

Tally Ho



Join us at our Club Meeting:

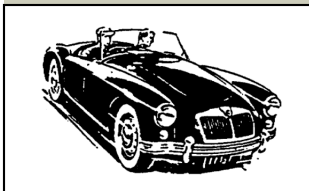
Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month, starting at 6:30pm, at various locations around town.

Occasionally, breakfast meetings are held.

Next month's meeting is November 8, 2005 at 6:30pm, La Hacienda Mexican Restaurant.

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Prime Minister's Message

Prime Minister's Message: Lucas; Good to a Fault!

A few evenings ago I was coming home from dinner with my favorite blonde, when Penelope (my MGA, not the blonde) had a major electrical hissy fit in which we lost brake lights, gas gauge and turn signals. Yet the running lights, dash lights and headlights were fine.

What immediately came to mind was that I was getting what I deserved for violating Joseph Lucas' admonition, "A gentleman does not motor about after dark". I also remembered that Lucas may well be an acronym for "Loose Unsoldered Connectors

And Splices."

The next morning I contacted our club's mechanical guru Raphael and also consulted Barney Gaylord's amazing web site for MGA owners, www.mgaguru.com. Both led me to look at the turn signal relay as the culprit. The mgaguru.com web site had a wonderful diagnostic program to follow, requiring only a length of wire with alligator clips at each end, and a continuity tester light. Easy enough, and a grand way to spend a Fall Saturday morning.

A few days before launching into the project I also posted a message on the MGA part of the MG Enthusiast's Bulletin Board. There are actually several boards, including one for MG T-Series, MGA, and MGB. The one I haunt occasionally is expressly for MGA owners and a posting to that web site usually results in some great advice from MGA owners around the world. MGA aficionados from Canada, the U. K., Switzerland and Australia will often respond to one's queries. You can find the bulletin boards through the web site www.2.mgcars.org.uk

The folks on this site advised me to look for corrosion or a bad connection in the fuse box or a bad fuse. Corrosion increases resistance and eventually, of course, causes a fault. They reminded me that what appears to be a good fuse might not be. That sort of follows the old saw about Lucas (inventor of self-dimming headlights and intermittent wipers) appealing to Parliament to get Ohm's Law repealed. He couldn't get it approved because there was just too much resistance.

The idea from the board sounded plausible, and certainly less expensive and thus more fun than having to replace the \$160 turn signal, brake light relay. But wait! I had checked the fuse the morning after the incident and it looked fine. Well, it was indeed a faulty fuse. The miscreant part appeared good to the naked eye but it was not. A fifty-cent fix. MUCH better than a new relay!

Minutes of Meeting

Big Bend MG Club Minutes

The October BBMG meeting was a breakfast meeting at the Cross Creek Restaurant.

Old Business: There was a good turn-out for the Motorama show with club members coming and going throughout the day. The people who went Hiawassee recounted their event filled trip. Jacksonville show on October 22.

New Business: There were no volunteers to work the Winter Fest parade. Ideas for the BBMG Holiday Party were discussed, (to be held in Jan., covered dish, gift exchange not to exceed \$15). We will forgo the Dec. meeting to hold a driving 'tour of the lights'. The Nov. meeting will be held at the La Hacienda during which time new officers will be elected. It was also suggested the by-laws be reviewed (ex. term limits). Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jim Collins, Secretary

Con't on Pg. 2

MG

TC-TD-TF-MGA-MGB-C-Midget

SHOCK ABSORBERS: Front Rear	
MGTC.....	165.00 165.00
MGTD & TF.....	165.00 60/85
MGA.....	69.95 49.95
MGB, MGC, Midget.....	69.95 49.95
HEAVY DUTY UPGRADE.....	10.00 10.00
SHOCK LINK (New or Rebuilt).....	\$call

BRAKES

MGB, Midget caliper.....	\$75.00
MGA, MGC caliper.....	\$125.00
MGA, Midget twin master 1956-1967.....	\$165.00
MGB, Midget master 1968-80.....	\$125.00
MGC brake master.....	\$175.00
MGC booster servo.....	\$375.00
Brake & Clutch cylinders brass sleeved.....	\$40-60
Kingpin swivel axle rebushed.....	\$40-\$80
Front end a-arm (Midget).....	\$75.00

CARBURETORS: COMPLETE REBUILDING
 Disassembly, cleaning, bodies rebushed, new
 throttle shafts, jets, needles, float valves, gaskets,
 Flow bench tested..... \$345.00/pair

CARB BODIES REBUSHED:
 and new throttle shafts..... \$55.00 each

Prices shown are for Exchange or Yours Rebuilt (5 day turnaround). Core charges apply if items are ordered prior to (and are refunded after) our receiving your old unit. S/H \$4.00-\$8.00 per item. FREE CATALOG. www.applehydraulics.com

APPLE HYDRAULICS

1610 Middle Road, Calverton, NY 11933
 631-369-9515, FAX: 631-369-9516
Toll Free 800-882-7753
 Visa, MasterCard, COD. Free Catalog

Classifieds

Safeway Automotive - British Car Repair & Restoration, New & Used
 British Car Parts Business, Orlando Florida.
<http://safewayautomotive.alterxp.com>

Mobile MG Mechanic: Jody Miller at 850-562-7472

Safeway Automotive - British Car Repair & Restoration, New & Used British Car Parts
 business, Orlando Florida. <http://safewayautomotive.alterxp.com>

Rafael's AutoWorks ASE Certified

New Address & Phone # for Rafael's AutoWorks
 1011 Capital Circle NW, Tallahassee, FL 32304
 Call: 212-3689 or 850-575-9767

Check the website for more classifieds!
www.bigbendmgs.com

Con't from Pg. 1

The point of this ramble is the same point made in verse recently by a Canadian MGA owner on that previously mentioned bulletin board. We all love to curse Lucas electrical components and systems, but it is really the age of those components and systems that causes our problems. A wiring harness with all connector wires and grounds in good condition, combined with those Lucas switches, contacts, sockets, relays, etc in good working condition will result in an automobile that is indeed reliable in the electrical department.

Take me for example. I've had a Lucas heart pacemaker for years and have never experienced any prob...

Bud Nocera
 Prime Minister

Tech Tips from the Little British Car Company

(www.lbcarco.com)

Air Filter Performance for MGB Owners and Maybe Midget

Tech Tip from Konrad Crist.

The stock MGB filter canisters have a base plate that is shaped as a small airflow trumpet to more efficiently direct the air flow into the carburetors. Actual testing by MG nearly 50 years ago showed that this little air trumpet does have a positive affect on the air-breathing efficiency of the fuel-air system. Unfortunately, most owners that migrated to aftermarket air filter canisters can no longer fit the stock base plate, which actually results in a loss of airflow efficiency into the carb(s). However, some aftermarket filters, such as the round Longflow filter have the size and clearance to allow the stock base plate to be installed inside the filter apparatus. The airflow efficiency improvement was noticeable enough in my case that I installed richer carburetor needles to compensate for the resulting slightly leaner fuel-air mixture. A slight, but detectable improvement in engine power was the happy result.

Officers and Board of Directors

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2005 Meetings At A Glance

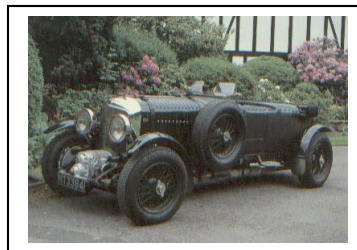
November 8, 2005 - Dinner Meeting, 6:30pm

Location: La Hacienda Restaurant, Bannerman Dr.

December 13, 2005 - Dinner Meeting, 6:30pm

Slate of Officers 2006

Prime Minister: Raphael Gonzalez
Vice Chancellor: Mike Miller
Chancellor of the Exchequer & Registrar: Wanda Phares
Newsletter Editor: Vera Darby
Chairman of the Board: Bud Nocera
Board Member: Paul Darby
Board Member: Terry Hamrick
Board Member: Tom Phares



Can you guess what kind of car this is?

Welcome to the Big Bend Mgs Club

The purpose of the Big Bend MGs club is to encourage the members in the acquisition, preservation, restoration, exhibition, and use of the MG automobile.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.bigbendmgs.com

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Upcoming Events – British Car Clubs

November 13, 2005

St. Petersburg Yacht Club Vintage Auto Show

The St. Petersburg Yacht Club Antique and classic Auto show will be held in South Straub Park in downtown St. Petersburg. The event starts at 9:00am to 3:30pm, and features 1979 and older vehicles, restored antique cars, and a display by the Honda Grand Prix Race committee, featuring a Grand Prix race car, will be available. For more information contact Bill Waters at 1-727-580-1804 or e-mail bwaters1@tampabay.rr.com.

December, 2005: Date TBA-Driving “Tour of Lights”

January, 2006: Date TBA, Annual Post-Holiday Party

Big Bend MG Club Cash
Position
As of October 12,
2005
Balance Forward: \$1536.28
Expenses: \$138.38
(BoutinBrown postage)
Deposits: \$29.00
T-shirts: \$17.00
Money Pot: \$12.00
Total Bank Balance:
\$1426.90

