

THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XXXVIII No. 1

October 2008

Indy British Motor Days Photos

New Officers



From the President

Skip Peterson

I'd like to thank all of you for your overwhelming support of my candidacy for President. It was a pretty tough fight; the debates were pure hell, since I'm not real strong on fiscal issues or interclub policy given the current state of the political climate among the MG Clubs. I mean, really, it's time for CHANGE, and I'm just the guy to do it. I will work tirelessly to make all of your lives better, and within the first 90 days of my office I will cut all club taxes, improve our health care situation, and institute a rebate policy on your club mortgage.

But first, I'm heading to the club retreat, Camp Skip, for two weeks of R&R. I'll spend my days driving my MG and long evenings at the local pub.

OK, I got a little carried away... Seriously, I appreciate your support and hope to keep



Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club

Club Membership Information

Membership dues of the Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club are eighteen (\$18.00) per year, payable during September and October. On January 1st. the names of delinquent members are removed from the roster. See *Carole Looft* for further membership information.

MG Car Club Monthly Meeting

The Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the K of C Hall, downtown Dayton, on Bainbridge Street, at 8:00pm. The next meeting will be:

Wed, October 22, 2008

MG Car Club Officers

President.....Skip Peterson
 phone.....937-293-2819
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Vice President.....Ryan Looft
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Upcoming MGCC Events

Sept:

24 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

Oct:

22 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

Nov:

9 – British MOT Spaghetti Dinner

19 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

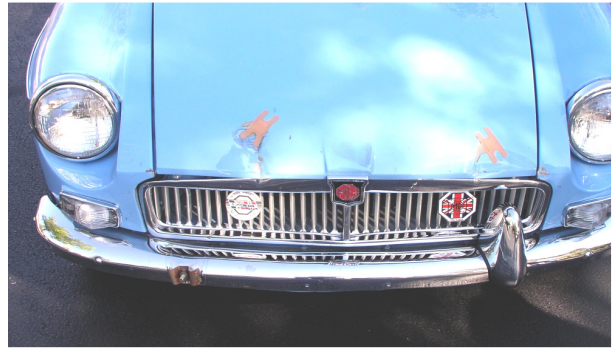
things moving along in a positive direction.

We got off to a pretty good start on Sunday, Oct. 5th with the Fall Tour, greeted by perfect weather for a 70 mile drive through Montgomery, Greene and Warren counties and ended at Beef O'Brady's for a cold one and some food. Fifteen MG's participated, and congratulations to the Rally Winners, Phil and Sandy Johnson who answered 28 of 30 questions correctly. Linda and Ron Parks nailed down second place and Jim and Susan Conrad grabbed third.

That leads me to the sad news that the Conrad's were participating in their final club event. After 10 years in the area and the club, Jim is taking a job in San Antonio and is already there by the time you read this. We'll miss

them both, but they're taking both the Midget and the A with them, and as Jim said, "I can drive them year round out there. I've already found the local MG Club out there, but I'm keeping my membership here active so I can keep track of you guys." Good luck to both of you in Texas, at least you won't need the snow blower out there.

Check out the photo of Dave and Carol Estell's reworked hood and bumper on the 65 MGB. The band-aids are a nice touch, but it's still sad to see the damage caused by irresponsible drivers who can't use a mirror or follow traffic signals. While it doesn't appear that serious at first, there is really a lot of damage considering the bent hood, ruined grille, bent bumper and the two dents in the corner of the fenders by the grille. Far more labor and work than most would think.



My final thought, it was great to see that no one in our group on the tour was busy texting while driving. I'm guilty of occasionally taking a call on my cell phone while driving, but in the last few months I have adopted a policy of telling people that I can't talk right now and I'll call you back, but as far as I'm concerned, texting while driving should be a felony.

Skip

New Officers for the 2008-2009 Year

Congratulations to the following new officers, elected at the last meeting:

President: Skip Peterson
Vice President: Ryan Looft
Secretary: Diana Hodges
Treasurer: Glen Marin
Member-at-Large: Dave Gribler

Reminder -Membership Renewal Time

Carole Looft

If you have not renewed your membership, now is the time! Dues can be brought to the meeting or sent to:

P.O. Box 20032
Dabel Branch
Dayton, Oh 45420-0032

Renewals are again \$18/year. If you need to make any corrections or additions to the information we have for our club roster, drop a note along with your payment, and we will update our records.

Pictures From Indianapolis British Motor Days

Photos by Ron Parks

Jim Conrad won Best in Class with his MGA; Larry Youngblood won an award of excellence with his MGB; Ryan Looft and Ron Parks teamed up in the rally to take 2nd place; The McCanns took 4th place in the rally. Congratulations to all the winners!



Pictures from Fall Tour

Photos by Ron Parks and Skip Peterson



Member Featured Car of the Month

Bob & Jeanne Hanseman's MG TD

Bob Hanseman

I bought my 1951 MGTD in 1972 from a friend while I was stationed in Munich West Germany. I was a Captain in the US Air Force stationed at a US Army military Intelligence installation. Being one of only a few Air Force "pukes" stationed with the Army was a real cultural experience, but that is another story.

The car was in good shape when I bought it and I knew the car since I had helped my friend work on it a few times. I paid \$2000 for the car and really had no idea as to its value. I liked it and especially liked the fact that it was a right hand drive. The car originally was sold new in Middlesex England. I have all the documentation and I am the fifth owner.

While in Munich, I drove the car around Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Italy. In 1974, I received orders to Mountain Home AFB Idaho. In those days the US government would not pay to ship a foreign car, so I found a private company and drove it to the port of Bremerhaven W. Germany and had it shipped to San Francisco. I eventually towed it from San Francisco to Idaho.

In 1980 I was assigned to Wright Patt. So (are you ready for this?) I towed the MGTD with a 1959 MGA I had acquired in Boise from another friend, using a trailer hitch that I'd made for the MGA. My wife Jeanne followed me in a 1965 Rambler, pulling our boat which had our BMW Munich police motorcycle and side car loaded on it!. All went well until the second day when the sun went down near Laramie Wyoming. Black Ice formed on the road and the next thing I knew I looked out the left window of the MGA to see the TD coming around the left side of the MGA. The resulting torque made me do a 180 degree turn on the freeway. Jeanne averted running into me. The hitch and tow bar were OK so I drove on only to have the same thing happen again. I abandoned both MGs on the road, drove the Rambler very slowly to Laramie and retrieved the MGs the next day. I then drove only the MGA on to Dayton with Jeanne following in the Rambler and trailer. I later went back to Laramie and towed the MGTD back to Dayton.

The only major work I have had to do to the MG is replacing the clutch. This winter I plan to have the front shocks rebuilt and I will replace the front bushings and the MG style king pins.



Classifieds

For Sale: Gumball machine that resembles old gas pump. 7 ½ feet tall! Two available. Sold for \$1200 new. Asking \$300. Call Bob, 513-267-1784. (10/08)

For Sale: 1976 MGB roadster. Engine runs well. Overdrive transmission. Fuel tank flushed; brakes good; new hoses; nice interior, carpets, dash, glass, and luggage rack. Body needs rear quarter panels and paint. Never wrecked. Converted to wire wheels. Needs rear wheel cylinder kit (which I have), and convertible top. \$1900. Call Bob, 513-267-1784. (10/08)

For Sale: "Rally wheels" from my 1970 MGB. \$250.00 or best offer. Chrome luggage rack for \$100.00 or best offer. I can bring them to a meeting if any one would like to see them. John S Keferl, 236-0093, or Keferl@sbcglobal.net. (10/08)

For Sale: 1976 MG, Model B. We purchased the car in July 2005, for \$5,000. It is in excellent condition, but needs a battery. We would accept any reasonable offer. Located in Columbus, OH. Chuck and Rosie Blake, 614-457-4076 (10/08)

For Sale: Two 1980 MGBs, two 1961 MGAs, and one 1947 MG TC. The passing of a MG enthusiast in northern Kentucky has made these cars available. One white 1980 MGB, build date of 10/79 with 24K original miles. In excellent original condition except for rust just behind the doors (was the owner's daily driver). One orange

1980 MGB, build date of 3/80 with 63K original miles. In excellent original condition but not currently running due to a possible fuel pump problem (owner was working on the car). One iris blue MGA 1600, excellent condition and in running order. One white MGA 1600 coupe in very good condition, turns over but does not start. Both MGAs are very original. One 1947 MG TC, solid body and



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chassis, not running but ready for restoration. Owner had all receipts for each car. For more information, contact Michael Brundage at 859-445-9885. (10/08)

For Sale: 1961 MGA roadster. Owned since 2002 and driven under 300miles. Rebuilt trans, new floors, carpets, interior panels, master cyl, SS exhaust. Tires, top, sidecurtains VG to Exc. Very sound car found in Kentucky. Engine compartment is correct, car is dry and is a smooth driver. The damage in front did not dent the original grille. Not perfect but a very nice mostly original car. \$7400. Bob Kristof. email questions etc to bobkristof@hotmail.com or call 513-477-8494. (9/08)

Wanted: 1500 Engine for 1959 MGA - can be a strong engine or a rebuildable candidate. Please contact Greg on 614-764-8989 or gregcv240@yahoo.com. . (9/08)

For Sale: Used black top, tonneau, and roll bar for 78 Midget. All for \$150.00. Bob or Cheryl, 937-253-9935. . (9/08)

For Sale: 1974 MGB, butterscotch color, 59,000 miles. It had about \$1200 of brake work done in 1998 and hardly driven since. It also has a hard top and a new battery. Runs just a little rough because of sitting for so long, but otherwise it is a good solid car. Just needs some TLC. \$5,000 or best offer. Carol Ann Williams, 427-2789. (8/08)

For Sale: Used black top, tonneau & roll bar for 78 Midget. All for \$150.00. Call 937-253-9935, ask for Bob or Cheryl. (8/08)

Wanted: Complete solid wheel rear axle assembly for 1970 MG Midget. I am in the process of converting my Midget from wire wheels to solid disc wheels. Also need the front hubs, if available. Or, if you have a solid wheel mg midget and want to convert it to wire wheels, I would be glad to trade with you. Contact Mike Maloney at mgoctagons@aol.com, or call me at 937-776-7248. (6/08)

For Sale: White 1975 MG with 1500cc engine. Car has new wiring and is in good shape. Two red 1971 MG's with 1275cc engines. They are all original and they both run but need some body work. Asking \$2000.00 or best offer. Cars are located in Union City, IN. Jeff New 702-538-7659 or 702-289-7547 or likewnew504@hotmail.com (6/08)

Larry Youngblood's MG Diorama

These pictures of Larry Youngblood's MG Garage Diorama have been in my "for future editions" file for a while. Although I don't have any information on this great job of modeling, as a former model airplane builder, I can attest to the fact that Larry certainly has a good hundred hours, probably spent over a year or more, wrapped up in this effort. And then, there's the years of experience in plastic modeling, learning the best ways to assemble pieces, clean the flash, fill voids, air brushing, and detailing with a fine paint brush and a steady hand. The cars and people were from kits, but my guess is that the rest is all scratch-built. Note the little details, like the signs on the walls (including one for MGCCSWOC), welding equipment, lift, ramps, oil pans, tool boxes, and fan belts, not to mention the timber-frame details. Great job, Larry, and sorry it took so long to run these pictures.





MG Car Club Minutes, September 24, 2008

Sam Hodges

The meeting was called to order precisely at 8:00 (*12 months of trying, and we finally nailed one*)

President Dave McCann gives his final **President's Report**: Concours was up first.

Dave Gribler, "I was blown away..." Skip Peterson, "Everything was fine up until about 1:30. I've never seen 65 mph winds in Carillon Park." Rumor mill has it that there were three cars damaged. Charlie Schroeder's, Ford Woody Rat Rod, John Engle's 1967 Sunbeam Tiger Mk. II and the white 1936 Cord took one on the fender. Given the circumstances, things went fairly well.

Skip, "The MGCC Easy-up canopy was severely damaged" (*damaged to the point of being dead*). The Gribblers' were out picking up the sound system even though they should/could have left. Their fancy party that they were supposed to go to down in Cincinnati was cancelled due to the power outages and other damage. Dave McCann, "It wasn't because of you that the party didn't happen?" Lois, "It wasn't us, I still wanted to go." Skip, "Mark your calendars, September 20, 2009 is next year's scheduled Concours. We're beginning to think that we might just be bad luck. Last year there was a kid in Greenville who set their house on fire and killed four family members and this year it was the Hurricane. What's next year going to bring?"

Joe Hooker's 1958 Triumph T-100 motorcycle took best of class. Louie DiPasquale took two Awards of Excellence, one each for his 1961 MGA and for the 1980 Triumph Spitfire. *Oops, that was a typo, I really did mean Spitfarter. Dang! Did it again, Freudian slip. SPITFIRE. There, got it out...* Pres. Dave McCann, "I heard that there were people from X-Fest parking in our parking lot?" Skip, "that wasn't a rumor..."

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Pres. McCann, “This past weekend was the Indianapolis British Car Days. We had a great time. We went to the Fast-Times Indoor Go-Kart Track. I learned that me and go-karts don’t fit anymore so I video taped the event.” Ron Parks and his partner – Ryan Looft – took second place in the road rallye and Dave Sr. & Dave Jr. got fourth. Ten miles into it, their speedometer died so they couldn’t answer any of the distance questions. Additionally, the heater control valve leaked out all the antifreeze on the way over. Other than that, it was a fine event. Pres. Dave, “Attendance at Indy did seem down a bit.”

This prompted a story about how MG drivers apparently have a more acute sense of hearing developed by listening for the sound of pieces falling off the car and the sound of metal on metal rubbing (*I also think our butts are a bit more sensitive from feeling for the slightest vibration*). Louie D., “You don’t have that problem with Spitfires.” Eddie Hill, “You have to drive it for parts to fall off.” Louie, “Parts don’t fall off.” Lois Gribler, “you don’t drive it because it doesn’t run.”

Terry Looft, “Ron, you might well tell the story it’s going to get out.” Ron Parks, “I got the best deal...” Ryan L., “It’s always good to stay with elderly people.” Apparently, Ron slipped and fell getting out of the shower at the hotel and broke the toilet. He feared having to pay for a toilet, and ended up getting a free night instead. Kathy Goodman, “Did you at least get dressed first?” Ron, “I did get up Monday a bit sore and bruised.” Bill Hammond, “You must have a numb bum.”

Vice President’s Report was next. Terry Looft, “I don’t have anything.”

Minutes were next. Louie D. motioned to accept the minutes as reported. Skip Peterson seconded. Eddie Hill whatever’d. Minutes approved and accepted as reported.

Treasurers Report: Kathy Goodman, “I forgot the information sorry.” Lois Gribler, “you’re fired.” As of the writing of this, I still don’t have the info, so I guess we’re okay on the money.

Membership was next. We ended the year with 101 members. Ron has a visitor tonight, a friend of his from his Vietnam days, Rich Kearn, who is sitting in on the meeting. Welcome.

Sunshine committee was next. Dick Smith’s wife – Barb – is doing rehab at Sycamore Hospital and is reportedly doing better. Pat Wasserman is in the advanced care unit at Miami Valley Hospital because she’s got a case of pneumonia. According to Reuben, they’ve been pumping her full of steroids but that’s messing with her sugar levels. She has adult onset diabetes so that’s causing more of an issue. If they don’t get her sugar down, she’s going to have to go on insulin. Reuben, “Luckily, we had a generator installed last summer because of Pat’s on oxygen needs and that poor generator ran from Sunday when the power went out to last Sunday when they finally got their power back.

Bill Hammond, “I still don’t have power.” Louie lost all of his meat from his freezer. Trash day, Kathy Goodman just dumped the entire contents of her freezer into the trash.

Newsletter was next. Steve Markman, “The car show season is almost over so I’ll need some stories about cars and people. I ran into someone who wanted info on the club and I told him to go to the Website. I told him to type in MGCC and Dayton and it had to be one of the first things to come up. After trying it when I went home, I went through 4 pages of results and still hadn’t found it.”

Webmaster Ron Parks, “I’m going to add ‘Dayton, Ohio’ to the Home page. That way, the searching might be easier.” The pictures from Indianapolis are on my computer and I’ll bring those in. Terry, do you have anything from the shower episode?” Ryan L., “I only have pictures from after the episode. I do

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have pics of the broken toilet though...” Dave McCann, “I was right next door and I slept through the whole thing.” Ryan, “Next year when I make the reservations, I’ll make sure that I get a room on the first floor with an automatic defibrillator and handles in the showers and maybe even a door on the tub...” Linda Wolfe, “I’d check in under an assumed name if I were you.”

Activities with Eddie were next. Eddie, “Any news from the covered bridge tour?”

Save the date for MG 2009 in Breckenridge, Colorado.

- Don’t forget the Holiday Party at the Goodman’s on December 13th.
- Fall tour (was) on Oct 5th. It’s the road tour that the Concours did. We’re meeting at Carillon Park at 1:30 and plan on rolling out about 2:00. It’s about 70 miles and should take about 2 hours. Afterwards, we’re going to Beef O’Brady’s in Centerville and they’re reserving a room for us.
- Louie is having a cookout on Nov. 9th at the Sons of Italy, Bella Villa Hall. \$8.00/head all proceeds to benefit the Museum. 1:00-8:00.

Beer Break called for at 8:40.

Back from break 9:00.

New Business. Reuben, “There was a guy at the popcorn festival with a dynamometer...” as Lois Gribler’s phone goes off... AGAIN only this time, it was classical music, not the bleating pleading that her phone made the last time this happened. Back to Reuben, “The dyno is in Beavercreek and he’s willing to have a club activity. Precision Motorsports is on Space drive... Just as Lois comes back in, her phone goes off AGAIN...

Joe Hooker, “I apologize for not getting the newsletter out timely, that power thing was a slight problem.” Dave Gribler, “That’s okay, we’ll hold it against you.”

Terry Happensack, “I need tires. Any advice on where to go?” General consensus of the MGCC, “Go to USATire on East Dorothy Lane. You won’t be disappointed.”

And now, as we do every year, it’s time for the Annual MGCC Officer Elections. For those of you who don’t know, these elections are run with the speed and efficiency of the Japanese National Rail System. Similarly, they operate with the speed of a Bullet train and since they usually end up being one of the biggest railroad jobs you’ll ever see, all of that efficiency will come in handy. Let’s tune in and see just who we’re going to railroad this year...

President: President Dave McCann opens the floor up for nominations for the office of President. Dave McCann, “Do we need any paper?” Carole L. “I’ve got paper.” Dave Gribler, “Do we really need it?” Dave McCann, “I nominate Kathy Goodman.” Kathy G., “Thanks, but I really can’t.” Pres. McCann, “I need a nomination for president.” Terry Looft, “I nominate Skip Peterson.” Kathy Goodman and Linda Wolfe seconded the nomination. Eddie Hill motioned to close nomination and then promptly objected to the nominee. Mind you, Skip hasn’t said a word yet partly because he hasn’t had an opening with which to get a word in edgewise. Pres. McCann, “All in favor?” Skip, “I see the train a comin’, and I’m standing on the tracks...” Skip Peterson is the new President of the MGCC for the 2008-2009 school year.

Vice President: President Dave McCann opens the floor up for nominations for the office of Vice President. In a flurry of name calling, Ron Parks nominated Ryan Looft. Linda Wolfe seconded the nomination. Eddie Hill motioned to close nomination and then promptly objected to the nominee. The

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MGCC voted and Ryan is the new Vice President. I really don't think that Ryan knew what has just happened to him.

Secretary: President Dave McCann opens the floor up for nominations for the office of Secretary. Like we all know how this is going to go. Jennifer Peterson nominated Diana Hodges for the position of Secretary. Kathy Goodman seconded the nomination. Eddie Hill motioned to close nomination and then promptly objected to the nominee. My wife Diana, who comes to about 2 meetings a year, is Secretary of the MGCC for the 2008-2009 school year.

Treasurer: President Dave McCann opens the floor up for nominations for the office of Treasurer. Bill Hammond nominates Glen Marin (*pronounced: Marine*). After calling him Glen Marin (*pronounced: Mare-in*) Glen points out the appropriate pronunciation of his name. Eddie, "What else do we not know about you?" Skip, "Why haven't you corrected us in the past?!" Glen, "I really didn't care, but since this is for an official position, I figured that I wanted it right for that." Eddie seconded the nomination. Eddie then motioned to close nomination. Eddie then promptly objected to the nominee. The MGCC voted and Glen Marin is the Treasurer of the MGCC for 2008-2009 fiscal year.

After a bit of banter, we decided that Dave Gribler would be our new Member-at-Large (*he really doesn't have a choice in the matter – as with most, if not all of our new officers*).

Tech Tips: Skip, "A lot of the wheel cleaners are really caustic. There's a wheel cleaner called P-21S and is recommended by a BMW, Mercedes and many other European manufacturers and it works great. You can only get it online and it's about \$16/per bottle but from what I've seen it's really worth it." Eddie, "Floor degreaser works well and it's not caustic or acidic."

Ron Parks has a reverse tech tip. He saw a flag banner on a Damask Red MGB that he doesn't know anything about. After showing a picture, it's the club's consensus that it's an aftermarket part and something that was never officially issued by British Leyland or MG.

For Sale: Bob Charles has a 1976 MGB rubber bumper. Engine runs, needs body work, \$1,900. Has a good transmission.

Keith Hankey is looking for work car for his daughter. If you know of one, give him a call.

Gumball Rallye:
Terry Happensack wins the free membership.
Kathy G and Terry Looft motioned to adjourn...
9:25 we're done.

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