

MINNESOTA MG GROUP AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Problems. What would life be without problems? Some might say utopia, while others would say dull. If there's one thing that all humanity shares, it's the fact that we all have problems. A group of people exists that would apparently view the absents of problems in life as totally unbearable. This group is of course all MG owners. The typical MG owner is one who finds the mere day to day struggle for existence less than satisfying. How else can one explain the act of seeking more problems in the form of purchasing an MG? Like all other types of substance abuse MG addiction starts slowly, then eventually takes hold and begins to control one's life. For instance, if you were to ask a typical MG enthusiast why he owns an MG, he would no doubt mutter something about great handling, wind in the face, the thrill of driving a fast sports car, etc. This is the denial phase. We all know that the only way an MG would go really fast is if it were dropped from a great height. At this point, the MG enthusiast is not willing to admit that he's hooked on problems. In other words, he's got a problem problem.

The next phase of this disease appears when the MG enthusiast thinks that the problems he purchased in the form of an MG have through much hard labor, time, money and family neglect, have been resolved. At this point the MG enthusiast experiences a brief uporia derived from the sence of accomplishment from solving these MG problems. The good feelings don't last however, and soon he finds himself suffering from problem withdrawal and is longing for another challenge, another mountain to climb, more problems to solve. If these feelings go unchecked, the MG enthusiast will become a full fledged problem addict. He will become a MG junkie and do anything to support his habbit. Eventually he will give into temptation and go out and buy yet another problem ridden MG. This one will be in even worse shape than the last one. It may even be such a hidious rusting lump that he will have to build a fence around it so the neighbors won't complain. It will require even more time, money and family neglect, if indeed he still has family to neglect. MG addiction is now completely controlling the addicts life. What can be done to prevent such a fate? At this point nothing. There is no known cure, no known treatment. There is no Betty Ford Clinic for MG addiction. The only way not to become hooked is to not buy an MG in the first place. In an effort to prevent people from aquiring this dread disease, and because misery loves company, the following is a listing of just some of the MMGG members and their MG problems.

<u>Member</u>	<u>Problem</u>
Ron Bertsch	Severe oil leak in MGB rear main seal. Recently purchased 79 Midget, needs clutch replacement. Double your pleasure with two engine removals.
Jeff Ingebritson	Racing MGA converted to (4) S.U. H2 carbs. Third engine rebuild should be a charm.
Paul Good	MGA with 3 main MGB engine. Paul not happy with only 20 lbs oil pressure. Sees engine rebuild in his future.
Jeff Marko	Pristine 59 MGA, transmission stuck in neutral, gear lever stuck in first. Any ideas?
Al Bramer	Blinkers on the blink. Lucas (father of darkness) electrics.
Verl Wilkins	Just expanded his alphabet. It now reads A,B,B,C.

True, these folks have more problems than most, but don't pitty them too much, they're enjoying themselves.

Thanks to John & Ann Stebner for doing a really outstanding job of hosting the First Annual Minnesota MG Group "Assult on Stillwater" the Stebner's thorough planning and organization were obvious while the program, put on by John, proved highly entertaining with just a dash of the slightly twisted Stebner sence of humor. Ok, maybe more than just a dash.

The only cloud on the day's festivities turned out to be just that, a big rain cloud. Thankfully the rain had the decency to wait until after the program. Although some of our group hit the road when the rains came, the showers didn't dampen the spirits of those of us who stayed. After the cloud burst we wandered over to our flock of thoroughly soaked MG's where one of our more pessimistic members noticed that when we were all very quiet, we could actually hear our cars rust.

COMMENTS: By John Stebner

We'd like to thank everyone who braved the inclement weather to attend our First Annual "Assault on Stillwater". Eleven MG's and three "honorary" MG's turned out in an effort to make the event a success. We were pleased to see many new faces in addition to the familiar regulars. A final thankyou is in order to Big Wheel/Rossi, Northwest Airlines, and Moss Motors for their generous support of our club at this event. Mother Nature can't be considered a villian as we really need all the moisture we can get during this drought, and at least it wasn't unbearably hot. Again, thanks to all of you who got wet.

John & Anne Stebner

P.S.

We've got some Moss Motors five dollar gift certificates remaining, so, in an effort to spread the "wealth" to those members of the club who were unable to attend this event, we're having a drawing. If you did not attend the Stillwater event, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

John Stebner
MMGG
344 13th Avenue North
South St. Paul, MN 55075

The first fifteen names will win.

BUSINESS NOTES: BY JOHN STEBNER

We had an unexpected, but welcome, fantastic turn-out for our first business meeting. Fourteen people met to discuss the future of the Minnesota MG Group, and the future looks bright. The meeting was used to determine what items need our immediate attention, and which topics to discuss at future meetings. There's not much we didn't talk about Friday night, so it's not possible to mention them all here, but we did decide that our next topic of discussion will be the 1989 Events Calendar. If you are interested in helping to plan next year's events, show up at John & Cindy Eaton's house at 7:00 PM on Friday, September 16. If you've got an idea for an event, but can't attend the meeting, call John Stebner at 455-0229 and he'll make sure your idea is presented to the group present.

NEXT EVENT

WHAT: Wheels & Wings Festival
Sponsored by Classic Motor Books of Osceola, WI
MMGG Hosts: Verl Wilkins and Nels & Dru Aarrestad

WHEN: Saturday, September 10, 1988

TIME: 1st Group departs at 8:00 AM
2nd Group departs at 9:00 AM

WHERE: Meet at Perkins Restaurant, Hwy 36 & Snelling Ave. in St. Paul

If you would like to take advantage of the free breakfast provided by Classic Motor Books, you must depart by 8:00 AM. For those not so early risers among us, a second group will leave the Perkins lot at 9:00 AM.

Food is available at various lunch stands, as well as, at restaurants in town, or you may choose to bring your own picnic lunch. Club members Alan & Sharon Kelsey live just a brief scenic drive away from Osceola and have invited any and all MMGG members to bring their picnic lunches and join them at their home in Star Prairie, WI. Soft drinks at the Kelsey's will be provided by the MMGG. The Wheels & Wings Festival for those who have never attended is quite an event. Classic cars both domestic & foreign, as well as, an interesting array of aircraft converge on this little town every year at this time. It's an opportunity to view all sorts of interesting vehicles in a carnival like atmosphere, as well as, search for bargains among the stacks of Classic Motor Book's automotive literature. Bring you MG and be part of the show or, if the MG isn't running, get there anyway you can. By the way, driving an MG to any MMGG event is NOT a requirement. I know it's hard to believe but one MMGG member drove a Chevy to the last event.

Your hosts for this event, Verl Wilkins and Nels & Dru Aarrestad, down through the years, have been the torch bearers for the Octagonal cause in the state of Minnesota. Verl, his departed wife Louise, Nels & Dru, along with Jim & Laura McCormick comprise, so far as I know it, the core of the original Vikings Chapter of the North American MGA Register. Were it not for these three couples and their devotion to the mark, our Minnesota MG Group would not exist today. The combined knowledge and skill of Verl, Nels, and Jim regarding MGA's & MGB's is remarkable. These are the guys who take thoroughly rotten hunks of old MG's and within the confines of their own garages, magically transform them to their original glory. Everything from mechanical work, to welding new sheet metal and painting is done by their own hands. Their results are simply excellent. Keep in mind that MG restoration is for them, a hobby, not their vocation. They are not in the business of restoring other peoples cars. They are however, ready, willing and extremely able to answer almost any questions you may have regarding MG restoration.

Verl Wilkins 935-1688

Nels Aarrestad 922-0722

Jim McCormick 429-2571

ETC.

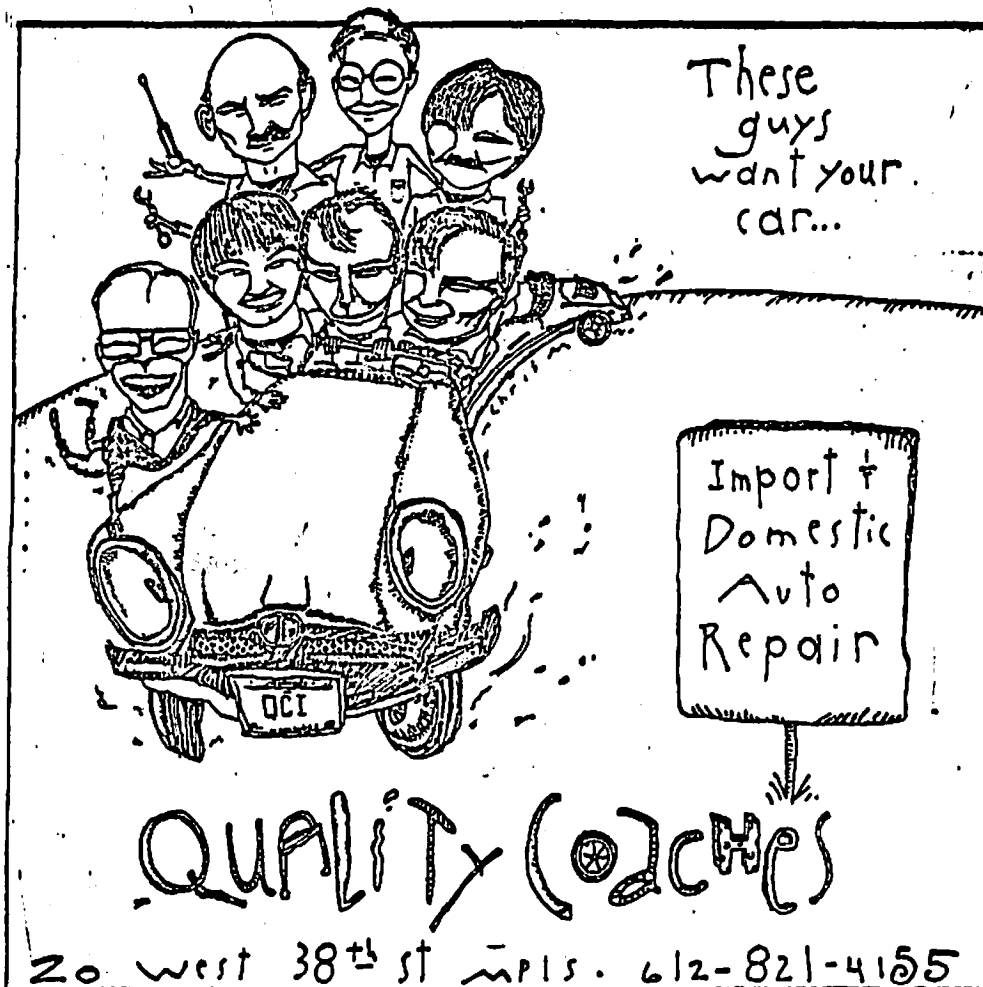
We have received our second letter from MMGG member Penny Parrish. Ms. Parrish is in the process of restoring her 63 MGB. Yep, that's right, a '63! the first year of MGB production. From Ms. Parrish's letter it sounds as though she is undertaking complete and accurate restoration. Both John Stebner and I are extremely anxious to see the car and will be contacting Ms. Parrish in early September to see if we can be of some assistance. As far as I know this is the oldest "B" in our club and I am delighted that the MMGG now has a series 1 MGB exactly as God and Syd Enever intended it to be. Won't this old 63' make an interesting contrast with Gayle Litz's beautiful 1980 limited edition MGB? Especially considering that both cars are black.

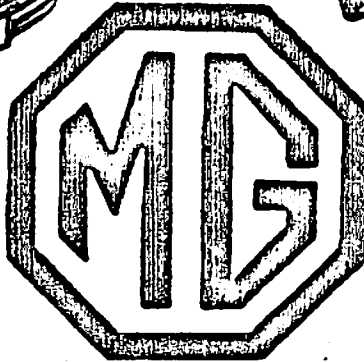
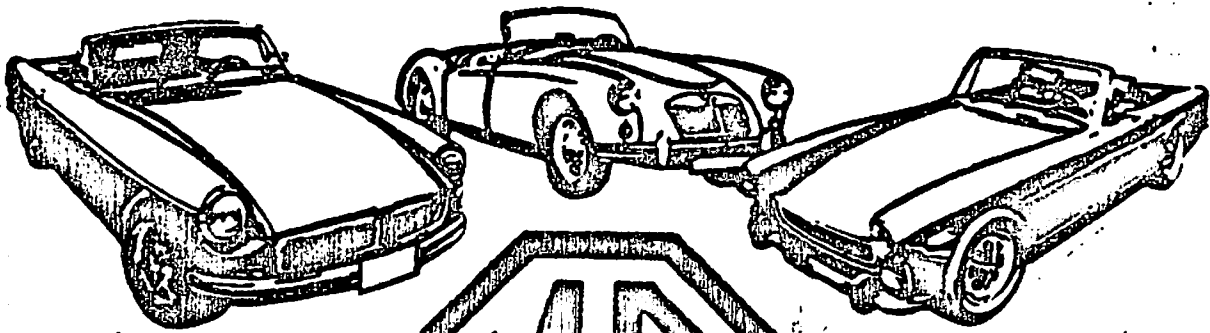
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Congratulations to MMGG members Jerry & Sue Sood on their new arrival. No, not another MG, a baby Girl! The named her Megan Margret.

See you at Wheels & Wings
Yours Octagonally,

John





MGA

MGB

MINNESOTA



GROUP

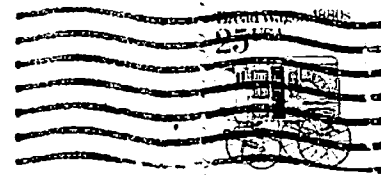
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MIDGET



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