

# THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XXXIX No. 11

September 2010

Membership Renewal Time

Pictures from Club Picnic



## From the President

Ryan Looft

I would like to thank Dick and Kathy Goodman again for hosting the annual club picnic. It is just a great time where everyone is able to visit and relax. There was a good turn out of club members and their cars.

Keep in mind at the next meeting it is election time. That means club dues are due. More importantly, we will need to elect new officers. So, you will want to be there if you do or don't want to hold a position. Club members who skipped this meeting have been elected to an office.

Everyone needs to keep October 17<sup>th</sup> open. The MG Car Club in England is planning the largest MG event to celebrate their 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. The idea is to have all the car clubs around the world to plan something on that weekend and document it on their website. We will plan our fall drive and



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, September 22, 2010

### MG Car Club Officers

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### Your Octagon News Editors

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### Inside This Issue

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## Upcoming MGCC Events

### Sep:

19 – Concours d'Elegance  
22 – Meeting (K of C Hall)  
25 – Orphan Car Show

### Oct:

27 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

### Nov:

No meeting (happy  
Thanksgiving)

pub run that day. More details can be found at  
[www.mgcc.co.uk/mg80](http://www.mgcc.co.uk/mg80).

Hope to see everyone at the next meeting!

## New Members

Carole Looft

Rob & Cher Giesse  
8780 South Cove Dr.  
Maineville, Ohio 45039  
(513) 677-2112  
[rgiesse@fuse.net](mailto:rgiesse@fuse.net)  
1951 TD

## Meet Our New Members

Carole Looft

Greg and Peggy Isaacs joined our club in June. They are the owners of a 1979 beige Midget that they've owned for about four years. They found their Midget through a friend of Peggy's, and, as Greg would say, it was the typical 'basket case'. Both Greg and Peggy could see the potential, and after three years of love and aggravation, the Midget was finally on the road for them to drive and enjoy. Not a lot of modifications have been done to the car, but Greg did add a Weber carburetor, and changed the cam and header.



Greg has been around British cars since he was sixteen years old. He's owned a couple of Triumphs, an Austin Healey 3000, and an MGB. Currently he's working on restoring a 1975 MGB and is looking for another Midget as a donor car. It's good to see such enthusiasm and we welcome the Isaacs' and look forward to seeing them at our club functions.

## Membership Renewal Time

Carole Looft

September is the month for membership renewals. You can bring your dues to the meeting or send them 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. ***Remember, you have to be a paid-up member in order to vote for next year's officers!***

## Member Featured Car of the Month...

### Jim Franzer's 77 MGB

Jim Franzer  
(as interviewed by Ron Parks)

I bought my '77' B in 1999, paying \$350 for it. The guy ahead of me had started the project and had replaced the driver side part of the rocker panels. It was disassembled and setting in boxes. I had never driven a B before, but I had a Midget when I was in college. Unfortunately I had to sell it to pay for tuition and books. And, as I said, I had never driven a B before, but I knew I wanted something a little bigger. I saw an ad for this one in the Trading Post and my wife kind of encouraged me, since I like to putter in the garage. Part of the deal was that delivery was included for \$350. This started a five year restoration project. I disassembled the whole thing and then rebuilt it all.

I learned to use E-Bay, buying and selling many parts online. Although, the car was purchased in Ohio, it has parts on it from all over the country. I bought a rear end out of Colorado. I think one of the fenders came from Washington State and another front fender came from West Virginia. I bought and sold parts all over the place.

Towards the end of the restoration, I was getting ready to rebuild the engine when a buddy at work saw in the local paper that somebody was moving and had two Bs for sale with a rebuilt engine. So, I bought two more B's right at the end, just to get the engine. This was good because when I began final assembly, I held off disassembling one of the other cars. After having it apart for five years, it was great to see how wires were supposed to be routed and how things were put together. Even though I had taken pictures and video, it proved invaluable to have that one car semi-assembled to use as an example.

Five years later, in about 2004, I went to final assembly and had my Demask Red MGB on the road in late summer of that year. I tried to have it together for the 2004 British Car Day, but didn't make it. Some other family things were going on that put things into perspective. My Father-in-law passed away during that time, and one of my positive memories is of driving his personal effects to the funeral home in the B. This was one of its first short trips.

One of the odd things I remember from putting things back together – and if anyone ever has an electrical problem that they just can't figure out – they might check this: I put the fuse box in upside down. That baffled me for months because it can physically go on either way. I started looking at the schematics and took things apart. Knowing the reputation of Lucas electrics, I had made sure everything was new, including the wiring harness. I'm not sure what made me decide to turn the fuse block around, but I flipped it and magically, everything worked. Beware, this is an easy mistake to make, as there are no markings to tell you which way is correct. If you're installing it from scratch and connecting wires, it can really mess you up.

Family events have prevented my participation in British Car Day the last few years, but I'm hopeful of getting out there again, maybe next year?

This was you might say a ground off restoration, as the car was completely disassembled. I converted from the original steel disc wheels to painted wires, all the while looking to upgrade. Someday, when I have an extra thousand dollars or so, I'll put some chrome wire wheels on it. It was a 77 model and I installed lowered springs in the front and rear to bring it down to the right height. And, at that time, I bought, what was in its infancy: a kit from a club in Britain to convert it to chrome bumpers. I also went back to twin SUs. I had always heard about the dependability of the Weber carburetors, but I got stranded on the interstate with the Weber and had to have it towed home. I had Steve Miller of MG Automotive rebuild some SUs for me about two years ago and they had been sitting on the workbench ever since. Well, I thought, "The heck with it." Now I wish I would have made the conversion years ago. I've been very impressed with the HIF4 SUs. The car seems to me to run a lot better than it ever did with the Weber.



Jim's B after restoration.

Our trips in the car have been limited, as we currently have one daughter in college at Ohio State and one still in High School. When we're back down to the two of us, we'll be thinking trips, but for now we think of it as our date car. We're looking forward to being able to participate in the club's tours in the future.

I used to take my daughter to grade school in the MG on my way to work. You know, it's kind of bad when you take your car to get oooos and aaahs from grade school kids! But Hey?

## T-Series MiniTops Available Again

Joe Hooker



The popular mini top that fits over the windshield, cockpit, and boot of all T-series MGs is available again after being out of production for many years. It hooks onto the door handles and other protrusions, so no drilling or addition of hooks of any kind are required. (The one pictured here was seen at the 2007 Dayton British Car Day.) The price is \$95.00 plus \$8.00 shipping. It can be ordered from Jim Pesta at 2468 Timbercroft Court, Cincinnati OH 45239. Jim can be contacted at [Autographics99@hotmail.com](mailto:Autographics99@hotmail.com), or 513-591-0910.



## Pictures from Club Picnic



Grillmeister Looft gets dinner started.



Lining up for food.



Just relaxing.



MG's, MG's everywhere.



Mysterycar revealed – 1968 Riley.



Once again, a big **THANK YOU** to Dick and Kathy Goodman.

## Club Members Attend Kettering's Holiday at Home

Joe Hooker, Louie DiPasquele, and Steve Markman participated in this year's Kettering Invitational Car Show on Labor Day. The show was under new management and run very well. There even was a separate class for British cars, and six cars were entered in this class. Steve Markman won the Mayor's Choice Award, but Louie DiPasquele got to meet the Holiday at Home Queen and her court (again).



Kettering Mayor Don Patterson presents the Mayor's Choice award to Steve Markman



Louie DiPasquele meets the Queen and her court (sure beat meeting the mayor!)

## November Issue to Include Veterans Salute

Steve Markman

A few years ago, *The Octagon News* featured pictures of many of our members when they served in the U.S. military. I think it's time to do it again, as many of our new members are veterans. If you'd like to contribute a picture, please e-mail it to me if its in digital form or if you can scan it, or send it via snail mail and I'll return it.

## Anyone Lose a Sweatshirt at BCD?

We found an 'XL'-size MG Car Club sweatshirt at BCD. Email Carole [clooft@earthlink.net](mailto:clooft@earthlink.net) if it is yours.



## Classifieds

**Free classified policy:** *We are happy to run your auto-related ad for six months free of charge, but may cut older and non-MG related ads as space requires. Please contact the editor when your item sells or if you wish to continue the ad for an additional six months.*

**For Sale:** Four (4) early MGB wheels & tires. Ron Williams, 260-438-5337 (9/10)

**Wanted:** One wind wing for 1953 MG TD. Russ Berry, 937-673-5218. (9/10)

**Wanted:** Good passenger side fender for a 78 Midget. Todd Robbins 740-739-3241 (9/10)

**Wanted:** Two or three good straight, unbent, steel orig. disc wheels for MG TD . Steve Gillie 513 571-5276. (9/10)

**For Sale:** 1950 MGTD w/ extra engine and carb. \$13,000. Located in Beavercreek. Call Rick Lach for info, 937-426-2015. (8/10)

**For Sale:** 79 MGB. Over 100,000 miles. Body is solid, but some rust. Engine and carbs need rebuilding. Top still in good shape. 3rd owners.. Stored inside for 7 years beginning in 2000, then outside for 3 years (covered with a fitted tarp.) Title is clear. \$600. Dick Stem, Phone: 426-7759 or 901-6802 (8/10)

**Wanted:** MGB. Call Dave Wagonner, 937-833-2743. Brookville (8/10)

**Wanted:** MGB head pipe [Moss #444-020] George 440-315-4140 [csmwakeman@oh.rr.com](mailto:csmwakeman@oh.rr.com) (8/10)

**Wanted:** MG Magazine #65. Jeff 440.355.MGMG [drivesmgs@gmail.com](mailto:drivesmgs@gmail.com) (8/10)

**For Sale:** 1969 MGB Roadster. Looks and runs great. Only 150 miles since ground up restoration completed in 2008. New, period-correct, ice blue metallic paint professionally applied. All rust removed and metal replaced as needed, plus extensive mechanical rebuild. Tons of new parts, way too extensive to list here. \$17,900. Kent Miller, 937-299-3837. (8/10)

**Wanted:** MGA steering rack Jeff Fields 440.315.6380 440.355.MGMG (7/10)

**Wanted:** Replacement head for 1979 MGB. Randy Miller (937) 223-8271 or (937) 478-1091. (7/10)

**For Sale:** 57 MG Magnette varitone dk gray/lt gray 1800 B motor body great, interior fair- some spares. Located in Willoughby. Michael Arnold 440-946-MGMG or 440-477-8751. (7/10)

**For Sale:** 1974 MGBGT . Original owner!! Driven until the mid 80's. Since then was in my garage until 1993 when I started restoration. Unfortunately I am moving and have to sell it. 99% complete but does suffer from typical MG rust (rocker panels etc.) It does roll but needs to be towed or hauled on a flatbed. Cincinnati area. Martin Fryer, [mfryer@fuse.net](mailto:mfryer@fuse.net). (7/10)

**For Sale:** TC in NJ needs work. \$10,000. asking price. Garth, 551 265 8025 (7/10)

**For Sale:** Original 4-speed transmission removed from 1952 MG/TD that is being converted to a 5-speed. Only had 25969 miles. Asking price is 1,200. Jack Akers [akersclassic@netzero.net](mailto:akersclassic@netzero.net) (7/10)

**For Sale:** 47 TC. Buffalo NY area. Nice car needs a few things but engine rebuilt a few years ago, paint and body nice. Needs an interior. This isn't my car...belongs to an e-mail-challenged friend. Clifford J Lockrow, [JayLock@localnet.com](mailto:JayLock@localnet.com). (7/10)

**For Sale:** 1972 MGB. Has been in the garage for the last 5 years. Would like to sell it to someone who would appreciate it as much as we did. Good condition. The top is good and it ran the last time that we started it (which has been a while). Linda & Steve Knapp (740) 626-7334 or (740) 649-2017. (6/10)

**For Sale:** 76 MGB. Purchased new by owner's father. Only driven on nice days. This car is a true original survivor. It has only 15,008 miles on it and it still has original paint. No body work, ever. Color is "sandglow" (beige/gold combination). You can see the color at <http://www.teglerizer.com/mgcolors/>. The car is near perfect inside and out. No overdrive but the brakes recently were redone (new master cylinder, etc.). Closest thing to buying a new MGB that you'll find. Asking \$11,000 with very little room for negotiation. Contact [SReinh3115@cs.com](mailto:SReinh3115@cs.com). (6/10)

**For Sale:** 1972 MGB GT. It has been sitting in my garage since 1996 or 1997. (Never got around to restoration.) Was running up until then. Engine turns over. It has wire wheels and is blue. The windshield has a crack in it. Some rust. Located in Springfield OH. Glenn Wilson, 937-322-6107, or [gmwilson@erinet.com](mailto:gmwilson@erinet.com). (6/10)

**For Sale:** 1969 MGCGT. I am the 4th owner from the club and you can be the 5th. Car is 4 speed with OD, Red, (paint is a little tired). Mechanical brakes, troublesome boosters removed by Steve at MG Automotive some time ago. Runs very nicely, lots of power, doesn't leak much. Newer 72 spoke wires and tires (3 yrs I think). Many of you have known the car longer than me (2 yrs). Would love to trade for a B/C roadster of equal value (+/-), OD highly desired. NADA around \$9K for non-club Members, \$8,500 to club members but prefer to trade. Mike Rowles 937-669-2496 (6/10)

**For Sale:** 1951 TD & TF. The cars are not running. Erie, PA. Lew Penna: 814-449-2934 & 814-833-9956. (6/10)

**For Sale :** 1954 MGTF 1250 in very good condition. Driven regularly except for the last year. Colors are black with red upholstery, which match the original car factory registration. Top, side curtains and toneau cover are included with original shop manual and required tools. Installed cabin heater. Owner since 1972. Contact Cecil Scott, 614.459.0479. (5/10)



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**For Sale:** Collection of 10 – 15 MGs owned by collector in Middletown. Stored in barn. Specific cars, conditions, and prices unknown, but prefers to sell to MG owners before offering to the general public. Contact Rick Williams from 10am to 6pm at 513-727-3768 or e-mail at wasp1@att.net. (5/10)

**For Sale:** 4 - Dunlop SP20 165 R 15 tires (439 miles) and 1 - Vredestein Sprint Classic 165 R 15 tire (new). I just removed these from my 1960 MGA. These are in excellent condition. \$ 425. Tom Bishop [Tandtbishop@insight.rr.com](mailto:Tandtbishop@insight.rr.com) or 614-890-7921. (5/10)

## MG Car Club Minutes, August 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Sam Hodges

August Meeting was called to order a little late (7:35), Ryan, “I had to hang out outside waiting for the stragglers to straggle in...” Sam, “I was outside because he was outside.”

**President** Looft, “I see that THAT table is back... as well as old business (*referring to Louie*), but he’s just old news. Thanks to Dick & Kathy Goodman for the picnic.” Dick G., “Thanks to Joe Hooker for bringing the grill.”

Ryan, “We had a good turnout at BCD. Thank you to all of the volunteers. Next should be the **Vice President’s Report**, but ...Dave’s *not here man*.”

So therefore, **Minutes** were next. Louie D. motioned to accept the Minutes as reported, Ron Parks seconded. Minutes approved as reported.

**Treasurer’s Report** was next. Bonnie Hankey reported that there have only been two transactions since last month. We had Total Income to the MGCC consisting of: Squat, nil, nada. We therefore had a **Total Income of \$0.00**. Total Expenses: Hall Rental Fees (\$45.00) + Gumball Rallye (\$5.00) + Octagon News Fees (\$100.50) = **A Total Expense of \$150.50**. **Total Loss to the MGCC was \$150.50**, that when subtracted from/to our existing Treasury balance of \$2,158.45 equals a new **Treasury Balance of \$2,007.95** in the primary checking account and \$378.61 in the savings account. Dave McCann Jr. motioned to

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accept and Joe Hooker seconded. Treasurer's Report approved.

Carole Looft and **Membership** were up. Carole, "As of this meeting, we're up to 102 members. We have several new members, Thomas & Nancy Lolan of Kettering, owners of a 1978 MGB, Rick & Jill O'Cull of Tipp City, owners of a 1979 MGB, and Ron & Cher Giesse of Maineville, owners of a 1951 MGTD.

Don't forget that next month is the membership renewal month and you have to be a paid member in good standing to hold office." Skip, "But remember, we've paid the dues of other members that we wanted to be officers." ...*Need not be present to win...* Louie, "I got the Cincinnati British Car newsletter and they have 150 members in their club." Terry Looft, "Yeah, but they let Triumphs in their club." Skip, "Yeah, it's all British."

**Activities with Eddie** was next.

Eddie Hill, "This Sunday is a car show downtown at the Antioch Shrine on First St. (*It's over now – you missed it.*) There's the Concours on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>. The weekend after also at Carillon Park is the Annual Orphan Car Show this year featuring British cars." Skip, "Let's flood em! Might be kind of nice to go to a show and JUST be at the show, not selling, planning, parking, etc..." This show is on Saturday, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>.

Eddie, "We still don't have a Fall Tour, but Glen is also not here so..." Ryan, "I thought that our Fall Tour would be the Spring Tour in the Fall." Ron P., "I put the Indy British Motor Days on the website and it's this Sunday" (*It's over now too.*) Eddie, "Kettering is having a car show at the Rec. Center on Glengarry Drive, at the Charles I. Lathrem Center, on Thursday Sept 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:00. Steve Markman, "This Saturday the McDonalds in Sugarcreek is having a cruise in for the Ronald McDonald house." (*Yet again, over.*)

Ryan, "MG80 event is celebrating 80 years of the Mother Club. They had their first meeting October 16, 1930. I think that it would be a great idea to have our fall tour on that date. 'They' (*the mystical 'they' that plan all of these kinds of things*) want to have people from all over the world send in pictures of how they shared in the celebration. It's a ten pound entry fee.

From the MGCC Mother Club Website,

"Each club will stage a local event of their choosing, organized and funded by them, and involving as many members as possible. Enthusiasts will capture the spirit of the event by photo or video, which will then be uploaded to a dedicated website that will be accessible by all."

Terry Looft, "Let's send them 10 lbs. of something. Old car parts? Leaves? Jello?" Carole Looft, "I think they want to track what people are doing to celebrate all around the world."

**Sunshine Committee.** Jennifer P., "Everyone's healthy."

**Newsletter** Editor Steve Markman, "I don't have anything but Ron promised another fish picture. Otherwise, all's good."

**Newsletter Distribution.** Joe Hooker, "We haven't heard any complaints."

**Webmaster** Ron. Some of the BCD pictures are out on the website and I've got more pics from MG 2010 and GT 35. Now that I'm off of vacation, then maybe we can get some more stuff out there on the website. I want to keep the website simple because it's more important to get the information out than it is to make it flashy." Louie, "I might have to get a computer." Terry Looft, "He just got a calculator..."

Skip, "...now he can get a cell phone." Dave McCann, "If you get a laptop you can use it as a booster seat."

Dick Goodman, "We owe special thanks to the Loofts' for the return of the mystery car. It was a real surprise. It was something new, we only had one right guess, Dave McCann Jr." The car was a 1968 Riley.

Beer Break called for at 7:57.

Back from Beer Brake after the Reds win a 12-11 thriller at 8:13.

Skip, "Final **BCD** numbers are in. We had 318 registered, probably about 280 actually there. We had probably the best Saturday weather-wise of the summer. We made about \$3,000-3,500. We held up fairly well. We were down a little due to the fact that last year we had the Morgan and the Spitfire Squadron at the 2009 show."

Eddie, "We had a huge spectator turnout." Skip, "The Metro Park had to call in a backup Ranger to help with parking." Eddie, "That far back corner deserves a port-o-john of their own and maybe a speaker - maybe Wi-Fi." Skip,

"They've got a river and a tree line, what more do they want?" Pete, "Just put some toilet paper on a tree and you're good to go." Bill Hammond, "We could get a town-crier to go around..." Ryan, "What we need to do is to get a Triumph logo and put it in the urinal."

Louie D. "A vote of thanks to Skip and his crew for a job well done."

Dave McCann, "Several new members tried to volunteer to work and they were turned away, but I want to say that you shouldn't be discouraged." Jennifer, "If you were turned down, just come back when we look busy."

Eddie, "We need to get some vest for the parkers. There were so many people that it made it hard to know who to look when parking a car." Skip, "Uh...I have those." Jennifer, "Why didn't you get them out?" Skip, "You didn't tell me to."





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**British Museum of Transportation.** We're still working on the building fund, nothing yet, but we're hoping that we can get it settled this year. We're raffling a 2011 mini Cooper S. It's the winner's choice as long as it's comparable to the value of the Mini Cooper S we're raffling. 1,000 tickets at \$100.00 each. We've sold about 11 so far. Barb has Neuropathy in her left arm and her therapist and her husband were curious about the British Museum. I told you about the winner of the MGB-GT. He flew in from California and drove it home." Carole, "And it made it?" Dick, "He made it but the A/C discharged itself along the way. I'd like to thank Bob Hanselman, & Steve Veris. Both have been helping a lot with the Lotus.

**Old Business.** Louie D., "Watch what you say about old business."

**NAMGAR 2012.** Carole, "Dave & Lois gave a very good presentation at NAMGAR in Wisconsin and went over all of the attractions Dayton has to offer."

**New Business.** Ryan, "Mark your calendar for the Annual Holiday Party. It will be December 11<sup>th</sup> in Wilmington." Carole, "What time?" Skip, "3:00..." Ryan, "...come at 3:00 and you're cleaning toilets." Eddie, "5:00? I like a happy hour." Ryan, "7:00 it is."

**Tech Tips.** Keith Hankey, "Always check your rotor cap. I've been chasing things for two years and it turned out to be a bad rotor cap."

Carole Looft, "Don't forget that next month is elections and dues are due so bring your money." Louie, "Is there a senior discount?" Ryan, "Can anyone say Louie for Vice President?"

**Gumball Rallye** - Keith Hankey wins

Meeting adjourned 8:50. Louie motioned and Dick Smith seconded.

Ciao!



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