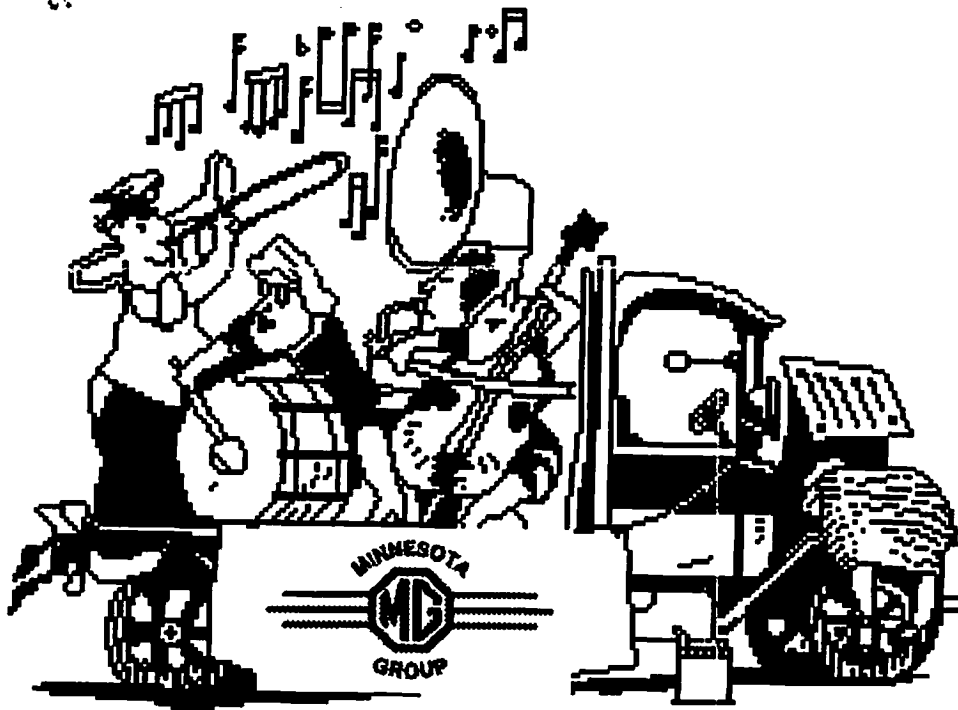


Minnesota MG Group Gazette

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the Minnesota MG Group

August 1997

RED WING CITY DAYS CAR SHOW SATURDAY AUGUST 2



Join host Gordy Matson and your MG friends for a day filled with fun and cars. The Minnesota MG Group has been invited to attend the car show hosted by the Minnesota Bearing Burners Car Club on Saturday August 2nd, at this years Red Wing River City Days, highlights include great food, carnival rides, and lots of fun.

Last year over 200 different vehicles were on display for the public and those of us who attended had a great time.

There were vehicles from the 1990's all the way back to the 1900's!

We will meet in the Perkins parking lot on the corner of County Road 42 and Cedar Avenue in Apple Valley at 8:30 am for a scheduled departure time of 9:00 am for a scenic drive South along the Minnesota River to the beautiful city of Red Wing, where we will be able to park on the grassy banks of the river along with several hundred other unique vehicles. Hope to see you there!



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MEMBER APPLICATION & RENEWAL

Membership dues are \$20 per member/family per year. Includes 1 year subscription to the MMGG Gazette.

Send \$20 check payable to:

Dan Shidla - MMGG

10305 Morris Road

Bloomington, MN 55437

(612) 831-0291

Newsletter Submissions and ads

Please contact Dave Stovall

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Unless otherwise noted, opinions expressed in the MMGG Gazette are those of the authors and do not reflect official policies or opinions of the Minnesota MG Group.



1997 MMGG Events List

The following is a list of the many events the MMGG has planned for your driving pleasure this year.

Sunday March 23 Spring Kick Off Brunch hosted by Al & Sharon Kelsey.

Saturday April 19 Transmission tech session hosted by Doug Madson.

Fri. & Sat April 25-26 Auto Restoration Show, Mpls. Convention Center hosted by Dick Wallrich.

Saturday May 18 MMGG Rally Hosted by Sam & Peg Mearns.

Saturday June 7 "Brit Day" at New Life To Classics automotive restoration shop in Mankato, hosted by owner and MMGG member Dave Wintz.

Sat. - Sun July 5-6 Minnesota Grand Prix with the Minnesota MG T Register hosted by Bob Figen-skaul.

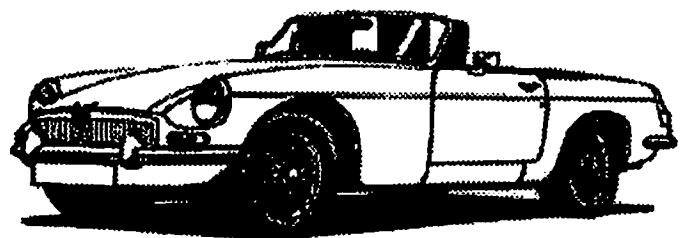
Saturday Aug. 2 Red Wing Days hosted by Gordy Matson.

Sunday Aug. 10 Mighty Midget Golf Tourney and Picnic hosted by Mark Brandow & Eileen Custer at their home in Minnetrista.

Saturday Sept. 6 Wheels and Wings in Osceola hosted by Kevin Ely and Phil Van.

Sunday Oct. 5 Fall Color Tour **HOST NEEDED!!!**

SAT. JAN 10, 1998 MMGG Holiday Party hosted by Jim & Joleen Lymburn, bring your 1997 MG Bucks!



Minnesota MG Group Membership Application

NAME

SPOUSE

HOME PHONE

WORK PHONE

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

Please tell us a little about yourself and your car(s):

Annual membership is just \$20.00

Make check payable to MMGG and send to :

Dan Shidla - MMGG
10305 Morris Rd.
Bloomington, MN 55437



All MMGG Marketplace ads are free to MMGG members, non member ads are \$5 All MMGG Marketplace ads will run for three issues unless notified otherwise.

FOR SALE - Used MGB and Midget parts. Drivetrains, some body parts and MANY odds and ends. Please call Brian & Jennifer McCullough at 462-0145, after 6 pm , or leave a message. *jja*

For Sale -1963 MGB Red, with black stowable top, 5 main bearing engine, 4K on rebuilt transmission, new rear end complete maint. history at Quality Coaches. New Lucas, excellent body, wire wheels with spare. Selling to pay for grad school. \$7500. Mike Wooley 686-5116.

Somewhere there's a nineteen year-old in a battered MGB. He seeks a bit of country road, where traffic shouldn't be.

No silencer to speak of, loose spokes and rotted sills
No care at all for niceties,
He takes the curves and hills.

A boom-box on the parcel shelf, can't be heard above the din.
With a fistful of shaking steering wheel, a nineteen-year-old grins.

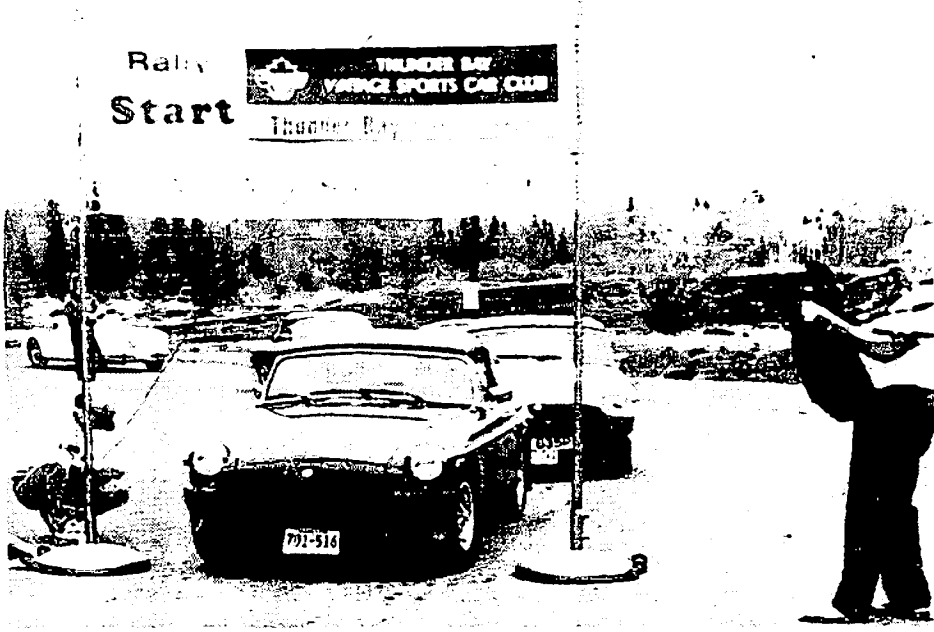
Get out and go for a drive!



Thunder Bay "Leadfoot"



Best of Show at Thunder Bay



Note the Bag Piper on the right



The best way to enjoy your MG is to drive it...the best way to drive it is to attend the planned events of the Minnesota MG Group. Check the the Events List in this issue...if you are a regular attendee you know the fun, if not, try it you'll like it!!!



Some of the Group at "MANKATO BRIT DAY"



Excellant lunch at Mankato



Mankato Entertainers

Must have been chilly...sweatshirts and tops up

June was a super month for the Minnesota MG Group with members heading in two different directions...some to Mankato for Brit Day and some to Thunderbay.



Everyone won a Door Prize at Mankato, nice stuff, too!

Friends of Lucas?



THANKS to Dave Wintz

Minnesota Triumphs joined us at Mankato

THUNDER BAY

Dan Shidla

Friday morning June 6 at about 9:30, six loaded MG's rendezvoused in Forest Lake for a caravan to Thunder Bay, Canada. The entourage consisted of Alan & Sharon Kelsey, Mike & Donna Hirschman, Sam, Peg (& Nicky) Mearns, Ken & Diane Merrill, Dan & Jeanette Shidla, Cindy O'Brien & our illustrious president Randy Byboth. (Randy was late getting to Forest Lake - he tried to blame Cindy but none of us believed him).

The scenery was beautiful and on the way to Duluth we stopped at the Hinckley Fire Museum to hear some good historical incites from Alan and a renewed appreciation of how devastating the massive fire really was.

Onward to Duluth & Grandmas Restaurant for a meeting with a bunch of Triumphs from our local club. They, of course, all wanted to admire our vehicles. After some good food & conversation we proceeded on the journey to Thunder Bay. Both MG & Triumph groups proceeded along the North Shore and arrived in Thunder Bay around 7:00 P.M.

Saturday morning began with a buffet breakfast followed by a rally (they must have borrowed some of Sam's tulips). Our local MG contingent, through Sam's leadership was outstanding (at least we didn't get lost and we did pick up some Triumphs along the way).

The afternoon included a "precision driving event". Our leader, Randy, did quite well, but it was probably Cindy's navigating that kept him on the course. Others took in many of the local sites and then we all proceeded to a well organized banquet (except for cramming 150+ people in a room comfortably holding 100). There was good food, plenty of prizes (Lew Palmer from our local TD club took top prize for his fine MG) and lots of good conversation.

Sunday was departure day and our group chose a number of different times and paths back to the Twin Cities. Sam & Peg & Dan & Jeanette joined a group of Triumphs for a fun ride down the Wisconsin side. The next Thunder Bay gathering is in the year 2000 - a very worthwhile trip.

MGB DRIVER

Acknowledged as the leading source of information for all MGB and Midget owners, **MGB DRIVER**, a 60 page bimonthly publication, comes jam packed with technical and historical information on your car. Subscriptions are \$25 per year. For a sample copy send \$4 to PO Box MGB, Aikin, IL 62805, or call (800) NAMGBR-1

Minnesota MG Group August 1997

Austin Healey wins May Maneuvers and Sammy

Sam Mearns

Movies have their Oscars, and television has its Emmy awards, but the Minnesota MG Group has its "Sammy" award. This year the May Maneuvers glass award went to Jerry and Neal O'Connell, members of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, after producing a straight flush in the poker game played after completing the rally, where a total of 10 playing cards were obtained by stopping at the check points throughout the course.

The top MMGG car, and with a second place hand, went to Al & Darlene Amundson, producing four queens as their poker hand. This hand earned them the prize of two folding chairs, which will prove useful at all those other events this year.

A great turn out of 27 cars developed into something of a mini British car show in the Byerly's parking lot on Sunday May 18th... 13 MGB's... 4 MGA's... 3 TR6's... 2 Austin Healeys... and one each Midget... MGTD... Spitfire... TR3... and a TR2. Many people stopped by to admire and discuss the cars with their owners. I believe we got a new member from this show, and we look forward to her participation in future club events.

The rally course took the competitors through the western suburbs of Minnetonka and Wayzata, amazing all at their suitability for sports car driving. We had residents from the village of Greenwood express excitement at "All those little convertibles" driving through their village. It was great to hear how local residents were excited and there is no doubt that this is attributable to the respectful driving behavior of all those who took part.

The afternoon finished at Sherlock's Home in Minnetonka, a British style restaurant, Pub, & Brewery giving all a chance to socialize, discuss the rally, the wrong turns, and of course their cars.

The success of these events always requires the tireless work of volunteers, check point crews, etc. And this event was no different. A special thank you goes out to Ed Solstad and Dave Fuss from the Twin City Rally Association, and also my daughter Cara, her friend Jamie, my wife Peg and of course my dog Nicki.

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all the info that
you need on
British cars.**

MG 98 & 99

MG '98, the 7th annual convention of the North American MGB Register, will be hosted by the MG's of Baltimore and held in the Hagerstown, MD area.

Base hotel is the BEST WESTERN VENICE INN. The address is 431 Dual Highway - Hagerstown, MD 21740 They are taking registrations NOW! Phone 800/283-6423. Mention MG '98. Rate is \$69/night plus tax. You can also pre-register for the convention!

Check out the MG '98 website at www.gls.net/~socs/MG98.html. Check out the site frequently as it is constantly being updated! Registrar for the event is Sally Schlining. She can be reached at: P.O.Box 504 - Abingdon, MD 21009 Her e-mail is: schlining@worldnet.att.net Don't miss out on this one!

MG '99 for NAMGBR will be held in VANCOUVER, B.C. Get your MG in shape NOW to make the drive! Cheers!
Rick Ingram - Chairman
NAMGBR

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A Spark in the Dark...

(Continued from last month)
Evaluating the coil

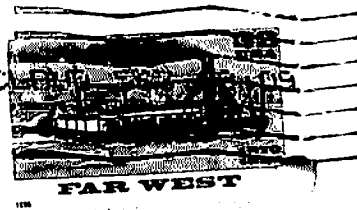
A defective ignition coil can prevent the engine from running, lead to difficulty starting the engine or cause engine misfiring. There are several relatively simple tests you can perform to determine if your coil is defective. The first step in testing the coil is to eliminate the ignition resistor (if your car is so equipped) from the primary circuit by disconnecting the wire attached to the positive terminal of the coil (the negative terminal if your car has a positive ground electrical system) and using a jumper wire to bring power to the coil directly from the battery. This is recommended because certain defects in the switch or resistor will interfere with accurate coil diagnosis.

With power going to the positive terminal of the coil and with the distributor wire disconnected from the negative terminal, test the coil for an open circuit in the primary winding by connecting a test light between the coil's negative terminal and case. If the test bulb illuminates the coil is functioning, but if the bulb fails to illuminate, the coil has an open circuit in the primary winding.

Disconnect the power wire to the positive terminal and the distributor wire to the negative terminal, then test the coil for grounded circuits in the windings with a 110 volt bulb.

**The requests for
hosting MG 2001 is
down to two cities.
St. Paul Minnesota
and Atlanta
Georgia. Memphis
and St. Louis have
withdrawn.**

Minnesota MG Group
Dave Stovall
155 Birnamwood Dr.
Burnsville, MN 55337



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Randy Byboth
1733 York Avenue
St. Paul MN 55106

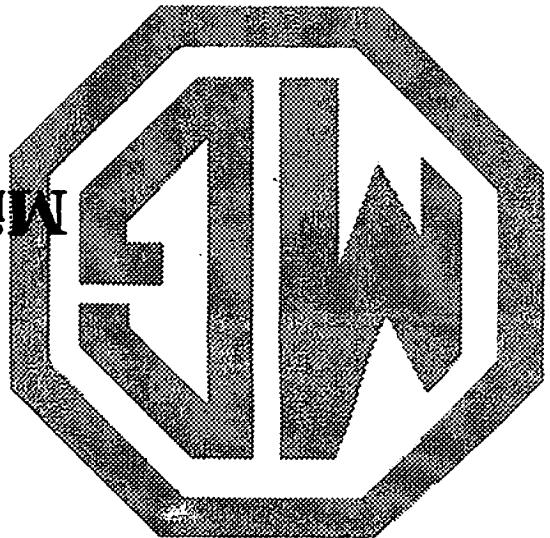
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Minnesota MG Group



Red Wing
River City Days
Car Show Saturday
Aug. 2nd
see front page