

Bay State MGA Club Mid-winter Report

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday Season and that the New Year has started out well for everyone. I have had an email from several of you regarding your MGAs and progress being made on repairs or restorations. That is one of the things that this club is all about, sharing ideas and technical expertise regarding our cars. It has been a couple months since I had any of my MGs out on the road and they are all tucked away in the garage with battery float chargers on the batteries. I have been working on my 1960 MGA Coupe. I completed welding on the frame (mostly the floor support rails) and have cleaned it and painted it. I have also been painting all the parts that go onto the frame such as the suspension parts. I bought an electroplating kit from Eastwood and have been cleaning and replacing all the nuts, bolts, and washers that attached parts to the frame. They are coming out pretty well with a nice tin-zinc plate which should stand up against rusting for a little while. Some of the nuts and bolts have to be replaced, so, where I can't get an original to replate I am just buying new.

I got an email from Carl Berg with a question regarding the throw-out bearing for the clutch. He has installed a ball bearing style (I don't know if it is one of the more recently available units or one of the old Green Ball Bearing Co. units) instead of the original pressed carbon style. He had read that they could cause problems with the clutch pressure plate, but I have never seen any issues and Don Tremblay has been using a roller bearing for more than 30 years without an issue. I have one that I plan to use in the MGA Coupe. Carl sent along a picture of his car that has been repainted and is in the process of being reassembled. I noticed that he has an item on his transmission that I have never seen on any MGA I have worked on. It is the metal cap that covers the end of the bendix of the starter motor. It is a cover that keeps dirt out of the bell housing of the transmission. I actually acquired one last year when I bought a pile of parts in Rhode Island (Don Tremblay and Angus Ross will remember that). I plan to put it on my MGA Coupe as well. The other item that was in that pile of parts that I never see on any MGA is the little metal cap that covers the other end of the starter motor (it covers the square end of the armature shaft which can be used to turn the starter if it gets stuck). I think both of these items often become lost the first time the starter or the transmission get worked on.

I want to remind everyone that it is time to renew your membership and pay your dues. If you have already renewed, thank you! If you have sent in dues in the past two months, then you are paid up for 2017. Otherwise, please remit your \$20 membership dues to Bay State MGA Club c/o Judy Pruitt, 23 Elwell Rd., Jamaica Plain MA 02130. Just a reminder, we have added new functionality to our website where members (and new members) can pay dues online using PayPal, credit card, or debit card. This can be found here: <http://bsmgac.org/members.html>. You do not have to have a PayPal account to use a credit/debit card.

The BSMGAC Annual Planning Meeting and Winter Pot Luck will be held on Sunday, March 12, 2017 (with a snow date of March 19th) starting at 1:00 pm at the home of Dana and Kathy Booth in Carlisle, MA. We will be discussing the activities planned for

the club this year, those we host and those we participate in with other clubs. The planning session will start around 2:00 pm and go until about 4:00 pm with socializing before and after. Please coordinate what to bring with Dana and Kathy by contacting them at 978-369-5702 or email dana.a.booth@gmail.com . The Booth home is located at 44 River Road, Carlisle, MA. This is just off Rt 225 just west of where the road crosses the Concord River. For those members who attended the meeting last spring you will remember where it is. If there are any changes to the date, I will send out an email to the members.

Safety Fast,
Jack Horner
President, Bay State MGA Club

My MGA Coupe progress



Carl Berg's MGA Roadster

