

# TC Motoring Guild MIDGET CHASSIS

A Publication by the TC Motoring Guild, Inc.  
Editors - David Edgar & Jim Crandall



*It is always nice to feature some of our more distant members TCs. These three members are all from Utah and were at the GoF. David & Carol Mark's beautiful black TC is shown in upper left. Below that is Jon & Susan Hermance's EXU TC which we have seen at several of our Conclaves. Above, we have Mike & Sharon Bailey's vintage pedal TC for Scooter. They also had their TC and TD at the GoF.*

*Thank you to Steve Simmons for these photos.*



The Midget Chassis  
David Edgar, Editor  
1454 Chase Terrace  
El Cajon, CA 92020

First Class Mail

August 28 TCMG General Meeting  
7 pm Movie Night  
at the Simon Museum

Sept 3 Labor Day All British Run

Sept 21-23 Mini GoF, Big Bear

Oct. 5-7 51st Annual Conclave

Dec. 1 TCMG Holiday Party  
in San Diego

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## Labor Day Run

For those that are interested, Steve Simmons is leading an All British Car Labor Day Tour on Sept. 3rd.

The route caters to those who love twisty canyon roads, and is definitely not for anyone who suffers car sickness. The route follows some of the most fun sports car

roads in the Santa Monica mountains, but is perfectly suitable for sedans or slower drivers as well. For details:

[www.socalbritishmotoring.com/viewtopic.php?t=250](http://www.socalbritishmotoring.com/viewtopic.php?t=250)

Starts at Malibu Colony Plaza located at 23841 West Malibu Road, at the southwest corner of Pacific Coast Highway and Webb Way, approximately 12 miles north /west from where I-10 turns into PCH. Meet at 8:45 AM with rollout at 9:30 AM.

## The Midget Chassis

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 91407

The **Classic Chassis** is published semi-annually and The **Midget Chassis** fills in on the remaining months

All contributions: articles, letters advertisements, and captioned photos for the next issue should be sent to:

The **Classic Chassis**  
 c/o David Edgar,  
 1454 Chase Terrace  
 El Cajon, CA 92020  
 email:  
[djedgar@pacbell.net](mailto:djedgar@pacbell.net)

**Deadline  
 for next  
 Midget Chassis  
 newsletter  
 is Sept. 10**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It was fun seeing all the interesting "other cars" at our July meeting. The part I wasn't so fond of was being in charge of refreshments in the first lady's absence. For a brief time I considered hiring security to contain the riots, which would surely take place once it was announced Linda would not be there with her famous home-made goodies. Fortunately the crowd behaved, and the store-bought goods I presented satisfied them for the night. Thanks to everyone who brought additional treats in an effort to save me from the hungry mob.

Having survived 2,200 miles of desert highway, dirt roads, mountain passes and everything else GoF West offered us, we thought we were safe. But the very next time the TC rolled out of the garage (for the Will Rogers event) we didn't make it down the driveway. The engine cranked once and stopped, followed by a cloud of electrical smoke! I see one of two possibilities. Either the car did its best to get us safely home before an inevitable failure, or this was a panic reaction to being brought out again after what we put it through during the GoF trip. Regardless, a bit of maintenance is in order and not just to the fuel-soaked starter which was the cause of the problem.

Some say the constant maintenance of a "well driven" TC is part of its charm. Some say it's a hassle forced upon them by primitive engineering. I say it's one minor task standing between me and the open road, and I will therefore do it happily and without (much) hesitation. It's a small price to pay for the reward offered from behind the wheel.

*Steve Simmons*

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Don't forget that this issue of the Midget Chassis is also available on our club web site in living color. And you will find web pages on most our activities in color as well. Check it out.  
[www.tcmotoringguild.org](http://www.tcmotoringguild.org)



**Tuesday,  
 Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 PM** Note time change

**Move Night at the  
 Simon Museum**

At our August meeting we move from our traditional Montrose meeting location and visit the Simon Auto Museum. The private collection consists of classic cars, movie props, auto memorabilia, avionic items and much more are yours to view. Arrive early to kick tyres. After our business part of the meeting we will view "Inside the Octagon" which is the history of MG from 1921-1945, as related by people who were there. This is always an interesting event so don't miss it.

**Note change of  
 time and location.**

15700 S. Broadway Street  
 Gardena, California 90248

Thomas Guide P734 -C5

Museum is located behind Coast Appliance  
 (look for sign on fence "Cornwell & Sheridan Classic Cars")

Take I-110 to Redondo Beach Blvd.

Head East on Redondo Beach Blvd

South on S. Broadway

Coast Appliance is on corner of 157th & Broadway.

Museum is in rear of building

Enter driveway from S. Broadway and park in gated area

**Inside  
 the  
 Octagon**  
 M.G.: 1921 - 1945



Thank you to our hosts,  
 David & June Simon  
 and Ron & Bobbie Simon



## TC Gets New Owner



**Ron Wong**

2415 N. Commonwealth Avenue  
Los Feliz, CA 90027

phone: 323-664-6196 (h)  
323-664-1151 (w)

dronwong@aol.com

1946 TC 1882 XPAG 2522 Green / Tan



*Welcome to the  
Guild, Ron !!*

In the last issue we announced that the Ludwicks had sold their TC and that Ron Wong had bought it. Well Ron is eager to go on some adventures and showed up at our last TCMG meeting with his TC and joined the Guild. As mentioned before, Ron had a TC back in college and just had to have another one.

## TCMGer News

*Bob Wilmer celebrates his  
87th birthday on August 20.*



*Happy 50th Anniversary to a happy  
couple - Pete and Fran Thelander.*



**You da Man Bob !!  
Congratulations**

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## 51st Annual TCMG / ARR Conclave



### ROOM RESERVATIONS

20 rooms are blocked for the MG Car Club until September 5. Queen \$109, King bed and spa \$139.

For reservations, please call the Inn directly at:

**800-321-9566.**

Note: Please book by Sept 5th. Failure to obtain sufficient room bookings will add to our banquet room rental expense.

For Conclave info: Gene Olson  
805-522-8052 or [olson\\_g@msn.com](mailto:olson_g@msn.com)

### Saturday Night Dinner

Banquet reservations DUE BY SEPT 21, 2007

This will be a full "plated" dinner.

Entrée choices are:

Prime Rib\* \$48 \_\_\_\_\_  
(\* Filet Mignon may be substituted)

Stuffed Chicken \$38 \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian Pasta \$38 \_\_\_\_\_

*How  
many?*

Name(s)

Prices include service fee, tax and room charge.

A No-host bar is provided (utilizing the bar in the banquet room will prevent us from incurring additional service fees).

AGAIN - dinner reservations and checks are DUE BY SEPT. 21

Mail to: TCMG, c/o Joyce Edgar  
1454 Chase Terrace  
El Cajon, CA 92020



**October 5-7**

**INN at Morro Bay**

60 State Park Road, Morro Bay, CA

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Sept 5** Last day to get in block of rooms held for MG Car Club
- Sept 21** Dinner reservations for Sat. night are due
- Oct 5** MORRO BAY - what a beautiful spot to gather together once more and have some TC fun.

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## Tech Tips

The following item was taken from an email group called the TABC list, which is comprised of 800 TA, TB and TC owners from around the world and I pass it on for you to read.

### Fast Idle on a TC:

I have both experienced this and have heard many a TC whose idle is above the normal 700 or so RPM which most TC owners seem to prefer. For the most part it is an air leak somewhere between the intake valves and the carburetor butterfly valves. To adjust for this leak, many owners just enrich the mixture to account for this and idle thus rises despite turning the idle speed screws back. Common air leak locales are worn valve guides, a leak at the intake manifold to head gasket, a leak between the manifold and the carburetor, loose core plugs on the intake manifold or a leak at the butterfly or throttle shafts. One fellow found his manifold to be warped and a simple skim on a mill fixed his problem. But most problems are at the carb. The mating surface on the carb where it faces the manifold may be concave. Filing the surface flat would seem logical but it only weakens the



ears on the carb and it will warp again once bolted down. Be careful with the torque here to prevent problems in the first place. Place careful attention to the butterflies as it doesn't take much to cause problems here. Read the following as evidence.

My high idle problem is finally solved. The butterfly in one carb was very slightly off center. So slightly off center that it could only be detected with a bright light behind it. Amazingly, centering it dropped the idle speed to about 300 rpm. I adjusted the idle to about 700 rpm, which seems best for smoothest running.

Regards,

John Pavone, TC 2797  
Stamford, CT



## For Sale

First of two sets is shown at the top of the page (manifold sold separately). Old original TC 1 1/4" carbs, well worn. Has all bits and pieces but in need of rebuild, including throttle shafts. Make offer.

Second set are brand spanking new with original

packing. Bought them and then found some rebuilt ones I could not pass up. \$900 for the pair (about \$200 less than Moss and no tax either).



## MGs & Polo Ponies

Tw's a beautiful day for a tour in a TC and the destination was the Will Rogers State Park. A very knowledgeable docent showed us around the grounds and kept us in order as shown to the right here where she halts the group (yeah, like we would listen).



## Will Rogers State Park July 28



Fran show us how she keeps Pete in line.



Inside the stable (above) and a photo through the window of the house (below).



TCMGers enjoying the many things to see at the old estate.



Enjoying a grand TCMG tradition - a lovely repast.



Steve and Ernie exit the stable compound.

Photos by Ron Simon and Steve & Linda Simmons

# GoF West 2007



Ernie and Elizabeth during the blindfolded portion of the funkhana. The gag was that it's now night time and your Lucas lights have failed.



Ernie and Elizabeth at the start of the funkhana. Ernie was a bit excited and nearly left without her!



Pete & Fran starting the funkhana.



Pete and Fran waiting in line for a second try at the funkhana, talking to Ernie going the other way.

TCMGer Susan Hermance helping run the funkhana.



Mike Bailey's TC is second one in with bonnet up.

Premier Class at the car show at GoF with Gene Roth's TC in front.



Lineup of TCs with Ron Simon's TC nearest to us.



Simmon's TC at Zion National Park.



An old gas station, now a school, in Midway, Utah.

On the way home where two separate TCMG groups just happen to catch up with each other.



Einhorn's TC suffered a leaky carb float and dead starter, all at once. Ron and Jim fixed the carb. Had to push start the TC after this.

## Getting To and From GoF

Photos on both pages by Steve Simmons

Thelander and Simmons TCs at Bridal Veil Falls near Sundance, Utah, not far from Park City.



Inventive temporary repair on Olson's TC

## Simmons Memorable Ride

On the way back from GoF Steve and Linda Simmons passed the Bonneville Salt Flats. On a whim, they turned off

to just look. But Linda was able to twist Steve's arm (OK so it didn't take too much twisting) to drive the course.



1. Pulling into Bonneville Salt Flats, before deciding to drive to the road's end and see the raceway.



3. On the Flats about 2 miles out. Speed is between 75 and 80 MPH.



2. On the Bonneville Salt Flats, before deciding to actually drive out on the race track.

Photos by Steve Simmons except when he was holding onto the steering wheel in photo 3 where Linda had the camera.



4. Mounds of wet salt packed into the TC's under body after our run. It was worth every grain!



Taken at Red Canyon, Utah, on the way to Bryce Canyon.



Steve & Linda took a cruise down the strip and snapped this photo in front of the old Las Vegas sign.

## My Memorable Rides

Long love affairs accumulate memories. Mine with cars has lasted now for about 60 years and a million miles. Small wonder then, that when I peer back along that road of memory, some short sections shine in my mind's eye.

### November, 1993 – North Hollywood, CA

#2 in a series by Stan Belland

I was driving the TC toward my home on this winter evening. The top was down, the left half of my tan tonneau cover was in place, snapped to the cowl and I was heading north on Colfax Ave.

As I drove, a tarantula, about the size of an orange, crawled from behind my left shoulder, skittered up the tonneau on my left and disappeared over the cowl.

I jerked involuntarily to the right, almost losing control of the car and managed to pull over safely to the curb. I cautiously peeked over the top of the cowl but couldn't see anything. I got out of the car and shakily walked around it and then stooped and checked the pavement underneath. Nothing.

I sat there for a few minutes, collecting myself and trying to figure out how that had happened and where the big spider might have gone. True, I had only caught it in my peripheral vision, but there was no question in my mind of what had occurred.

I resumed my journey, partly convinced that it had never happened and within a few seconds, it happened again! The huge spider appeared from

behind my left shoulder and started his jerking trip forward along the tonneau cover toward the cowl. This time, I kept better control of the car and, before it had gotten to the cowl, I turned my head and looked at it directly. It was a shadow and, even looking at it directly and knowing what it was, it was scary as hell.



I pulled over again and slowly worked out what had happened. At that section of Colfax there are mercury vapor street lights suspended at intervals over

the center of the street. This type of light is so focused that it casts sharp shadows. As I drove toward a light, the shadow of the wiper motor, the wiper blade and arm and the upper windshield frame created a black and remarkably good rendition of a large spider. As I had approached the light the shadow moved forward on the tonneau surface and the movement of the cover itself gave the moving shadow the jerky motion that had looked so alive in the corner of my eye.

A great laugh, once I had stopped shaking. Topping it off, when I got to Van Nuys Blvd. I failed to notice that the same street lights were in place there and my spider reappeared, almost causing me to lose control again. I hate spiders. And I'm a slow learner.

# July 24, 2007 Meeting Minutes



Our meeting began outside with our cars. Clockwise from top left: McLish's '32 Dodge (recent purchase), Joe's Triumph Motorcycle, Lloyd's Mustang, Don's Mustang, Coleman and Simon Minis, Olson's MGSA (note Gene in Tux), Kershaw's clean MGB, Proud owners, Ladies trying to figure out what all the fuss is about. Ron Wong's TC (bought just a week prior), Simon's MGC Special (which sounds marvelous when revved up) and Schnaer's Bentley. Photos by Ron Simon and David Edgar.



Steve Simmons called the meeting to order at 8:30 p.m.

The mailbag contained several newsletters and car show announcements.

Old Business: George Kershaw gave Steve and Linda Simmons an Action Team Award from the Vintage MG Club of Southern California for hosting the Mt.

Wilson tour enjoyed by both TCMG and VMG.

Treasurer: Joyce Edgar reported that finances were in good shape and we now have 111 members. Ron Wong joined this evening. Ron purchased his car from Art and Sarah Ludwick who will now become associate member #14.

GoF West report: The trip was hot but pretty across the desert. There were great 4th of July fireworks and several of our members won awards. Pete Thelander

gave a report on the trip of six MGs to the event. Steve, with Linda's strong encouragement, drove his TC on the Bonneville Salt Flats at 75 miles per hour over 2 miles. Had to wash the car afterwards to remove the salt residue. Depending on the routes taken the TCs were driven anywhere from 1700 to 2200 miles for the round trip.

Minutes: Gene Olson moved the minutes of the June meeting be approved as printed in the Mini Chassis. Ron Simon seconded the motion.

Don McLish introduced Harry Matosian of Les Plankey's Garage in Montrose and George Kershaw introduced his grandson, Josh Astrella.

A discussion of the price of attending GoF West events brought no definitive solutions but noted that hotel rates are increasing. The concern is that younger MG owners are not able to participate.

## Events

- The Conclave is October 4-6, 2007 at the Inn at Morro Bay. Twenty rooms have been reserved and there are six left. The plated dinner choices are prime rib tentatively at \$50, chicken breast at \$35 and vegetarian at \$35. The Cambria group is setting up a rallye.

- Christmas Holiday party is scheduled for Saturday, December 1, 2007 at the Town & Country in San Diego. Prices for dinner

will be forthcoming. Sunday brunch at Edgar's.

- The event for July is the Horsepower Picnic on the 28th to be held at Will Rogers Park. Bring your own picnic and watch the Polo Match after the tour of Will Rogers home. Parking fee is \$7.

- No event as yet for August but Gene is working on it.

- George Kershaw announced a Mini GoF at Big Bear the weekend of Sept 21-23. Flyers were passed out and will appear in the Midget Chassis.

## Meetings:

- The next meeting, Aug 28, at 7 p.m., is movie night at the Simon museum. Flyers will be sent out.

- Harvey was asked to contact Bobbie'dine Rodda to come and speak at the September meeting.

It was sadly announced that Dwayne Carlson has passed away on July 4th. Dwayne had the distinction of attending every Conclave. He will be missed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m. and while Linda was not there with her extraordinary goodies, we did have some great munchies brought by various members.

Respectfully submitted

*Fran Thelander*  
Secretary



(above) George presents Steve with the Team Action Award from the VMG Club.

(left) Steve covers for Linda and provides the tasty refreshments.



Ron Toth, Ron Simon and Josh



Carolyn, Lloyd chat with the dapper Gene

## Mini GoF

The Vintage MG Club is sponsoring a Mini GoF to give you a chance to relax in the clean, clear mountain air while enjoying beautiful scenery.

**September 21-23, 2007**  
**Northwoods Resort**  
**Big Bear Lake, CA**

### Tentative Program

**Friday** 3:00-7:00 PM Gathering in Hospitality Suite for refreshments  
 7:00-9:00 PM Pizza dinner available @ \$5 in Hospitality Suite or enjoy dinner on your own.

**Saturday** 8:00-10:00 Registration at Hospitality Suite  
 Breakfast in Hospitality Suite  
 A driving tour will be available  
 3:00-5:00 PM Hospitality Suite open  
 6:00 PM Gather for dinner, no-host bar  
 7:00 PM Dinner @ \$35 each

**Sunday** Daily activity on your own  
 Noon Check out

Contact Northwoods Resort directly at 1-800-866-3121 and prompt #1 for room reservations. Aug 22 is the cut off for holding rooms for the Vintage MG event, but other rooms may be available.

### Registration Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Number in party \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ MG year & Model \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10 each total \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Pizza Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$5 each total \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday Dinner @\$35 Roasted Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Sirloin Tip Steak \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_ (dinner total)

I have made room reservations at the Northwood Resort ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please make check payable to: Vintage MG Club

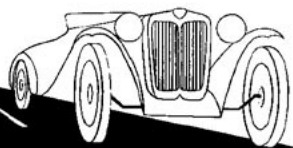
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## TCMG Holiday Party & Annual Meeting

**Sat.- December 1**  
**Gather at 5:30 PM**

Casual Gathering Sunday at 11:00 for fun and eats at David & Joyce's home. Please RSVP for Sunday below or at: djedgar@pacbell.net or 619-593-8255

Good time to clean out your storage area and rotate treasures with others at our Auction

Make a weekend of it

**Town & Country Resort Hotel**

500 Hotel Circle No.  
 San Diego, CA 92108

In the Tiki Pavilion which is the same octagon room, and jam packed with decorations as before. Come be amazed.

### Room Reservations

Rates: \$119 for one night  
 \$189 for two nights  
 Tell them you are with the TCMG Group  
 Call 619-291-7131 or  
 800-772-8527  
 (800-77-ATLAS)

### TCMG Holiday Party & Annual Meeting

☐ Yes I (we) plan to attend and would like the following menu choice(s)

Beef Tenderloin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Salmon Filet \_\_\_\_\_  
 Veggie \_\_\_\_\_

Meals are  
 \$28 each\*

Dinner Reservations

**DUE FRI. NOV 23RD**

Checks made out to TCMG

Mail to: TCMG, c/o Joyce Edgar  
 1454 Chase Terrace  
 El Cajon, CA 92020

☐ Yes I would like to come to the Sunday Gathering at the Edgar Home  
 Please save a seat(s) for me (us) and some food too!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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\* Note that dinner pricing is subsidized for TCMG members. Call Joyce for non-member prices.



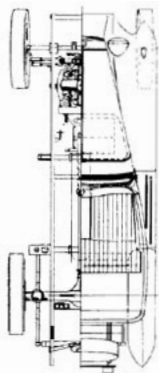
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Send for a free index of over 60 ways to keep your MG "TC" operating safely and reliably. Each "clinic" is 20 cents. Non-members pay 50 cents for the index. Index is also on our web page at: [www.tcmotoringguild.org/tclinicindex.html](http://www.tcmotoringguild.org/tclinicindex.html)

### "MG Through the Ages":

MG in pictures, 18" x 24" poster ..... \$1.75 members, \$2.75 non-members

TCMG Club Badge ..... \$25 if picked up, \$30 if mailed (members only)

TCMG Club Pin ..... \$3 if picked up, \$5 if mailed (members only)

"MG TC Specifications": A booklet of what is and what isn't stock on the TC.

A "must" for restorers. .... \$3.00 Members, \$5.00 non-members

TCMG Cloth Emblem ..... \$4.75

Prices beyond our control subject to change

U.S. postage is included in prices (international postage is extra)

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