



# Abingdon Rough Rider Review



August/September 2016

Vol. LVIII no. 8

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## The Vintage Air Plane Run September 11th



Join us for a lovely run though the back roads of Marin and Sonoma to first Petaluma for a lunch at Dempsey's Restaurant & Brewery (<http://dempseys.com>), then on to Schellville Airport (<http://sonomavalleyairport.com>) to view the WWII and other vintage airplanes. We will begin our run by gathering at the home of Rick and Judy Storms, 25 Scenic Ave, San Anselmo CA, beginning at 9:30 for coffee, goodies and some tire kicking. Then at 10:30 we will take off for a 26 mile journey to Petaluma and an early lunch. Following lunch we will again mount up and proceed to the airport.

Please let Rick and Judy know if you plan on attending. Check the web site for an email address or call – (415) 454 8937

Our web site [www.abingdonroughriders.org](http://www.abingdonroughriders.org)

### **An advisory from our webmaster**

For those receiving the web version, remember, you can contact your esteemed officers by clicking the “About Us” link and clicking on the name of the officer. This protects us from malefactors!  
On the Events page, each month's event includes three icons. One is to email the host, one is a link to a Google map that shows the starting point of the run, and finally, one to show weather conditions. – Rick”

***If you'd like to drop the printed version and read this on the web site let your editor know***

## **Coming Events**

**Sunday Sept 11**

**A visit to Schellville Airport**

**Fri-Sunday October 7-9** 60<sup>th</sup> Conclave with TC Motoring Guild

**Sunday November 13**

**Dinner in San Francisco at Buca di Beppo, Linda Chalmers**

**December 17,18**

**Holiday Party, John & Elizabeth Taylor, Healdsburg**

## **Other Events**

**First Saturday of each month** - Cars & Coffee, Pier 31, San Francisco, 8 – 11AM – Sept 3

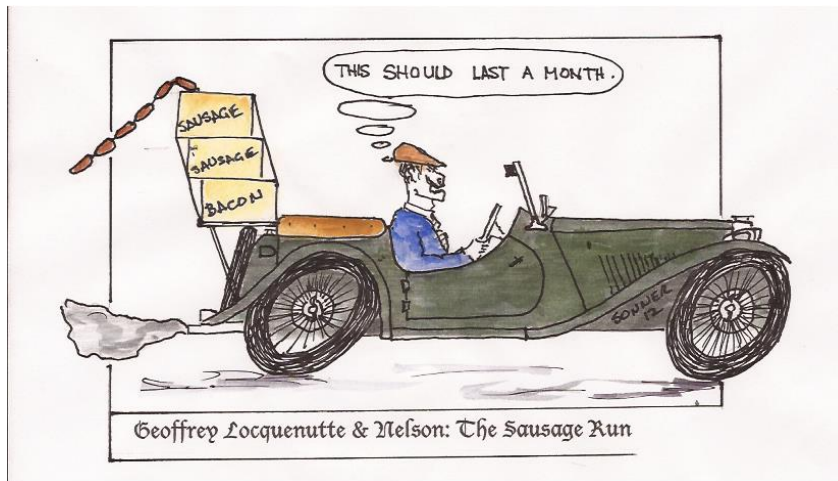
**British Fall Classic Morgan Hill, Oct 1-2**

### **Missive from the desk of your president:**

There are a couple of events that need to be highlighted: The 60<sup>th</sup> Conclave and GoF West 2017.

For the 60<sup>th</sup> Conclave we reserved 30 rooms at the Apple Farm Inn for our combined clubs. To date, 20 of the rooms have been reserved. The majority of the reservations are for members of our club. If you have not made your reservation, it would be a GREAT idea to do that now. The other requirement is for reservations for the banquet. Howard tells me that only 7 of us have contacted him to declare what we are wanting to eat at the banquet. **DO IT NOW AND SEND THE CHECK TO ALLAN.** It would be a GREAT idea for all of us to close the loop on this part of the event. Several of us are heading to Carmel on the Wednesday before the weekend to make the trip down in two days rather than slug it out in one day. Let me know if you are interested in joining us in Carmel and I will talk to the Best Western, Carmel and see if I can get a discounted rate. Let me know soon, please. Several of you are coming from much closer than me and I assume that going to Carmel would not be an advantage, not to worry.

The GoF West 2017 will be held in Santa Maria, CA this next year. No club has signed up to host it so David and Joyce Edgar have taken on the responsibility. I have been communicating with them in my capacity as the cartoon guy to support the GoF W 2017 Gazette. They have asked if we can support them in the organizational process or if we would be able to work on some events. I have indicated that because of the distance, it would be difficult for us to take on the responsibilities of the nature we did at Rohnert Park. However, I have said that I would let all of you know about the situation and suggest that you contact them directly if you feel you can be of support. David & Joyce Edgar: djedgar @pacbell.net - (619) 593-8255.



Our next event is the Sausage Run on 21 August. Let the Stobbes know if you plan to attend. That is the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance weekend. I hope the Sausage Run does not interfere with your entering your car in that event.

Brian

### A visit to Cobra Experience

The club got together at Viano Winery in Martinez for a terrific lunch preceding the drive over to the museum dedicated to Carroll Shelby's creations. There was a good crowd there, but not many TCs. It wasn't really a road event.

Present were TA and Cindy, the Storms, Chalmers, Joe Marcotte and Bill Traill, Jim and Mary Johnson, the Tucks, the Shempps, our hosts, the Duncans and – surprise – Tom Thaanum and Bev Moore! Bev has returned from Texas permanently.

Only TCs were Duncans, Shempps and Johnsons – shaming us with a drive down from Chico.

Some of us repaired to the Duncan's abode for a bit of refreshment before heading off home.





## Capital Capitola Event

Sunday the event was what we have called since time immemorial, The Sausage Run. Initiated by late member Ed Garbutt, we used to head to Corralitos for sausages from the Corallitos Sausage Co. Now we just head to the Stobbe's hand made house in Capitola for a feast of previously attained sausages, plus!

Meeting at Woodside turnoff for the meandering ride down were Bill Traill, the Marcottes, the Chalmers and Norman Tuck with our Adelaide Australia member Ian Buckley – here for another house swap in SF. Then along came Ron Engstrom and dad, Bud, having driven from Stockton in Ron's excellent 46 TC. On Arrival in Capitola we were greeted by the Stobbes, the Sonners and the Matlocks.

Stories were told, sausages were et and all told it was a fine day!



Joe, Ron, Linda, Bud, Pat, Norman, with Bill and Ian flashing the Club's "pie plate" plaque



Bud, Ron, Brian, Kern and yrs truly



Bill, Ian, Norman, Joe and our host Jeff



Chef Colleen with her incredible Wedgwood



A cluster of TCs



## East Coast Ramblers (no, not the American Motors version)

Linda and I were visiting Dottie Smith, TC Motoring Guild member – and ARR friend – at her lakeside summer home in New Hampshire, and whilst motoring from hither to thither, came across this sight:



The place was called Wakefield Garage, on Wakefield Road, near /Sanbornville, NH. Later, using Google Maps, I found it, but when I zeroed in on it, as one can do with the utility, all the cars disappeared! Even the big garage sign on the building. I've heard of Google blotting out license plates, but this seems extreme. Along with the MGs, there were also a couple of TRs and Fiat Spiders. There was a rubber bumper Midget, that looked to be alive out front.

Here's a project for someone – appears to be the remains of an MGA



And then there is this quite presentable Lotus, but judging from the shape of the tonneau, it hasn't moved in a while.



Where'd all the MGs go?



Also whilst motoring around the Northeast, we stopped in to see members Roger and Lynn Morse in upstate NY and perused their various cars.

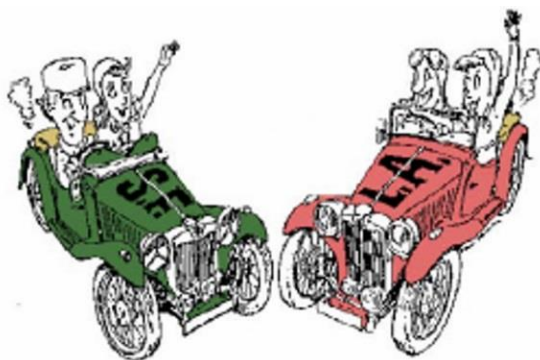


Roger & Lynn on the grid



## **ARR/TCMG 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Conclave, Thursday thru Sunday, October 7-9**

It is the time for the 60th annual gathering of the TC Motoring Guild (The South) and the Abingdon Rough Riders (The North) We are meeting at The Apple Farm located at the north side of San Luis Obispo from Thursday, October 6th, 2016 and we will be parting company Sunday, October 9th. It is significantly located next door to the Motor Inn, the first motor hotel in America and the site of the very first Conclave. We will have some sightseeing drives planned for both Friday and Saturday. Friday's drive will take about an hour and a half, and Saturday's will take about two and a half hours.



Room rates have been negotiated with The Apple Farm. There are 4 King bed rooms and 4 Queen rooms in the hotel. There are 9 "Trellis" King rooms and 13 "Trellis" Queen rooms that are close to the parking lot. Some will have parking right outside your door. The all-inclusive rates are \$132.44 for the hotel rooms and \$121.12 for the Trellis rooms on Thursday night. On Friday and Saturday nights the rates change to \$222.99 per night for the hotel rooms and \$155.08 per night for the Trellis rooms. To book your reservation call The Apple Farm at (805) 544-6100 and use the Abingdon Rough Riders reservation of #805816.

Thursday and Friday nights we will have the cocktail party in the Garden room. There will be restaurants recommended for your dinner. Most are downtown but there is a pizza restaurant three blocks away for those who wish to walk.

Saturday night we will hold our traditional banquet. Security cameras will be strategically placed to protect the club banners. Banquet choices are three dinners:

- 1) Farmer's Market Pasta (vegetarian offering) \$32
- 2) Seared Salmon with Rice Pilaf. \$40
- 3) New York Steak with mashed potatoes \$40

Please send a check with choices made to me – Allan Chalmers, 1231 12<sup>th</sup> Ave. SF 94122  
Looking forward to celebrating sixty years of our combined clubs events.

## **A bit of a change on the website - from Webmaster Rick Storms**

Yesterday I was checking some stuff on the website and noticed that the photos on Photo Opts page were all getting 404 Not Found errors. It seems that Google has stopped Picasa in lieu of Google Photos. I spent this morning redoing the Photo Opts page to work with Google Photos, but there will be some differences. As of now I can not work out how to make the “slide show” option of Google Photos work inside web pages. So at the moment when you click on a small photo on the web site it will open up Google Photos just display the pictures. If you want to view the pictures one at a time, you need to click on a photo to make it full screen, then you can use the right and left arrow to move through the set.

## **Anyone for a tour with the big boys?**

From President Brian:

My name is Mark Burnside and I am the Tour Director for an upcoming driving tour being conducted by Packards International Motor Car Club. On September 23-26 we are staging a 4-day, all-makes classic car driving tour from San Francisco to Reno and back.

What makes this tour unique and special is that, whenever possible, we will be driving on original stretches of the Lincoln Highway – the nation’s first coast-to-coast improved highway which opened in 1913. Although the highway runs from San Francisco to New York, we will drive only the two alignments between San Francisco and Reno

I am writing to you to extend our cordial invitation to you and all members of the Abingdon Rough Riders Touring Society to participate in this exciting and educational tour. A flyer on the tour is attached to this email. Here are additional details:

- 1) The registration fee covers 4 lunches and 5 dinners from the pre-tour dinner on Thursday night to the final post-show dinner Monday night\*.
- 2) The registration fee covers admission to 4 museums along the way: [Blackhawk Museum](#) in Danville, [California Auto Museum](#) in Sacramento, and [National Auto Museum](#) in Reno. On day 4 of the tour, we visit the [USS Hornet Museum](#) in Alameda.
- 3) Hotel arrangements have been made with Holiday Inn Express for five nights at discounted rates.\*
- 4) We are extremely fortunate to have as our Tour Guide, Mr. Paul Gilger, Chair of The [Lincoln Highway Association](#) Mapping Committee. His knowledge of the Lincoln Highway, particularly in California, is second to none. Frequent stops are planned where Paul will explain historical aspects and details about the road itself and nearby structures.
- 5) Driving instructions (detailing all turns & roads, as well as photo and scenic stops) will be provided to drivers before the start of the tour.
- 6) A sweep/rescue vehicle with trailer will be provided throughout the tour. Disabled vehicles will be trailered to the next hotel stop at no charge.
- 7) For those participants that live in Southern California, separate arrangements will be made for hotels and meals along US 101 between San Diego and San Francisco on the 2 days before the tour and the 2 days following the tour.

\* Continental breakfast is included with the room reservations at each Holiday Inn Express.

Registration information, along with the complete tour itinerary, can be found at: <http://packardsandiego.com/lincolnhighwaytour.html>

**Ed. Note: Sounds like fun, but don't get in the way of the Packards!**

**Spotted at a retirement home in SF-**

**Emblazoned on the side of their bus is a Morgan!**





## TCs for Sale

Gene Roth is selling his award winning TC. Unquestionably one of the finest TCs around. Sure there have been some modifications but nothing that cannot be undone (but who would want to).

Has a 5 speed trans, supercharged, Crane cam, matching numbers, and just about flawless in appearance. \$45,000 (and worth every penny in my opinion - DHE)

If interested call Gene for full details of all upgrades or e-mail him your phone number and he'll call you.

rothgene@msn.com

805 238 3856



Ed.note: Gene's TC is outstanding and worth more!

Dan Shockey writes:

Found a great site for MG art:

<http://www.mgnuts.com/artwork/The picnic> art is by Alan Fearnley. He has another MG picnic painting that is a bit more risqué. You can buy his prints for about \$150. Ed.note: This is from TC Motoring Guild's Steve Simmons web site. Steve has an amazing collection of MG art and everything else MG you can think of.





## New Member

I've borrowed the write-up on Gus Ramos from the TC Motoring Guild's website. I met Gus in LA and put in the last newsletter a bit about his search for a TC, and now he has Steve Glenn's historic ARR car.

Think about it; this car has been in the Rough Riders from the beginning.

**Gus Ramos, 5711 ½ Huntington Dr. Los Angeles, 90032**



This particular MGTC, chassis number 3844 left the assembly line at Abingdon-on-Thames in mid-October of 1947 and was delivered new to Los Angeles California. The earliest history of the car was recently confirmed by Al Moss, and photos in his book Moss' MG Memoirs – as our written history with John Vander Male began with a photo marked “Car when first purchased, May 1950.” Moss' book explains the car's pre-1950 whereabouts; “The first owner purchased the car from Hollywood Sport Cars, lived in Hollywood, and left it parked on his driveway with the keys in the ignition. Two neighbor boys drove off with the car and were chased by a motorcycle policeman. When he tried to stop them on Hollywood Boulevard, the driver attempted to run the policeman down and left at high speed, heading toward Mulholland Drive, with the cop in pursuit. The cop pulled his pistol and in spite of the speed they were both travelling, fired one shot through the rear (glass) window, killing the driver, who lost control and smashed into a parked car.”

Moss purchased the wreck, and after completely rebuilding it, sold it to John Vander Male of Sausalito CA, who used it for daily transportation and sports car events. Photos of the wrecked TC can be seen in Moss' book. The Title was transferred into Helen Vander Male's name in May of 1950. Subsequently, it finished third in the Apple Valley Concours d' Elegance up to \$2000 class as noted in the November 1951 issue of Road & Track magazine. John Vander Male was one of the founding members of the Abington Rough Riders MG TC (and earlier) club of San Francisco, and the car still wears the Rough Riders Badge (inscribed with #4 – signifying the fourth member) with honor on its' badge bar.

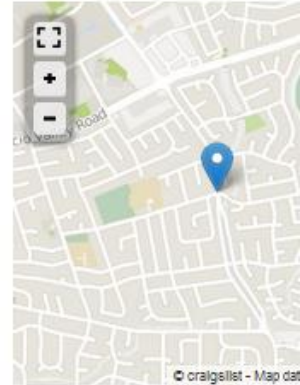
Vander Male cosmetically restored the TC late in 1953. In 1954, the TC was pressed back into service with a new steering wheel and a polished aluminum valve cover. It was disassembled completely in 1955 – 1956 for its' second restoration. A cross-member was welded into the frame to stiffen the chassis. Based on photos, chrome 19" wire wheels, and a louvered hood with leather straps were also added. The car was actively raced in Sports Car Club of America events during the late fifties and early sixties. The racing wound down somewhere in the early-to-mid sixties. John Vander Male initiated Restoration number three in 1968. Once again, the TC was disassembled to its bare frame. In June 1972, TC #3844 was purchased by Ivan Neudorfer of Castro Valley California and the title was registered as operational on August 25th. Neudorfer was an MG enthusiast with a sizeable collection. In talking with some of his MG club contemporaries, he was regarded as one of the first enthusiasts to take his MG restorations to a very high standard of detail – almost more than the cars value warranted at that time. The TC wasn't restored with a strict interpretation of originality. Instead, he incorporated period modifications, and carried out his own paint and polishing themes. Neudorfer's 1977 – 1978 restoration of #3844 brought the TC to its current configuration with 19" wheels, a subtle cream and cracker paint scheme, and a strong Butch Gilbert built XPAG power plant. Custom air cleaners and a slightly green tinted windscreen might put off the strictest of concours judges, but added to the character of the car.

Neudorfer used the TC for long trips, tours, and shows. One of the longer trips was to Colorado where it made the climb up Pikes Peak. Neudorfer died in the early 1980's. Most of the collection was sold off, but his widow kept the TC in storage until 1990. In 1990, Steve Glenn received a call from longtime T-Series enthusiast and Moss dealer Mike O'Connor. Glenn had been looking for the right TC for a long time. O'Connor's Santa Clara shop was preparing the car to be put on the market.

I purchased the car from Steve Glenn and as part of the Glenn family, #3844 had been used for spirited driving on tours, TSD rallies, limited appearances in SCCA Solo II autocrossing, and the occasional British Car Meet show. The TC also made numerous trips to the Monterey Historic Automobile Races, through the Sierras, and to local tracks supporting the family's racing efforts. Glenn moved from Pleasanton CA to Southern California, where the TC is happily soaked up the Los Angeles sunshine on weekends for a couple of years. It attended the 2003 GOF West (T-Series Gathering of the Faithful) in Long Beach CA. It came back North to Sonoma County in 2004. Neudorfer's thorough restoration has acquired an ever-so-slight patina over the past 30+ years, but the car wears it proudly and is still far too nice for another restoration, however I may repaint the front and rear fenders. Gus also owns a 1950 MG TD. Welcome Gus!

★ 1947 MG TC roadster - \$12800 (Walnut Creek CA) 📍

image 1 of 3



And then there's Jarl deBoer's collection for sale, in Walnut Creek



1947 MC-TC roadster. Clean, solid, nearly complete car for restoration. It has no rust or rot, has VERY solid body wood and a newly installed leather seat kit. The engine is out and disassembled for block repair (freeze crack) which has been done. The engine is still completely apart and will be in boxes. All other mechanical components are unmolested and in place. The car was titled in Nebraska, but the title was lost @30 years ago and the car will be sold with bill of sale only but unused Nebraska collector car plates are with the car. At the price asked, the car costs LESS than the sum of its parts.

Cars are located in Walnut Creek, @ 100 miles north of Monterey (6 miles from Blackhawk Museum)

AGE RELATED (83 coming up) COLLECTION REDUCTION:

1947 MG TC for restoration No rust, good wood. partial basket case (engine etc) \$12,800

"1950" MG YT RHD four seater tourer, 20 yr. old restoration still very good \$20,000

1953 MG TD good driver, (for a friend) No rust, good wood. \$13,500

1953 Arnolt MG CONVERTIBLE, Bertone body (one of only 35) minor rust, virtually complete, for full restoration \$35,000

1980 Fiat 124 2.0 spider, FI, 5 speed, very good, driver \$4,200 (would need difficult smog work for California registration)

1964 Jaguar Series 1 XKE FHC 4.2, black/black, excellent, no rust, delivered new in Sacramento CA. Full documented mechanical rebuild Jaguar racing team mechanic.

\$120,000 FIRM  
condition: better than 2

INQUIRIES:

Jarl de Boer  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

1947 MG TC roadster

- VIN: TC 6518
- condition: good
- cylinders: 4 cylinders
- drive: rwd
- fuel: gas
- odometer: 0000
- paint color: green
- size: compact
- title status: missing
- transmission: manual
- type: convertible

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**From Dan Shockey:**

Found a great site for MG art:

<http://www.mgnuts.com/artwork/>

The picnic art is by Alan Fearnley. He has another MG picnic painting that is a bit more risqué. You can buy his prints for about \$150.



Ed note: This is TCMG's Steve Simmons website. Check it out – lots of MG stuff

**Mike Goodman's MGB pickup** is for sale for \$35K. Any interest in details let me know.



**We do have some cars for sale!**

This one was in Walnut Creek also and on Ebay and Craigslist:  
January 19, 1949 MGTC EXU Matching numbers XPAG 8342 TC 7845  
Chassis was restored in 2009 then owner passed away and project was stalled - Body needs new wood - included, new side curtain compartment sheet metal, New rubber transmission snug, new seat covers, new rubber. 5 new tires front fenders were stripped and fender tips are perfect - Curtain frames & right running board missing  
It was pulled from Ebay – Anybody know of this car?



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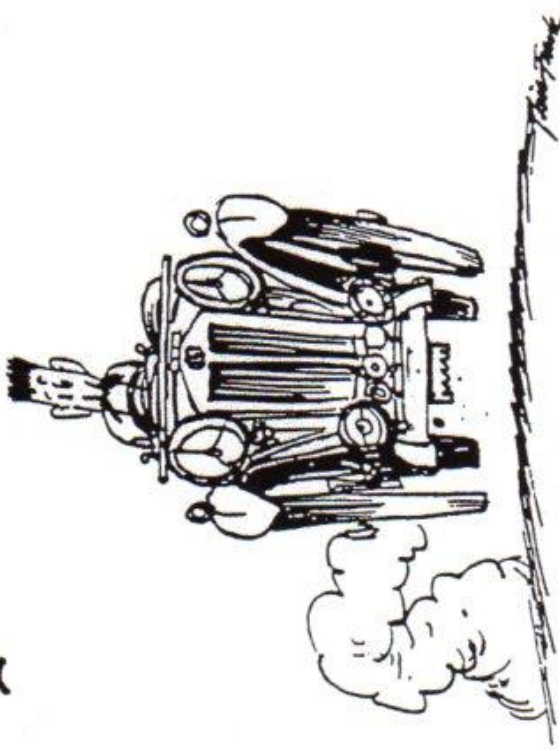
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Dedicated to the perpetuation of the MG TC