

# THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XL No. 11

September 2011



Time to Renew Your Membership!!

Concours D'Elegance Pictures

## From the President

Terry Looft

Hello MGCers,

Well, this is it (again). My last letter as President! It's been a pretty good year for most of us, but we can't forget some of the sad times. We did lose some good friends and members this past year.

We had some fun car shows like Reno, Cincinnati, and of course our own BCD. There were a lot of Pub Runs, and parties, all a great time and always made us look forward to the next one. Thanks to all who made everything work so well. We have many new members (sorry Ron); please make them feel welcome. It's nice to see an influx of new people who care for these cars as we do.

This past month we had the summer party hosted by the Goodman's and as always we had a good time. Thanks Dick



Southwestern Ohio Centre -- 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 28, 2011**

### MG Car Club Officers

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## Upcoming MGCC Events

### Sep:

- 18 – Concour
- 25 – Pub Run at Archer’s Tavern
- 28 – Meeting at K of C Hall –  
Elections!!

### Oct:

- 26 – Meeting at K of C Hall

### Nov:

- 16 – Meeting at K of C Hall  
(note one week earlier)

*See meeting minutes for other  
area activities!!*

and Kathy for opening up your home for us again.

I’m looking for a big turnout for the Pub Run at Archers Tavern on Sunday, September 24 at 5:00. Their address is 9496 Dayton Lebanon Pike. This is in Centerville across from the old Elder Beerman. It is actually on South Far Hills (also SR. 48). The owner/manager seemed very excited to have us come. I think he would like to see a lot of British cars in the “car park”. It looked like some good beers on tap, and if you do make it to the Pub Run, ***the first round of drinks is on the club!*** A reminder email will be coming with the details and the address.

Our basement project is in the home stretch and is looking great. The bar, TV, and game room will be in full operation for the Holiday Party. Please plan to be there. Come early and enjoy!!

As you know, this is my last meeting up front. I’m looking forward to sitting at the back table and giving the new President a hard time. Our September meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> will be election night. Membership renewals are also due at this time. Please try to attend this meeting. We need people to step up and take these jobs. It’s what makes our club run so well. Thanks for all of your

support this past year.

*Safety*  *Fast*

Terry

## Welcome New Members

Carole Looft

Richard Russell  
725 Cassel Creek  
Vandalia, Ohio 45377  
847-494-1562  
gramprussell3597@att.net  
**1976 Midget**

Mark Risley  
151 Aberdeen Ave.  
Dayton, Ohio 45419  
937-294-2537  
therisleys@ameritech.net



## Membership Renewal Time

September is the month for membership renewals. 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 on hand for you, drop a note along with your payment, and we will update our records.

**Don't forget – you must be a paid member to vote for new officers at the September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting!!**

## Meet New Member Ed Wolf

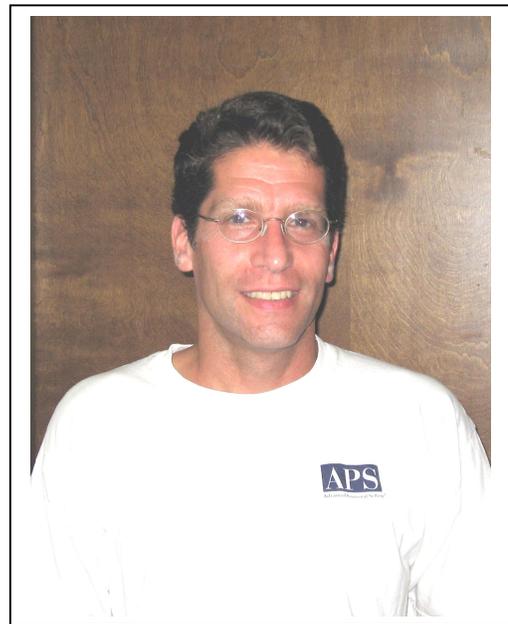
Carole Looft

**E**d Wolf joined our club a number of months ago and at that time didn't even have an MG yet. There had been a nice chrome bumper 'B' on ebay last year that really caught his eye, and it was after that when Ed started his search for his own.

Ed's wife Eileen needed a bit of persuasion to agree to get the MG. A fairly mint conditioned Honda was one of the casualties. It had to go, but Ed has no regrets.

The car that Ed ended up finding belonged to former club members Fred and Betty Shaneyfeld. It's a orange 1973 MGB that had been restored in 1998. Ed has a few upgrades planned in the future: adding a radio and also improving the suspension.

The MG is Ed's first British car but it isn't his first convertible, however. Back in the '90's, Ed had a 1972 Cadillac. Now that's extreme! Ed seems to be really enjoying those evening drives in the MG and usually attracts attention wherever he goes. Welcome, Ed and Eileen to our club.



## Special Photo Feature Coming this Winter

With so many of us being grandparents (some newer than others), we'll run a photo feature of grandkids. Ground rules are that the photo must show you, your MG, and your grandkids. No pets, please, even if it is your child's pet. Please e-mail your photo to [smarkman@att.net](mailto:smarkman@att.net), or mail it to me. Thanks to Skip Peterson for the suggestion.

Member Featured Car of the Month...

## Lois & Dave Gribler's 1972 MG Midget

Dave Gribler

**W**e acquired our Midget in the fall of 1981 as a replacement for a very rusty 1968 Austin Healey Sprite that we sold a few weeks earlier to be parted out. We purchased the Midget from former club member Paul Wehner. Shortly after purchasing it, Lois noticed a student in her middle school math class sporting an MG Car Club t-shirt. The boy turned out to be Clark Wolfe, the son of John and Linda Wolfe, who confessed that there was in fact an MG Car Club in Dayton. We immediately joined the club and began attending the monthly meetings at the Urban Suburban tavern in Kettering.

We used the Midget as a year round daily driver until 1988 when we took it off the road to replace the rocker panels, door post skins and front fender patch panels. The car was stripped to bare metal and repainted in the same 1970's white Ford lacquer it sported when purchased. This work certified my complete lack of ability in the field of body work and cemented my distaste for prolonged rubbing with sandpaper in a circular motion. We completed the refreshing work in time for our daughter Joanne to take her very first ride in an MG at the ripe age of 3 days (yes, of course the top was down). It took a lot of shopping around in advance of this event to find a child car seat that would fit on the rear deck behind the seats. A few months later a moron in a Chevy S-10 struck us in the rear, requiring a rear valence transplant and another paint job; enamel this time. There may have been an engine refreshing and a clutch at about this time as well. We took the Midget on the track at Indy for NAMGAR GT-14 in 1989, was a winner in the road rally at the University Motors Summer Party in 1995 and at Indy again for the first all MG meet in 1996. It was the only MG in our fleet until we purchased the MGA in 1986.

We rebuilt and balanced the engine in 2002 with new pistons and cam, and installed a refurbished gearbox. Joanne became proficient driving a manual transmission in this car just after her 16<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2004. We removed the Midget from service again in 2005 to replace the floorboards, rocker panels, and front and rear fender patch panels, and to replace the poorly repaired rear valence. The color also was changed this time to the original Snowberry (ow! that hurts my eyes! that white is really WHITE!) White. New chrome and rubber bits also were installed. Reassembly is proceeding at this time at an amazingly excruciatingly slow speed, having been interrupted by a complete refurb of the MGA. The Midget's new carpets were installed this spring and the seats recovered during the summer. We'll install the new top next, to be followed by the remaining exterior bits and light fixtures. A slight struggle is expected in getting it in running order as is the usual case with a car that has not run for six years. Expect to see the Midget on the road for summer 2012 events. Lois is very anxious to have the car back as it is the first family MG and her favorite.



# Pictures From 2011 Concours D'Elegance





Wood race cars...



...and even a pink Cadillac

Editor's note – In past years I've shown photos of club members' cars on display at Concours and club members hard at work (and there always are a lot of us). This year I'm showing a selection of the cars and other vehicles on display at this year's show.

**Special thanks to Skip Peterson and his team for all their hard work!! It was another great show.**

# British Car Owners Support Oakwood Historical Society

Steve Markman

Photos by Ron Parks and Steve Markman

About 25 British car owners volunteered their time, enthusiasm, and expertise on British cars to help draw visitors to the Oakwood Historical Society's open house on August 28<sup>th</sup>. O.K, call it a car show if you must, but the by-invitation event was another great get together with other British car owners, and an opportunity to help another local organization.



A beautiful location on Far Hills Ave in Oakwood



Couldn't have asked for a nicer day or location



Ron Parks' MGB and Pat Wasserman's MGC



Steve Markman's MGTD and Louie DiPasquale's MGA



Dick Smith's MGB and Phil Johnson's MG TD



British Transportation Museum's MG YA

# Burma Shave Signs

Remember the Burma Shave signs that dotted many of our highways back in the 50s, before we did most of our long distance driving on interstates? Here's a collection of automotive-related ones that still are true today.



|   |   |
|---|---|
| CAUTIOUS RIDER<br>TO HER RECKLESS DEAR<br>LET'S HAVE LESS BULL<br>AND A LITTLE MORE STEER | DON'T STICK YOUR ELBOW<br>OUT SO FAR<br>IT MAY GO HOME<br>IN ANOTHER CAR.           |
| TRAINS DON'T WANDER<br>ALL OVER THE MAP<br>'CAUSE NOBODY SITS<br>IN THE ENGINEER'S LAP    | CAR IN DITCH<br>DRIVER IN TREE<br>THE MOON WAS FULL<br>AND SO WAS HE.               |
| DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD<br>TO GAIN A MINUTE<br>YOU NEED YOUR HEAD<br>YOUR BRAINS ARE IN IT   | DROVE TOO LONG<br>DRIVER SNOOZING<br>WHAT HAPPENED NEXT<br>IS NOT AMUSING           |
| BROTHER SPEEDER<br>LET'S REHEARSE<br>ALL TOGETHER<br>GOOD MORNING, NURSE                  | SPEED WAS HIGH<br>WEATHER WAS NOT<br>TIRES WERE THIN<br>X MARKS THE SPOT            |
| THE MIDNIGHT RIDE<br>OF PAUL FOR BEER<br>LED TO A WARMER<br>HEMISPHERE                    | AROUND THE CURVE<br>LICKETY-SPLIT<br>BEAUTIFUL CAR<br>WASN'T IT?                    |
| NO MATTER THE PRICE<br>NO MATTER HOW NEW<br>THE BEST SAFETY DEVICE<br>IN THE CAR IS YOU   | A GUY WHO DRIVES<br>A CAR WIDE OPEN<br>IS NOT THINKIN'<br>HE'S JUST HOPIN'          |
| AT INTERSECTIONS<br>LOOK EACH WAY<br>A HARP SOUNDS NICE<br>BUT IT'S HARD TO PLAY          | BOTH HANDS ON THE WHEEL<br>EYES ON THE ROAD<br>THAT'S THE SKILLFUL<br>DRIVER'S CODE |
| THE ONE WHO DRIVES<br>WHEN HE'S BEEN DRINKING<br>DEPENDS ON YOU<br>TO DO HIS THINKING     | PASSING SCHOOL ZONE<br>TAKE IT SLOW<br>LET OUR LITTLE<br>SHAVERS GROW               |

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## Classifieds

**Free classified policy:** We are happy to run your auto-related ad for three 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 three months.

**For Sale:** Used radiator and rebuildable master cylinder from 1978 Midget. \$25 or best offer. Call Bob, 937-253-9935 (9/11)

**For Sale:** 1972 Fiat 850 Spyder. Fair condition, plus some Porsche parts. 331-8019 (9/11)

**For Sale:** 1956 MGA, disassembled, but stored indoors for many years. Frame and engine intact. The outside skin is here but rusted around the bottom. Then there are boxes and boxes of misc. MGA parts. Former club member, Polly Turner, [polly0557@gmail.com](mailto:polly0557@gmail.com) (9/11)

**For Sale:** 76 MG Midget, rust free, 38,000 miles. This car has been in dry storage since 1983. Rebuilt engine. Flawless original interior except for the rugs, which are new. New Robbins cloth top. New Bridgestone tires and Minilite wheels. Recently completed three year restoration. The car has been modified by removing the rubber bumpers and replacing the front fenders and grill. This car is a real show stopper and a winner at the British car show in Dayton Ohio. 937-218-2330. (9/11)

**For Sale:** 2011 BCD T-shirts. We have a few shirts left over from BCD. (1) small, (1) medium, (4) x-large. \$10.00 each. Email Carole at [clooft@earthlink.net](mailto:clooft@earthlink.net). (8/11)

**For Sale:** Four (4) 15” Dayton wire wheels with spinner knockoffs. Excellent condition. Came off of a Jaguar, but probably fit other cars. \$800 each, or make offer. 937-241-0792. (8/11)

## MG Car Club Minutes, August 24<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Sam Hodges

7:29 **President** Terry Looft tries to call the meeting to order, “That’s just so that I can get on the record. Go ahead and keep doing what you’re doing. I still need to look at the outline to see what’s going on...” Dave McCann, “Beer break! Someone had to since Louie isn’t here yet...”

Terry, “Is there a Hooker in the house? I need to pay Hooker. BCD wrap up. Skip?” Skip Peterson, “296 was our highest registration number but we think that we had more than 300 cars. We had a huge crowd of spectators. The American MGB Association was totally thrilled. It didn’t rain. We had a pretty good day in terms of money so we’ll split a bit over \$3,000. We learned a few new things. CCC (Triple C) was happy...” Kathy Goodman, “I talked to them while I was there and they said that they’ll come back as long as Jeff Zorn isn’t coming.” Skip, “It went fine, thanks to everyone who helped out.”

Jennifer Peterson, “If anyone likes to take money (*legally?*), that’s the hardest part of concessions. If anyone likes to do that, then think about doing it next year.” Terry, “Thanks everyone for their work.” Dick Smith, “I had a bunch of people show up at the booth and said that the radio show was the main reason that they were there.”

Terry, “Next on the itinerary, the MGCC Summer Picnic. Thank you Dick & Kathy.” Kathy, “It didn’t rain!” Dick, “What can I tell you, I’ve got an in.”

Terry, “The Pub’s Cruise-In. Another nice show. Dar won a Jaguar. And we’re going to pick a weekend where we can treat it like a rental.” Dar won the use of Jag XJL for a weekend. Terry, “We’re gonna autocross it! We should all pile in and do a Pub Run in it.” The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pub get together is turning into a nice little show.

Skip, “I did want to bring up a couple of things. Somehow a Porsche got registered because he thought that open-class meant anything. The Guy in the Monte Carlo looked around and left. There was also a Citroen. What was that all about?!? Registration needs to understand that at a British car show needs to be for cars actually built in Britain.”

**Vice President Report.** Dave McCann. “Every Saturday morning I like to read the Wheels section in the paper...” Terry, “That tells us all we need to know about you...” Dave (cont’d), “I’d just like to say that Skip really does do a good job in putting out that column.”

**Minutes** were next. Jennifer Peterson motioned to accept. Bill Hammond seconded. Jeff Opt, “I don’t know. They seem kind of sketchy if you ask me.” Minutes approved as reported, sketchiness and all.

**Treasurer’s Report.** Total Income to the MGCC consisting of: Squat (\$44.00) = **A Total Income of \$44.00.** Total Expenses: K of C Hall Rental [x2](\$180.00) + Gumball Rallye [x2](\$10.00) + Newsletter

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[July] (\$102.30) + Newsletter [August](\$104.80) + ‘Supplies’ (\$50.00) = **A Total Expense of \$447.10.**  
**Total Loss to the MGCC was \$403.10**, that when subtracted from our existing Treasury balance of \$2,723.80 equals a new **Treasury Balance of \$2,320.70.**

**Membership.** Carole Looft, “We were overwhelmed at BCD. Our total membership is now 118. Rich Russell has a 1976 MG Midget and he’s here tonight just observing. We also have two new members with us tonight, Trevor Bill, owner of a Rover P5 and Dave Connerman, owner of a 1965 MGB.” Someone in the Peanut Gallery “Free beer!” Terry, “You’ll notice that was missing from the newsletter since I’m over...” Terry to Rich, “So you gonna join?”

**Activities with Eddie.** Ed Hill, “There’s not a lot going on right now. Labor Day is the Auburn, IN get together. Kettering is having a Cruise-In. Thursday September 15<sup>th</sup> 5:00-7:30p.m. at the Sr. center on Glengarry drive. Call 296-2480 for more info. And then there’s the Concours on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Skip, “The Class Host situation is as fine as we can make it, so everything’s good.”

**Sunshine Committee.** Terry, “Linda’s not here, I guess she’s out sick.” Jennifer P., “I don’t have anything. Is everyone here okay?”

**Newsletter.** Steve Markman, “Keep those articles coming. I’ve got a new dog that would LOVE to have its picture in the Newsletter.”

**Beer Break** called for at 7:57.  
Back from break 8:15.

Ron Parks, “A little more regarding BCD. We had some door prizes left over. Some \$25 Apple Hydraulic gift certificates and newsletter subscriptions. Anyone who wants... (*...it took 5.8 seconds before they were gone...*)”

**MGA 2012 Report.** Dave’s not here... Terry, “But you’re in Dave’s seat ( speaking to one of our new visitors) so, what’s the MGA GT37 report?” New guy, “Everything’s on time and on track.” Dar. “That’s Presidential material right there.” Skip, “He’ll fit right in.” Terry, “I think we’ve found our next President.” Ron Parks, “We’re planning a covered bridge tour for GT37 so we want to do it as a Fall Tour as a trial run.” Jennifer, “Just let me know when so that I can be out of town.”

Terry, “**September Pub Run.** I think that the MGCC should buy the first round as a thank you for all the hard work you’ve done over the year, especially with BCD.” Terry Happensack and Bill Hammond motion and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Archers Tavern in Centerville (Across from the old Elder Beerman, the new Krogers) is chosen as the locale. If you’re not there at 5:00 you don’t get your free club drink. September 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:00.

Terry, “Another thing we’ve been kicking around are club t-shirts. How many liked the color that BCD was this year? We want to do something that identifies our club.” Skip, “I’ve got line drawings of most MG cars so I think we can come up with something.” Dar, “We should probably have the same t-shirts for GT37 so that people can identify the volunteers.” Skip, “If this goes well maybe we can expand into stationary and postcards...” Happensack, “...maybe a cologne.” Nancy Edgerton, “How about we get the post office to issue a commemorative stamp?”

**Tech Tip.** Terry, “Oh now, you’ve got a tech tip.” Jack Bantle, “I haven’t had one for 3 years.” Terry, “Yeah, but they’re all no good.” Jack. “If you noticed my hood was down at BCD it was not because I had

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any issues with the engine, but it was because my hood was jammed. You can't get the hood off without taking the grille off, but you can't get the grill off without opening the hood. Solution. Take the top three screws off and turn them over and make a bayonet mount on the top of the grille. That way it's held in at the bottom by screws and if you needed to, you can just take the bottom 3 screws out and take

the grille out from the bottom." Jeff Opt, "I suggest hood pins." Skip, "Just a couple of black leather belts from Wal-Mart will fix that and make it 'sporty'."

Terry, "Anything for sale other than MGA hoods with holes in it?" Gary Moore, "I'm building a Norton 850 into a Café Racer."

**Gumball Rallye**, Jennifer, "Have the new guy pull one." New Guy Dave, "What if I pull my own?" Terry, "It's not that type of meeting..." Wise Choice gift certificate No.1. went to Keith Hankey. No.2 went to Jill McCamey. The \$5 was won by Sam Hodges.

Kathy Goodman motioned to adjourn, Dave McCann & Joe Hooker seconded. We out at 8:38.



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