

Minnesota MG Group Gazette

The Official Monthly Newsletter of the Minnesota MG Group

February 1998

MMGG Ellingson's Car Museum Tour and Lunch Sat. Feb. 21st

I have wanted to do this for a long time. Since our club went in July of 1994, I can't find the time to go back and see the 100 great cars, trucks, and motorcycles set up in nostalgic displays of the period. And it is much more fun to go to Ellingson's with a group of friends.

The Ellingson's Car Museum is located in Rogers, MN a unique and private collection of cars, trucks' motorcycles, and memorabilia gathered over 25 years in a 30,000 square foot museum.

The Gift shop has many thing to choose from, including tee shirts, models, a large selection of books, magazines, and memorabilia.

Clarabelle's Ice Cream Parlor is fashioned after a 1950's malt shop, where we will be having our lunch.

The entry fee (yearly pass) and lunch will be \$10. Lunch will be roast beef sandwich, salad and chips, relishes, home made pie ice cream and coffee. Also Phil Ether from the Minnesota Autosports Club, will be on hand to discuss Gymkhana's and Funkhana's, and Autocrossing.

Schedule

Meet: 10:00 am. Visit the gift shop, self guided tour and social time in Clarabelle's.

Lunch: 12:00 pm. Enjoy lunch with friends.

After lunch you are welcome to stay and at your leisure, stroll back thru the museum and discover something you missed on the first time through or just had to see one more time.

R.S.V.P.

If you plan to attend, please call Randy Byboth or Cindy O'Brien (almost Byboth).. at 936-9335 **NO LATER THAN FEB. 15TH.**

We need to order enough food for everyone.

Museum Location

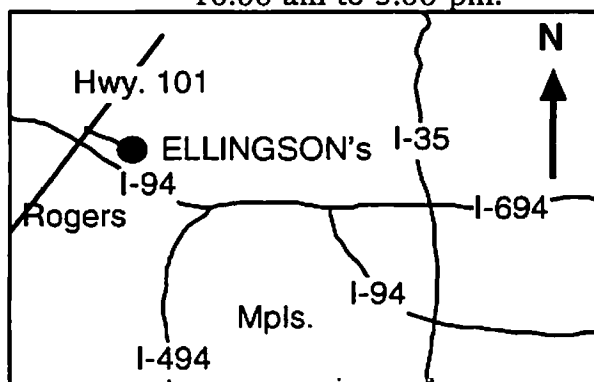
20950 Rogers Drive, Rogers, MN 55374 (Frontage Road of I-94 and Hwy 101)

Phone

612-428-7337

Hours

10:00 am to 5:00 pm.





MINNESOTA MG GROUP OFFICERS

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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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Phone (612) 894-4203 Fax (612) 645-6668

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.



1998 MMGG Events

February 22nd Saturday

Lunch at Ellingson's Car Museum
 hosted by Randy Byboth & Cindy O'Brien

March 22nd Sunday

Spring Kick Off Brunch
 hosted by Curt Carlson & Dick Walrich

April 18th, Saturday

Tech Sessions, Paint and Body Work, also
 Maintenance of your paint.
 hosted by Dewey Freier

April 24 Fri. & April 25 Sat.

~~Resident Car Show~~
 hosted by Dick Walrich & Ron Spargo

May 5th thru 9th

Swap meet, Carlisle, PA
 hosted by Doug Madson

May 17th, Sunday

Inter - Marque Rally
 hosted by Sam & Peg Mearns

June ???

Brit day at New Life to Classics
 hosted by Dave Wintz

June 20th, Sat. & June 21st Sun.

~~Nice Hot Mail Car Show~~
 hosted by Larry Henle

June ???

Austin Healey Club
 hosting a 3 day event in Duluth

July ???

Funkhana or Gymkhana
 hosted by Kevin and LuGean Healy

July 8th thru 12th

NAMGBR National Convention
 Hagerstown, MD

July 15th thru 19th

Brian Redman Challenge
 a.k.a. "The Chicago Historics"
 Elkhart Lake WI

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

1998 Events cont.

August 22nd, Saturday

Ellingson's car Museum Inter - Marque Car
Show and Swap Meet
hosted by Phil Vanner

September 12th, Saturday

Wheels and Wings
HOST NEEDED

October 3rd, Sunday

Fall Color Tour
MMGG, Triumph, & Austin Healey clubs will
join for this event
HOST NEEDED

November 7th, Saturday

MMGG Annual Meeting
hosted by Randy Byboth

January 16th, Saturday

MMGG Holiday Party
Hosted by Al & Sharon Kelsey

Canceled Events...

Dave Stovall

As you can see we have had two last minute cancellations. Not from our members or the MMGG, but by the sponsors of these two events. Crown Auto has decided to stop hosting the Restoration Show and the City of Minneapolis Downtown Council has canceled the Father's Day Car Show on Nicollet Mall.

So we as a club need to help those members who were gracious enough to volunteer to host these two events, come up with alternative events.



MINNESOTA
MG
GROUP
FEBRUARY
PICTURE PAGES





The Holiday Party held at Al
 bakers on Saturday, January 10th
 was to be termed a big success.
 About 60 people enjoyed a night of
 friendly conversation, good food
 and that ever popular auction.
 Jim and Joleen Lyburn were hosts
 for the party. This editio of
 the newsletter has the schedule
 of 1998 events....not too early
 to plan your summer of MG fun.



Simon Bosworth discovers that his MGB GT runs better when there's fuel in the petrol tank

*Simon Bosworth, Eagan MN
"Running Report"
MG World Magazine*

Those of you who read my first Running Report will have got a rather dismal picture of my initiation into the world of classic car ownership. You may recall that I ended up having to spend large amounts of cash to get my MGB GT running properly. Well, this time I will try to be a little more cheerful. Actually, this is not too difficult as my GT has started to be fun to drive.

Now that I have replaced the rubber seal in the bulkheads and got the float bowls to stop overflowing, I have been able to persuade my wife, Lorna, that she can ride in the car without being asphyxiated. We recently went on an outing with the local Minnesota MG Group to a restoration shop in the town of Mankato, about 70 miles south of our home. There were about 15 cars that set off in a convoy from a nearby meeting point. The group leader had picked out a very nice winding route (America is not all straight roads), that followed the Minnesota River and passed through several old towns. It was our first outing with any classic car group, and it was certainly fun to receive lots of waves and comments from people when we stopped along the way.

We arrived in Mankato without incident, although a Midget did develop a noisy generator bearing. At the restoration shop we all parked in a line on the opposite side of the parking area from the Triumph club (no fraternization please). The shop owner had laid on live music, food and prizes for all the attendees. After a very pleasant day we had another uneventful drive back home. Well, uneventful for us in the GT it poured with rain and we felt rather sorry for the Roadster owners!

At this point the GT had become quite a reliable mode of transport. But did have one peculiarity, however; which was that it ran much better when it

had fuel in it. This introduced something of a problem, as the fuel gauge would decide to head back up to three-quarters full again after passing below a quarter full. Now you might suggest going by the odometer mileage, but, unfortunately, that was one of the other things that did not work. The end result of all this was that I ran out of petrol on a couple of occasions. But I did make the happy discovery that if I let the pump run for a hit I could fill the float bowls and manage to get another mile or so to the next filling station.

It was one of these unplanned petrol station stops that raised another problem. After running the tank dry, when I tried to start up after filling the tank I ended up with fuel running all over the place. This happened to me once at about 9pm, and I really did not feel like trying to take the carbs apart in the dark, so I called Lorna to come and rescue me.

I went back the next morning to dismantle the carbs and found that the car started without any problems. I drove it home and took the carb apart, cleaned everything and put it back together again. I turned on the ignition and the pump clicked and clicked and kept on clicking. After much head scratching, I worked out that the float in the front carb was sticking in the down position when the float bowl was empty - which happened when I ran out of fuel. I found that hitting the float bowl with a blunt object freed the float. Of course, a week or two later I ran out of fuel again and the float stuck again. By this time, however, I was quite unruffled by such things and just whacked the float bowl and went merrily on my way.

Being quite a quick learner, I decided that, after running out of fuel a few times, I had better fix the fuel gauge and/or odometer. I was able to buy a replacement speedometer from a local MG owner who had sold me some parts previously luckily, this was from a '73 car with overdrive and so did not need recalibrating. The fuel gauge will have to wait for the installation of a new petrol tank (the current one was rusty inside).

On the Internet MG mailing list recently there has been quite a bit of discussion about the lack of 'soul' in modern cars. My feeling is that the trouble with new cars is that they are too well made and really don't need much attention. Eventually, they become just appliances, like a toaster. Now your average MG, (not talking about the F here), requires a considerable commitment of time just to keep it running happily. In addition, most owners spend extra time 'improving' their cars. The result of this is that the vehicle has to an extent been built (or in some cases, completely rebuilt) by the owner. There is certainly a big difference in the way an owner feels about a car that has been (even partially) assembled with their own hands.

MMGG Holiday Party

Jim & Joleen Lymburn

Again, this year, we had a great turnout of MG enthusiasts (and even one MG!) for the Annual MMGG Holiday Party at Al Baker's Restaurant. The evening started with hors d'oeuvres and beverages along with greetings to club friends and acquaintances and sharing of stories and pictures from the years events. After dinner and cake, the door prizes giveaway and the MG Bucks auction began.

MG Bucks have become part of the MMGG. This idea was created to increase event participation - it has done this and more. The Bucks have become as valuable as real money or so it seemed with the excited bidders using their bucks at the auction for regalia items. Bidding has always been exciting, but this year, I think there was a little "creative" financing going on between tables.

Al & Sharon Kelsey have graciously volunteered to take over the MG Bucks promotion for I will look forward to collecting them at the years events and another fun filled auction at next January's Holiday Party.

We would like to thank the following sponsors who made this years MMGG Holiday Party a very memorable event, and please remember to patronize these fine suppliers:

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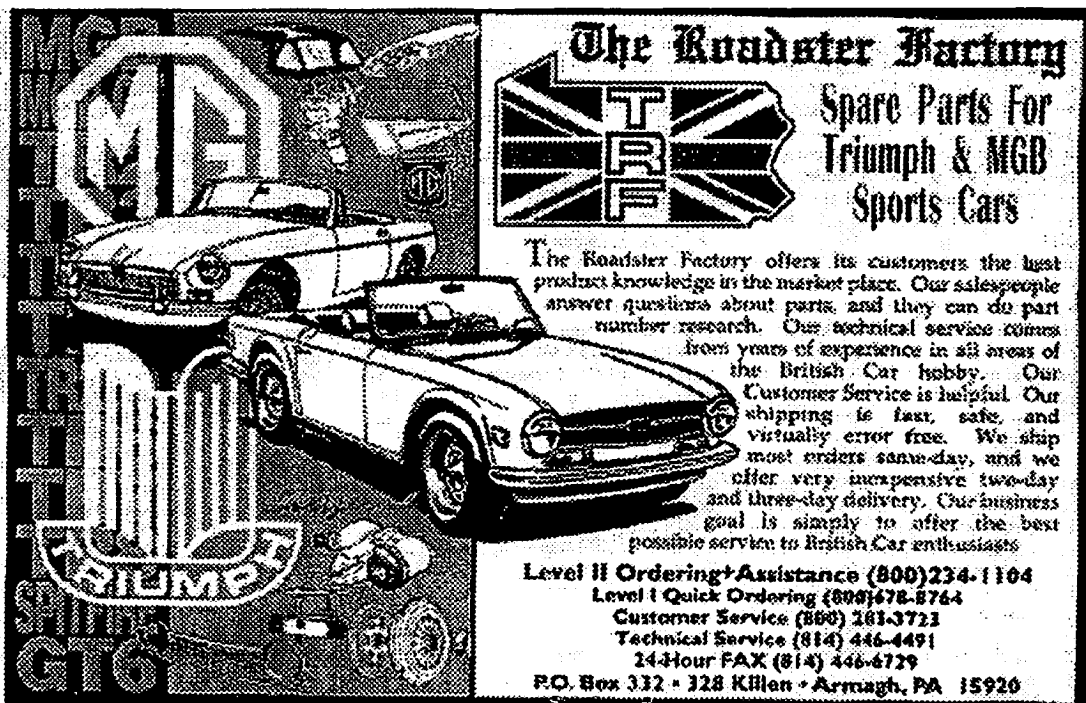
Thank You...

To the many of you for the outpouring of support with the death of my best friend, my wife of 22 years, Vicki.

As many of you knew, she was ill for a long time, with diabetes beginning at age 13. Double bypass heart surgery at 29, and again two years ago..her kidneys failed a year ago. Her body was worn out but not her spirit. I will miss her.

I survive on support of my kids and family and the great friends I have made since joning this wonderful collection of MG nuts!

Thank you all,
Dave Stovall
 Dave Stovall



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Lunch At Ellingson's Car
Museum Sat. Feb 22

1998 MMGG Events Schedule

Houston, we have a problem...

Local MG Owner makes the pages of MG World Magazine



Minnesota MG Group

MGA

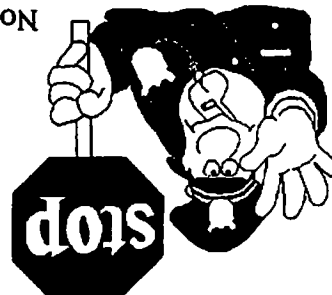
MGB

MGC

Midget

55106+3640 22

Now would be an excellent time to pay your dues for 1998.



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