









The MG TC - one of the first hybrid vehicles. Runs on both petrol and human power.

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#### The MIDGET CHASSIS **May 2014**

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

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#### **TCMG Executive Council 2014**

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Spring has sprung and as usual we've enjoyed a 12-month driving season here in sunny Southern California. While it's true we could really use some rain, the weather has brought our member's TCs out in large numbers over the past year. It has been great to see so many enjoying their cars, even the better half of yours truly, who has been driving our TC to events and meetings by herself when that four letter word (work) gets in the way of her husband's fun.

We are very excited to have Joe Douglass leading our Wildflower Tour again coming up April 26. It has been several years since the last one because of the poor blooms caused by drought conditions, but the poppies and other plants are blooming again this year. Come see them while you can, and enjoy this classic TCMG driving tour!

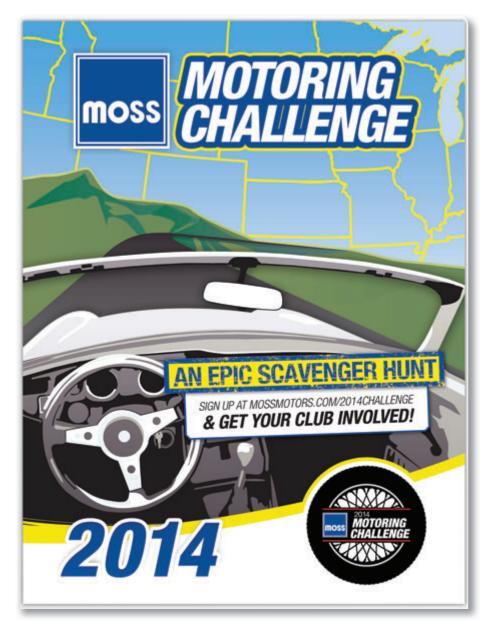
Our May event is also shaping up to be a real doozy. We have over 30 members signed up with several others still on the fence. If you're thinking about attending this one, now is the time to act! See the advertisement in this newsletter (or find it on our web site) and remember to RSVP if you plan to attend. We also anticipate several TCMG'ers attending the British car show at Woodley Park later this month, and at the vintage races in Buttonwillow in early May.

Keep 'em on the road!



Did you notice the change in our official TCMG Post Office Box address? After years of being in Van Nuys, we found it a challenge to get our mail since Harvey Schnaer passed away. The new box is located in Montrose and just a couple blocks from our meeting spot.





Looking for a way to have fun with your TC? Try the challenge. Take photos of yourself and TC at various places as described in the Motoring Challenge Guide and you are eligible for a special decal and T-shirt. You also could win a \$50, \$250, \$500 or a \$1000 Moss gift certificate. Use the link above to see the details or just go to MossMotors.com and then click on the 2014 Motoring Challenge icon.





TCMG Meeting held at: Citibank Community Room 2350 Honolulu Ave, Montrose

Meeting room entrance is at the rear of the bank – downstairs.

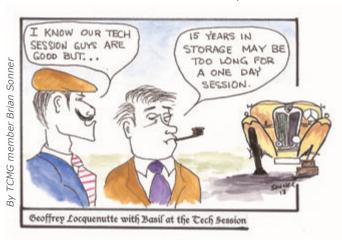
Gorden & June have some raffle prizes you surely do not want to miss.

Remember too that all tickets purchased throughout the year go into a pot and you might win the \$100 bill prize at our End-of-the-Year Party.

# Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 8:00 PM Puzzle Contest

Five identical 250 piece MG TC puzzles, five teams and a stopwatch will be our fun for the evening. Something new and different for us to try. Which team will win? And if you are not into puzzles, then come for the friendships and food. Cheer on the teams.





#### 58th Annual TCMG/ARR Conclave

## October 3-5 Sonora, CA

A ways off yet, but time to start making your plans. More detailed descriptions are found on our website so please check there.

The quaint town of Sonora is filled with little shops, restaurants, and sights for walking about. We will be staying in the Gunn House Hotel located in the center of town. The Gunn House has a rich history and has been a landmark since 1850. 22 antique-filled rooms have been reserved for the weekend. Each room is unique and some are even said to house some spirits of long gone Sonora natives!! The rates vary from \$84 dollars for a "small Queen" (literally not much bigger than the bed) to \$125 for the good Doctor Gunn's own master bedroom per night.

Please make your reservations through the Hotel.

The Gunn House Hotel 286 S. Washington St. Sonora, CA 95370 (209) 532-3421

The 22 rooms will fill up, and the Sonora Inn will be used for any overflow we may experience.

The Sonora Inn 160 S Washington St. Sonora, CA 95370 (209) 532-2400



The Saturday drive winds towards the gold rush town of Colombia and then on to Murphys only 15 miles away. The more adventurous can continue from Murphys up the gorgeous Highway 4 towards Calavaras Big Trees State Park, and Ebbetts Pass (55 miles from Murphys) but you can drive as far as you want and turn around. The scenery is California Alpine at it's very best, literally breathtaking.

Saturday night, the banquet will be catered by Christopher's Restaurant in the Sonora Inn, 5 minute walk from the Gunn House. Sunday morning, we will depart back to reality.

When you make reservations, please send an email to Howard Shempp at hshempp@gmail.com and let him know.

Additional details will be provided as we get closer to the event.

## **April Wildflower Tour**

by JOE DOUGLASS

# Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

We will be meeting in the McDonald's parking lot in Castaic, 27701 Lake Hughes Rd., Castaic, CA 91384. Meeting time not set as of newsletter deadline but, probably fairly early like 8:30 with a 9AM roll out in case it's hot. Look for flyer or website for latest info.

After several years of absence, we are happy to announce that the Joe Douglass Wildflower Tour is back! With recent storms

have come many types of wildflowers including poppies to the deserts north of Los Angeles. On Saturday, April 26, our adventure will take us along scenic roads to the California Poppy Reserves in Lancaster where Joe will lead us to his favorite spots.

#### May 9-11, 2014 - Wine Country Weekend

A three day event includes: a relaxing tour up to Santa Barbara, a visit to a fabulous car collection, a winery visit and a dinner gathering. More details on our website and to come in future newsletters.



**NOTE.** Interest has surpassed our highest expectations so we have already exceeded our block of rooms at The Franciscan. The only rooms they currently have left are pricey, at \$215 and up.

If you would like to attend but prefer less pricy accommodations, contact Steve for options. We have researched and found rooms at neighboring properties to



**Hotel Information:** 

The Franciscan, 109 Bath Street, Santa Barbara, CA (805) 963-8845

Note: Please RSVP for this event to Steve Simmons at mail@mgnuts.com

help keep costs down. There is also the possibility of lesser priced rooms in our own hotel freeing up and we will get first dibs on those if they become available.

If you plan to attend this event and have not let Steve know, please call or send an email so we know how many to expect for the various activities - Friday morning brunch, hotel rooms, Saturday tour, Saturday night dinner, etc.

#### Lunch, Gamble House & Garden Party





Gorden Bundy & June Wennekamp



Cindy and Tony



r: Gorden, June Jan and Curt

I-r: Ron, Bobbie, Ron, Linda,

Sandra and Richard

brunch. There was a sense the cat knew

who planned this wonderful event. We

After brunch, we drove to the Gamble

were amongst good company, good

House for the tour. At the Gamble

everyone telling about spending his

childhood in the neighborhood and

his acquaintance with the Gamble

family. Everyone admired the art glass

and wood work of the American Craft

style architecture of Charles and Henry

House, Tony Henkels surprised

food and good conversation.

The March Event planned by Steve and Linda Simmons had about twenty one members participating. A lovely Saturday started with six TCs parked at the Raymond Restaurant in Pasadena, California. Kudos go to Mel and Toni Appell, Linda Simmons, Jim and Kim Ellis, Richard and Sandra Loe, Ron Wong, Ron and Diane Spindler who drove their TCs. As usual those that attended and drove their "other car" stood in envy as they watched and heard the familiar roar of vintage cars. They were the Henkels, McCannes, Bundy, Simon, and Sorensen.

At The Raymond Restaurant, frosted door etched "Est 1886". We walked into a smaller canopied patio with a fireplace. This was the dining area covered with lovely flowery vine. Two long tables with chairs, seated everyone comfortably. Linda Simmons found a new friend, Randy (?), a grey cat that sat on her lap most of the time during





On the house tour.



Greene. The house is owned by the City of Pasadena. The tour ended at the Gamble Store in the premises for browsing and buying of souvenirs.

After the Gamble House Tour, everyone drove to the Henkels next door. The rest of the afternoon was spent relaxing, getting reacquainted and enjoying Tony's garage. Vintage TCs parked the long driveway. displayed for everyone to enjoy. The backyard setting was lovely. A huge TC emblem identified the event. Fresh flowers in vases and pots, adorned the table cloth covered tables. Along a wall of the house was a long table filled with Cindy's fresh baked pies, cookies, and a big plate of fresh fruits. The refreshment was enjoyed by everyone and there was much appreciation for the Henkel's for their hospitality. It was to the Henkels a joy to be surrounded by TC friends. To the Simmons, was another successful TC event enjoyed by everyone.

Lucy McCanne



Jim & Kim Ellis



TCs at the restaurant lot

Thanks to Steve & Linda for setting this up this tour!









Richard & Sandra Loe



Ron & Bobby Simon

Mel & Toni Appell





### **Can You Identify These TCMG Members?**



Photo is from June 1961. 1-r: Dwane Carlson, Joe & Jeanne Douglass, Norma & Jim Crandall, Dietz Heuser, Clarence Weiss, Kip Greene (who was TCMG President in 1963), Frank Mason.

#### **Queen's English British Car Meet**

Not a TCMG event but there were seven TCs there last year. April 27 at Woodley Park. in Van Nuys.9am-4pm but get there earlier if you want to show your TC. An Auto Jumble is also part of this. For more info: www.queens-english.org



#### **TC Parking**



Don McLish has made up some signs to post outside our Montrose meeting location to save spaces for TC near the room entrance. While no official rule has been established, saving 4 or 5 spots **10** by the door for TCs is probably



more than adequate. However if spaces are still open 10 minutes before the meeting time then others should be allowed to fill in, especially for those with mobility issues or carrying food or equipment.

#### Welcome to a New TCMG Member



Hema & Janakie Ratayake 8541 Arcadia Avenue San Gabriel, CA 91775 626-286-9112 (h) 626-390-2507 Hemavintageauto@msn.com 1949 TC 5371 XPAG6121 Black/Green



Hema purchased founding TCMG member, Earl Sargent's TC along with a very detailed maintenance record. The TC also sports the earliest known version of our TCMG badge with the error on it.



1948 MG TC 1250 TC 5371 Earl Sargent Owned by Mr. Sargent most of its life; driven in races, rallies, trails, etc., and enjoyed!



# GoF West 2014

San Diego, California August 25-29

Held at Bahia Resort Hotel on Mission Bay

#### Plan on attending this. Fairly close by and should be an exciting event with lots of MGs to view and great driving too.

For more info www.gofwest.org 1

## March 25 Meeting Minutes

Vice President Ron Simon presided over the meeting in the absence of President Steve Simmons, who had to work. The meeting was well attended with more than 25 members. Ron Simon welcomed everyone. Eric Belland accompanied his parents Stan and Esther Belland. David and Susie Coleman, Mel and Tony Appell, Llovd and Carolyn Hendrickson, Art and Sarah Ludwick graced the evening with their presence. Time was spent on getting reacquainted with other members.



David and Joyce Edgar according to Ron Simon, could not make the meeting as they were still in Texas waiting for their motor home to get fixed. They just bought a Lotus Seven that they plan to trailer home. The Edgars are most appreciated for their monthly collection of items for the newsletter, editing, writing, publishing and in addition, membership and treasury.

The treasurer's report as well as the minutes of February meeting were submitted, and approved.

Linda Simmons prepared the refreshments and arranged the goodies in a delightful manner on the table. She identified different dishes by name on elegantly printed name cards with TC emblems. Our thanks to Linda for the artistic presentation of refreshments and for taking the time to bake cookies and cakes, in addition to the cheese-ncrackers and fruits. The delicious coffee to the last drop was prepared by Ron and Bobbie Simon. It was a feast enjoyed by **12** everyone.

Everyone in attendance noticed the display of "TC Parking Only" posters on the wall. Big and regular sized posters prepared by Don McLish. A presentation by Don explained the good humor behind the request for parking spaces for TC drivers in the Montrose location.

A poster of Oueen Elizabeth and Prince Charles of England support this idea in good humor. Ever so fitting, as TCs first home is England. Thank you Don for your effort to make sure TC drivers secure priority parking close to the entrance of the meeting room.

Bobbie Simon, Ms. Sunshine, reported on behalf of the TC MG club, the notes she sent to the following members:

- to Clarence Weiss, "hope to see him at a meeting or event since he has moved to Northridge."
- to George Kershaw and Phil Marino, " they are in our thoughts and are missed".
- a card to Robert Koons of Wayne, PA, "wishing him a return to good health".
- a condolence card to Jan Gardner whose husband, Jon, passed away.



In the meeting, Stan Belland and Joe Douglass mentioned calls they made to Clarence Weiss. It was good conversation and Clarence is adjusting to his new home in Northridge and maybe someday come to a meeting. Stan reminded members that a TC sketch at the back of every newsletter was done by Clarence.



Also, Esther Belland got in touch with the McKarneys of whom she enjoyed the conversation and stated Bob and Nancy are fine. The club welcomes information on any TC members on how they are doing, and hope members interact and connect with each other.

**Raffle:** Gorden Bundy with the help of June, proudly displayed the raffle prizes of the evening. They were a "Safety First" garment bag, magnetic led light, hammers, cutters, a tool box and an azalea plant. There was a big participation in ticket buying and happy winners.



Old Business: Ron Simon moved our P.O. Box to Montrose. He will continue to pick up the mail, but Richard & Sandra Low offered to help when needed.

As far as the TC banner is concerned, Stan Belland had seen the banner being used in past events but cannot remember who had it last. The club has to make a decision on whether we still need a smaller banner to bring to events, or have a volunteer bring the big banner used in the monthly meetings.



A lovely afternoon of fine automobiles and people for the March Event was enjoyed by everyone. In the TCs were, Linda Simmons, (Steve could not make it due to work), Appell, Ellis, Loes, Spindler and Wong; while Bundy, Henkels, McCanne, Simon and Sorensen were in other iron. Mel Appell raved about the food at The Raymond; The Gamble House Tour with its fine architecture was admired and the afternoon concluded at The Henkels for more food, cake and pies.

Photos by

Ron Simón

Ron Simon mentioned the possibility of Earl Sargent Award will most likely be a tie between the Loes and Simmons based on the tally report of TC on the website. This is significant as members are driving their TCs more to meetings and events.

New Business: Linda Simmons will come up with the date and location of the Annual Holiday Party in the next meeting. She also brought up the Santa Barbara weekend in May. There may be a need for more rooms in the event if more people decide to attend. Anyone planning to go is encouraged to call Steve or Linda Simmons to RSVP.

Curt Sorensen requested suggestions for the August meeting program event. He suggested maybe members can volunteer their most unusual life event experience, hobbies, anything as in "show and tell" that everyone will enjoy.

**Program:** Benjamin Franklin, a historic dialogue, by Art Ludwick

#### Meeting minutes - cont'd from page 13

To fully enjoy the moment with Benjamin Franklin, Art Ludwick came fully dressed in period costume and brought a replica of Betsy Ross American Flag of 1776 of thirteen stripes and stars. He was able to provide a very convincing Benjamin Franklin and delivered a historic dialogue that everyone enjoyed. He also distributed copies of the replica of Declaration of Independence. Linda Simmons took video of the presentation. The success of Art Ludwick's presentation of Benjamin Franklin has earned him invitations to perform to 5th graders in Elementary Schools throughout the region. Our congratulations and thanks to Art Ludwick for a delightful presentation of Benjamin Franklin.



The meeting adjourned at 10 pm. Respectfully yours,

Lucy McCanne

#### **TC Parts Wanted**



Rebuildable differential carrier (bad gears and/or bearings OK). Also would consider a just loan of one while I repair mine. Richard Loe, (818) 790-2332 fordydelux@yahoo.com

# **Club Regalia**

Note: TClinics now available on-line at no cost. tcmotoringguild.org

TCMG Car Badge A \$25 (\$30 if mailed) members only
<b>TCMG Car Vintage Badge</b> B \$30 (\$35 if mailed) members only
<b>TCMG Cloth Patch</b> \$5 (\$6.50 if mailed) members only
TCMG Lapel Pin \$3 (\$5 if mailed) members only
TCMG Lapel Vintage Pin \$3 (\$5 if mailed) members only
MG TC Pin & MG Car Club Pin (inquire)
"MGTC Specifications" - What is and what isn't stock on the MG-TC?
A "must" for restorers \$3 members, \$5 non-members, Postage \$2
<b>MG TC Color Specs</b> \$2 members, \$3 non-members, Postage \$2



**REGALIA CHAIR** Linda Simmons linda@mgnuts.com

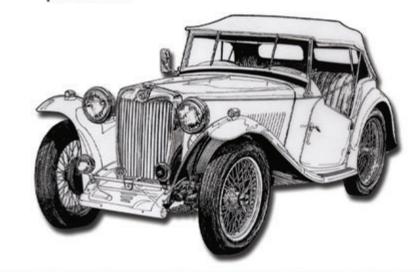


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