

# A True “Garage” Find

By Aaron Preuss

My father owned a 67 triumph spitfire when he graduated from college, and sadly I never got to see it. It was a great car for him, but as with graduates they get married and start families requiring a car with more seating options. My dad did make a little car seat for my sister to keep the car as long as possible....

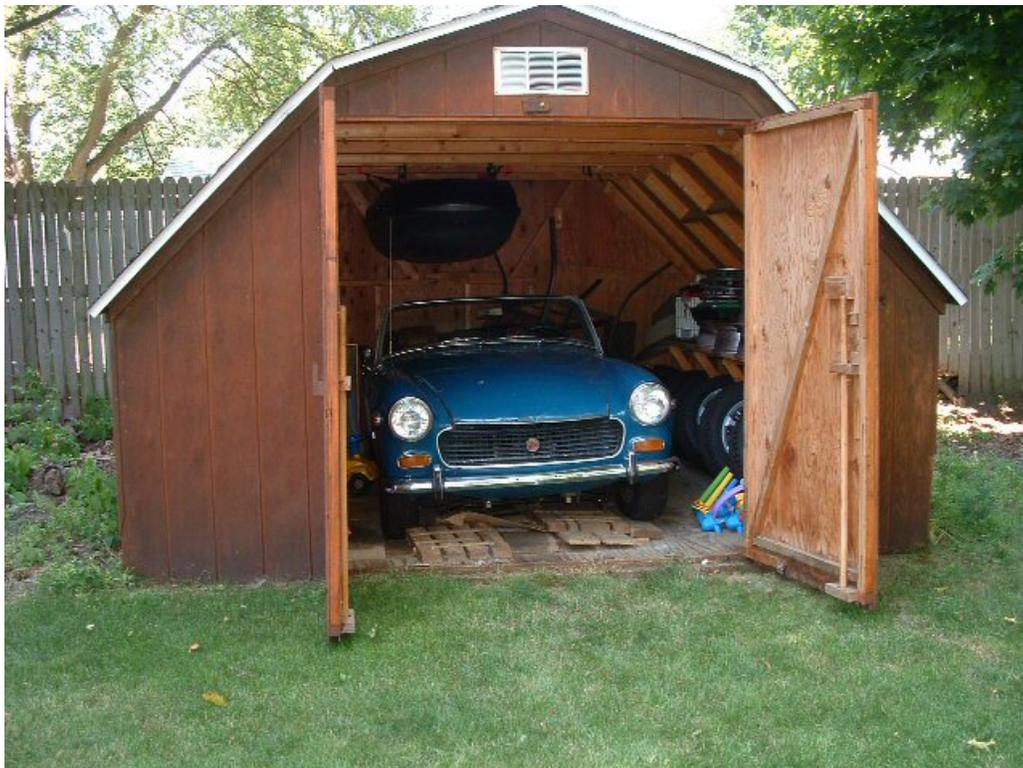
Fast forward to 2002. My wife who cuts hair part time in our home was talking with a client and somehow got on the topic of MGs. The client had a 74 midget that she was thinking of selling, so my wife mentioned it to me. A half hour later (I had to wait for the haircut to be finished) I was at her home looking at the car. It is in decent shape, it had been stored in a garage and had been maintained fairly well. It did have some issues with the transmission i.e. first/reverse gears did not work. It needed to be restored with bodywork and mechanical work but you could drive it down the road. Soon the deal was struck and it was sitting in my garage.

I started with replacing the transmission, and a host of other parts. I drove it for a couple summers until the rear brakes started to leak, at which time I put it up in the shed. 8 years and 2 children later it is finely time to get it

back in the garage. I will admit that I have never restored a car. I do have some mechanical ability and I am a quick study so I hope that I can start this project and see it through. I took a welding class at the Community College so I think I am prepared to start tackling the bodywork. I have partitioned my garage to create an enclosed space to work, that is heated for year round restoration.

I think so far one of the most difficult decisions to make is to what level you will restore the car. I know for a fact that this will never be a concourse car.... which will save the pocketbook and quicken the restoration process. It really opens up your choices when part hunting as well, you don't need the pristine part, just one that looks better than what you have and a good price. I do enjoy a good eBay part hunt!

So there we have the story to date. I am very happy to have found the club, as I am sure I will need lots of advice from the members to help me through. I am looking forward to getting to events with my boys and having some fun family time. I just won't be able to bring the car for a while. ■



August 2010