

THE OCTAGON

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



March 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.

DIRECTORY OF MGOC OFFICERS FOR 2012

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

Vice President: Steve Kellogg, webmaster@mgocsf.org

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

Secretary: Randy Grossman, grossran001@comcast.net

Member-at-Large: Craig Kuenzinger, 925-899-1218, mrcraigk@aol.com

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

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

Other MGOC Officers for 2012:

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

Corresponding Secretary: George Steneberg, j2george@pacbell.net

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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 Midgents-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: MG Parking Only, Walnut Creek, Felix Lee

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

Direct all questions about advertising to Mike Jacobsen at 415-333-9699 or MikesMuseum@yahoo.com. 2012 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

March 14 – **MGOC Club Meeting**, Natter & Noggin, The Englander, San Leandro, Tim Polidoroff

March 16 – **Mount Tamalpais Tour**, Mount Tamalpais, Andy Preston

March 20 – **St. Patrick's Day Tour**, Marin, Steve Lilves

March 29 – **Pub Night**, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill and Mary Hiland

March 30 – Susan's Tour, Bob and Susan Engelhart

April 6 – **MGOC Club Meeting**, Natter & Noggin, TBD

April 14 – Point Reyes Tour, Bryant and Meredith

April 19 – **Pub Night**, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill and Mary Hiland

April 27-28 – **MGOC Tech Session with John Twist**, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, Bill and Mary Hiland

From the Editor...

(no need for a “spoiler alert”)

Assuming all MG enthusiasts are also fans of British TV, especially shows that depict an earlier period and showcase vintage cars from that period, then we must all be avid followers of *Downton Abbey*. Having just concluded its third season, the multi-Emmy Award winning series is watched by millions every week. Although *Downton Abbey* was already a hit in the UK, its unprecedented success in the US, has PBS enjoying its highest viewership, ever. It was even recognized by the *Guinness Book of World Records* as the most critically acclaimed English language TV series of 2011. In fact, *Downton Abbey* is easily the most watched current TV show in the world and is the first international television series to receive the largest number of nominations in the history of Primetime Emmy TV awards, twenty-seven in total.

Why the sensation? Perhaps, most are fascinated by the English aristocracy and how the upper class Crawleys mesh with their commoner servants in the post-Edwardian era. The various story lines involve the head of the Yorkshire estate, Robert Crawley, Earl of Grantham, who is married to an American heiress, Cora (who has mastered that perfect “chin down, closed smile, I told you so look”), and their three daughters named Mary (the eldest, who is apathetic about being married off to cousin Matthew Crawley in order to keep the estate in the family), Edith (your typical middle sibling with middle sibling issues), and Sybil (the most idealistic of the three, who runs off to join the Voluntary Aid Detachment during WWI). The matriarch, Her Ladyship Dowager Countess of Grantham, Lady Violet, is Robert’s mother and pretty much steals every scene with her quick conservative wit and deadpan delivery of one-liners such as, “One can’t go to pieces at the death of every foreigner,” at the start of WWI. The great old manor house that is Downton Abbey, (Highclere Castle) is serviced by an indispensable staff of under-butlers, valets, maids, footmen, kitchen staff and chauffeurs, all under the watchful eye of head butler, Charles Carson. Drama and tension mount weekly during their various romances, skirmishes, and escapades, which are all nicely resolved during an annual 2 hour finale “Christmas Special.”

However, the storylines I generally follow, have to do with their cars. You see, Sybil ran off with Tom (an Irish Socialist), who was their family chauffeur, and got married. They then left for Ireland, only to come back to Yorkshire with his brother, Kiernan (another Irish socialist), to open up a local “Garage.” Now, what if this local “Garage,” although outside of Abingdon, happened to be a “Morris Garage?” As in “MG,” servicing cars for the “ordinary man.” Wouldn’t that just tickle everyone’s fancy? The timing is just right. The end of Season 3 takes us right up to autumn, 1921. In 1922, Cecil Kimber joins Morris Garage as a sales manager and is appointed as general manager the following year.

Given the aristocracy, we get to see the Crawley’s 1910 Rolls Royce 40/50 hp Silver Ghost Torpedo Tourer and a 1925 Sunbeam 20/40 hp at Downton Abbey (we’ll forgive the future year of the Sunbeam, just this once), and several 1911 Renault CB12/16 hp Laundette’s while at Duneagle, Scotland, chauffeur driven, of course. But when Matthew decides to drive on his own, his choice is a vintage sage green AC-6 roadster with a dickie seat (which we learn does not handle very well on single lane dirt roads against oncoming lorries). Turns out Cecil Kimber worked at AC for a short while before ending up at Morris Garage, perhaps he left because of “handling” issues on the AC-6 ... See where I am going with this?

Although Bullnosed Morris Cowleys and Oxfords were the best selling cars in Britain at the time, what if a Crawley got to meet Cecil Kimber? In this scene Cecil could discuss his vision for fitting special bodywork to a Morris chassis for a more sporting look, and thereby giving birth to the everyday man’s sports car, affordable and fun. Imagine that, even Carson can own and drive an MG! I can’t wait to see the scene stealing expression on Her Ladyship Violet’s face when she finds out!

The first car attributed to Cecil Kimber and Morris Garage was built in 1924, now affectionately known as Old Number One, and the development of the MG Marque is one of the greatest success stories in all of automotive history. Weaving these two stories together could potentially set the MG-World on fire! (Not the literal type of course, Heaven knows we already have enough of those without any additional help, which is why we all keep extinguishers nearby.) MG gatherings would congregate throughout the world for screenings of next year’s upcoming Season 4. Although I realize filming for Season 4 has already started, I understand rewrites, ... are quite common ... Hmm, imagine the possibilities ...



Photoshop of Carson in Old Number One

Safety Fast!

Felix Lee

- hoping Lord Fellowes (creator of Downton Abbey) reads this editorial



President's Ponderings...

Hello everyone! Well I'm back from Egypt where Molly and I had a wonderful vacation cruising the Nile and touring the Pyramids, the various tombs and temples, and the amazing Cairo Museum of Egyptian Antiquities. We even got in a desert camel ride. It is hard to believe what the ancient Egyptians were able to accomplish given only manual labor and primitive tools. Equally hard to believe is that their works have managed to somehow survive man and the elements for several thousand years.



Which brings me to the proposed MGOC Bylaws changes which I hope will also stand the test of time. To date, over 20 members have taken advantage of the MGOC's version of "early voting" to cast their Bylaw Change vote in advance of the next General meeting.

In voting on the Bylaws, members identified two concerns that I want to address as I thought they might be shared by others, as well.

Why did the Bylaws Committee delete, "MG Ownership," as a membership requirement? Good question, after all we are the "MG Owners Club." The Bylaws Committee made this change for two reasons. First, demographics—our members are getting older and one way to encourage new members is to try to engage folks without MG cars, especially younger family members. This may afford them the chance to get acquainted with the MG community and effectively "try before they buy." Hopefully some of them may decide at a future date to purchase an MG and get more actively involved in the club. Also, as existing members get older, they may need to sell their MGs, and may want to remain in the club for social reasons. (The Club's current Bylaws actually allow such "Associate Members," but limit their number to 15% of total membership.) Second, fairness and consistency—while the ownership rule is "on the books," it is not being enforced. In updating the Bylaws, the Committee wanted to remove those rules that the Club didn't apply on a fair and consistent basis.

Why didn't the Bylaws Committee raise dues for "Corresponding Members" (currently \$10) to the same level as "Members"? *"I think our \$20. dues cost is a very good deal for everyone, I'm not sure why it should be reduced (for Corresponding Members)."* In brief, the Bylaws Committee did not want to make any changes that would cause anyone to pay more for their membership. By way of review, the current Bylaws specify four membership categories: 1) "Member," (full dues of \$20/person); 2) "Associate Member," (former members who sells their MGs—full dues); 3) "Auxiliary Member," (i.e., additional family members—dues \$5/person); and 4) "Corresponding Member," (members living outside of the Bay Area—dues \$10/person). The proposed Bylaws consolidate the first three membership categories into one by introducing a flat fee for family membership. The Bylaws Committee considered raising the dues to \$25 for this "New" membership, but decided to keep the dues at the current \$20 level to avoid causing financial hardship. For the same reason, the Committee chose to keep the "Corresponding Members" category, intact and maintain their dues at the current (\$10) rate.

Cruising in the B: Lessons from the Road

By Jennifer Orum

Jennifer is a member of MGOC and SSTS, as well as MG clubs in Seattle and her hometown of Vancouver, British Columbia

In the past ten years my 1970 MGB “B52” and I have covered over 45,000 miles, much of it solo. It is one thing to travel without a navigator, and it’s entirely another to drive without any accompanying support from fellow MGers. My preference is to travel with others, but when no one else is driving the route we’re taking to a car event a long way away, my choice is clear: either go alone or not go. I’ve learned that going it alone can be a wonderful adventure, if admittedly a little scary once in awhile.

Last year we had our longest unaccompanied trip to date - 2700 miles from Vancouver, British Columbia to Dayton, Ohio for the North American MGA Register’s GT-37 event in July. In total we travelled over 9,000 miles in 2012. The Ohio trip, as well as our many solo cruises in Washington, Oregon and California, plus another long drive to Wisconsin for the GT-35 show in 2010, have taught us a few things.

One of the most important is to have a terrific mechanic. Mine did the original restoration of B52 in 1994 and has maintained her in top notch shape ever since. I would not even attempt long-distance driving unless I could trust that my little B is in fighting trim. Of course, I carry many spare parts, another crucial ingredient to getting places and then getting home again. No forty-year-old MG is going to travel as far as we do without having problems and breaking down now and again. One just has to be prepared and consider these experiences as part of the adventure.

Packing is an art that I’m just now mastering. Inventoried parts and cleaning supplies fill up the entire boot, so my own luggage goes in behind the seats. In a Mk II B roadster, the top needs to be up to provide a larger space behind the seats, which also gives protection from the hot sun. While it’s lonely without someone beside me, this allows for more things to be stored in the passenger leg-well, where I place a series of plastic containers so things don’t roll around. My maps, snacks and camera are ready at hand, as are my cooler for water, a chocolate supply and fruit.

Ah the electronics! I would not be travelling thousands of miles, and particularly through large cities I’ve never been to before, without my GPS. I have a beanbag mount on the tunnel right in front of the shift lever, with B52’s original ashtray needed for shows and concours events on a Velcro strip so can be removed. “Gypsy” as I call her is plugged into the cigarette lighter and always on. Even if I know where I’m going, she provides my speed a whole lot better than the original equipment Smith’s speedometer with the bouncing needle that rarely reveals the actual speed. Gypsy also gives me up-to-the-minute traffic reports in large US and Canadian cities. Having learned about “the backup principle” from the sailing I do on my 1973 C & C 30 sailboat *Windstrel*, I actually carry three

GPS’s with me in B52, as well as old-fashioned paper maps for everywhere we’re travelling. I know electronics can fail.

Among the safety equipment on board: an emergency roadside reflective triangle, a fluorescent green vest, a fire extinguisher and a fire blanket. To ensure reliable and cost-effective

telephone and email communications from wherever I am, I carry both a Canadian Blackberry and a US cell phone.

I also have the North American MGB Register’s “Service Recommendations and Mutual Aid Directory” up front where I can put my hand on it instantly to find help if I need it, as well as the upgraded Premier Automobile Association membership that allows for longer distance towing in the event of a total breakdown. But perhaps the most important ingredient that makes me think I can drive B52 so far, so often, are the folks I know across Canada and the US who would come to our rescue if ever needed. And a few times, it has been. It’s my network of friends, and even the strangers out there that appear to be so willing to assist crazy people who drive old British sports cars, that really allow us to travel everywhere.



Start Planning for 2013 ...



SPRING

MT. TAMALPAIS TOUR, 3/16
 ST. PATRICK'S DAY TOUR, 3/20
 SUSAN'S TOUR, 3/30
 PT REYES TOUR, 4/14
 TWIST AT ON THE ROAD AGAIN, 4/27-28
 MT. HAMILTON, 5/11
 FORESTIER GARDEN / FRESNO TOUR, 5/18-19
 DIXON ALL-BRITISH, 5/19



SUMMER

MGS BY THE BAY, DANVILLE, 6/2
 NAMGAR GT-38, 6/10-14
 TUNE & SPOON, 6/22
 PALO ALTO CONCOURS, 6/30
 SWANTON TOUR, 7/13
 PET & PICNIC TOUR, 7/13
 NAMGBR, CORVALIS, OR, 7/17-21
 RENDEZVOUS, SILVERTON, OR, 7/31-8/4
 MGOC ANNUAL PICNIC, 8/10
 SCOTTISH GAMES, 8/31-9/1



FALL

BRITISH FALL CLASSIC, MORGAN HILL, 9/14-15
 WINE TOUR, 9/28
 DANVILLE D'ELEGANCE, 9/21-22
 SONOMA TOUR, 10/19
 GOF WEST, CAREFREE, AZ, 10/28-11/1
 PIGDEON PT. LIGHTHOUSE TOUR, 11/16
 TURKEY TROT, 11/16
 MGOC HOLIDAY TEA, SAN FRANCISCO, 12/14

BURNT SPARK PLUG AWARD



VOILA! KELLOGG'S STARTER, CHECK; FAN SENSOR, CHECK; COOLING FAN, CHECK; RADIATOR CHECK; GENERATOR, CHECK; ALL THE LIGHTS, CHECK; AND WIRES THAT DON'T GO ANYWHERE ...



..... TO BE CONTINUED

Photos by Felix Lee

MGOC Valentine's Day 2013

MG Valentine's Day Submission by Betz Miller

When: February 14, 2013

What: Noon–5ish

Who: Me and a few unknown folks who just wanted a ride.

Where: Around town from home, Bennett Valley to various stops in Santa Rosa.

Why: Why not? Visit friends. It was sunny. Had to get hubby something... and DON'T POSTPONE JOY!



MG Valentine's Day Submission by Mike Jamieson

When: February 14, 2013

What: The view of Pebble Beach

Who: Mike & Elizabeth Jamieson

Where: 17 Mile Drive, Pebble Beach

Why: Can't waste a day like that!

Photo: The MGs are indeed our sweetheart – they need much love, attention, care, and yes, money spent on them



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MG Owner's Club & Sorry Safari Touring Society



MOUNT TAM TOUR 2013

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

Date: Saturday, March 16, 2013

Organizers: 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, then turn left onto Camino Alto and the Safeway Parking lot will be on your right after $\frac{1}{2}$ mile. There is a Starbucks next to Safeway for refreshments.

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

Tour: This is the first time that we've done this tour and one that we have wanted to lead for a long time. 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. Seating will be at tables of 8 with one check per table so please bring cash.

Please RSVP: to Andy or Marla Preston at 707 795 3480 or marlapreston@hotmail.com by March 12 so we can confirm lunch reservations.

We look forward to seeing you.

On the Road Again

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2012 MGs by the Bay

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St. Patrick's Day Pub Night @ On the Road Again

March 29, 2013
6 pm - 9 pm

Free evening of darts, air hockey,
music, and vintage racing movies

Munchie bits will be provided as well
as mixers and ice

Please bring your own beverage of
choice

Significant others are welcome to
attend, but please leave the young
ones at home

Please RSVP to Bill Hiland at
408-782-1100 or
bhiland@ontheroadagainclassics.com

Request Electronic Delivery of *The Octagon*

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

Email Mike Jacobsen at MikesMuseum@yahoo.com to switch.

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.

MGOC TECH SESSION WITH "PROFESSOR" KUENZINGER



Electrical Tech Session Summary:

1. Battery construction including charging/discharging, safety, and maintenance.
2. Generator and Voltage Regulator construction, charging, and control.
3. Starter construction, testing and control.
4. Ignition systems, distributors, coils, points, and wiring.
5. Fuel pump wiring, control, and testing.

Photos by Ken Gittings and Felix Lee



POP Quiz

1. The correct charged battery voltage is
A 12 volts B 12.6 volts C 13 volts
2. A completely dead battery has a voltage of
A 11.8 volts B 12.2 volts C 12.4 volts
3. What do the "relay control cut-out points" do
A Kill the engine
B Kill the fuel pump
C Disconnect the generator from the battery when the engine is stopped
4. Most late 60's, along with 70's and 80's MGs are:
A Positive ground
B Negative ground
C Frame ground
5. Coil voltage can go as high as:
A 20,000 volts
B 30,000 volts
C 40,000 volts

(answers on page 22)



Meeting at Mimi's

By Samantha Lee

On February 9, I went to my first Matter and Motion Meeting held on a Saturday so people can attend that can't make it on school nights. Steve came over to my house and we drove up in 2 black TF's, on highway 280-92. We met at my favorite restaurant, Mimi's Cafe, where I had pancakes, sausages, and apple juice. While we were eating Tim led the meeting and Randy showed us a tribute, MG's by the Bay poster collection. The cover celebrated MGOC members over the years

enjoying their cars & friendships. There's even a picture of me sleeping with our 2010 1st place TF award from MG's by the Bay. Because Randy did such a good job, we also decided to make him our new secretary. We even had a new member show up named Paul Kreeburg who lives in Scott's Valley. He has a bright yellow MG B. We worked on his car after the meeting. We had a good time. Maybe next time, we can meet for noodles at Chef Chu's, Los Altos.



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)	Scall	

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
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OCT09

MG Tech Session

John Twist

If MGOC had a store with a Genius Bar in the back for questions, John Twist would be an "MG Genius" bartender

When: Saturday, 4/27 & Sunday, 4/28

Where: On the Road Again Classics
16840 Joleen Way
Morgan Hill, CA, 95037

Time: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: \$150 (MGOC members who
RSVP by 3/15)
\$175 (MGOC nonmembers
and MGOC members who
RSVP after 3/15)

Number of Seats: 20



Famous MG Guru, John Twist of University Motors - will hold a two day Tech Session for the MGOC in Morgan Hill at the On the Road Again Classics Garage. (Special thanks and kudos to MGOC member and garage owner Bill Hiland for making this venue available to us at no cost.)

Day 1 – John will discuss the four major tune-up components (Emissions, Engine, Ignition, and Fuel) and demonstrate how to tune your MG to optimize the performance of each and get them all working in concert. Attendees will learn how to adjust valves, set static and dynamic timing, check for vacuum leaks, clean and adjust carburetors, etc.

Day 2 – John will lead an MG electrical and lubrication system “deep dive” followed by his famous “rolling” Tech Session (during which John will evaluate each of the attendees’ cars making recommendations for repair and performance improvement) and a final Q&A.

A lite continental breakfast and deli lunch will be provided each day. There will be an optional (TBA additional cost) group dinner Saturday night. Also, arrangements (TBA) are being made for discounted lodging for attendees in the Morgan Hill area on Saturday night.

RSVP – Please e-mail Tim Polidoroff @ polidoroff@comcast.net to reserve your spot. Reservations will be filled on a first come first served basis until all 20 seats are filled. In your e-mail please indicate if you’d be interested in the optional Saturday night group dinner (and if you plan to bring a guest) and the Saturday night lodging in Morgan Hill. Once Tim replies to confirm your reservation please mail him your check - made out to “MGOC” - at 114 Warren Rd., San Mateo, CA 94401.



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MGOC Business Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2013

President Tim Polidoroff called the meeting to order at 9:30am. Also attending were John Bertolotti, Marcia Crawford, Ken Gittings, Randy Grossman, Craig & Kim Kuenzinger, Steve Kellogg, Felix & Samantha Lee, Tom & Beverly Morgan, Molly Polidoroff, Viggo Riddersholm, Bob & Edie Shaheen, George Steneberg, Bob Stine, and Paul Vreeburg.

Previous Minutes

The Thursday, December 13, 2012 minutes were approved as printed in the January *Octagon*.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: The total balance was similar to December's (Commercial ad income and Annual Brunch payments offset the cost of the Brunch). We spent \$1078 subsidizing the Annual Brunch (about \$25/person). The cost of 26 awards was an additional \$381.45 (about \$15/award). This is in line with past years.

Registrar's Report: The MGOC membership stands at 186 regular, 59 auxiliary, 12 corresponding, and 3 associate members for a total of 260 members. Three new members (Dougherty, Upton, and Wamstad) and some late renewals account for the increase from 253 members since December.

Note – If the new Constitution and Bylaws are accepted there will be only two membership categories: Regular (living in the Bay Area) and Corresponding (living outside the Bay Area).

Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.

Regalia: Nothing to report.

The Octagon: Felix Lee asked that members continue to submit articles, etc. The group recognized Felix for his work to support *The Octagon*.

Website: Steve Kellogg reported that the web site calendar has been updated. The group recognized Steve for his work to support the web site.

Past Events

Annual Planning Meeting: Saturday, January 12 – A calendar of events for 2013 was developed. The results were published on the MGOC web site.

Annual Brunch: Sunday, January 26 – 43 people attended and a good time was had by all. The meeting participants recognized Marcia Crawford for her work to organize the event. (Marcia even went so far as to make personal phone calls to members to urge their participation so that we could meet the restaurant's 40 person minimum.)

Upcoming Events

Tech Session: Saturday, February 23 – Craig Kuenzinger will lead a Tech Session for the MGOC at his home. The tentative topic is electrical systems. **Action Item:** Craig needs to develop and forward a flyer with event details to Steve (for e-mail distribution to the membership) by 2/15.

Old Business

Secretary (still needed): Randy Grossman agreed to fill the position of MGOC Secretary. Bob Shaheen agreed to fill the position of "At Large" Board Member (vacated by David Wright). **Action Item:** Felix and Steve to update *The Octagon* and MGOC web site to reflect these changes.

Bylaws revision: The Bylaws committee has completed its work. An email flash with details will be distributed to the membership. Voting on the new Bylaws will be scheduled for the March meeting.

MGs by the Bay

- Show date – Craig reported that Mimi has our date of June 2, 2013 on her calendar and that we're good to go.
- DJ – As an alternative to hiring a DJ Craig suggest that the club purchase a portable speaker system.

Action Item: Craig agreed to research the cost of portable speaker system and report out at the next (3/14) Club meeting

- Poster book – Randy Grossman presented a draft of his Poster Book for member comment. The expected cost is \$35. He agreed to forward a PDF version of the draft to Steve to post on the MGOC web site for member comments.

Action Item: Randy agreed to call Shutterfly to address member concerns that the firm may retain a copyright on the poster book making it illegal for the club to sell it. And, if this is indeed an issue, Randy further agreed to ask Shutterfly if – as an alternative to selling the book – we could accept donations in the amount of the book (i.e., \$35) and then present it to members as a “Thank You”.

Action Item: Steve to send out copies of the current Poster Book PDF to members for comment via an e-mail blast.

- Publicity – Ken Gittings suggested that the club needs to get MGs by the Bay 2013 on the calendars of other clubs and various publications. Mike & Tim will handle that.
- Supplies – Craig and George agreed that we had sufficient cones, etc., to support the event and that no additional supplies were needed.

New Business

Annual Brunch: Saturday, January 26 – The Board voted to authorize a maximum of \$1500 to defray expenses related to this event.

Annual Brunch: Saturday, January 25, 2014 – Based on the many positive comments regarding the venue, the membership agreed to hold the Annual Brunch at Hs Lordship’s Restaurant in Berkeley again next year. The event will be held on 1/25/14 and Marcia has again agreed to organize it.

Action Item: Steve to update the MGOC web calendar to reflect this change.

Craig Kuenzinger Tech Session: Saturday, February 23 – The Board voted to authorize a maximum of \$100 to defray expenses related to this event.

John Twist Tech Session: Weekend of April 27 & 28 – The Board voted to authorize a maximum of \$500 to defray expenses related to this event.

Wine Barrel Creation Tour: Saturday, September 21 – Randy Grossman (the event organizer) requested that the date of this tour be changed from 9/28 to 9/21.

Action Item: Steve to update the MGOC web calendar to reflect this change.

Poster Book: The Board voted to authorize a maximum of \$50 for Randy Grossman to purchase a prototype Poster Book from Shutterfly once copyright issues are resolved.

Next Meeting and Natter

Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 7:00pm (Dinner at 6:30pm) at The Englander in San Leandro.

Close

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am
Submitted by Tim Polidoroff

Addendum

Action Item Update (2/11): Randy called Shutterfly’s Customer Service Department and they responded that “once we buy the photo albums from them, we can do whatever we want with them, sell them (at whatever price we want to charge), gift them, or whatever we choose.” Randy further shared that “we can get 10 copies of our book @ \$28 per book (\$280) plus estimated shipping of \$25, plus estimated CA sales tax of \$23.10 for a total of \$328.10.” (Or \$32.81/book vs. Randy’s original estimate of \$35.). This issue has been resolved.

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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:

1952 MGTD Time to let go of my first car—same owner since 1968. Asking \$21K. This yellow bird has been garaged for the last 44 years, has no rust and just over 69K original miles, original engine. Recent mechanical work: valve job; new fuel pump; brake hoses, speedometer and front suspension arm replaced. Top is in very good shape, side curtains are somewhat foggy. Tires, tuck & roll black leather upholstery, paint, front & rear bumpers all new about two years ago—only driven 160 miles since then. (Needs exhaust system.) More pictures available—email bijou20@pacbell.net or call BJ at 415.399.1310



'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.



1961 MGA Coupe 1600 cc engine, 5 speed gearbox. California car, completely restored by third (and present) owner in 2002, rust free, body straight, no accidents, 7,800 miles since rebuild. Original body panels, new front spoiler below bumper. All good original chrome, new rubber gaskets for body and glass. Painted "Paprika Red" (Jaguar color). Asking \$25,000. Contact Member Viggo Riddersholm at 650-341-9064 or vriddersholm@yahoo.com, or Gordon Craig at lismoregordon@sbcglobal.net.

1967 MGB with overdrive. Original owner, has all maintenance records, Bay Area car since new. 121K original miles and less than 2K miles since full mechanical rebuild. Excellent condition. Looking for owner that will continue to give it TLC. Asking \$15K OBO. Contact Stephen at 415-722-0556 or sdhom@sbcglobal.net.



1978 MGB Roadster Maroon with beige interior. Vehicle has 45,000 original miles. 1800cc engine with Stromberg carburetor and 4-speed manual with electronic overdrive. Soft-top with two tonneaus. AM/FM/CD stereo with removable face, remote control and MP3 interface. Luggage rack, new tires, many extras. Currently registered in California. Asking \$10,500. Contact Member Tom Doyle at 520-220-6228 or at widoyle@cox.net.



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.



1959 MGA roadster vintage racer with a fresh 1622cc motor and brand new paint. Asking price \$14,000. See it run at local racetracks. Call Tom Morgan 650-740-4116 for details and racing schedule.

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.

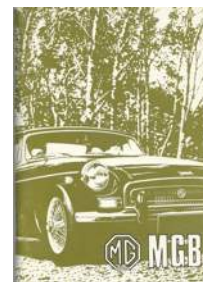


Parts for Sale:

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.

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

Two (2) 1969, 1970, 1971 MGB "Official Driver's Handbooks". Both are in "new/unused" condition. The discounted MGOC Member cost is \$10/handbook. FYI, these manuals were donated to the MGOC by Suzy Savage (Thanks Suzy!) and the sale proceeds will be used to support club activities. To purchase one (or both) manuals please contact David Wright at 510-653-3831. If these manuals are not purchased by an MGOC club member they'll be offered for sale at a later date on Ebay where they currently sell for \$14.95 http://www.ebay.com/itm/1969-1970-1971-MG-MGB-US-Official-Drivers-Handbook-Tourer-GT-/121008395014?pt=Motors_Manuals_Literature&hash=item1c2ca99306&vxp=mtr



Weber Downdraft Carburetor Fits MGBs, asking \$150, Contact member Tom Doyle at 520-220-6228 or at wtdoyle@cox.net.

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.



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.



For All Items Below: Please contact: Ken Gittings 510-791-8445

PerTronix Flame-Thrower distributor. (Moss #143-116) neg. earth, never used. \$100 or offer.

4 -14x6 chrome Rostyle wheels, had wheels made at Stockton Wheel about 10 years ago, Never used them! \$200 or offer.

2-Front springs. To lower your MGB 2in., NOT good on a chrome bumper car (too low). \$30

3/4in sway bar for the MGB, MGB/GT. \$70 offer

4 wire wheels. Reconditioned by JB's Wire wheels in Santa Cruz. \$200 or offer.

Adapters to mount Miata seats in an MGB. This kit fits 1968-1980 MGBs and MGB/GTs. Earlier cars need to be modified to fit. Paid \$139.95 plus shipping. Make offer.

MGB oil cooler thermostat kit. new \$359.95 make offer

Wanted:

Electrical Help: I am new to the world of MG, and am in the process of improving a 1959 MGA Roadster. I have replaced the wiring harness and need the expertise of someone with electrical know how to help me make sure I do not burn anything up when I put a battery to it. I will pay for their time and knowledge. Can you help me? I live in Walnut Creek. Contact Harry at 925-934-4973 or TipTot@astound.net.

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.

MGOC Electrical Tech Session Pop Quiz Answers:

1. B, 2. A, 3. C, 4. B, 5. C

5/5: Electrical God, 3-4/5: Average MGOC member, 1-2/5: You may have worked for Lucas, 0/5: Keep an extinguisher nearby



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Club Meeting

Natter & Noggin

March 14, 7 p.m.

The Englander Sports Pub & Restaurant

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The Englander is an enjoyable place where we have our own cozy room.

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Dinner Starts at 6 pm

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



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