THE

OCTAGON

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













February 2015

MGOC Octagon If undeliverable, please return to: 320 B Monterey Blvd. San Francisco, CA 94131

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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 2015

President: Steve Kellogg, 408-335-4125, president@mgocsf.org Vice President: Andy Preston, andypreston@sbcglobal.net **Treasurer:** Marla Preston, *marlapreston@hotmail.com*

Secretary: Jing Chai, jing_chai@yahoo.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Member-at-Large: Craig Kuenzinger, 925-899-1218, mrcraigk@aol.com Member-at-Large: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@vahoo.com Member-at-Large: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, j2george@pacbell.net

APPOINTEES

Commercial Advertising: Mike Jacobsen, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.com Corresponding Secretary: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125, i2george@pacbell.net

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

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

Registrar: Steve Kellogg, 408-335-5899, 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, 408-335-5899, 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 1962-1974 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 **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, j2george@pacbell.net

PA/PB Midget 1934–36: Eric Baker, 510-531-7032, mgpb36@vahoo.com S.U. Carburetors: Marty Ray, 831-475-6204, martyray@cruzio.com

COVER PHOTO:

Suzy Savage's Red Hot MGB Brake (read all about it on page 7), Brian Linke

Club Meeting

Natter & Noggin' & Techin' February 28

9:30 am - 10:00 am: Breakfast 10:00 am - 11:00 am: Meeting 11:00 am - 3:00 pm: Tech Session



We will continue to have the Natter 'n Noggin Meetings on Saturday Mornings in hopes of better attendance. As in last year, the venues will be changed throughout the Bay Area, North, South, East and West.

This meeting will be held at the On the Road Again and hosted by Bill and Mary Hiland.

16840 Joleen Way, Unit G4, Morgan Hills, CA 95037 408-782-1100

RSVP with Steve Kellogg at president@mgocsf.org or Bill Hiland at bhiland@ontheroadagainclassics.com



CLASSIC AUTO RESTORATION & REPAIR BRITISH PARTS DISTRIBUTOR

WWW.UNIONJACK.COM 13555 Depot St. PO Box 551 San Martin, CA 95046

408 686-1101 Fax 683-2447

- MGB late overdrive transmission with gear lever and switch. This unit has been rebuilt by Ouantum 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.

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

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

For All Items Below: Member Bob Luebbert at r.luebbert@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 a_67_bgt@yahoo.com or 510-791-8445 [Posted 10/14]

- Tourist Trophy 14" Black Leather Rim Wheel W/3 Matte, Drilled Spokes. \$180.00. Moss Part# 489-030, Must use Tourist Trophy/Moto-Lita adapter hub sold by Moss.
- One pair front springs for rubber bumper MGB, used less than 10 miles, way to low for my GT. \$40.00
- One intake manifold w/ceramic coating for 1 3/4" SU. Just the manifold!
- 7/8" front sway bar, also 3/4" rear sway bar for MGBs
- Steel dash for early MGB (63-67), dash has been repaired and has wrinkle powder coat finish.
- Used "Bad Boy"air horn, yes it works. \$15
- Dual Weber intake manifold for cross flow head. Intake manifold only!
- Trailer hitch for an 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

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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*. 2015 rates are: *monthly* (yearly): full page \$25 (\$240), half page \$18 (\$175), third page \$12 (\$120), business card \$8 (\$75). All ads expire on January 1, and fees for a partial year will be pro-rated to that date. Deadline for ad materials is the 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 Steve Kellogg upon request.

MGOCSF.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

- February 1 Cars and Coffee, Blackhawk Museum, Blackhawk
- February 4 Cecil Kimber dies in accident at King's Cross Railway (02/04/45)
- February 15 Marin Headland / Presidio Lunch Tour, Marin, Sue Schweiger and Jeanne Haslam
- February 20 OTRA Pub Night, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill and Mary Hiland
- February 28 **Tech Session,** On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill and Mary Hiland
- March 1 Cars and Coffee, Blackhawk Museum, Blackhawk
- March 17 St. Patrick's Day Tour, Pelican Inn, Bud Alderson
- March 20 OTRA Pub Night, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill and Mary Hiland
- March 21 Mount Tamalpais Tour, Marin, Andy and Marla Preston
- March 25 Albert "Sydney" Enever's Birthday (first MG Chief Engineer, 03/25/06)
- March 27 Old MG Number One registered (03/27/25)

From the Editor...

"MG Love ... its all about the cars and their owners"

Where do you start when it comes to celebrating your first (automotive) love this Valentine's Day? Was it love at first sight? What year was it? What time of year was it? Was it the curves? What color was it? How old were you? Was it in a magazine? Did you follow it home from school? Did the top come off? Did you tell your parents? What were you wearing? Who were you with at the time? Was it a random street encounter? Did it belong to your best friend? Were you in another (automotive) relationship at the time? Who was the first one you told about it? Were you embarrassed?

MGs are, without a doubt, cars that bring out all sorts of emotions: happiness, joy, excitement, bliss, anxiety, embarrassment, fear, and yes, even anger. And not necessarily, in that order. But the emotion that beats them all, is love, *MG Love*. That's right! Some time in your life, you fell in love, head over heels, deep in love with an MG. Was it with an A? A T? B or C? Midget or Saloon? We all have a story that needs to be told. As MG lovers, the only thing better than our own story, is reading or hearing about someone else's MG Love story. And on page 6, we have just a story, by our newest member, Wali Sultani.

To celebrate this bond, we are proposing a book project entitled *MG LOVE*, with you, as it's authors. We would like to list your Spec sheet: type, year of manufacture, place of manufacture, chassis-No., engine No., interior and exterior color. We would like to include your name, place of birth, town, profession, passion or quirk, and ultimately, your MG Love story.

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	108-125	75.00
HEAVY DUTY UPGRADE	10.00	10.00
SHOCK LINK (New or Rebuilt)	\$c	all

BRAKES: sleeved and rebuilt MGB. Midget caliper.....

MGB, Midget caliper	\$85.00
MGA, MGC caliper	.\$115-155.00
MGA, Midget twin master 1956-67.	\$195.00
MGB, Midget master 1968-80	\$95-145.00
MGB brake booster servo	\$175.00
MGC booster servo	\$445.00
Cylinder sleeved only, brass or SS	\$50-\$95
Kingpin swivel axle rebushed	\$60-\$108
Front end A-arm (Midget)	\$95.00

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Core charges apply if items are ordered prior to
(and are refunded after) our receiving old units.
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1610 Middle Road, Calverton, NY 11933 631-369-9515, FAX 631-369-9516 Toll Free 800-882-777753 VISA, MD, DISCOVER, PAYPAL, COD

NOV13

Through its pages, we hope to convey how you met, your first drive, where you went, your first overnight, any time it was ill, and any upgrades performed. The book promises to be sleek and simple, just like the MGs themselves.

We hope to get as many participants as possible (we have capacity for 220 participants or 440 pages). Each participant will have a two page spread that you can either send in or we can help you produce it. You can submit your page regardless of whether or not you ultimately decide to purchase a book. However, I'm pretty certain once you see it, you will want one, or two. Early order confirmations will be treated to a preproduction bulk order discount. Any orders afterwards will be at its full retail cost. The final cost will depend on the number of pages.

Consider this an MGOC member's picture directory of *MG Love* stories. A "Grillbook" and "Facebook" combined into one. This would make a perfect birthday gift for your unsuspecting spouse or a holiday gift for the kids. Just imagine the look on their faces when they receive a book about you, your MG (which they will one day hope, to inherit), and all of your friend's MGs. I know, I know ... PRICELESS! After all, its all about the cars and their owners.

Safety Fast! Felix Lee

- Happy MG Valentine's Day







1974 MGB GT Chrome Bumper California car restored 10 years ago and always garaged since. Body is a modified Black Tulip (very deep purple) color with navy blue interior. It has been customized to create a "late model" car look with chrome pieces powder-coated black except for the bumpers. Car features custom wheels with low profile oversized tires, (205/45V16).

Engine and drive train are stock. Engine has less than 10,000 miles since rebuild; head was just done this year by On the Road Again with new valves and guides. Carbs rebuilt by British Sports Car center with new throttle shafts. Engine runs well with strong acceleration.

Restoration included many new parts and pieces. All quarter panels were replaced and rust removed from internal structural panels. new bumpers front and rear; door and window seals replaced; Brakes rebuilt with new master cylinder, wheel cylinders and calipers; new navy blue interior panels, headliner, carpets, dashboard, wood steering wheel, windshield,and seatbelts. Hatchback and Hood lifters replaced with gas strut versions. Seats are deep blue from a 1990 Honda Prelude.

Asking \$10,000. Contact member Jim Carlson carlsonconsulting@comcast.net_408 802 0599 [Posted 09/14]



1976 MGB Roadster Orange with black interior (Giants colors). Vehicle has 22,000 original miles. 1800cc engine with Stromberg carburetor and 4-speed manual with electronic overdrive. Soft-top with tonneaus. AM/FM/CD stereo with removable face, remote control and MP3 interface. 15" PanaSport Aluminum Alloy hubs w/new tires. No rust and is fully restored to like new condition in and out. It is currently registered in California. Asking \$14,500. Contact Member Tom Doyle at 520-220-6228 or at wtdoyle@cox.net. [Posted 02/14]



Wanted:

Dashboard for Mk2 MGA, any parts you might have Mk2 MGA, 14-inch wire wheels that are in good-excellent condition for MGB. Don Scott; 707 942 0546; *don@napanet.net*. [Posted 06/14]

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]

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 add 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]







'64/'65 MGB Roadster 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 Nelson at 925-447-4393 or WESNEL@ATT.NET. [posted 06/13]



1967 MGB GT. This is pretty much an all original, (except for the first two years) a one owner car. Purchased new in San Rafael, CA, from the local British Car Dealer. I purchased this car about a year ago, and have receipts for about \$6,500 of various items repaired by my mechanic, including a rebuilt transmission. The car had not been driven much for the past several years. I bought the car as a gift for my Brother, but, due to his extremely bad tennis hips, he has extreme difficulty getting in and out. Price



Contact Robert chevaili@gmail.com (415) 441-7699 [Posted 09/14]

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*.



President's Ponderings ...

Hello, Fellow MGers,

Last Saturday's Annual Awards Brunch was quite Here are 5 steps to enhancing your enjoyment of the success. Congratulations to all the the folks that were recognized for their achievements and support of the MGOC for the past year.

Special congratulations to Suzy Savage for being awarded the Burnt Spark Plug Award. A picture tells a 1000 words and we¹re just glad Suzy is able to tell the tale with a smile.

As with all events, there are many people to thank, but I1d like to really hand out a heartfelt thank you to Marcia Crawford and George Steneberg for all the planning of the event along with the making of the centerpieces and lugging all the AV equipment over for our very own Felix Lee who did a magnificent job on MGOC 2014 slide show and MGOC 2015 Tour Planner Calendar.

Speaking of the calendar, I'm very excited about this years upcoming events. Highlights will include MGs by the Bay in Danville, GOF West in Rohnert Park, Scenic Redwood Three Day Overnight Tour and the Annual Picnic which will also be a pool party in the warm climate of Los Gatos.

There is an event planned every month and I hope to see you and your MGs at many of them. I am very honored to be the president of such a great group of people.

vour little MG:

- 1. Attend Natter and Noggin Meetings
- 2. Get Involved and volunteer for MGOC Events
- 3. Be a Resource for a new member and be a sounding board for their questions
- 4. Lead a Tour!
- 5. Share your passion of the MG Marque with someone under 40 years of age

I'm looking forward to our next Natter and Noggin Meeting and Tech Session to be held in Morgan Hill on February 28th, at On the Road Again Classics.

Before I close, I1d also like to welcome new members Jean Behse, Bill Thomson and Paul Cardoni!! Jean and Bill have a 76 MGB Roadster that they have owned for 5 years and Paul has a 73 MGB Roadster that he purchased in England in 1973 and has

been in the same family for 42 years!

Safety fast! Steve Kellogg









Meet our Newest Member

Deep MG Love

By Wali Sultani

As far as I can remember I have always been passionate about automobiles. In my teenage years in Australia, I owned multiple cars of various makes and models. I enjoyed the uniqueness and personality of each, and began to look at them more then just an object to move people around.

I discovered classic British automobiles when I was 20. I fell in love with the simplicity of the mechanics and the unexpectedly refined styling and aesthetics. My first purchase was a 1969 Austin Healy Sprite MarkIII. Its was white with black interior that was the envy of all my friends who, at that time and age, didn't know what to make of it.

When I relocated to California, 10 years ago, I began looking to find my next British masterpiece. I struggled to find the right time, place or vehicle for quite some time, until recently in May 2014, when I came across an ad for an MGA. From the advertisement and pictures it looked to be in decent shape but I had been down this road many a times before and did not get my hopes up too high. I scheduled a time and went down to see the car.

I was sold from the moment I laid eyes on it. It was in great shape. The previous owner's love for these cars was very evident, in that he had been meticulous about every detail. Unfortunately he had passed away and the family had no need for the MGA any longer.

The car was originally British racing green with the original 1500 motor. The owner had since changed the color to chariot red, upgraded the motor to an MGB 1800, added an electric overdrive and custom side exhaust. Making it a more practical daily driver. The (not so) subtle modifications has been an interesting topic among the purest, but I wouldn't change a thing:)

I am happy to say, I have fallen deeper and deeper in love with this car since it has been in my possession. I am even more excited to be part of the MGOC and in their pursuit to preserve these works of art. I look forward to meeting all of the members and attending as many events as I can. Cheers!



NEW BUSINESS

The Board has appointed Mike Jacobsen to be an At-Large Board Member due to his upcoming activities with the MGOC and planning of the 2017 NAMGAR Event in 2017. The Board wishes to thank John Hunt for his services this past year. The other two At-Large members are Craig Kuenzinger and George Steneberg.

Consideration of an MG Love photo book with member submissions, similar to the professionally published, 911 Love, large-sized coffee table book collection of Porsche 911 owner's stories of ownership. More details to come.

BUSINESS RESOLVED ONLINE SINCE LAST MEETING

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Get people to sign up for the Brunch - So far 39 have RSVP'd.

NEXT MEETING

February 28-10:00~am-MGOC Tech Session – On the Road Again – Morgan Hill Meeting adjourned at 11:14~am Submitted by Jing Chai



MGOC Business Meeting Minutes

Felix and Kimberly's at Los Altos Hills January 10, 2015

Call to Order: 10:40 am by President Steve Kellogg

Attending: Felix Lee, Kimberly Lee, George Steneberg, Marcia Crawford, Dave Marsh, Jennifer Orum, Jing Chai

Late Attending who thought it was at 12:00 noon: Ken Gittings, Mike Jacobsen, Elaine Chan

January Mileage Winner: None

Approval Minutes of Previous Meeting, December 13, 2014: Approved

REPORTS

President's Report: Steve Kellogg - Would like to see more social events this year and is looking forward to

attending as many as he can.

Vice President's Report: Andy Preston – not present.

Treasurer's Report: Marla Preston

Account 2014	January 2015	December 2014	November 2014	October
Checking	9,815.73	9,756.21	10,140.98	10,463.46
Savings Total	3,462.33 14,278.06	3,462.25 13,218.46	3,462.17 13,603.15	3,462.08 13,925.54

MGOC financials will be reviewed by the Board and a recommended minimum level will be voted on. Average expenses for the year have been trending @ \$10,000. Largest events are the Annual Brunch and MGs by the Bay.

Registrar's Report: Steve Kellogg

168 Members

55 Family Members 223 Total Members

11 Corresponding Members

2 Family Corresponding Member 13 Total Corresponding Members

Secretary's Report: Jing Chai - Nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: George Steneberg- Car Hunter Club of all Clubs in the US.

www.carclubhunter.org

Regalia: David Wright - Had a cold, couldn't attend.

The Octagon: Felix Lee - as of 1/08/15, there have been 362 downloads of the Screen Octagon and 22 Print Octagons. We've been averaging about 400 – 500 clicks per month! Actively looking for submissions. Encourage "Bring a Friend" program for MGOC events and a chance to get a free meal.

Facebook: Felix Lee – was also set up and the consensus is that it is being well received! Thanks Felix!! Currently have 66 LIKES. Please share with friends. Will list announcements for monthly events and any additional content uploaded by the MGOC Facebook Advisory Committee, consisting of Steve Kellogg, Jing Chai, Marla Preston, and

Website: Steve Kellogg - Haven't been updated yet, but coming soon. Consider not listing printed editions of The Octagon to save on memory.

PAST EVENTS

Holiday Tea at Elaine Chan's house on December 13

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 24 - MGOC Annual Brunch - His Lordship's - Berkeley

OLD BUSINESS

None

Whilst Chasing a GT 40 at Nürburgring...

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the BSPA

By Suzy Savage

What really happened. On the freeway in typical brakes. I got out of the car and ... yikes! congestion, the two cars ahead of me abruptly left the lane, exposing a large re-tread that had been shed by a truck. Ken Gittings calls these things "alligators."

With nowhere to go, without causing a wreck, I ran over it! I pulled off the freeway, inspected the underside for leaking fluids or dangling bits that were not dangling

before. With only a bent valence and no other damage apparent, I proceeded back to the freeway and a couple of exits later I was at my storage/work space.

We had planned a day of working on the car and that day was a long one. We replaced the clutch master and a new starter was installed. It was getting dark and I was having trouble getting the clutch bled, but had enough pedal to get home and was planning a fresh attack in the morning.

A couple of freeway exits down the road, I noticed a hard brake pedal and that brake smell. I let traffic pass and the bad brake smell did not go with them. I pulled off the freeway, now with a really stiff pedal and really stinky

Brian took the picture while I dug the fire extinguisher out of the boot. By the time the flatbed arrived, the brake had cooled enough to return to seemingly normal function. I was able to drive up onto the flatbed.

Dave Laughlin and George Steneberg finished

bleeding the cutch and checked out the brakes -Dave could not find anything wrong with them. He disassembled the offending side and eventually discovered a kink or dent in my shiny new braided SS brake line.

The damage from the alligator could not be seen without the line being removed. It was allowing fluid to pass down to the caliper, but was not allowing the fluid to return quickly. Amazingly, the rotor was not warped! I did have Dave change the

caliper, as I feared the seals may have been roasted and would start to leak at some point.

After chastising me for using braided SS brake lines on a street car, he swapped them out for the more pliable and forgiving rubber version and off I went!





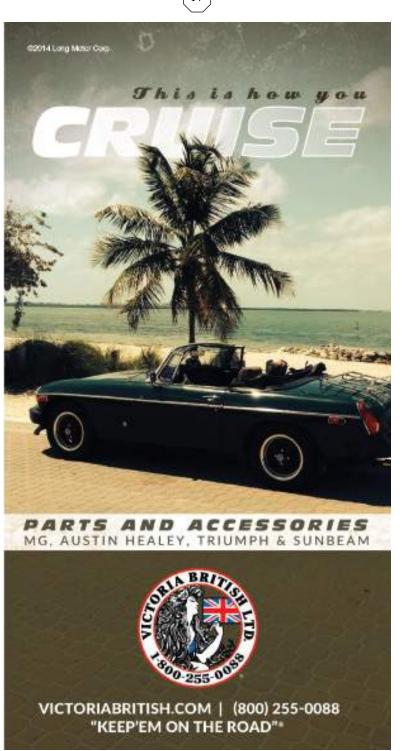
Photo by Suzy Savage and Stephanie Lee

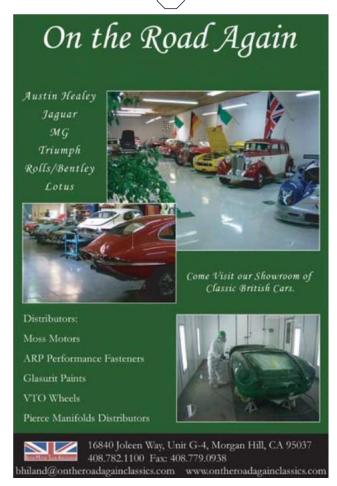
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.... TO BE CONTINUED

Photos by Samantha and Stephanie Lee







Kathy Chandler of Hagerty classic car insurance, presents Bill Hiland with the Expert Repair Network plaque

Congrats to Bill and the entire team at On the Road Again Classics



Tech Session, Morgan Hill

We kick off the year by looking at what is underside your MG. Got a leak? Can't manage to reach that spot underneath your car? Want to check your brake line for kinks after reading Suzy's story? Well, here's your chance to see what the road sees, the underside of your MG.

You bring the MG, we provide the lift.

And yes, there will be food. Donuts and coffee for breakfast. Bring your own lunch or we can pool money for Pizza.

Date: Saturday, February 28, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: 16840 Joleen Way, Unit G-4, Morgan Hill, CA 95037

Please RSVP to: Steve Kellogg at *president@mgocsf.org* or Bill Hiland at *bhiland@ontheroadagainclassics.com*



St. Patrick's Day Drive to Pelican Inn

The drive to the Pelican Inn in Muir Beach, leaving from Novato, covers about 68 miles. Best to check the gas level near Novato, although gas will be available in Pt. Reyes Station, where we will make a rest stop. Leaving Novato, the route will be Northwest through Chileno Valley, an especially scenic stretch of rural West Marin dairyland, and then to Hwy. 1 as it follows South alongside Tomales Bay into Marshall. After a rest stop in Point Reyes Station, the drive will be South through Olema and on through Stinson Beach, ending in Muir Beach. The Pelican Inn is a cozy old pub and hotel, perfect for Irish-like lunch choices and great pints, and has been the club's St. Paddy's destination for years. Lunch should be around 1:00 pm. Best be wear'n some GREEN!!

Date: Tuesday, March 17, meet at 10:15am, depart at 10:30 am, rain or shine (St Paddy never worries about some rain). Torrential rain, however, might make St Paddy reconsider and postpone to a drier day)

Meeting Place: Starbuck's - 127 San Marin Dr., Novato. Just North of Novato, take San Marin Drive exit from Hwy. 101 and head West. A couple miles later, turn right into the large parking area for the Harvest Market and other mini-mall stores, including Starbucks.

RSVP PLEASE: We need a solid count of lunch customers for the Muir Inn. Contact Bud Alderson at: 415-497-7669 (cell) or *iralderson@comcast.net*



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

Date: Saturday, March 21, 2015

Tour leaders: Andy and Marla Preston 707 795 3480

Meeting Place: Safeway Parking Lot, 1 Camino Alto, Mill Valley. Take 101 north or south and exit at E.Blithdale Ave and head west for 3/4 mile, then turn left onto Camino Alto and the Safeway Parking lot will be on your right after 1/2 mile. There is a Starbucks next to Safeway for refreshments.

Time: Meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 departure

Tour: We will be driving to the top of Mount Tam which is a fairly easy and gradual climb. On a clear day the views are spectacular and on a cloudy day surreal as you are above the clouds. You can see San Francisco, the Bay Bridge, the Golden Gate bridge towers, Tiburon, Belvedere and the Pacific. There is a visitor's center, look out point and bathrooms. There is a parking fee of \$8 per car and \$1 less for seniors.

After enjoying the views we will continue north along Shoreline Highway to Point Reyes Station for lunch at the Station House Café. We will be in their private dining room and be able to order from the open menu. There will only be one check for the entire group, so please bring cash.

Please RSVP: to Andy or Marla Preston at 707 795 3480 or *marlapreston@hotmail.com* by March 17 so we can confirm lunch reservations.

We look forward to seeing you.







MGOC Fashionistas



Eric Baker

at the 2015 MGOC Annual Awards Banquet at Hs Lordships, Berkeley, CA showing off his ID badge cowboy hat

Photo by Stephanie Lee

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Start Planning for 2015 ...

WINTER - SPRING

HEADLAND PRESIDIO TOUR, 2/15
TECH SESSION, OTRA, MORGAN HILL,2/28
ST. PATRICK'S DAY TOUR, 3/17
MT. TAMALPAIS TOUR, 3/21
TECH SESSION, WALNUT CREEK, 4/18
JAN & BEN TOUR, 4/18
DREAM MACHINES @ HALF MOON BAY, 4/26
LOGG RUN, LOS GATOS, 5/9
UBSSCC DIXON CAR SHOW, 5/17
MGS BY THE BAY, DANVILLE, 5/31



SPRING - SUMMER

UNITED BRITISH SPORTS CAR CLUB SHOW, 5/17 GOF WEST 2015, ROHNERT PARK, 6/15-19 PAJARO DUNES BEACH TOUR, 6/27 HUMBOLDT TOUR WEEKEND, 7/17-19 HILLSBOROUGH CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE, 7/19 OREGON RENDEZVOUS, 8/6 MONTEREY MOTORING CLASSIC WEEK, 8/10-16 TUNE AND SPOON LAFAYETTE, 8/15 PEBBLE BEACH CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE, 8/16 MGOC ANNUAL PICNIC & BBQ, LOS GATOS, 8/22



FALL - WINTER

SCOTTISH GAMES PLEASANTON, 9/5-6
4TH BRITISH FALL CLASSIC, MORGAN HILL, 9/12-13
DANVILLE CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE, 9/20
MT. DIABLO TOUR, 9/26
SIERRA TOUR, 10/2-4
NORTH BAY TOUR, 10/17
VETERAN'S DAY TOUR, 11/7
FALL TECH SESSION, SAN FRANCISCO, 11/14
MGOC HOLIDAY TEA, LOS GATOS, 12/12
PLANNING MEETING, 1/9/16
ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET, 1/23/16

Michael the MG Bear

Made in Indonesia

By Stephanie Lee

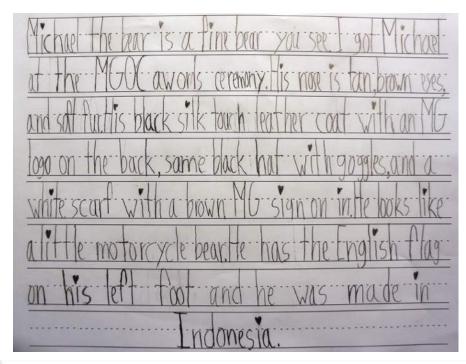




Photo by Felix Lee

MGOC ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

BY STEPHANIE LEE

