

Sorry Safari Touring Society - A Gathering of MG Enthusiasts



Photo: Ben Lenci and his new Thunderbird

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS!

Well we're off and raining! Haha. I was lucky enough to join our group on the outing Pam and Keith Shukait put on. I did find out my L.B.C. does have a few leaks. This was my first tour where it rained ALL DAY. Beautiful backroads to Soquel, some with water or mud and downed redwoods. But it was truly a fun ride. Thank you to the Shukait's for arranging this tour.

Then the following weekend the SSTS joined MGOc on a tour through the backroads of Marin County, stopping at the Marin French Cheese Factory and on to Valley Ford for a delicious meal and a salute to St. Paddy's Day. Twenty cars total and a gorgeous sunny day. Thanks to Andy and Marla Preston for a great day.

So check your Wind Machine for upcoming events. Be sure to RSVP to the tour directors if you're going. I hope to see you all at the next Club meeting at The Englander.

So remember, it's not how far or fast we go but how much fun we have getting there.

The Prez



NEXT EVENT
DELTA TOUR
APRIL 18TH



Club webpage: www.sorraysafariMGclub.com

CLUB MEETINGS

The 3rd Tuesday of every month, 7:00 PM,
at **The Englander Pub**, San Leandro

Officers

President	Lynn Bryant	lynnberta@sbcglobal.net	H 510-651-8539
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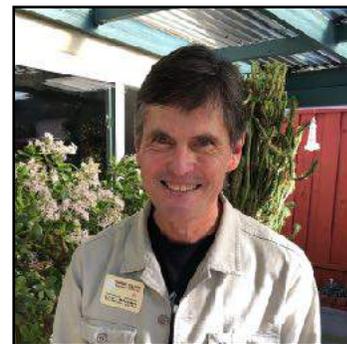
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Meeting Minutes

The following represents the Minutes, and *my recollections*, of the Club's March meeting at the Englander in San Leandro.

PRESIDENT – Perhaps feeling a bit giddy about the approaching start to this evening's SSTS business meeting and raring to just drop it all and git'er going, Bob Luebbert inquired of the P Lynn... "Is it time yet?" From his position at the head of the table, Lynn glanced at his watch and then turned B(.)B's way to say... "No not yet. You got about 2 minutes." tick tock, tick tock. Commencing countdown at T minus a couple, while keeping in mind the kitchen wisdom that says, a watch pot never boils. Tick tock, tick tock. And then, at about T minus 60 seconds, Lynn announced, "about 2 seconds now." This was an obvious attempt on Lynn's part to toy with BoB's excitement for if you are watching your watch (forget the pot, it's not reliable) you know that there is still about T minus 52 or so to go. Collectively we shared in Bluebbert's moment of delight, however fleeting it would be. Tick tock, tick tock. Delight waned and anticipation waxed and Lynn seemed content sitting and listening to his watch ticking hour after hour. Hey Lynn... Niagara! Niagara? Slowly then he turned, step by step The P stepped into position and announced, "Time to roll, we're gonna git'er going to git'er done guys." Ken Gittings then spoke up to say, "We've been waiting on you." Ha ha haaa! Let the fun begin. Lynn noted the absence of Herb and questioned the certainty of a joke tonight. Herb's not here, nor is Judy. Hey! Where're Don and Maris? Yeah, and where is Kirk and Amy? Kirk and Amy are up north visiting his mom. Oh, ok. It was mentioned though that one of these couples (?) not attending tonight phoned to say they just noticed the watch pot, *!?!* uh, make that the clock, and realized they forgot the meeting was tonight. Not saying who, just saying the joke's on us. The P asked if anyone cared to offer a funny in Herb's absence. When no one offered, Lynn substituted approval of the minutes from last month's meeting instead. P Lynn gave a welcome to TA Terry and Cindy who are in attendance tonight. "Welcome back. Good to see you two.



THE WIND MACHINE / April 2019

VICE PRESIDENT- Jan is in for VP Ben and reported that Ben continues to make steady improvements and actually got out for a couple of recent tours. We enjoyed Keith and Pam Shukait's Rainy Day Tour. And Boy, was it Rainy... From Belmont, all the way to Soquel. It was a fun event.

TREASURER – Money Bags Bob E proudly stated our wealth at \$2,874.00. Lynn added that there are still a few outstanding membership renewals and advised that any delinquent dues after March will result in not getting the newsletter.

SECRETARY- In lieu of a usual “no comment” CB passed on word from Verna that her husband Jerry is in bad health and hopes that we will keep Jerry in our prayers.

INFORMED SOURCE- Jim Brady said he has been researching Mikuni carburetors recently. They are a Japanese brand made for motorcycles but can be adapted for automobile use. Jim said that installation of these carburetors on an M.G. could result in about a 10 horsepower increase. Vroom, Vroom, Jim said that they are not cheap though, about 100 bucks a horse. Ken Gittings added, “That’s cheaper than a supercharger.” Peel out!

MEMBERSHIP – Judy is at home with Herb so Lynn crafted an unofficial membership report and then asked if anyone knows where Bobbie Taforo is? “She hasn’t been to meetings in a while.” It was confirmed that she is not at Herb and Judy’s when Luebbert disclosed that she is, living right, on extended vacation in Cabo. Bob let us know that BJ has been admitted to a care facility in Alameda. Our thoughts are with her. Lynn then mentioned Fred and Caroline Meredith and that we miss seeing them at Club activities.

WIND MACHINE – Filling in for Kirk, he is up north with Amy and mom, Lynn advised that Kirk needs input for the Wind Machine by the last week of the month and appreciates updates on items needed or for sale in the newsletter.

REGALIA- A man of many hats, Lynn slowly now turned and stepped in for Maris - she is present at an undisclosed location. The P said that Maris has Safari stuff galore, purchase regalia early and often. See Maris when she next makes herself available for all your spring fashion Safari touring needs. Consultations are free. Complimentary gift wrapping is available if you want to pay for it.

OLD BUSINESS – Lynn pointed out that we need someone to lead an August tour. After the planning meeting it was realized that GoF is in July, not August. GoF will be in Prescott Az. Jan Lenci detailed plans for the drive to Rendezvous which will feature a stop at the historic Guidry family ranch to partake of a little home grown enjoyment.

NEW BUSINESS – Now turning to new stuff, Lynn warned that he will be mentioning this at every meeting through November and stated that we will need candidates for President and VP in this year’s election. Lynn has held the BiG office for 4 years, has thoroughly enjoyed it, but wants to recede back into the Safari ranks. A spirited ruckus of “President for life, President for life President for life,” then rose up around the room. Although a fun outburst this urging from membership didn’t sway Lynn’s thinking though. We will need P&VP candidates at the end of the year. Hey! Where’s the First Lady Roberta, its door prize drawing time. J Gir L took on the raffle duty and the walk to the prize table went to Bluebbert and TA Terry. Yea! Yea! Yea! Lynn thanked all present for showing up tonight and opened the floor for a motion to adjourn. A second to that didn’t take long and we were gone.

Don’t just read the Minutes, be part of the fun. Join us for the next meeting at the Englander in San Leandro April 15.
.... *And that’s the way I think it was.* Respectfully, submitted by Carl Brown.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

CSRG Races Sonoma Raceway
Dan Shockey coordinating.
Saturday 13th, pg 5.

The Delta Tour
Don Cowgill & Jim Brady tour
masters. Thursday 3/18, pg 6.

MAY

UBSCC All British Car Show
Dixon.
Sunday 19th, Registration now
open, pg. 7.

JUNE

Tune & Spoon
Jim Brady & Marja Van den
Hende coordinating. TBA

MGs By The Bay
Saturday June 8th, Greenbrae,
details to follow.

Elkhorn Slough Run
Saturday June 1st, Dave Marsh
coordinating, pg 9.

NAMGBR MG-2019
Traverse City MI.
6/23 - 6/26.

JULY

Dian's Almost 4th of July Tour
Dian's & Carl Brown
coordinating.
Sunday 28th, TBA.

NAMGAR GT-44
Dubuque, IA
TBA

Rendezvous Oregon
Ben Lenci & Herb Guidry tour
masters.
25th - 28th, pg 10.

AUGUST

GoF West
Prescott AZ
8/12 - 8/16

Monterey Car Week
August 21st - 26th.

50th Heritage Classic
Canadian MG Club, Vancouver
BC, 23rd - 25th. Pg 11.

SEPTEMBER

Scottish Highland Games
Kirk & Amy Prentiss
coordinating.
8/31 - 9/1.

Filoli Tour
Saturday September 14th. Dave
Marsh coordinating, pg 12.

Pebble Beach
Steve & Vicky Kellogg hosting.
6th - 7th, TBA.

OCTOBER

Sierra Tour
Rod Schweiger & Mike Sindicic
tour masters.
TBA.

NOVEMBER

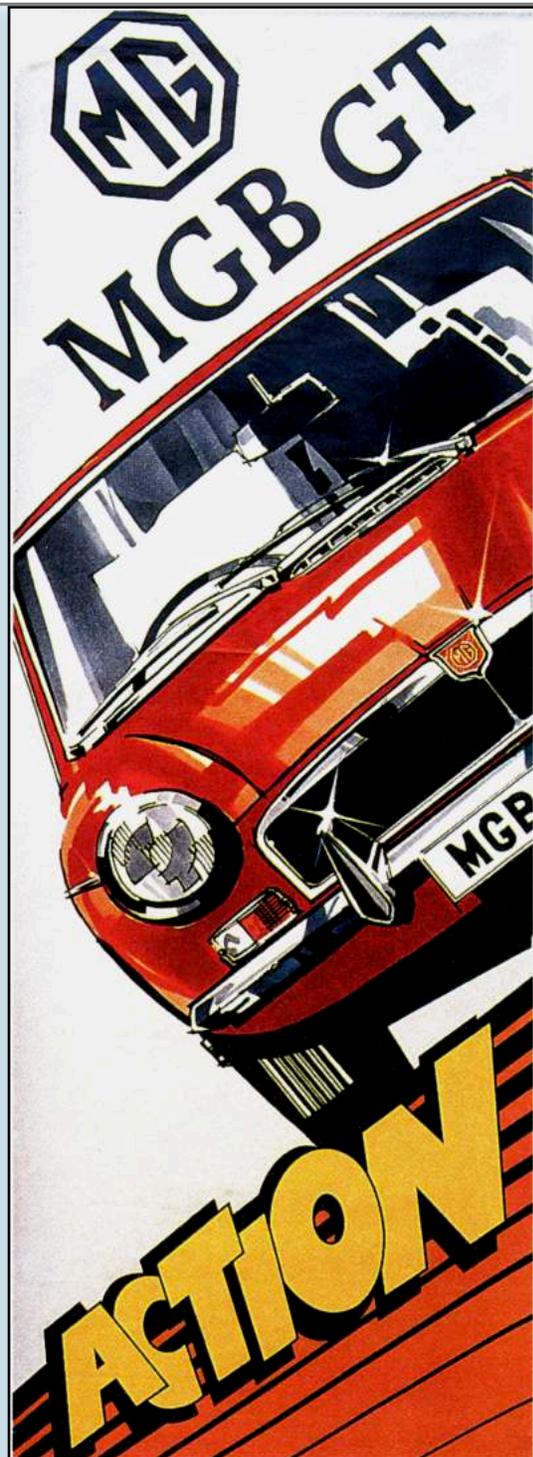
Fabulous Fall Foray
Susan Engelhart & Jimbo Brady
tour masters.
TBA.

DECEMBER

Holiday Party
Keith & Pam Shukait hosting.
TBA.

JANUARY

2020 Planning Meeting
Bob & Susan Engelhart hosting.
TBA.



THE WIND MACHINE / April 2019



Classic Sports Racing Group - Vintage Racing Since 1968



Sonoma Raceway CSRSG Club Corral and Parade Laps

When: Saturday April 13 - Track opens at 8am

What: All-MG Club Corral in Paddock (also the Healey club)

Parade Laps (slow) at noon: No helmets required. See page 6.

Costs: \$14 per adult for entry (\$20 weekend pass) Children 12 and under free! Students Free! Veterans Free!

Parade Laps: \$25 per car separate donation fee. Limited number of free entry tickets available. First come, first serve at the Gate

Details: Dan Shockey, magnut_dan@hotmail.com, 309-696-0803



DELTA TOUR

We'll head up CA-160 and some back roads, stopping at various points of interest, on our way to the Old (Beet) Sugar Mill. After lunch at Freeport Bar & Grill, we'll head for Bogle Winery and perhaps Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge.

Date: **Thursday April 18th**

Meet: 9:00 am Jack-in-the-Box, Vasco Rd, Livermore
6020 Industrial Way
(2 blocks south off I-580 on the left)

Depart: 9:30 am

Bring: MG, Fast Track, Sunscreen, Binoculars

RSVP: Don Cowgill: 925-449-4013 or dfcowgill@yahoo.com
Jim Brady: 925-256-3685 or mgtdjab@gmail.com
Tour cells: 925-895-4911 and 925-899-9966



**DRIVE BACK
IN TIME**

**The Annual All British
Motoring Show and Swap Meet**
Dixon Fairgrounds May 19, 2019



Presented by
The United British Sports Car Club
<http://www.ubsccl.org>

***Come to Dixon California for a nostalgic drive back in time
with some of the finest in British motoring.***

***Not only do we offer the largest all British car show in
Northern California, but in our swap meet you'll find all
sorts of new and used parts to help you get your British
car fix.***

***So pop on your bowler and register your vehicle now
to join us for this amazing tribute to British cars and
motorcycles.***

THE WIND MACHINE / April 2019

The Annual All British Motoring Show and Swap Meet - May 19, 2019

Participants' Choice Awards:

As described on the reverse side of this flyer

Judge's Choice Award:

One vehicle will be chosen as best of show!

Special "Winners' Circle" class for previous year's winners:

First place class winners from last year's show will be featured in a special Winners' Circle area and compete against each other for the Best of the Best. This also provides an opportunity for other vehicles to win a trophy in their individual classes.

Entry Details: FREE admission to the public

<p>Vehicle (car or motorcycle) Show Pre-Entry: \$30.00 (Or \$40.00 day of event for each vehicle) <input type="checkbox"/> Dash plaques to all entrants <input type="checkbox"/> Great goody bags <input type="checkbox"/> Free raffle ticket for every entry</p>	<p>Swap Meet Space: Private Parties - \$25.00 Pre-entry (Or \$30 day of the event) Business vendors - \$40.00 Food vendors - \$40.00 Swap meet includes new & used parts</p>	<p>Everyone will enjoy: <input type="checkbox"/> Food and drinks on site <input type="checkbox"/> A variety of vehicle club displays <input type="checkbox"/> Large selection of raffle items to win. Tickets available for purchase at the UBSCC club booth.</p>
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For more information or to download forms or register on-line, go to: WWW.UBSCC.ORG

or call: (916) 215-2140 or (916) 425-1687

Vendors and participants set up at 7:00 AM. Gates open to the public at 8:00 AM.

Final entry and registration: 10:00 AM. Awards presentation: 1:30 PM.

Detach here

British motorcycles and race cars are welcome! - Show held rain or shine

Detach here

2019 Event Registration and Order Form

Circle Choices:	Vehicle Entry \$30 each vehicle	Swap Meet \$25 per space	Business Vendors \$40 per space	Food Vendors \$40 per space
	Place the total of these amounts onto the entry fees line at the bottom of the form.			

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Club Affiliation(s) _____

Vehicle 1: _____
 Year: _____ Marque: _____ Model: _____ Body Type: _____ Color: _____

Vehicle 2: _____



Commemorative Shirts

with double-sided art featuring the show logo, are available through pre-orders until May 2nd. A limited number will be available the day of the show. Please indicate size, color and quantity on this registration form. Shirt price is not included with entry fee. Shirts not picked up the day of the event become property of the UBSCC.

STYLE	SIZES	COLORS	PRICE	SIZE & COLOR	TOTALS
T-shirts: Short-Sleeved	S-2XL	Black, Royal Blue, White, Rich Red	\$18	1 _____	\$ _____
				2 _____	\$ _____
Ladies' T-shirt Short-sleeved feminine neckline	S-2XL	Black, Royal Blue, White, Red	\$18	1 _____	\$ _____
				2 _____	\$ _____
Polo shirts	S-2XL	Black, Royal Blue, White, Red	\$32	1 _____	\$ _____
				2 _____	\$ _____
Sweatshirts: Crew Neck	S-2XL	Black, Royal Blue, White, Red	\$30	1 _____	\$ _____
				2 _____	\$ _____
Sweatshirts: zipped, hooded	S-2XL	Black, Royal Blue, White, Red	\$40	1 _____	\$ _____
				2 _____	\$ _____

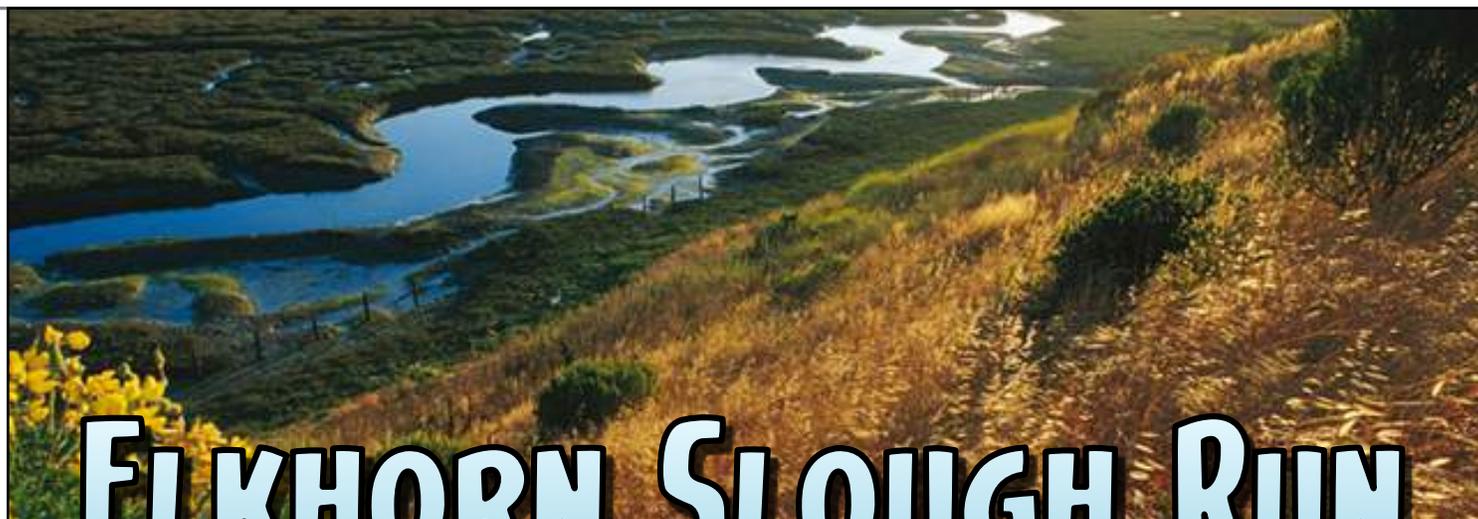
Entry Fees: (see entry details) \$ _____ Total Paid: (entry plus shirts) \$ _____

The deadline for pre-registration and for pre-ordering shirts is May 2nd.

My signature releases: The United British Sports Car Club, its officers and agents; Dixon Fairgrounds, its officers and agents; participating British car clubs, their officers and agents and all other sponsors, directly or indirectly connected with this event, from any liability and/or responsibility for personal and/or property damage caused by me and/or any member of my party.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Make checks payable to: **UBSCC**
 Mail to: P.O. Box 161974, Sacramento, CA 95816
 Completed entries and checks **must** be postmarked by May 2nd



ELKHORN SLOUGH RUN

Date: Saturday, June 1, 2019

Tour Leader: Dave Marsh 650 964 2341

Route Summary: The route starts at Starbucks/Safeway on Almaden Blvd. and ends in Moss Landing. We travel thru Almaden Valley, over Hecker Pass to Moss Landing and have lunch at Haute Enchilada, 7902 Moss Landing Rd. Menu at hauteenchilada.com Tel: 831-633-5843. The route has been designed for safety and enjoyment and thus makes minimal use of highways. Total route length is about 56 miles. If you brought a two way radio, we will be on channel 5. **NOTE: Watch for bicycles especially on mountain roads.**

Elkhorn Slough Tours: After lunch those who care to can tour Elkhorn Slough on foot, in a boat with a guide, or in a kayak. **Walking tours** start at the visitor center - 1700 Elkhorn Rd. There is a \$4.12 trail fee payable by credit card only. Directions: go north on Hwy 1 and R on Dolan Rd. (just before the power plant) then 3.5 miles on Dolan Rd. and L on Elkhorn Rd. then 2.1 miles to the visitor center. More info at <https://www.elkhornslough.org/> Tel: 831-728-2822. **Boat tours** are available from Elkhorn Slough Safari, 7881 Sandholdt Rd. Tel: 831-633-5555 and cost \$39 (\$35 senior). Advance reservations strongly advised. More info at elkhornslough.com. **Kayaks** are available for rent from Monterey Bay Kayaks located in the parking lot next to Hwy 1 at the Elkhorn Slough bridge. Tel: 831-373-5357.

Start: Starbucks in Safeway at 6477 Almaden Expressway (at Camden) San Jose

Time: Meet at 10:00 AM to sign in

Depart: 10:30 AM with a full tank of gas

Stops: none

RSVP: Dave Marsh 650 964 2341





Rendezvous 2019 – July 25-28 at

Spirit Mountain Casino

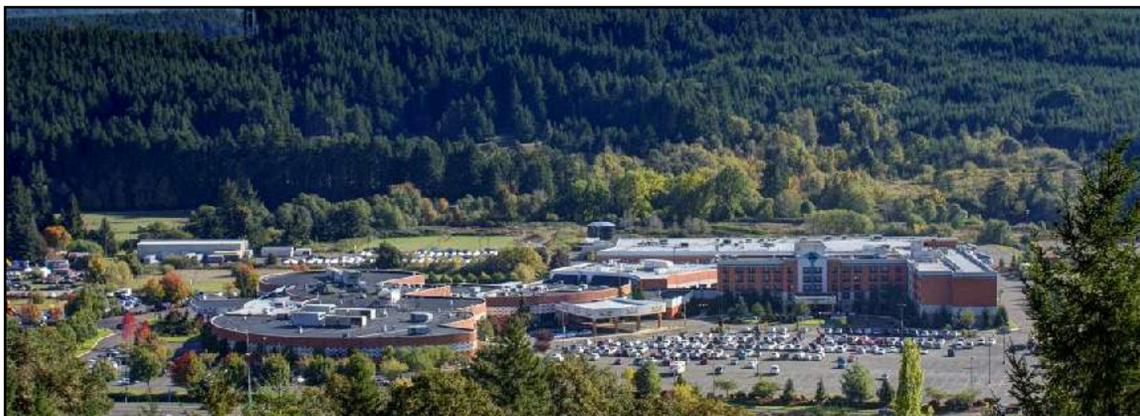
You are invited to join other MG enthusiasts at Rendezvous. Hosted by Club T MG, and held annually at different locations in the Pacific Northwest, this event includes a Funkhana, scenic tour or gimmick rally, car show, a little free time, banquet, raffle, and auction, followed by a winner's circle send off on Sunday morning. You are guaranteed fun, frolicking, and fellowship.

A Funkhana is a timed, low-speed, tight turn course in a parking lot, requiring precision driving and whacky antics to complete for each driver/passenger pair. It is a hoot to participate and even more entertaining to watch. Trophies and bragging rights are liberally applied.

The car show on Saturday morning features all makes and models of British cars. Trophies are awarded. As an added bonus, we raffle a nice prize at the conclusion of the car show. Most often it has been a full picnic set, but sometimes it is a bird house or ocean theme.

This year's location is Spirit Mountain Casino, outside of McMinnville, nestled in the Coastal Range in Grand Ronde, about 30 minutes from the ocean. It is a wonderful setting for some history at Fort Yamhill State Heritage Area, forested mountain roads for an exquisite scenic tour, and free time entertainment in (or out) of the Casino.

Please plan to join us at Rendezvous this year. Registration forms will be available shortly on the Club T MG website (www.clubtmg.org). Tell your friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome whether you drive your MG or not!





50th Heritage Classic August 23rd - 25th, 2019

The Annual Heritage Classic event organized by the Canadian Classic MG Club and the Canadian XK Jaguar Register is the premier Club event of the year. This year will be no exception as the Club celebrates the 50th Anniversary. This year's event will be returning to its original location in the South Surrey/White Rock area which is a few minutes north of the US border, and approximately 45 minutes drive from the center of Vancouver.

Friday, August 23rd - Noggin 'n Natter. This event kicks off the 50th Heritage Classic weekend. It will be held in the grounds of the Hazelmere RV Park, 8th Avenue, in South Surrey.

Saturday August 24th - Heritage Classic Car Show. The car show will also be held at the Hazelmere RV Park, on a beautiful grassy, terraced area with plenty of shade. The event is limited to MGs and Jaguars, and British motorcycles. There will be a JCNA sanctioned event, and JCNA and other awards will be presented on the field. Expect to see a silent auction, British teas, veggie races, and other activities.

Saturday, August 24th - The Heritage Banquet will be held in the Garden Room at the Hazelmere Golf Club, 8th Avenue, South Surrey.

Sunday, August 25th - Brunch. The closing event of the Heritage 50th Classic weekend will be an informal drive to the Abbotsford Flying Club for brunch.

The host hotel for out-of-town guests is the Ocean Promenade Hotel, Marine Drive, White Rock. A number of rooms have been reserved for our event. To book a room, call the hotel on 604.542.0102 and quote "Jag/MG Club".

Camping (tents only) will be available free of charge at the car show site. You are welcome to come to the event in your RV. However, you will be required to purchase a hook-up spot at Hazelmere RV Park for the duration of the weekend. Contact Hazelemere RV Park to book a spot pn 604.538.1167.

Contacts: Ian/Doreen Newby email: newby@telus.net or
Peter Tilbury email: patilbury@shaw.ca
Website: jaguarmg.com

FILOLI TOUR



Date: Saturday, September 14

Tour Leader: Dave Marsh 650 964 2341

Route Summary: The route starts at Starbucks at the corner of Mary Ave. and Fremont in Sunnyvale and ends at Filoli in Woodside. We travel up Steven's Canyon, Mt. Eden Rd., Pierce Rd., SR9, to Skyline Blvd. then to the north end of Skyline, Rt. 92 and Canada Rd. to Filoli. Total route length is about 50 miles. If you brought a two way radio, we will be on channel 5.

NOTE: Watch for bicycles especially on mountain roads.

Start: Starbucks 1291 S. Mary in Sunnyvale at the corner of Fremont Ave.

Time: Meet at 10:00 AM to sign in

Depart: 10:30 AM with a full tank of gas

Stops: none

End: Quail's Nest Café at Filoli (86 Canada Rd. Woodside). NOTE: There is a fee (\$22 or \$18 for seniors) for a self-guided tour the mansion and grounds but the fee is not required to enter the café. There is an additional \$10 for a guided tour. Tickets can be purchased on-line ahead of time or on-site when we get there. More information (café menu, "what's in bloom, etc.) is available at Filoli.org. Tel: 650-364-8300.

DISCLAIMER: While I make every effort to ensure the route is open and safe, I DO NOT PRE-RUN THE ROUTE.

KITCHEN MECHANIC



SOUTHERN BAKED HAM

CHEF JAN LENCI

8-10 lbs	Smoked shank or butt ham
1 tsp	Cloves, ground
1 tsp	Allspice
1 tsp	Nutmeg
1 tsp	Brown sugar
12 oz	Coca Cola
	Aluminum foil

GLAZE	
4 tbsp	Honey
2 tbsp	Brown sugar
1 tsp	Dijon mustard
1 tsp	Rum (optional)
	Cloves, allspice & nutmeg

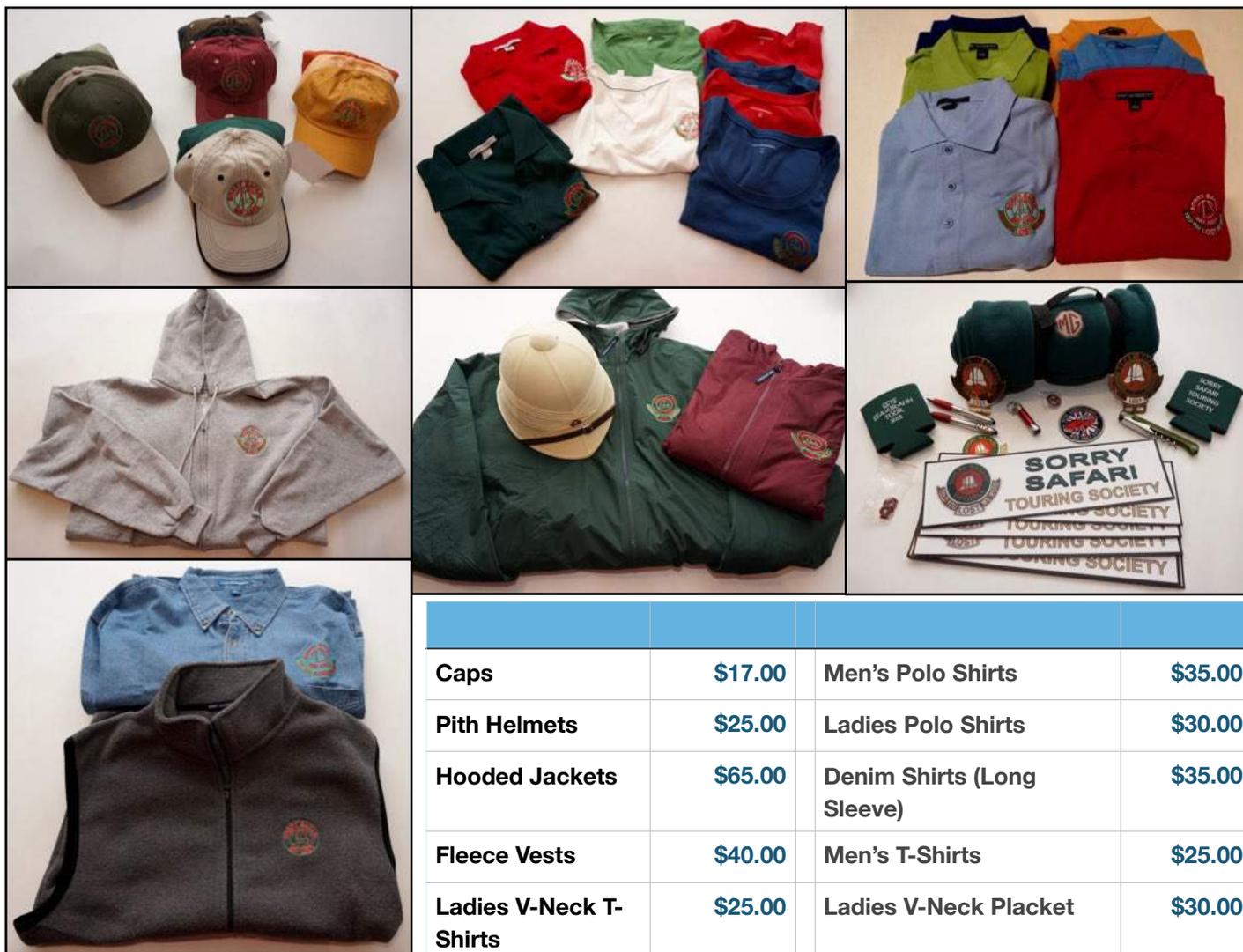
Place enough aluminum foil in baking pan to completely cover ham. Place ham on foil. Pour Coke over ham. Mix the spices & rub all over ham. Seal the foil. Bake at 325° for 15 minutes per pound.

Remove ham from oven. Open foil carefully. Score ham by making slits in it. Mix the same spices as above (cloves, allspice, nutmeg, brown sugar) with the glazing ingredients. Heat to liquid. Spoon over ham as thick as you can. Return ham to oven for another 20 to 30 minutes, uncovered, being careful not to burn. Slice and enjoy!



If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share with the club, please send it to me to be published in The Wind Machine. Thanks, Jan

Regalia!



List your desired items, total purchase and make checks payable to SSTS.

Send your order to:

Maris Cowgill
2714 Farnsworth Drive
Livermore, CA 94551

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Club License Plate Frame	\$15.00	Club Grille Badge	\$25.00
Club Door Magnet		Club Cloisonne Pins	\$5.00
Club Pen Lights	\$3.00	Club Cork Screws	\$6.00
MGB 50th Anniversary Patch or Pin	\$6.00	MG Blanket	\$30.00

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

Bone-Boen-Ster BH4031 Red Bonester Mechanics Creeper - \$50.00

One ton chain hoist - \$25.00

Brooklands style racing windscreens - \$200.00

(similar to Moss 224-100 \$118.99) Never installed!

Contact Terry Sanders: taterr@aol.com or 510-465-2771.



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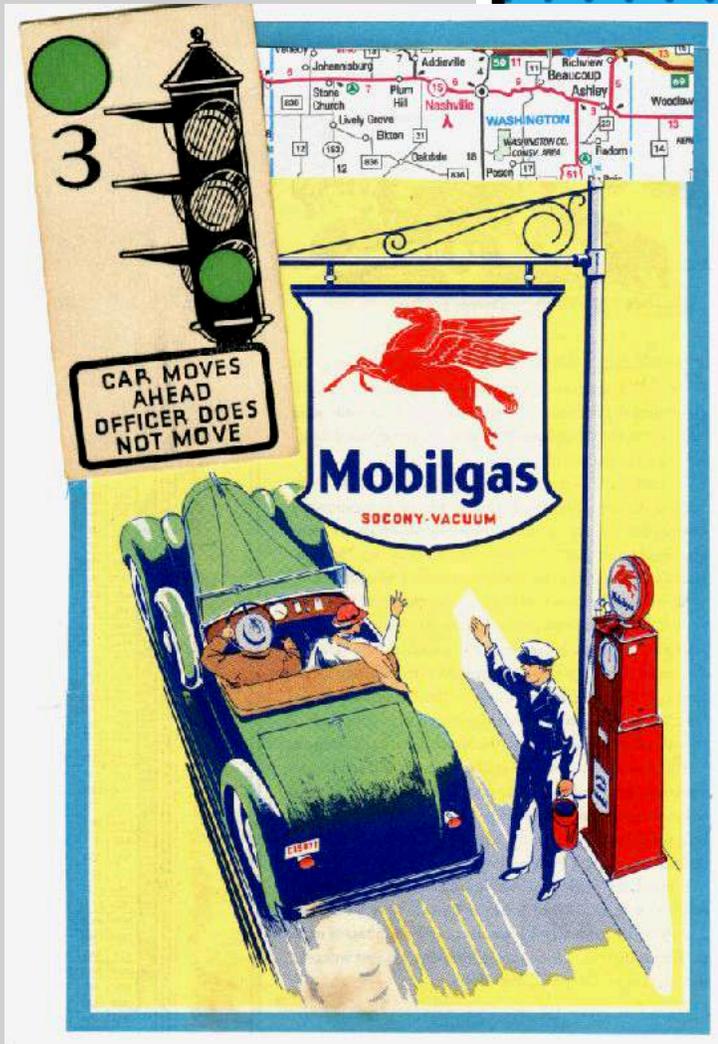
Darrel Heath

Ph: (510) 659-9090

Fax: (510) 659-9099

45563 Industrial Place

Fremont, CA 94538



Soquel Village Run

Jan Lenci



We all met at Peet's Coffee Shop in Belmont on Saturday, March 9th, for the Shukait's tour on the backroads from Belmont to Soquel.

It certainly was a rain or shine tour! We mostly had the rainy part. There were 6 MG's and 3 modern cars. We saw some beautiful green hills, trees and views while cruising on some curvy MG roads through three Bay Area counties.

We ended the tour at the Star of Siam Thai restaurant in Soquel. We had a wonderful lunch with a great group of people. Even though the weather didn't cooperate, everyone's cars did just fine! A big "thank you" to Keith and Pam for a wonderful tour and day.

See you on the next safari!
Ben & Jan Lenci

Soquel Village Run

Jan Lenci



St. Paddy's Day Run

Kirk Prentiss



It has become an annual tradition for Andy & Marla Preston to lead a St. Patrick's Day tour on the back roads of Marin County. So I'll start this recap by saying a huge thank you to them for all their efforts to coordinate an always wonderful event! Bravo!

After all of the rain we have been having the past month it was delightful to drive around the lush green countryside of Marin County. Who needs to go to Ireland when we have this?! The abundant rain followed by a few days of sunny weather provided the green carpet of grass along the roads. Incredible. Our day was exceptional thanks to the moderate temperature and sun.

The attendance for the tour was huge. There were approximately 25+ cars and 40 people. Don Livingood from Medford Oregon came down to join the group and was bedecked in St. Paddy's Day regalia! And of course he attended with his lovely green MGA, the appropriate color for celebration.

Our lunch destination was Dinucci's Family Italian restaurant. They graciously squeezed our group of 40 guests into their dining room. Big bowls of soup and bread were served to get us started for lunch. There was great conversations and laughter filling the small restaurant and a clear sign that a good time was had by all.



St. Paddy's Day Run

Kirk Prentiss

FASHIONISTAS!



THE WIND MACHINE / April 2019

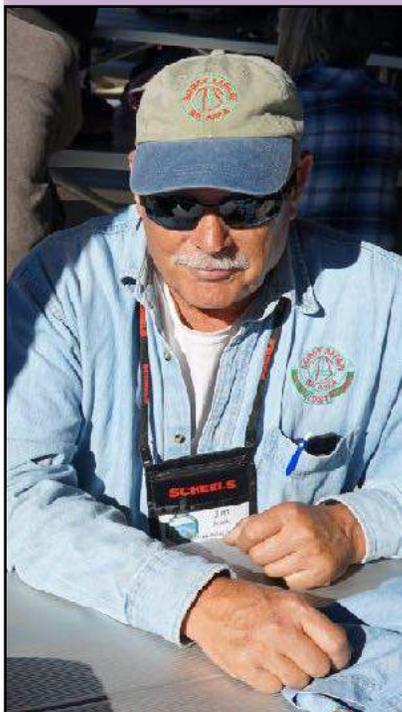
St. Paddy's Day Run

Kirk Prentiss



INFORMED SOURCE

Jim Brady



More Power

Modern driving conditions are challenging for our MGs (especially the Ts). I drive my GT in traffic routinely. Seems like its pedal to the metal for the cars around me and I'm either pushing my car harder than I like or braking harder than I like. Pretty sure that's not going to get better but a little more power would certainly help.

The MGBs started production in 1963 with a little shy of 100 hp. As engine tuning changed to meet emission requirements the horsepower dropped steadily – ending up somewhere around 75 hp in the last year of production. Compare this to a modern car – most have at least 115 hp as well as better power curves. Our old cars have 4 speed gearboxes compared to 5 or 6 speed autos and this significantly widens the performance gap. Still, we love driving our cars for lots of real reasons (the driving experience, maintainability, enthusiastic onlookers, etc.). There's also the “its paid for factor”...

For me, a little more power is very desirable. I think someone said power in an MG costs about \$100 per horsepower. A header and free flow exhaust may give you 5 hp. Internal engine work including modified cam and higher compression pistons might buy 10 to 15 horsepower over stock. Some owners have installed superchargers and realized pretty big power increases in the Bs (like 40). There are some drawbacks to adding power like more noise

for instance. It's an owners decision but as most of us are growing a bit deafer anyway...



More Power

A couple of weeks ago a fellow SSTS member (I won't mention any names) put the Mikuni carb bug in my ear. These are basically motorcycle carbs that replace the stock SU carbs. The Mikunis' are slightly bigger (about 20% more throat area) and incorporate an accelerator pump. They also have benefitted from continued development over the 45 years or so since MGs were last fitted with SU carbs. Below is a power curve comparing power (at the wheels) from stock SU carbs and Mikunis. I can only say – its tempting...



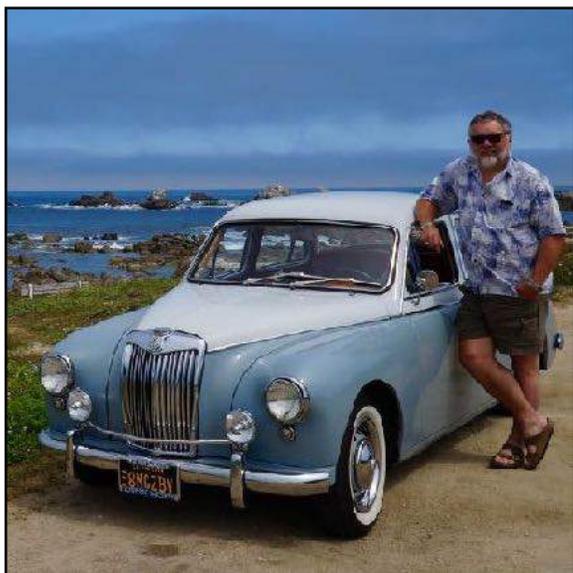
Above curves from Vintage Performance
Green – stock SU carbs on MGB
Red Mikuni 42mm HSR replacement
Blue Mikuni 42mm HSR replacement on modified engine (cam, ported head, header...)

At the last meeting Ken Gittings had some follow on thoughts about the “What’s in Your Boot” article. Ken said that the fire extinguisher shouldn’t be in the boot – too far if you need it. The extinguisher should be located just in front of the passenger’s seat (and move with the seat). Thanks Ken!

This Month Last Year



This month last year John Pesek and Ben Lenci lead us on a “Backyard” Tour of the surrounding Bay Area!



FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

This has been the rainiest winter I can remember for many years. It has been more like the Bay Area I remember from the early 1980s. It was a definite time of lot's of rain, and all was green as a result. Will this be a year with out the use of the "D" word? (Drought) Let's just hope that we don't have the wildfires of last year.



I think I'm on the home stretch with the engine rebuild for the 58 Plymouth. Fingers crossed. Of course I thought this the last time when I installed the freshly rebuilt motor. Alas, there was a problem. When running there was a loud ticking noise from one of the valves. Adjustment was attempted multiple times, however the noise would not stop. Talking with other motor aficionados the range of suggested issues were mild to wild. Panic struck when I heard that is could be the rebuilt camshaft had a flattened lobe. Gulp. That of course would have meant a complete teardown. So the motor was hoisted out and back on the truck to return to the engine rebuilder.

Happily, the problem was discovered. The valve stem lock had failed and slipped up a notch. Fortunately I did not run the motor

long and there was no damage, though the lock and valve was replaced to be certain. The possible damage from complete failure of the lock could have been major. Now it's time to put it all back together again...

With this glorious break in the rain, it reminds me that for those who haven't driven their MGs for a few months, it is important to get your cars ready for driving. Check all fluids (measure what's underneath!) and ensure your tires are properly inflated and have plenty of tread. And don't forget those wipers! It could still rain unexpectedly while out on the back roads. And if your wipers aren't up to par, there is always RainX to give you some relief from a watery windshield. Oh, and there are likely more potholes due to all the rain, so be vigilant!