

The Midget Chassis

David Edgar, Editor
1454 Chase Terrace
El Cajon, CA 92020



First Class Mail



TC Motoring Guild MIDGET CHASSIS

Published by the TC Motoring Guild, Inc.

May 2016



Interesting story here, a racing TC and a racing TD. Oh, and the drivers are husband and wife. While most men give engagement rings when they propose, he gave her a choice of a diamond ring or a vintage MG race car. She had no trouble deciding on the racing TD. If you want to learn more about this couple (and our newest TCMG members), check out page 7.

What's Inside

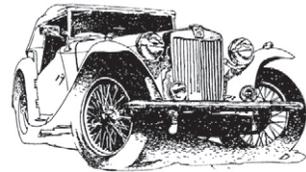
Curt's Comments	3
April TCMG Meeting	5
New TCMG Members	6-7
TC Rear Axle Housing Fatigue	8-9
Malmut Museum Tour	10
Charlotte Wilmer	11
March TCMG Meeting Minutes	12-13



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
May 2016**

Published in
Southern California by the
TC Motoring Guild
PO Box Number 263
Montrose, CA 91021

The Midget Chassis is
published eleven times a year,
bowing out to the full size
Classic Chassis occasionally

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



**Curt's
Comments**



Each spring, Jan and I, along with two other couples, attend the Monterey Jazz Festival in northern California. We both enjoy Jazz and, after eleven years, we have become acquainted with some of the musicians and some of the regular attendees. I played a horn (Cornet) in my High School Band and spent some time with a small "Pick-Up" group. But, since I grew up in the Midwest, we played mostly bohemian polka dance music (not Jazz). I really enjoyed my participation in that group's activities, however, when I graduated from college (and moved to California) I quit playing. It was just simply no fun playing a horn alone!

While listening to one of the Jazz groups, I was struck by a possible parallel between such a music group and our TCMG Club. In both cases, there are those who perform and those who watch those who perform. Having played with a group myself, it was clear to me that the musicians were having more fun than those who were listening to their music! Similarly, I think that those of us who participate in TCMG Club activities find it much more rewarding than those who simply read about it in our monthly newsletter (Midget Chassis).



I realize that the wide geographical distribution of our members makes on-site/in-person participation difficult/impossible. As an example, our 2015 Directory lists a total of 97 members who reside in 20 U.S. states and Scotland. Of these, 70 live in California and the other 27 are scattered over 19 U.S. states and Scotland. Our club regards Montrose, California, the location where monthly meetings have been held over a period of many years, as its "home-base". The closest member resides approximately 12 miles from that point and our most distant member (within the U.S. Mainland) approximately 2,900 miles away.

I know that there is no practical solution to the geographical distribution problem, but I would like to suggest a few other ways to participate, no matter where you live.

- Write an article for the TCMG monthly newsletter (Midget Chassis).
- Write a "Tech Tip" for on our website (tcmotoringguild.org) "T-Clinic"
- Include a TCMG meeting and/or event in your travel plans to Southern California.

These are ideas for things that members might do to bring us all a bit closer together. Perhaps you have additional suggestions, or comments. If so, please send them directly to me (curtwlv@aol.com) and I promise that they will be discussed at one of our regular monthly meetings.

I know that this is a long-shot, but if this article inspires a single member to attend meetings, participate in events, contribute an article to The Midget Chassis, or write a Tech Tip for the web site, then this will have been worth it! Cheers!

Curt



**LUCAS CLASSIC
TIRES**

Lester, Firestone, Denman, Lucas.
Custom Classic, Goodyear, Dunlop & more.
We can save you money!
www.LucasClassicTires.com

2850 Temple Ave., Long Beach, CA 90806
800-952-4333

818-788-3375 • 818-788-3377 • 323-872-1122
FAX 818-788-0516 E-MAIL jkavan1497@aol.com
WEBSITE: www.kavanaghmotors.com

D. Kavanagh Motors, Inc.

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

DECLAN KAVANAGH SINCE 1958

TCMG Officers and Chairs for 2016

President	Curt Sorensen	818-991-6152	curtwlv@aol.com
Vice Pres.	Ron Simon	818-708-2033	simon90248@yahoo.com
Secretary/Editor	Sandra Loe	818-790-2332	fordydelux@yahoo.com
Treas/Memb	Joyce Edgar	619-593-8255	djedgar@pacbell.net
Director /Events	Steve Simmons.	(see directory)	mail@mgnuts.com
Director / Editor	David Edgar	619-593-8255	djedgar@pacbell.net
Programs	David Edgar	619-593-8255	djedgar@pacbell.net
Web/Ex Officio	Gorden Bundy	760-806-3849	gdbundy@gmail.com
Co-Editor	Jim Crandall	310 457 3967	crandallonline@yahoo.com
Historian	Don McLish	818-352-3741	dmclish1@hotmail.com
Regalia	Linda Simmons	(see directory)	linda@mgnuts.com
Sunshine Chair	Bobbie Simon.	818-708-2033	simonbobbie@yahoo.com
Hospitality	Jan Sorensen & Bobbie Simon		janwlv@aol.com
Raffle/Door Prize	Malcolm Buckeridge	909-547-0437	mbuckeridge@sbcglobal.net



moss BUILDING CHARACTER SINCE 1948.

Want to prepare a young person for life in the real world?
Get an old sports car that needs some work.

That's what the Morris family is doing.
www.Facebook.com/MyBarnFind

SAME DAY SHIPPING | FREE CATALOGS | TECH SUPPORT | EAST & WEST COAST WAREHOUSES



800-667-7872
MOSSMOTORS.COM

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?

Blimey! = My Goodness

Give You a Bell = Call You



Tuesday, April 26th

8:00 PM

World Travels in a MGB GT

Our next monthly meeting will feature a special guest, Simon Boadle from Australia, who along with his wife Maddie has driven an MGB GT across entire continents in the name of adventure. Simon will give a presentation on his travels, detailing the rewards and challenges of taking on such a feat. The photo shown to the right is near the border between Ecuador and Peru. The one below is in Africa in 2012. This is one meeting you won't want to miss!



TCMG Meeting held at:
Citibank Community Room
2350 Honolulu Ave, Montrose
Meeting room entrance is at the rear of the bank - downstairs.



Blimey - I wonder if they know Robert & Lynne Douglas from New Zealand who did world travels in their TC and traveled through So. California back in 2008?

New TCMG Members



Charley Williams

16170 Lower Springs Road
Redding, CA 96001
phone: 530-244-0230

charwilliams@att.net •
1948 TC 6126 XPAG 6779 Apple Green / Black



Original owner was Charlie Moreaux of Wisconsin. Sold in the 1960s to Bill Gault in Canoga Park, CA, an avid TC Motoring Guild member. Bill Watkins of Covina, CA acquired the TC in 1988 and began a comprehensive restoration. Was on display at the Riverside International Automobile Museum from 2010-2014 and I bought it in November 2015.

As a side note I found Gault in a 1975 TCMG directory but with XPAG 3807. Also listed in the green international directory with that TC in 1964. Bill was on our TCMG board in 1984 from the chart Don McLish made up. And we show a Charlie Moreaux living in Saugus, CA in a 1982 directory and Don shows a Charlie Moreaux as our Treasurer and Membership chair in 1985. Could be a different Charlie but maybe he moved out here from Wisconsin and then sold TC 6126 to Bill as a second TC.

Welcome
to Charley, Roger and Lynn



Geoffrey Locquenutte & Nelson: At MGs By The Bay



TC 3738



TC 3737

Roger Morse & Lynn Arnold

504 Snake Hill Road
Poestenkill, NY 12140
Phone: 518-461-7106 (c)
518-283-7671 (w)

rgmorse@morse-associates.com •
1947 TC 3737 XPAG 4306 Red / Biscuit
1947 TC 3738 XPAG 4311 BR Green / Biscuit
1948 TC 6073 XPEG (race) BR Green / Black



TA 2339



J2 3328



TB 0432

Roger & Lynn have a number of MGs (plus other vintage cars too) so they definitely have been bitten by they bug. No room to go over each one here but TC-3737 had enough problems that it was taken apart down the frame and is now going together. It should be on the road later this year. TC-3738 was bought sight unseen, and was supposedly completely restored, but the frame was bent, and virtually every mechanical part was either worn out or broken. It took about two years to get it road worthy, but since that time have driven it all over the place. Note that the sequentially numbered TC were built on the same day and on the day that Roger was born too. TC-6073 (on the cover) was Bob Grunau's race car that was sold to Roger when Bob hung up his spurs. Roger say he really enjoy vintage racing.

J2-3328 - one of 2 J2s they own. One is in Ohio undergoing restoration and this one is just waiting in storage right now. TA 2339, also waiting for restoration. TB 0432 is being restored in Arizona should be done in a few months. Roger & Lynn then plan to drive it up to San Francisco and then back to New York. Blimey - maybe we can meet them at that time.

There are many more cars and maybe we will hit on those in future issues.

TC Rear Axle Housing Fatigue

Well Pete finally solved his lack of power and wrote about the fix in a tech article last month. Happy days are here again, he said. But I think he spoke too soon as we found him and David Coleman on the side of the freeway in the TC as they were driving to our March Malmut Museum tour. While it was not the lack of fuel this time that caused him to pull over, the TC was sitting with a slight tilt. Turns out the rear axle housing broke loose from the spring and caused one corner of the TC to sink down. They got towed home once again.



Pete's rear axle housing showing the break at the axle mount pad

I told Pete I had the same break on my TC two weeks after I had bought it 40 some years ago. And it turns out Dave Mathison experienced the same break at one time as well. So it might be wise to inspect your attachment pads where the rear axle housing bolts to the springs.



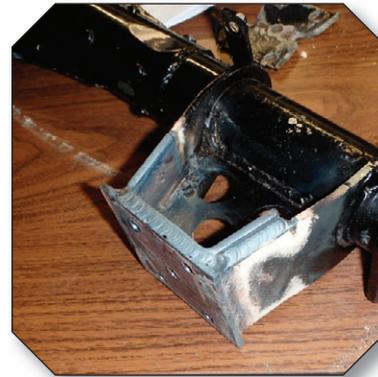
One way of strengthening is to add material and then weld it in. Top photo shows loose piece formed and in place. Photo below shows it welded in place.

So what makes them break? Well each time you accelerate the pinion tries to turn the crown gear and torque causes the axle housing nose to try to rotate upwards. The spring pads try to prevent the axle from rotation but that action does put a little stress on the mount each time. And each time you brake, the opposite happens and the brake shoes, attached to the axle housing, will cause the housing nose to try to rotate downwards. Again the spring pads try to prevent the housing from rotating and the action puts a little stress on the mount.



Over the years, all those little stresses will cause the axle mount to work harden and eventually break. The fact that the axle center line sits about 4 inches above the mount and thus is a short lever, adds stress too.

So what can be done to strengthen the mount to make it last longer or reduce the stress? One option is to add **8** material and weld it in place as shown



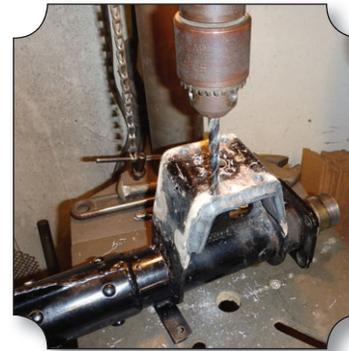
Note new base plate is larger than original so bolt holes are not as close to the edge

in photos shared by Pete as he made his repairs.. Another option is to add U-bolts over the axle to clamp things together.

I had to go look to see what I had done since it was 40 some years ago and discovered all I had done was to have the broken pieces welded back together. So far so good as I see no evidence of cracking. But I will make a better habit of checking more often now.

Repairs and photos by Pete and article written by David Edgar.

David



Drilling out the bolt holes on the new lower mounting pad



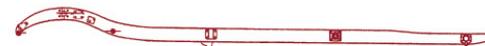
Axle housing with Grade 8 bolts all in place and not going anywhere now

If your axle housing is not displaying cracks yet and you wish to strengthen what you have, you can add U-Bolts over the top and extend to a plate under the springs as a fairly quick way of preventive maintenance. Note that this photo is not a TC axle but gives you an idea of what to do.



From The Frame Up, LLC

"Specializing in MG hard to find parts"



Doug Pelton
Proprietor

480-588-8185 (o)
602-690-4927 (c)
www.fromtheframeup.com

From The Frame Up specializes in MG hard to find parts and provides full restoration services for TC's.

Malmut Museum Tour



The Malmut Museum tour was absolutely amazing. We had six TCs who made it. (Simmons, Loe, Mathison, Ellis, Hanes & Edgar (plus Thelander and Coleman made it part way which would have made seven). Campbell, Sorensen, Simon, Crandall, Einhorn, Glass, Reid, Shapiro were also in attendance.



The museum itself was unbelievable. We were all in awe at the displays and the number of cars (note there were other warehouses with more cars not at this location too). Thanks to the Simmons team for organizing this.



Rooms and rooms plus warehouses and warehouses full of an amazing variety of beautiful cars and other antiques and collectibles. Just cannot do it justice with these words and photos. If you missed it, you lost out on something wonderful. This private collection is not open to the general public.



RIP - Charlotte Wilmer

We received notice from Bob Wilmer Jr saying his mother passed away on March 11. Services were quick and was a small gathering since many relatives were already in town so they took advantage of that.

If you wish to send a card or note to Bob Sr. you can send it via his son who lives nearby and brings him his mail.

Bob Wilmer Sr.
1673 Buena Vista Street
Ventura, CA 93001-2214

Note that his son's name is Bob as well so make sure you put the Sr. on there. We only have a phone number for Bob Jr. as Bob Sr. is hard of hearing so a phone call would be difficult.



Bob & Charlotte at our 2003 Kinetic Race tour event

Bob Jr. said he will try to get the TC going again. He helped restore it when he was 15 years old so knows his way around it



Bob & Charlotte in 2011

What a loss....two greater people one could ever expect to know. They were in many ways the face and character of the TCMG and two of those we most looked forward to seeing at the Conclaves. We will miss Char.....
Ed & Karen Pohle

Our dear Charlotte – We haven't yet processed the fact that she is gone.

Stan & Esther Belland

Bob & Charlotte were one of the first TCMG members we met when we joined the club 43 years ago. From their friendliness we knew this was going to be a very nice club to be in, and it has. Thanks, Bob & Charlotte.

David & Joyce Edgar

To have had Charlotte in our lives for over forty five years was a true blessing. She was one-of-a-kind...always smiling...irreplaceable.

Jim & Norma Crandall

I am so saddened about Charlotte, and sad for Bob. However, I know it's been a very long journey for both.

Carol Borgardt

March 22nd Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by President Curt Sorensen. There were no guests or new members in attendance. There was a report on the recent event to the Malmut Vintage Automobile Museum. Many thanks go to Steve and Linda Simmons for organizing the drive, tour, and lunch. It was a perfect MG touring day.

The minutes from the last meeting were printed in the newsletter and accepted as written.

Joyce Edgar posted the Treasurer's Report after emailing a pdf report to the board members. There are 93 paid members. Unfortunately, we lost a few members this year. The Federal and CA tax reports have been filed. There are two new members: Charlie Williams of Redding, CA and Roger Morris and Lynn Arnold of New York.



Catching up on news before the meeting starts

Committee reports started with Steve Simmons reporting on upcoming events. The April wildflower tour is on hold due to reports of minimal flowers. The May event will be the Wine Country trip to Santa Barbara. Due to the late spring increase in motel fees it was suggested that we have our tour mid week (Wed, Thurs, Friday) and maybe move it into late April before the fee increase goes into effect. April 27 through April 29 was agreeable to those members that were planning on attending. In June the group will be going to GOF and possibly cherry picking.

12 Joyce reviewed the programs



schedule: March/Gorden's Garage, April/Around the World in an MG, May/Hema's House of Motorcars, June/Picnic at Cindy Henkels, July/Pete Thelander presenting MG Models thru the Ages, August/Collectable Automobile Sculptures by Giovanni V. (member John Visconsi), Sept/Movie night with the Simons, October/pizza night, Nov/Restorations by Garrett Hanes, and Dec/the holiday party.

David Edgar reports that the newsletter is going out. Steve Simmons is working on a shirt design with the help of Jim Crandall. Steve also reported that the website is up to date. Our Sunshine Chairman, Bobbie Simon reported that Stephen Schrieberg is ill (but still hopes to make it to LA after his treatments) and we wish him well. It is good to see Don McLish at the meeting tonight. Don McLish, the historian, reported on the database of members by chassis numbers. The Hospitality Committee report was given by Jan Sorensen. She is looking for a volunteer to bring refreshments to the August meeting and someone to organize the holiday party.

Malcolm Buckeridge, Raffle Committee Chairman, presented his new approach that would be an annual raffle with the drawing at the holiday party. The tickets could be purchased all year. The grand prize would be \$200 with the profits being donated to the City of

Hope. Tickets would be \$1 each. Printing the tickets would be \$37/1,000. There was a discussion with a suggestion that the prize be a 50/50 prize. It was also suggested that the Abingdon Roughriders be included and have the drawing at the Conclave. A advisory vote was taken of the membership. A majority supported the concept. Joyce asked if he checked on the legality of what was proposed. More research is needed. Discussion was also held about using PayPal. Malcolm is going to look into paypal.

The Old Business portion of the meeting was concluded with determining that the June meeting at Cindy Henkel's does include a business meeting.

New Business part of the meeting included a discussion on increasing dues to help subsidize the cost of some events or programs. Steve Simmons indicated it is challenging to find free or cheap programs etc. Joyce reminded everyone that there is an allocation in the budget for programs and events.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 so everyone could enjoy the refreshments provided by Jan Sorensen before the program, Gorden's Garage, was presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Loe
Secretary



While these two red TCs frequent our meetings almost every month, we do allow other colors to attend as well (please)



Gorden points things out during his presentation on his garage toys and progress on his TC

RIP - Warren Wendt

Warren Wendt passed away on March 10th. He was part of the initial group of MG T enthusiasts that organized our first GoF West back in 1973 and had attended every one until 2013 when his health prevented him from traveling to Arizona.. He also started the Classic MG Club in the South Bay Cities area.

Warren was part of the early space pioneers at Los Angeles Air Force Base. He retired as a Lt Colonel in the USAF and lived in the home he built in Temecula until his death. A Memorial Service was held at Riverside National Cemetery on April 1st.

Condolences to his family.



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.



Several of our TCMG members will be helping out this year. In addition to Larry Long co-chairing the whole GoF West, David Reid /Terry Schueller, David & Lucy McCanne, Gorden Bundy/June Wennekamp plus David & Joyce Edgar have volunteered so far and are all first-timers in helping out at GoF. If

there are many places to assist.

If you want more information, contact:

David or Joyce Edgar
djedgar@pacbell.net

or
619-593-8255

Many hands make for lighter work and more fun.

14 you are going and want to help out,

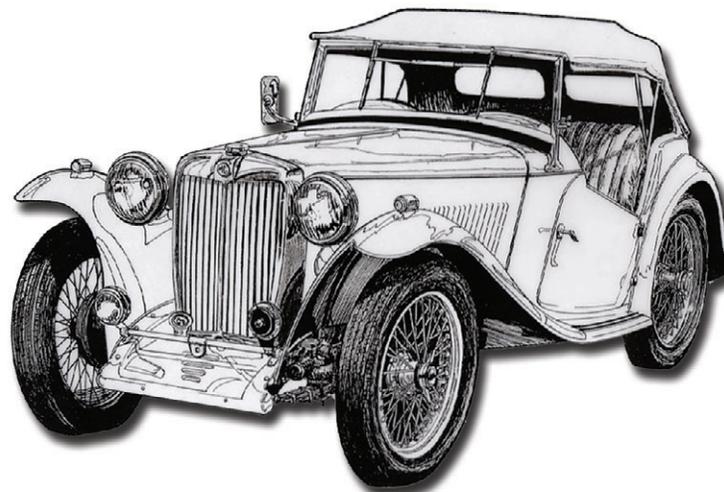


J. C. TAYLOR

ANTIQUE AUTO INSURANCE

J.C. Taylor has been protecting prized possessions since 1929. We know the industry and the cars. And best of all, we know you. This is not just a car to you, it's your time machine, your memory scrapbook. It's your passion, and *ours*.

Insure with J.C. Taylor, and you can drive through time with peace of mind.



JCTAYLOR.COM

1-888-ANTIQUE



facebook.com/jctaylorinsurance

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