

THE OCTAGON

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



MGOC Octagon
If undeliverable please return to:
7230 Silver Lode Lane
San Jose, CA 95120

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Forthcoming Events.....	3
From the Editor.....	4
President's Ponderings.....	5
Tales of Our Summer MG Tour in the UK: Part III.....	6
MGB Slot Cars.....	7
Burnt Spark Plug Award.....	8
Travis Air Force Base Photos.....	9
Official MGOC Ballot for 2012.....	10
Mount Diablo Tour Photos.....	12-13
MGOC Bylaws Update.....	14
Mr. Q: The Man Who Brought MG to America.....	16
MGOC Holiday Tea and Toy Drive.....	17
MGOC Business Meeting Minutes.....	18-19
MGOC Annual Awards Banquet Announcement.....	19
Classified Ads.....	20-22



December 2012

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

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

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

Secretary:

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

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

Other MGOC Officers for 2012:

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

Photographer: Jeremy Palgon, alistaircookie@gmail.com

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

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

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

Webmaster: Steve Kellogg, webmaster@mgocsf.org

CLUB ADVISOR PROGRAM

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

MGB 1962–1974 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

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

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

MGA/Coupe/Twin Cam 1955–62: George Steneberg, 510-525-9125

Z-Magnette Saloon: Eric Baker, 510-531-7032, mgb36@yahoo.com

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

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

PA/PB Midget 1934–36: Eric Baker, 510-531-7032, mgb36@yahoo.com

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

COVER PHOTO: Holiday MG Logo by Stephanie Lee (7 years old)

Club Meeting Natter & Noggin December 13, 7 p.m.

The Englander Sports Pub & Restaurant

101 Parrott Street, San Leandro

<http://www.englishpub.com>

(510) 357-3571

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

The food is good, so bring your appetites.

Dinner Starts at 6 pm

Directions to The Englander:

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

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

Collins
CLASSICS
Repair • Restoration • Parts
by
Tom Collins
&
Tyrone Revelo

609 California Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
(650) 685-4477
collinsclassics@comcast.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.



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.

MG TF Part: One rear spring for a MG TF, original type preferred. Contact Member Andy at 707-795-3480 or andypreston@sbcglobal.net.

4-5 Chrome Spoke Wheels for MGB (14"-15" in good shape) / 1976 MGB Dashboard: Contact Member Tom Doyle at 520-220-6228 or at wtdoyle@cox.net.

COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING IN *THE OCTAGON*

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

Forthcoming Events

MGOC Events in bold

- December 13 – **Natter & Noggin**, The Englander Sports Pub, San Leandro, CA, George Steneberg
- December 14 – **Pub Night**, On the Road Again, Morgan Hill, CA, Bill Hiland, www.ontheroadagainclassics.com
- December 15 – **MGOC Holiday Tea**, Kensington, CA, George Steneberg and Marcia Crawford
- January 12 – **MGOC Annual Planning Meeting**, Danville, CA, Bob and Edie Shaheen
- January 26 – **MGOC Annual Awards Banquet**, Berkeley Marina, CA, George Steneberg and Marcia Crawford

FREE Parts & Accessories Catalogs

Choose From These Catalogs:

- Austin Healey
- MGA
- MGB & MGC
- AH Sprite & MG Midget
- Sunbeam Alpine & Tiger
- TR2 TR3 TR4 TR4A TR250
- TR6
- TR7 & TR8
- Spitfire & GT6

Order Toll Free 7 Days A Week
1-800-255-0088

Order Catalogs & Parts Online at
www.VictoriaBritish.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

From the Editor...

Despite the Holiday rush,
I would much rather delve,
And relive all of MGOC's exploits,
Which happened in 2012

We started with new officers,
But these were no "babies,"
In fact, our President, George,
Took time off and turned eighty

Tim is our new VP,
This man never relaxes,
Always planning tours and rallies,
Promising never to raise taxes!

Our website was sadly outdated,
Entries were often backlogged,
Then POOF! ... out of nowhere,
Comes Webmaster, Steve Kellogg

The site has scrolling pictures,
And new touches of decorum,
But, what we can't really understand is ...
Why no one uses our Public Forum!

The Awards Banquet was held in Berkeley,
On a sunny winter's day,
With Craig and Kim Kuenzinger,
Being handed the BSPA

Tales of his blown gasket,
Are by now quite legendary,
In fact I look for his MG Midget,
Each time I read the Obituary

Jeremy took a well deserved break,
And passed on *The Octagon* Editor,
With his MGB back on the road,
He's now, full time photographer

The Planning Meeting was well attended,
As hosted by Bob and Edie,
The event venues were grand and scenic,
Avoiding any place thought to be "seedy"

We celebrated the lives,
Of Sam, Nancy, Len and Gene,*
As some of the most dedicated members,
Our MGOC has ever seen

We had "Spring Cheese," "North meets South," "Bertolotti,"
Held Tech Sessions till dark,
Followed by "Hayward," "Buellton," "NAMGAR GT-37,"
And picnic at Joaquin Miller Park

There was the "St. Patrick's Day Tour,"
"Hayward," "Palo Alto," and "Pebble Beach / Monterey,"
Followed by "Studebaker," "Georgia MG2012," "Saw Mill,"
And hosting "MGs by the Bay"

We ended with "Travis Air Force Base,"
"Bodega," and Grossman in UK traffic,
Followed by "Mt. Diablo," "Canepa,"
And Hiland's "British Fall Classic"

We enjoyed this past year so much,
As you can see, there can be no deny'in,
We look forward to seeing you all again next year,
Unless, of course, you're Mayan.



Safety Fast!
Felix Lee



Image from <http://ancientworldstudies.pbworks.com/w/page/31203911/What%20events%20shall%20happen%20in%202012%20and%20why%20the%20Mayan%20calendar%20ends%20in%202012>

* Sam Gearhart, Nancy Shane, Len Renkenberger, Gene Roberts

'70 MGB. Widow selling "well taken care of" MGB of her deceased husband. Contact Mary at 510-538-3878.



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.



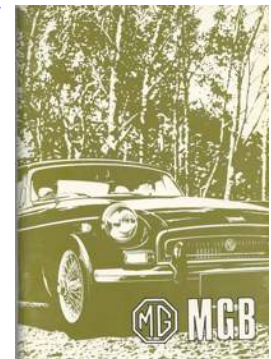
Parts for Sale:

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.

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



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



1976 MGB with over drive needs a new home. No time to care for properly. This was former member Gary Lukey's car. Maintained by Baroo in Albany. Not currently licensed. Top replaced in 2009, seats as well. Newer metal fuel pump. Asking \$2,000 or best offer. Transmission is worth \$1800. Need the space for my Jag. Photos available. Contact Lanny Clark at 510-410-7572 or lannyclark@aol.com.

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 43,000 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 wtdoyle@cox.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.

'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.



President's Ponderings ...

As my presidential term is coming to an end, I would like to thank all the people that have contributed, in one way or another, to having made 2012 a busy, educational, and entertaining year. It has been lots of fun and I have enjoyed seeing many old friends and greeting many new members. It has been a great year for MGOC.

We have just one more responsibility for this year—that is to elect new officers for 2013. When you turn to the ballot on page 10 of this issue, PLEASE, TAKE A MOMENT AND VOTE! Get your ballot to me before noon, Thursday, December 13th, or better yet, come to the meeting and cast your vote in person while sharing a great meal.

I am sure, anyone who attended the tour to Bruce Canepa's Show Room, Museum, and Shop in Scotts Valley, found a car that they would like to add to their Christmas list for Santa Claus. Thanks to Tim for arranging and leading this spectacular outing.

With apologies, I was unable to go on the Mt Diablo Tour. The weather certainly cooperated – hope everyone had a good time.

Let's not forget The Holiday Tea and Toy Drive on Saturday, December 15th. Hope to see you all there.

Mark your January 2013 calendar – Saturday, January 26th - The Annual Awards Brunch at Hs Lordships in Berkeley. See the announcement in this month's *Octagon*. This has been a very enjoyable event in the past, so please, get your reservations in early.

Happy Holidays and Driving.
George Steneberg

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

SHOCK ABSORBERS:

	Front	Rear
MGTC.....	185.00	185.00
MGTD & TF.....	185.00	85.00
MGA, MGB, MGC, Midget.....	102.00	75.00
HEAVY DUTY UPGRADE.....	10.00	10.00
SHOCK LINK (New or Rebuilt)	\$call	

BRAKES: sleeved and rebuilt

MGB, Midget caliper.....	\$85.00
MGA, MGC caliper.....	\$155.00
MGA, Midget twin master 1956-67.....	\$225.00
MGB, Midget master 1968-80.....	\$125.00-145.00
MGB brake booster servo.....	\$175.00
MGC booster servo.....	\$445.00
Cylinder sleeved only, brass or SS.....	\$50-\$95
Kingpin swivel axle rebushed.....	\$60-\$90
Front end A-arm (Midget).....	\$95.00

CARBURETORS: COMPLETE REBUILDING
Disassembly, cleaning, bodies rebushed, new std. size throttle shafts, jets, needles, float valves gaskets. **FLOW BENCH TEST.....**\$375-\$415/pair

CARB BODIES REBUSHED
and new throttle shafts.....\$85 each

Prices show are for Exchange or Yours Rebuilt.
Core charges apply if items are ordered prior to
(and are refunded after) our receiving old units.
Free catalog. www.applehydraulics.com

APPLE HYDRAULICS
1610 Middle Road, Calverton, NY 11933
631-369-9515, FAX 631-369-9516
Toll Free 800-882-77753
VISA, MD, DISCOVER, PAYPAL, COD

OCT09



George's '52 TD Mk II is a Three-Seater

Photo by Felix Lee

Tales of Our Summer MG Tour in the UK

(Where in the world is Randy Grossman?, Part III)

By Randy Grossman

The next day we visited Dove Cottage, the home of the William Wordsworth, the 19th century poet who produced some of the greatest poetry in the history of the English language. It was particularly meaningful for me as I have enjoyed his work since high school.

But the most surprising event was yet to come. While driving through Grasmere we noticed a sign announcing a classic car show would be held the next day on June 23rd. I casually turned to Melissa and said, "Hey, let's go to the show and enter our "hire" MGB. Melissa thought I was nuts, but for the fun of it, the following morning we drove to the show, and they let us in. What was really hilarious was that while walking around, we were approached by a Lion's Club representative, the show's sponsor, who asked if they could interview us. So the gentleman got on his microphone and said, "Well today we have some very special visitors all the way from California who brought a car to our little car show...well maybe not from California, but they drove an MGB from York. Randy would you tell us a little bit about your trip to the UK and your experience with classic British cars." I explained that I had a 1962 MGA MK II at home, and coincidentally that if we were home that day I would have been at the Palo Alto Concours, another Lion's Club sponsored car show. I also put in a nice plug for the MGOC and directed people to our website should anyone be traveling to Northern California and want some MG contacts. Melissa was asked if she shared my enthusiasm and she said, "Well to a degree, but I am definitely enjoying the trip including the restaurants we have gone to in the Lake District." Her comment reminded me of the recent IFC movie, *The Trip* which, with classic British humor, features the "foodie" restaurants now dotting the Lake District.

On our last day in the Lake District we

went to a museum in Coniston which celebrates the life of John Ruskin, the amazing 19th Century artist, teacher, amateur geologist, social critic, and philosopher who authored the famous *Until This Last* which inspired Gandhi and expressed his sentiment that "There is no Wealth but Life." In the same museum there was a tribute to Donald Campbell, the famous auto and speed boat racer who broke eight world speed records in the 1950s and 1960s, and raced his Bluebird K7 on Coniston Water, but tragically died in 1967 when his boat, traveling at over 320 MPH, flipped and broke apart.

Our last adventure in the Lake District involved driving to a glass blowing factory in Cumbria which was meaningful to me, because I have been taking glass blowing classes at the Crucible in Oakland. Melissa bought me a shot glass so I could enjoy some of our fine Irish whiskey when we returned home.

So now, we headed back to York to return the MGB and catch the train back to London where we would spend four more memorable days, before returning home, but that is another story. On our way back from the Lake District to York we experienced our only major mechanical mishap of the trip. Seven miles from reaching Reflections Classic Car Hire, the fuel pump gave out, and we were concerned that we would miss our train. Thankfully, we were rescued by Charles Hills, the owner of Reflections, who whisked us off to the train station in time for our departure to London.

On the train we settled down and started gathering our memories. One thing became very clear. If you are going to take your major MG adventure, do it now, because you aren't getting any younger.

MGs by the Bay, 2013

1. Final Date – Craig Kuenzinger was unable to attend but sent the following information:
The former owner of The Paddock has been hired by The Livery to be the car show coordinator for 2013. The MGOC could have either the last Sunday in April or the first Sunday in June for MGs by the Bay. The Board chose Sunday, June 2, 2013. Mike will contact Craig about the date and ask whether there will be a DJ and/or sound system available for the Club on that date.
2. Posters – Mike announced that in memory of Sam Gearhart, his car will be on the event poster. There will be a separate poster commemorating the 20th anniversary of this event, showing each year's poster.
3. Poster book – Randy Grossman was unable to attend but sent info regarding his mock up. Mike will provide the text and work with Randy on this project
4. Miscellaneous – Awards, classes, registration, etc. The T-shirt included in the registration packet will feature Sam's car on the back. Much discussion about classes, awards, etc. with no final decisions. Mike will chair the MGs by the Bay.

New Business

Web hosting bill for 2013 – \$120. Steve explained that this is a yearly fee. The Board approved this expenditure.

Next Meeting and Natter

7pm, Thursday, December 13, 2012 at The Englander Sports Pub, 100 Parrott St., San Leandro.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm
Submitted by Marcia Crawford

MGOC Annual Awards Banquet



January 26, 2013
11:00 am–3:00 pm



Hs Lordships Restaurant
199 Seawall Drive, Berkeley, CA 94710

\$ 20 / person

RSVP by January 15th 2013:
Marcia at 510-526-8951
or George at j2george@pacbell.net



MGOC Business Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2012

President George Steneberg called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. Also attending were John Bertolotti, Stephen Born, Glen Collinson, Marcia Crawford, Ken Gittings, Mike Jacobsen, Steve Kellogg, Tim Polidoroff, Bob Stine, and David Wright.

The Thursday, October 11, 2012 minutes were approved as printed in the September *Octagon*.

Reports

Treasurer's Report: A slightly lower balance this month due to the deposit to His Lordships for the Annual Brunch on January 26, 2013. Still missing receipts from Jeremy Palgon for the printing of *The Octagon* since May, estimated at \$700.00.

Registrar's Report: The MGOC membership stands at 180 regular, 55 auxiliary, 12 corresponding, and 3 associates for a total of 250 members. There were 34 members who did not renew and they were dropped from the roster. Two new members – Alan Brooks and Glen Collinson.

Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Nothing to report.

Regalia: David reported that he had four MGB British Leyland Handbooks for sale. Steve Kellogg and Tim Polidoroff each purchased one. Tim will contact Felix to place an ad in *The Octagon* listing the remaining booklets for sale for \$10.00 each.

The Octagon: No report; Felix Lee was unable to attend.

Website: Steve Kellogg had a request that is listed under New Business.

Past Events

Get-Together for Sam Gearhart, Gene Roberts, and Nancy Shane: Saturday, October 13 – Mike Jacobsen & Elaine Chan. Several members reported that this was a well attended, pleasant event.

British Fall Classic: Morgan Hill, October 20 & 21 – Bill Hiland. It was reported that approximately 80 participated in the lovely 60 mile drive on Saturday and more than 150 cars were in the show on Sunday. Good weather & nice cars.

Upcoming Events

Canepa Motorsports Tour: Scotts Valley, November 10 – Tim Polidoroff. Tim announced that he had 21 sign-ups with room for eight more. He asked that everyone meet at 9am, leaving at approx. 9:30 to allow time to drive to Canepa's. A drive to Half Moon Bay after lunch locally was suggested as a possibility if any of the attendees are interested.

Mt. Diablo Drive: November 24 – John Hunt. The November *Octagon* has all the info.

Holiday Tea: Saturday, December 15 – Marcia Crawford & George Steneberg. The November and December *Octagon* will have all the information.

Annual Brunch: Sunday, January 26, 2013 – See the December *Octagon* for all the info. Marcia Crawford and George Steneberg will be taking reservations. Checks should be made out to MGOC. Marcia will coordinate with Felix regarding all the particulars for this event to be in the December and January *Octagon*.

Old Business

Secretary still needed – We are still looking for a qualified secretary.

Status of electronic Board voting – Again tabled until an ad-hoc committee can be formed to review and propose a possible bylaw change.

Signature card for the bank account – Mike Jacobsen and Bob Stine are now the two people that can sign for the bank accounts.

Report from the Nominating Committee – Mike announced that Tim Polidoroff has been nominated as President. The committee is still looking for a Vice-President and Secretary.

MGB Slot Cars

By John Hunt

Ladies & Gentlemen, Start Your Engines!

Some of you may remember going to the Englander Pub early before our monthly meeting to duck into the slot car racing store and track across the street.

I'll be the first to admit, it was fun. One is never too old for slot cars. Contrary to what others may say, it does take a bit of skill, concentration, and luck to win. As much fun as it was driving classic stock car models or Indy cars around the shop's track, there was something lacking. Namely, once a "British car guy", always a "British car guy."

In honor of MGB's 50th Anniversary, 1962-2012, Scalextric the manufacturer of slot cars, tracks, and accessories is planning on producing a special MGB to help celebrate this unique event. To find out more, go to their website: www.scalextric.com and click on the menu that says, "Shop," then click cars and next a screen of cars will appear. You want to click on classics to find the MGB on page two. It's a limited edition of 3,500 models and it's not released yet. It will be a copy of "Old Faithful." Here's how the car is described on their website,

"tribute to the class win at the 1966 Targa Florio road race for the works MGB roadster, registration GRX 307D, known as 'Old Faithful' – because it never failed. Driven by Timo Makinen and John Rhodes, the MGB finished 1st in the 1600cc class and 9th overall, with only the likes of Ferrari and Porsche ahead." They are also planning on releasing a copy of a Jim Adams, Merle Brennan and Frank Morell 1964 Sebring model. We saw the original at Laguna Seca a few years ago. Keep in mind, Scalextric said they reserve the right to change or modify what B it is until production. So, it may change.

Naturally, there's nothing cooler than the B. Of course, it's also a great way to build a collection of your dream vintage cars. For me, they include 1966 Morris Mini, 1970 Ford GT 40 Mark II Sebring Special (ok, it's not British. But, there's always an exception to the rule), 1957 Jaguar D-type, 1968 Lotus Cosworth.

Take a few minutes and check out the website. Buy a track and a few cars, if not for you, for your kids or your grand kids, and fellow MG friends.



MGB White Gold '50th Anniversary Model



MGB Bronze Metallic and Iris Blue '50th Anniversary Model



MGB Open Top Pale Primrose



MGB Bronze Yellow



MGB MkIII Citron

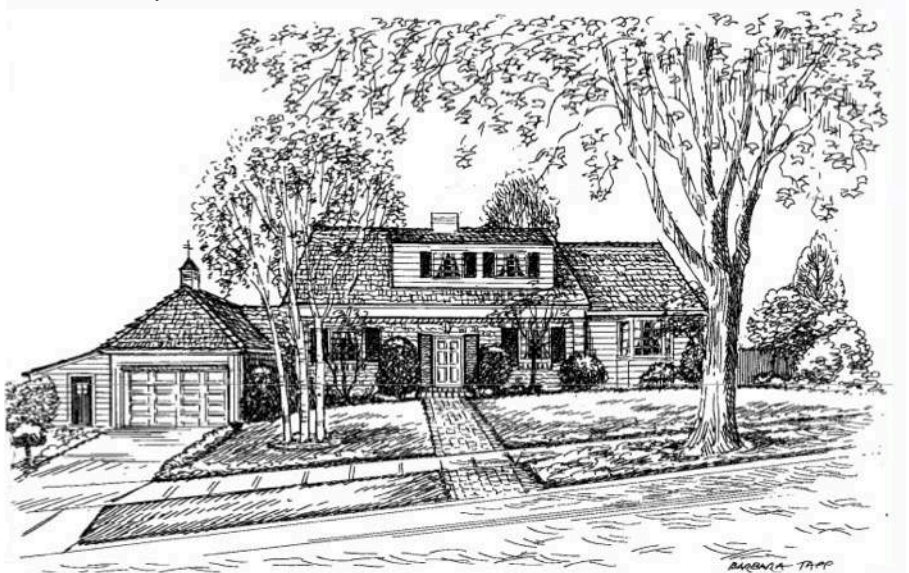


MGB 1964 Sebring 12 Hour



MGB Roadster Dark Blue

MGOC Holiday Tea & Toy Drive



Organizers: Marcia Crawford and George Steneberg

Date: Saturday, December 15, 2012

When: 1-4 p.m.

Where: 150 Purdue Avenue, Kensington, CA

This year's Holiday Tea will be hosted by Marcia and George. Please bring a favorite savory dessert and tea to share and enjoy with other fellow MGOC'ers. The Club will once again sponsor a Toy Drive. So please bring a new unwrapped toy, which will then be delivered to the local firehouse.

Looking forward to reminiscing about the past year and toasting in the new year. Please bring stories about your leading "Burnt Spark Plug Award" candidate for 2013.

RSVP: Marcia at 510-526-8951 or George at j2george@pacbell.net

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.



..... TO BE CONTINUED

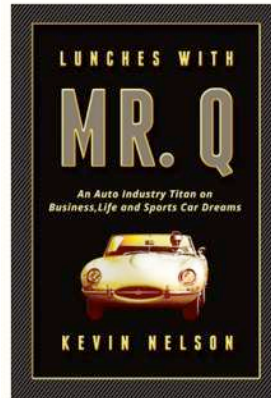
Photos by Felix Lee

MR. Q

THE MAN WHO BROUGHT MG TO AMERICA!

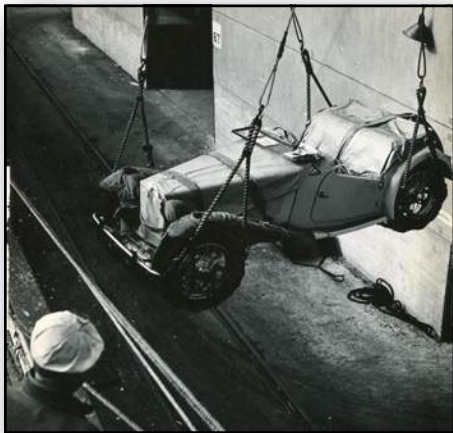


Author Kevin Nelson (left) with Kjell Qvale by San Francisco Bay.
MG courtesy of Rick and Judy Storms of San Rafael, CA.



A new book entitled, "Lunches with Mr. Q," by author Kevin Nelson (San Francisco, Bay Area), tells the story of Kjell Qvale (pronounced *Shell Cavelli*), who imported the first MGs to America. <http://luncheswithmrq.com/index.html>

We are considering placing a "bulk" order and may want to consider having the author, Kevin Nelson, as a guest speaker at one of MGOC's functions. If interested, please contact Terry Sanders, TATERRY@aol.com



Depicted is a 1947 English-made MG-TC, the first car Mr. Q imported into America and the one that forms the basis of his business and life philosophy. "Take risks, Blaze a path ... Find the MG-TC of your life and go with it." <http://luncheswithmrq.com/cars.html>


TRAVIS AFB TOUR

HOSTED BY BOB AND EDIE SHAHEEN



OFFICIAL BALLOT
MGOC CONSOLIDATED GENERAL ELECTION
 NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
 DECEMBER 2012

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote for the candidate of your choice, completely fill in the OVAL to the LEFT of the candidate's name. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, darken the OVAL next to and write in the candidate's name on the Write-In line. Any member in good standing is acceptable as a write-in. (ie. we still need a Secretary, if you know of a candidate, please nominate them or run yourself) To vote for a Tour or Tech Session, darken the OVAL next to the word "Yes" or the word "No". All distinguishing marks or erasures are forbidden and make the ballot void. If you tear, deface, or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another. VOTE LIKE THIS: ●
 Mail ballots to: George Steneberg at 9 Pomona Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530-4134, or email J2George@pacbell.com, or bring the ballot to the December 13, 2012 Club meeting at The Englander.

PRESIDENT	TOURS	TECH SESSIONS
Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Tim Polidoroff Retired Engineer '80 MGB, '52 MG TD <input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	Vote for Keeping Tours in 2013 Marin / Bodega Bay Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Morgan Hill Wine Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Mt. Diablo Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Mt. Hamilton Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No San Francisco Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Saw Mill Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Sonoma Wine Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Spring Cheese Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No St. Patrick's Day Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Travis AFB Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Wine and Cheesecake Tour <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Vote for <input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In <input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In	Vote for Tech Sessions in 2013 Basic <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Write-In Topic _____ Advanced <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Write-In Topic _____ Detailing <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Write-In Topic _____ Help-A-Member Project <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Write-In Topic _____ 
VICE PRESIDENT		
Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Steve Kellogg District Manager 73 MGB, '55 MG TF <input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In		
TREASURER		
Vote for One <input type="radio"/> Mike Jacobsen Technical Writer '58 ZBV, '60 MGA 1600, '74 1/2 MGB/GT <input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In		
SECRETARY		
Vote for <input type="radio"/> _____ Write-In		



MGOC Bylaws



The Bylaws Update Committee (Past President Bob Stine, Vice-President Tim Polidoroff, and Treasurer Mike Jacobsen) was organized last month to work on the Constitution and Bylaws, which were originally written in the late 1950s. They've been "patched" from time to time (the last update was in 2006) but they've never been overhauled until now. The committee isn't finished but we thought a status report was in order.

Changes being proposed include:

- Collapsing the four membership categories to two.
- Replacing the tiered fee schedule for new members with a flat rate.
- Specifying the exact composition of the Board.
- Clarifying the rules for authorizing Club expenditures.
- Allowing for electronic meetings in certain circumstances.
- Make club membership open to anyone with an interest in MG automobiles (MG ownership is no longer required).

We plan to have the complete list of revisions available for review in January, followed by an election to vote on the changes. Meanwhile, if you have any questions or comments, contact one of the committee members - contact info is on the inside front cover of *The Octagon*. Watch this space for further information!



WHAT'S ON YOUR ODOMETER?

WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW

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

Please send to octagoneditor@mgocsf.org for an upcoming bulletin board feature in *The Octagon* January 2013



**The Parts
You Need
To "Keep'em
on the Road"**



**FREE Parts & Accessories
Catalogs for:
MGA, MGB, MGC & Midget**

Fast Service, Simple Ordering and Quick Delivery.

www.VictoriaBritish.com

1-800-255-0088

FREE Parts & Accessories Catalogs
Also Available For:



SUNBEAM

On the Road Again

7 Customers took Awards at the
2012 MGs by the Bay

Austin Healey
Jaguar
MG
Triumph
Rolls/Bentley
Lotus



*Come Visit our Showroom of
Classic British Cars.*

Distributors:

Moss Motors

ARP Performance Fasteners

Glasurit Paints

VTO Wheels

Pierce Manifolds Distributors



16840 Joleen Way, Unit G-4, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
408.782.1100 Fax: 408.779.0938

bhiland@ontheroadagainclassics.com www.ontheroadagainclassics.com

**Pub Night
@
On the Road Again**

December 14, 2012
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

MT. DIABLO TOUR

