

# THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XXXIX No. 1

October 2009

New Officers

Concours d'Elegance Pictures



## From the President

Ryan Looft

Let me start off by thanking everyone for allowing me to be President once again. Hopefully this administration can live up to the challenges as the last administration did!

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, some club members met at John and Linda Wolfe's home to discuss the MGA Get-Together that is being planned for 2012 with the possibility of it being held in Dayton. Dave Gribler is spearheading this idea and is looking for club members input and those with time and talent to chair a committee. Get with Dave Gribler for more

information or plan to attend another meeting coming in the future as we continue to explore this idea. Thanks to the Wolfe's for opening up their home on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

The past few days have given us a taste of late fall or winter with these cold temperatures.



North American MGB Register

Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club  
P.O. Box 20032, Dabel Branch  
Dayton, OH 45420-0032

### 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 7:30pm. The next meeting will be:

Wed Oct 28, 2009

### MG Car Club Officers

**President**.....**Ryan Looft**  
phone.....513-252-4191  
email.....[ryan@looft.net](mailto:ryan@looft.net)  
**Vice President**.....**Dave Gribler**  
phone.....(937) 898-9928  
email.....[drivesmgs@yahoo.com](mailto:drivesmgs@yahoo.com)  
**Secretary**.....**Sam Hodges**  
phone.....937-434-6505  
email.....[sammgb@earthlink.net](mailto:sammgb@earthlink.net)  
**Treasurer**.....**Bonnie Hankey**  
phone.....513-897-2456  
email.....[bhankey\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:bhankey_2000@yahoo.com)  
**Member at Large**.....**Dar Planeaux**  
phone.....937-878-6974  
email.....[DarandMary@aol.com](mailto:DarandMary@aol.com)  
**President Emeritus**.....**Skip Peterson**  
Phone .....937-293-2819  
Email.....[mgbskip@aol.com](mailto:mgbskip@aol.com)  
**Web Master**.....**Ron Parks**  
phone.....937 322-0717  
email.....[mgbdriver@woh.rr.com](mailto:mgbdriver@woh.rr.com)  
**Activities Chair**.....**Ed Hill**  
phone.....937- 461-6688  
email.....[ehillmgb@aol.com](mailto:ehillmgb@aol.com)  
**Membership Chair**.....**Carole Looft**  
phone.....937-382-1520  
email.....[carole@looft.net](mailto:carole@looft.net)  
**Librarian**.....**John Wolfe**  
phone.....429-3292  
**Historian**.....**Dick Smith**  
phone.....434-1750  
email.....[rsmithomo@aol.com](mailto:rsmithomo@aol.com)  
**WebPage**..... [www.mgcars.org.uk/mgccswoc](http://www.mgcars.org.uk/mgccswoc)

### Your Octagon News Editors

Steve Markman  
937-886-9566 [smarkman@att.net](mailto:smarkman@att.net)

Joe Hooker  
937-426-1128 [twocoloradokids@att.net](mailto:twocoloradokids@att.net)

### Inside This Issue

2	New Officers
3	Featured Car – Ian Cunningham's '63 MGB
5	Pictures from Concours d'Elegance
7	Minutes of the September Meeting

## Upcoming MGCC Events

### Oct:

28 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

### Nov:

18 – Meeting (K of C Hall – 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Wednesday of month)

### Dec:

5 – Holiday Party  
– No club meeting (enjoy the  
holidays)

Nevertheless, the fall drive will take place on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> with the cars leaving the Steak and Shake parking lot by the Dayton Mall. The drive will take us through Warren County on MG back roads with questions to answer along the way. There is a twist to the questions, as they will be in random order. The idea will be to study the questions and try to find the answers along the way. The drive will end at Valley Vineyards in Morrow. Thanks to Terry and Carole Looft for putting this drive together.

John Twist will be having a final auction of a large lot of memorabilia, parts, tools, etc. on Saturday November 21. The auction will be held at his shop in Ada, Michigan. I'm sure this will draw a large crowd from all over the country.

At the last meeting, I stated that my steering column needed to be replaced on my 1964 MG 1100. I got that done about two weeks ago and should have it at the fall drive and the next meeting.

A reminder – the November meeting will be held on the **third** Wednesday of the month next month, or on November 18. Keep that in mind.

Hope to see everyone at the October meeting!

## New Officers

At our last meeting, we elected the following new officers:

President: Ryan Looft  
Vice President – Dave Gribler  
Secretary – Sam Hodges  
Treasurer – Bonnie Hankey  
Member at Large – Dar Planeaux



Congratulations to our new officers, and thanks to the outgoing officers for all their work during the last year.

## Welcome New Members

Carole Looft

Michael & Gayle Hirsch 1986 N. Highgate Ct. Beavercreek, Ohio 45432 937-429-420 <a href="mailto:mikro219@sbcglobal.net">mikro219@sbcglobal.net</a> 1958 MGA	Skip & Joan Jackson 3240 Koenig Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45211 513-720-7547 <a href="mailto:jackson.skip@yahoo.com">jackson.skip@yahoo.com</a> no car yet	Steven & Katherine Gillie 6780 Bunnell Hill Rd. Springboro, Ohio 45066 513-571-5276 <a href="mailto:sgillie@cinci.rr.com">sgillie@cinci.rr.com</a> 1952 TD
--	---	---

# Membership Renewal Time

Carole Looft

September is the month for membership renewals. If you haven't renewed yet, your dues can be brought to the meeting or sent to:

MG Car Club SW Ohio Centre  
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 on hand for you, drop a note along with your payment, and we will update our records. Our new membership list will be out in January.

## Member Featured Car of the Month...

# Ian Cunningham's '63' MGB, with Matching Trailer

Ian Cunningham

A number of years ago when I retired, I decided that I should get an MG or some such little sports car to play with. I have enjoyed my share of motorcycles since the 1950's, but now thought that four wheels would serve us better. Our first LBC, the '75 Midget turned out to be less work to get into good shape than anticipated. I then wanted to find a 'project car', so I quickly located the '63 MGB in Jamestown, north of Wilmington. It had been setting in a barn for ten or more years, under pigeons and other large birds, because the teenager it had been last purchased for turned up her nose at it. The familiar "ran when parked" story.

The car had come to Ohio from Texas, with holes in the floors for a roll bar, and I later concluded it had a mild cam. (Not much torque until the revs exceed 2700 rpm.) Bird excrement had destroyed the paint and interior, which was fine with me - that meant I got a lot of new appearance stuff. I did the usual mechanical replacements and rebuilds, and marveled at the responsiveness of the free-revving 3-bearing engine. It was nothing like the dullness of the '75 Midget, even with the Midget's minimal pollution control stuff disconnected.







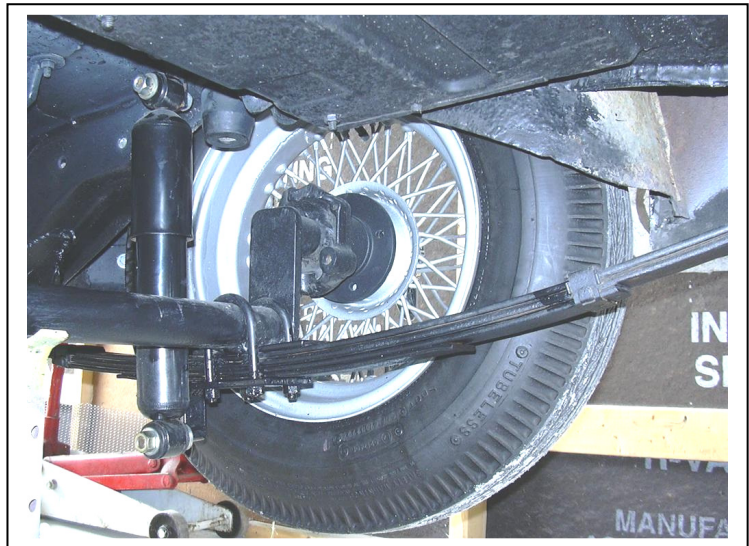
The folding top is of the sideways hinging frame - an abomination. It takes an experienced committee to erect it or put it down, but I've been told that no one likes the take-a-part style either, so we live with it. We also have a period hard top, which is the best way to travel when the weather is bad. It does keep the water out, mostly. I wanted wide white wall tires to go with the Old English White Paint, but Coker only had Polyester Bias Ply narrow tread in Wide Whites to fit the narrow 4 1/2 inch wheels, so I had to settle for that compromise, for appearance sake.

I wasn't going to race the car

anyway; though it must have been raced some time in its past. But, I had forgotten how poor that old time tire construction really is. Not very safe at any speed! When I was a kid, we even bought second-time recaps for \$8.00 and thought nothing of it. That was before Goodyear began marketing 'Polyglas' tires, an enormous improvement in the 1950's. At that time, we could not have been able to even dream of something like a radial tire.

Three years ago I got a rebuilt tranny and overdrive from Eric Jones. What a difference the overdrive makes in cruising comfort. But now those simple tires are REALLY dangerous! They have more than 20 thousand on them, so my hope is that maybe someday, if my vision and reflexes remain adequate, I can find radials with wide white walls.

Five years ago or so, I was able to acquire a stripped out body tub from our own Bob Charles, to make a trailer to match the "B". I had been visualizing such a project for a long time. Basically, the trailer is made from the rear body section, from the "B" post rearward, floor, springs and all. A bit of the front fender was grafted onto the rear fender at the wheel centerline to put the headlight in, and the grille and hood section fell into place. Axle is welded from inch and a half water pipe, springs are missing several leaves each, and shocks are from an early Corvette. Total trailer weight is a bit over 400 pounds. The only time I notice pulling the trailer is when I take off after unhitching - then it's the lack of trailer that is apparent. Other wise, it seems part of the car.



Any of you who possess the body working skill and experience required and who may be seriously considering building a trailer such as this may contact me at [Ian\\_Cunningham@verizon.net](mailto:Ian_Cunningham@verizon.net)



## Pictures from 2009 Concours d'Elegance

Photos by Steve Markman



Linda and John Wolfe guide cars to their parking spots.



Bill Hammond and Ron Parks attending to one of the hundreds of miscellaneous little items.



The Gribblers and Hodges keeping dry.



Steve and Jane Powell won an Award of Excellence with their MG TC.



Glenn Marin, working as a Class Marshal



Reverend Wright (aka Bob Knupp), blessed Steve Markman's MG TD, but it didn't help.

## Classifieds

**Free classified policy:** We are happy to run your auto-related add for six months free of charge, but may cut older adds as space permits. Please contact the editor when your items sells or if you wish to continue the add for an additional six months.

**For Sale:** 1972 MG Midget; 1275cc engine with twin SU carburetors, 52,000 miles. Cylinder head rebuilt and surfaced, new water pump and thermostat, new style electronic fuel pump, rebuilt master cylinder, new battery, newer top, solid belly pan. \$1850.00. Also have set of extra doors and deck lid. E-mail: [besttool@centurytel.net](mailto:besttool@centurytel.net) or cell phone; 440/396-8550. (10/09)

**For Sale:** 1976 MGB in great shape Rebuilt engine, new brakes, exhaust, clutch, tires, wire wheels(sandblasted and repainted), new paint, top, carpet, and stereo, all done in 2007. It is a great driver and runs very well. Asking \$7000, but would consider all offers. Located in Columbus. Contact Sean O'Farrell at 614-582-1315. (10/09)

**For Sale:** 1979 MGB. Original owner, 22,700 original miles. Damask red color with tan interior and top. No rust at all. No rips or tears in either the top or the seats. The dash also is perfect. Luggage rack. \$7900 OBO. For more information or pictures, call Kerry Steed 937-725-8492 or email [ksteed2000@yahoo.com](mailto:ksteed2000@yahoo.com) (10/09)

**For Sale:** 1950 MGTD, rough shape, not driven for about 30 years, but reasonably complete. Asking \$1300. For more information, contact Melissa Johnson, 937-470-3004, or [mgaston@amfam.com](mailto:mgaston@amfam.com). (9/09)

**For Sale:** 77 B, \$6250 Bernard Wilburn, 614-832-9378, or <http://columbus.craigslist.org/cto/1360223543.html> (9/09)

**For Sale:** 1974 MGB GT Color-Mirage, 1.8, 4 speed, 62k. Have all history/receipt's. \$7,500 o.b.o. Former MGCCSWOC member. Will negotiate on price with club members. 937-604-6729/937-718-6044. (9/09)

**For Sale:** MGA windscreen with glass. Excellent condition. Located in Solon, east of Cleveland. Contact Bob at 440-248-0861. (8/09)

**For Sale:** 1955 MG TF "1500" \$27,500. One of the few remaining 3400 made. This great car is a multi-award winner in the Tri-State area, and has received invitations to participate in many Concours D'elegances. This "TF" was purchased in 2000, and since then has had many upgrades. I have

## OUR **SERVICE** PUTS US **A-PART** FROM THE REST.

At Little British, we know who we are and where our business comes from. As a growing company founded in the late 90's, we take pride in giving you high quality customer service. We will have the parts you need, the convenience you want, and at a lower price than you thought you would pay.

By being an online based company, we are able to keep costs low and maintain a flawless ordering system that is quick and user friendly. We have the parts for most British marques and models as well as fun collectibles and other useful items for the British car enthusiast. Log on to [www.LBCarCo.com](http://www.LBCarCo.com) and see why we excel at what we do.

Authorized Distributor for



**Pertronix Electric Ignitions and Coils**

**Vintage Ads**

**Don Hoods**

**Mota-Lita Steering Wheels**

**Gunson Tools**

**Moss Motors**

**Halogen Bulbs for Most British and American Cars**

**Plus many others!**



**Little British Car Company**  
**[www.LBCarCo.com](http://www.LBCarCo.com)**

Jeff Zorn • 29311 Aranel Farmington Hills, MI 48334  
Phone: 248-489-0022 • Toll-free: 800-637-9640  
Fax: 248-489-9665 • Email: [LBCarCo@LBCarCo.com](mailto:LBCarCo@LBCarCo.com)  
Major credit cards accepted



## The Octagon News – October 2009

documentation on this vehicle going back to 1963. For a complete listing of upgrades and photos, contact Jeff Fields, 440-315-6380, or 440-355-MGMG. (8/09)

**For Sale:** 1977 MGB, white, runs well. New Weber carbs, new top, tires, and paint. Also, hundreds of spare parts, such as wheels, electrical items, gauges, interior parts, and more. All for \$6550 or best offer. Bob, 502-225-9306 or [bndff@juno.com](mailto:bndff@juno.com). (8/09)

**For Sale:** Used radiator from “78” Midget, set of inertia reel seatbelts and wash container. All for \$25.00. Call Bob at 937-253-9335. (8/09)

**Wanted:** Louvered Hood for MGB, steel or aluminium. Call Bob, 513-267-1784. (8/09)

**For Sale:** New MGB spider super sprint monza type exhaust system for emissions cars. Complete pipes resonator and muffler from cat on back. \$150.00. call Mike Sonderman, 937-286-2198 (7/09)

**For Sale ;** 1958 MGA coupe. Needs restoration. All there except missing front windsheild, seat cushions and some small chrome pcs. \$3,500.00. call Mike Sonderman, 937-286-2198 (7/09)

**For Sale:** 1959 T-Bird, 65,000 miles, restored to an all original condition. 350 CID V-8. White exterior, red/white interior. Entire interior is new, including carpeting, headliner, console and all it's trim, the dashboard, door panels and their trim, and trunk matt. New tail-light lenses, new exterior trim and emblems, and all the engine accessories under the hood. The original clock even works! Also included are an all stainless steel dual exhaust system, and an original NEW factory air conditioning. It also has the original T-Bird hub caps. Power steering and power windows round out the luxury interior. The transmission and engine also have been restored. \$14,500. [GBrahm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:GBrahm@sbcglobal.net) (7/09)

**For Sale:** 1959 MGA, wire wheels, located in western New York. Purchased in 1968. Never driven winters. Stored in garage since 1972. 37,721 original miles. Photos available. Interested parties should contact Paul Albanese [palbanes@kent.edu](mailto:palbanes@kent.edu). (7/09)

**For Sale:** MGA Black w/red interior. Recently restored. Located in LeSoursdville. Contact Devin Baldridge at [devin-b@prodigy.net](mailto:devin-b@prodigy.net), home 513-772-3584, or mobile 513-319-4497. (6/09)

## MG Car Club Minutes, September 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

Sam Hodges

The meeting was called to order precisely at 7:36pm (*Hey, why ruin the streak now...*)

Apparently, there was some sort of filibuster going on in the back of the room (*is anyone surprised it came from THAT table...*) and I was ‘chatting’ with a fellow MGCC member who’s name oddly rhymes with Don Barks...

**President Skip Peterson** delivered his final address to the troops (*for now...*), “Wow, this is a large crowd for a September.” Bonnie Hankey, “We forgot what was going on.” Skip, “Did McCann leave this up here for me?” It’s a brochure for the Big Shaggy Buffalo Ranch in Urbana, OH. Terry Looft, “That’s a

## The Octagon News – October 2009

whose house isn't it?" (Normally, I'd insert a quip like '(a)nd you would know this how?..' but I'm going to let it go...)

Skip got invited to speak at the Marmon Muster over at the Taj Ma Garaj and the Marriott. Apparently there were 28 Marmons' at the Concours and that's the largest collection of Marmons' since the factory closed (*made up fact*).

The 2009 version of the Annual Holiday Party will be held Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at the Peterson abode (4400 Wingview Lane). This is the first Saturday of the month. 7:00 pm sounds like as good of a time as any to start the party. At this point we give the Gribblers' a bit of grief due to their complaints about the date. Apparently there's a Barecat's game of some sort (*yeah, that's an intentional typo*). Dave reassures Lois that it's an away game. Skip, "Is it within driving distance." Dave McCann, "You're asking the Gribblers about driving distance?" Skip, "I figure that anything east of Nebraska is within driving distance." Eddie, "Didn't they make it to the San Juan Shootout?"

**Vice President's Report** was next. Skip, "You've got your speech ready right?" Ryan, "No, I really don't have a whole lot. I've been driving the MG 1100 almost every day, until yesterday when the steering went out as I was pulling into the driveway. Otherwise, that's all I've got."

**Minutes** were next. Dick Goodman motioned to accept. John Zeno seconded (*Yeah, I missed who it was, SO!?!*) Minutes as reported were approved.

**Treasurers Report.** *WOW! I actually have to type something for this report.* Treasurer Glen Marin reported that due to statement issues, there has been an accounting issue that has come to light. The Treasury is about \$600 short. Skip, "We should convene a committee that goes back through the Credit Union statements and figure out where the error occurred. Kathy Goodman and Skip volunteered to be on the committee. Dave Gribler was drafted to be on the committee. The new Treasurer and Glen will be on the committee as well. Dave McCann motioned to approve these actions, Linda Wolfe seconded. Motion passed. The committee will meet as soon as possible to go over the credit union statements.

Membership was next. Carole Looft, "We ended up with 98 members. Sorry Skip. We do have a new member at the meeting tonight. Mike Hirsch (*sp?*) owner of a 1958 MGA was in attendance. Also new to the club are Richard (Skip) & Joan Jackson from Cincinnati. (*Two Skips... this could get interesting*).

**Newsletter** was next. Steve Markman, "I put out a request for pictures of Skip placing the decal on the "supply trailer" and I was swamped with submissions,

  
**VINCE'S  
IRONWORKS**  
Frame-off restoration, metal replacement, bodywork, painting  
*We will do it your way!!*  
James V. Cooley III  
Proprietor  
937-360-3151  
Member MQCCSWOC #100



## The Octagon News – October 2009

but I forgot whose picture I actually used, so thanks to everyone who sent one to me. This year, Joe Hooker joined me at the Ronald McDonald House cruise-in (at which point he presents a picture of Joe Hooker and Ronald McDonald).

**Sunshine Committee** was next. Dave McCann is having open-heart arterial bypass surgery this Friday. Either 3 or 4 depending on what they find. Dave McCann, "I'll be the first patient to use the new DaVinci robotic surgery system." Skip, "The first to use? Just swipe the card and grab the joysticks?" Dave McCann, "The first to have the system used on me... I should be there about 4 to 5 days (*if you've been keeping up on the e-mails, he's been there about 10 days due to some complications*). Terry Looft, "Should we do his card now so that he can sign it?" Jennifer Peterson, "Just take it with you. That way we can save the postage..." *We actually start passing around a card for Dave... who's here... and signs his own card...*

**Webmaster** Ron Parks, "I clay barred the trailer and it looks great." Dave McCann Jr., "Did you get all of those letters off?" Skip, "We've got more decals..." Ryan Looft, "...but will they be straight?"

**Activities with Eddie** was next. Carole Looft, "We're meeting at the Steak-n-Shake south of the Dayton Mall at 2:30 to leave at 3:00 on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup> for the Fall Tour. It'll be about an hour and a half by car and we'll end up at Valley Vineyards. Carole needs reservations and it's \$55 per couple.

Beer Break called at 8:11...

Back from Break 8:28.

**British Museum of Transportation** is currently looking at a building in the Wright Dunbar District. The British Museum will be at the Tipp City Mum Festival with the raffle car as well. They sold about 30 tickets at the Concours.

**NAMGAR 2012** is still on the table. The secondary meeting was held Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup>. All that want(ed) to participate should (*have*) attend(ed) the 7:30 meeting. Meeting will be (*was*) at Linda Wolfe's house in Beavercreek. Bring a snack (*they were delicious*).

**For Sale:** Steve Veris, "The place that did my Lotus wheel (*he has one at the meeting – it looks quite nice*) charges \$50/wheel to media blast, prime, & paint. \$20 for just a media blast. The place is called American Industrial Maintenance and they're located on Springfield Street. Jeff Opt, "Do they do them in blue?"

**Trivia. Q:** Skip, "How many unique models did MG build between 1924 and 1980? **A:** 35.

- 21 sports cars
- 3 small saloons
- 9 mid sized saloons and
- 2 full size cars...

*(This is fun fact trivia. There's no need for all of you 'Rainman' types to chime in... "Oh that's wrong! There were 37. Definitely 37. 37 models! Wapner's on at 4:00...)*

**Tech Tips:** Ron Parks, "I used the Meguiar's clay bar system on my car and the supplies trailer and it did a remarkable job."

**New Business:** It's that time of year again! It's the time of year that our political system fires up and churns to the top those candidates that have shown themselves to be the cream of the crop. That, and they

## The Octagon News – October 2009

paid their dues. Yes, folks, it's once again time for the MGCC Election Railroad to fire up. Linda moves to close...

### **The Office of the President:**

Hammond nominates Ryan Looft for the office of President. Eddie Hill seconds the nomination. Ron Parks nominates Sam Hodges. Terry Happensack seconds the nomination. After a secret ballot that was counted by the accountants at Price Waterhouse Coopers, Ryan Looft wins the Presidency. Congrat's to our new President.

### **The Office of the Vice President:**

Jennifer Peterson Nominates Glenn Marin. The nomination is seconded. Lois Gribler nominates Dave Gribler (*Where I come from, we call that 'being thrown under the bus'*). Linda Wolfe seconds. Phil Johnson throws my name into the pot. Bonnie Hankey seconds. (*Are you just trying to torture me!!?*) Linda Wolfe motions to close. After another secret ballot vote, it is announced that Dave Gribler is the new Vice President. Congrat's to our new Vice President.

### **The Office of the Secretary:...Um..., yeah... right...**

Lois Gribler, "I nominate Sam." Jennifer P, "I second." Skip, "All in favor?" Lois, "I move to close." *It took you longer to read that account than it actually took real-time...*

### **The Office of the Treasurer:**

Lois Gribler, "I nominate Dar." Dar, "I'm gone six months out of the year..." Ron Parks, "I nominate Bonnie Hankey. Jennifer seconded the nomination. Dave McCann moved to close nominations. Bonnie's it. Congrat's to our new Treasurer.

**Member-at-Large:** Jennifer P., "How about Dar?" The motion is seconded – Dar doesn't object. Lois motions to close nominations. Dar's the new Large Member. Congrat's to our new Member-at-Large.

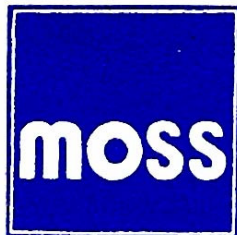
Steve Veris, "Why don't you pass comprehensive health care reform while you're at it? You're on a roll..." Skip, "If I knew anything about it, I would."

Linda McCann won the gumball rallye and the free membership.  
Meeting adjourned at 9:15...



### **MG AUTOMOTIVE**

Parts, Service and Restoration for  
MG, Triumph, Austin Healey and  
Related Autos



### **Steve Miller**

3733 Wilmington Pike  
Kettering, Ohio 45429  
(937) 294-7623

e-mail: MgAutomotive1@aol.com