



## CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Isn't it amazing how fast time goes by, folks? Here we are, almost halfway between the last GoF West and the next one. My how time flies!! (That's what my Mom used to say, and I thought she was nuts!).

Anyhow, yes, we finished GoF West 2018. And what a great event it was! All of the events that are usually held at a GoF West were well attended, and there were a few extra things for people to do. Those that took part in the Johnathan Twist "Rolling Car Tech Session" seemed to enjoy that, and the extra curricular activities that Tom and Andy had planned were well attended. Several people enjoyed the Vikingsholm tour, and the Sand Harbor BBQ was well attended and the food was terrific! Unfortunately, the Wild Goose II boat tours had to be canceled due to rough waters. Indications are, however, from people that I talked with, is that everyone had fun, and the venue at Lake Tahoe would be hard to surpass.

Unfortunately, I do not have a list of the winners in each of the competitive categories, nor do I have any photos to share. Hopefully, these can be displayed on our web site or by asking Tom Doyle at [wtdoyleii@gmail.com](mailto:wtdoyleii@gmail.com).

We are a couple of months late in getting this Gazette to you, so are covering GoF 2019 more than reviewing GoF west 2018. Now that GoF West is inviting people that own all models and years of MGs, not only the T-series, I want to make certain that all of our potential "newcomers" (and we expect several of them at the 2019 event) know what a GoF West is all about. So, in this issue of the Gazette I have included a brief history of GoF West. The next issue of the Gazette, which should be published around April will tell you a little more about each of the events that takes place during this week of camaraderie and fun. We will also give you the details of the agenda, meals, and regalia for GoF West 2019.

We have included a registration form for the 2019 event; be sure to complete it and send it to Mike Campbell. If you have any questions about GoF West or the yearly events, please contact me or any of the Steering Committee members listed on another page in this Gazette.

A couple of months ago I had a message sent to all of you explaining that the Steering Committee (SC) had decided to define specific areas of the western US that we could use as a guide to select venues for an event, with the idea that we would have the event in one area, then another area, etc., revisiting the first area after 4 or 5 years. That is what led us to select the Arizona venue for the 2019 event and Oregon for the 2020 event.

The SC has been down to 4 members since the 2018 event, but recently has added another member, Donna McNabb, since she will chair the 2020 event. We really would like to come up to 7 members so, please, consider volunteering to serve at the next Advisory Council meeting. The current members of the Committee are:

Larry Long, Chairman [emgeeguy@aol.com](mailto:emgeeguy@aol.com) Home: 620-259-8010 cell: 805-868-8169

Mike Campbell [mhc226m@yahoo.com](mailto:mhc226m@yahoo.com) Cell: 619-993-0952

Robert Frietas [rlfreitas@comcast.net](mailto:rlfreitas@comcast.net)

Valerie Howard- Hogue [val@zetabroadband.com](mailto:val@zetabroadband.com) Cell: 916 -616-8583

Donna McNabb [donnamcnabb62@gmail.com](mailto:donnamcnabb62@gmail.com)

**Larry Long, Chairman, GoF West, Inc.**

# Hang On, Folks ! We're Getting Ready For You!!

## GoF West 2019

**Monday, August 12 through Friday, August 16**

**GoF West 2019**, the premier MG event for the 2019 season, will be held in the heart of the largest stand of ponderosa pine forests in the nation: At Prescott, AZ. While we have had GoF West functions in other parts of Arizona, this will be our first visit to this area. Prescott is only 90 minutes from Phoenix, and about 6.5 hours from Los Angeles. It is just a short drop down from I-40 and the Flagstaff area. This event will be held during the week of **August 12th through the 16th, 2019.**

We want to make certain that everybody knows that, **if you own an MG, no matter what year or model, you are invited to attend this event.** The rates at the resort are about the best that one can expect for an event of this sort, and the planning thus far is such that you can expect a really fun and relaxing week. As noted elsewhere in this publication, the Steering Committee selected Prescott as the venue for the event and signed a contract with the hotel before we had a club or people to staff all of the activities. But we acted on good faith that good people would volunteer to take care of you, and sure enough, they have. We now have a crew of very select and dedicated folks from several clubs in Arizona that are working their tails off to bring you one of the best GoF West events ever!! We on the Steering Committee are very pleased with what we have seen so far in the planning.

In addition to the natural beauty of the ponderosa pines and red sandstone cliffs, breathtaking landscapes complete with granite mountains, lakes, streams, and rolling meadows filled

with wildlife, Prescott is an ideal base from which you can scout and view the other scenic areas of Arizona: the Grand Canyon, Flagstaff, and other areas of scenic beauty. There are also some historic and prehistoric sites around Prescott well worth visiting, some of which have an archaeological element. Hopefully, you will take some time to do a little exploring on your own.

Once the territorial capital of the state, Prescott is rich with history embodied in its world famous Whiskey Row and abundant historical landmarks. Here you can relax in a natural environment filled with beauty and wildlife, or study and view the history of Wyatt Earp, Doc

Holliday, and cowboy forays in the most famous saloons of the Old West at Whiskey Row in downtown Prescott.

GoF West 2019 will be chaired by two Steering Committee members, but, as I said, there are many people from the Arizona MG clubs that will be working on the event, so you can be assured that this event will meet or surpass the high standards set by the Arizona MG clubs for past GoF West events.

Our host hotel will be the **Prescott Resort and Conference Center**, located on a bluff overlooking the town of Prescott. The hotel accommodations offer privacy and comfort in spacious deluxe guestrooms and suites, each with its own private balcony to capture the majestic views. Each room was created to represent the symbols of the Yavapai Prescott Indian



Tribe. To make your stay more enjoyable, the hotel offers microwaves upon request, coffee-maker with complimentary coffee, flat screen television, complimentary wireless high-speed internet access, and more. We will have our own spacious hospitality suite to host all of you MG travelers where you can relax and chat with your friends, old and new. We are confident that the Prescott Resort and Conference Center will be one of the best venues for our GoF West events, and will offer you a stay that is unparalleled in comfort, amenities, and service.



To put the icing on the cake, the deluxe rooms are offered at only \$99.00, (WOW !!!) and the suites are at \$109.00. (Oh My!!) You can have a triple or quad suite at \$119.00 or \$129.00 per night. All rooms are subject to a 12.6% surcharge. These are the lowest rates that we have seen for several years, especially for a first class resort such as this.

The restaurant at the resort combines a unique mix of contemporary and rustic details in an upscale, yet relaxing setting. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, the restaurant offers an assortment of dishes to appeal to every palate, serving an American fare along with an extensive wine list and dessert menus. I have been told that the resort has a new chef and will have many palate pleasing items on the menu.

OK, so let's get into the agenda. A preliminary schedule of events is included in this newsletter. We are still in the planning stages of this event, and the specific time or even day of the individual events may change, but the schedule should be close to what is shown. However, be assured that our planning will be such that this will

be a memorable event.

Some folks will be arriving on Sunday, but most will show up on Monday. We will have registration on Monday then again on Tuesday morning. That is where you can pick up your "goody bag" with everything that you need to know about the area and the GoF, and more. All of your meal tickets will be in your goody bag, along with name tags, etc., and the regalia that you ordered. **Regalia** will be sold ahead of time so be sure to watch for the email flyers about ordering regalia.

The session that used to be called "Orientation" is now a **"Welcoming Session"**, where you will hear about the GoF and the local area. This is planned for Monday evening starting at around 6:30. We hope to have this on the patio of the Resort overlooking the

valley of Prescott, but it depends on the weather. This event will be combined with the **"First timers" display** of their cars. This display is for anybody that is coming to a GoF West for the first time.

By the way, speaking of weather, this time of the year is monsoon season in this part of Arizona, so you should probably bring some rain gear along with you. When Mike and I were there last August, there was not a drop of rain in sight and the weather was terrific. I have asked Mike to plan to have it that way for next August.

Tuesday morning will be seeing everybody heading for the **Car Display**. One of the local GoF members is good friends with the mayor of Prescott and has arranged to have the car display at the square in Downtown Prescott just about a mile from the hotel.





After the car show, you can entertain yourselves in the Whiskey Row area of Prescott, or head back to the hotel for one of our planned “**Tech Sessions**” in the afternoon. The tech sessions have not been solidified yet, but we can guarantee that there will be at least one that will be enjoyable for the ladies of the group. In the planning stages at this time are a **Ladies Tea** and a **Tie Die Tech Session**. Dates and times for these events will be forthcoming. Dinner will be on your own for Tuesday evening.

The **Rally/Tour** is planned tentatively for Wednesday. Our Rally Master is well acquainted with the area around Prescott and has promised to have a good one, maybe without rain!! Although the route is not completely planned at this time, be assured that he will do all he can to make this a very enjoyable event for you and to show you the highlights of the Prescott area. We may even include some vignettes about the local history, as well, for your enjoyment. This is usually a fun event for those that like to be perplexed with questions to answer along the way, or an enjoyable event for those that just want to take the drive.

I almost failed to mention the **Arts, Crafts and Model Display**. This is always a welcomed event, and usually has some of the finest MG related crafts that you will find anywhere. So, dust off your models, pick



out your best photos, get out your needle and thread, and buy some new glue for your crafts and bring them along to show them off. You just might win an award!

In the evening on Wednesday, we will have our

**Silent Auction** followed by a dinner, then followed by the **Auction**. This is a time for you to get out the checkbook to purchase the high quality merchandise always offered at the GoF West events. Our Auction Master has started early to make certain that there will be plenty of high quality merchandise for you to drool over. And we hope to give you an early look at these items. Hopefully the auction will be a resounding success and be over well before 10:00 PM.

Please keep in mind that the auction provides the largest offset to the expenses of putting together an event like this. We will be sending out a letter of request for item donations for the GoF West 2019 auction to businesses and all attendees. Look for this and please respond with a donation.

Thursday is always a fun day starting with the **Flea Market** and the **Funkhana**. The funkhana is a fun driv-



ing event, testing driving skills and communication ability of both the driver and navigator, and hopefully, their sense of humor. (We may have a marriage counselor available after the event).

And dust off those valve cover racers, folks, and add a little more oil to the axles because we are going to have a **Valve Cover Race**. We did that at the 2018 event as it was very popular.

We will also have the “**Carless Funkhana**” which has become a popular event for those that don’t want to drive a car in the funkhana. This activity is designed to provide a fun, and perhaps somewhat challenging event while waiting to participate in the driving Funkhana, or after you have completed the course. Samples of the

previous carless activities have included driving a remote controlled toy race car through a slalom course, deciding what five different parts have been placed inside a "feelie bag", and similar activities. Some new and surprising activities are planned for this year's Carless Funkhana.

We will also have the **Advisory Board** and **Steering Committee** meetings on Thursday afternoon. These are both very important meetings, especially now that we don't have a full Steering Committee and need to get some help planning future events. We will have at least two vacancies coming up for the Committee, so plan to raise your hand when asked about joining the Committee. These are both very important meetings for the welfare of GoF West; please plan to attend.

Our **Awards Banquet** is planned for Thursday evening, as always. And we plan to have a **Continental Breakfast** on Friday morning along with the "**Winners Circle**".

In addition to the above usual GoF West activities, the GoF crew is talking among themselves about adding some special surprises which we will announce to you in the next Gazette. Plan to be surprised!

What more can I tell you? Oh yes, we will have a **Hospitality Suite** open in the afternoon, after the rally and perhaps a couple of other times throughout each day. It is a nice place to just "hang out" and to meet other people and relax. And I almost forgot to tell you that there is a casino immediately adjacent to the hotel. Be sure to bring your winnings to the auction dinner!!

All of the above, along with first-class accommodations at one of the finest hotels in the area and the camaraderie of fellow MG owners, will make this THE memorable event for 2019.

I tend to be long winded, and I guess this newslet-



ter is no exception, but I did want you to know that you will be coming to one of the finest locations we can find for a GoF, and one of the finest hotels that we can offer at a reasonable price, and did I mention the people? — you will be joining some of the finest people that you will ever meet! So do plan to attend.

Some folks mentioned that this time of year is monsoon season, but I'm not overly concerned about that. As I said, when Mike and I visited the resort, the weather was perfect. I know it may be hot crossing the desert at this time of year, but the weather in Prescott, at 5000 ft. altitude, should be fine.

All models of MGs are welcome to attend. We would love to have you there!!

Check our web site at [Gofwest.com](http://Gofwest.com) for registration information or use the form enclosed in this Gazette. Be sure to watch for the Spring, 2019 issue of the Gazette for further information.

Save the date: **August 12th through the 16th, 2019!!** See you there!!

**Larry Long, Co-chair GoF West 2019**

**TENTATIVE  
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS  
GoF West 2019**

**Monday, August 12th – Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Sunday, Aug 11th**

Pre-Registration - 1 pm to 6 pm  
Hospitality – 2 pm to 5 pm  
Car Wash –

**Monday, Aug 12<sup>th</sup>**

Registration- 9 am to 4 pm  
Car Wash – Area Behind Hotel  
Hospitality – 1 pm to 4 pm  
Regalia, Arts & Crafts, Photos – 10 am to 4 pm  
First Time Car Display – 5 pm to 7 pm  
No-Host Bar and Reception – 5 pm to 7 pm  
Welcome Session - 6:30 pm to 7 pm  
Dinner on Your Own

**Tuesday, Aug 13th**

Registration- 9 am to Noon  
Car Display & Premier Class- 9 am to Noon  
Registration - 1 pm to 4 pm  
Hospitality – 1 pm to 5 pm  
Arts & Crafts, Photos —1 pm to 5 pm  
Tech Session #1- 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm  
Dinner on Your Own

**Wednesday, Aug 14th**

Rallye – 9 am to 1 pm  
Hospitality – 1 pm to 4 pm  
Arts & Crafts, Photos – 1 pm to 4 pm  
Tech Session #2- 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm  
No Host Cocktails 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm  
Silent Auction – 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm  
Auction Dinner– 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
Auction – 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm

**Thursday, Aug 15<sup>th</sup>**

Funkhana—9:00 am to Noon  
Carless Funkhana—9:00 am to Noon  
Valve Cover Racing—9:00 am to Noon  
Flea Market – 7:00 am to Noon  
Hospitality – 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Arts & Crafts, Photos – 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm  
Advisory Council – 1:15 pm to 2 pm  
Steering Committee – 2 pm to 3:15 pm  
Reception – 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm  
Awards Banquet – 6:30 pm to 10 pm

**Friday, Aug 16th**

Winner's Circle – 8 am to 9:30 am  
Continental Breakfast – 8 am to 9:30 am

**Future GoF West Events**

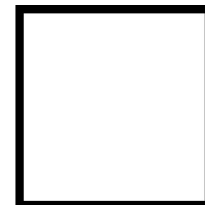
2020 June 12-18 Mt. Hood, Oregon. We were at this resort in 2006 and it was a magnificent venue. This event will be chaired by Donna McNabb with help from the Oregon MG club. I know I say this a lot, but I don't think you could find a better venue for a GoF West event. Put this date on your calendar.

2021 Has not been planned at this point. The Steering Committee is really hoping that we can have some suggestions or even some volunteers for this event. Please contact any Committee member.

2022 This will be our 50th event and we are hoping that one of the Southern California clubs will step up to host this biggie.

**2023 thru 2052:** If you have a suggestion for a venue for a future GoF West event, or if you or your local club or group of friends would like to chair or sponsor a future GoF West event, please let one of the Committee members know of your desires. We need the suggestions and help!!





**GoF WEST 2019  
REGISTRATION FORM  
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA  
August 11 – August 16, 2019**

Monday through Friday

Registration Fee

\$45.00 USD before June 1, 2019

\$55.00 USD after May 31, 2019

In Spirit \$25.00

Cancellations after March 31, 2019 will revert to  
In-Spirit Registration. No Refunds after 7/1/2019

Names - as you want them on your name tag and in the Booklet:

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Driver: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Children (or dependents) who will be attending with you: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

Other MG Clubs Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

First GoF West with car? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Number previously attended: \_\_\_\_\_

First GoF West without a car? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Car: Year \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be bringing a trailer?: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be staying at the Resort?: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment: Check \_\_\_\_\_ VISA \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code (3 digits): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature if paying by Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL INFORMATION**

Prescott Resort and Conference Center

1500 East State Route 69

Prescott, Arizona 86301

(800) 967-4637 [www.prescottresort.com](http://www.prescottresort.com)

Rates are \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00 per night for a standard room, plus applicable taxes and fees.

Please refer to GoF West 2019 when registering in order to obtain these rates.

Please send form, payment to Mike Campbell, 3570 Willow Street, Bonita, CA 91902.  
Make check payable to GoF West. For additional information, please visit web site at  
[www.GoFWEST.ORG](http://www.GoFWEST.ORG) or email at [MLC226M@YAHOO.COM](mailto:MLC226M@YAHOO.COM) or call (619) 993-0952.

# A Brief History of GoF West

**47** YEARS! WOW!! Can you believe it? A little over 47 years ago, GoF West was just an idea in the heads of a group of people here on the West Coast, and the very first GoF West event hadn't happened yet. Because GoF West was originally founded for the T-series and earlier MGs, but has recently become expanded to welcome MGs of any year or model, I thought it might be worthwhile to include a history of the GoF West event for all of those "newcomers" that may be considering attending their first GoF West event.



*Dick Knudsen*

The idea for GoF West came about from folks that attended a GOF way back east, based on the unique ideas of a young fellow named Dick Knudsen. The story as told to me was that Dick had attended a university in the Netherlands on a Fullbright scholarship, and had purchased an MG TC while there. He liked the car

so much that he had it shipped back to his home in New England. It wasn't long before Dick decided to see if there were other people who had the same interest, so he put an ad in three of the newspapers around the Boston area. One of the fellows that responded to Dick was Frank Churchill. He got together with Dick in 1964 and they decided to start an organization called the New England MG T Register, an organization that would provide benefits (meetings, etc.) to owners of these unique cars.

A couple of years later, in 1965, Dick and Frank organized a get-together for people that owned MG T-Series cars: TCs, TDs, and TFs. The first gathering was christened the "Gathering of the Faithful" for those that were faithful to that "breed" of car. I think there were around 60 registrants at that first GOF. The name stuck, and the

event was so well attended and liked that there has been at least one GOF each year since then, and two per year in the most recent years.

The disease has spread to the west, to the south east area of the US, and to central US where there are GOF events held on an annual basis.

As for GoF West, this was the brainchild of several people out here on the West Coast. Back in the early 1960's, three different MG clubs got started in the Los Angeles area, unknown to each other. Pete and Fran Thelander started the Vintage MG Club of Southern California; Warren Wendt, with Ann, started the Classic MG Club; and the Cal



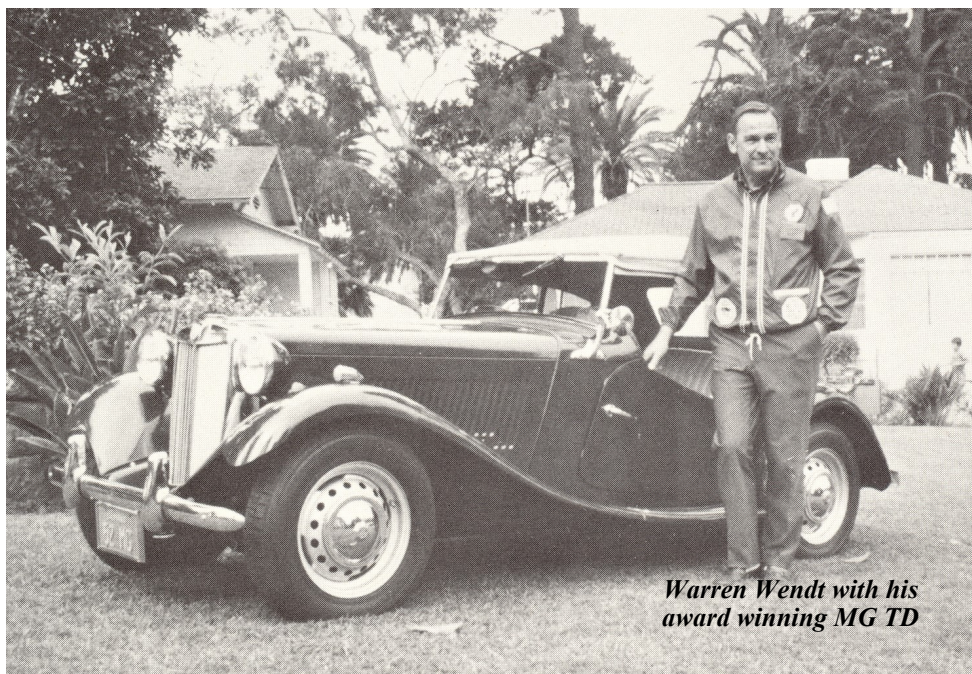
*Warren Wendt & Pete Thelander*

MG T Register was started by a young man named Jan Verbiesen. Although they were all founded within a few months of each other, and unknown to each other, each eventually found out about the other clubs.



In 1968, Al Moss, with his wife and daughter, traveled to England, then flew back to Vermont to attend the GOF that year. They





***Warren Wendt with his  
award winning MG TD***

this first GoF West represented a combined effort, it was the first step toward real cooperation among the West Coast MG clubs.

A few other facts about the first GoF west:

\*\* Hand made awards were given—awards made by Pete himself.

\*\* Rooms were \$8-12, with a beach room for \$20!

\*\* There were no T-shirts for the first GoF.

Following this first GoF, an actual steering committee was formed—Al, Pete and Fran, Warren and Ann, Jan—and they

all thoroughly enjoyed it.

Also in 1968 or 1969, Skip Kelsey drove his TD all the way to a GoF in the east—all the way without a windshield, only Brooklands windscreens. Several months later, Skip visited Al and suggested a similar event in the west; the seed was planted but nothing happened for a while.

Then, some time later, Mike Walsh, a young MG enthusiast, visited Al Moss suggesting the same idea.

In the meantime, Pete got together with Warren (Warren had also attended a GoF back east) suggesting that such an event be held somewhere in the west. So Pete, Fran and Warren invited Al to a meeting at the Pierpont Inn in Ventura, and a committee was formed to start GoF West. Ann Wendt, Gary Rand, and Jan Verbiesen were also on that committee. Of the seven members, five had been to the GoF events back east.

They decided to have the first GoF West at the Miramar Hotel in Santa Barbara. Each committee member donated \$50.00 to get it started. It was very successful, and around 300 people attended, including Dick Knudsen who gave it a rave review. Because

served as a sanctioning body, held the money and gave guidance to clubs putting on further events. There has been a GoF West event every year since the first one, somewhere in the western US or Canada. We have had these events as far east as Durango and Vail, CO; as far south as San Diego area; and as far north as Calgary, BC; and many points in between.

Back in those days, one person from the committee would visit the sponsoring club to give guidance. They always paid for their own expenses.

Eventually Jim Bigler was invited to be a member of the committee, which was a good move.



***The tour started at Hope  
Ranch in Santa Barbara***





At the GoF at Jackson Lake in 1992, Warren decided that he had served long enough—20 years, and Pete 21 years, and they decided others should take over. The following year at Tahoe, the GoF was opened to elections for the Steering Committee.

The GoF West has been very successful from the beginning, and especially since the Steering Committee was formed. We have had more and more people come over the years.


The first GoF West showed real cooperation from several of the West Coast clubs. That cooperation continues to this day, and that is why the GoFs have been so successful, and now that we have even



more clubs (MGA and MGB clubs) and more people, we should be able to continue that cooperation for many years to come. We who attend these GoFs, including those with cars newer than the T-series cars, should be thankful that there are those folks like Warren, Pete and Fran, and Al, Jan, and Mike who had the foresight to recognize the camaraderie that would exist, the life-long friendships that would be formed, and the overall high level of enjoyment that we who have the common bond with the MG Marque could have from these events.


*Larry Long, Chairman, GoF West, Inc.*

*This is part of an announcement that was put together to send to people that might be interested in attending the first GoF West.*

# PROCLAMATION of GoF WEST '73

Harken all ye who would rallye to the cause of the square rigged  types:

 e it made known to all ye miserable souls infested with an uncontrollable passion for the older model conveyances from the hallowed House of the Octagon - which affliction may be variously known as Abingdon flu, ~~MONOC~~ fever or Kimber's revenge - that ye may gather together and commiserate with others so possessed for a whole weekend of revelery and camaraderie. This magnificent, magnanimous amalgamation of -ery and T-ism shall be conducted on the first weekend in October at the resort hotel on the beaches of Santa Barbara known as Mira Mar.

 here shall be many cars for all to see and bestow the favour of ye ballots upon as well as a suitable test of ye skills at manoeuvring ye cherished mount. Bring ye parts for barter - or pelf to purchase with - and ye favourite photos to impress the other guests. Saturday will be culminated with a gracious conglomeration of gastronomical delights and the awarding of laurels to those who have earned the accolades of their peers.