

First BSMGAC Zoom Meeting Report

We held our first Zoom meeting (as you may remember, we had some issues with Google Meet) on Thursday, February 4, 2021. We had 9 attendees and the conversation was active. It was great to see those who attended. Dick Phillips, a long time member, I had not seen in perhaps 25 years (not since some of the Regional GTs that our club sponsored in the White Mountains of NH. It was great catching up and he was able to meet some of our other club members, some of which he had met before, and several new ones. He also told us about his MGAs: as 1500 and a Twin Cam, as well as an MGB LE like Dick Fabrizio's. Paul Robinson gave an update on his MGA Coupe project. Not much progress because of work, but beginning to get back into it now. Ira Cohen said he visited his car in storage and is thinking about paint again. We will see how that goes in the coming year. Larry Berk gave an update on the work on his MGA and we discussed front wheel bearing shims. As a result of further research I found that shims should NOT be used on MGAs as they have standard roller bearings and the distance piece maintains the proper running of the balls on the races. Usually, if there is any looseness then the bearings need to be replaced (according to Barney Gaylord). The MGB has a tapered outer bearing and thus uses shims to achieve a tight fit when the hub nut is tightened. A shim may still help on the outer axle in order to align the cotter pin and maintain a snug fitting of the bearings and hub. But no shim should be placed between bearing and spacer inside the hub on an MGA.

Roy Crane shared some photos of his MG TD with his grandkids in the car as well as a walk around video he had made for his model ship building club to show his workshop in the basement. Dick Fabrizio and I had just been over to Roy's for lunch a few days ago and Roy's video included the pool table room in the basement. Dana Booth was present and all of us discussed the Covid shots. Many of us have already received the first shot, so, it appears our club members may be on the way to being able to get together in the not too distant future and feel fairly safe. Judy Pruitt made a brief appearance (always nice to see you!), but did not stay to participate in the discussions.

We will be holding another Zoom meeting on March 4, 2021 at 7:30, so, I hope to see many of you again. Chuck O'Neal says he may to a walk around to show his basement radio and workroom as well as his garages where he keeps his diverse collection of cars including his MGA and Morris Minor. I hope to see you on the next call.

Safety Fast,

Jack Horner
President, Bay State MGA Club
NAMGAR Rep

MGA race car at Lime Rock Park 2019

