

The Midget Chassis

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1454 Chase Terrace
El Cajon, CA 92020



First Class Mail

TC Motoring Guild MIDGET CHASSIS

January/February 2017



Our 2016 TCMG year closed out with another fun filled evening together at our Holiday Party. One TC was present and brought by the Loes to earn them the Iron Bottom Award again. They are the Bees Knees.

What's Inside

President's Remembrances	3
January TCMG Meeting	5
Dues Time	6
Lame Duk Rallye	7
TCMG Holiday Party	8-9
XPAG Overheating	10-11
November Meeting Minutes	12



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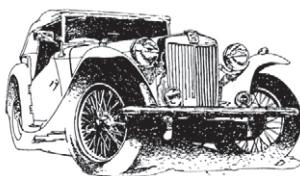
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Raffle/Door Prize	(open at this time)		



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The Classic Chassis
c/o David Edgar,
1454 Chase Terrace
El Cajon, CA 92020
email: djedgar@pacbell.net

Presidential Remembrances

at the TC before I was spotted and booted out of there!

I quickly got out of my Model A and wasted no time getting to the TC. It was black, and the undersides of the wings were painted red to match its interior. The paint was getting a little thin on the top of the driver's door, and it had some nicks and scratches, but it sure was shiny. The interior was a little shabby, but I could see the seat was real leather. And did that red interior look great against the black paint!

I furtively glanced around the lot and at the showroom. No salesman in sight yet. I carefully opened the driver's door (the right door, not the left...wow!



How neat is this?), and lowered myself into the driver's seat. What a feeling. So different than the Model A. More instruments, including a big tachometer right in front of me, seating

so low I could reach out and touch the ground, and the bonnet looked like it was stretching out 20 feet in front of me, reflecting the blue sky and clouds. It was glorious!

I wanted to see the engine. Would there be time? Another quick glance around, still no one in sight, luck was with me. I opened the bonnet and discovered a beautiful engine. The block was bright red. There was more polished aluminum and chrome than I had ever seen in one place before. Clearly whoever had previously owned this car had concentrated more on the car's

(continued on pg 6)



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BRITISH SLANG LESSONS by Curt *

British

English

Chuffed = Proud or Pleased

Bee's Knees = Awesome

* can you find these in this newsletter?



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



Tuesday,
Jan. 24th
8:00 PM
Game Night
with Gene

Gene Olson is back with his ever popular TCMG Game Night. Everyone loved it the last times we have held it, so here we go again. Do not miss the laughs and thrills while you learn interesting facts about TCs and our club.

Photo shows the Wheel of Misfortune game (with an actual TC wire wheel), and we he has had a Jeopardy as well. Wonder what the game will be this time?

Thirty-five percent of our members have already renewed their TCMG dues for 2017 (thank you). For those that have not renewed yet, the Motoring Guild has made it easier by making PayPal available. Just go to: tcmotoringguild.org/membership/renewal

Note to everyone - Double check your TCMG Directory to see if your info is correct. If you have changed addresses, phones, emails, or bought or sold a TC, please inform us so we can update our database. Send changes to Joyce Edgar at djedgar@pacbell.net or to address to the right.

Dues Time

Of course we still take checks and cash. \$26 for local members* and \$22 for non local.

Send to:

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

* Local is zip code 90000 to 93300

Presidential Remembrances continued from pg 3

mechanics than its exterior cosmetics.

Another quick glance around. Uh-oh, I had been discovered. A salesman was just leaving the showroom and was headed in my direction.

I carefully put the bonnet down and was just finishing latching it when the salesman got to me.

"Hello there," he said, sounding more friendly than I was expecting. He was an older guy, probably 28 years old if he was a day. He was medium height, slender, had light brown hair, and a rather pleasant expression.

"Hello," I said, somewhat taken aback because he was not growling at me.

"What do you think of this MG?" he asked me.

"I think it is great!"

"The price of this car is \$795. Do you have \$795?"

"No," I confess. "Every penny I have is tied up in my Model A Ford."

He looked over at my Model A parked at the curb. I had been working on that Model A since I was fourteen and was

6 pretty proud of it. It was certainly one



had somehow misunderstood, and then stammered, "You bet I would!"

"Hop In," he said.

I wasted no time getting into that TC. He fired it up, and we were off. I remember the exhaust note was beautiful, and that little car was quick! Looking back on it now, I am reasonably sure its engine had some serious performance enhancements.

continued on pg 13

2017 Lame Duk Rallye

**Saturday,
January 4th
(AKA - February 11)**



Start the day at TCMG member Ron Spindler's business, where he has a collection of vintage automobiles on display. From there we depart on a short driving tour / clue rally. Test your powers of perception as you journey across the San Fernando Valley while seeking answers to nefarious easy questions provided by your rally master. Answer wisely and win the coveted Lame Duk Trophy! Please bring a pencil or pen so you can write down your answers as you travel the rallye route.

Our destination is the Spindler home in the Hollywood Hills, where there is yet another vintage car collection to drool over. We finish the day with a gourmet Lasagna Lunch by world-famous (or at least TCMG famous) chef Diane Spindler!



**Watch for a flyer
to come out with more
information**

Please note this is an RSVP event (so Diane knows how much food to prepare). Watch for a flyer in the mail with details on starting time, location and RSVP information

TC Birthdays (Build Dates)

We are listing our TC birthdays or build dates each month. These are the ones to the middle of February

Jan 5, 1949	TC7514EXU	Bob & Nancy Koons
Jan 5, 1949	TC7517EXU	Richard Messer
Jan 5, 1949	TC7537EXU	Jim & Jan Sullivan
Jan 6, 1948	TC4438	John & Nancy Youens
Jan 12, 1949	TC7581EXU	Bunker & Kathy Hill
Jan 13, 1949	TC7621EXU	Stan Lucas
Jan 21, 1949	TC7670EXU	Doug & Carol Pelton
Jan 22, 1948	TC74490	Steve Burton
Feb 2, 1948	TC4681	David Reid & Terry Schuller
Feb 2, 1948	TC4694	Curt & Jan Sorensen



TCMG Annual Meeting



Party time at the Sportsmen's Lodge to bring our 2016 fun TCMG year to a close.

After a relaxing happy hour and dinner, President Curt Sorensen

called the meeting to order at 8:25 PM. He thanked many members for their efforts during the past year including: the 2016 Executive Board (Curt Sorensen, Ron Simon, Joyce Edgar, Sandra Loe, Gorden Bundy, Steve Simmons, and David Edgar), Steve Simmons - Events, Joyce and David Edgar - Programs, David Edgar and Jim Crandall - Editors, Joyce Edgar - Membership, Jan Sorensen and Bobbie Simon - Hospitality, Don McLish - Historian, Bobbie Simon - Sunshine, Steve Simmons - Website, and Richard and Sandra - Election. In addition he thanked everyone involved in organizing and providing for the holiday party: Lucy McCanne and Joyce Edgar - planning, Steve Simmons - slideshow, Sarah Ludwick - toy drive for San Gabriel YMCA, Art Ludwick - auction and wine, and Joyce and David Edgar - door prizes.

8

Curt introduced the new Executive Board for 2017: President – Richard Loe, VP – Ron Simon, Treasurer – Joyce Edgar, Secretary – Sandra Loe, Directors – Steve Simmons and Gorden Bundy, and Ex Officio - Curt Sorensen.

Steve announced the award winners including: Fran and Pete Thelander – Breakdown, Sandra and Richard Loe – Earl Sargent, Sandra and Richard Loe – Iron Bottom, and Joyce and David Edgar (tie) – Frank Mason. Congratulations to everyone.

Joyce held the drawing for the door prizes: \$25 – Brian Westcott, \$25 – Simon family, and \$50 – the Hanes family.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM so the auction could begin.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Loe
Secretary



President Curt calls us to order

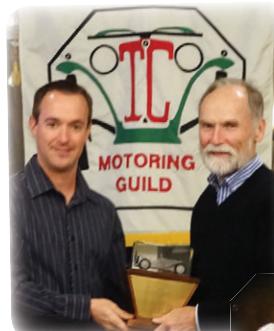


Friends, Food, Fun. The perfect mix for a most enjoyable evening, which it most definitely was.

Special thanks to Art & Sarah for hosting the wine for the evening.



Karen & Cindy



Richard (& Sandra) receive their third Iron Bottom Award



David & Joyce tied for the Frank Mason Award



Art tries to convince Joel that he REALLY needs the brick and to make a bid. Thanks to our members for donating auction items and thanks to Art for coaxing our members and raising \$1030.



Joyce presents Ron and Bobbie with a \$25 door prize.



Garret, Ambre & Roy

XPA6 Overheating

An unexpected but common cause

Engine overheat is a common problem within our T-series cars. It has been discussed on many forums and there is a logical decision tree to go through to help trouble shoot. However, it is not uncommon for the problem to remain after exhausting the list of common sense things to check. First, let us review the obvious and then reveal the not so obvious solution.

Radiator – Flush your radiator and block periodically. If you have your radiator off, you can check if your radiator is plugged by filling with a garden hose and see if the flow in from the top is equal to the flow out at the bottom. If blocked have it rodded out by a professional. Proper cooling fluid is mandatory and the additive “Water Wetter” may also help.

Water Pump – Understand that the water pump pulls cooler water from the bottom of the radiator and forces it into the block to circulate and cool the block and head. Then the hotter water exits the head through the front water outlet, up through the thermostat, and on into the top of the radiator to recycle and cool down through the radiator to repeat the flow. If pump is bad there will be no flow, but this is not the common problem.

Thermostat – The thermostat is closed at start so the engine can warm up to operating temp. While it is closed, no water goes to the radiator top tank. Instead the water coming out of the head returns to the engine block via the bypass hose and into branch pipe to the water pump and then block. This cycle continues until the engine is warm and then thermostat opens allowing hot water to go to the radiator top tank to cool. There are 2 scenarios involving the thermostat to be the



problem. First, it could be plugged or frozen. If so, water will never get to the radiator and overheat will occur. Second, overheat could be caused by the bypass port being full open and thus the water is bypassing the radiator. The outlet on the side of the thermostat housing should be partially blocked which will deny full flow of water to bypass cooling and return to the block even with the thermostat open. Original thermostat housings automatically blocked this port when thermostat opened. Modern replacements have this port partially blocked for same purpose.

Fan blades – Fan blades can be installed incorrectly. Install originals with the rear blade having the offset holes and the reinforcements facing forward. A common change for more cooling is to install the 7-blade fan from the MGB. This will give more air flow and may help. However, if you have an overheat problem you should find the source of the problem and not mask the problem.

Block – Engines that have been stored for a long period tend to be full of corrosion. You may be able to chemical flush the block while in the car but the best way is to clean during an engine rebuild.

Carbs – If the carbs are adjusted too lean this will cause the engine to run hotter. Making them a little richer will help your engine to run cooler. However, check your plugs first. If they are dark with carbon, your carbs are already on the rich side and the carbs are not the cause of overheat.

So, the above are all the commons things to check. While these topics are all common sense there is often a root cause that is not on the list - the distributor.



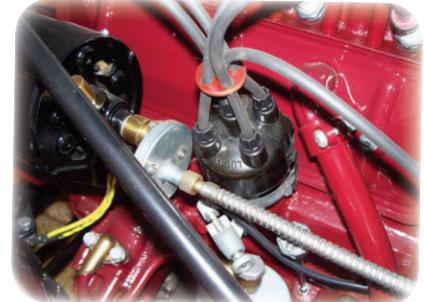
Distributor – Engine timing can greatly affect the operating temp of the engine and a worn distributor can have a serious impact. The engine is normally timed at idle at 0 degrees TDC. However, with modern fuels you should set the timing on the advanced side. But what happens with a worn distributor at high rpm? If the shaft and bushing have end play the dizzy gear will ride to a higher contact point on the cam gear. This retards your timing at high speed and can cause overheat. Your advance weights and springs can also be the culprit and add to the problem. There is a simple check you can do for your dizzy. Remove the cap and rotor and pull on the rotor shaft to see if you have any

end play (up & down movement). If you do, have your dizzy rebuilt or replaced. Although this is the last item in this article, consider this one of the first things to check. The dizzy's are 60+ years old and are tired and need attention.

FTFU will be glad to assist trouble shooting your overheat issue. We also offer every one of the above discussed items to include rebuilt distributors. Don't run it hot, stay cool.

Doug@FromTheFrameUp.com
for more information.

Doug



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Be sure to visit fromtheframeup.com as Doug has posted 15 YouTube videos (as of this writing) on various TC subjects.

November 22nd Meeting Minutes

President Curt Sorensen called the meeting to order at 8:10 PM and confirmed that the attendance sheet was being circulated. Guests included Steve Simmons' friend Dean Caccavo who joined us for the evening. Curt thanked Bobbie Simon and Jan Sorensen for hosting the Halloween Party and Linda and Steve Simmons for organizing the tour of Valley Relics and the trip to the ice cream parlor in Chatsworth. The birthdays this month included Joyce Edgar and ten TCs that were produced in November.

The minutes of the October meeting were submitted as published in the newsletter and approved.

Joyce posted the Treasurer's Report and indicated we now have 102 members.

Events for the year are complete, however Steve mentioned that the next event would be in early February. It is going to be our Lame Duk event and will include a tour of the Spindler's car collection and lunch prepared by Diane. Please check the website for complete details.

Joyce reported that 46 members have RSVP'd for the Holiday Party.

David Edgar reminded us that the next newsletter would be the January/February issue.

A new Regalia order will be made in the next day or so including an order for sweatshirts.

Sunshine Chairman, Bobbie Simon, has sent a get well card to Jim Crandall.

Don McLish, Historian, has been working on a new Excel database of members. He has information on the early years of the club but is missing some of the mid years. The first list he has is 1957.

Richard Loe reported on the election ballots that have been returned and **12** reminded those that had not returned

their ballot that there is still time. So far about 50 members have voted.

The Old Business portion of the meeting was finished with comment from Curt that the By-Law committee will continue drafting any proposed changes after the beginning of the year.

New Business was reminders of upcoming events: Dec 11 - Holiday Party at the Sportsman's Lodge and July 10-14, 2017 - GoF West in Santa Maria.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM for a refreshment break before Garret Hanes presented the program on his restoration shop.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Loe

Secretary



Carroll Shelby in his TC



Cobra panels being hand formed



Presidential Remembrances continued from pg 6

We had gotten about a half mile from the dealership and were hurtling down a long, straight residential street in fourth gear, grossly exceeding the speed limit, when the salesman said, "Hang on to something".

Hang on to something? Hang on to something? Why?

Looking ahead I saw we were rapidly approaching a cross street.

I thought, "Surely he doesn't intend to turn onto that cross street! It's not possible we can slow down enough to make that turn!"

Just then he started braking hard and heel-and-toed it into third gear. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw the tach go nearly full scale as the engine screamed in protest. At this instant I knew he was going to attempt the corner. Suddenly I wished I wasn't in that TC.

You see, I knew what happened to people who go upside down in an open sports car. About two weeks earlier I had been buying gas for the Model A at a corner gas station. I had just hung the nozzle back on the pump when two young men in a brand new Austin Healey attempted to take the corner in front of the station too fast and lost control. That Healey hit a high curb, rolled upside down, and slide along the street for about 125 feet before it stopped. Knowing those guys really needed to have that car off them, but dreading seeing their condition, I ran to their car. About the time I got there, three or four other guys ran up from somewhere and we rolled the car up on its side. Although both the occupants were alive, they were in horrifying condition.

So there I was, pretty sure that in a few seconds that wonderful MG TC was going to be on top of me and I was going to be dead or wishing I was.

About 75 feet out from the corner the salesman heel-and-toed it into second with the engine again loudly expressing its outrage. Before I had time for any more consideration, we entered the turn, the salesman stabbed the throttle, and before I knew it we were through the turn and accelerating hard in second gear. I was stunned that we made it, but I had a growing admiration for that TC. Just as the salesman was flicking into third gear, I glanced over at him. He had a huge grin on his face and he said "I just love MG TCs!"

As we made our way back to the dealership I realized that my salesman had wanted an excuse to wring out that TC and I had provided the excuse. But it was OK with me.



After he parked the car in its space on the lot, we got out and I thanked him for the ride.

He said, "No problem, Kid. If you get some money, come on back".

With that he walked back to the showroom.

I returned to my Model A and started it up. As I put it into low gear, I looked over at the TC. I knew I wouldn't be buying that TC, but I made a promise to myself that some day, some way, I would own an MG TC.

Richard Loe

TCMG President 2017

Ed. Note - Richard still has his Model A in this story



13

New TCMG Regalia

Wear a club shirt and be chuffed!

T-Shirts- Vintage TCMG Design

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(bottom) or Box Cut (top).
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TCMG Modern Design



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more details on sizes,
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tcmotoringguild.org

T-Shirts \$15 plus postage

Hoodies - Heavy & Lightweight
\$30 plus postage

GOF West 2017

July 10-14, 2017

Santa Maria, California

For more information or to
register on line - gofwest.org
or contact David or Joyce, 619-593-8255
or gofwest2017@gmail.com



Several of you are aware that Joyce has been distracted from TCMG and GoF West 2017 planning duties this past month or so due to increasing needs of her mother. Last weekend her mother made the final transition from life and as Joyce gets all the final arrangements made, she will be resuming an active role in MG activities.

But there is news about GoF West 2017 and of course always requests. TCMG member Jon Hermance (Salt Lake City, UT) had offered to help and Joyce got him to agree to do the Funkhana. She had

previously tried to get a club to take it on and hopefully someone closer than Utah. Well the Sorry Safari Touring Society stepped up and have an energetic team that is taking on the Funkhana event. So Susan Hermance is happier with Jon (and probably with Joyce too) and they have volunteered to help in other roles.

So what else do we need? Some help with the ladies (?) bunco would be good, also any of you that could help with donations or solicitations of door prizes or even auction items would be good.

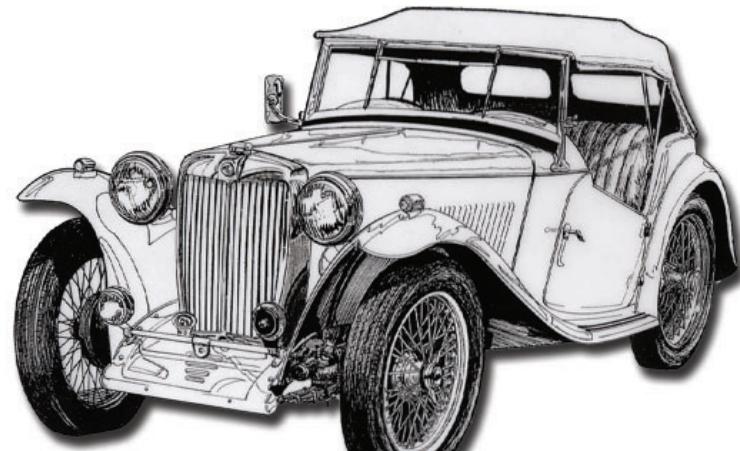


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