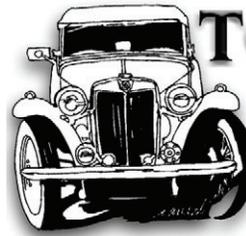




Is your name marked with yellow highlight? If so see page 6.

**First Class Mail**



# TC Motoring Guild MIDGET CHASSIS

Published by the TC Motoring Guild, Inc.

**March 2012**

Some of you may remember seeing TCMGer Bob Koons' Updraught Special on our March 2010 issue of the Midget Chassis (left). Well, one racer was not enough for him. Bob has an equally stunning 2nd TC racer he is preparing (below). For more details see pg 11



And here is the front of Tom Wilson's TC. While sporting a fitting license plate, it could not make the recent Lame Duk Kup event. See pages 7 & 9

### **What's Inside**

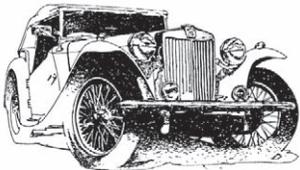
|  |       |
|--|-------|
| February Meeting .....                               | 3     |
| Near Death Experience of Phil Hill by Phil May ..... | 5     |
| Letters from our Members .....                       | 6-7   |
| Lame Duk Kup Event .....                             | 8-9   |
| New Product and Storing Car Batteries .....          | 10    |
| January Meeting Minutes.....                         | 12-13 |



**Whatcha Lookin At?**  
Graphic Design Services  
for Print or Digital

- Printed Materials
- Website Design & Maintenance
- Memory DVDs & Books

805.927.0491 • Nancy McKarney • nancy@mcKarney.com  
McKarney.com • SeeCambria.com • CambriaArts.com



**The  
MIDGET CHASSIS  
March 2012**

Published in  
Southern California by the  
TC Motoring Guild  
PO Box Number 3452  
Van Nuys, CA 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)



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

**8:00 PM**

**Driving a TC in  
1960's Europe**

Come one and all. You do not want to miss  
our new president's lively way of running the  
meeting, and as a bonus he will be talking  
about his TC exploits here and in Europe  
including thru the Berlin Corridor in 1966.

TCMG Meeting held at:  
Citibank Community  
Room  
2350 Honolulu Ave,  
Montrose  
GPS coordinates:  
N 34.206  
W 118.229  
Meeting room entrance  
is at the rear of the  
bank - downstairs.

*Many thanks to Citibank  
for providing the meeting  
room in 2012 at no cost.*

*Are you coming to the meeting and have  
extra room in your car? Contact a fellow  
TCMG member and carpool.*



**LUCAS CLASSIC  
TIRES**  
Lester, Firestone, Denman, Lucas.  
Custom Classic, Goodyear, Dunlop & more.  
*We can save you money!*  
**FREE CATALOG**

**Lucas**  
CLASSIC TIRES

2850 Temple Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806  
Fax 562-595-0381 • **800-952-4333**

818-788-3375 • 818-788-3377 • 323-872-1122  
FAX 818-788-0516 E-MAIL [jkavan1497@aol.com](mailto:jkavan1497@aol.com)  
WEBSITE: [www.kavanaghmotors.com](http://www.kavanaghmotors.com)

**D. Kavanagh Motors, Inc.**

COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE CARE  
13428 VENTURA BLVD.  
SHERMAN OAKS, CALIF. 91423-3914

DECLAN KAVANAGH SINCE 1958

**TCMG Executive Council 2012**

|                  |   |  |
|------------------|---|--|
| President        | David Mathison . 310-546-3205               | <a href="mailto:dmathiso@lmu.edu">dmathiso@lmu.edu</a>                 |
| Vice President   | Ron Simon . . . . . 818-708-2033            | <a href="mailto:simon90248@yahoo.com">simon90248@yahoo.com</a>         |
| Secretary        | David Edgar . . . . . 619-593-8255          | <a href="mailto:djedgar@pacbell.net">djedgar@pacbell.net</a>           |
| Treas/Memb       | Joyce Edgar . . . . . 619-593-8255          | <a href="mailto:djedgar@pacbell.net">djedgar@pacbell.net</a>           |
| Events/Director  | Gene Olson . . . . . 805-522-8052           | <a href="mailto:olson_g@msn.com">olson_g@msn.com</a>                   |
| Asst Programs/Di | Gordon Glass . . . . . 949-644-1954         | <a href="mailto:ghgmlg@yahoo.com">ghgmlg@yahoo.com</a>                 |
| Ex Officio       | Steve Simmons . . (in transition)           | <a href="mailto:mail@mgnuts.com">mail@mgnuts.com</a>                   |
| Programs         | Steve Simmons, David Edgar and Gordon Glass |  |
| Co-Editor        | David Edgar . . . . . 619-593-8255          | <a href="mailto:djedgar@pacbell.net">djedgar@pacbell.net</a>           |
| Co-Editor        | Jim Crandall . . . . . 310 457 3967         | <a href="mailto:crandallonline@yahoo.com">crandallonline@yahoo.com</a> |
| Historian        | Don McLish . . . . . 818-352-3741           | <a href="mailto:dmclish1@hotmail.com">dmclish1@hotmail.com</a>         |
| Raffle Chair     | Dave Coleman . . . 714-898-2008             |  |
| Regalia Chair    | Dave Coleman . . . 714-898-2008             |  |
| Sunshine Chair   | Bobbie Simon . . . 818-708-2033             | <a href="mailto:simonbobbie@yahoo.com">simonbobbie@yahoo.com</a>       |
| Webmaster        | Steve Simmons . . (in transition)           | <a href="mailto:mail@mgnuts.com">mail@mgnuts.com</a>                   |

**GoF West 2012**  
**June 18 - 22 in Buellton, CA**

GoF West 2012 will be held in the heart of California's  
spectacular Central Coast. This year's rally/tour will  
follow the beautiful Foxen Canyon Wine Trail, and there  
will be extra, optional attractions - Solvang's Pacific  
Coast Performing Arts Theater and a tour of Vandenberg  
AFB - in addition to the traditional car display, funkhana,  
auto-jumble and banquets. Our own TCMG member Larry Long is the Chairman  
of GoF this year. Support his efforts and let's see a good TCMG turnout.

Please visit the website at: [Gofwest.com](http://Gofwest.com) for registration info.

*Note: Registration fee is \$45 right  
now but is going up to \$55 after  
March 1. So get your reservation in  
ASAP and save \$10.*





# EVERYTHING FOR YOUR MG TC, TD & TF



**FORUM**  
SHARE YOUR INSIGHT, EXPERIENCE AND PASSION ON OUR MOSS FORUM. LEARN FROM OTHERS, JUST CHAT OR BROWSE THE CARS FOR SALE. OVER 17K MEMBERS.  
[MossMotors.com/Forum](http://MossMotors.com/Forum)

**FREE CATALOGS**  
PAGES AND PAGES OF PARTS AND INFORMATION.



**CUSTOMER LOYALTY PROGRAM**  
SPEND \$1,500 AND ENJOY 10% OFF ORDERS FOR ONE YEAR AND YOUR OWN DEDICATED SALES PERSON.



**MOSSTV**  
WATCH VIDEOS ON TOPICS INCLUDING HOW-TO AND PRODUCT SPOTLIGHTS, SUBSCRIBE AND GET UPDATES WHEN NEW VIDEOS ARE POSTED.



**MossMotors.com**  
**800-667-7872**

## The Near Death Experience of Phil Hill at the Hands of One Phil May

by Phil May



A couple of years back, David printed my story of “racing” Steve McQueen down Sunset Blvd. in Hollywood in his XK-SS Jag. If you never read it or don’t recall it, perhaps David could be persuaded to run it again next month as a fitting part to this series of my TC stories.

But I never told the story of going to work one December 1962 morning in Tissy. The Hillman was gone in the TC trade you read about last month so I didn’t have a daily driver. Tissy had to be my temporary commuter car to my ad agency job in the Tishman Building at 3540 Wilshire until getting the ’46 Ford.

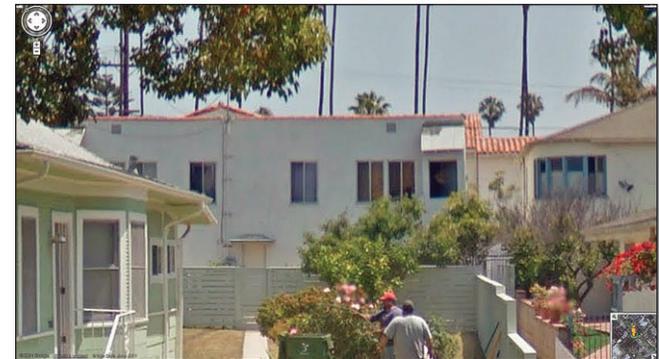
That morning I pulled the TC out into the alley from the garage under our apartment. Since I started writing these reminiscences I checked the address on a lark to see what monster apartment or office building was now on the site. That apartment is still there! Google’s street views enabled me to take the picture. Our apt. was second floor on the right. The wooden exterior staircase is hidden by the shrubbery. The door in the first level in the middle led into the four car garage.

I drove down the alley to turn left on Arizona Avenue and then turned left again on 19th heading towards Wilshire.

The light was green. I sped up to make the light and make the right turn.

Driving on the right I had a great view of the curb as I prepared to swing right. Phil Hill had just put a letter in a mailbox there. He paused and started to step down off the curb just as I was coming quickly to turn. I was cutting the corner very tightly to the curb. He looked up just in time and jumped back.

I recognized America’s only Grand Prix champion instantly and yelled my apology for nearly running him over. All



the way to work that day I kept thinking that Phil, who started his racing career in MG TCs, had almost had that career ended by one.

I reminded him of this many years later up in Vancouver, Canada when I was with him backstage at a Toyota Dealer event where he was the featured speaker. Sadly, he didn’t remember. I never forgot.

(to be continued)

## Dues Notes and Attachments

# TCMG DUES

We have 39 members who have not renewed yet. If your name is marked with yellow highlight on the address label of this issue then we have not heard from you yet.

Dues are: \$26.00 for those in the 90000 to 93300 Zip Codes.  
\$22.00 outside those Zip Codes.

Please make checks out to TCMG,  
and mail to TCMG Treasurer/Membership Chair

Joyce Edgar, TCMG Treasurer/Membership  
1454 Chase Terrace, El Cajon, CA 92020

Send a note if there are any changes in address, phone,  
email or TC from what is in the 2011 TCMG Directory.

*It is always interesting to see what people attach with their dues. Sometimes it is a quick "Thank you" or "Wish we were closer so we could participate more." Here are a couple we share with you.*



**Pat & Joe  
Marcotte**

February 12, 2012

Ms. Joyce Edgar  
TCMG  
1454 Chase Terrace  
El Cajon, CA 92020

Dear Joyce:

Enclosed please find my personal check no. 11131, which is made payable to TCMG for the amount of \$22.00. It is my intention that this sum serve as full payment for club dues for Pat and Joe Marcotte for the calendar year 2012.

In the hope that this year be filled with prosperity and all club members will accumulate more miles than ever before on their TCs.

Encl.

1758 Marlyn Way San José, CA 95125  
[marcottemg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:marcottemg@sbcglobal.net) 408-266-1030

Hi JOYCE,

SORRY I MISSED YOUR PROGRAM IN NOVEMBER. WE USED TO TAKE OUR KIDS EVERYWHERE IN THE BACK OF OUR TC. IF WE WENT VERY FAR, WE WOULD PUT THE TOP UP AND REAR SIDE CURTAINS ON TO KEEP THEM SORT OF "CORRALLED". AT THE TIME, IT SEEMED PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE TO US, AND LUCKILY THEY SURVIVED (THEY ARE NOW 37 & 40 YEARS OLD), BUT IT MAKES ME SHUDDER NOW TO THINK WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED.

THANKS FOR EVERYTHING YOU AND DAVID DO. Richard Lee

Thank you Richard and thanks for the kind words many others sent with your dues. Joyce  
p.s. our kids rode the same way.



Tom Wilson sent this GREAT postcard depicting various views of his TC 0272.

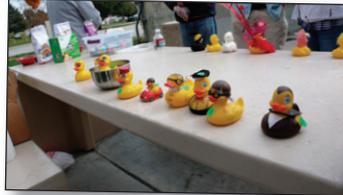
# Lame Duk Kup Report



Linda and Bobbie enjoying the engine heat in the TC



The Ducs being judged for best dressed in the first event of the day.



Only one lone TC made the event (Simmons) however Gene Olson had his SA there. Others in attendance but in modern cars were: Simon, Coleman, McCanne, Appell and Glass.



Using a bow mounted on the SA, Ducs are launched through the air to a target pond in the second event. Ducs await their turn while sitting on the SA.



Photos by Steve Simmons and Lucy McCanne



Third event for the ducs had the contestants racing the ducs down a ramp while sitting in toy cars. Not as easy as it sounds and some creativity was employed.



Best Dressed duk winners were by David & Lucy McCanne with a 1920s theme.

And the final duk event was the swim (or float). Here our members dropped the ducs over the railing and into the river.



Overall winner of all events was Steve Simmons' Count Dukula. Linda's Mummy Duck sits close by.



Tom Wilson's DUK was there In-Spirit



When the duk events were finished the gang had the eating event afterwards while they shared duk stories.



Steve receives the Duck trophy to hold for the next year. Congratulations

## New Product to Try



Chemical threadlockers are a great boon. They keep nuts from coming loose at inopportune moments. Traditionally they've taken the form of a liquid or gel, which is applied to the threads as the parts are assembled. Loctite's QuickTape 249 is a threadlocker that comes in tape form. And it's applied just like Teflon pipe tape – two wraps are plenty. Now you can assemble the part or wait as long as a month. QuickTape 249 makes working in tight places or overhead simpler, because the chemical stays put. And it's just as effective as the old-fashioned liquids.

## Storing Car Batteries

There was a time when storing car batteries on concrete floors was a lousy thing to do. However those days have long since passed.

Car batteries used to be encased in hard rubber, a substance that was porous enough that battery acid could seep through it and create a conductive path through the damp concrete, draining the battery. The cases of today's batteries, however, are made of sturdier stuff that far better contains their contents than those of yesteryear. New batteries have brought technological improvements to the seals around the posts and the vent system as well.

These days, the problem of car battery electrolyte seepage and migration has been all but eliminated. Yuasa, a battery manufacturer says, "Now days, containers are made from a solid plastic that does not allow any current to flow through it, so the batteries do not discharge, even if they sit in a few inches of water."

Interestingly, some experts (including Car Talk's Click and Clack) believe that storing car batteries on concrete floors might actually be a better idea than keeping them on shelves or other surfaces because the cold of the floor works to slow the self discharge (leakage) rate.

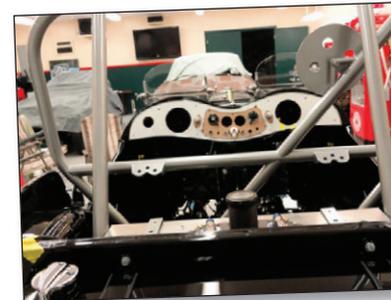
## Progress on TC 7514 EXU



TCMG member Bob Koons out of Pennsylvania gives us a report on the progress being made on his latest racing TC.



Bob bought this TC 7514 EXU several years back. He came across the TC which had been raced in the very first Pebble Beach race back in 1950 by Spence Kerrigan. Bob's initial plan was to race it at the Monterey Rolex Reunion in August 2011. However, as often happens, the rebuild project was delayed. Progress is being made and is shooting to make the 2012 race now.



Bob reports that the engine dynoed out at 147 hp, and at that power the dyno computer measured the fuel consumption at about equal to the capacity of a single fuel pump, so a second pump was added to be sure there would not be any problems.

The original fuel tank is stock, but it's now plumbed as a catch tank for the rear end breather and the fuel cell vent. The original tank drain opening and outlet opening were used as the two inlets for the respective vent lines. That way, if anybody wants to reverse things and actually use the tank as a fuel tank, it would be easy to do.

Equally impressive is the shop in these photos. Bob says it is kind of his "man cave", where he keeps some of his cars, works on them, watches TV, and listens to 60's music on the satellite radio piped through the surround sound system. Nothing better! If you look closely, you will see an XKE in the background and under one cover is his Lotus 20 racer. Bob does have two other TCs, the Updraught Special that we featured in the March 2010 Midget Chassis as well as a very stock original 1948 TC5112 which has no racing plans.



Bob's other TC racer, the Updraught Special

# January TCMG Meeting Minutes

The meeting began at 8:21 (typically late since we like to chat and visit with each other to catch up on what has been happening) and first order of business was for Steve Simmons, the outgoing president, to officially hand over the gavel to the new president, David Mathison. David, a university professor, did not waste time taking control over the assembly and began with a couple jokes. With everyone paying attention now, he progressed onto the normal course of club business. Minutes were presented and accepted.

New budget was then presented and accepted. David went through the mail and among the items was a letter from the Foster Care Resource Center thanking us for all the toys donated that we collected at our end of year party. There was also a card with great photos of Barbara Weiss telling of a Celebration of Life for her coming up February 19.

We had a guest, friend of Steve Simmons who is looking for a TC. Hema from Hema Vintage Auto would like to find a complete low budget TC to fix up. He offered his facilities as a meeting spot possibly in September when our bank room probably will not be available due to Octoberfest happenings in Montrose.

Gene Olson announced our next event, the Lame Duk Kup, which will be held on Feb. 11th at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Preserve area. Ducks were handed out to decorate for the event.



Art & Sarah Ludwick invited us back to their home for an event so we will work that into our schedule. Other suggested event ideas were going to the Nethercutt Museum, Mullins Museum, Reagan Library, and Camarillo Air Show.

Conclave is scheduled for Sept 7-9 this year and the Abingdon Rough Riders will host at the Narrow Gauge Inn in Fish Camp, California.

A refreshment list was passed out and we got a good response on sign-ups to bring refreshments to future meetings.

David Coleman showed us what we had for the raffle this night. Three tickets for five dollars.

Business meeting was adjourned at 9pm so we could refresh ourselves and get ready for the program. The Olsons prepared a Jeopardy style game with TC related questions.



*Check out the library of Tech Tips and other reference materials on Doug's website.*

## From The Frame Up, LLC

"Specializing in MG hard to find parts"



**Doug Pelton** 602-690-4927  
3754 E. Nance Circle, Mesa, AZ 85215  
www.FromTheFrameUp.com Doug@FromTheFrameUp.com



**Convert your D-Lamp tail lights to LEDs, reduce the load on the Dynamo.**

Contact [taterry@aol.com](mailto:taterry@aol.com) for details. \$85 each. Fits Y types also.

*Join other TCMGers who have switched over to this. HUGE difference in how your TC lights can be seen yet still appear stock from the outside.*



### Some sample questions from the TCMG Jeopardy Game

- How many spokes on a TC wheel?
- When was Ron Simon president last?
- What is the stock bore size on the XPAG engine?
- What is the English term for the trunk of a car?
- What color was George Washington's white horse?
- Where was the Battle of Bunker Hill fought? (do not be to quick to answer this one)



## TC Wanted

Hema of Hema Vintage Auto is looking for a project TC to fix up. TC needs to be complete and will consider a basket case or non running TC. Hema just does not want to be hunting for lots of parts but is fully capable of rebuilding and restoring. If you wish to sell yours, or know of one for sale, please contact Hema. ph: 626-286-9112 or [hemavintageauto@msn.com](mailto:hemavintageauto@msn.com)

## Extremely Rare TC For Sale

1948 TC 5494  
XPAG 6156 Clipper Blue/Biscuit

This is the only known upsidedown TC known to exist so is extremely rare. Owner is willing to stand on his head as evidenced in the photo to make you a deal but is not cheap due to the rarity. However it is easily converted back to right side up stock if you wish. Excellent award winning and reliable TC. Car is located in Southern California.



Contact Lloyd Hendrickson by  
phone 626-330-0016

## Binford's TC For Sale

A very sad time for me has come at last. I must confess that I do not drive Daddy's TC anymore and she is very unhappy just sitting. Silver Streak has been in my life since 1952, I was six years old. I grew up in the boot !

You may remember Silver Streak as 1948 MGTC 6973- XPAG 7797 pewter/red. She is a lovely old girl and still gives us a run for our money when we do get her out for a short jaunt.

We would love to find a loving, driving home for her and hope you will share this news with interested parties.

She was completely restored in 1980 by Glen Binford and friends (->) She has always been garaged and covered and comes complete with Whitworth tools, luggage rack, leather suitcase and antique picnic box (also leather) with implements.



For additional information or to strike up a conversation  
you may call me at 360-652-0363  
or email me at [pamg4@wavecable.com](mailto:pamg4@wavecable.com) .

Thank you, Pamela Binford-Grudin

## DRIVE THROUGH TIME... WITH PEACE OF MIND



J.C. Taylor Antique Auto Insurance has been insuring collector vehicles for nearly fifty years. We understand our customers, and the connection *you* have with your TC. It's your memory scrapbook, your time machine. It's your passion and *ours*.

We provide agreed value coverage, and fast friendly claims service on all of our policies. So all you have to do is *drive through time... with peace of mind.*

**J.C. Taylor**  
Antique Auto Insurance



[www.JCTaylor.com](http://www.JCTaylor.com)  
1.888.ANTIQUE

**GET A QUOTE ONLINE TODAY.**

*You can insure your TC for surprisingly less than you think.*

[www.jctaylor.com/Antique/antique.html](http://www.jctaylor.com/Antique/antique.html)

or write:

J.C. Taylor Antique Automobile Insurance  
320 South 69th Street  
Upper Darby, Pennsylvania