

## Spring Tour to Marietta Ohio

By Ron Parks

We had two beautiful days for our weekend spring tour to Marietta Ohio. Thanks go to John and Linda Wolfe for planning this fun tour for us. Our group was small, but we had a great time together. Marietta was fun and picturesque.

King Midgets far out numbered MGs in town. There was a King Midget gathering in town and they were everywhere. For those of you who may not be familiar with the King Midget, it was a very small car, golf cart size, that was manufactured in Athens Ohio. They were featured in Popular Mechanics as a kit car in the early years of production back in the 50s. The owner of one of them was proud to open the hood for us, which is in the rear, exposing his 12 HP Kohler industrial engine and belt drive. Their speedometer's register 60 mph max, but I doubt they would do that.

We had one casualty before we left Beavercreek, as Dave and Lois Gribler's MGA displayed a generator light. So, they went home, got in another MG and caught up with us before we reached Marietta. Saturday evening we had a nice dinner at the local brewery/restaurant. Some of us had raspberry wheat beer and others had the Scotch ale, both good. Before leaving the hotel Sunday morning, Bob and Jeanie Hanseman had fun posing in their MG TD with their authentic leather skull cap and goggles. Dave McCann Sr, who had driven down Sunday morning to join us for the return trip through the Ohio Tail of the Dragon on Route 26, took video of them. The Ohio Tail of the Dragon was some fun MG driving! And, as an added bonus, there were a couple of covered bridges to photograph along the way, which we did, especially for Jennifer Peterson. Route 78 was a good MG road too. Dave McCann, Hanseman's and I had lunch at the Rocky Boot store grille in Nelsonville. Gribler's and Wolfe's headed on home. After lunch, Dave followed me North on Route 33 to I-270 and I-70 back to Springfield. He served as my brake lights, which had stopped working, sometime on the trip. Hanseman's set cut across country towards Chillicothe in their TD and took Route 35 back to Beavercreek. Everyone arrived home safely after a fun weekend together. Tours are a fun way to become acquainted with other members.