



First Class Mail

TC Motoring Guild MIDGET CHASSIS



Published by the TC Motoring Guild, Inc.

June 2016

The TCMG Santa Barbara tour stopped at the Mendenhall Museum in the Santa Ynez Valley. One of the west coast's largest petroliana collections includes gasoline pumps, globes, and porcelain gas, oil, & road signs. There are also race cars, racing memorabilia, license plates, gas & oil items, and other miscellaneous antiques. See pages 8-9 for more of the tour story and photos.

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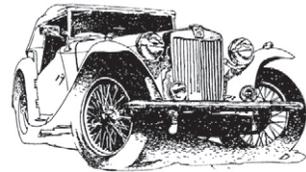
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June 2016**

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**Curt's
Comments**



It has been said that “history repeats itself” and that we should be aware of historical events and activities, so that “we don’t make the same mistakes again”. With that saying in mind, I have been reading some of the TC Motoring Guild’s past publications, many of which may be found on our web site (www.tcmotoringguild.org). This search was done, mostly, for entertainment but with an underlying intent to compare our current club with that of the past. To accomplish that task, I decided to go back to the club’s beginning. That beginning was not documented in a Midget Chassis newsletter, but in a document entitled “TC Talk”. The first (I think) edition, found on our web site, was mailed to Earl Sargent and postmarked May 4, 1958 – Glendale, California. The document was prepared on a standard typewriter, and contains a number of typos/corrections. It was interesting reading and I recommend that you read it too. I thought that the following excerpts were of particular interest.

APRIL 1958 – “Being ... somewhat ... the official organ of the only club in the world limiting its membership to owners of TA, TB, and TC models of the MG Midget.”

NEW MEETING PLACE – “The TC Motoring Guild happily announces that the Glendale Savings and Loan Association has interesting meetings. The address 2350 Honolulu Ave., Montrose.”

STEVE STEWART – “It is with great shock and sorrow that we report Steve’s recent passing. His death was

particularly untimely was to have graduated from Stanford University this spring.”

MEETING NOTICES – “If you live outside the Southern California area, don’t be alarmed if you don’t see a meeting notice Sometimes it is more convenient to let the local members know by postcard.”

ROAD RUNNER RALLY – “With great gusto, and energetic enthusiasm, many stout fellows of the TC Motoring Guild rolled out their nineteen-inch Trophies were presented to Ron Simon.”

FUN AND FAME – “Those of you who subscribe to Car Sport will already have noticed that a TC graced the cover of the April issue, and ‘Asiento Del Pantalones’ rally inside the magazine.”

WELCOME VEEP – “At the April 24th meeting of the Guild, Harvey Schnaer was elected Vice President left vacant when Earl Sargent moved up to President replacing Bill Stone.”

TECH TOPICS – “Thanks to club member Ron Simon we publish the following list of New Departure ball bearings Please don’t be shy about sharing your problems and solutions.”

T. C. EVENT FOR MAY – “May 11th – Concourse at Disneyland – The meeting place is at the fountain at Griffith Park. It is easy to find, so

(continued on pg 14)



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British Slang Lesson

Our President, Curt is giving us monthly British Slang terms to learn. Last month we were given: Gobsmacked which means Amazed as well as Bob's Your Uncle, which means There You Go!

So here two new terms. Can you find them used in this Midget Chassis issue?

Know Your Onions = Knowledgeable

Knackered = Tired



Tuesday, May 24th

Meet at 7:30PM

to look around the shop and meeting starts about 8 pm

Hema Vintage Auto

Hema Ratnayake has a shop where he works on vintage automobiles and has invited us to meet there. Come see what he is working on. We did this in 2012 and many have asked that we do it again. We were in awe last time even with no TCs in his collection, and now he has three.



Photos of cars from our last visit and just a hint of what we will see this time

Note change of location



Note that there is a small sign at ground level saying Hema Teck and a larger sign on the building with North American Conveyor Inc on it. (that was the old company before Hema moved in)

RIP - Jeanette McLish

Sorry to inform the Guild that Jeanette, my sweetheart wife of 40 years, passed away May 5th. We had been married 40 years. She had a weak heart, and collapsed in my arms Wed. Morning. 911 rushed her to the Cardiac Trauma Center at Holy Cross Hospital in Sylmar. They hooked her up on the monitors and tried to help her but her blood pressure and heart rate bottomed out. I watched the monitor go slower and drop to zero in just a few minutes, and they could not bring her back, cardiac arrest.

We will face that one day, and our prayers had always been that when the time came, it would be quick and not a long suffering. So it was a mothers day present that she is now with her two sons that passed before her. I



Jeanette with Don

am at peace being comforted with so much love from above.

Thank you all kindly for the love and friendship you have given her over all these years.

Don McLish

RIP - Betty Gaw



Betty in her TC when she owned it.

We learned of the passing of Betty Gaw, a long time TC Motoring Guild member and attendee of several GoF West events. Betty passed away on Saturday, April 16, following a stroke a week before that left her severely incapacitated.

Thanks to Larry Long for letting us know.



60th Annual TCMG/ARR Conclave

October 6
to
October 9

The Apple Farm
San Luis Obispo



Photo from 2013 Conclave at Apple Farms

It is the time for the 60th annual gathering of the TC Motoring Guild (The South) and the Abingdon Rough Riders (The North) We are meeting at The Apple Farm located at the north side of San Luis Obispo from Thursday, October 6th, and we will be parting company Sunday, October 9th. It is significantly located next door to the Motor Inn, the first motor hotel in America and the site of the very first Conclave.

Thursday and Friday nights we will have the cocktail party in the Garden room. There will be restaurants recommended for your dinner. Most are downtown but there is a pizza restaurant three blocks away for those who wish to walk.

ROOM RATES negotiated with The Apple Farm.

In the hotel itself there are:

King rooms (4 available) and Queen rooms (4 available) at \$132.44 on Thursday and \$222.99 on Friday & Saturday.

In the "Trellis" section (next to the parking lot)

King rooms (9 available) and "Trellis" Queen rooms (13 available) are \$121.12 on Thursday and \$155.08 on Friday & Saturday.

To book your reservation call The Apple Farm at (800) 255-2040 and use the Abingdon Rough Riders reservation of #805816.

TRADITIONAL BANQUET will be Saturday night. Security cameras will be strategically placed to protect the club banners. Banquet choices are three dinners:

- 1) Farmer's Market Pasta (vegetarian offering) \$32
- 2) Seared Salmon with Rice Pilaf. \$40
- 3) New York Steak with mashed potatoes \$40

For questions, or to reserve your meal please contact:

Howard Shempp
2110 St. Elias Place
Davis, CA 95616-6627

hshempp@gmail.com
530-758-9713



Geoffrey Locquenutte & Nelson: Along the Way

Santa Barbara and Wine Country



Another of the Linda and Steve's before tour brunches that everyone loves. And a row of TCs waiting to depart.



From the Simmon's home, it was over hills and back roads including some 5 MPH turns



One of the get out and stretch your legs spots on the tour.



TCs passing through Solvang



The Wrights in their TC join up in Los Olivos



Petroliana museum in Buellton had many, many fascinating items



Friends, TCs, food, nice weather. What else could you ask for? Thanks to the Simmons team for organizing such a fine event.

Those in attendance in TCs were Simmons, Einhorn, Loes, and Wrights. In other iron were Crandalls, Appells, Sorensens, Bundy/Wennekanp and Shapiro (Wednesday only).

Photos by Steve Simmons and Jim Crandall



The ladies comparing notes before heading out on a tour

Gorden and Curt inspect an NSU motorcycle at a motorcycle museum in Solvang



A 500cc Triumph motocrosser similar to one owned by James Dean.



The Fall of Fort Dunlop

Or The MG TC Dunlop B5 is no more

Fort Dunlop is the common name of the original tire factory for Dunlop Rubber located in Birmingham, England. The Dunlop Rubber Co. Ltd was set up in Birmingham in 1901 to manufacture Dunlop tires, initially for bicycles and later for motor vehicles. The First World War initiated a huge expansion in the demand for solid tires for lorries (trucks). Thus, the Fort Dunlop factory was built in 1916. Post-war, the motor industry grew and Dunlop was well placed to supply the demand for tires.

In the 1970s it was still the largest tire factory outside the United States. However, the increased number of foreign cars imported into Britain led to a decline in demand and the company was sold in the 1980s. Thus, large-scale tire production ceased at Fort Dunlop. However, Dunlop Tires continued to produce specialized vintage, motorcycle and motorsport tires on the site.

The original tires for the MG TC were made by Dunlop and were known as the B5. The B5 (4.5x19") is easy to recognize by its classic tread pattern and of course the tradename "Dunlop". It had been in continuous production despite the cutbacks at Ft. Dunlop up until 2014. This is when the Birmingham factory (Ft. Dunlop) was closed and Dunlop production moved to Germany and France.

There were rumors (speculation and hope) that the B5 would once again be manufactured in Europe. However, this has not come to fruition and the B5 tire is no more. The mold was sold and a new "like" tire is now being manufactured by the name of "Ensign". It carries the same tread pattern but, for trademark reasons, the name Dunlop does not appear on the sidewall. So cherish your Dunlop's as it now appears they too will be collector items. As for Ft. Dunlop, it is a commercial office complex now.

Doug@FromTheFrameUp.com
for more information.

Doug



Fort Dunlop vacated



B5 tread pattern



John Boyd Dunlop



Fort Dunlop when it was in use



Fort Dunlop after renovation and with new occupants

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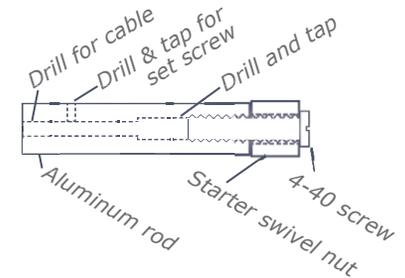
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Starter Cable Fix

The flexible cable going from the dashboard to the starter arm is a simple and reliable design. The starter arm switch has a small pointed screw that, when tightened, penetrates the flexible cable and anchors it in place so it can not be worked loose when the starter button is pulled. This is a satisfactory design if you never intend to remove your starter. The pointed screw mangles the multi-strand flexible cable so much that it is nearly impossible to get it through the hole in the starter switch arm once the retainer screw has mangled the end once or twice.

Here is my solution. Take a 1/4" diameter aluminum rod 1" long and drill a #55 hole 1/2" deep in one end and countersink the hole to receive the stranded cable. Drill a #43 hole 1/2" deep in the other end and tap it 4-40. Drill and tap a 4-40 hole through the rod on the #55 end about 1/4" from the end. Drill a #4 clearance hole in the small swivel nut attached to the starter switch arm. Measure the correct location to cut the stranded cable and sever it. Insert the stranded cable in the #55 end and securely tighten the set screw to retain the stranded cable.

Secure the rod to the starter switch arm with a 4-40 screw and tighten it securely. To disconnect



the starter arm merely remove the screw securing the arm to the aluminum rod.

Reed Dickinson
TCXU7385

April 26th Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Curt Sorensen at 8:04 PM. The attendance record was circulated. Guests included Simon Boadle from Australia, Stewart Langenberg, a friend of Steve Simmons and owner of a MGBGT, and Richard Buckeridge, son of members Joy and Malcolm Buckeridge.

The minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Joyce Edgar gave the Treasurer's Report after posting the detail and sending the report to the board members. We have 97 members. Copies of the new roster are available and those that are not picked up tonight will be sent out.



Just some of those at the meeting

Committee reports started with Steve Simmons summarizing our upcoming Wine Country Tour that begins tomorrow. The event will start at Linda and Steve's for breakfast and then continue through the backcountry to Santa Barbara. The drive on Thursday will include stops in Solvang, Los Olivos, and Buellton. Everyone will be on their own for the return trip. The May event will be a Cherry Picking drive. Other events will be announced at a later time.

Joyce reported on the programs for the remainder of the year: May - Hema's House of Motorcars, June - Picnic with Cindy Henkel, July - MG's Through the Ages by Pete Thelander, August - Collectible Automotive Art by Giovanni Visconsi, September - Movie Night at the Simon Museum, October - Halloween Party and Dinner, November - Restorations by Hanes, and The Holiday Party in



The MGB that has gone the world over

December. Lucy McCanne is organizing the party which will be held Sunday December 11th at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City. Lucy and Joyce will decide the details including food selections and type of door prize.

David Edgar gave the editor's report and welcomed members to submit articles. Jim Crandall will put the June newsletter together when the Edgars are out of town.

Steve reminded us the website is updated regularly and covers all topics of interest.

Bobbie Simon reported that the month has been quiet for the Sunshine Committee, however Dan McLish indicated Jan is not doing well. We all send our best wishes.

Jan Sorensen reminded us that she is still looking for someone to host the refreshments at the August meeting.

Malcolm Buckeridge brought us up to date on the subject of holding a raffle. Officially he says it is a "dead duck" and illegal in California. We can give out a door prize, but can not sell tickets the way he proposed.

This led to our discussion started last month concerning Paypal. It seems the general consensus is Paypal is a good idea and will simplify membership renewal.

The old business portion of the meeting was completed with Steve reporting on the engraving of the award. Hopefully, he will have the plaques at the next meeting.

David Edgar shared that he had checked

on his rear axle housing after hearing of Pete's problems. Everything was fine with the axle, however he noted that his shock mount was broken. David suggests that we all crawl under our car and do a visual check on occasion!

GOF is in late June with a group of approximately 8 cars from the Vintage group caravanning up Highway 395. The expectation is the trip will take 4 1/2 to 5 days.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 and we all enjoyed the refreshments provided by June Wennekamp. The program "Around the World in an MG" was presented by Simon Boadle.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Loe
Secretary



Simon Boadle from Australia was a wonderful speaker and brought to life his adventures taking an MGB-GT all over the world

Mud road shown below and at the pyramids on the left



Map showing the Silk Road route



Refreshment time



Silk Road in 2010 and Pan American Highway in 2015



Stack them double high to ship

try and show up! Tickets have been provided for us to get in."

Based upon this one sample reading, it seems that there have been only two notable changes within the past 58 years. One is the monthly publication of our full-color, computer generated Midget Chassis newsletter. The other is the design and maintenance of our elaborate, and user-friendly, web site. Both contribute greatly to bringing us all

closer together. So, it seems, our Guild has changed, but only for the better. And, we continue to do fun and interesting things, care for and respect one another and retain our dedication to MG TCs (including TAs & TBs). And, isn't that great! In fact, I think that things are just tickety-boo!

Cheers!

GoF West 2016



June 27 - July 1, 2016

43rd annual GoF West will be held at the Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond, OR Located on 1,700 acres next to the Deschutes River, just 18 miles north of Bend, Oregon.

Registration \$65

\$25 In Spirit



Registration form and information at: **GoFWest.org**
For those without Internet, contact David Edgar to have the form mailed to you.



GoF West thanks the TC Motoring Guild for its generous contribution of \$200.00 to the Auction in lieu of donations of tangible items to the auction.



Save the Date for Our Party

Save the Date!

Our TCMG End-of-the-Year party has been set for Dec 11th and will be held at the Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City. More information will come, but for now save the date.



Sunday Evening December 11

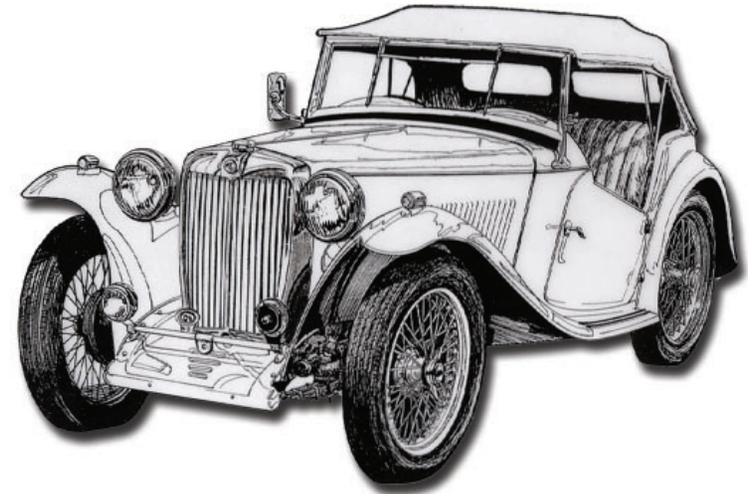


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