

Member Featured Car of the Month January 2012

Jim Cooley III's '49' MG TC

By Jim Cooley II as interviewed by Ron Parks

I found our 1949 MG TC when looking at a house that was for sale. The house, as it turned out was too small, but the owner had two (2) British sports cars in his garage, a Jaguar XKE and the MG TC, both of which needed work. I stayed in contact with him for two or three years while the cars came through his Father's estate and finally picked up both of them. My son Jimmy has done some work on the XKE and completed restoration of the MG TC to win best of class at British Car Day in Dayton, OH in 2007.



The TC was originally Old English White and had not been restored. When we tore it apart and took it too the blaster we found several things wrong with it, including a broken frame. My son Jimmy set about resolving these issues and completely restoring the TC. We sent our original painted wire wheels to Dayton Wire Wheel for complete restoration. They replaced spokes, tuned the wheels and mounted new tires. We took the dash board to Greg Seabrook up in Northeastern Ohio, who completely restored it. Seat Cover King in Springfield recovered the seats. We had all the chrome redone at a place in North Dayton. And, we had a new windshield put in it. The car is restored authentically and is in mint condition.

Jimmy did such a great job with the restoration of the TC and was so proud of it and still is; that I decided to give him the car. As Jimmy has been deployed with the National Guard, the car has been covered up in storage and has been driven only to British Car Day in Dayton, OH and to a Pub Run last fall. I am pleased that Jimmy will enjoy the car for many years to come.

