

# GoF West Gazette

January 31, 2002

Gofwest.COM

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## “Wine Country Odyssey” Was a Vintage GoF

By Bill Tantau

One tends to see the "warts and all" when creating something or being involved with a project up close and personal such as the months of prep involved with staging a GoF West. But, HEY... I guess it came off OK! At least that's what many have said. So it came to pass that the 2001 GoF West is etched in history and... it appears a good time was had by all, or at least most! We were plagued by the ongoing construction at the Marriott and a bit of unseasonably hot weather, but folks were unfazed by the former, managing to bob and weave



around the rigs and confusion with skill and aplomb. As for the weather... when you buy your 2001 vintage Napa Valley Wines you can say "Vee Vas der" during one of the best vintage years in history!

The Sears Point tour and drive-around was an immense success and gave us a racers eye view of one of America's premier racing venues... the after-glow giving us a chance to drive some of the Sonoma Valley's best touring

roads. Not to be outdone, the Swackhamer Rallye visited the "other" Valley's best two-laners. We hoped it would be a driver's GoF to allow all to take full advantage of our outstanding MG roads... some of the best in the world! “Moore” certainly meant not “less” as Bob Moore and his minion's staged our Car Display at a venue which enabled those interested to visit the sights and sites of His-





toric Sonoma town. Meanwhile back at the tarmac, the ingenious minds of the Lismer /Moyce crew were able to challenge the skills of our best with their wine and grape oriented Funkhana.

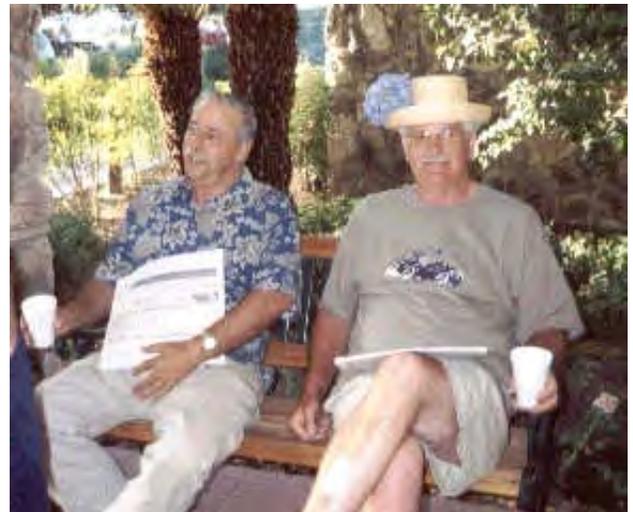
The Wine Train gig came off as a very popular highlight of the week as far as after-hours activities went. The fact that it stopped right at the hotel made for an easy transition from happy hour to Napa Valley's famous rolling restaurant.

So, you throw in some outstanding arts and crafts, the speedy Ashwood racers, LOTS of wine, some pretty darned good banquet foods, and a crackerjack auction,

and we have ourselves a Gathering worthy of the name! The important thing is that the Magic of the Marque (hey... that's YOU guys) pitched in to make the events work the way they should, from the principal event Chairs to the key and vital walk-on volunteers to the willing participants; you all laughed, sweated, cheered, drove and otherwise made the GoF West live up to it's historic raison d'etre. A special thanks to the Barnetts who worked doggedly every hour of the event to bring us an outstanding photo record of all the activities, the resulting CD is truly a treasure!

So... our hats off and heartfelt thanks go out to all who were there!!

**Bill Tantau**



## GoF West 2001 Committee Chairpersons

Chair :	Bill & Sally Tantau
Hospitality:	Frank & Carol Borgardt
Publicity:	Bill Anderson
Regalia:	Linda Chalmers & Sally Tantau
Displays (Photos, etc):	Dick Medcraft
Rallye/Tour:	Barry Swackhamer
Funkhana:	Andy Moyce & Pete Lismer
Tech Sessions:	Bob Kramer
Auction:	Allan Chalmers & Terry Sanders

Flea Market:	Allan Chalmers
Awards:	Mike O'Connor
Car Display:	Bob Moore
1st timer's Car Display	Stu Locke
Mechanic's Contest:	Martin Hveem & Andrew Sanders
Photography:	Jean & Dave Barnett
Ashwood Derby:	Bob Wandel
Artwork:	Phil Frank

# **FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

As of 12/31/2001, total GoF West Funds amounted to \$ 13,374. This is composed of 3 funds: Operating Account \$494; Money Market Account \$4,175; and Contingency Reserve Fund of \$8,705. Advances for GoF West future events (used for deposits at hotels and other venues required by local GOF West sponsors/clubs) stands at \$3,000. When added to our cash balances, our "liquid" assets are \$16,374. Total funds balance at 12/31/2000 was \$20,378. The shrinkage of \$4,004 in the total cash and advances from year to year was due to combined costs of the past two GoF West's plus overhead expenses of GoF West, Inc. not being covered completely by net proceeds of the respective GoF West events. Corrective administrative steps including revised guidelines in the "red book" (our manual of event guidelines used by sponsoring groups), updated requirements for expected Net Return for local

GoF West sponsors, and other procedural changes have been made. These steps are expected to be adequate to ensure preservation of current funds balance in the future.

During fiscal year 2001, we completed our recognition as an IRS section 501(c)(7) tax exempt entity by the Internal Revenue Service. We accomplished similar recognition by the State of California a little over a year earlier. This means that under normal circumstances we do not have to file federal or state tax returns. This reduces some overhead expense and eliminates minimum tax payments that were previously necessary. Based on the above information, it appears we will continue to be able to supply adequate funding of GoF West events for the foreseeable future.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Syd Saperstein , Financial Secretary**

## **GoF WEST 2003 AT THE QUEEN!!**

Start getting ready for 2003, folks! It is not a usual thing to announce where future GoF West's will be, but Jerry Felper and I, of the sponsoring Vintage MG Club of Southern California, cannot wait to spread the news. GoF West 2003 will be at the Queen Mary in Long Beach, California, and it promises to be an exciting adventure for all who attend. We can't quite yet go into too many details, but we can announce that room rates aboard the Queen will be the most reasonable we've seen in many years.

We can also tell you that those rates will be the same for one week before and one week after the official GoF West span of July 21 through the July 24, with the Winners Circle being on July 25. That means you and your families can make GoF West 2003 a real vacation trip and visit some of the fine attractions in Southern California, while experiencing very reasonable hotel rates.

So be prepared to attend. We can almost guarantee you'll experience one of the most enjoyable GoF West events—ever.

We hope to see you all at Durango in a few months, where we will be giving an enticing presentation of what will be happening in your MG lives in July, 2003.

More in the next edition of GoF West MG Gazette. Also, have a look at the GoF West steering committee's new Web site, [GoFWest.com](http://GoFWest.com). There, you will find links to future GoF West Web sites. Best regards to all.

**Jerry Austin**

# Durango, Colorado

## The Place for GoF West 2002

GoF West 2002 will be held in the Four Corners area of Southwestern Colorado, 24-28 June 2002. Above 6,000 foot elevation, Durango is an ideal spot for MG driving in the summer months. Warm days and cool nights will greet



Durango, Colorado

the attendees of the GoF West and the scenery will delight all that view it through the windscreens of their MG's.



The Doubletree Hotel on the Animas River in Durango

The Doubletree Resort Hotel in the heart of Durango will be the host hotel, with convenient walking distance to all the attractions of Durango, including fine dining, shop-

By **Bill Bollendonk**

ping and the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge RR that is boarded across the street from the hotel grounds. Reservations for the Doubletree Hotel can be made by calling 970-259-6580 and asking for the GoF West 2002 rate of either \$129 or \$144 per night.

The GoF activities day of the 26<sup>th</sup> of June will allow attendees to enjoy the day on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge RR, an adventure not to be missed. The Durango & Silverton RR is one of the premier narrow gauge railways in the U.S., if not in the entire world.



Durango and Silverton Narrow-gauge Railroad

Arrangements have been made with the train management for special cars for the MG GoF West 2002 attendees. If you are interested in riding the train on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June, please call for reservations at 970-247-2733 and ask for Pam Ramsey or Carol Peacock. They are the contacts handling the MG GoF reservations.

For those who ride the Durango & Silverton train, arrangements have been made for a box lunch in the Silverton town park to ease the lunch problems of our members since the several hundred train riders fill the local restaurants. Silverton is one of the oldest gold mining

*(Continued on page 7)*

# GoF West 2002 Registration

Durango, Colorado, 24-28 June 2002



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Others in your party: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

Primary MG Club Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your first GoF? \_\_\_\_\_ Number of GoF's attended? \_\_\_\_\_

MG you will be bringing: Model \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Colour \_\_\_\_\_

Any pertinent information about the car/s you will be bringing to GoF West 2002:

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**Registration fee: \$40.00 entry, or \$10.00 in spirit only**

**Mail this completed form with check made to, GoF West 2002, to:**  
**GoF West 2002,**  
**c/o John Hibben,**  
**4943 Christensen Dr,**  
**Littleton, CO 80123**

**Make your room reservations directly with the Durango Doubletree Hotel,**  
**asking for the GoF West 2002 rate of either \$129 or \$144/ night.**  
**Telephone # 970-259-6580**

**If you are planning on riding the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Train**  
**during the GoF activity day, 26 June ( *a not to miss adventure* ),**  
**consider riding the train from Durango to Silverton and returning via motor coach.**  
**Reservation No.: 970-247-2733 - Ask for Pam Ramsey or Carol Peacock &**  
**tell either that you are with the GoF West 2002 MG group**

**For any questions, please contact Bill Bollendonk at 303-794-0688, email donker@aol.com**

**We look forward to seeing you at GoF West 2002, in Durango, Colorado**  
**24-28 June 2002**

Could life offer any more than the enjoyment of driving a T-type through the majestic scenery of the Rocky Mountains? You bet! How about driving your T-type to some magnificent pools in the Animas river where that brown or golden trout is just waiting for you to snag it with your favorite fly? The following is reprinted, with permission, from the Winter, 2001 issue of **Southwest Fly Fishing** magazine, from an article written by Richard R. Twarog about fly fishing on the Animas River. Buy the magazine for some hints on catching those big guys, drive your TC or TD there, and enjoy life to the fullest!

...Editor

Few place names are as evocative of the romantic Old West as Durango. Named for the other Durangos (in Mexico and Spain), Durango, Colorado, has more than lived up to the Basque origin of its name: "watering place." Larger-than-life characters gathered in Durango, drawn by promises of wealth and adventure. Two authentic historic areas, a commercial district on Main Avenue and a residential district on Third Avenue, resplendent with original buildings and homes, provide a backdrop for any cowboy/rancher/miner/gambler day-dream you want.

Soak up some history and have an beverage in the Strater Hotel in Durango after touring the town. The Strater, on Main Avenue, has been the place to rendezvous since its construction in 1887. Western author Louis L'Amour loved the atmosphere at the Strater and claimed it helped his writing. Notables including President Ford have sought it out over the years. Red native brick on the outside, four stories high, the hotel is a museum in its own right, furnished throughout with Victorian antiques. Besides sporting a fine restaurant and bar, the Strater has 93 painstakingly restored rooms.

On the streets of Durango you'll be rubbing elbows with ranchers and farmers, college students, hikers and mountain bikers, baiters and anglers, Utes and Navajos, archaeologists and birders, all of whom rely upon the town for food, lodging, inspiration, commerce, and a good time. Breathtaking—that's what Durango is. Speaking of breathtaking, if you're visiting Durango from a place that's well below 6,500 feet, give yourself time to adjust to the higher elevation.

Before there was bustling Durango there was boom-town Silverton to the north, and before Silverton there were prospectors, hundreds of them, hunting silver and gold, as early as 1860. Freight wagons, drawn by horses or mules over mountain passes yearround, just couldn't handle the growing supply demands of the new mines springing up. Hence, the railroad.

The Denver & Rio Grande Railway—parent to the present-day Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad—stretched itself 500 miles to connect Denver to Silverton and its precious ore. Establishing the town of Durango in 1880 was preliminary to laying the final 45 miles of narrow-gauge track to Silverton two years later. Spawned by a railroad company, Durango would mature into a shipping center for the region's farms and ranches, timber mills and mines. It became a mining and smelting center as well. At one time the railway connected Silverton, Durango, Ignacio, Farmington, Chama, Alamosa, and Santa Fe. The D&RG abandoned tracks south of Durango in 1969. Tracks north of Durango going beyond Silverton had been abandoned by what was the Rio Grande Southern in 1952. The stretch between Durango and Silverton was later reborn as a separate narrow-gauge railway.

For more than 100 years, the prosperity of the Durango-to-Silverton line was married to the mines. Gold and silver, lead, zinc, copper, and tungsten were extracted at a huge cost to the Animas River and its lush surroundings. Today the Animas River is on the rebound: the last mine closed in Silverton in 1991. The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge thrives as a passenger train transporting visitors to the well-preserved Victorian West on view at either end of the line in Silverton and Durango. And, of course, many of those visitors are there for fly fishing.

High above the Animas River, the train still travels on a 36-inch-wide track, scaling the 3,000-foot rise through the San Juan Mountains from 6,512 feet at Durango to 9,320 feet at Silverton. Book a ride in a gondola car and you can imagine you are Butch Cassidy as you wipe a coal cinder from your eye. When you're ready to follow the Animas north for a day or more of fly fishing, reserve a seat on the train from Durango. You can request to be let off about 5 miles above Hermosa and then reboard later in the day or in a couple of days. Hikers leaving the train often head east into the Weminuche Wilderness. Anglers usually camp in designated campsites closer to the river. Once you do get back on the train, it's worth finishing the three-hour ride to Silverton to enjoy its historicity before heading back to Durango by train or bus.



**GoF WEST**

**GoF West 2002**  
June 24-28, 2002  
DoubleTree Resort  
Durango, Colorado  
Hosted by ROCKY MOUNTAIN MG T REGISTER

**A PREMIER PRE 1956 MG EVENT  
IN THE HEART OF THE BEAUTIFUL  
COLORADO ROCKY MOUNTAINS.**

**SPECIAL EVENTS**  
Car Shows, Funkhana, Tech Sessions,  
Swap Meet, Rallye, Silverton/Durango Train Rides,  
Soaring, Rafting and Much Much More.

**TO ATTEND**  
Register on Web page [www.rmmgtr.org](http://www.rmmgtr.org) or call  
Bill Bollendonk at 303-794-0688

towns in Colorado, with fascinating history to explore and discover Silverton. Surrounded by high mountains on all



Silverton, Colorado. Get there on the D&SRR

sides, Silverton an alpine wonderland.

The Rocky Mountain MG T Register, your hosts for GoF West 2002, has put together an event that will encompass all the GoF activities as well as providing MG drivers the opportunity to drive on some of the finest MG roads anywhere. Don't worry about the elevation; a few flats up on the carbs will lean them out just fine. The



MGs in the photo below all ran well over the high mountain passes above 12,000 feet. Our rallye/tour will not get over 9,000 feet. The venue for the car displays on the Animas River, only a short distance from the hotel, provides a great backdrop for showing MG's in mountain splendor.

Plan your GoF trip to include a few additional days that will allow you to see some of the many attractions

in the four corners area of Colorado. The Mesa Verde cliff dwellings, where a thriving civilization existed over a thousand years ago, are a short 35 miles southwest of Durango. The National park is well worth seeing, and guided tours of the many ruins are available daily. A major forest fire last year removed vegetation and ground cover, revealing many new findings of the period when the Anstazi culture was dominant in the southern Rocky Mountains.

Though not a part of the planned activities of the GoF due to time constraints, a trip north of Silverton over Red Mountain into Ouray provides some of the finest vistas in the State. One could spend many days visiting the late 1800's mining history of this district and the impact the narrow gauge railroads had



Santa Rita Park, on the Animas River

on the industry development.

Everything is in place for a great GoF West 2002 and we are looking forward to seeing many MG enthusiasts 24-28 June 2002. Venture to Durango, Colorado and be part of the experience!

*Bill Bollendonk*



**GoF West 2002  
June 24-28, 2002  
Durango, Colorado  
Schedule of Events**

To Register  
[gofwest2002registration.htm](http://gofwest2002registration.htm)  
[gofwest2002registration.htm](http://gofwest2002registration.htm)

**Monday / June 24, 2002**

- Registration, 12-4 PM
- Hospitality Open, 12-4 PM
- Cash Bar on the River Rat Terrace 5-7, PM
- Car Wash Open 1- 6PM
- First Timers Show adjacent to River Rat Terrace, 5-6:30 PM
- Photo and Crafts Entries in the Animas Room, 12-4 PM
- Regalia in Animas Room, 12-4 PM
- Orientation on the River Rat Terrace, 6:30-7 PM
- Dinner on your own

**Tuesday / June 25, 2002**

- Hospitality open 7- 9AM
- Car Display at Santa Rita Park, 8-12 AM, judging finished by 12
- Steering Committee meeting, Santa Rita Park Center, 1-2:30 PM
- BBQ lunch at Park, 11 AM -1 PM
- Funkhana at the Durango High School, 1-4 PM
- Tech Sessions in Anastazi Room, 2:30-4:30 PM
- Cash Bar on River Rat Terrace, 6-7 PM
- Auction Dinner, 7-?
- Regalia open, 12-4 PM
- Photo/Craft Display, 12-4 PM

**Wednesday / June 26, 2002**

- Hospitality open, 7-9 AM & 3-5 PM
- Regalia, Photo and Crafts open, 3-5 PM
- Activity Day
  - Silverton/Durango Train. ( box lunch available in Silverton Park )
  - Mesa Verde National Park
  - Soaring
  - Rafting
  - Etc.
  - Dinner on your own

**Thursday / June 27, 2002**

- Hospitality open, 7-9 AM
- Regalia, Photo and Crafts open, 11-4 PM
- Swap meet in Doubletree Hotel area, 8-10AM
- Rallye / Tour 9:30 AM, from Hotel grounds, Lunch at Vellecito Lake 12-1:30 PM
- Tech sessions in Anastazi room, 2:30-4:30 PM
- Cash bar on River Rat Terrace, 6-7 PM
- Awards dinner, 7-?

**Friday / June 28, 2002**

- Farewell breakfast on the River Tat Terrace, 7-10 AM
- Winners Circle adjacent to River Rat Terrace, 8-10 AM

# **MINUTES GoF West, Inc. Steering Committee Meeting Pasadena, California November 18, 2001**

Meeting was called to order by Colin Fitzgerald at 10:00 AM.

Attending were:

Terry Saunders  
Gerald Felper (GoF West 2003 Guest)  
Jerry Austin  
George Kershaw  
Syd Saperstein  
Larry Long (GoF Gazette Editor – Guest)  
Colin Fitzgerald  
Floyd Inman  
Mike Campbell (Guest)

Minutes from both Advisory Committee Meeting and Steering Committee Meeting were read and approved.

Financial Report was offered by Syd Saperstein and approved. Syd expressed his concern with the financial status, noting that although the past two GoFs have shown a very small combined excess in capital, they did not cover the Steering Committee's annual budget (\$4,000 per year) and as a result we have lost nearly \$8,000 over the past two years. He asked us to think about suggestions where we might cut costs.

Colin discussed the financials from the past two events, noting that there were considerable costs incurred through "give aways" and trophies. He noted that there were sponsors for these give aways at both the Monterey and Whistler events that saved the Organizing Committee several thousand dollars and suggested that we incorporate such advice in the Red Book.

The GoF West 2002 Status Report was discussed. All appears to be under control.

Larry Long was asked that he get the Gazette out

in late January / early February. He indicated that should be no problem.

Jerry Austin moved (and it was seconded) that the Red Book be amended to include a requirement that e-mail addresses be included on future registration forms. Considerable money could be saved if we could e-mail the Gazette rather than print and mail. Move was passed.

It was also suggested that the Red Book require that budgets for future events be submitted to the Steering Committee prior to their November meeting.

Jerry Austin will get the "soft" copy of the Red Book from Mike Campbell and make the above changes. He will also take the time to go through the book and bring up to date. We will then provide the book in a soft version to future Organizing Committees.

Gerald Felper and Jerry Austin have negotiated a contract with the Queen Mary for the 2003 GoF West to be held the last week of July, 2003.

Jerry Austin asked the Committee to approve a \$3,000 advance to be used to establish a bank account and make the necessary deposit with the Queen Mary. It was approved.

Jerry Austin has offered two suggestions for GoF West Logo to be placed on our new web page. Bob Johnson has agreed to provide the site for cost only. Total should be less than \$100.

Terry Saunders has the final Auction Report from GoF West 2001 and will provide to all members.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM

Floyd Inman, Secretary

## **Auction Items Needed for GoF West 2002**

As you probably know, the auction during the GoF west provides, in part, needed seed money for following GoFs. We would like to make the auction of GoF West 2002 one of the best ever, and are now asking for donations for the auction. Any item will be accepted for auction, but it is desirable that the item be MG related, or at least car related (preferably British car). Please don't give us old worn-out or greasy parts; they kind of mess up the clothing in the suitcase on the trip home. You may bring the items to the auction, or send them to Tom Cox at 7427 So. Richfield St., Foxfield, CO 80016. You can send Tom an e-mail message at tcox36@aol.com.

1411 Foxenwood Drive  
Santa Maria, CA 93455

# GoF Gazette

GoF Gazette



**Terry Sander's 1937 SA—  
First in Class—Prewar**



**Craig & Ann Hall's  
1930 M-type**



**GoF West—What a way to spend the Fourth Of July !!**