00	
Shirt – Tan polo, without pocket (See Note 1 below)		\$30.00	
Shirt – Tan polo, with pocket (See Note 1 below)		\$30.00	
Shirt – Blue denim, long sleeves (See Note 1 below)		\$30.00	
Shirt – Blue denim, short sleeves (See Note 1 below)		\$30.00	
Pennant – Red "MG Owners Club", cream canvas, 9 1/2" high by 17" long		\$10.00	
Grille Badge – MGOC logo, 4" high, mounts with one stud through grille		\$35.00	
Patch – 3" diameter, embroidered black MGOC logo on white		\$6.00	
Cling – 3" diameters, black MGOC logo on white background		\$2.00	
<b>MG Car Club of England Regalia (Notes 2 &amp; 3)</b>			
MG Car Club Grille Badge – 3" dia., mounts with studs through grille		\$55.00	
Lapel Pin – 3/4" by 1" enameled metal MGCC badge		\$6.50	
Outside Window Decal – 5" by 5 1/2" clear & white MGCC logo		\$1.00	
Inside Window Decal – 2 1/2" by 3" brown & cream logo; reads "Member"		\$1.00	
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>			

## ❖ Notes

1. Shirts are specially ordered, though we try to keep a selection of sizes on hand. All shirts have the MGOC logo embroidered in black & white in the pocket area. Please indicate style and size: ladies or mens, small through double extra large. Shirts are generally delivered at an event or meeting, but can be shipped for an additional \$5.
2. MG Car Club regalia is affected by the exchange rate, and prices are therefore subject to change.
3. Please note that while orders are shipped as they are received, some items are stocked from England and have a long lead time. If we run out of stock, we will notify you if the delay will be more than three weeks.

## ❖ "Ship To" label – please print!

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone number in case we have a question about your order \_\_\_\_\_

## ❖ Ordering Information

- ♦ All prices include tax, and shipping is FREE except for shirts.
- ♦ Make checks payable to "MGOC" – sorry, but we cannot accept credit cards or cash.
- ♦ Send orders to:

**MGOC Regalia**  
**5518 Thomas Avenue**  
**Oakland, CA 94618-1752**

## MGs on the Silver Screen

By Mike “McHoots” Jamieson

I have never been able to just sit and watch old movies or shows on television. Over forty years ago my good friend Buz Williams convinced me of the value of having printed resources readily available to look up old movie actors and movies. Back then you had to have a library of books on hand, like *The Filmgoers Companion* and *The Directory of Prime Time TV Shows*. With a good memory and some detective work you could cross reference an actor like Ward Bond as the same actor from *Wagon Train* and as the priest in the movie *The Quiet Man*. Today you just need a computer so you can search the Internet Movie Database ([IMDB.com](http://IMDB.com)).

So my inquisitive nature was tweaked when I saw a television rerun of *Sabrina the Teenage Witch* that originally aired on March 20, 1998. The series starred Melissa Joan Hart (the teenage witch) and this episode, “My Nightmare the Car”, revolved around Sabrina’s purchase of a magical talking car for the grand sum of five dollars. The car was an MGB roadster voiced by Buddy Hackett. This got me thinking, “What a grand choice of a car! But why was it chosen? Because it was a convertible and sporty? Because it was small and would fit in Sabrina’s room when it was magically delivered to her house? Because they could borrow it from a cast member? All of the above?”

It was just a short drive from *Sabrina* to thinking about other TV shows that might have featured MGs as either stars or cameo supporting players. Television shows from the ‘60s or ‘70s are the most likely to spot the occasional MGB. The television show *TJ Hooker* (starring the indomitable William Shatner) ran on network TV from 1982 to 1986. A number of the episodes from the early years had a gold MGB in the background of many shots, often parked on the street or in a parking lot where a crime was about to go down. It was probably owned by a cast or crew member or could have been provided by a car placement company. (These days you can list your car as being available for use by a film company - just check the internet. Your car could be a star!)

But what about feature films? Once again the internet provides almost everything we need to know. A site that calls itself [MG World](http://MGWorld.com) hosts a page on [MGs in the Movies](http://MGs in the Movies). The listings include *Funny Farm* with Chevy Chase, *To Catch a King* with Robert Wagner, *Love Story* with Ali MacGraw, and *Pillow Talk* with Rock Hudson and Doris Day. There are many others listed. Old TDs and TCs are the cars most often found in the period films, especially those films with a British background. A little noodling on the internet leads to more films, so give it a go when you are ready to watch some films and do some digging.

So make yourself a file to keep by your TV set, be it an electronic file or old fashioned pen and ink note cards. Next time you watch that old movie or television show and you spy an MG, make a note of it and play historian. You too could add to the documented history of MGs on the silver screen.



**A WESTERN EXPERIENCE**

**June 13 - 17**

Once every five years the North American Council of MG Registers (consisting of the MMM Register, NEMGTR, NAMGAR, NAMGBR, and the AMGCR), hosts an “All MG” Convention. This will be the only national MG event that will be conducted by these Registers for 2011, and it’s only the fourth time this event has ever been staged. We have been to Indianapolis in 1996, Minneapolis-St Paul in 2001, and Gatlinburg in 2006. This year we are moving out west to Reno, Nevada. We are confident that our schedule of events, the excitement of the casinos, the night life of Reno, and the breathtaking vistas of the Sierra Mountains and neighboring Lake Tahoe will attract the largest number of MG aficionados in North America ever. There will be MGs of all types and vintages, from MMM cars of the ‘30s to modern MGBs. Register at [MG2011.com](http://MG2011.com).



After MG2011, the Rallye to Reno will conclude the coast to coast trip by driving to San Francisco. Details at [RallyetoReno.com](http://RallyetoReno.com).

## SF Tour for the Rallye *from* Reno Saturday, June 18

Did you see the Rallye to Reno notice in *The Octagon*? The Rallye is a tour for MG owners driving west to Reno for MG2011. It starts in Ocean City, Maryland and runs to Reno for the big all-register event. But the Rallye really finishes in San Francisco after the event. For those folks, the MGOC has put together a tour through San Francisco to make sure everyone that's driven all the way from the Atlantic Ocean reaches the Pacific Ocean. The tour is open to all, so you can come too.

The tour meets at the Marina Green in San Francisco and leaves at 9:00 am. We will go out to Fort Point underneath the Golden Gate Bridge, back through the Presidio and over to Golden Gate Park, up to Twin Peaks, and then out to the Great Highway and along Ocean Beach to the Sutro Baths site. There will be intermediate stops at Fort Point and Twin Peaks so the rallyists can enjoy the views and take pictures, followed lots of choices for lunch in the Sutro Baths area.

**When and Where:** Meet at the [Marina Green parking lot in San Francisco](#) on Saturday, June 18 at 9 am. The tour will go to about noon.

**Contact:** Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or [MikesMuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:MikesMuseum@yahoo.com).

### **Directions:**

**From the North:** cross the Golden Gate Bridge and stay on Doyle Drive through the Presidio. When the road splits, take the Marina route. Follow Marina to the signal light at Scott, and turn left into the Marina Green parking area.

**From the South:** follow 101 North until it becomes Van Ness Avenue. Stay on 101/Van Ness and turn left onto Lombard. Turn right onto Scott and continue into the Marina Green parking area.

**From the East:** come across the Bay Bridge, follow the signs to 101 North, and then follow the "From the North" directions.



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The highlights of the day, of course, were the parade laps around the track during the lunch break. We had nearly 45 MGs with almost 80 drivers and passengers. Despite being led by a pace car and limited in speed, everyone had a grand time on the track.



Photo by Sam Gearhart

Later in the day, after having spent part of the afternoon watching races, we presented our pace car driver Bill Angeloni, in car number 56 (a 1955 MG TF), with the MGOC's Vintage Racer Award. After noting that we did not know when he last won an award, Bill replied with a big smile, "It's been a long time."



Photo courtesy of Sam Gearhart

With the day of racing nearly over and the coffee pots and gear all packed up and loaded, we all left satisfied with a fun day of MG racing, meeting new people, and playing out our own fantasies of being a race driver for a brief moment.

## MG West Coast Reunion

By Sam Gearhart

A great many of our members, along with other local MG owners, attended the CSRG and MG Vintage Racers Focus Event at Infineon Speedway in Sonoma County on April 2. The day started with a chill and cloud cover, with a slight chance of showers. However, by noon the sun was shining brightly and it was a great day at the track.



Photo by Ken Gittings

We hosted a hospitality tent – actually Infineon gave us a garage bay – where we served coffee, tea, donuts, and pastries. Our rented 100-cup electric coffee pot was rather temperamental, but most everyone good naturedly accepted the delay (some suggested it must be a “Lucas” coffee pot). We met and chatted with MG racers and owners from across the country and around the Bay Area – they were all grateful and happy that we were there.



Photo by Ken Gittings

## MG Fall Festival

September 29 to October 2

### The Sheraton Sonoma – Petaluma

The Fall Festival will include road tours, winery visits, dinner at the historic and rustic Union Hotel in Occidental, a car show, and an awards banquet at the Sheraton. In addition, the Fall Festival coincides with the Classic Sport Racing Group's Annual Charity Challenge at Infineon Raceway. Along with watching some great racing, attendees will have the opportunity to drive their MGs on the Sears Point track during the lunch hour. More details to come. Save the date.

## MGOC Contest Continues

Our contest to find the best, most amazing, most stupendous new content for *The Octagon* continues. That's right, our open call to all members for submissions is ongoing. You could win a \$25 gift card to the store of your choice for your MG story, event report, photo, drawing, or whatever else you can dream up. Please send your submissions to [mgowners@gmail.com](mailto:mgowners@gmail.com).

## On the Road Again

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[www.ontheroadagainclassics.com](http://www.ontheroadagainclassics.com)



# The MG Owners Club

presents

## MGs by the Bay

Sunday, May 15, 2011

### 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 opens at 8 am.

**In 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!

**Awards:** Judging is by popular vote, with awards 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.

**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, 2011 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](http://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 your car: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

MG model: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Body style: ☐ Coupe ☐ Roadster

☐ Saloon ☐ Race car

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Car color: \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirt size: ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL



The MG Owners Club presents the 18th Annual

## MGs BY THE BAY

Sunday, May 15, 2011 • The Danville Livery

MGs owned by Sam Gearhart

MGA owned by Andy Preston

TD owned by George Steneberg

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**Pre-registration has been extended until May 8.**