



THE OCTAGON

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



Happy Times at the Awards Banquet

Photos: Samantha Lee



March 2017

About *The Octagon* and the MG Owners Club

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

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CLUB ADVISOR PROGRAM

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

MGB 1962-74: Position Open!

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

MGB V8 Conversion: **Tony Bates**, 408-666-6174,

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COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

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

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

MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO *THE OCTAGON*

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

RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR THE MGOC

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

MGOCSE.ORG

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

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Be there or be square!



St. Paddy's Day Tour

Friday March 17, 2017



The MGOC & SSTS welcome you to join us

This is a Rain or Shine tour so if raining drive a car with wipers.

Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 **Green is the color of the day.**

Organizers: Andy and Marla Preston 707 795 3480

Meeting Place: Bagel Street Café, 208 Northgate One, San Rafael

Time: Meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 departure

Tour: We will be driving to the Farmhouse restaurant in Olema on the Pt. Reyes Seashore for our St. Paddy's day lunch. The tour starts at the Bagel Street Café, in San Rafael so it's an easy meeting point from all over the Bay Area.

We will head out along Lucas Valley Road, past Sky Walker Ranch and through the small hamlet of Nicasio. Our first stop will be at the Marin Cheese Factory where we will take a short break and enjoy coffee, snacks and of course sample some wonderful cheeses.

We will leave the Cheese Factory, heading Northwest through Chilen Valley, which one of the most scenic areas of West Marin especially at this time of year. We will join Hwy1 at Tomales and then follow the Tomales Bay shoreline through Marshall and Point Reyes Station to Olema for lunch. We will have a private dining room and open menu.

Lunch should be around 1:00 pm. Please bring cash.

Please RSVP: to Andy or Marla Preston at 707 795 3480 or marlapreston@hotmail.com by March 14th so we can confirm lunch reservations.

We look forward to seeing you.



Olema Farmhouse



From the Editor...

Doing the newsletter keeps me aware of the cycle of the MG club year. Spring is coming and events are picking up. I feel we've had a real 'winter' this year. It has certainly been a rainy season with little sunshine. I missed my 'woolies' this year. I got rid of most of those when I moved back from Illinois.

Have you gotten any work done to your MG? I have gotten little done so far. It is tough to get out to the garage when it is cold and wet. And this landslide season has been consumed with getting back and forth to work. I often do more car work in the spring. My allergies are bad then so garage work is a good option. I did quite a lot on the TD and the new MGA last year, getting the former ready to sell and the latter ready for use. This year I hope to get some work done on the 1935 MG PA.

We are testing a new format for The Octagon this month. Since we only mail 60 copies now, we do not need to try to keep the weight below one ounce. We can mail 6 sheets of paper for one

ounce so we use the half-size format of 24 half-sheets. We can still fold and mail the new layout, and pay for extra sheets and an extra ounce of postage as required. I am not happy with this first effort but can develop it over time.

The larger format gives more space and allows us to print standard full-sheet size fliers from other sources, such as the GOF West provides. It also saves the use of reading glasses. I suspect I will always try to squeeze things down and fit more on a page. It was how I was raised!

Do let us know what you think. Thanks,
Dan

MG

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

SHOCK ABSORBERS:

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

BRAKES: sleeved and rebuilt

MGB, Midget caliper.....	\$85.00
MGA, MGC caliper.....	\$155.00
MGA, Midget twin master 1956-67.....	\$225.00
MGB, Midget master 1968-80.....	\$125.00-145.00
MGB brake booster servo.....	\$175.00
MGC booster servo.....	\$445.00
Cylinders sleeved only, brass or SS.....	\$50-\$95
Kingpin swivel axle rebushed.....	\$60-\$90
Front end A-arm (Midget).....	\$95.00

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OCT09



From the magazine of the MG Owners Club in the UK -
Worth subscribing for the cartoons!



President's Ponderings...



Well it's nice to see the sun again after almost one month of rain which has given me a chance to get the GT back on the road and see if I fixed anything, but more about that later on.

The website for GT-42 went live in January and we have already had over 45 registrations for the event that we are co-hosting with the Paradise car club from June 19-23 in Solvang. If you're thinking about attending I urge you to sign up now because the hotel rooms are selling out fast. Our host hotel is the Hotel Corque in the middle of Solvang. We've had sign ups from all over the country and there are caravans planned from the East coast along Route 66 and from British Columbia. We even have people flying in from the UK and from the land of OZ, down under.

This is going to be a tremendous affair and if you've never attended a National event before you don't know what you've missed; this is your chance to attend one that's practically on your own doorstep with lots of people you know. There are lots of activities planned and all your favorite vendors will be there. For more info checkout the website at: www.GT42.namgar.com or contact Mike Jacobsen.

As you've probably noticed the format of this news letter is different from previous ones; we're trying a one page format to make it easier to read and publish. We've had many requests to make the font larger so this is our answer. This is on a trial basis and we'll see how you like it. Feedback is always welcome.

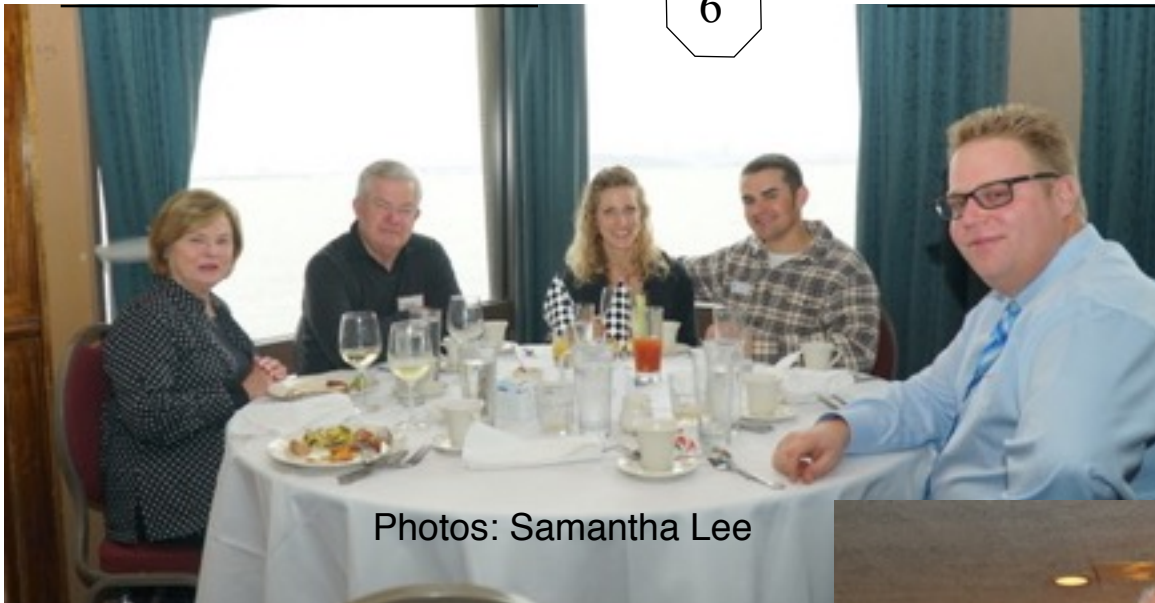
We have 3 events happening in March so let's hope the weather co-operates. We have the club breakfast meeting on the first Saturday of the month at Nations in El Cerrito and remember the person who drives the furthest in an MG gets a free breakfast. On March 11th we have the tech session at Craig Kunzinger's garage on "getting your car ready for the season" and on Friday March 17th, we have the St. Paddy's Day tour, lead by yours truly and Marla. Please remember to RSVP if you're attending.

Back into my garage and the stumbling problem I have with the GT. I've swapped out everything on the ignition side and finally thought I'd found the problem when I replaced the "red rotor" with an old fashioned brown Bakelite one. My elation was short lived when after 9 miles the engine coughed and stumbled and I struggled home. The problem now seems to be more stumbling as opposed to cutting out.

My focus has now changed to the fuel side. I removed the carbs and stripped them down and they were spotless, but I reset the floats, synchronized them and fine tuned the mixture. I reset the timing to 34° BTDC at 3500 rpm. The car starts easily, idles nicely but still stumbles when warm and it seems like fuel starvation. I drained the fuel tank but the fuel was clear and no signs of water but I put fresh fuel in the tank. I replaced the fuel pump but the new one was faulty and didn't pump fuel so I re-installed my old pump which works but the engine still stumbles. I'm now waiting for my replacement pump to arrive to see if that is the problem. I've just had another thought could it be a faulty gulp valve? We'll see.

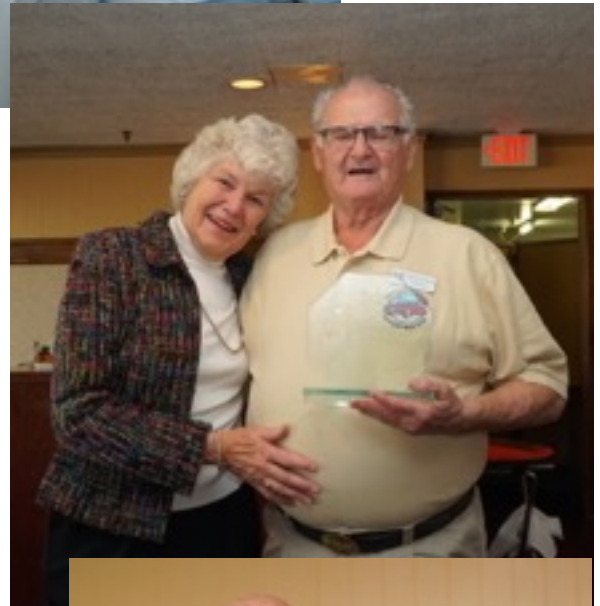
Take care and drive safely,
Andy Preston





Photos: Samantha Lee

At right: Marsha & George - Craig & Kim
Dave Marsh with Marla Preston



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More Awards Banquet Pictures

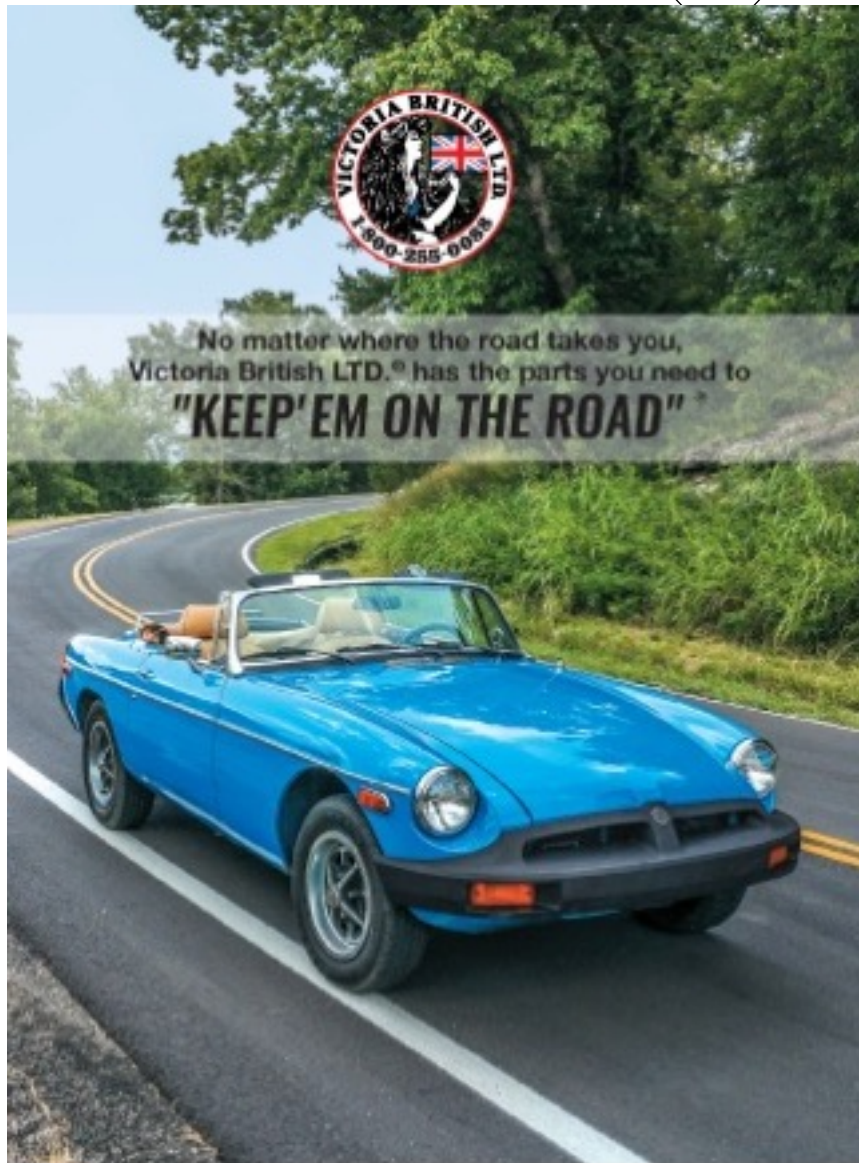


From Left & Top:
David Wright
Samantha & Felix
Vicky & Steve
Mike J.
Pres Andy



Photos: Samantha Lee





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Deep-Reach Sealed Radiator Cap at NAPA

by Dan Shockey

I added a coolant recovery system to my MGA using a cap available locally at NAPA. They had to order it for me. It should fit all MGAs, TFs and early MGBs.

I am surprised when I can still buy parts locally for my 60 year old MG. Inexpensive, too.

Radiator Cap: Balkamp
 BK7031411



A locking trunk can also be sourced locally for your MG.



Photo: Samantha Lee

Tech Session

Kuenzinger Garage

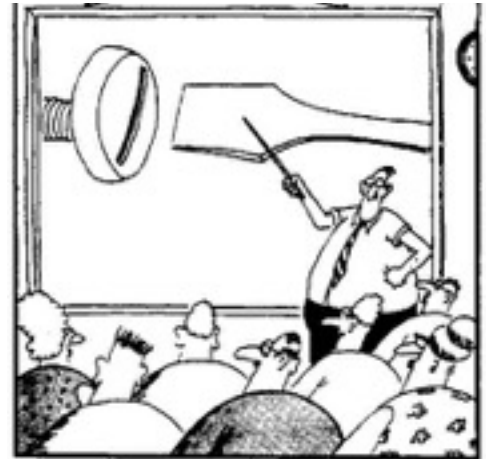
Getting your LBC ready for the driving season

Member Craig Kuenzinger invites you to a tech session on preparing your car for the upcoming year. Craig is an ASE Master Technician in electrical (as well as other areas of automotive repair) and has been a technical instructor since 1974. He will discuss and demonstrate how to perform the necessary maintenance and services items required get your car on the road. This will be a “hands on” learning experience and will be geared to the level and interest of participants.

Date: Saturday, March 11, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: **1751 Lilac Drive, Walnut Creek, CA**

Please RSVP to: Craig Kuenzinger at mrccraigk@aol.com or call him at (925) 234-3313



**Instructor Craig K. at a previous Tech Session.
Don't miss the next one, Saturday, March 11.**



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MGA Estate Coupe

Spotted at an event in Abingdon. Believed to be intended for use as a limo and a hearse in the RHD 1600 model range, only one is known to exist -



- in the imagination of a club member now barred from access to Photoshop.

‘Burnt Spark Plug’ Award Presentation

A highlight of the Club Meeting in February was the delayed presentation of the coveted Burnt Spark Plug award to Kirk Prentiss. He and Amy join a distinctive group of those who have merited this honor. Ken Gittings created this award many decades ago and - as Amy points out - he appears to be almost smiling in these photos. (Yes, it may just be “gas.”)

Congratulations to Amy and Kirk! Thanks to Ken!



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GOF West Update

You may have seen this car at the Fall Classic in Morgan Hill. Learn more about it at GOF West in Santa Maria, July 10-14, 2017.



One of
several tech
sessions

Want a K3 as Your Every Day Driver?

Experience the enjoyment of a preselector gearbox, crank-driven supercharger power, and the feel of a pre-war race car. I think most MG faithful would jump at the chance. But there are some real challenges.

Firstly, you'd have to find an owner willing to part with one and then, come up with \$600 to \$750k to pay for it. Even then, running around town, Safeway & Starbucks etc, in a car at that price is not for the feint of heart.

An alternative? Build a period-appropriate T-based Special along the lines of a Le Man's winning, 1934 boat-tailed K3. Yes, it's not a true K3, but the feel is simply amazing and the car is an absolute joy to drive

No, it's really not that difficult. There are some easy ways to get the job done, and avoid some costly mistakes.. Join me at the Tech Session, and I'll share my own experience breathing life back into BNR 547.

Robert Ford - I've been an avid MG fan since my late teens, when I bought my first MG. A 1957 ZB Magnette. That was followed by several MGA's, which I raced, rallied, restored etc. Currently own TC9851/EXU (which I rebuilt around five years ago, and which has won best in class awards at GOF) and my TA-based special BNR 547. I've begun work on my next project which I hope to have completed by this GOF West.

Pub Night!

March 17

April 21

On The Road

Again

Morgan Hill

16840 Joleen Way, Unit G4

We want to thank each and every one of you for being a friend to us and especially those of you who have trusted us to work on your car(s). We appreciate your friendship and your business! Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship! Please bring some wine or beer to share and we will provide snacks.

Where: On the Road Again Classics shop, 16840 Joleen Way, Unit G4, Morgan Hill



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Schedule of Events 2017

All events and dates are subject to change. MGOC events in **Bold**

Sat Mar 4: Natter, Nation's Giant Hamburgers, El Cerrito, breakfast 9am, meeting 10am

Sat Mar 11: Tech Session, Walnut Creek "Getting your LBC ready for the driving season." Craig Kuenzinger's garage, see flyer page 9

Fri Mar 17 St. Paddy's Day Tour, Marin, Andy & Marla Preston, see flyer page 3

Fri Mar 17: Pub Night*, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill Hiland

Sat Mar 25: MGOC/SSTS 'A Trip Through the Past' Tour, Pam & Keith Shukait, See flyer page 21.

Sat Apr 1: Nosh & Natter, 1400 Grill, Alameda, 9am / 10am

Sat Apr 8: Cars & Coffee, Canepa, Scotts Valley, Arrive by 7am (2nd Saturday each month, Apr to Oct))

Sun Apr 9: Ruth Bancroft Gardens Tour, Walnut Creek, SSTS, MGOC invited. See page 20.

Fri Apr 21: Pub Night*, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill Hiland

Sat Apr 22: San Juan Batista 3 club tour, MGOC, SSTS, Cypress CC, Dave Marsh

Sun Apr 30, Pacific Coast Dream Machines, Half Moon Bay, www.miramarevents/dreammachines

Sat May 6: Natter, Nation's Giant Hamburgers, El Cerrito, 9am /10am

Sat May 20: Windy Roads Tour, Don Cowgill, SSTS

Sun May 21: Dixon Brit Meet & Swap* by UBSCC. **Caravan from North Bay & South Bay**

Sat Jun 3: Natter, El Cerrito at George's Pub, envelope stuffing for MGsBTB

Sun Jun 4: MGs by the Bay, Danville Livery, Danville, MGOC host

Sat Jun 10: Half Moon Bay Tour, Dave Marsh

M-F Jun 19-23: NAMGAR GT42 Solvang, co-hosted by MGOC, Mike Jacobsen

Su-W Jun 25-28: NAMGBR 2017*, San Diego

M-F July 10-14: GOF West*, Santa Maria

Sun July 16: Hillsborough Concours d'Elegance, Crystal Springs Golf Course

Sat Jul 22: Aptos St. BBQ Tour, Santa Cruz. Meet in Sunnyvale. Dave Marsh

Th-Su Aug 10-13: Club T MG Rendezvous, Otter Rock, OR (SSTS caravan)

Wed Aug 16: Little Car Show, Pacific Grove (SSTS participating)

Sat Aug 19: MGOC Annual Picnic at Tilden Park, Marcia Crawford & George Steneberg

Sa-Su Sep 2-3: Scottish Games, Pleasanton, Kirk and Amy Prentiss, SSTS

Sat Sept 16: Dian's Tour, Carl & Dian Brown, SSTS

Sat Sept 30: Pebble Beach Tour, Steve Kellogg

Sa-Mo Oct 6-8: Sierra Tour*, Kirk and Amy Prentiss, SSTS

Sa-Su Oct 14-15: British Fall Classic*, Morgan Hill, Mary & Bill Hiland

Sat Oct 21: Windmill Tour, Livermore, Dave Marsh

Sun, Oct. 22: All British Motor Show*, Mini Owners of America, Blackhawk Museum

Sat Nov 4: Sonoma Tour, Andy and Marla Preston

Sat Dec 9: Holiday Tea and Toy Drive, San Francisco, Elaine Chan's home

Sat Jan 6 2018: Planning Meeting, Kensington, Marcia Crawford

The Flat Cap



By Dan Shockey

With the longer and more intense winter we have had this year, I have worn a cap nearly every day. Due to my waving hair (waved “goodbye”), a cold head makes my nose run. I am like my father in that. But he claims he is just backwards, “My nose runs and my feet smell.”

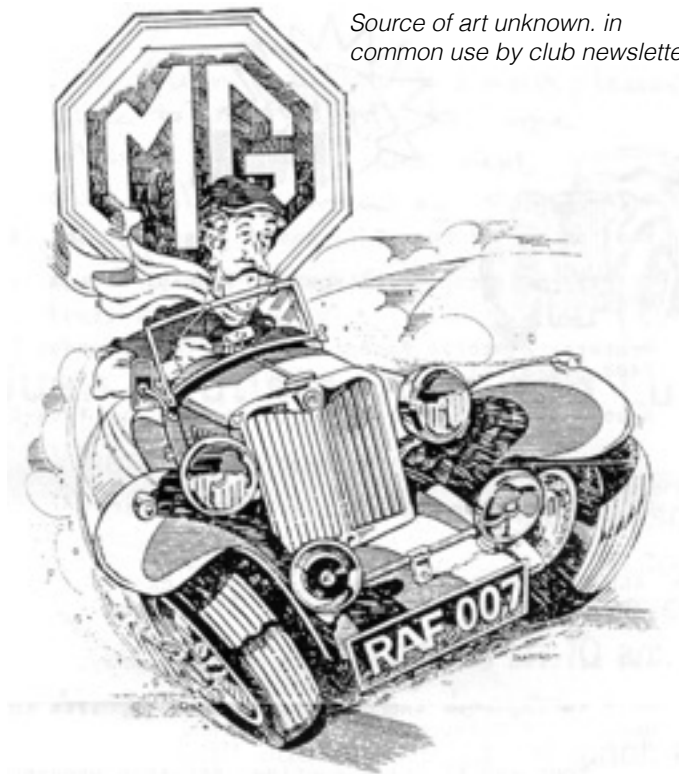
When folks at work teased me about wearing these caps, I became curious about the origin and history of this type headgear. They are popular for use in open sports cars, of course. The flat cap is a simple joining of cloth with short sides and a short stiff brim in front. They are made of wool, tweed, cotton and even leather, and are usually lined for comfort.

Wikipedia claims the style dates to the 14th century in England and Italy. In 1571, an Act of Parliament required that males over 6 years of age must wear wool head cover on Sundays and holidays. This was intended to stimulate wool consumption and trade. Nobility and “persons of degree” were exempted. The act was enforced with a fine of 3 farthings. The bill was repealed in 1597 but by then the practice was firmly established.

The caps were and are called by many names, golf caps, driving caps, cab driver or cabbie hats, newsboy or newsie caps, cheese-cutters (New Zealand), dunchers (Ireland) or ‘bunnets’ (Scotland) derived from its original name of bonnet in England. The tudor bonnet used in academic dress came from this cap. Greek fisherman’s caps are rather similar but with a high front and the style varies a bit. My sister got me one recently from Christys London, completely hand made in Italy.

Flat caps were commonly worn throughout Britain and Ireland in the 19th and 20th centuries. Immigrants brought them to the United States where they became common by 1890 and remained standard wear for boys until the 1930s, usually with knickers. Finer cloth versions were accepted for casual use by the upper crust, thus the name of “golf cap.” They are still worn by some popular musicians and other celebrities.

Source of art unknown. in common use by club newsletters



Flat caps have a strong identification with certain classes and occupations in the UK and in the US. Taxicab and bus drivers, Andy Capp, East End dockworkers, and city newsboys, especially in the States, often are portrayed wearing the “cabby hat.” When I was a lad, my father’s brother had a second job in downtown Chicago, and was occasionally accompanied by me. He got up at 2am to supervise the young newsboys who rolled their papers and filled their pushcarts – usually wearing these caps.

I like that they crumble and store easily and stay on the head well in a strong breeze and when working in the shop. These caps are usually inexpensive and last well. I have picked them up at thrift shops. Be stylish. Try one!

Peninsula All-British Meet?

By Dan Shockey

I greatly miss the all-British meet in Palo Alto. It was convenient for a lot of people and seemed very popular. The location was a big part of that, I think, right across from the Stanford Shopping Center. I saw folks and cars there that I never saw elsewhere.

As a comparison, an All-Brit event at Portland Intl Raceway in Oregon on Labor Day weekend is jointly organized by 6 clubs who divvy up the chores. They make a good income (\$1500 per club) from the event, which covers three days and includes a big swap meet and vintage races (separately organized).

Is there need or interest in a replacement for the Palo Alto event? These are the regular Bay Area large show events especially for British cars:

- Dixon British Show & Swap Meet: Dixon, May 21
- Sonoma Histories Festival: Sears Point, June 2-4*
- MGs by the Bay, Danville, Jun 4
- British Fall Classic: Morgan Hill, Oct. 14-15
- All British Motor Show: Blackhawk Museum, Danville, Oct. 21 (Formerly at Hayward)

This slate seems to cover the South Bay and particularly the East Bay well. We could organize a multiple clubs show at a community college (or other large parking area) on the Peninsula in the summer when the Peninsula is cooler than other areas. Late July or early August? Thoughts?

When we did **MGs by the Bay** at the Marina south of the Oakland Airport, there was a large group of young enthusiasts with 'hot hatch' cars who just showed up there early on one given Saturday in early May and parked in the extensive parking lots. That early in the season, demand was very low for family and group picnics. Social media triumphs over old-fashioned organization! No costs, no registration, no packets, no workers, no cardboard, no parking plans...

** I don't know the participation of British car clubs at this event. It could be expanded, I suspect. Are there other North Bay Brit car shows?*



From the MGOC photo album

Wolf Hallist Ellen Ellen, Ed.

apr 76

T. Russo

Keep Planning for 2017 ...



SPRING

Tech Session, MGOC, Walnut Creek, 3/11
 St. Pat Tour, MGOC, Marin Co., 3/17
 Through the Past Tour, MGOC/SSTS, 3/25
 Ruth Bancroft Gardens Tour, SSTS, 4/9
 San Juan Bautista Tour, MGOC, 4/22
 Windy Roads Tour, SSTS, 5/20
 Dixon British Show & Swap Meet, MGOC caravan, 5/21



SUMMER

MGs by the Bay, Danville Livery, 6/4
 Half Moon Bay Run, MGOC, 6/10
 NAMGAR GT-42, Solvang, 6/19 - 6/23
 NAMGBR MG2017, San Diego, 6/25 - 6/28
 GOF West, Santa Maria, 7/10 - 7/14
 Aptos BBQ Run, from Sunnyvale, MGOC, 7/22
 Rendezvous, Otter Rock, OR, 8/10-13
 Annual Picnic, MGOC, Tilden Park, 8/19



Suitably decorated cakes from the February Natter to honor Kirk's birthday and celebrate our new Burnt Spark Award King & Queen, Kirk and Amy Prentiss.

Request Electronic Delivery of *The Octagon*

Get *The Octagon* faster and in color, while saving trees and club funds.

Email Mike Jacobsen at

MikesMuseum@yahoo.com to switch.

What's Wrong with our Spark Plugs?

Mike O'Connor reported in a past article that fouled spark plugs are often the cause of poor running in MGs. In his shop, he often 'saved' MG engines that could barely run by simply replacing the plugs. This often happened after the car overheated, flooded or had a rich running condition.

Get the Right Plug

Letters, *Gas Engine Magazine*, March/April 2002

I find there needs to be a lot of enlightenment about spark plugs. I have been supplying spark plugs to restorers and collectors in all phases of the hobby for 20 years and have an extensive library and computer files dedicated to this purpose.

I am also the reference for Champion Spark Plug Co., Autolite and AC Flint customer service referrals for obsolete spark plugs, and I talk to their service personnel on a regular basis.

First, let's define the problem with the new spark plugs. When automobiles became computer controlled, the spark plug did not have to have the bottom of the insulator glazed. New cars have fuel injection, and the computer will not put enough gasoline into the cylinder to flood it. If something happens to this computer control and too much fuel is injected into the cylinder, and the engine floods, this vehicle will not run right until you have replaced the old plugs. What has happened is the gasoline contaminates the spark plugs because they are not glazed on the bottom.

Now, these old engines do not have a computer control, and if your carburetor is running rich or you flood the engine, the same thing happens. The bottom of the insulator where it fires the engine becomes contaminated and becomes junk.

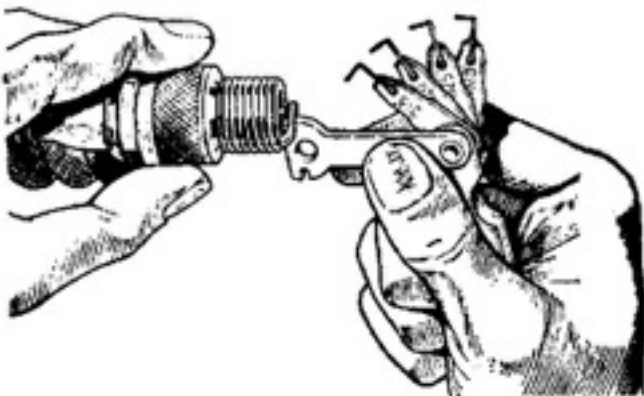
(This is similar to why ceramic mugs must be glazed to hold your coffee. – Ed.)

The solution to this problem is to find spark plugs that were manufactured prior to the time that they quit glazing the bottom of the insulator. *(Prior to 1980.)* In any case, do not sandblast or glass bead them. This removes the glaze and you have a short plug life just as though you had purchased one of the newly manufactured spark plugs.

To get any length of spark plug life in the old engines they must have an insulator that was glazed on the bottom.

Donald McKinsey, Wilkinson, IN

Finding new old stock spark plugs to fit our engines may be a problem, of course. In the old days (1930s), English motorists always carried a spare set of plugs because of fouling due to the very poor fuel available. Thus you can readily buy a special bakelite holder with the "MG" logo. I think we have returned to needing to carry a fresh spare set of plugs. They are inexpensive. – Ed.



Art from an MG shop manual

Wanted

**Submissions of articles / photos /
anecdotes / repairs**

are always welcome

**Please make submissions by the 15th of the
month preceding the issue in which you would
like it to appear**

**Email Dan Shockey at
magnut_dan@hotmail.com**

MGOC Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2017

Nation's Hamburgers – El Cerrito, CA

Call to Order: By Andy Preston at 10:02

Attending: Tom Doyle, Ken Gittings, Mike Jacobsen, Kirk & Amy Prentiss, Andy & Marla Preston, and George Steneberg. During introductions everyone was asked how old they were when they got their first MG. Marla Preston was the winner for receiving an MG Midget on her 16th birthday.

Mileage Winner (and recipient of a free breakfast): Ken Gittings

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: December 10, 2016: *Motion:* Tom Doyle, *Second:* Marla Preston. Approved

REPORTS

President's Report: Andy Preston: Welcome to the new board for 2017. Looking forward to an active year with lots of events. There are no MGOC events scheduled for February so any impromptu events welcome. Any ideas on an alternate venue welcome. An Ad hoc committee to review by-laws is Andy Preston, Dan Shockey, and Mike Jacobsen.

Vice President's Report: Keith Shukait: Absent

Treasurer's Report: Marla Preston:

Account	February 2017	December 2016
Checking	\$11,623.39	\$11,522.79
Savings	\$3,464.43	\$3,464.34
Total	\$15,087.82	\$14,987.13

Since the last Treasurer's Report we have had *Octagon* expenses, payment for the club's portion of the annual brunch and income from advertisers for commercial ads in the *Octagon*.

Secretary's Report: Pam Shukait: Absent

Registrar's Report: Steve Kellogg; report presented by email.

169	Number of Regular Members
55	Number of Regular Family Members
224	Total Regular and Family Members
13	Number of Corresponding Members
3	Number of Corresponding Family Members
16	Total Corresponding and Family Members
240	Total members

Three Regular members added since 12/1/16; Julian De La Cerda, Richard Rocco, and Lawrence Hutchings, plus a late renewal by Allen Saltzman.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: George Steneberg: The current issue of the NEMGTR magazine *Sacred Octagon* has a short article about the MGOC.

Regalia Report: Andy Preston: Purchased 10 large mugs with 60th Anniversary logo design for sale at \$10 ea. One was sold at the meeting.

The Octagon Report: Dan Shockey: Report presented by email. "I thank everyone for their patience as I get up to speed. I'd like to broach the idea of a different format for the *Octagon* similar to the SSTS one-page layout and welcome comments and feedback. I encourage everyone to send stories and pictures, of course."

Trying a one page layout was approved after a short discussion. The new layout would use 8 ½ by 11 inch pages, instead of the current 5½ by 8½ layout.

Website Report: Steve Kellogg: Absent.

NAMGAR GT-42: Mike Jacobsen: We have 37 registrations so far, including people from Canada, England, and Australia. We've had to change regalia vendors, but the new vendor can supply essentially the same goods as the first vendor, so that should work out OK. NAMGAR's VP resigned last month and a new VP was selected by their Board. The VP is the person in NAMGAR that the GT works with most closely, and the new VP was chairman of GT-40, so he's familiar with the work required.

PAST EVENTS

- **Annual Brunch:** Very well attended by 51 members and it was very successful, again thanks to Marcia and Marla.

UPCOMING EVENTS (MGOC sponsored events are in bold text)

Sat Feb 11	Valentines Day Tour, North Bay British CC, Dawson Church, see website for flyer.
Sat Mar 4	Club meeting Nation's Burgers El Cerrito, breakfast 9:00 meeting 10:00.
Sat Mar 11	Tech Session Walnut Creek "Getting your LBC ready for the driving season". Craig Kuenzinger's garage, see flyer for more info.
Fri Mar 17	St. Paddy's Day tour, Marin. Andy & Marla Preston, see flyer for more info.
Sat Apr 1	Club meeting Nation's Burgers El Cerrito, breakfast 9:00, meeting 10:00.
Sat Apr 22	San Juan Bautista three-club tour, MGOC, SSTS, Cypress CC, led by Dave Marsh.

OLD BUSINESS

BSPA: Presentation of BSPA to Kirk Prentiss by Ken Gittings.

NEW BUSINESS

MGs by the Bay: Will be at Danville Livery on Sunday June 4. We need members to help organize the event.

- Contact for Danville livery: Craig Kuenzinger
- Registration & Announcements to magazines and other clubs: Mike Jacobsen
- Awards; design: Marla Preston
- Treasurer: Marla Preston
- Flyer: Kirk Prentiss
- Site Layout: Craig Kuenzinger
- Tent and P.A. system: George Steneberg

- Tent and P.A. system: George Steneberg
- Tee shirts: Ken Gittings
- Clean up: All

BUSINESS RESOLVED ONLINE SINCE LAST MEETING

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom Doyle is Co-Chair for the 2018 GOF West. GOF West will be in September 2018, and the host hotel is the Hard Rock Hotel on the south shore of Lake Tahoe.

Since it was almost Kirk Prentiss's birthday, the Prestons brought cupcakes for him. We lit a candle in one cupcake and sang *Happy Birthday*.

NEXT MEETING

Saturday March 4th at Nation's Giant Hamburgers, El Cerrito, unless an alternate venue is found. Breakfast 9:00, meeting 10:00.

Meeting adjourned at: 11:06

Submitted by: Mike Jacobsen

Classified Ads

Ads are free to MGOC members and \$6.00 per month for non-members.

1972 MGB. Very nice anywhere. Overdrive, engine overhauled 5 clutch 3 years ago. exhaust, starter, top, offer. Contact 510-912-4239 or



r.luebbert@sbcglobal.net (Posted 2/17)



MGB you can drive roll bar. new tires; years ago; replaced Recent: alternator, Pertronix. \$15,000 or Bob Luebbert at

1967 MGB. Red (at left) . Completely gone through – new wheels, exhaust system, improved front brakes, new battery, new Weber carburetor (old SU carbs come with it too) and many more new parts. \$14,000. Contact Bruce, 707-762-4107. [Posted 12/16]



1977 MGB. I've put tons of miles on it. It's clean. Will pass smog easily after all the work I put into last year. Paper work from the day I bought it. Call me at Laura Ortiz, anytime 831-809-1777. [Posted 11/16]



Enclosed Trailer for Rent: Enclosed car trailer for rent (16' x 8'). Trailer has integrated braking system and lights, 12 volt Electric Winch. Reasonable rates. Randy Grossman (415-518-5210) or Eric Baker (510-517-2165)

For additional ads, see prior issues of The Octagon. Prior issues of The Octagon and other classified ads may be found on our web site, mgocsf.org



The Ruth Bancroft Garden Tour

Sunday, April 9

The Safarians invite you on a tour through the hinterlands of Alameda and Contra Costa counties and a visit to The Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek.

Date: Sunday, April 9th, 2017. Tour leaders: Susan & Bob Engelhart

Time: Meet at Jack in the Box on Industrial Ave in Livermore at 9:00 am for a 9:30 departure.

We'll take a backroads tour to Walnut Creek where we will tour the beautiful succulent garden created by Ruth Bancroft back in 1972. The garden is located at 1552 Bancroft Road in Walnut Creek.

Admission fee for the garden tour is \$8.00 per person for seniors and \$10.00 for non-seniors.

The tour will be followed by a drive to our yet to be determined lunch spot.

If planning to attend, please RSVP to Susan at sme1950@aol.com, or call at 510-895-8926 by April 3rd.

SALUTE TO To **Pre-War Motorcycles**

At the Santa Clara Co. Fairgrounds



Win a 1970 Triumph TR6 Tickets \$1

30TH ANNUAL CLUBMAN'S ALL-BRITISH MOTORCYCLE

March 25-26, 2017

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25
SHOW & SWAP MEET
STILL ONLY \$5 ADMISSION**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 26
"MORNING AFTER" RIDE**

Info & entries available at

www.bsaocnc.org



A Trip Through the Past



SSTS & MGOC welcomes you to join us for a trip through the past

Date: Saturday, March 25, 2017
Organizers: Keith and Pam Shukait 408-425-3657
Meeting Place: Starbucks, Alameda South Shore Center, 2210-J South Shore Dr., Alameda
Time: Meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 departure



Tour: Saddle up and turn your radios to Ch. 5 as we take a one hour drive to **The Pulgas Water Temple** in Redwood City. San Francisco built this as a monument to the engineering marvel that brought Hetch Hetchy water more than 160 miles across California from the Sierra Nevada Mtns to the Bay Area. We will picnic in the grass so bring everything you'll need for lunch (there are no stores in the area). Remember to bring a blanket to sit on as there are no picnic tables.

After lunch, we will head a short distance down the road to the **Filoli Historic Estate and Gardens**. Filoli is one of the finest remaining country estates of the early 20th century. The 654-acre estate is a California State Historic Landmark and listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. We will take a private, docent lead tour of the house and then you may roam the beautiful gardens. Our tour is limited to the first 16 people who sign up so please RSVP as soon as possible so you don't miss out! Other tour options are available if we exceed 16 people. Admission is \$15.



After the Filoli House, we will be heading out to the last stop of the tour- **The Treasure Island Museum** to see the Pan Am Terminal and Clipper Cove where the big Boeing 314 Flying Boats departed for Hawaii, Midway, Wake, Guam and Hong Kong! The museum was founded in 1975 to tell the island's story as the site of a world's fair, a historic aviation site, and a hub for American military activity in the Pacific. An \$8 donation is suggested.



Please **RSVP by March 14th** to Keith or Pam Shukait at 408-425-3657 or shukait@me.com

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



The Croll's building at the corner of Webster and Central was built in 1879. It was known as the Britt Hotel until businessman J.G. Croll bought the struggling business in 1883.

The Croll family turned Croll's into a famous watering hole where politicians, writers, celebrities, and world-class boxers gathered. Croll's was at the entrance to Neptune Beach, "The Coney Island of the West" and the west end of Alameda became a world-class destination. Croll's outlasted Neptune Beach and became the go-to spot for generations of locals and sailors stationed at the Alameda Naval Air Station. For over 100 years, the Croll Family anchored the corner of Webster and Central.

We created 1400 Bar and Grill...And Pizza to continue in that tradition. Since we opened in 2011 we have become the West End gathering place and the cornerstone of the Webster Street revitalization. With a mission to "Wake up Webster Street," we believe we have the recipe to make 1400 the Crown Jewel of Alameda once again.

Club Meeting 'Nosh & Natter'

Date: Saturday, April 1, 2017

9 a.m.: Breakfast

10 a.m.: MGOC Club Meeting

1400 Bar, Grill and Pizza

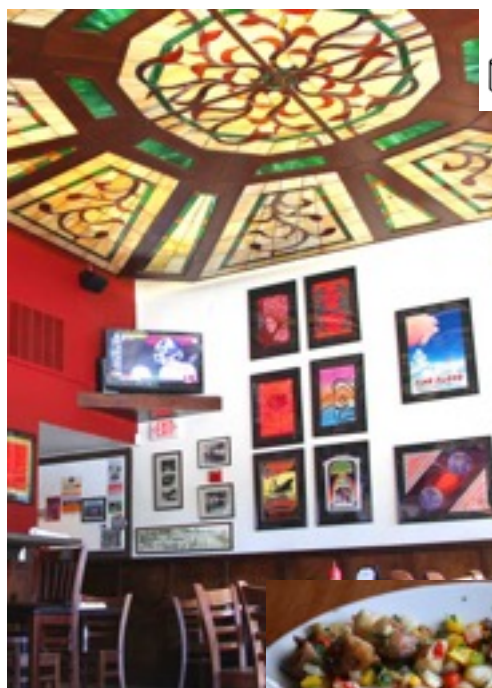
**1400 Webster Street
Alameda, CA. 94501**

1(510) 263- 9651

<http://1400barandgrill.com/>

**More Info: Andy Preston
andypreston@att.net**

We look forward to seeing you!



In the 1879 Croll's Bldg, at Neptune Beach, Alameda
Eggs Benedict