

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:
320 B Monterey Blvd.
San Francisco, CA 94131-3141
<http://www.MGOC.org>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Forthcomng Events.....	3
Ken's Column / Web Sites of Interest	4
President's Ponderings	5
From the Editor.....	6
MGOC Holiday Party and Toy Drive.....	7
Annual Dinner	20
MGs in the Movies	11
MGs by the Bay Volunteers Needed	12
Valve Cover Race Rules.....	13
Things to Do – MG 2007.....	14-15
Meeting Minutes.....	16-17
New MGOC Web Site.....	18
MGOC Toy Drive.....	19
Annual Planning Meeting / In Memory of Rolf Osterberg.....	20
Regalia	21
Classifieds.....	22



Photo: Jeremy Palgon

Randy Grossman's MGA Coupe at the Holiday Party

January 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 2006

President: Bob Stine, 650-349-5128, rastine@rcn.com

Vice President: Nina Barton, 510-845-7212, ninaba@mindspring.com

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

Secretary: Dan Shockey, 408-923-3927, MGmogul@earthlink.net

T Register Director: Jim Carlson, 408-257-9976, mgjim@att.net

Activity Director: Dan Shockey, 408-923-3927, MGmogul@earthlink.net

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

Membership Development: Bob Stine, 650-349-5128, RAstine@rcn.com

The Octagon Editor: Bob Trencheny, 925-556-9311 Tbobbx@aol.com

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

MGOC Historian: John Hunt, 925-299-9006, huntsails@worldnet.att.net

MGOC Photographer: Jeremy Palgon, 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

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

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

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

M.G. 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

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

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

PA/PB Midget 1934-36: Eric Baker, 510-531-7032, mgpb36@yahoo.com

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

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or

Annual Planning Meeting

January 11, 2007 (2nd Thurs.), 8 p.m.

The Englander, 101 Parrot Street, San Leandro

(510) 357-3571 <http://www.englishpub.com/>

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

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

MG 2007 Planning Meeting

Saturday, January 13th at 9:30 a.m.

at Sam Gearhart's in Oakland

Address: 3521 Randolph Ave., Oakland, CA 94602 Phone: (510) 813-0373

From North Bay, San Francisco and Highway 80 Corridor:

Take I-80 to I-580 East

Exit at Park Blvd. and turn Left on Park Blvd.

At 2nd Light turn Right on Excelsior (90 degree Right turn)

Follow Excelsior to Randolph (2 blocks past traffic signal at Beaumont)

At Randolph, turn Right.

House on Right just before MacArthur

From San Jose and I-880 Points South:

North on I-880 to 238 Connector to I-580 West

West on 580 to 14th Ave./Park Blvd. Exit

Turn Right onto Beaumont at Traffic Light at bottom of ramp

Go one block to traffic light at Excelsior, turn Right

Go two blocks to Randolph, turn Right.

House on Right just before MacArthur

*Less than 200 Days
until MG 2007 !!!*

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, 601 Greylyn Drive, San Ramon CA, 94583. Members may also email ads to the Editor at Tbobjx@aol.com.

1979 MGB: White w/ tan top. 124K miles. Recently smogged. JVC AM/FM/CD. Ask \$3100 or best offer. F. Granum (408) 262-1115, San Jose.

1974 MGB: Silver with red interior and taupe-colored soft-top, overdrive, cloth seats with headrests, Pioneer tape player. 152K miles with more than \$7K invested in the car over last five years. Member dkamins@sbcglobal.net or (415) 706-5646.

1968 MGB: Pretty British Racing Green with tan soft top. 92K mi. Runs very well. Includes: Sony Stereo, chrome wire wheels and good tires. At 77K mi. (2002) rebuilt master cylinder, new brake lines, new exhaust, new carbs, leaf springs, rebuilt front suspension, replaced rear and new wheel bearings. Rebuilt head. Tonneau cover. Records available. \$10,000. Member Dan Hampshire, Berkeley, (510) 843-5912.

1965 MGB: Recent restoration for autocross, vintage racing, and driving to the beach. New engine, carb, interior, paint, tires, and more. \$6000 or trade for a van or wagon. Non-member Ken, 415-699-3549.

1973 MG Roadster and 1973 MGB/GT: Ran when parked. Both are project cars. Non-member Ken, at (650) 281-4224.

1978 MGB: British Racing Green. Runs well and passed smog (easily) in June. 83K miles. Needs roof and upholstery work. \$2500 (650) 493-0373.

MG Midgets for Restoration: Both are mostly straight and mostly rust free and have wire wheels. 1963 has side curtains and disk brakes, spare 1275 engine and ribcage transmission. Also decent 1969 model. \$500 each. Member Dan Shockey, (408) 923-3927, mgmogul@earthlink.net

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.

MGBGT wire wheels. Set of four. For Sale. Member Ken 510-791-8445

MGBGT 5/8 Dia. Sway Bar. For Sale. Member Ken 510-791-8445

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. 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 20th 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 Tbobjx@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 from Mike Jacobsen upon request.

Forthcoming Events

MGOC in **bold**, SSTS: Sorry Safari Touring Society,
ARR: Abingdon Rough Riders

Jan. 11 – **Annual Planning Meeting**, The Englander, San Leandro

Jan. 20 – **Annual Dinner** at Scott's Seafood, Walnut Creek, see page 9

May 12 – **MGs by the Bay**, San Leandro

June 8-10 – Open Roads 2007. Lake Tahoe www.goldengatehealeys.com

July 16-20 – **MG 2007** in Sonoma Valley, See www.MG2007.org

FREE Parts & Accessories Catalogs

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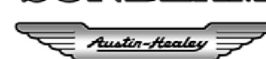
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Ken's Column

This month Ken covered the NAMGBR Annual Meeting Minutes from October for us. Ken was in attendance and just to keep things interesting voted nay on every motion. The minutes are here: http://www.namgbr.org/agm_minutes.htm. Ken also recommends *The Gold Book*, as the oldest authority on classic and collectible car prices. <http://www.manheimgold.com/>

Attention!!

Have your MG painted by a fellow sports car lover with 15 years' experience. High quality rubbed-out polyurethane finish at reasonable cost. I do bodywork, rust repair, and welding. Fast turn-around time. References and examples of my work are available. Call for a free estimate.

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Web Sites of Interest

Experimental and Record Setting MGs

<http://www.mgcars.org.uk/cambs.mgoc/gall-EX.htm>

We are still growing: <http://www.frapp.com/mgocbayarea>

MG Cracker –

<http://www.timesandstar.co.uk/sport/viewarticle.aspx?id=443566>



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❖ MGOC Regalia ❖

Description	Qty	Each	Total
MG Owners Club Regalia			
Club Jacket – Black & tan with embroidered MGOC logo (See note 1 below)		\$60.00	
Pennant – Red “MG Owners Club”, cream canvas, 9½” high by 17” long		\$10.00	
Grille Badge – MGOC logo, 4” high, mounts with one stud through grille		\$35.00	
Grille Badge – SF Peninsula T Register, 4” high, mounts with clip at base		\$35.00	
Patch – 3” diameter, embroidered black MGOC logo on white		\$6.00	
Patch – 6” & 3” diameters, SF Peninsula T Register logo		\$6.00	
Cling – 3” diameters, black MGOC logo on white background		\$2.00	
MG Car Club of England Regalia (Notes 2 & 3)			
MG Car Club Grille Badge – 3” dia., mounts with studs through grille		\$55.00	
Lapel Pin – ¾” by 1” enameled metal MGCC badge		\$6.50	
Outside Window Decal – 5” by 5½” brown & cream MGCC logo		\$1.00	
Inside Window Decal – 2½” by 3” brown & cream logo; reads “Member”		\$1.00	
MGs at Jack London Square Plaques			
Dash Plaque – 2006, black on silver MG ZB Magnette		\$2.00	
Dash Plaque – 2005, blue on silver MGA Coupe		\$2.00	
Dash Plaque – 1995 through 2003		\$2.00	
T-shirts – See note 4 below		\$2.00	
Total Amount Enclosed			

❖ Notes

1. Jackets are specially ordered, though we try to keep a selection of sizes on hand. These are generally delivered at an event or meeting. Please indicate size: Small through double extra large.
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.
4. Leftover T-shirts from our May show are available at this special price at future May shows and at the Palo Alto All-British in September.

❖ “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 jackets and T-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

Annual Planning Meeting

January 11th 2007

The MG Owners Club will hold its annual planning meeting on January 11th at The Englander in San Leandro. This meeting will be in place of the monthly Natter and Noggin. The annual planning meeting is held to agree on the schedule of tours, events, and parties for the club. This year will be unique because the MGOC is hosting MG 2007 in July. This is your opportunity to help plan club events and become an active member. Come out and support your club.

Come join the fun!



By J.R. Boye for the NorCal NAMGAR club's (now part of the MGOC) first newsletter, May, 1978. Thanks, J.R.!

In Memory...

MGOC member Rolf Vilhelm Österberg, a former newspaper and film executive in his native Sweden who authored several books on the search for meaning in the workplace, died at home Friday, Nov. 3. He was 73.

West Marin – Sweden Commute: Mr. Österberg and his wife, Carol Rogers, divided their time between West Marin and Sweden. He spoke five languages and served on the boards of more than 20 Swedish companies.

In 1996 he published a book called *The Search for Meaning in the Workplace*. He recently taught classes for doctoral candidates in theology on the reinvention of work.

President's Ponderings...

MGOC Officers Elected by Acclamation – Since there was no competition for any of the candidates for office this year, a motion was passed to elect the entire slate by acclamation. Thank you for your support and confidence in our current cadre. We will continue to strive to make this the best MG club it can be.

Christmas Tea – I had planned to attend this annual event, but at the last minute a scheduling conflict developed. Friday, December 22, Randy Grossman, John Hunt and other members of the club took the donated toys to a fire station in San Francisco.

Annual Dinner – Hopefully, this issue of *The Octagon* will reach members in time for last minute RSVPs for our annual dinner. It will be held January 20, 2007 at Scott's Restaurant in Walnut Creek. The \$40 price represents a 25% discount from their regular price for our selections. (See the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.) I hope to see you there. Our annual dinners are always enjoyable and usually sell out. An added element to this year's dinner will be photos of our 2006 events. They should provide pleasant memories for those of us who attended and an incentive for other members to attend similar events in the future. If members seem to enjoy this addition, we'll probably make it an annual tradition at the dinner.

MGOC "on the air" – Several members of the club have now purchased two-way radios for use on our drives. I believe we'll find them very useful in keeping the group together and maneuvering through traffic.

Planning Session Planned for January 11, 2007 – We normally don't have our regular meeting in the month of the Annual Dinner. However, this year we decided to schedule it in order to get together and work out a schedule of events for 2007. If you have ideas you'd like to share plan on attending this meeting. We'll be looking for proposals of tech session, drives and venues you'd like to see. We'll bring the results to the annual dinner to share with the members there.

Farewell to 2006 – I trust you all had a happy and safe holiday season. I find it hard to believe another year has slipped away! May 2007 be prosperous, safe and enjoyable for each of you.

Faternally,

Bob Stine
President, MGOC
rastine@rcn.com



From da Ed...

I am happy to report the Club now has an updated Web site on the World Wide Web. In many respects it will feel the same as the old Web site since all of the content is identical and was literally cut and pasted from the old to the new site. However, the look is new and it is up to current Internet standards. (Who knew the Internet had such standards? I didn't but Robbie did!) Anyway, take a look at the new site at www.mgoc.org. And, if you really like the Web site, and have a need for a Web site of your own, contact our web master Robbie Trencheny at robbie.trencheny@gmail.com. (Shameless plug)

Coming up very soon is the Annual Dinner. Last year we had a great turn out and a wonderful evening and this year should be even better. Come out and spend an evening with the club in January. The party is January 20th.

And on old business, thank you to everyone who came to the holiday party and brought something to eat or drink; or both. I know my family had a good time and hope the Club members who were here also enjoyed the party. Your support made it very easy to host the party this year.

It is that time of year when I just look at the car and don't get to drive it much. So instead of going into the garage everyday and looking at the MG, I'm going to Hawaii! See you at the Annual Dinner.

Let's Ride,
Bob



MGOC's Santas Support Toys for Tots Drive

By John Hunt

Although it was a last minute thought and we got off to a late start, MGOC's first Toys for Tots Drive was a fun, exciting, and successful event in many ways.

We requested individuals who would like to participate to drop off unwrapped gifts at our Annual Holiday Tea. The turn-out and participation was great! We collected all types of fun toys such as my personal favorite as a kid, Hot Wheel Car sets, stuffed animals, building block sets, dolls, puzzles, etc. The club donated a total of 18 toys.

On Thursday, December 21st we formed a caravan to deliver the toys to the San Francisco Fire Department's Toy Drive. We meet at Randy Grossman's house in San Leandro on a beautiful clear winter morning. Our fearless leader, Bob Stine, met us there in his red MGB and Santa suit. Randy put his suit on, dropped the top of his red MGA, and I hopped into my green BGT and we headed off for San Francisco. I have to say, half the fun of the day was watching the two Santas in their MGs. People were waving and honking their horns, this tour was spreading good cheer!

After dropping off the toys at the Old Fire Station at Mission Rock and 4th Street, we headed over to the St. Francis Yacht Club over in the Marina district for lunch. The club house is located near Crissy Field. To kick the holiday spirit into high gear we started with a round of Bloody Marys!

By some measures, people might say we had a small donation. On the other hand, I would disagree because thanks to our members, we helped create 18 more smiles on Christmas morning! Perhaps, if there is interest, we could make this an annual event?

This was a group effort, however, there were a few individuals were key players in making this happen. First, recognition goes out to our President Bob Stine whose participation in many ways helped make this a successful event. Next would be Randy Grossman who provided organizational and operational effort. Then, there's Bob Trencheny who hosted the Holiday Tea and also helped promote this event and make it a success. Most importantly, special thanks go out to all the members who donated toys to make this happen!



Santa Bob and Santa Randy pose with Randy's British-made sleigh

Photo: Bob Stine

MG

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

SHOCK ABSORBERS:		Front	Rear
MGT	.....	165.00	165.00
MGT & TF	.....	185.00	80/95
MGA	.....	79.95	59.95
MGB, MGC, Midget	.....	79.95	59.95
HEAVY DUTY UPGRADE	.....	10.00	10.00
SHOCK LINK (New or Rebuilt)	.....	\$call	

BRAKES : sleeved and rebuilt

MGB, Midget caliper	\$75.00
MGA, MGC caliper	\$145.00
MGA, Midget twin master 1956-1967	\$185.00
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MGC booster servo	\$395.00
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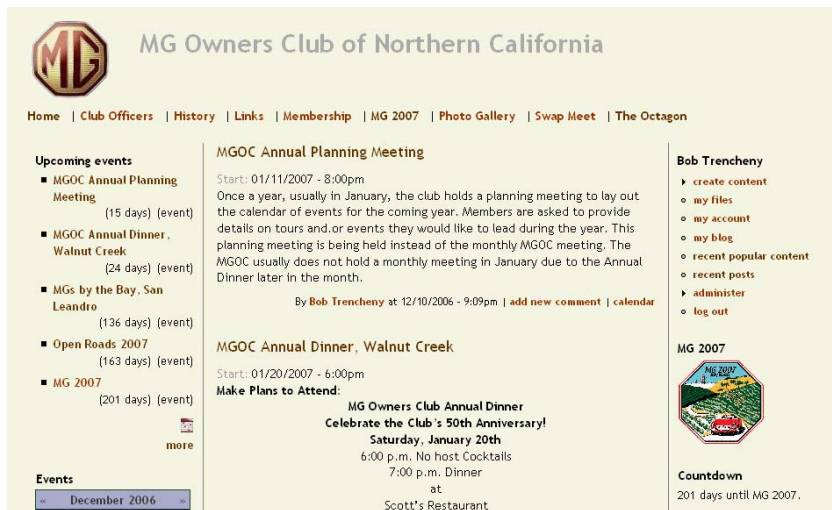
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New MGOc Web Site

By Bob Trencheny



On a slow Saturday Robbie and I set about designing a new Web site for the MGOc. All of the information is identical to what has always been on the Club page; it has just been put into an updated format. This will allow Internet users to more easily find our site on the World Wide Web. This is important as we approach MG2007 and MG owners look to our club for more information on Northern California and the club.

The new Web page will also give Club members up-to-date information on upcoming club events. There is also a picture gallery that members can post their Club-related pictures to so other members can easily view them. Visit the Club Web site at www.mgoc.org.



Graphic Design
Nancy Shane

Car Illustrations

Photo Retouching

Custom Holiday Cards

(408) 923-3927

nshane75@earthlink.net

A fun time was had by all at the MGOc Holiday Party & Toy Drive

On Sunday December 17th the MGOc held its annual holiday party. Thanks to John Hunt the club also sponsored a toy drive for needy children in San Francisco this year.

We had a fun time celebrating the season and enjoying great company. As promised an MG history lesson was presented for all. We saw Great Cars: MG, a PBS TV series that covered the history of the MG Car Company. Several members took home copies of the 30 minute show. However, the highlight of the party was Randy Grossman's decision to splurge on a holiday gift for Melissa and in the middle of the party ordered her a wonderful new Roomba vacuum cleaner! Once again we managed to combine high tech (Internet and Roomba) and low tech MGs in a new and unusual way thanks to Randy.

Of course part of the party was spent admiring cars and looking under hoods. Randy Grossman acquired a new valve cover gasket for his MGA and we all admired how clean Ken Gittings engine bay was.

MGOc members attending included Eric Baker, Ken Gittings, Randy and Melissa Grossman, John Hunt, Mike Jacobsen and Elaine Chan, Jeremy Palgon, Bob, Dan Shockey, and hosts Bob and Beth Trencheny.



Photo: Jeremy Palgon

MGOc members doing what they do best at the holiday party!

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MGs by the Bay – We need to get started on this. Bob Stine is in charge of volunteers, Randy Grossman will arrange for the permit with the city of San Leandro, and Mike Jacobsen will be show registrar. We would like to have a trial run of the MG2007 valve cover races at MGs by the Bay.

Open Roads 2007 (not an MGOC event) – Some of the members had received an email from the Golden Gate Austin Healey Club for their British car autocross, tours, and banquet at Lake Tahoe from June 8 through 10. Randy has attended this event in the past and recommended it. For more information call John Trifari, 408-541-9608, or visit www.GoldenGateHealeys.com.

Bob Stine, Randy Grossman, David Wright, and John Hunt will run a “phone tree” and call before the Holiday Tea and Annual Dinner to remind as many members as they can to attend.

Old Business:

The slate of officers was elected by acclamation. President: Bob Stine, Vice-President: Nina Barton, Secretary: Dan Shockey, Treasurer: Mike Jacobsen.

Sign-up sheets for volunteers at MGs by the Bay and MG2007 were begun. Bob Stine is in charge of volunteers.

New Business:

Motion approved to purchase food and/or drink for the Holiday Tea, up to \$150.

Motion approved to purchase a new engraving plate or base for the Burnt Sparkplug award, up to \$100.

Miscellaneous Discussion Items:

Toys for Tots drive – Bring an unwrapped toy to the Holiday Tea, or deliver it to John Hunt (contact info in *The Octagon* in the Annual Dinner notice) before Friday, December 22.

Next Meeting and Natter:

The January meeting is replaced by the Annual dinner, but there will be an event planning meeting for 2007 on Thursday, January 11, at 8pm at The Englander.

Submitted by Mike Jacobsen

MG 2007 Web Site is Live

Folks from across the country and even from Australia are signing up, planning caravans, and getting excited. Not too late to be part of the event. See www.MG2007.org. Thanks to Dave McCann and all the others who have contributed.

Minutes of the MGOC Business Meeting December 14, 2006

Call meeting to order: 8pm

Introductions: Ken Gittings, Randy Grossman, John Hunt, Mike Jacobsen, George Steneberg, Bob Stine, Bob Trencheny, David Wright

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Approved as printed in the December issue of *The Octagon*.

Treasurer's Report: (Mike Jacobsen) MG2007 registrations coming in, so balance is up, even after paying for MG2007 T-shirts.

Registrar's Report: (Mike Jacobsen) Some more late renewals and two new members since last meeting: Thomas Knapp and Keith La Plain.

Regular	205	
Auxiliary	50	
Corresponding	13	
Associate	1	
Total	269	(Last month 264)

Secretary's Report: (Dan Shockey) Absent

Corresponding Secretary's Report: (George Steneberg) Received an inquiry from someone with an MGB and an MGC.

Regalia Report: (David Wright) Ordered more items from England to replace stock, and found the mounting hardware for the new MGOC grille badges. Need to start planning for MGOC 50th Anniversary regalia.

The Octagon: (Bob Trencheny) Printed 150 copies, a new low, and sent out renewal notices to the commercial advertisers.

Club Web Site: (Robbie Trencheny) Many members reviewed the development site (www.mgoc.org/beta) prior to the meeting and offered comments. The comments were almost completely favorable, though several minor corrections were requested; Bob Trencheny took notes to pass along to his son Robbie, who developed the new look and layout. Congratulations and thanks to Robbie for his work.

Past Club Events:

Pajaro Valley Winery Tour – Randy Grossman reported that there were about ten cars on the tour, and that it was a very nice drive, plus the winery was good too.

Upcoming Club Events:

Holiday Tea – Sunday, December 17, 1-4pm, Trencheny home, directions in *The Octagon*. Bring a dish to share and an unwrapped toy for the toy drive.

Annual Dinner – Reservations are already beginning to come in. RSVP to John Hunt, information in *The Octagon*. We will have photos of this year's events at the Annual Dinner.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO RSVP!

MG Owners Club Annual Dinner Celebrate the Club's 50th Anniversary!

Saturday, January 20th

6:00 p.m. No Host Cocktails

7:00 p.m. Dinner

at

Scott's Restaurant

1333 N. California Blvd.

Walnut Creek, CA

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Special Features:

"MG Does It Again" – A full-color documentary that covers the construction and deployment of MG's record-breaker EX 181 in 1957 when Stirling Moss drove it on the Bonneville Salt Flats. See John Thornley, Syd Enever, Stirling Moss, and Phil Hill in this exciting short classic film.

Cost per person is only \$40. Advanced payment is required. That's a cost 25% below retail. Limited Seating, Reserve Early.

Menu: Salad

Chicken Sienna *or* Tenderloin of Beef and Salmon
with rice & vegetables

A glass of White or Red Wine

Dessert & Coffee

Vegetarian option available

Please make your checks payable to "MG Owners Club." Please note which dinner you have selected and mail checks to:

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MG 2007 is located in the California Wine Country, which has roads to match its scenery, including the world-famous California Highway 1. In addition, you're close to the redwoods, the Pacific coast, and the San Francisco Bay Area. Tours are being designed for several destinations. You can pick a tour to take you to wineries, redwood forests, secluded beaches, isolated lighthouses, the San Francisco hills, the Marin Headlands, the Golden Gate National Recreation area, and other locations. Many tours are self-guided, so that you can go at your own pace and stop where and when you wish. Other tours will be led by local club members, so you can be sure to see all the sights without having to worry much about navigating along the unfamiliar roads.

You can also combine tours together to make an itinerary that matches your interests. Want to see old-growth redwoods and an old lighthouse? Cruise to Muir Woods and visit Redwood Canyon, and follow that up with a trip down to the Marin Headlands and the Point Bonita light, or up the coast to the remote Point Reyes light.

Would you rather go shopping than sightseeing? You can go into San Francisco and visit the famous Union Square shops, but many of the small towns have vibrant downtown areas as well. Some examples are Petaluma, known for its antique district in its old downtown area, and the St. Helena/Calistoga area, with their geysers, shops, and wineries.



The MG Owners Club visited the Jimtown Store in Healdsburg CA while the NAMGBR board members were in town in October 2006. Healdsburg will be one destination for MG 2007.

Interested in history? Russia, Spain, England, and Mexico all claimed parts of the area at different times, and some of their buildings and forts still remain. You can step into a Russian Orthodox Chapel at Fort Ross; visit the California missions in Sonoma, San Rafael, or San Francisco; or see the site of a Chinese fishing village in San Rafael.

For more recent history, you can go to Glen Ellen in the Valley of the Moon and see the ruins of Jack London's home, Wolf House; or hop over to Luther Burbank's home in Santa Rosa, and see the gardens where he developed many of the flowers, fruits, and vegetables that made him famous. There's even a petrified forest of redwood trees just outside of Santa Rosa.

A little bit of everything is available to you when you come to MG2007.

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Things To Do – MG 2007

by Mike Jacobsen

By now you've read about the major activities planned for *MG 2007*. There's the tour to Mendocino, the New England village on the rugged California coast, and the setting for countless movies and TV shows. There's the drive to Occidental, a town that dates back to before the Gold Rush, for a rustic Italian dinner. There's the car show, where you can show off your car and marvel at the cars and the efforts of your fellow MG owners. But what do you do if you want some time on your own? You're in luck. Since you have an MG, you can go for a drive.

Cont pg. 15

MGs in the Flicks

from Gerald Wunsch, *Sacred Octagon*, 10/2001

With winter upon us, you may want to spend some quality MG time with a movie. He focused on pre-1956 MGs for this article.

Most popular MG model: MG TC (He lists 13 movies)

Most romantic scene: *Pillow Talk*, 1959, MG TF, with Doris Day at Lover's Lane.

Special mention: *The Grass Harp* (TC) and *Eye of the Needle*, with scenes of honeymooners in decorated MGs.

Funniest Scene: *Pillow Talk*, Rock Hudson as tall Texan trying to get into TF. (Rock later repeats this schtik in an episode of *McMillan & Wife*.)

Honorable mention: *The Gay Divorcee*, 1934, Fred Astaire pursues Ginger Rodgers in his J2.

Best stunt driving: (tie) *Monkey Business*, 1952, TD, and *The Gay Divorcee* (see above).

Best crash scene: *Two for the Road*, 1966. A TD burns then rolls down a hill into a barn which collapses on top of it.

Honorable mention: *Eye of the Needle*, 1981, J2 goes nose-first in river bed.

Best line referring to an MG: *Monkey Business*, Marilyn Monroe gushes, "It's a honey!" referring to the TD driven by Cary Grant.

Honorable mention: *The Double Clue*, PBS Agatha Christie, red TC.

Worst driver award: (tie) *Death on the Nile*, 1978, Mia Farrow, J2, and *Funny Farm*, 1988, Chevy Chase, TF.


Most authentic car: *JFK*, *Reckless Youth*, (TV miniseries), JFK drives a proper for the time TA.

Best overall use of an MG: *I.Q.*, 1994, Meg Ryan, Walter Matthau, the TF is an integral part of the plot. (This is a must-see flick for MG fans.)

(Edited by Dan Shockey)

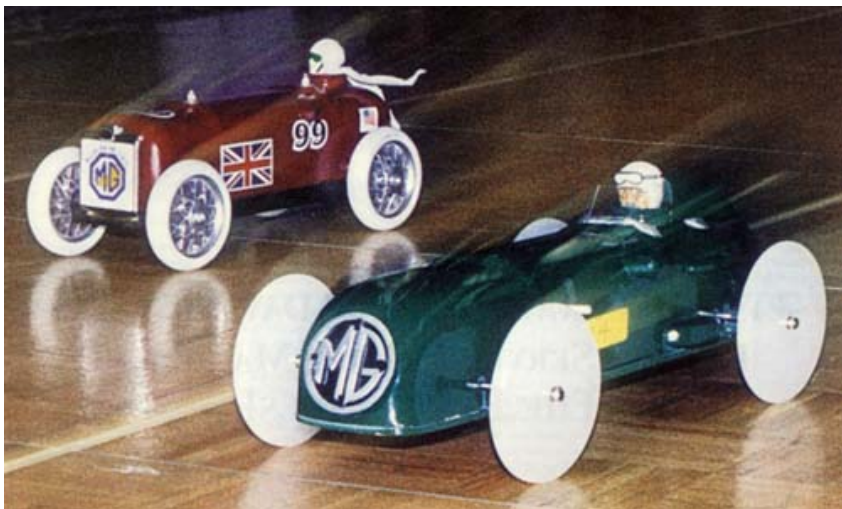


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A pair of MG Valve Cover Racers headed for the Finish Line.

MGs by the Bay Volunteers Needed

The club is once again planning MGs by the Bay and is in need of volunteers to make the show a success. Since the club has put on the show many times, there is plenty of experience to share. Mostly we need help setting up the morning of the event in San Leandro and cleaning up at the end of the day.

This year we plan to have Valve Cover Races at MGs by the Bay. Rules for the races are provided on page 13 so you can get to work on your racer during the winter and have her ready to go by May.

If you can help out in any way please contact club president Bob Stine who is leading the effort for MGs by the Bay.



OFFICIAL VALVE COVER RACES RULES

(Amended January 1, 1998)

Taken from the Web site of the North American MGB Register

The Course

- * The course shall consist of a launch incline eight feet long, followed by a level run of twenty feet.
- * The launch incline shall be divided into two lanes, each 18 inches wide. The incline shall be two feet high at the rearmost part and level with the course at the front edge. The front edge shall be mitered so as to provide a smooth transition from the incline to the run-out area.
- * The official "Starting Line" shall be two feet from the rear edge of the incline. A mechanized starting gate may be provided.
- * The run-out section of the course shall consist of two lanes, each three feet wide. The lanes shall be clearly marked.
- * The finish line shall be marked twenty feet from the front edge of the launch incline.

The Cars

- * Cars will have no power source. All motive force is provided by gravity.
- * Cars shall be based on an actual valve cover from an MG car engine.
- * Wheelbase shall be no more than twenty-four inches.
- * Wheel track shall be no more than fourteen inches.
- * Cars must have four wheels, each no more than six inches in diameter.

The Races

- * Cars will be run in heats of two cars each.
- * The cars are to be launched with their front wheels on the starting line. The first car to have its front wheels cross the finish line is the winner. If neither car makes it to the finish line, the car going the furthest in its lane wins.
- * If the wheels of a car should touch the lane markers or cross over the lane marker the car shall be disqualified. The competing car immediately becomes the winner.
- * Winning cars will advance to the next round until all are eliminated except one car.

Good luck to all and see you at the races!