# The Midget Chassis

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



First Class Mail



We are very used to seening two red TCs in competition for the Earl Sargent Award driven by the Loes and Simmons. However until Richard finishes fixing his red TC, he is bringing out their green one to keep the competition going.

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Larry says,
"Get your
genuine
Chicago hot
dogs right
here." And
they are
genuine,
as they are
shipped from
Chicago and
served from
a genuine
vendor cart.
See pg. 8-9











#### MIDGET CHASSIS September 2018

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

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## Curt's Comments

Well, it is that time again, when I am expected to write a piece for the monthly Midget Chassis. And, once again, I have no clear idea of what to do. Our Editor's established deadline is August 10th, and my self-imposed goal is 500 words. So, my assignment should be very clear; I need to write down 500 words by 12:00 PM on August 10, 2018.

My immediate problem is that I have "Writer's Block". Someone once suggested that the solution to this problem is to simply write about what is on your mind. So, I can do that! I can create a single sheet of paper with the words "This Page is Intentionally Blank" written on it. After all, that pretty much describes what is on my mind! But it wouldn't be blank because it does have words written on it! The first (and last) time I did that, I got a "C" from my English teacher. If tried again, I am sure that I would get an "F" from my Editor! One of the distractions that I encounter while writing is my interest in words; their origins, their exact meanings. their multiple use, their ambiguities, etc. As an example, If I am expected to "write down" 500 words, I am a bit perplexed. Do I have to "write" with a writing instrument, or is it okay to use a computer key-pad? And, I also don't quite understand the "down" part of "write down"! I am accustomed to arranging my words from left-to-right, not up-to-down. So, I am sure that you can understand my dilemma. And, by the way, do you know the origin of the word "dilemma"? Well, "lemma" (in Greek) means "truth" and "di" (in Greek) means two. Therefore a "dilemma" is when one is faced with two truthful,

but opposite, statements. Used in this context, I am not sure that "statement" is the correct word,

since "statements" are those things that we receive when we owe someone some money. I suppose that I could "look it up" in my dictionary, but lying on my back, while "looking up" at a heavy dictionary seems a bit unnecessary. In any event, I am not sure that a dictionary should be trusted! If I understand it correctly, a dictionary is simply a

document that uses words to define other words. So, under that arrangement,

how did the very first word get defined, and what if it were wrong? "Food for thought",

don't you think! And, while we are at it, does one really need food to think? Maybe that is why I seem to have "Writer's Block"! Or, maybe I just "got up on the wrong side of the bed"! If I understand it right, the "left" side is the "wrong", or "sinister", side. Isn't it strange that one's "left" side would be considered "sinister" (i.e., "bad"). I am right-handed, but my dad was lefthanded. Actually, he was ambidextrous. I am not sure that I spelled that word correctly. I guess that I could "look it up" in my dictionary, but that would require me to lie on my back again. In any event, I think that the word is pretty interesting in that it says a lot for a single word. Specifically "ambi" (in Greek) means "both" and "dexterous" (in Greek) means "with the hands". In baseball, my dad could bat, throw and catch as either a right-handed or left-handed player. Similarly, he played golf either way,

(continued on pg 5)

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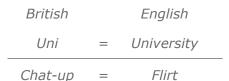




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# Tuesday, Aug. 28th 8:00 PM



Note change of meeting location



Simon Museum Night

> TCMG Member Dave Simon will be giving us a presentation on his classic cars with some stories about their celebrity connections.

> > His brother Ron's *TC* will be there on a lift for us to give advice on things to get it back to roadworthy condtion as it has not been driven for some time

Take I-110 to Redondo Beach Blvd

Go east on Redondo South on S. Broadway Coast Appliance is on corner of 157th & Broadway.

> Enter driveway from S. Broadway and park in gated area.

15700 S. Broadway Gardena, CA 90248

Museum is behind Coast Appliance (look for sign on fence "Cornwell & Sheridan Classic Cars")

If lost call 310-995-8973 or 818-421-0838

(Curt's Comments continued)

except that required two separate (righthanded and left-handed) sets of clubs. I have often wondered why, in baseball and cricket, they are called "bats" while in golf, they are called "clubs". And, to further complicate the matter, there is a flying mammal called a "bat" and the word "club" usually refers to a group of people (e.g., TC Motoring Guild).

Well, as I "sit back and think about it". I am pretty much "at a loss for words" to explain any of these situations. It is

clear, however, that I have now achieved my goal of "writing down" 500 words by the deadline of 12:00 PM on August 10, 2018. In addition, I think that I have demonstrated how to go from "Writer's Block" to "Writer's Remorse" in 500 words. I did it all with "tongue-in-cheek" and "words on the tip of my tongue". I had fun doing it and, if any of you readers got this far, I hope that you had fun too!

Cheers,



#### Member Profile - Gene Roth

In 1991 and '92 a series of Member Profiles were run and they are quite interesting so running a few again. This one is on Gene Roth and apparently written by him.

would rather be working on my Tickford's engine than writing this, but what the

heck. I was born in Downey, California and grew up in East L.A. I don't remember much about sports cars when I was a kid; but I do remember about Rajo "T's", Riley 2 Ports, 4 Ports, Cragers, Windfield Red and Yellow Flat Heads and Windfield carburetors. Boy, did I envy those guys with the modified "T"s (shortened wheelbase with gas tank against the back of the tub). Hey, that's like a TC, isn't it! No fenders, of course, the A roadsters, and the slick lookin' coupes, lowered and with their spare wheel at a rakish angle.

At about age 14 or 15 I learned how to drive. My older brother Frank taught me in his stock Model A Ford, jerking along, clashing gears, what a beating that poor car took, probably would have broken an axle (half shaft) in a TC.

The first car that made me want to trade my Hercules racing bike (made in England) for was a stripped down A-V8 roadster (Model A with Ford V-8 engine). My dad said NO! Not too long after that he agreed to a Model A soft top coupe, and then came a Model A roadster. A friend's parents had a '32 Ford 3 window coupe sitting in their backyard,a basket case; engine apart, missing fenders, no transmission, etc. Love at first sight! I just had to have that car. I think I gave them \$15 or \$20 for it. After that every junk yard dealer on Ford Blvd. in east L.A. knew me by my first name; a fender here, transmission there, finally a complete car.

It was a sad day when I let her go to a guy who offered a ridiculous price of \$225,

but a later model would be nice, a '40

Mercury Club Coupe, Yeah, I really did like that car. I must have hit every used car dealer in So. Calif. and came up empty handed. But I did come across my next car: a '40 Ford convertible with less than 20,000 miles, faded maroon paint but everything else perfect, and it had a Columbia rear end (overdrive). Over the next few years it became a So. Calif. custom - chopped Carson top, nosed and decked (removed chrome and handles), lowered dual pipes, '37 DeSoto bumpers, skirts, spot lights, ripple disc w/bars (wheel covers) and black lacquer paint, and to top it off a bored and stroked full race Merc. engine - Now that was about as far out as you could get.

And in that very same car in 1945 while driving to San Diego on the Pacific Coast Hwy. going through Laguna Beach, I fell in love again. I saw my fist TC, it could have been a TA, I'm not sure. It was stopped at an intersection, low, sleek, big wire wheels with skinny tires and all that camber. I knew it was foreign and that's all. I later found out it was an MG. I never could get that image out of my mind; I can still see it.

Timed passed - got married, several new cars, kids, boats, etc. Then in about '67 one of my fellow workers (an aircraft sheet metal worker) who was fabricating a part for a project of mine mentioned he had an MG. "Yeah, what kind?" I asked. "It's a TC," he said. "Low, sleek, big wire wheels, skinny tires?" I asked. "Yeah, that's it," he said. I was getting excited. I could see it in Laguna Beach sitting there. "Want to sell it?" I said. His answer was NO. He said he took it apart and was looking for someone to restore it for him. I told him if he ever decided to sell to let me know. He just smiled. Several months later I was in the metal shop when he asked if I still wanted the TC. "Sure, what do you want for it?" I asked. "Four hundred fifty dollars," he said. I asked him when I could pick it

up. I bought it sight unseen. It had been apart eleven years, moved a couple times, cans and jars full of bolts and nuts, dented fenders, boxes of parts, doors body bolted to chassis on its wheels, tires flat, - get the picture? It was a mess, but I could still see that car in Laguna Beach and now I owned one.

Some friends helped me load it on to a flat bed trailer. I backed it in the driveway and had Deana (my wife) come and look at my new car as it sat there in a big heap. She almost burst into tears and

said, "You paid \$450 for that pile of junk?" Well, I've got it, now what?" So I went to work sorting things out, cleaning, etc. The plywood in the back of the body looked like pages of a book, the results of eleven vears in the desert sun, but no rust. The engine had been rebuilt by Moss Motors in L.A. but it was stuck. After treating it with Liquid Wrench for a while, I finally broke it loose. That was a relief! Replaced the bad wood in the body - I'm on my way now but where do I get parts? A Navy pilot who had a TD told me about Moss Motors in Goleta. I ordered a catalog, that took care of that problem. My wrenches didn't fit anything, but a neighbor had a British motorcycle. He loaned me his wrenches. Needless to say, I did finally get it together with the help of the owner's manual and the Moss catalog. If something wasn't clear, I would drop a note to Al Moss and he would answer my questions. It wasn't too long before I learned about Mike Goodman. He was located on Venice Blvd. and when it came to upholstery time Al Moss recommended Joe Namnam.

In '82 Mike Goodman invited me to join the TC Motoring Guild. That was one of the best things that ever happened to me.

We have met and made some of our best friends through our association with the TC Motoring Guild.

I am still in touch with the previous owner of my TC. He purchased the car from Johnny Von Newman. It's not clear to me if it was his personal car or if it was

consigned to him, but I think I'm the third owner. When I bought the car it had forty-eight thousand and some odd miles on it. The odometer now reads 89,889 and she has never left me stranded. I'm still at it, and Deana can't understand why I keep buying this junk, but it doesn't make her want to cry any more. I

enjoy car shows, auctions, and swap meets. Who knows when you might find a great deal on a basket case, or a valuable MG part.

Safety Fast!

Gene's TC is probably one of the most "winningest" TC any of us have ever seen. It is just gorgeous, a piece of art, and it seems to repel dust even though driven many, many miles. After reading this profile I now understand Gene's desire to put in the 5 speed trans and supercharger in later years. Gene & Deanna finally had that first "stranding." His fuel pump quit on the way to Sedona, AZ. Backup pump also had issues. I rode with Gene as I operated a manual fuel pump we rigged up, and was in total amazement when doing down some winding canyon roads. He went through the curves faster than most would go, even with just his one arm and use of his knees.

Sadly in 2016 Gene lost Deanna and the TC was re-homed. The TC sold for a mid \$40K price and it went to Arizona. Maybe we will see it again. We are happy Gene has maintained his TCMG membership and makes it to a couple club activities each year.

#### Einhorn Chicago Hot Dog Lunch





Larry's new toy, an electronic advertising board which was displaying TCMG greetings and a video of us taken just a half hour before by Steve and emailed to Larry

Those in attendance with TCs were David & Joyce Edgar; Richard & Sandra Loe; Charlie Ockwell & Andy; and Steve Simmons & nephew, Conner.

Also in attendance were Mel & Toni Appell; Malcolm Buckeridge and son, Richard; Gorden Bundy & June Wennekamp; David & Suzie Coleman; Jim & Norma Crandall; Cindy Henkels; Don McLish; Anita Roman & friend Doris; Linda Simmons along with her parents, George & JoAnn; Steve's mother, Sherri; Ron & Bobbie Simon; Curt & Jan Sorensen; Ron & Diane Spindler; and our hosts, Larry & Kay Einhorn along with their family helping; Josh Howard and Beth.





The four TCs taking a leisurely tour











Richard, Sandra and George (Linda's father)



Richard Buckeridge, Malcolm and Kay chat by the pool.





TCMG
member,
Charlie
Ockwell,
who
purchased
Doug
Wimer's TC
(which is
in pristine
condition)



Ron Simon

Larry and Kay say Thanks for coming. And we thank them for a fabulous time. As Larry said, "Have a TCMG event with free food and they will be HAPPY."

Photos by Steve Simmons and David & Joyce Edgar



#### Charley Williams Saves His TC



We wish Charley the best at rebuilding his home.

TCMG member Charley Williams lives up in the Redding area which was devistated by the Carr fire. While his home did burn to the ground, but he was able to get the TC to safety and had no persoal injury.

Charley does great videos of various topics, one of which is driving his TC. He also did a video on the Carr fire.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHJXByXA5do (or do a Carr fire MrShoptaw search on YouTube)

Do a MrShoptaw MG search for some of his TC related videos

#### How to Pick Up Tires for Your TC



Steve Simmons recently bought some new tires for his TC. He bought them from England, getting together with friends in a



combined purchase deal. Above shows when he picked up eight tires in his Model T truck. Quite a delivery vehicle Steve!

#### TC Birthdays (Build Dates)

Happy 70th, 71st and 73rd Birthdays

Aug 17, 1945	TC0252	Pete de Bruyn
Aug 19, 1947	TC3353	Gene Olson
Aug 22, 1947	TC3387	Brían Wescott
Aug 25, 1947	TC3399	John & Linda Wright
Sept 3, 1948	TC6422	Leo & Martha Pedersen
Sept 3, 1948	TC6424	Howard & Carolyn Shempp
Sept 7, 1948	TC6439	Ron & Diane Spindler
	TC6550	Kay & Larry Einhorn
Sept 16, 1948	TC6551	David Spiegel
	TC6558	Bob & Kelly Wilmer
10	TC6560	Stephen Schrieberg



Build dates listed are when the TCs began near the beginning of the assembly line and assigned a number.

#### 62nd Annual TCMG / ARR Conclave

#### 62nd Annual TCMG / ARR Conclave October 12-14, 2018

The 62nd Annual Conclave of the TC Motoring Guild and Abingdon Rough Riders will be held at Fish Camp near Yosemite.

Our host hotel is now full but there are still rooms available at our overflow location at "Best Western Yosemite Gateway Inn" in Oakhurst. Make your reservations now! Contact Allan Chalmers for further information - 415-823-9796, or allanchalmers@yahoo.com



The Ferguson fire near Yosemite was 100% contained as of August 19. Yosemite valley was not burned and has reopened. Fish Camp was not hit.

#### FROM THE FRAME UP

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Doug Pelton

### We needed room to expand and have moved. Same email, phone, and website but physical address is now:

- From the Frame Up 3030 S. 40th St., Ste 5 Phoenix, AZ 85040
- Moving: Week of Aug 20 so please be patient, but we are still open and working

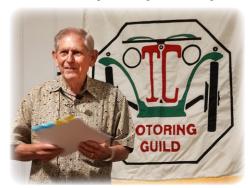


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#### July 24th Meeting Minutes

President Curt Sorensen called the meeting to order at 8:07 PM. The attendance sheet was circulated. There was one guest: Kristen, the Belland's daughter. Curt extended special thanks to Anita Roman for providing refreshments, Don McLish for presenting the evening



Our President, Curt

program, Steve Simmons for organizing the July event to the Central Coast British Car Club Show, and to Cindy Henkels for hosting the 20th annual picnic.

Stan Belland expressed thanks to the church for installing a handrail on the entry steps.

Birthdays in July included Gene Olson and Joe Douglass (99th). Six members across the country have cars produced in July. Local members include the Loes and Charley Williams.

The data displayed on the table included: the financial report, AV list, hospitality sign up sheet, the program schedule, the "all things new" list, and an example of a historical vehicle license plate.

Joel Shapiro announced he was a new grandfather. On June fourth Reilly was born.

Sandra Loe, secretary, presented the June minutes as printed in the newsletter. They were accepted as written.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as posted.

Steve announced that the next event, 12 Chicago Hot Dog Party, is August 18th hosted by Kay and Larry Einhorn. Future events include GOF West in September, Conclave in October, and the November event is in the planning stage. Check the website for details.

Steve also reported there is a full stock of regalia.

Programs for the rest of the year include the Simon Museum in August, History Night in September, Halloween Party in October, the Loe's garage in November, and the Holiday Party/Annual Meeting in December.

Chair reports included: Editor David Edgar, Website manager Steve, Sunshine Chair Bobbie Simon, Historian Don McLish, and Hospitality Chair Jan Sorensen. No one had anything new to report, however Jan is looking for someone to bring refreshments to the November meeting.

Richard Loe has provided club information to three possible new members.

David shared a photo hoping someone could identify the people pictured.

Curt adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM after reminding everyone of the coming events.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Loe Secretary

Sandra taking the minutes at the meeting.







#### GoF West 2018

#### September 10-14, 2018

\$60.00 Registration In Spirit \$25.00

#### Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Lake Tahoe

50 Highway 50 Stateline, Nevada 89449

Phone: 775-588-1010

Group rate code "GOFWEST18" (no spaces all CAPS)

Note that this is the our TCMG event for September.



To Register on-line: GoFWest.org or call Tom Doyle at 520-220-6228

For additional information: gofwest2018@gmail.com







Geoffrey Locquenutte & Nelson: On the Road



Jim & Norma Crandall



Charlie Ockwell's beautiful TC (Doug Wimer's former TC) so it is back in the club again



Photo of Larry taking down the Woolworth marquee sign which is now hangs in their bedroom



Curt & Jan Sorensen and Cindy Henkels



Gorden



#### Club Regalia

<b>TCMG Car Badge</b>
<b>TCMG Cloth Patch</b>
<b>TCMG Lapel Pin</b>
TCMG Lapel Vintage Pin
MG TC Pin & MG Car Club Pin (inquire)
<b>MG TC Color Specs</b> \$2 members, \$3 non-members, Postage \$2
<b>TCMG Photo Puzzles</b> \$15 plus postage (contact Linda for postage cost, design and availability)
<b>Vintage TCMG T-shirts</b> \$15 for short sleeve, \$18 for long + postage
<b>Modern TCMG T-shirts</b> \$15 for short sleeve, \$18 for long + postage
TCMG Hoodies

#### **Ball Caps**

\$15.00 each, plus postage



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#### **REGALIA CHAIR**

Linda Simmons linda@mgnuts.com

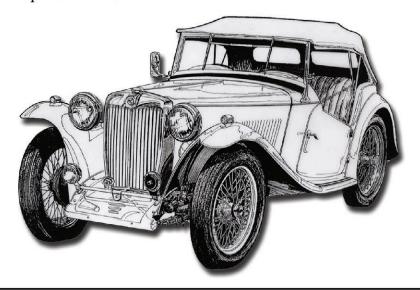
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