



The Gazette

*The Official Publication of the
Minnesota MG Group*

Volume 20, Issue 7

September, 2020



August 22, 2020 MMGG - Larry Henle MG Automobilia Sale

Larry Henle's MGB-GT currently owned by Bill Tite and Berkley Fogelsonger's MGB at the Larry Henle MMGG Garage Sale which took place on Saturday, August 22nd. Over 16 MGs and 50+ people showed up to make this a great day. A big THANKS! To Val and Dick Wallrich for hosting this event. A great time was had by all.

For more pictures and information see the article on Page 8

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From the President



Hello mask wearing, homebound MMGG members!

Not a lot to talk about this month but here is what I know.

As the months have worn on, more bad news continues to trickle in with this from our friends at the Intermarque group:

Letter from the Chair: 2020 Kick-Off UPDATES

AUGUST 15 UPDATE:

It is with great sadness that I must announce that the Spring Kick-Off show in Osseo, MN rescheduled for September 26, **has been cancelled**. The committee felt that the pandemic would not be sufficiently diminished by late September, and holding a car show, even one outdoors, would not be wise. But, we will plan for another event next year in Osseo, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 8, 2021. In the meantime, keep washing your hands, wearing a mask, and keeping yourselves.....and your cars.....socially distanced.— Dick Leighninger, Chairman

So another staple of our short driving season torn from our grasp. The facts continue to point us to use the greatest precautions during these times. As reported last month, Breakfast at the 400 Tavern is still on hold. Cars and Coffee gatherings are continuing at Silverwood Park in St. Anthony. Gathering starts at 8:00 AM on Saturdays. Remember to bring your own lawn chair, food, and beverage of choice. Social distancing is in play. Silverwood is on the corner of Silver Lake Road &

County Road E in St. Anthony. If it's raining it's cancelled.

When telling anyone that knows what an MG is about ours, through my mask of course, I am always reminded of a quote by Andy Lindberg, "The most common question I get about the Grey Ghost (the Triumph) is, "How's it running?" which is a Minnesota Nice way of saying "What's wrong with it now?"

Now it may be that he was talking about a Triumph but then again it is a British car sharing bloodlines. Depending on who you ask will decide who the black sheep of the family is.....

I do hope those of you that made the trek to Dick & Val's for the MG garage sale took home something. And of course more would always be better. You just can't have too many spares. Just ask Mark Brandow how many used MG parts he has!

The Fall Color Tour-BMC OPEN HOUSE: With the same concerns at this time, there is still a plan for a fall color drive **Saturday, October 17 to the BMC Open House and Stiff Upper Lip car show** at 444 East Dual Blvd. Isanti, Minn. 55040, contact us at 651.400.0145. Here's to a hope of lower COVID number by then.

And lastly the Annual Business Meeting is fast approaching. November 7th will be upon us, only about a couple of months away. As I've mentioned previously - the club needs people to step forward to fill our officer positions. We NEED members to step forward to fill club officer positions. Both Elena and I are completing our terms.

We need a President and Vice President! Remember, this is your club!

See you on the road 2 meters apart.

Gene

Paint by Ed Schultz

As stated in the last installment the car was dropped off at the paint shop and is still in work. They did prime the entire car which will help show any minor imperfections that need attention. Once those are repaired the base coat and clear coat will be applied so hopefully, I should have it back by next week (September 1). In the

meantime, everything that came off is being cleaned or replaced. I also had the great pleasure of installing the windscreen/cowl seal. Despite all of the horror stories I heard I was able to get it installed in about 2 days. A little heat and some ArmorAll and sliding it a bit at a time allowed me to get this seal in place. The next big part comes when it is time to install the windscreen but we'll cross that bridge when we get to it.

Well, maybe by the October Newsletter I'll have the car back and everything installed. It would be nice to get some Fall drives in before it's time to put her to bed for the winter.

From the Editor



MMGG Socially Distant Members,

For those of you that could not make it to Dick and Val's place for the MMGG Garage sale, we had a great turnout. Dick's place is large enough to allow for adequate social distancing on the

driveway and the beautiful lawn. Over 16 MGs and about 50+ people showed up to look for any and all good deals. I was able to find an MG Road Kit canvas tool bag with a great assortment of tools and an MMGG grill badge. More pictures are on page 8.

In our Technical department this month we have an article by Steven Rixen on Vapor Lock and some ways to mitigate it.

Next month's technical article will be a discussion as to why our early MGs (and other LBCs) started out being positive ground. And, yes, there is a technical reason why they started out that way.

As Gene mentioned in his article, we need a President and Vice-President. The current by-laws do not allow for more than two consecutive terms for the president and Gene is in his second term. He has done a great job with the club but it is time for someone else to step up to the plate and take over the reins of the club. If you are interested, please contact Gene or myself.

I hope you like the new format I'm working on for the Gazette. In addition to the editorial changes I will be adding a New Members section to introduce our new members to the club. As always, your comments are welcome.

Minnesota MG Group Officers & Executive Board

President	Gene Cooper 612-310-1167 mgbcraz@gmail.com
Vice President	Elena Biessener 651-337-0681 Elen2b0916@comcast.net
Past President	Bob (Andy) Anderson 651-439-6876 Robtwander5@gmail.com
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New Members	Jon Bergquist 952-758-6070 Jonbergquist1116@gmail.com
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MG Girls	Elena Biessener 651-337-0681 Elen2b0916@comcast.net

The Minnesota MG Group was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, maintenance and enjoyment of the MG cars. MG car ownership is not necessary to be a member of the Minnesota MG Group. Correspondence can be addressed to: Minnesota MG Group – 15625 Woodland Circle, NW, Prior Lake, MN 55372.

Vapor Lock by Steve Rixen

I have been fielding a number of calls in the vein of: “My car has been running great until it warms up and then I slow/stop for a minute and then it stalls/pops/hesitates/runs poorly/quits and may or may not restart.”

Me too.

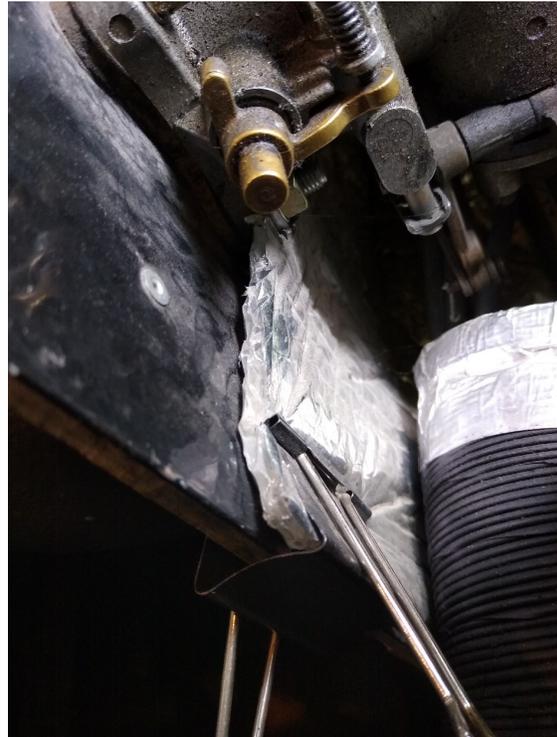
I find that the problem is usually not ignition, although one fellow sent his distributor to Jeff Schlemmer at Advanced Distributors and had much improvement from new bushing installation. My take on the overall problem is increased vapor lock problem, which means the fuel in the fuel lines and/or carburetor float bowl turn from liquid to vapor due to heat.

Why is the problem more pronounced in the last few years, although it has been a problem in carbureted cars forever? I think it is because the predominant induction system in modern cars is now fuel injection. LBC fuel systems run at 2 to 4 PSI fuel pump pressure until it is delivered to the float bowl at 0 pounds relative fuel pressure. Modern injected cars run around 60 PSI or more from the fuel tank all the way to the point it is injected into the air stream into the engine cylinders. Even when the fuel lines are hot on a modern car, the pressure applied to the fuel keeps it in a liquid form, LBCs, not so much.

I believe components and additives in the fuel in the old days helped mitigate the vaporization in cars. Since 99+% of the cars don't need these additives they have been deleted from modern fuels, to LBC detriment.

LBC usually have the intake manifold and carbs next to and above the exhaust manifold. Fuel is trying to turn to a vapor in the range of 120 to 150 degree F and up. The 2 to 4 PSI pressure in the tubes and hoses mitigate vaporization at lower temperatures, but don't do much when under bonnet

temperatures in that area go into 230 degree plus range. When you are driving along the air flowing into and through the engine bay and the fuel is run-



ning relatively cool and rapidly from the tank through the system to where it is burned, fuel vaporization is minimal.

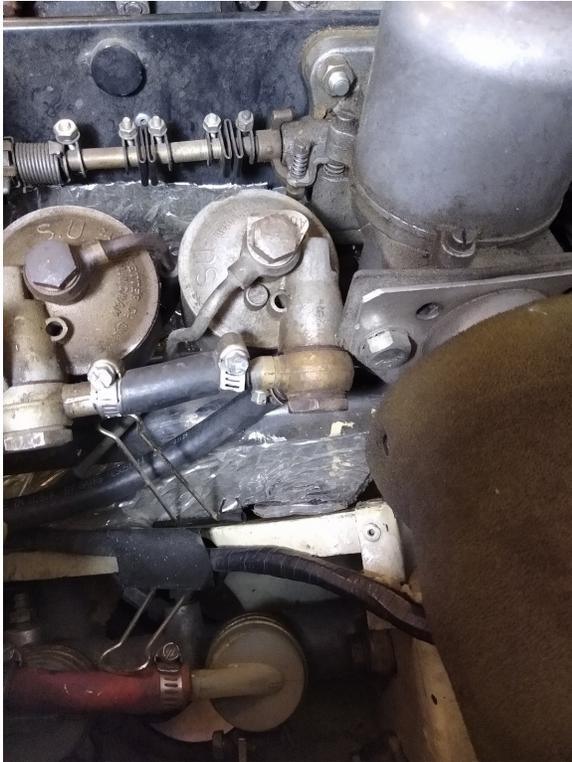
When you slow or stop under bonnet temperatures rise quickly, and fuel flow rate falls significantly leading to fuel heating and vaporizing in the lines and in the float bowls. If lucky you can pull away and accelerate with minimal spitting, sputtering and coughing. If not lucky the fuel vaporizes, and the engine quits or barely runs.

I have installed a piece of mylar bubble wrap with aluminum coating insulation under the carbs (see pictures) using office clips to hold it to the carb heat shield and the bodywork. This keeps the heat from the header pipes from wafting directly up and

Vapor Lock by Steve Rixen (Con't)

over the carbs and float bowls.

This has met with some success. You can also see the end of a short 4-inch duct which I have routed from in front of the radiator to supply cool air flow to the carb area.



In other instances, I have fabricated the insulation into a cover below the carbs and around the fuel lines and float bowls to further insulate the fuel system from the under-bonnet heat. Use Aluminum tape is the way to form and zip ties to secure any such fabrication.

Driving Techniques which help mitigate vapor locking include raising the bonnet when at the filling station from before putting the fuel in until just before starting the car, planning your route to minimize the number of stop lights and times when heavy traffic would be encountered and maximize "right on red" turns. Driving in the morning and

evenings when temperatures are cooler help.

If you have a vapor-lock situation and you can't drive out of it, the car stalls, hopefully you can find a safe spot off the busy road, hopefully shaded, raise the bonnet and just wait for the temperature to fall.



Anecdotal experience is that Premium and non-oxygenated fuel are less prone to vaporization. The insulation is a building product item as is the aluminum tape, I purchase in that area at Fleet Farm but is available in most home stores. It is about ¼ inch thick and has 2 layers of heavy-duty air bubbles with heavy aluminum on the sides. It will take most heat unless it is in contact with exhaust manifolds, pipes or exhaust leaks.

MMGG 2020 Calendar of Events

As mentioned in the last Newsletter the Mystic Lake Casino Cars and Coffee was still being planned however all Cars and Coffee events for 2020 have been cancelled. The subsequent gathering at Gene Coopers is also cancelled. The Spring Kick-Off in Osseo has also been cancelled.



MG Girls



Diane has graciously offered her home again for another MG Girls' lunch. She would like to have us over at her place (851 21st Ave. N. , South St. Paul) Friday, August 28. Rain or shine (we will move into the garage if it rains). Everyone bring your own lunch and beverage. Plan on 11:30. Please RSVP to Diane so she can plan. Her email is dianemerrill1@gmail.com. MG Girls, please accept my apologies as I tried to get this issue out before this event but failed to do so.

Dawn Patrol

On August 16, 2020 we caught a great sunrise in North Saint Paul Minnesota. It might not be Pebble Beach California, but we were there in spirit. We fired up our MGA, took a cup of coffee and experienced a wonderful sunrise. One photo was taken by the 30-foot City Snowman (it is Minnesota) and the other near the Veteran's Memorial Park also located in North Saint Paul. Gene, thanks for encouraging us to get up early on a Sunday, - - Paul and Susan



Dawn Patrol 6:15 a.m., August 16, 2020



Dawn Patrol 6:18 a.m., August 16, 2020

Ottertail and Becker County Drive by Lori Dawkins

Five local MGB couples and their cars enjoyed a trip around Ottertail and Becker counties on Sunday afternoon, August 16.

We gathered at beautiful Phelps Mill park and after introductions and chatting, we headed to Vergas for a stop at the Skal Bar & Grill for refreshments. The group then motored to a nearby collection of gas station memorabilia for the perfect photo op with our cars.

Winding country roads led the motorcade through lake country, where we admired charming lake cabins and lake views, eventually arriving at Pit 611 Sports Bar & Grill near Audubon.

Upon arrival, we were happily surprised to see a gathering of classic cars already assembled! After parking in the display area, the owner welcomed us and asked us the name of our group. We just replied that we were the “British Invasion!” (Not all of us are MMGG members). Classic car owners received free drink tokens and we all enjoyed great food and live music as we chatted together on the deck. Our return trip included additional views of area lakes and rolling hills.

The combination of a bright warm sun, blue skies graced with puffy white clouds, a parade of Little British Cars traveling through beautiful lake country, good food and great friends made this perfect Minnesota summer day a special one to remember!

Special thanks to Brad and Angie Wurgler for planning the route and Leon Dawkins for inviting/organizing the local participants for the drive.

A good time was had by all!



MGB Line-up and Owners at Phelps Mill

Guttormson's 1972 MGB

Overgaard's 1977 MGB

Dawkins' 1968 MGB

Wurgler's 1972 MGB

Berglund's 1969 MGB

Larry Henle's MG Automobilia Garage Sale

On August 22nd, Val and Dick Wallrich hosted an MG Garage sale at their home. The event was held with a generous donation by Barb Henle. Barb was looking to benefit the club by selling a large collection of Larry Henle's MG items that he had accumulated over the years. There was a good supply of parts, books, magazines, tools and decorations for sale. In addition, Gene Cooper bought a large amount of his items that he has amassed but by the looks of it, he seems to have left with more than he came with. Judging by the turnout, it was a huge hit as well over 50 members and 16 MGs made the trek. And with all of the cancellations we have had as a club, it was nice to get together as a group and enjoy a little social time. The weather even cooperated as it was a nice day. And we even signed up a new member.

I received a lot of pictures from everyone and will try to include as many as I can. A big thanks again to Val, Dick and Barb for a great day.



Bill Tite with the Henle MGB-GT



August 22, 2020 MMGG - Larry Henle MG Automobilia Sale



August 22, 2020 MMGG - Larry Henle MG Automobilia Sale



MMGG Girls...All Properly Masked

Larry Henle's MG Automobila Garage Sale



Larry Henle's MG Automobila Garage Sale



August 22, 2020 MMGG - Larry Henle MG Automobila Sale



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New Members

One aspect of the newsletter I have not been up to speed on is the introduction of new members. We have gained several over the last few months so I will attempt to go back and catch up on the new members we have gained in 2020.

Our newest member is DJ Rice. His story is below.

DJ Rice (David Jason) stopped into the MMGG yard sale with his 1973 1/2 Red Midget thinking it was just a yard sale and not as he said "a full-blown car show". He acquired the Midget about a year and a half ago and has worked on it to make it a very nice running example.

On Friday night he took it to a car show (I think he said it was in Coon Rapids) and he was the only MG there. He went home and looked up our Facebook page and noticed the yard sale for the next day thinking there might be a few books for sale. Instead he got much more than he expected. He immediately joined the club as a paid member on the spot. DJ also had the chance to proudly share with many of us what he had done to his car and had lots of other mechanical questions.

DJ said that he did not know that there were that many MGs in Minnesota. His fresh and new found enthusiasm for MGs was really nice to see and I'm sure reminded us as to our first time with our MGs. DJ and his wife Breanna live in Otsego not at all far from Dick and Val (you guys might have a visitor from time to time).

He goes by DJ because his father and brother have first names that start with the letter D and middle names that start with the Letter J. So he claimed DJ at a young age and it has stuck.

Other new members in 2020 are:

Steve and Cindy Clancey from St. Paul. They drive a Sage Green 1974 MGB-GT

Bill and Nancy Eastman from Maple Grove.

Max McCord and Carly Ogata from White Bear Township. They drive a blue 1975 MG Midget

Thomas and Kathleen Strombeck from ST. Paul. They drive a BRG 1966 MGB and a black 1967 MGB-GT

Michael and Claudia Wondra from Minneapolis. They drive a black 1980 MGB LE

Deborah Jiang-Stein from Minneapolis. She drives a cream 1967 MGB

Welcome to each and all of you. We hope that you find this to be not only a social club but a great source of technical help and information.



For Sale Items



Rendezvous 2019 Photo Album \$40 220+ photos celebrating the event !

NAMGAR GT-44 Photo Album \$40 190+ photos celebrating the event !

Reserve yours today contact Paul Lyon @ 651-246-8017 or plyon1962@gmail.com

Flash! New Regalia Items

The new limited edition thermal MMGG logo thermal tumblers were introduced at the Holiday Party have been a big hit. For those that weren't at the party the tumblers are engineered with double wall vacuum insulated construction to provide long lasting heat and cold retention. The powder coated finish has the MMGG logo. You will be the envy of all. The 12oz. maroon wine tumbler is \$20 / each and the 20 oz. black tumbler is \$25 / each. For an addition \$6 you can have your name added on the opposite side. If you are interested please contact Cindy O'Brien or Paul Lyon .



Cindy O'Brien-Byboth - cindyobrien57@comcast.net

Paul Lyon - plyon1962@gmail.com

MMGG Technical Advisors



Electrical - Jeff Schlemmer jeff@advanceddistributors.com	T-types - Bob Figenskau (952)935-7909
MGA - Brian McCullough brian@bmcautos.com	Tech Coordinators and Bodywork - OPEN
MGB - Randy Byboth W1979MGB@comcast.net	Randy Byboth – 612-408-1500 W1979MGB@comcast.net
Midgets - Brian McCullough (651)462-0145	Steve Nichols – 612-306-1022 seedguys@msn.com
Triple-M - Lew Palmer (651)436-7401	Online Resource: MG Experience http://www.mgexp.com

Minnesota MG Group member ads will run free for three months, unless you tell the editor to drop them earlier or run them longer. Contact the club or non-member advertisement costs.

All commercial ads must run a minimum of 6 months and must be paid in advance. Send money to Ed Schultz 3750 Majestic Lane Prior Lake, MN 55372. Make checks payable to the MMGG. Send ad to eds74MGB@gmail.com. If you are a member, please indicate this when placing the ad or notice. Please also provide your full name so information can be verified.

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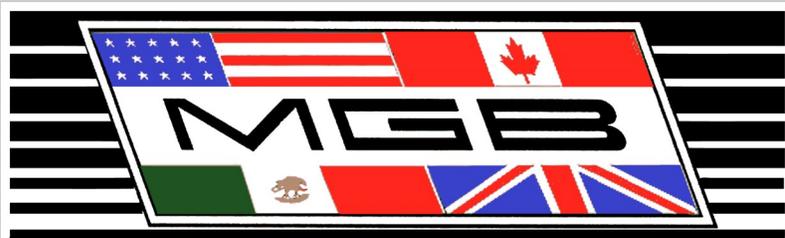
SU Carburetor Rebuilds

SU Carburetors work best when in tip top condition. We will rebuild your carburetors paying special attention to throttle shafts butterflies, floats, dampers and jet assemblies. Speedy turn-around, responsive communication, guaranteed work.

H, HS and HIF carburetor services are offered.

For a quote please email dave@dbraun99.com or visit www.dbraun99.com

MMGG is proud to be affiliated with NAMGB Register. They provide the insurance for our events. MMGG also offers a 5% discount on MMGG membership dues to all NAMGB Register members. Sign up today at :<https://namgbr.org/>



North American MGB Register

FOR SALE ITEMS

1979 MG 1500 Midget



Recently serviced- new water pump. Clutch fan, motor mounts, clean body, Runs well-\$4000/obo
Mark (612)306-0044



1974.5 MGB Roadster



74.5 MGB for sale 2nd owner with O/D good shape . Have spare items to go with. For more info about this car call Ken Merrill (952) 475-0539 please leave a message if not answered.



1965 MGB Roadster



For Sale: 1965 pull handle red MGB Roadster. It has chrome wires, leather seats, (black with red piping), older engine overhaul by Quality Coaches: new convertible top, new radiator. Asking \$10,000. Contact Kevin Krueger. kmk971@hotmail.com



REGALIA

Shirts in various styles and colors with custom-embroidered Minnesota MG Logos are now available for ordering. Items can be picked up at the next event or shipped directly to the address you specify. A shipping & handling fee of \$5.00 will be added. Add an additional fee of \$3.00 if you want your name stitched on your purchase. To place orders, contact Cindy O'Brien-Byboth at cindyobrien57@comcast.net Phone: 952-936-9335



MMGG Patches
\$14.00 ea



MG Girl Tank Top
\$12.50 ea (MMGG Members)



MMGG hats
\$15.00 ea

MMGG Polo Shirts
for men or women
\$24.00ea to



MMGG Sweat Shirts
\$28.00 each

MMGG Denim Shirts
Long and Short Sleeve
\$35.00 each

Minnesota MG Group Membership Form

The Minnesota MG Group (MMGG) was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, maintenance and enjoyment of all MG cars. MG ownership is not necessary to be a member.

Membership Dues and Discounts*	Annual Dues	Membership #
MMGG Club Dues	\$35.00	n/a
Prompt Pay (April 30 th)	(\$5.00) discount	n/a
NAMGAR or NAMGBR Membership	(\$5.00) discount	
Total Due to MMGG (dependent on discounts)		

Contact Information:

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Email 1: _____ Email 2: _____

We value your privacy:

Check Box if you DO NOT want your name and Contact information available in the MMGG Member Roster.

MG Information (Year/Color/Model/Original Owner)

Car 1:

Car 2:

Make checks Payable to: Minnesota MG Group.

Send form and checks to:

Paul Lyon
2589 Seans Way,
North St. Paul, MN 55109

*It is easy to reduce your MMGG Club membership dues. For each of the following you do, you'll receive a \$5 discount: Pay before April 30th, join and provide a registration # for NAMGAR or NAMGBR. (Please email a copy of the membership information to Paul Lyon at Plyon1962@gmail.com.)

Our club receives direct benefit from NAMGAR and NAMGBR in the form of various insurances to protect our members and volunteers but we do need to ensure a percentage of our member join these organizations so please consider joining!

North America MGA Register: <http://www.namgar.com/>

North America MGB Register: <https://namgbr.org/>