

THE OCTAGON

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



Don Davis's Freshly Restored TD at the Autumn Classic

January 2017

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: **Andy Preston**, andypreston@att.net

Vice President: **Keith Shukait**, shukait@me.com

Treasurer: **Marla Preston**, marlapreston@hotmail.com

Secretary: **Pam Shukait**, pshukait@me.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Member-at-Large: **Craig Kuenzinger**, 925-234-3313, mrcraigk@aol.com

Member-at-Large: **Mike Jacobsen**, 415-333-9699, MikesMuseum@yahoo.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**, 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**, 408-355-4125, webmaster@mgocsf.org

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

The Octagon Editor: **Dan Shockey**, 309-696-0803, magnut_dan@hotmail.com

Webmaster: **Steve Kellogg**, 408-335-4125, webmaster@mgocsf.org

CLUB ADVISOR PROGRAM

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

MGB 1962-74: Position Open!

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

MGB V8 Conversion: **Tony Bates**, 408-666-6174, 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: **Marty Ray**, 831-247-5863, martyray@cruzio.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**, 831-247-5863, martyray@cruzio.com

Bodywork: **Bill Weissberg**, 209-835-0428, weissber@slip.net

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or MikesMuseum@yahoo.com. 2005 rates are: monthly (yearly): full pg. \$25 (\$240), half page \$18 (\$175), third page \$12 (\$120), business card \$8 (\$75). All ads expire on Jan. 1st, and fees for a partial year will be pro-rated to that date. Deadline for ad materials is the 10th of the preceding month. The MGOC makes no claims as to the reputation or quality of work performed by businesses advertising in *The Octagon*.

MAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO *THE OCTAGON*

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

RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR THE MGOC

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

MGOCSE.ORG

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

MGOC Notables

MGOC in bold, SSTs: Sorry Safari Touring Society,

December 31 – MG EX 120 achieves 97mph (12/13/32)

January 7 – MGOC Planning Meeting, Kensington, George Steneberg & Marcia Crawford

January 21 – MGOC Awards Banquet, Hs Lordships Restaurant, Berkeley, Steve Kellogg

January 18-22 – NAMGAR Board Meeting, Solvang, CA

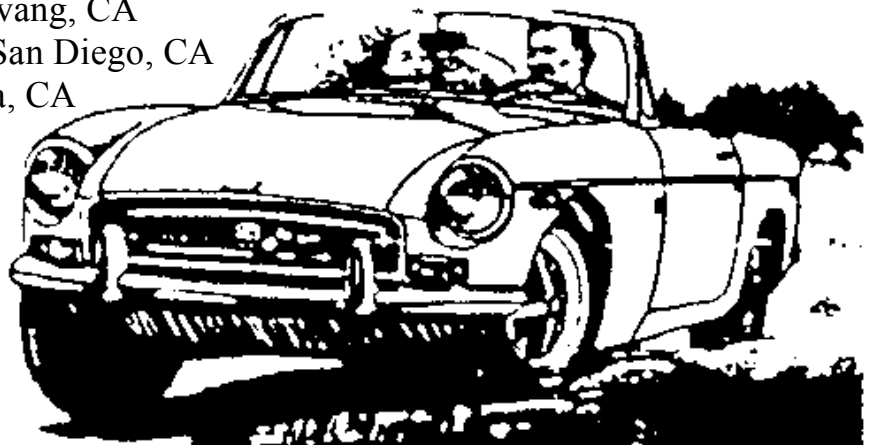
March 17 - St. Paddy's Day tour. Leader Andy Preston

April 24-28 – Brits in Paradise, Key West, FL

June 19-23 – NAMGAR GT-42, Solvang, CA

June 25-28 – NAMBGR, MG2017, San Diego, CA

July 10-14 – GOF West, Santa Maria, CA



MGOC Planning Meeting

Saturday, Jan. 7



Please join us!

We need your help to plan our events and activities for this New Year. Everyone is welcome especially new members and anyone who has any ideas for new or old events. All ideas are welcome and there are lots of people who are willing to help you.

Date: Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 10:00 am

Location: Marcia Crawford's house at 150 Purdue Ave, Kensington, 94708

Event: At this time we'll be planning the dates and locations for our monthly meetings, tours and events.

The club will provide Tea and Coffee and donuts and pastries.

Please RSVP to Andy Preston 707 795 3480,
andypreston@att.net

We look forward to seeing you.

Directions from the North or South Bay Area: Take Eastshore Freeway 80 or Highway 580 toward Golden Gate Fields. Exit at Albany/Buchanan. At light turn east (toward hills). Follow Buchanan east. Buchanan curves right and becomes Marin. Cross San Pablo Ave. and continue east on Marin thru several lights. Cross The Alameda (round fire house on your right) and continue to Marin Circle (fountain in middle) and around to The Arlington (only divided road). Continue on The Arlington to stop sign. Pass stores on your right and continue three blocks, then turn right on Westminster. Turn right on Kenyon (at top of "T") and continue around and up to Purdue. Turn left on Purdue Ave and continue a short way to 150 Purdue, a white colonial house on your left. Continue up three to four houses to find parking.



President's Ponderings...

Happy New Year to all MGOC members and I hope you all had a wonderful Holiday season. And Happy 60th to the MGOC itself; yes it seems hard to believe that our little MG car club has been around for 60 years.

First of all let me introduce myself as your incoming President for 2017. I'm Andy Preston and I've been a member of the club for over 20 years and was the VP for the last 2 years. I own 4 MGs so must be a real sucker for punishment.

I'd like to thank Steve Kellogg for being President for the last 2 years prior to moving down to Pebble Beach. Steve was dedicated in his leadership of the club and his untiring work in organizing various events. Steve will still stay on as Webmaster and Registrar so you'll be seeing him around. I'd also like to thank Felix Lee for his creative writing and endless imagination as Editor of the Octagon for the last 5 years and taking it to new levels. Felix is taking on new responsibilities in his medical field of Cardiology and will be heading the regional and national directorships of cardiovascular services; this sounds pretty impressive to me. And I recall now Felix always introduced himself as just a "Plumber"!

I'd like to welcome Keith and Pam Shukait to the MGOC family who were voted in as VP and Secretary and my better half Marla who will be staying on as Treasurer. I'd also like to thank my longtime friend and MGOC member Dan Shockey for stepping up and volunteering to be the new Editor of the Octagon. Dan and I go way back and I went to my first National NAMGAR event with him in 2003. Welcome Aboard!

We have a wonderful year of events outlined for our 60th year but we always need more help organizing and leading events of all kinds especially from newer members. Our Planning Meeting for this year will be at 10:00 am on Saturday, January 7, 2017 and be held at Marcia Crawford's house at 150 Purdue Ave in Kensington, see the flyer in the Octagon for more information, we'd love to see you there.

Our second meeting in January will be our Signature Annual Brunch which is a really fun event where we get to meet and greet new and old friends and say thank you to those who helped out last year. It will be on Saturday January 21st at 11:00am at Hs Lordships at the Berkley Marina and we have a private room overlooking the bay. The food is absolutely wonderful and something not to miss. See the flyer for more information.

We look forward to seeing you there as well.

Andy Preston



From da Ed...

Dec. 20, 2016

Hello. MG fans. It's a new year, a new President (MGOC, that is) and a new Octagon Editor. Felix has done a wonderful job with the Octagon. I hope I will not be a step backwards.

The hobby has changed since I last did this, I think, and especially since I first joined the MG scene. In the 1980s most of us were trying to keep a ratty MG running on the cheap while raising a family. We sought tips on how to save cash. We were eager to discover early history of our cars. Now we buy books with all that info and find tech videos on the 'net.

Mike O'Connor spoke to our club several years ago about the aging MG ownership and how that would affect the values of our cars – T series especially – and our clubs. It is sad to see so many long-time members drop away. Some can no

longer fit into their MGs. I have trouble crawling under my MG. And texting SUV drivers are dangerous to our bantam-weight cars.

We had a glimmer of hope when the MGF was created by Rover. Then we saw an MG winning races against top LeMans racers. Even when MG was sold to the Chinese company, we could hope that they might bring a new MG to us.

The good news is that sports car enthusiasts are still out there and finding new disciples. Cheap Miatas introduce the sport to the masses. MGAs have become hot commodities. MGBs and Midgets look fresh and exciting to new eyes.

I am reminded of the future king's speech in the *Lord of the Rings*, that the end of the age of men may come but not this day, not while we still believe and are courageous.

- Dan

New member? Share your story with the club. Everyone, send stories and art. Bring them on! - Ed.

MG

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

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MGA, MGC caliper
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Recent New Members

Julian De La Cerda, Glendale

I currently own a 1974 MGB GT, black on black with red piping on leather seats & wire wheels. Mostly original, however a few added updates, such as air conditioning, CD stereo and additional interior lighting. I use it many times for regular commuting and it's so much fun to drive.

On a personal note, I am retired and my first MGB GT was a red 1967, with black leather seats, red piping and wire wheels. Eventually, had to give up the 1967 MGB, for a larger more practical family car as the family grew. Parting wasn't easy at that time as I really enjoyed the car, but I figured oh well, I'll eventually get another one later on. While, later on was several years way later, after taking care of family, colleges, etc.

Finally, one day I was just relaxing and came across a 1974 MGB. It needed some work but looked nice and something clicked saying buy it, life is to short. You deserve a little something, I hesitated for a few seconds and then took the plunge and bought it.

I'm happy I did and then thought now where can I have a resource of information and expertise for my MGB. That's when I came across the Club & its benefits, so I decided to join. It's so nice when you see others who enjoy MGs & where better to go than an MG club.

Nadine You, Fremont

I bought my 1975 MGB at the end of April as a project car. We hope to be finished in the next few weeks at which time I would love to send you a couple of photos (before and after). My husband and I are looking forward to meeting up with the club members in 2017 and finally getting to drive the car!

Nick Manley, San Jose

Thanks for reaching out. I bought the GT back in August. It's in pretty good shape and finished in Primrose yellow. Brakes were not good - scarcely not good when I bought it. It was basically braking on the outside of the front left caliper and the rears...made for interesting trek down 880 in rush hour traffic...

Now working through it all and overhauling, painting or upgrading all the important stuff.

Not sure if going the Mazda engine/trans route or not but will need more power to match the brakes and suspension upgrades...stay tuned!

All the best and merry Christmas!

Welcome to the MG Owners Club!

The \$50 Paint Job?

"That man is the richest whose pleasures are the cheapest" - Thoreau

by Dan Shockey

As I was preparing to sell my MG TD this past year, I did some minor body and paint work on it. I found it frustrating to match the paint and avoid spraying more than I needed. I was intrigued by the reports of a method to paint a car by hand for only \$50.

The interest was sparked by a hobby magazine and on-line blogs reporting on the successful use of hardware store Rustoleum paint on a Corvair. And most enthusiasts have heard of or seen other brush-paint jobs. With the difficulties of obtaining easy home use automotive spray paint and safety equipment, a revival of such a technique is very welcome.

Several successes have been reported on the MG blogs. It was used sometimes for painting inside trunks, under bonnets, and individual parts but also for entire cars. The photos and testimonials provided undeniable proof. An example:

"I used Home Depot Rustoleum for my engine bay - last spring - and it turned out perfect...helped me win 1st place at the Portland, Oregon All British Field Meet!"

The favored technique involves using either the standard Rustoleum or the professional grade version, spread with foam brushes & rollers or a mix of foam and really-good bristle brushes. The paint is diluted and enhanced with products for better leveling and faster drying. There are many recommendations for maximizing the technique. I will only introduce the subject here. Color can be changed by mixing or by using paint tints. Two reds can be mixed, for example. One standard Rustoleum red is very close to MG red and another very good for MG engine red/maroon.

Check the web sites and the u-tube videos for more information. The original article is an important first reference and may be found here:

<http://horsepowersports.com/paint-your-car-with-a-roller-for-under-100/>



**Brush-
painted
MGB**



Here is a report by one painter:

Today was coat #1 day for me and the car. It was a learning day for me so my expectations were not very high (mistakes can be sanded out). Various lessons learned:

1. *Despite impatient tendencies, it is good to at least tape the chrome and stuff.*
2. *The Really Cheap paint trays will develop leaks at the corners due to bending.*
3. *Find a rolling table or something to keep the loaded paint tray near you and not on a rounded fender.*
4. *Do not forget to change out of your \$100 LL Bean walking shoes before starting to paint. (See #3.)*
5. *Keep some lacquer thinner around for removing paint from new Sumitomo tires. (See #3.).*
6. *The MEK will evaporate quickly from the paint on a sunny day so keep more around and monitor the viscosity. Add more as needed.*
7. *If you can't spray your paint and you do not really care about winning at Stowe this might not be a bad way to do it. Inside would be a far better place to do the painting (especially under lots of trees). The tree stuff does seem to brush off when it dries a bit.*

See photos. Report success!



Brush-painted
engine bay



NAMGAR GT-42, June 2017

By Dan Shockey, MG Owners Club

Working with the leaders of NAMGAR, the Paradise British Car Club (Central Coast California) and the MG Owners Club (of Northern California) selected Solvang, California, for the location of NAMGAR's annual Get Together in June, 2017. Both local clubs have a long history with NAMGAR. The Paradise club began as an MGA club. The MGOC incorporates the former NorCal NAMGAR chapter that hosted GT-9 in Tiburon, California. Both clubs include many longtime NAMGAR contributors.

Solvang is located in the historic Santa Ynez Valley that is the central part of Santa Barbara County. This small area – only 20,000 residents – offers so many and diverse features and attractions, that it has been difficult to decide what to promote for the GT. In the end, we just offer you the whole “smorgaasbord.” (Danish for “smorgasbord.”)

Within the Santa Ynez Valley, there are six unique small towns, a thriving wine country, many food specialties, Ronald Reagan's Rancho del Cielo, Michael Jackson's Neverland Ranch, a restored Spanish mission, historic stage stops, multiple mountain ranges and valleys, a casino, Danish windmills and other Danish sites, automotive museums, live theater, hundreds of miles of horseback trails, lakes, and a national forest. It is the home of Split Pea Soup, more than 80 wineries, Ostrichland, Mayberry (1986 movie), and a Botanic Garden. And I can't overlook the antique shops, art galleries, and golf. Early explorers, Franciscan monks, cattle drives, stage coaches, wagon trains and Spanish-American banditos all traveled through this beautiful valley on the El Camino Real. The real-life inspiration for Zorro rode this valley on his powerful steed. One of the small towns looks like an Old West stage set.

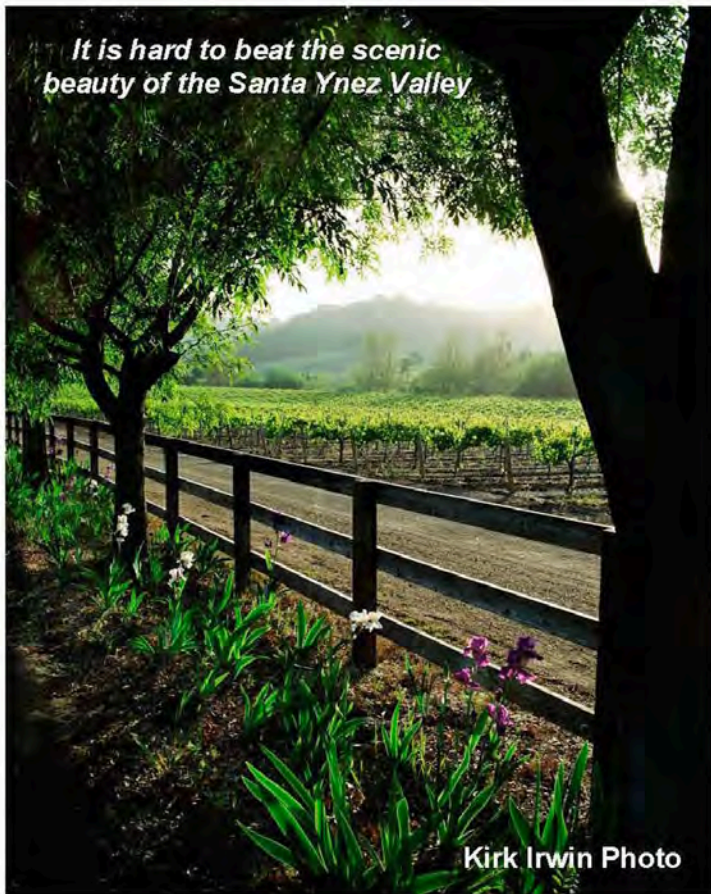
The half-timbered buildings of Solvang create a friendly old-world atmosphere that is enjoyed by car show organizers. The Danish bakeries and restaurants are popular with their aebleskiver, frikadeller, medisterpolse and rodkaal. Besides the Elverhoj Museum and the Hans Christian Andersen Museum, there is the Vintage Motorcycle Museum and the Museum of Gasoline Pumps and Petroliana. There are four full-size windmills, as used by the Danish to grind grain. The Old Mission Santa Ines was built in 1804 and renovated in 1904. A performance of the outdoor musical theater is on the agenda with a mix of professional and top aspiring performers. (Pacific Conservatory of Performance Arts's Theaterfest)

Our host motel is located in the midst of this smorgaasbord and is a short walk to the Mission and all the sights and activities in Solvang. The car show will be held at the Mission.

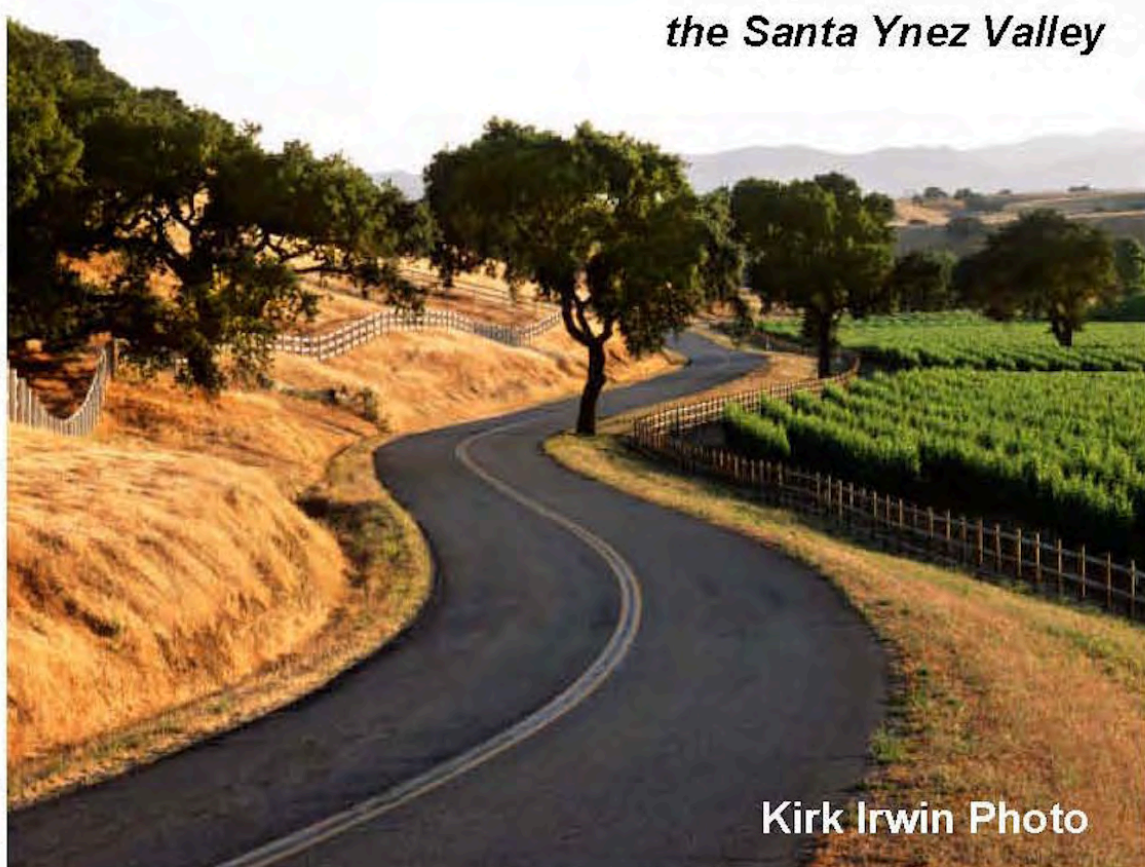
The climate is coastal California, warm, dry and sunny inland and cool at the coast. Santa Barbara is 20 minutes away. The Valley is two hours from Los Angeles and 4 hours from San Francisco. Other areas of the Central Coast are not far, including Hearst Castle, Monterey, Big Sur and Highway 1 along the coast.

Join us for a unique, beautiful and fascinating experience of MGs, Solvang, the Santa Ynez Valley, and the Central Coast of California.

GT-42 in Historic California



the Santa Ynez Valley



MGOC Meeting Minutes – Dec. 10, 2016

Holiday Tea – Kensington, CA

Call to Order: By Andy Preston at 1:07PM

Attending: Elaine Chan, Marcia Crawford, Ken Gittings, John Hunt, Mike Jacobsen, Jennifer Orum, Andy & Marla Preston, Keith & Pam Shukait, and George Steneberg. More people arrived after the meeting was over.

Mileage Winner (and recipient of a free breakfast): N/A

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: November 5, 2016: Approved with a correction to the September savings balance to \$3,464.89.

REPORTS

President's Report: Steve Kellogg: Absent due to the weather, but he sent a report: Thanks for all your help and support these past two years. Thanks to Marcia Crawford for hosting our Holiday Tea and upcoming Planning Meeting in her lovely home in Kensington.

Vice President's Report: Andy Preston: Thanks to all for coming and thanks to Marcia.

Treasurer's Report: Marla Preston:

Account	December 2016	November 2016
Checking	\$11,522.79	\$12,107.81
Savings	\$3,464.34	\$3,464.26
Total	\$14,987.13	\$15,572.07

In the past month we've had *Octagon* expenses, Web hosting fees, a \$248.00 deposit for the 2017 Annual Picnic, purchase of software to create compressed PDF files, and payment for the Annual Brunch awards.

Secretary's Report: Mike Jacobsen, acting: Nothing to report.

Registrar's Report: Steve Kellogg:

166	Number of Regular Members
56	Number of Regular Family Members
222	Total Regular and Family Members
13	Number of Corresponding Members
2	Number of Corresponding Family Members
15	Total Corresponding and Family Members
237	Total members

Corresponding Secretary's Report: George Steneberg: We received a request from the NEMGTR for our annual Chapter Report. Mike Jacobsen said he'd send a report by the January 10, 2017 due date.

Regalia Report: Andy Preston: Some regalia sales.

The *Octagon* Report: Felix Lee: Absent, but will conclude his editorship of the *Octagon* with the December issue. Dan Shockey will become the new Editor. Dan requests that everyone sent him material for the *Octagon*! Mike reported that the commercial ad renewal notices have been sent – most advertisers pay by the calendar year.

Website Report: Steve Kellogg: Nothing to report

13

NAMGAR GT-42 Mike Jacobsen: The GT-42 planning is coming together. The website should be online and ready to accept reservations at the end of the year, and the next issue of *MGA!* will have a registration form, along with an introductory article by Dan Shockey and some pictures of the Solvang area. We've arranged for credit card processing with NAMGAR, Andy Preston has set up the regalia selections and logo, and we're about to order dash plaques. Randy Grossman has been getting us sponsors for different GT activities and paid ads for the GT program. Lorin Cuthbert has made arrangements for all the events that require food, and Ken Palmer & Larry Long have created a car show layout for the Mission grounds.

PAST EVENTS

- Sierra Tour – Very cold, but some of the 18 cars driven to the event had their tops down.

UPCOMING EVENTS (MGOC sponsored events are in bold text)

- January 7 – Annual Planning meeting at Marcia Crawford's home at 10am
- January 21 – Annual Awards Brunch at Hs Lordship's in Berkeley

OLD BUSINESS

Officer candidates for 2017:

- President – Andy Preston
- Vice-President – Keith Shukait
- Treasurer – Marla Preston
- Secretary – Pam Shukait

Steve will get the BSPA from Jim Lucas before the Awards Brunch.

NEW BUSINESS

- The candidates were elected unanimously.
- Andy said he plans on proposing changes to the Bylaws.

BUSINESS RESOLVED ONLINE SINCE LAST MEETING

Approved \$250 to spend on awards for Annual Brunch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Annual planning meeting, January 7 at 10AM, at the home of Marcia Crawford.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40PM

Submitted by: Mike Jacobsen

Octagon Note:

Sorry for the format difference. I haven't the chance to get the templates from Felix and install Apple Pages. I used the old Word doc template to get this done quickly before Christmas and in time to let members know about the Planning Meeting on January 7. (Word is a royal pain.)

Thank you. - Dan

Discover the (Urban) Backroads

By Dan Shockey

When I started driving my 1935 MG PA Midget, I soon found that freeways were not a nice place for it, except early on Sunday mornings. I was living in northern San Jose at that time. I was determined to drive it to events, however, so started looking for non-freeway routes.

We don't normally search for such routes unless it is alternatives when our daily commutes are blocked. I was surprised at how many times I could find a quite acceptable route. It was slower, of course, but I just needed to leave earlier. And I found these routes often interesting and pleasant. Folks would wave and I could even stop to chat, meet dogs and check on the car. They were much easier on me and on the car.

North San Jose was a very good start to catch some of these "g'routes." (Short for good-routes. English is wonderful since we can make up our own words.) Sometimes I would use a short section of freeway to connect between groutes. I could get to Morgan Hill, Palo Alto, Livermore, and further places quite easily.

I also used this technique to drive the PA and TD in Illinois (and Missouri, Iowa, Wisconsin and Indiana). I drove the PA 300 miles to Auburn, Indiana, for a GOF, using the minor highways and secondary roads. The corn was new-green and wildflowers covered the roadsides. Some groutes I later used for my regular car just because I enjoyed them so much. They are cooler in the summer and offer fun stopping places, like leisurely Bass Lake in Indiana with a beach and snack shop and young kids to climb on the MG.

Once I sent my niece and her husband to eastern Michigan on one groute to avoid freeway construction south side of Chicago. They really appreciated the time savings and the interesting drive with little traffic. It is something of a time-wharp traveling through old neighborhoods and small towns.

It is a lot of fun to find and plot these routes, much like planning a tour. I think we could make a game of it. Happy Trails!



DRIP PAN

News and Articles from the Peninsula T Register

GOF West 2017

Santa Maria, California

July 10 - 14, 2017

It will be loads of fun meeting up once more with MGs from all over the West (some from farther away too). We have volunteers from multiple MG clubs helping to make the 44th GoF West to be one of the best ever. Expect this GoF to be a blending of tradition with change.

Santa Maria is situated in a lovely area with sea breezes. There is an abundance of GREAT MG roads to travel, lots of local history, and the Radisson Hotel is a wonderful venue to meet and share our common MG interest. The average weather for the area at that time of year is highs of 72° to 73° with a low of 54°... how is that for perfect MG weather?

On Monday there will be a guided TOUR of the local area in the afternoon along with self-guided tour route sheets to see the local sights. Our Santa Maria expert Jim Bull promises there is so much to see without going on the same roads that he uses for the rallye.

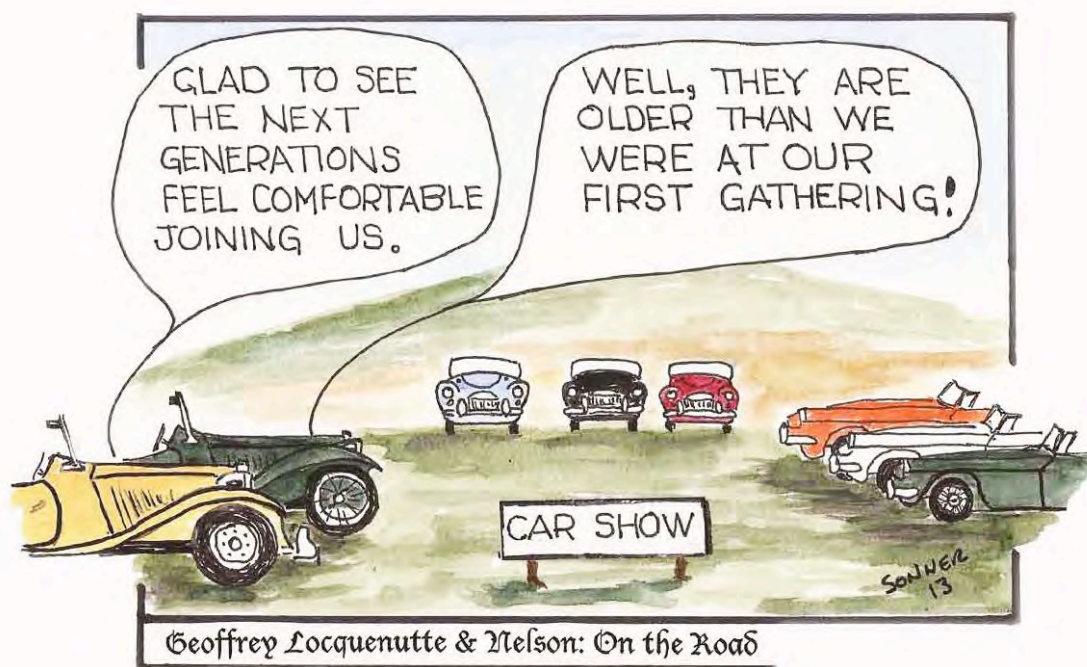
Perfect weather and perfect roads, save the dates now.

Registration Fee: \$45.00 USD before March 1, 2017

\$55.00 USD after February 28, 2017

Hotel: Radisson Santa Maria, (805) 928-8000

"GoF West Group" Rates are \$125.00 per night for a standard room, plus applicable taxes and fees.



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Join over 2,000 enthusiastic owners in the restoration, preservation, and sheer enjoyment of driving an MGA, Magnette, or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive six bi-monthly issues of *MGA*, our full-color, award winning magazine, invitations to National and Regional Get-Togethers throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus a knowledge base and support group second to none. All this for just \$37.50 per year (North America), or \$52.50 (International). **Get more information at** <http://www.namgar.com>, or contact registrar@namgar.com.




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Holiday Tea Report

by Andy Preston

This years Holiday Tea was held at Marcia Crawford's beautiful home in Kensington. Marcia and George had spent countless hours decorating the house like one in a Victorian novel. Unfortunately the weather didn't cooperate and it poured down with rain all day which discouraged many members from showing up.

Those who did brave the elements were, Pam and Keith Shukait, Mike Jacobsen and Elaine Chan, Dan and Thuy Shockey, John Hunt, Ken Gittings, Jennifer Orum, Stephen Born, Suzy Savage and Brian, Marcia and George and Andy and Marla who were treated to some wonderful edible delights.

Everyone bought a dish to share so there was more food than anyone could eat and Marcia brewed some wonderful teas served the traditional way in Bone China cups and saucers and milk for the Anglophiles. Remember the milk always goes in first. How do you know how much? You just do. Marcia also knows that I love cucumber sandwiches and she makes them the traditional English way with very thin sliced cucumbers on white bread with the crust cut off. Delicious!

It was great to see members that we haven't seen for some time and spend time catching up. Everyone had a wonderful time and George had lots of toys to take down to the local Fire Station.

Many thanks again to Marcia and George for hosting the Holiday Tea.

Holiday Tea:

Andy, Dan & Thuy

Stephen Born & Brian Linke



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A new Harvard study suggests that the real business of a car club gets done in the kitchen after the formal meeting. Marla and Pam at work.

Photos by George Steneberg

Celebrating 20 years

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More New Members

Richard M. Rocco, John Rocco, Alameda (Father & Son)

Thirty-five years ago I purchased an MGA basket case. It was about 60% complete. In the garage it became the week-end obsession. My son John was 10 years old. He would help and watch me struggle with frozen bolts and rusted out parts. The dream was never finished. Life got complicated. John went to college, I changed jobs a dozen times. The car was sold, along with three cases of Moss Motors replacement parts.

We never stopped thinking about the days in the garage with the MGA. Last year we started looking for a replacement dream. We found a 1959 driver in a shop north of Sacramento. The car was mechanically restored and 97% complete (HDA43 61732). After going on long rides together we are back in the garage cleaning and restoring. Moss Motors is glad we are back. So are we.

MGA 1500 1959, originally black with red interior, wire wheels, shipped on January 13, 1959.

Welcome to the MG Owners Club!

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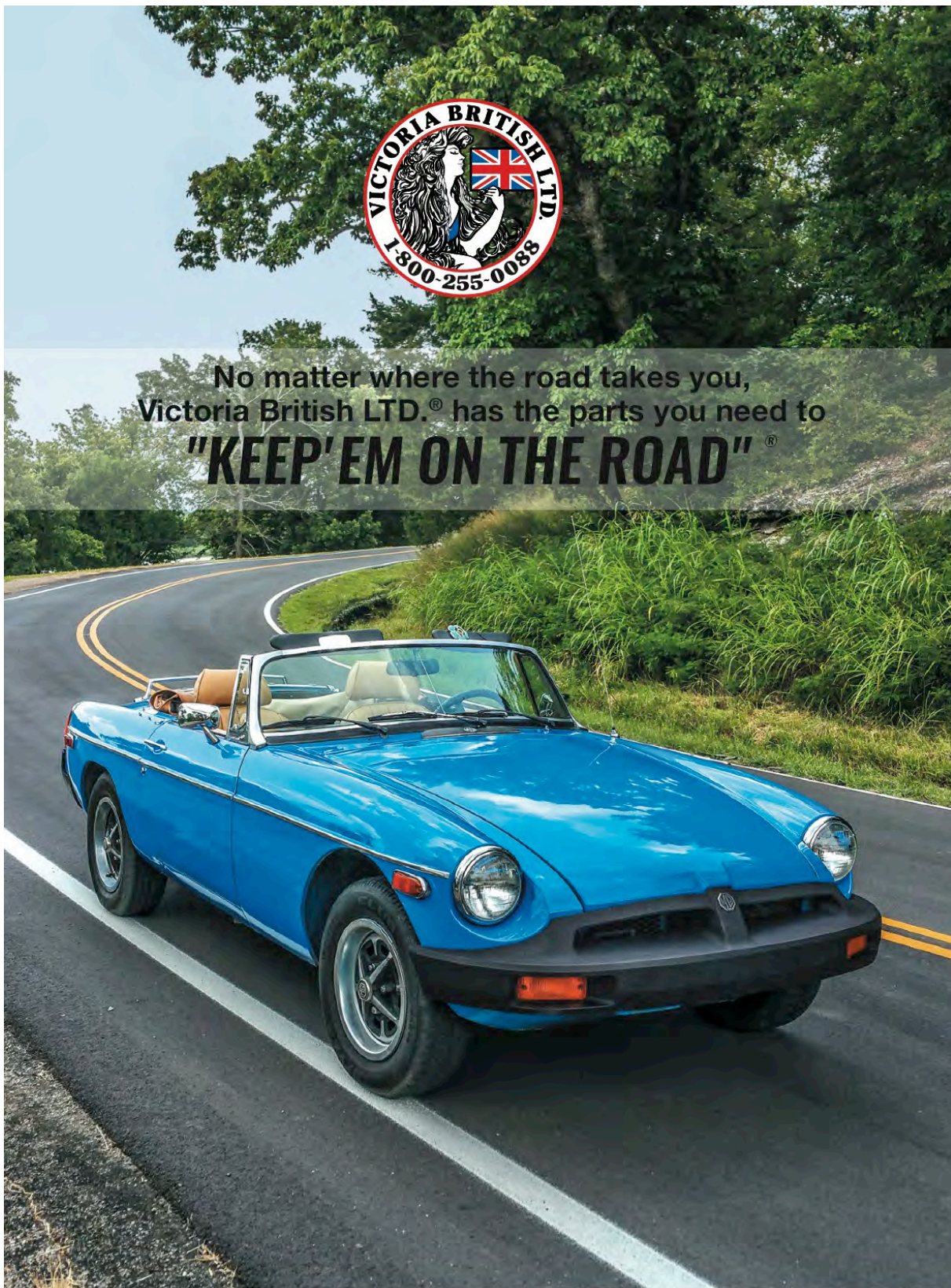
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Classified Ads

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



1977 MGB Roadster \$7000.00 or Best Offer. I have put tons of money into it. All works, runs good. Top is clean. Will pass smog easily after all the work I put into last year. I have all the paper work from the day I bought it. If you have any questions call member, Laura Ortiz, anytime 831-809-1777. [Posted 11/16]



Four 165-80x15 tires with 200 miles on them: Purchased in 2015. Nankang CX668 made in Taiwan. Review: "They handle very well at hard cornering. I can't get these tires to squeal." \$120 all. Dan (309) 696-08903. Scotts Valley.

Logitech Create, Backlit Keyboard case with Smart Connector for iPad Pro 12.9 inch. Won at Danville d'Elegance. Retail for \$149.99 (plus tax). Make best offer to Ken Gittings, 510-791-8445. [Posted 10/16]

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 airconditioning. Rental rates are very reasonable. Contact either Randy Grossman (415-518-5210) or Eric Baker (510-517-2165)

For additional ads, see prior issues of The Octagon. Some MGs & parts may no longer be available. Prior issues of The Octagon and other classified ads may be found on our web site



MGOC Annual Awards Banquet

The Annual MGOC Brunch will be held again at Hs Lordships at the Berkley Marina. We have a private room overlooking the bay and the brunch banquet is probably the best in the Bay Area and includes fresh crab and seafood along with a carvery and made to order omelets. If you haven't attended this before you don't know what you've missed. Seating is limited so contact Marla Preston early to save your spot.

**January 21, 2016
Saturday
11:00 am-3:00 pm
Hs Lordships Restaurant
199 Seawall Drive, Berkeley, CA 94710
\$ 25 / person paid in advance**

**RSVP by January 14th 2016 with your check made out to the MGOC and mail to :
Marla Preston
7305 Rebas Way
Rohnert Park CA, 94928**



**Marla's phone # and email: 707 795 3480
and marlapreston@hotmail.com**

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Notable Dates.....	3
MGOC Planning Meeting.....	4
From the President	5
From the Editor	6
Recent New Members.....	7, 19
The \$50 Paint Job.....	8-9
<i>NAMGAR GT-42</i>	10-11
MGOC Meeting Minutes	12-13
Discover the Back Roads	14
The Drip Pan: GOF West 2017	15
Holiday Tea Report.....	16-18
Classifieds	22
Annual Awards Banquet	23