

THE OCTAGON

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



Winnie, the MG T "errier"

December 2013

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.

MGOC OFFICERS FOR 2013

President: Tim Polidoroff, 650-342-6443, polidoroff@comcast.net

Vice President: Steve Kellogg, webmaster@mgocsf.org

Treasurer: Marla Preston, marlapreston@hotmail.com

Secretary: Randy Grossman, grossran001@comcast.net

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Member-at-Large: Craig Kuenzinger, 925-934-3130, mrcraigk@aol.com

Member-at-Large: David Wright, 510-653-3831

Member-at-Large / Immediate Past President: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, j2george@pacbell.net

APPOINTEES

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

Corresponding Secretary: George Steneberg, j2george@pacbell.net

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

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

Registrar: Steve Kellogg, webmaster@mgocsf.org

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

The Octagon Editor: Felix Lee, 650-947-9282, octagoneditor@mgocsf.org

Webmaster: Steve Kellogg, webmaster@mgocsf.org

CLUB ADVISOR PROGRAM

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

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

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

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

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

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

MGA/Coupe/Twin Cam 1955-62: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, j2george@pacbell.net

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. Carburetors: Marty Ray, 831-475-6204, martyray@cruzio.com

COVER PHOTO:

Jonathan Knowles' Winnie, the MG T "errier," Pigeon Point Tour, Felix Lee

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or MikesMuseum@yahoo.com. 2013 rates are presented *monthly* (yearly): full page \$25 (\$240), half page \$18 (\$175), third page \$12 (\$120), business card \$8 (\$75). All ads expire on January 1, and fees for a partial year will be pro-rated to that date. Deadline for ad materials is the 10th of the preceding month. The MGOC makes no claims as to the reputation or quality of work performed by businesses advertising in *The Octagon*.

MGOC FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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

MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO *THE OCTAGON*

Your stories, photos, tips, questions, and anything MGOC-related are always welcome in *The Octagon*. Please make your contributions by the 15th of the month preceding the issue in which you want them to appear. Please email all contributions to octagoneditor@mgocsf.org or send them to: Felix Lee, 27330 Ursula Lane, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022.

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.SF.ORG

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

Forthcoming Events

MGOC Events in bold

December 7 – SSTS Holiday Party, Jeannie Haslam

December 13 – **Pub Night**, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill Hiland

December 14 – **MGOC Holiday Tea**, Mike Jacobsen

January 4 – **MGOC Planning Meeting**, Redwood Shores, Tim Polidoroff

January 25 – **MGOC Annual Awards Banquet**, Hs Lordships Restaurant, Marcia Crawford and George Steneberg

From the Editor...

It's that time of the season,
When blustery winter takes over the scene,
But that didn't seem to hold back the MGOC,
From driving throughout, 2013

We collected odometer photos,
And are hoping that this simple action,
Will tell Samantha what she needs to know,
As she works through, the long subtraction!

The driver who logs in the most miles,
In order to seal the deal,
Will have to show up at the Award's Banquet,
As the MGOC, will pick up their meal!

Marla became our new treasurer,
But, cannot always be nearby,
However, she is, in regular attendance,
Via Cloud, over Steve's WiFi!

The planning meeting was well attended,
As we mapped out all of the tours,
We convened in a non-profit conference room,
Out on the Bay, in Redwood Shores

The Awards Banquet was held at Hs Lordships,
On a pleasant sunny day,
With Vicky and Steve Kellogg,
Equally earning the BSPA

Steve's birthday gift B,
Continues to make him to swear,
As he struggles to trace wires,
That just, do not go anywhere!

Fortunately, they have Vicky's T
But on a recent trip, up the coast,
The gears starting skipping,
And now her transmission is toast!

Should Kellogg's BSPA repeat?
I am not sure, this has ever been done?
But Sonoma's Andy Preston,
Apparently, is vying for a run!

Prof. Kuenzinger held an Electric Tech Session,
Creating a model, controlled by a switch,
And now, we all understand exactly why,
Lucas Electronics is such a difficult system to
keep running

Our biggest Milestone of the year,
Was celebrated in the largest way,
The MGOC has officially hosted,
Twenty, Annual, MG's by the Bay

We designed a special T-shirt,
And collected past posters, that we took,
So that Randy could format, and place them all,
Conveniently, in a hardcover book!

The Tahiti Blue MGB on the cover,
as well as the entire show,
Belonged and was dedicated to Sam Gearhart,
Someone, whom, we all cherished to know

We had "Rainy Day," "Car Clinic," "Mount Tamalpais,"
Touring up and down the coast,
Followed by "St. Patrick's Day," "John Twist," "Mount
Hamilton,"
And picnic, at Kennedy Grove Hitching Post

There was the "Forestiery Garden / Fresno," "Dixon,"
"Marin," "Swanton," "Pebble Beach / Monterey,"
Followed by "Livermore," "Sonoma," "Pigeon Point,"
And our 20th Annual, "MGs by the Bay"

We put our MGs up in the Air,
And were amazed by what we could see,
We pulled out every "Tool," you can imagine,
Even the one, more affectionately known as, Kenny G

It's time once again for balloting,
As the MGOC searches for officer relievers,
But what we really need, according to Kuenzinger
Are official MGOC Cheerleaders!

Finally, "If you **like** what you drive ... you can **keep** it,"
And I swear, this is no lie,
Just remember to maintain it,
And there will be nothing else, you'll ever need to buy ...
(wink wink)

Safety Fast!

Felix Lee

- looking for an extended
MG-Care policy that
cannot reject a "pre-existing"
British condition



President's Ponderings...

Hello! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving Day Holiday. It is hard to believe that the year is so rapidly coming to a close. That said, I'd like to remind you about our club events in the weeks ahead ...

Our "Holiday Tea and General Meeting" will be held in San Francisco on Saturday, 12/14. Besides enjoying some holiday cheer and good fellowship this is your chance to participate – in person – in our annual Officer elections that will be held at the start of the event. We're still looking for a volunteer to run for the office of club Secretary ... if you have any interest in serving the club in this way we'd very much appreciate your help. MGOC Fashionista and *The Octagon* Best Article of 2013 Ballots will also be emailed soon. Those who can't attend the event can still participate in the election electronically. Instructions for submitting electronic ballots will be e-mailed shortly.

We'll be holding our annual "Planning Meeting" in Redwood Shores on Saturday, 1/4. This is your chance to suggest a tour, meeting, event, or tech session for our 2014 MGOC calendar. If you can't attend the meeting but have an idea you'd like considered please e-mail it to me at polidoroff@comcast.net, by the meeting date.

We hold our annual "MGOC Awards Banquet" in

Berkeley on Saturday, January 25. The cost is only \$20/person, (for both MGOC members and non-members), a savings of more than 50% off the true cost of the event to the club. And, you can pay on-line (on our MGOC website), by mail, or at the door. What's not to like!

Next, I'd like to shout out a big MGOC "Thank You," to Mike Jacobsen and Steve Kellogg for leading our November 16th Pigeon Point Lighthouse tour. Bravo!

Finally, this is to announce that the Sacramento Valley MG Car Club (SVMGCC) will be organizing the 2015 GoF (Gathering of the Faithful) in Rohnert Park, (the 2014 GoF will be held in San Diego). Unlike other GoF events - that focus primarily on pre-'56 MGs, this will be the first to actively encourage all years and models of MG to participate. By doing so, the SVMGCC hopes to make this the biggest gathering of MGs on the West Coast in 2015. They have asked for our help in estimating how many registrants from our club they can expect to attend. I'll be sending you an e-mail "Event Interest Check" survey blast shortly – your response is much appreciated

Best wishes to all for a very Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

OFFICIAL BALLOT MGOC CONSOLIDATED GENERAL ELECTION MGOC FASHIONISTA 2013 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA DECEMBER 2013



○ Suzy Savage and Brian Linke



○ Kim Kuenzinger



○ Gary and Janet Germano



○ Ken Gittings



○ Elaine Chan, Maria Preston, Janet Veatch



○ Stephanie and Samantha Lee



○ Joyce and Stuart Locke



○ Mike Romo and Kevin Sturge



○ Bill Becker, Steve Kellogg, Jim Lucas

Regards,
Tim Polidoroff



The San Diego All-British Car Show

By Mike Jacobsen

On Sunday, October 13, the San Diego British Car Club Council hosted their 34th annual British Car Day. MGOC member Dave McCann and I drove down from the Bay Area for the event. Imagine MGs by the Bay, but with all sorts of British cars and motorcycles. There were about 300 vehicles altogether. Ever seen an Ariel Atom? They had one there. How about a Ford Prefect? One of those was there too. They were all parked on the grass in the north Embarcadero Marina Park, next to San Diego's Gaslamp Quarter and across San Diego Bay from Coronado. We had the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier as the show's backdrop across the water. It was a nice show in a great setting, with a variety of food trucks and British car-related vendors on hand too.

So what prompted us to go to San Diego for a one-day show? I'd just put a 5-speed gearbox in my MGA and needed to take a test drive, of course. I had planned to drive to North Carolina this summer for the annual NAMGAR GT, but it was not to be – I didn't get the gearbox swap finished in time. Instead, I flew to Ohio and drove to North Carolina with Dave in his MGA. Dave had already made the 5-speed switch, and I liked it. The drive back to California with Jennifer Orum and Tim Polidoroff was further proof that the 5-speed would be the way to go. Jennifer's MGB had overdrive, while Tim's MGA 1500 had an original 4-speed. Jennifer's car was much

more relaxed on the Interstate.

Back home from North Carolina, I began working on the MGA in earnest, and it was ready a week before the San Diego show. I drove it to the beach and back (about five miles) for a test run and found only a few problems. One was the shift lever centered on the 3-4 slot instead of the MG gearbox's 1-2 slot, so occasionally I would try to start in third gear. The other issue was finding reverse. Both of these were operator error, so after my five mile drive I was confident that the car was ready for a thousand mile trip.

Perhaps my optimism was misplaced. The MGA had last been driven in November of 2011, and after a few hundred miles into the San Diego trip, issues started to crop up. Most of these were minor, but when the brakes & clutch got really mushy I paid attention. We determined that the master cylinder was leaking internally, since there was no fluid loss but the pedal wouldn't hold pressure. The brakes worked well enough that the car was drivable, so we carried on.

After the show we took a whole day to come back up on US 101, including a stop at Moss Motors in Goleta for a master cylinder rebuild kit. Great trip, and I finally started to remember to downshift to fourth when going up a grade, which made the car much happier. And I even had the car repaired in time for the Sonoma Tour the next weekend!



Photos by Mike Jacobsen

On the Road to San Diego

A Roadside Fix

By Jennifer Orum

Bob Abbott's MGA had a breakdown on the cruise in Guerneville, which Mike Jacobsen worked on to get him going. Mike's explanation of the problem:

Once we determined the coil may be malfunctioning, we installed a replacement. Since it was a roadside repair we didn't take the time to remove the old coil and instead used it as a mount for the new one. This also made sure the wires would reach the new coil.

After Bob got home, he found the real problem. One of the air filters had lost a mounting bolt, and so slipped over the carb intake. It was OK at idle, but as the engine speed increased the airflow was blocked, so it didn't run properly. The coil may still be suspect, and fixing the power wire to the coil couldn't have hurt either.



Key Points to Oil and Filter Change

By Stuart Locke

Why should we convert MGs to a modern spin-on oil filter?

- more efficiency, less expensive, easy to purchase

1: always drain oil HOT, while oil is still holding contaminants in suspension

2: renew drain plug washer

3: installing: new spin-on oil filter

WIX51516 is an excellent filter for late MG TD/TG/A it is black and close to the same length and diameter as the original canister

4: oil rubber gasket

hand tighten snug, then 3/4 turn

dirty oil enters in through perimeter side holes of filter clean oil comes out center tube to engine

5: add 6 quarts of 20W-50 oil with ZDDP

ZDDP coats high wear areas and minimized corrosion in older cars

ZDDP is hard on catalytic converters and EGR valves in modern cars

6: first start up

do not run faster than a slow idle speed as high RPMs with no oil pressure will ruin bearings

7: run engine for a few minutes making sure there are no leaks and the pressure comes up

you may pre-soak new filter in oil or spin engine (key off) to get pressure up

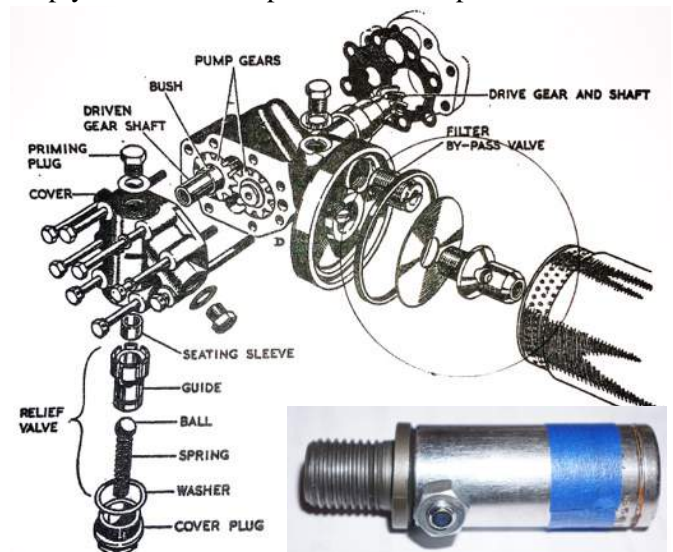
8: change oil and filter every 3,000 miles hot or change before storing your classic car

do not let old oil settle before storage

oil pressure should be 60 hot at 3500 RPM or 20 at idle

EASY TO CHANGE

- no canister to clean out, easy to seat, no pinching canister rubber ring
- remove access panel under LT front fender (6 screws)
- remove original oil filter canister with 5/16W spanner
- now break loose and unscrew stubborn adapter and large washer using my homemade extractor tool (call Stuart for details at 408-732-2999)
- remove old rubber sealing ring from joint between canister and pump
- carefully install new rubber sealing ring (moss#435-347) in oil pump housing joint
- simply screw in new spin-on filter adapter



BURNT SPARK PLUG AWARD

DO YOU KNOW THE WAY TO PIGEON POINT?



I'M GOING WITH ANDROID MAP ...



HERE'S THE MAP, I DREW IT MYSELF ...

CAN YOU MAKE IT OUT?

?!?

CRAYON?



THE THREE WISE MAGI

SIRI, MAP TO PIGEON POINT!

LIGHT ?!?



"FOLLOW THE LIGHT SIGNAL"



"LIGHT," TO THE LEFT!

THINK WE'RE LOST?



"SIGNAL" AHEAD! THIS IS TOO EASY ...

WE'RE JUST GOING IN CIRCLES?



WE'RE OFFICIALLY LOST, THAT'S IT, KENNY "THE TOOL" G, IS TAKING OVER!

HEY, MGOC SOUTH FINALLY MADE IT! DID YOU FOLLOW THE LIGHT?



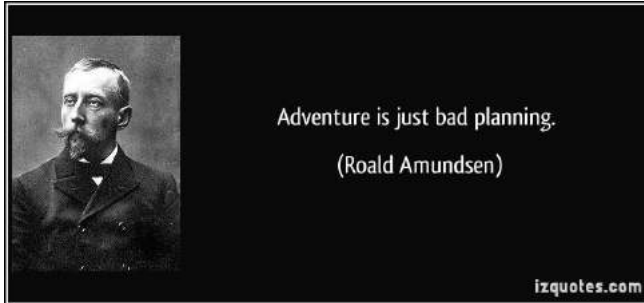
PIGEON POINT'S FRESNEL LENS CAN BE SEEN FOR 22 MILES AND HAS FAITHFULLY GUIDED MARINERS TO SAFE HARBOR SINCE 1872 ...



..... TO BE CONTINUED

Photos by Samantha Lee and Felix Lee

MGOC 2014 Event Planning Meeting Saturday, January 4 Redwood Shores



Want to plan a picnic? Have a favorite route for a drive? Need some help on your repair or restoration project? Well, here's your chance to suggest an event for our 2014 MGOC calendar.

Come to the annual "Planning Meeting" with your ideas for drives, meetings, events, and tech sessions. The Club board will be happy to work with you to make your event a reality.

When: Come at 9:30 am for a coffee and a lite continental breakfast (donuts, muffins, and apple strudel). The meeting will start at 10 AM and will run until noon.

Where: CEN's (the Center for Excellence in Nonprofits) offices at the Sobrato Center for Nonprofits located at 330 Twin Dolphin Drive, Suite 151 Redwood City.

RSVP: Tim Polidoroff, 650-342-6443, or e-mail polidoroff@comcast.net



Directions: From San Francisco take US -101 South. From the East Bay take CA-92 West (San Mateo Bridge) to US- 101 South.

1. At exit 412, take ramp right for Ralston Ave toward Marine Parkway 0.3 mi.
2. Turn left onto Ralston Ave 0.3 mi.
3. Road name changes to Marine World Pkwy 0.2 mi
4. Turn right onto Twin Dolphin Dr. 0.7 mi
5. Arrive at 330 Twin Dolphin Dr, Redwood City, CA 94065



Having Fun and Paying It Forward with Your MG

Meet Richard Rocco

By Randy Grossman

Meet Richard Rocco. A couple of months ago, while reading through the various messages in the MGOC website I noticed a curious one in which a fellow was asking to rent an MGA for the day for his dad's 70th birthday present. Interested, I contacted him to see how I could help, even though I was reluctant to rent my car outright, because of insurance issues. Through several conversations with him, I found out his dad, Richard Rocco, had an MG story not unfamiliar to most of us. For Richard as he so aptly put it when we met, "an MGA was not a sports car, but really a story."

Richard is a pharmacology professor, living here in Alameda, and still teaching two days a week at Samuel Merritt University. At the age of 17 he got his first MGA, a used black roadster with a beige interior. "It was \$1,100 of over-the-top fun with a Prince of Darkness electrical system that made every trip an adventure," he reminisced. Elizabeth



was his car's name, and was sold when he married in 1965. In 1978, with a family of two children, he rekindled his MGA dream by buying a \$900 powder-blue disaster to try his hand at a frame-up restoration. For five years, weekends and nights were obsessively spend toiling away in his garage to build his dream. The UPS driver came to his doorstep with weekly deliveries of parts from Moss Motors. As Richard explained with a large grin, "My son John and daughter Denise just watched in dismay. We have lost our Dad, they thought.

For these 12 and 14 year olds, it was the definition of insanity, but we lived some great memories. The old man under the hood reasoning to his kids that, 'if you don't have your dreams what have you got?' " Richard lovingly had the motor and transmission rebuilt to factory specifications. He ordered the upholstery just the way he wanted it, again sticking to original colors, and the project was moving along smoothly. Then, unfortunately, in 1985 disaster struck, as Richard and his wife separated and divorced. The car and all its dismantled parts were moved into the back yard, covered in a tarp, and remained there for 10 years until his now ex-wife sold the house. It was a dream deferred. Richard's MGA was sold to a stranger for a fraction of what he had already spent on it.

Fast forward 35 years later, when Richard's son John decided to give his dad a special birthday present. He agreed to pay me to reignite his dad's MGA memories by taking Richard out in my MGA for the day, and during our venture, I would let Richard take over as our driver while I became the passenger. Richard was excited by this birthday gift, and so in late September we were off on our adventure. Starting out from my house, we crossed over the San Mateo Bridge, going down Hwy 92 to Half Moon Bay, and turned left down the Pacific Coast Highway. I pulled the MGA over to the side of the road so Richard could drive south to Highway 84, where we turned inland, stopping at the San Gregorio General store for a break, and a bit of libation.

Imagine our surprise, when Richard pulled into the parking lot and there were two other guys having their own adventure, in an MGB. During his drive, I could feel the memories seeping through his smiling face, and I knew Richard was reliving his MGA days of old.

After relaxing with a drink and chatting with the bar tender, who had the amusing habit of demonstrating his skills as a blow-gun marksman inside the bar, we moved on, and drove up to Alice's Restaurant for a delightful lunch. Afterwards, we drove down south on a beautiful twisty section of Hwy 35 towards Hwy 9 to the next stop on Richard's MG birthday adventure. As a special treat I had contacted MGOC club member John Bertolotti, and told him about the special birthday drive I had planned for Richard. I asked John if we could stop by and see his extensive automobile collection in Santa Clara as part of our trip. Not only did John agree to let us see his cars, but he graciously gave us a personal tour for an hour of both his more "modern" sports cars, including his numerous British cars, but also his antique car collection. Seeing John's cars, especially the antique automobiles, are really like going to the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance. In fact, John is routinely an SCCA judge at Pebble Beach, so his discussion of his collection is riveting to say the least. His cars are that good, and one



does a double take when, right there in front of you, are a number of Pierce Arrows, just lined up sprinkled in with some really rare Mercers and various other automotive gems to boot. It was a real treat

Having thanked John Bertolotti for his generosity, we left Santa Clara, and headed into rush hour traffic back up north to the East Bay. We both remarked on the wonderful day we had just enjoyed. I was pleased that Richard's MG spirit had been reenergized, and I think we may even have a new MGOC member. When we arrived back at my house in San Leandro, I asked Richard what his favorite charity is, and he said he is partial to the fight against breast cancer, so I told him I would make a donation in his honor to Susan G. Komen for the Cure (formerly the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation) of half the money his son had paid. After all, his son had paid me more than fairly to give his father this gift, so why not pay it forward. Oh come on, let's be honest, I'm not normally that altruistic. Usually I would probably just spent the money on football gambling anyway, but why not end this day on the high side. So I did.

Abingdon Homecoming

What are You Waiting For?

By John Hunt

A trip to England would not be complete without a stop to Abingdon. Seeing the town that produced the MG and meeting members of the M.G. Car Club is a special treat. They welcome and encourage M.G. owners to reach out to them and let them know when they are in town, so if you are heading to England, let them know. Visiting Abingdon is experiencing the soul of the M.G.

Abingdon-on-Thames is a market town in Oxfordshire. It's a wonderful town that is filled with history. Abingdon is one of the oldest towns in Britain. As a matter of fact, it's been a continuously occupied town for over 6,000 years. It is a part of the region that is known as the Cotswolds which include Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Somerset, Warwickshire, Wiltshire, Worcestershire. Many towns and villages of the area are built out of Cotswold stone hence the name of the region.

The highlight of the trip was lunch with Mary and Don Hayter, who was the Chief Engineer at M.G. Car Company and designer of the MGB. We meet them at Boundary House pub which is the former home of Cecil Kimber, an automobile engineer and the individual that provided leadership that put MG on the map and helped to create the MG esprit de corps. Don arrived driving his 1979 Brooklands green MGB which is the only V8 O-Series engine roadster to come out of the factory.

It was a treat to learn more about the man behind the legendary MGB during lunch. Don was born in Abingdon. His father was the Chief of Police and he attended Abingdon School which traces it's roots to 1563. Truly, a native. Like many in the car industry, his mechanical interests started with motor cycles and then progressed to automobiles. During World War II, he was a part of the design team for the Spitfire fighter plane that saved

England during the Battle of Britain. He handled the wing tip design. I asked Don about what car maker he admired other than MG and that may have provided some inspiration and he mentioned, none other than the Coventry based Jaguar. We talked about how 2012 was a

special year for the MGB, its 50th Anniversary from it's first production in 1962. The celebration of this event was held at a very fitting place, the birth place of Winston Churchill, Blenheim Palace. Although traditional English weather showed up for the day, it did not dampen the enthusiasm and excitement of a wonderful day! A fun fact: Don

designed the logo for the event.

After lunch, Don lead us to the Abingdon County Hall Museum. When we arrived at the museum, a troop of Morris dancers where performing. These folk dancers trace their roots back to the 1400's. Nice surprise to see. The County Hall is a 17th century building that was designed in the Baroque style. The building and museum just finished a 2 year restoration in 2012. The deck on the roof is open and you have a terrific 360 degree view of the village. The highlight on display is the last MGB built in Abingdon. It's amazing to think they managed to get a car into this building. There is a neat video on U-tube showing how they got the car in. There's also a wonderful display of the history of Abingdon and the surrounding area. As fun and beautiful as the cars are, the best part of my MG experience has always been the people. Don is the ideal ambassador. A delightful gentleman with a love of all things MG. Don says hello and best wishes to all out in California.



MGOC Annual Awards Banquet



January 25, 2014
11:00 am–3:00 pm



Hs Lordships Restaurant
199 Seawall Drive, Berkeley, CA 94710

\$ 20 / person

RSVP by January 15th 2014:
Marcia at 510-526-8951
or George at j2george@pacbell.net



WHAT'S ON YOUR ODOMETER?

WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW

Please write in or send a picture
and tell us what is on your year end
odometer?

Samantha Lee will tally your miles based
on what was submitted this past January

Please send to ilee@hancmg.com
for all final tallies

Winners and Significant Others
will attend the
MGOC Annual Awards Banquet
compliments of the MGOC


Good Luck!

OFFICIAL BALLOT

MGOC CONSOLIDATED GENERAL ELECTION

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
DECEMBER 2013

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote for the candidate of your choice, completely fill in the OVAL to the LEFT of the candidate's name. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, darken the OVAL next to and write in the candidate's name on the Write-in line. Any member in good standing is acceptable as a write-in. (ie. we still need a Secretary, if you know of a candidate, please nominate them or run yourself) To vote for a Tour or Tech Session, darken the OVAL next to the word "Yes" or the word "No". All distinguishing marks or erasures are forbidden and make the ballot void. If you tear, deface, or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another. VOTE LIKE THIS: Mail ballots to: Tim Polidoroff at: polidoroff@comcast.net, or bring the ballot to the December 14, 2013 Club Meeting and Holiday Tea in San Francisco, or electronically vote at Survey Monkey (instructions to follow).

PRESIDENT	TOURS	TECH SESSIONS
Vote for one <input type="radio"/> Tim Polidoroff <small>President '80 MGB, '52 MG TD</small> <input type="radio"/> _____ <small>Write-in</small>	Vote for Keeping Tours in 2014 Wine Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Mountain Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Historical Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Holiday Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No San Francisco Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No North Bay Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No South Bay Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Destination Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Overnight Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Garage Tours <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Vote for <input type="radio"/> _____ <small>Write-in</small> <input type="radio"/> _____ <small>Write-in</small>	Vote for Tech Sessions in 2014 Basic <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <small>Write-In Topic</small> _____ Advanced <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <small>Write-In Topic</small> _____ Detailing <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <small>Write-In Topic</small> _____ Help-A-Member Project <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <small>Write-In Topic</small> _____ 
VICE PRESIDENT Vote for one <input type="radio"/> Steve Kellogg <small>Vice-President '73 MGB, '55 MG TF</small> <input type="radio"/> _____ <small>Write-in</small>		
TREASURER Vote for one <input type="radio"/> Marla Preston <small>Treasurer '55 MG TF1500, '60 MGS Coupe, '67 MGB, '74 MGB GT</small> <input type="radio"/> _____ <small>Write-in</small>		
SECRETARY <input type="radio"/> _____ <small>Write-in</small>		

Start Planning for the rest of 2013 ...



FALL - WINTER

MGOC HOLIDAY TEA, SAN FRANCISCO, 12/14
MGOC ANNUAL PLANNING MEETING, 01/04
ANNUAL AWARDS BRUNCH, 01/25

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
Cylinder 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

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 Felix Lee at

octagoneditor@mgocsf.org.

Request Electronic Delivery of *The Octagon*

Get *The Octagon* faster,
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and club funds.

Email Mike Jacobsen at

MikesMuseum@yahoo.com to switch.

MGOC Fashionistas



The Three A **M**i **G**os

MG Caps and Jackets
are so
last year,
But Belt Buckles?
Now We're Talkin' ...

(Bill Becker, Steve Kellogg,
and Jim Lucas (aka,

MG-MAN!))

If you have any outlandish MG
Attire, send in a photo and be our
MGOC Fashionistas for the month

Photo by Felix Lee

noto motors

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Andrew Noto



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noto.veloce@gmail.com

On the Road Again

Customers took Awards at the 2013
MGs by the Bay, Dixon British Car Meet and Marin Concours

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Jaguar

MG

Triumph

Rolls/Bentley

Lotus



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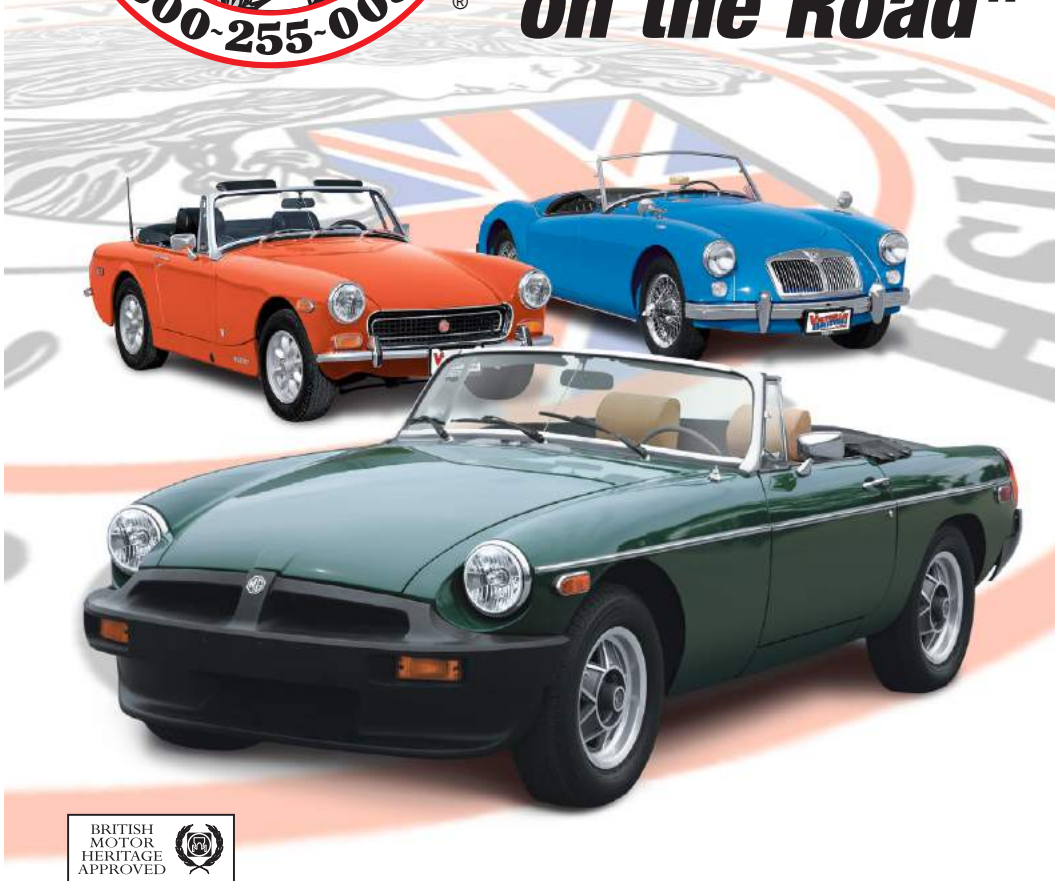


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MGOC Business Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2013

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:58 P.M. Present: President Tim Polidoroff*, Steve Kellogg* Kim and Craig Kuenzinger*, David Wright, Marcia Crawford, George Steneberg*, Ken Gittings, Mike Jacobsen, Randy Grossman*, Marla Preston* (teleconference), and (* Denotes Board Member)

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting, September 12, 2013

Minutes approved.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: Marla Preston:

Account	November	October
Checking	\$11,330.77	\$11,798.57
Savings	\$3,461.32	\$3,461.32
Total	\$14,792.09	\$15,259.89

There were 5 renewals, 2 new memberships. Other expenses were for website hosting of \$120.00 and the November Octagon.

Registrar's Report: Steve Kellogg:

Category	November	October
Regular	277 ¹	272 ²
Corresponding	18 ³	19 ⁴
Total	294	289

¹Includes 60 additional family members²Includes 60 additional family members.

³Includes 1 additional family member⁴Includes 1 additional family member.

Secretary's Report: Randy Grossman: Nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: George Steneberg: Nothing to report

Regalia: David Wright: Nothing new to report

The Octagon: Felix Lee: He has enough material for the December *Octagon*.

Website: Steve Kellogg: PayPal is up and running. Five new member signed up through PayPal.

Past Events

Preston's tour in Sonoma Oct 19th: 8 or 9 cars signed up. Wonderful reviews.

Drive to GOF Oct.26th Great event. Food, presentations and drives received high praise,

Upcoming Events

December Holiday Tea in San Francisco on Dec. 14th Toys for Tots will be collected at the Tea

GOF will be in San Diego in 2014

GOF will be in Rohnert Park in 2015

141st Anniversary event of Pigeon Point Light House Tour

Annual Lunch in January 25th. People can pay on line.

Old Business

Business Resolved Online Since the Last Meeting

A motion was made to approve an MGOC 2014 Brunch Subsidy. It was approved by electronic vote (6 in favor 0 against- George, Steve, Craig, Randy, Marla, and Tim vote "Yes"). The motion was to subsidize the cost of the 2014 MGOC Annual Brunch at the rate of \$21.75/person (so that the cost to attendees for the Brunch would then only be \$20/person). The estimated cost of this subsidy to the club would be \$1,670 (assuming 40 people attend)

New Business:

1. **2014 Planning Meeting:** Date was set for (January 4th), in Foster City at 9:30 AM for breakfast. The meeting will run from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Board approved a motion to spend up to \$100 for food/coffee. Action Item(s): Polidoroff to develop a flyer. Steve to update the website to announce the meeting. Felix to update the Octagon accordingly.

2. **Annual Brunch:** A committee was formed to obtain awards for honorees - Kim and Marcia will be on the Committee. The Board approved a motion to have everyone who comes to the Annual Brunch (i.e., Member and Non-member) pay the same (\$20/person) price. The Board approved a motion for up to \$300 to cover any unanticipated costs for annual brunch (this is in addition to the previously approved individual meal subsidy). The Board agreed to accept Brunch payments by mail, on-line, or at the event. Action Item(s): Polidoroff to develop flyer and Blast and to review w/Marcia to publicize the event. Polidoroff to forward Kim and Marcia a list of award candidates.
3. **Annual Officer Elections:** Elections will be held during the first part of the 12/14 General Meeting/Holiday Tea. Action Item(s): Polidoroff to send out Blast requesting volunteers to run for office. Once candidates have been identified Felix to publish a Ballot in the December Octagon.
4. **Electronic Payments:** The Board approved a measure to cover any fees associated with on-line payments for membership or other club activities/items on the MGOC website so that the cost to members is the same regardless of their payment method (i.e., cash, check, or direct on-line payment using PayPal). The Board recognized Steve for his efforts to implement the on-line payment system. The Board encouraged all members to take advantage of the new (and more convenient) on-line payment process.

Next Meeting

December 14th at 1:00 P.M. at 115 Pinehurst Way San Francisco

Meeting adjourned at: 7:48P.M.

Submitted by: Randy Grossman



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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, 27330 Ursula Lane, Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. Members may also email ads to the editor at octagoneditor@mgocsf.org.

Cars for Sale:

1949 MGTC has a rebuilt engine with very few miles on it. The car has also been rewired with a new wiring harness. The car has been painted to the original color. The car has a new top and side curtains and original tool kit. The wood in the doors is in good condition. The compression in the engine is about 120 in each cylinder. I have been told that if it is driven more that number will come up higher. As to the value of the car depending on who you talk to, the price range is from \$25,000 to \$35,000. I will accept \$25,000 or more. Contact Member Larry Matthews at 415-999-2362 [Posted 08/13]



1957 MGA Roadster Porsche red with tan leather interior and custom hand-made dash. Fully restored by present owner. Mileage since restoration 2163. Car stored in a closed garage since restoration. Recently re-tuned and safety checks performed. The only item not original is the fuel pump. \$19,900 OBO. Contact Member Mike Apcar mapcar1@mac.com or 530-268-8539. [Posted 07/13]



1959 MGA Coupe black lacquer with red leather interior and custom dash. Fully restored by present owner. Mileage since restoration 4247. The only item not original is the fuel pump. Car was stored in closed garage since restoration. Recently re-tuned and brakes checked. All safety checks performed. \$15,900 OBO. Contact Member Mike Apcar mapcar1@mac.com or 530-268-8539. [Posted 07/13]



1964-65 MGB Roadster is a project car. Up on blocks for 8 years and in DNO status, it doesn't look bad but does have issues. Other photos are available and we welcome inquiries. In Livermore CA. Contact Wes at WESNEL@ATT.NET [Posted 06/13]



1969 MGB Roadster owned for over 40 years. Mileage 69,200 (original). Overhauled in 2004: rebuilt drive train, engine, transmission, rear end, starter, wires, etc. New British Racing Green paint. New top. New seats. New tires. Runs great. Asking \$7,000. Contact member Jim Burgelin at joburgelin@yahoo.com [Posted 12/13]

1970 MGB GT has just had the high performance engine refreshed by On the Road Again British Restorations in Morgan Hill. Any parts needing replacing or repairing was done. The engine has a new high performance cam, new hardened lifters, rockers, and valves with a ported aluminum head and Weber Side Draft carburetor. A header with a Peco exhaust is also on the car. The overdrive transmission was serviced as well as a new clutch was installed. Documentation for the work that was done is available. All the electrics are in working order and the speedo was rebuilt and a new cable was installed. The overall condition is excellent. The Bedouin Beige paint is almost new. The grill and bumpers are new. The VTO mini lite style wheels as well as the Yokohama tires are also new. The brake system was checked over and wheel cylinders installed, as well as a new master cyl. The interior is also in excellent condition with new carpet and insulation, new leather seat covers and wood steering wheel. Billet pedal covers and footrest are also installed. Included is an Alpine Bluetooth, CD, MP3 USB port stereo with dual speakers and power booster. The GT is lowered so it handles very well. It starts every time no matter how long it has been sitting. It also has a battery cut off switch. Sales price is \$17,750 or best offer. Contact member Myles Taketa at M_Taketa@yahoo.com. [Posted 06/13]



1974 MGB Tourer Rust-Free California car ready for the road. Very straight, glacier white, chrome bumpers, custom dark gray carpets, original excellent black upholstery, dashboard top replacement, all instruments operational, Craig radio/cassette, aluminum "minilite" wheels, tires new (2011, 500 miles), new black vinyl top (Moss, professionally installed, tonneau (1 new, 1 original), car jack and equipment in original bags, mileage: 102,000, new calipers / pads / bushings / bearings / steering boots / alignment / fuel gauge sender / instrument voltage stabilizer / rear wheel bearings / belts / hoses / etc. No clear history on engine work. Compression average 136 lbs/cylinder. Runs great. Asking \$12,450. Contact member Jack Ford at jackrada@att.net. [Posted 07/13]



1979 MGB Tourer Own an Exclusive Piece of MG History. DON HAYTER, the man who was instrumental in the design of the iconic MGB sports car, has decided that the time has come to sell his own MGB. Don's car is a piece of MGB history, being one of a handful of original development cars, built down the line to approve the minor body modifications needed by Pressed Steel for the 'O' series engine, which was shelved just before the Abingdon MG factory shut the gates for the last time. This MGB was one of three test cars fitted with a European twin carburetor 'O' series engine, as opposed to the fuel injected American units. When the factory closed, the engine was taken out and went back to Triumph. Don bought the body and put in the V8 engine and gearbox in development, so this could truly be said to be the last MGB to be assembled in the Abingdon factory! The specification of the car is: MGB 1979 Tourer – Brooklands green, original hood, last edition wheels and orange 'campus' seats. Don is the only owner of the MGB and it has only covered a genuine 29,000 miles, which can be confirmed with a complete set of records and receipts. The full story of the 'O series' programme can be found in Don Hayter's book MGB Story, available to purchase [here](#). Don has invited offers on this piece of MGB history, in writing to The MG Car Club, Kimber House, PO Box 251, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 1FF by January 1 2014. [Posted 12/13]

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. [Posted 05/13]

Parts for Sale:

MGB Parts: Autopower Roll Bar SCCA Race Approved, 1.75" DOM. Roll bar has diagonal brace, horizontal seat back brace, and small restraint bar behind driver's seat. Asking \$150. Two Chrome Luggage Racks, trunk lid mounted. \$50 each. Contact Member David Wright at 510-653-3831. [Posted 05/13]

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 [Posted 05/13]

Four painted wire wheels Ran true and smoothly when last on my '61 A (in '2004) – stored since then. A couple will need some touch-up paint, otherwise fine. Michelin radials, functional with good tread, minor sidewall cracks. \$350 or best offer. Please contact: Mark Lange, mark@marklange.org or 415-297-3456. [Posted 05/13]

MGA transmission from a '61 Operated perfectly when I took it out of the car in 2002 (converted to a 5-speed). \$250 or best offer. Please contact: Mark Lange, mark@marklange.org or 415-297-3456. [Posted 05/13]

For All Items Below: Please contact member: Dave Loader at loader.dave@gmail.com [Posted 09/13]

- **MGB late overdrive transmission with gear lever and switch.** This unit has been rebuilt by Quantum Mechanics and never used. \$500 ono

- **MGB Parts.** 5BRG crank, 4 pistons/rods, engine/trans plate, trans mount/stay rod, sump, engine block +.040 rebore, new pistons +.040, inlet manifold, pulley. Make offer.

- **MGA Parts.** 1600 camshaft, flywheel, generator, inlet manifold, front engine plate. Make offer.

For All Items Below: Please contact: Member Bob Luebbert at rluebbert@sbcglobal.net [Posted 07/13]

- **MG TD Head Light Tie Bracket attaches to radiator**, Moss Part # 451-100, used -- great shape! Price \$20 OBO

- **Two Headlight Stone Guard for MG T-Series, come with attachments**, Moss part #222-150 \$30 obo

- **Gas Cap for 1975 MG/Sprite**, - never used- \$15 obo (thought it would fit on my 69 MGB - but will not)

- **MG TD chromed radiator shell, false nose, slates and medallion**- total for sale at \$1000 USD obo



For All Items Below: Please contact member: Ken Gittings at aracingfan1@aim.com [Posted 12/13]

- **Tourist Trophy 14" Black Leather Rim Wheel W/3 Black, Drilled Spokes.** Moss Part# 489-040, make offer we can live with. Use Tourist Trophy/Moto-Lita adapter hub sold by Moss

- **Tourist Trophy 14" Black Leather Rim Wheel W/3 Matte, Drilled Spokes.** Moss Part# 489-030, Make offer we can live with. Use Tourist Trophy/Moto-Lita adapter hub sold by Moss

- **Free to a good home** - 1 MGB seat frame off a 1967 or 1965 MGB

Announcements:

Enclosed Trailer for Rent: Enclosed car trailer for rent (16' x 8'). Trailer has integrated braking system and lights with the tow vehicle, and a 12 volt 2,000 lb. Electric Winch. Electrical outlets in and outside the trailer and air conditioning. Rental rates are very reasonable with a discount for rentals of three or more days. Contact either Randy Grossman (415-518-5210) or Eric Baker (510-517-2165) for more information. [Posted 06/13]



New and Used Parts Swap Meet / Bone Yard Sale: 2nd Saturday of the month starting January 11, 2013

- at Union Jack 13555 Depot Street, San Martin, CA 95046

- call Marcello or John @ 408-686-1101 with any questions



This year's holiday party is in San Francisco. Come on over for some holiday cheer, join us in telling MG stories, and celebrate the season with Club friends.

The Club is again sponsoring a toy drive. Please bring a new unwrapped toy, which we will deliver to a local firehouse. Please also bring a dessert or hors d'oeuvres to share. If you have a favorite tea, please bring that too. The Club will provide other beverages.

Date: Saturday, December 14, 1-4 p.m.

Location: [115 Pinehurst Way, San Francisco](#)

Please RSVP to: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.com

From the East Bay: Come over the Bay Bridge and follow the signs to 101 South toward San Jose. From 101, take 280 South toward Daly City at the interchange past Cesar Chavez Blvd. Exit at Ocean Avenue and take the first right on the exit ramp. Continue west on Ocean for about a mile to Pinehurst. Turn right onto Pinehurst. 115 is on the second block, the third house from the corner, on the left.

From the Peninsula: Come up 280 and exit at Geneva Ave. Turn left at the top of the ramp, and follow Geneva until the signal where it tees into Ocean Ave. Turn left onto Ocean and continue west about a mile to Pinehurst. Turn right onto Pinehurst. 115 is on the second block, the third house from the corner, on the left



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