

THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XL No. 11

September 2012



Membership Renewal Time!!
Vote for New Officers at September Meeting

From the President

Sam (Fidel) Hodges

Well, this is it. My final column. For the second time. By the time you read this, the Concours d'Elegance will have come and gone. Essentially, this is the end of our summer car-event season. Sure there will be the Holiday Party. Possibly a Fall Tour, maybe even a Cruise-in or two left, (*okay, maybe it's not the end...*) but essentially, we're left to start planning for next year.

With that, let's take a look back on the year that we just completed. How can we talk about 2012 without mentioning NAMGAR GT-37. From all indications, we hit a home run on this one. I was going through some old files and discovered that we first started talking about hosting this in 2009! Wow, how time flies. We went from thinking about maybe doing it, to laying out cones in the



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

Club Membership Information

Membership dues for 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 26, 2012

MG Car Club Officers

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Upcoming MGCC Events

Sep:

26 – Meeting at K of C Hall

Oct:

24 – Meeting at K of C Hall

Nov:

21 – Meeting at K of C Hall
(remember—it's the third
Wednesday this month only)

*See meeting minutes for other
area activities!!*

Marriott parking lot in what seemed like no time at all.

Even with the heat and humidity, British Car Day still saw over 250 cars register. We had good food, plenty of door prizes and we got out of there before the rains came. There was the University Motors Summer Party. Thanks for the t-shirts, Dar. The MG gathering in Dillard, the Second Street Market show and the Cincinnati British Car Days to name just a few.

One of the themes that I've been using this column for all year is to try to drum up support and volunteers for the various events that we participate in/volunteer for. Based on the success of these events, based on the endless numbers of volunteers, based on all of the positive feedback from participants and the seamless nature with which we pull them off, it looks like I can take credit for all of your hard work (*hey, I could just as easily have been on the hook for the blame...*). With that, I want to thank each and every one of you (*except you! You know who you are!*) for making this one of, if not the best club to be a part of.

2012 also saw a mild rebuild of El Presidente's 1977 MGB. There were new pistons and new internals for the engine, new rear brakes and a completely rebuilt front suspension. Surprisingly, as of the typing of this column, it's all still together. Having jinxed myself, I'm sure that at the meeting I'll be telling the story of how all four wheels fell off while the hood turned to Jell-O and the seats spontaneously combusted due to an overdose of spilled Starbucks. Oh well. As always, I'll need a winter project.

And now, for my last bit of 'arm-twisting', "...hurry, hurry, hurry! Step right up ladies and gentlemen..." It's THAT time of year again. That's right. It's time to wait in the pumpkin patch for the Great Pumpkin to come and deliver toys to all of the good little boys and girls... Er, um, never mind... What I'm trying to say here is that IT'S ELECTION TIME! It's time to pick your favorite President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and various other members of the 2012-2013 MGCC Governing Body. If you have a love for covered bridges, and want to see more tours involving them added to our schedule, then what better way to get your own personal agenda across than as the President of the MGCC. If you are interested in running for one of the positions, then make sure that you don't miss the September meeting! For those of you not familiar with the process, it's a lot like watching someone make sausage, not the prettiest sight you'll ever see, but well worth the finished product. All you have to do is be a member in good standing (*i.e. you've paid your dues for the year*) and you too will be eligible to run for office. Any office! I'm living proof of the fact that we're not picky about who we elect. Heck, you don't even have to be there to get elected. As a matter of fact, that's actually the BEST way to get elected, so skip the meeting at your own risk. Anyway, if you're interested in an office, just let someone know either before the meeting, or during beer break and we will try our best to railroad, er... um..., I mean elect you as soon as possible.



Thank you, Sam, for another great year of leadership.

Welcome New Members

Carole Looft

Keith & Kelley Koehler
3016 Linmuth Drive E.
Springfield, OH 45503-1906
(937) 399-5456
Keith @KKtool.net
1980 MGB
1996 MGF

Membership Renewal Time

Carole Looft

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.

And don't forget—you need to be a paid-up member to vote for new officers at the September meeting!!

New Address for NAMGBR

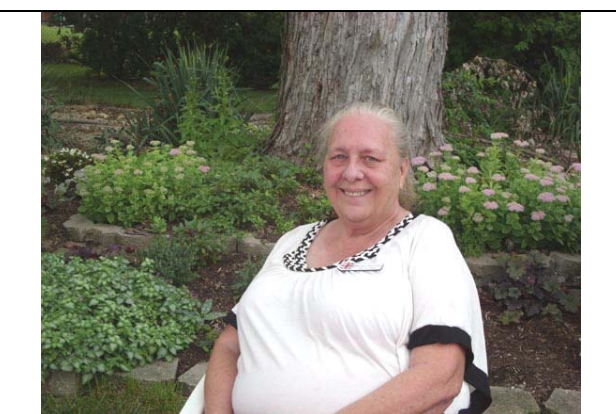
The North American MGB Register has changed it's mailing address to:

North American MGB Register
P.O. Box 876
Downers Grove, IL 60515-0876



Pictures from MGCCSWOC Picnic

Photos by Ron Parks and Steve Markman



Thanks again to Kathy Goodman for hosting this year's club picnic!!

Pictures from Concours d'Elegance



Thanks to Skip Peterson, his organizing committee, and to all who volunteered to make this a great event (Louie isn't offering money to the judge, is he? The camera must have been wrong.)

Affordable Classic Cars

Rande Bellman
British Marque Car Club News
Jan/Feb 2011
Submitted by Phil Johnson

As an alternative to directly investing in the stock market or contributing more to your 401K plan, you may want to put some of your funds into a British car. It certainly would be more fun. The auto section of a recent edition of *The New York Times* suggested checking out “affordable (under \$30,000!) classic cars” and they listed a few.

One of their candidates was the MG TD, worth in the range of \$18,000 to \$23,000 they wrote, based on recent auctions. Another was the Triumph TR6. (Actually, the latest successful auction result I found recorded for a 1953 TD in the States reached \$34,419!)

To be fair, many 401K plans that lost more than 40 percent of their value during the recession now have climbed back to their pre-2008 values, if not exceeded them. Many popular classic cars are back to their 2008 levels as well.

If you entertain the thought of buying a classic car as a hedge against losing money, the first consideration is to keep it original. That means an original paint color and interior, and no modifications to the motor unless the hobby recognizes them as original options for that model.

You also have to have an economical place to store your classic. Paying for a monthly lock-up is money you won't get back when you're ready to sell. For people in the rust belt, that means a covered, dry, and if possible, heated space to protect your investment.

Also, you don't want to buy “project cars,” or “quick and easy” restorations. You should be shopping for the best complete car your funds will afford you. In the end, very few folks have the right combination of skill and the time to complete a restoration so that they make money at the time of sale.

If you've just selected a make of car, be sure to learn all you can about problem areas and current actual selling prices. You will probably want to join a club dedicated to this make to learn all you can. Once you've done your research and found a likely candidate to buy, see if you can find a club member to inspect the car with you and get their opinion on the car so that you can come to a rational decision about your possible purchase.

Finally—and I don't mean to be obvious—don't be afraid to buy a classic that you *like*. While the goal is to turn the car over eventually, you should enjoy your classic while you still own it.

15 Dangerous Cities for Driving

Colleen Kane CNBC

There are many ways one could gauge the danger of driving in a particular city, but this list uses the cities with the greatest number of vehicular deaths as a barometer of the danger level. U.S. cities with a population of 150,000 or more were up for consideration, using the most recent motor

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vehicle crash data available from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Fatality Analysis Reporting System and General Estimates System.

One particular region of the country, the South, is overrepresented, and within that region one state in particular sticks out like a panhandle: A full one-third of the cities in this list are in Florida. Why does Florida rank so badly? Some blame the high proportion of New York City expats—some driving for the first time in their lives — foreigners, tourists driving in unfamiliar territory, and senior citizens, not to mention spring breakers, who may have compromised vision or reflexes.

Los Angeles didn't make the most dangerous list, but had the most total fatalities overall, at 293. The city that's the most dangerous for pedestrians, according to the data, is Pittsburgh, accounting for more than 50 percent of total fatalities.

Here are the 15 cities that ranked the worst:

15. Oklahoma City, Okla.

Population: 551,789

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 13.41

Total fatalities: 74

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
13.5

14. Birmingham, Ala.

Population: 228,798

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 13.55

Total fatalities: 31

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
15.2

13. Tulsa, Okla.

Population: 385,635

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 14.00

Total fatalities: 54

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
18.5

12. St. Petersburg, Fla.

Population: 245,314

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 14.27

Total fatalities: 35

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
28.6

11. Jacksonville, Fla.

Population: 807,815

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 14.36

Total fatalities: 116

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
13.8

10. Lubbock, Texas

Population: 220,483

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 14.97

Total fatalities: 33

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
15.2

9. Memphis, Tenn.

Population: 669,651

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 15.08

Total fatalities: 101

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
11.9

8. Jackson, Miss.

Population: 173,861

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 15.53

Total fatalities: 27

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
18.5

7. Chattanooga, Tenn.

Population: 170,880

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 16.39

Total fatalities: 28

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
17.9

6. Salt Lake City, Utah

Population: 181,698

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 16.51

Total fatalities: 30

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
26.7

5. San Bernardino, Calif.

Population: 198,580

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 17.12

Total fatalities: 38

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
15.8

4. Little Rock, Ark.

Population: 189,515

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 17.94

Total fatalities: 34

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
26.5

3. Augusta-Richmond Co., Ga.

Population: 194,149

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 19.57

Total fatalities: 38

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
15.8

2. Orlando, Fla.

Population: 230,519

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 19.95

Total fatalities: 46

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
10.9

The most dangerous city to drive in: Fort
Lauderdale, Fla.

1. Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Population: 183,126

Total fatality rate per 100,000 population: 22.39

Total fatalities: 41

Percentage of fatalities that were pedestrians:
24.4

On the safer end of the spectrum, here are the 10 cities with the least fatalities per 100,000 population:

Arlington Va. (0.48)

Vancouver, Wash. (1.23)

Moreno Valley, Calif. (1.57)

Rochester, N.Y. (1.93)

Spokane, Wash. (1.98)

Lincoln, Neb. (1.99)

Aurora, Ill. (2.33)

St. Paul, Minn. (2.50)

Omaha, Neb. (2.51)

Jersey City, N.J. (2.90)

Car Color Reveals Inner Self - or Does It?

Lauren Fix
The Car Coach®

What does your car say about you? Interestingly, the car and the color make a big statement about your personality.

A person with a red Corvette seems to be saying, "Look at me, I have a hot car, and I want you to know that I'm here!" Someone with a beige car, however, is likely low-key and doesn't like to stand out in a crowd.

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While I've learned a lot in my 30-plus years in the automotive industry about what a vehicle's color says about the driver — I can usually guess what color car someone drives after meeting them — there is a science tied to color.

A leading car manufacturer recently conducted research on the critical role lighting plays in a car's design. In exploring which colors people prefer and how our eyes and brains react to different hues, researchers referenced color.

Here are some of the conclusions about the link between a car's color and a driver's personality:

White — Quiet and brilliant.

Orange — Outgoing and brilliant (oh, that's good — I drive an orange car!).

Red — Attention-seeker. That sounds correct to me.

Ice blue — Cool and alert.

Medium blue — Dependable and loyal.

Green — Refreshing and relaxed, or just laid back.

Purple — Magical and complex.

Black, silver and gold weren't part of the study, but I say black vehicles state that you like to be under the radar, yet still want attention for your style. Silver, in my opinion, means you are a well-balanced person who wants low stress and gold equates to a fashion statement.

So, what color car do you drive? Is this a real description of your personality and how you feel? Or were you just after the best deal, regardless of color?

Whether you buy into the color connection or think it's pure bunk, you can have fun with the idea. Test it on family and friends. The results might surprise you.

Lauren Fix, also known as The Car Coach®, is working with USAA to spread the word about USAA's second annual Best Value vehicle list.

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: Cleaning out garage. Take one or all of these items. No reasonable offer refused (unreasonable offers will be seriously considered). 1) MVP 2 1/4 ton Hydraulic Floor Jack (in original box). 2) Central Hydraulics 2 ton 12 volt Electric Scissor Jack (in original box). 3) Small Emergency Kit contains fire extinguisher, red railway fuses, first aid kit, and raincoat. 4) 12 volt Trouble Light. 5) Emergency Triangular Reflector Stands (in original box) 6) Chandelles 2 Ton Jack Stands 2 sets of 2ea in original boxes. 6) Torin Big Red Creeper (folds to store, like new condition). 7) Heavy Duty (2-5 ton ?) car ramps. Contact Phil Johnson, 937-885-5661 or via email at pjohn11858@yahoo.com. (9/12)

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Major credit cards accepted

For Sale: 1951 MG TD Viper red paint job. 8000-9000 miles since purchased in 1998. Complete frame off restoration by previous owner which included replacement of the original differential by one from an MGA, which raised the final drive ratio by about 20%, improving cruise performance. Splined chrome wire wheels. The interior features very good door panels and carpeting and what appear to be original leather seats. Also included is a full toneau cover, good canvas top, good side curtains and a good car cover. Consistently placed at the top against other TDs in the area. Other items included in the price are two boxes of trophies along with 2 boxes of MGTD parts. \$23,000 Phil Johnson, 937-885-5661, or pjohn11858@yahoo.com. (9/12)

For Sale: 1977 MGB Roadster. Excellent condition. 79k original miles. Second Owner. Restored 2004. Summertime car only. Garaged. Bob Carson – Troy, Ohio. (937) 335-1017 / Cel. (727) 643-0129. rhcarson@gmail.com (7/11)

MG Car Club Minutes, August 22nd Meeting

Kathy Goodman

Called to order by President Sam Hodges at 7:35 PM

President's Report: BCD was a huge success as usual with 265 registered cars. We lost the Columbus crew and a group from Indiana to the weather. Everything seemed to go really well – no outstanding complaints and everyone seemed to be having a good time. Apologies to anyone who helped and did not get recognized, it was just an oversight. We should have made money based on the concession and t shirt sales.

The Pub Cruise In last Sunday was terrific. There were around 94 cars and a bunch of bikes present. It was really nice show and the door prizes were great.

There were 19 club cars at John Twists Summer Party in Michigan. 240 total cars. Many 1st and 2nd place awards were brought home by club members. John intends to do it again next year.

Vice President's Report: Nothing new.

Minutes: Motion to approve Phil Johnson, Second Ron Parks. Motion approved

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Treasure's Report: Current balance \$1977 without newsletter expenses and without BCD proceeds. Motion to approve by Jennifer Peterson, second by Linda Wolfe. Motion approved.

Membership: We have 117 members. New members: Tom & Kathy Wittberg with a 1972 MGB. Welcome.

Sunshine: Nothing new

Activities:

Dates to mark on your calendar

9/3 Holiday at home Labor Day parade (By invitation only)

9/9 Club picnic at Goodman's. 4pm

9/16 Concourse

11/1-4 Namgar Jamboree 18 in Homosassa Springs, FL

9/26 monthly meeting is election and membership renewal time.

Check the web site for additional activities

Newsletter: The Octagon News is not just about cars but also about our members. If you have something significant you would like to share with members (wedding, new child or grandchild, new house, etc) please submit it to Steve. And speaking of which - There was an article about Steve Markman in today's DDN. Two of his ship models are on display at the Greene. (For those of you who don't know, Steve builds really incredible wood sailing ship models.)

Web Master: If you have pictures of any events please send to John so that he can get them on the website.

Beer break – 7:51

Reconvene - 8:06

Old business:

Does not seem to be any.

New business

Skip – We have a patch from the Mother Club that we give to new members. Should we consider designing a patch with our club logo to hand out to new members and offer for sale to current members? Skip will check out pricing

Nathan at The Pub will put up a BCD sign with the 2 club logos. Skip will look into pricing.

A motion to check out pricing on both items. Motion to approve Sam Hodges. Second Kathy Goodman. Motion approved



Ron Parks just misses making a "hold" (is that what it's called?) in the MGA Hood Corn Hole contest at the club picnic.

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Fall tour drive. Maybe one of Ron's tours from GT 37. How about the rally? Sounds good. Starts and ends at the Marriot but we could modify. Or aviation trail? Or the winery with cook your own steak? Bike museum in Minster? Please think about it and we will discuss further at the next meeting.

British Museum: Still working on a building on 3rd in the area of the Wright Brothers buildings. An area of town that has been renovated quite a bit in the last few years. Waiting on the city of Dayton because the building will need to be brought up to code. Rumor has it that

congratulations are in order. Dick is getting married on Sunday. Mucho congrats.

Tech tips: Charlie. If you start to lose power going 65 mph chances are your fuel pump is bad. Or Eddie suggests it could be the cable from the battery. Sam suggests it could be a broken gas gauge and you are out fo gas. Perhaps we could compile a list?

For Sale: Nothing new

Gum Ball to – Phil Johnson \$5.00

Motion to adjourn Jennifer Peterson, seconded by Bill Hammond. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned 8:25



Some of the MGCC members' cars that were parked in a special parking area outside of the Concours car show.

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