

Fun with Statistics

Over the past few months as we have not had many opportunities to get together I have had the good fortune to meet up with club members at some events as well as just “getting together” and unofficial events. This is part of club membership and the result of common interests and like minded individuals. I was not able to attend the British Invasion at Stowe, VT this year, but several of our member met there and had dinner together along with other friends at the Green Mountain Inn on Friday night of the event. Those at the dinner were Don and MaryJane Tremblay, Gary and Terry Jones, my and guests Rick and Amy Valera and their guest Dave. Other club members were there, but did not meet up at dinner.

I was able to go out to Lime Rock Park for the Vintage Festival to take a 1926 Morris Cowley Super Sports (MG) for the 100 years of MG celebration. I was unable to stay as Jan had injured herself, so, I had to get right back. But I did go back on Monday to pick up the car and also meet up with Scot Padgett and pick up Dana Booth for the return trip. Dana was able to spend all four days there enjoying the racing, car show and MG friends. I also was able to meet up with Jamie Goodson who was racing his MGA. He has an article in last months British Marque.

I had the good fortune to meet up with Roy Crane and Dana Booth the other day and we had a nice lunch and then went to Roy’s garage and pulled the engine and transmission from his Austin Healey 100-4 as it had developed a problem with the engine on his return trip from Stowe, VT. The number 4 cylinder has scores in the cylinder wall and he is returning it to the shop that built the engine for analysis,

I also was able to meet up with Roy, Charles Dyer, and Judy Kronwasser, from the MG T Party for lunch and playing pool and sampling whiskey. We started talking about the difficulties of Statistics and what one can learn from it. I learned in high school that “you can prove anything with statistics”. So, this got me to thinking about those gathered together over the past couple meetings. Of course, this is a small sampling!

When Roy, Dana, and I met up, we had three MG owners (or previous owners); two current MGA owners, two Austin Healey owners, three whiskey drinkers and three folks who like to play pool (granted they are my rules and not the official rules for a scratch). In this case two out of three participants own MGAs, playing pool and drinking whiskey. (although the third person is a previous MGA owner!). So, one could conclude that three out of three like MGAs, playing pool and drinking whiskey, but only two out of three own Austin Healeys.

Then there is the day Roy, Charles, Judy, and I met up and we had three Subaru drivers, three MG TC owner/drivers, four pool players, and four whiskey drinkers. So, can you say that three out of four participants enjoy driving MG TCs and Subarus, drinking whiskey and playing pool?

I also met with John Gill for breakfast. It is interesting that we both have MGAs, both like trains, both own Shelties, and have many other common interests.

The best part of club membership and multiple club memberships is that one meets lots of interesting people and often develop lifetime friendships. Jan and I met Don and MaryJane Tremblay 35 years ago and I know that Don has known Cecelia Bruce of Scarborough Faire for fifty years. I have only known Cecelia for about 40 years (when I bought my first MGA).

There may still be some good fall days for driving the MGAs before the snow flies, so, get out there with some of your MGA or other British car friends and enjoy the remaining days of this year and driving the cars.

Safety Fast,

Jack Horner
President, Bay State MGA Club



This year's Friday night gathering in Stowe



