

BSMGAC Spring Tech Session 2013

April 28th turned out to have fantastic, sunny, New England spring weather. We had a great turnout of MGAs and a few MGBs. Members and guests started arriving around 10 a.m. and it was warm enough to have the garage doors open and coffee and donuts outside in front of the garage.

I pulled out all my cars so that the garage bays would be empty for the work to be done. The tech session was non-specific and as advertised as a spring tune-up session. There was lots of MGA technical talk as well as kicking of tires, comparing various aspects of doing interiors - carpets, panels and seats - and discussions about five-speed transmissions, engine swaps, carbs, etc.

Dana Booth, who is currently building his car, brought several electrical items to be tested. We tested his heater blower motor as well as two windshield wiper motors (all worked great!) He also needed some bits and pieces for his cockpit rails, which we had on hand.

Dick Fabrizio arrived in his MGB and found that his heater water control valve was leaking onto his distributor. Fortunately he had a spare in the trunk, so, he performed that job in the garage with the help of Jim Guyot. We changed the oil in Judy Pruitt's MGB on the lift.

Jim Guyot wanted me to evaluate his battery boxes and we determined that they were passable. (I did not want his battery to fall out onto the ground and be dragged by the battery cables under the car!) While his MGA was on the lift we also changed the oil and filter. He has a Moss spin-on adapter and it appears to be leaking a little bit. I have seen this before and so, when the filter was removed, we tightened the nut that is designed to hold the adapter snugly to the block.

For both cars on the lift we greased all the fitting, as well as gave a basic inspection of the undersides to spot any potential problems. Fortunately nothing appeared to be amiss.

Don Metzник came by with the MGA he bought from my friend's estate (Bob Gordon's 1962 MGA 1600 MKII roadster), and it looked good. He has installed a new interior with tan seats, carpets, and panels and it turned out great. He joined the club and became our newest member.

Larry Mazaway came with the MGA that he finished a couple of years ago and brought some spare bits to put into the pile of spares I have in the upstairs of the garage. He did not want to just toss anything, figuring it may come in handy for someone's restoration one day. We adjusted his front end toe-in as it was wearing out his tires.

Jim Hall arrived with Scot Padgett in an American car. They were going to bring John's E-Type Jaguar, but he had a low tire and decided not to risk it. As you may recall, Scot wrote a couple months ago about his restoration and the help John gave him 30 years ago when Scot was just a pup!

Doug Sjostrom came with his MGA. Jon Liebold (he has two MGBs and a TR3) and Lee Kline (with an MGB) came as my guests. Bob Freerksen (longtime member who sold his car last year) was there, as well as Carl Berg and Don Tremblay (he is redoing his engine and other aspects of his beautiful Dove Gray MGA). Matt Brown (who has two MG Midgets) came as Don's guest.

We had munchies all morning and around noon we lit the grill and had hot dogs and hamburgers along with other things that members contributed, such as chips, coleslaw, potato salad, pasta salad (Scot, yours was the best!), and deserts. We has beer, soda, and water in the cooler as well. Everyone had a great time talking about MGAs and catching up after a long winter. We did not actually do any tune-ups, but we did get other things done to prepare the cars for the season.

It was great to see so many British cars out on a nice day. I hope to see everyone at our other events this year.

Safety Fast,

Jack Horner
President, Bay State MGA Club

The group enjoys some coffee before the work begins





Quite a few Megs at the session