

THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XLII No. 1

October 2014



Election Results!
Remembering Bill Hammond

From the President

Terry Looft

I had a bad feeling going into the September meeting that something 'not good' would probably happen. I realized it did, when Ron handed over the "orange bag" and gavel. Almost 50% of you thought I should do this job one more time. I'll try not to let you down. I do want to thank Ron for doing a great job as President this past year. The club has done well in that we have a lot of new faces at the meetings and events every month, although we do miss some of the ones that have not been around much lately.

Thank you Ron, for organizing the run to VA to the Shenandoah Valley British Car Festival. A good time was had by all. This could be in our plans again next year. We had great roads (at least most!), nice Fall colors, and the temperatures were perfect for the drive. Congrats to Ron and Dar for their awards.

I'm going to go out on a limb here, but, I'm guessing we had a very large turnout for our Pub Run at Buffalo Jacks,



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 **Buffalo Wild Wings at Town & County Shopping Center**, at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be:

Wed, October 22, 2014

MG Car Club Officers

President.....**Terry Looft**
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Upcoming MGCC Events

Oct:

12 – Pub Run, Buffalo Jack's in
Covington OH (not KY)
22 – Meeting at Buffalo Wild Wings

Nov:

19 – Meeting at Buffalo Wild Wings

Dec:

13 – Holiday party at Buffalo Wild
Wings
No meeting – Happy Holidays!!

*See meeting minutes for other area
activities!!*

with some good cold drinks, and some really good food.

As it seems to happen way too often, this is another sad time for our club, with the passing of long time member and MG enthusiast, Bill Hammond. Bill was a wonderful friend and will be greatly missed at the meetings, Pub Runs, and shows. Ron and Skip will have more to share in this newsletter.

Question of the month? What goes 61 in a 45? Ask Carole, there is also a County Mounty who knows the answer. I passed Carole, and I let him make the choice between us. He made note of me and stated the MG was worthy of a ticket, but first come first serve. The Jag won the prize, and less than a mile from the house returning from VA!

MGA build off update. Last week Carole and I spent about 4 days stripping her MGA down to a shell of its former self. The car that just went to the GT now is in boxes. What's left is setting on the trailer waiting for the 'go' word from the body shop to start the body

restoration. While waiting to have the frame returned to us, we are building a large powder coating oven and spray booth. I'll be keeping you all up to date on our progress.

To bring the ones who were not at the meeting up to date, I was thinking Skip's MGA project was beginning to stagnate just a little. So, I thought he could use a little motivation. I challenged Skip to a build off between his and Carole's MGAs. With a little luck, and some hard work from all involved, maybe our two MGAs will be competing against each other at next year's BCD. Sorry about the glove, but at least it wasn't for pistols at 10 paces! We truly would love to see you driving the "A", I hope you win this one, Skip.



Terry's white glove challenge to Skip: MGAs at ten paces.

New Officers Elected

The following MGCC members were elected as new officers for 2015 at the September meeting. Congratulations to all new officers

President: Terry Looft
Vice President: Sam Hodges
Secretary: Diana Hodges
Treasurer: Dave McCann Sr
Member-at-Large: Louie DiPasquele

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In addition, the following members will remain in their non-elected positions:

President Emeritus: Ron Parks
Activities: Ed Hill
Membership: Carole Looft
Octagon News: Steve Markman and Terry Looft
Librarian: John Wolfe
Webmaster: John Scocozzo
Historian: Dick Smith



...And, a big “thank you” to all outgoing officers, especially Ron Parks for his leadership as president during the last year.

Renew Your Membership – It’s Not Too Late

Carole Looft

September is the month for your membership renewal. Renewals are \$18/year for current members. Dues for a partial year are pro-rated only for new members. 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.

Dues can be brought to the next meeting or sent to:

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

Bill Hammond Remembered

Ron Parks



I first met Bill Hammond in the summer of 1995 when I attended my first British car show at the Dayton Art Institute. His red '63' MGB was parked next to mine. If you knew Bill, you know he was talkative and friendly, telling me about all the things he had done to his car, which were many, and asking me about my car. It was the beginning of a long and strong friendship. Bill had a great sense of humor, and it's good that he did, since he was the butt of a lot of jokes too. For example, we will now have to find someone else to pick on when it comes time for the “Old Business” part of our monthly meetings. Bill took it all in stride and gave as good as he got!

Our friendship really blossomed when he rode with me to St. Louis to attend the national MGB meet in 2003. This was the first out of town trip in my MGB after having restored it the year before and since Bill was the passenger, he was always asking me if he could give me

a hand. Then when it came time to wash the car, he was nowhere to be seen. He would be off talking to someone (talkative and friendly you see). He did finally give me a hand at the next meeting, a rubber one! And, you may have heard of the incident of the room key mix-up, which caused Bill to accidentally walk into the wrong room surprising a naked lady. Well, Bill said it was accidentally and he stuck to that story down through the years. He had temporary tattoos made up for us on that trip too. They consisted of nuts that if you followed the lines did not meet up or make sense and would never have screwed onto a bolt. And, the wording “MG Nut” was on there somewhere.



Bill bought a blue MGB and named it “Old Blue.” He and Hazel enjoyed that car, driving it on several of our tours and pub runs. He took a lot of grief over the fact that the prior owner had painted the insets of the rally style wheels blue to match the car. Something about those blue wheels came up at almost every meeting during the time he owned that car. Then, one year at British Car Day, especially for Bill, we covered his wheels with blown up copies of wheels with the standard black insets and waited for him to return to his car. He almost rolled on the ground laughing when he saw them!

While Bill’s sense of humor was ever present, he was also a serious problem solver. I can’t tell you how many times I’ve called him from my garage to get his advice on solving a problem. And, several times I’ve called just to tell him, “You know that tool you gave me, well I used it today and thought of you. That will continue! I will miss him! We will all miss Bill, his advice, his tech tips and his sense of humor!

...And, Bill, you recall that tool you gave me, well I used it today and thought of you.

Bill Hammond

Skip Peterson

I met Bill quite by accident, likely 1992. I had just changed the oil in the B and took it for a quick ride around the neighborhood. On Stoneybrook, I noticed a blue B on jackstands in a garage and a guy underneath it. I just pulled in the driveway and the lanky guy crawled out. “I know the sound of that engine,” he said. Introduced myself, and he said, “I’m Bill Hammond, and I just bought this car. I’ve had other MG’s but never a B.”

Just that quick, we became fast friends.... Bill was the epitome of the current buzz phrase “all in.” His word was as good as gold, he’d help you with anything, and he had a great sense of humor, something pretty rare for an engineer. And he could also make fun of himself.



Bill lent me a hand with a variety of projects over the years, not the least of which was pulling the engine from my B in '96 or '97, and also helping me put the engine and transmission back in the A chassis many long years ago. He was quick with a tool you needed, and had plenty of advice and ideas on how to make the cars better. Two of his favorite pastimes were adding fuses and relays under the dash, and installing a second fuel pump that could be activated from inside the car if the original failed! He also commented how he did everything three times, just to make sure he got it right.

I returned a favor when Bill wanted to pull the engine & tranny from his MG C. He said he was sure the two of us could do it. He had a good start on loosening things and I worked on the topside while Bill was underneath. We had pieces and parts “neatly” stacked on the garage floor (and by the way, Bill was from Canada, and he didn't work in a garage, he worked in a gare-aaaaajah) and Bill was sure everything was loose and ready to come out. With the hoist in place, Bill was guiding and I was cranking the handle, it started to move up and forward and suddenly, the whole car started moving forward. Both of us were startled, I added some more angle on the engine hoist, Bill crawled underneath for another look, and assured me everything was loose. Second time, and again, the car starts to move forward after the engine comes up and forward about two inches.

We both crawled underneath, couldn't find anything binding, and we looked around the car for quite a while. Then I glanced in the car.... I asked Bill if he thought we might want to take the gearshift lever off too before we pulled the engine? After we both laughed for a while, Bill pulled the shifter and out that 6 cylinder came, tranny and all! Bill was one of kind, and we're all better off for having him in our lives...

Shenandoah Valley British Car Show

Carole Looft

We had four cars driving to Virginia for the Shenandoah Valley British Car Show, driven by Ron and Linda Parks, Dar and Mary Planeaux, and Terry and me. Ron had planned a nice, scenic route for us and the weather cooperated, making it all the more enjoyable. We barely got on the road, when Dar radioed for us to pull over. The windshield frame on his MGA had separated at the corner and it was causing the top to lift away in the wind. Ron provided 'British' duct tape and Terry came through with blue speaker wire. That was enough to hold everything intact and we were back on the road.(see pic.)



No drive is complete without 'stories', and we do have those. AAA provided Ron with a back road route, and little did we know that it would be *so* off the beaten path! One portion in Virginia started out as a blacktop road, but quickly turned into gravel, and for the next ten miles was a washed out road with deep crevices and boulders sticking up in the roadway. The road was narrow and we hoped for no oncoming traffic. Those ten miles seemed like one hundred as we worked our way along. I would say it probably

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took us close to an hour to drive it. We were glad when we got back onto pavement. Other than that, we drove some wonderful winding, scenic roads, and even drove a portion of the Blue Ridge Parkway. The Fall colors were just starting to show themselves, contributing to the beauty of the whole trip.

We arrived at the host hotel early Friday afternoon and attended a 'meet and greet' gathering that evening. Saturday, of course, was the car show, which was about fifteen miles from the hotel. It was a nice park setting with shade trees, reminiscent our BCD. Saturday evening was the awards banquet, complete with good food and great entertainment. Dar and Ron were award winners.

Sunday morning the Loofts and Planeauxs headed for home and the Parks left for a get-together with their daughter and her family. All in all, it was a very enjoyable trip for all of us. I think it might be on our agenda for next year.

Pictures from Shenendoah Valley Show

Photos by Ron Parks



The assembling point.



Could this be a gravel highway?



That sho'nuf be gravel!!



A stop at Hawks Nest.

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The spectacular view from Hawks Nest!



And another stop along the way.



Linda and Ron Parks.



Carole and Terry Looft.



Mary and Dar Planeaux.



The banquet.



Look who stopped by to greet our members!



Awards received by Dar and Ron.

MGCC Represented at Mum Festival

Photos by Ron Parks

The MG Car Club Southwestern Ohio Centre was represented at the Tipp City Mum Festival Car show Friday evening, September 25th.



Linda & Ron Parks, Steve & Jayne Powell and Bill & Leslie Hunter



Clark Miller and Mike Maloney

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: 1977 MGB. Good condition, strong engine, recently updated suspension. Located in Beaver Creek. Asking \$6200.00 Call Dave Lovett 937-429-4527 or 937-974-1244. (8/14)

MG Car Club Minutes, September 24th Meeting

Sam Hodges

The meeting was called to order at 7:33, but I'm not going to put that as the start time (*So? Was that REALLY the start time then?*)

President Ron Parks, "We got mail from the Food Bank and Hospice. Seems like once you get on their mailing list, that's it. You're on it."

Ron continued, "Let's start with Concours. It was great." Skip, "The car that won best of show was a 1930 Chrysler 2-person coupe. It also won the AAA rollback award and got a free tow home after the fuel pump went bad and it wouldn't start." Ron, "I'm sure it was a reasonable success." Skip, "By noon, we were into UD's overflow parking. That's the first time we've had to use overflow parking. Record keeping's a little 'spotty' so we're not 100% sure that the 4,500 attendees reported is really what was there."

Ron, "Finally at the September meeting, I can publicly thank Steve & Jayne Powell for their spring tour. Thanks to the Powell's."

Ron, "I've made reservations for Saturday, December 13th, 6:30-10 here at BW3 for this year's Holiday party. I won't be ordering the Funky, Chunky chicken though... I also reserved the room for all of our meetings next year including the Holiday party." Dave, Estell, "Madam President Carole, is this where you want to have it next year?"

Ron, "That pretty much concludes my report."

Vice President's Report. V.P. Dave McCann, "I'm going to keep this short and sweet, I've got nothing. You covered it already."

Minutes. Louie DiPasquale motioned to accept the Minutes as reported. Jennifer Peterson seconded. Minutes approved as reported. Eddie opposed. Zeno lives!

Treasurer's Report was next. Dave Estell, "We're back but we left you some money." Dave Estell, "We had Total Income to the MGCC consisting of: Membership Renewals (\$90.00) + Savings Account Interest (\$.02) for a **Total Income of \$90.02**. Total Expenses: Gumball Rallye (\$10.00) + Octagon News mailing costs (\$33.60) for a **Total Expense of \$43.60**. **Total income to the MGCC was \$46.42**, that when added to our existing Treasury balance of **\$4,257.63** equals a new **Treasury Balance of \$4,304.07** in the primary checking and **\$379.08** in the savings account. Terry Looft motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report as delivered. Terry L "I'll motion. He brought me a lot of drinks in Alaska." Bonnie Hankey seconded. *Eddie would have opposed if he had been paying attention, but by the time someone told him his window to oppose had closed, we'd already moved on.* Treasurer's Report approved.

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Membership. Carole Looft, “Ron, you finished with 103 members.” Terry, “What a miserable failure.” Carole continued, “Terry had 123, Sam had 119... that’s all I have.” Skip, “I want an audit!” Eddie, “Take Funk & Wagnall’s off that list!”

Sunshine Committee. Ron, “I went to visit Hammond at the nursing home and he was being moved as I got there. He’s moving a little slow but he has high hopes to going back to the Terraces. He’s currently at the Oaks of West Kettering.” Louie D., “Maybe I’ll stop by.” Terry Looft, “They may not let you out of there.” Louie, “Shut-up.”

Newsletter Editor Steve Markman was absent.

Webmaster John Scocozzo. “I added some more pics from the picnic to the website. Go check them out.”

Activities with Eddie. Eddie Hill, “Next weekend the British Museum is having an open house at 1607 S. Broadway St. *See email – it’s over.* Sunday, Oct 12th is the Pub Run/Fall Tour to Buffalo Jacks in Covington, OH, (*It’ll probably be over by the time you read this...*)

Ron, “With that, Beer Break. 8:00!”
Back from Brake at 8:20.

Jim (Jennifer’s brother) Hinders is here with a present for all of us. Jim, “I’ve got Marion’s coupons good for 25% off at any Marion’s Pizza, just because you’re all worth it.” Ron, “Unlike years past, we probably won’t get a motion to buy Jim a dinner...”

Old Business. Ron, “Skip has info on Patches.” Skip, “I thought you’d say that. I decided to bail on Patches.com and have gone with PatchJunction.com. Basically, it’s going to be \$2.08 / 100 + \$.10 for the iron on variety. They go to \$1.42/patch if we get 200.” Carole Looft, “I have the receipt from 1992 and we ordered 225 and they were \$1.29 each.” After some debate and discussion, it’s decided to motion to get 200. Skip makes the motion. Dave McCann seconded. Diana Hodges opposed with the help of Eddie Zeno. Existing members will get them at one/membership. Jennifer motioned that all members get one. Seconded and approved.

Carole continued, “While we’re talking about it, we’re down to 8 name tag blanks. I called the company we used before and it’s a fair amount higher. 101 badges would be \$8.51 each with a \$108 setup fee. We paid

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\$7.25/badge with the last batch. We need to be doing something, or at least start thinking about it. I think it's the custom shape that's the real problem." Dave Estell, "I think for continuity sake, we need to keep the custom shape." Eddie Hill, "Do we do the engraving?" Carole, "We have the engraver, and we do the engraving." Terry Looft, "I do the engraving..." Carole, "...We do the engraving ourselves." It'll take 7-10 days to get them once we place the order." Skip, "Let me run it past PatchJunction.com. According to them, they do all sorts of engraving and other printed media." Carole, "We probably also ought to look into new grille badges as well. We're running low on those too." Ron, "We're not in any position to do anything about it at this point, but we'll start a selection committee and start a committee to canvas and poll the electorate to see what we need to do (*read: pass the buck to the next Administration since tonight are officer elections*).

New Business. Terry Looft, "Carole and I just started the restoration on Carole's MGA. It's going under the knife and I'm laying down an official challenge." At this point, Terry gets up, walks across the room and literally slaps Skip with a white (*kind of off-white – maybe even light grey*) glove. Terry Looft continued, "I say that my MGA will be done before yours!" Skip, "I think not!" Terry, "It'll be going off to have the body off sometime next week." Skip, "Yours will probably be done by Christmas." Eddie, "What's the wager going to be?" Terry, "I don't know. It needs to be something truly embarrassing. Like having to drive a Triumph."

For Sale. Nothing.

Tech Tips. Nothing

ELECTIONS:

Ron, "We'll open the floor to nominations for **President**."

Skip, "I nominate Terry Looft." Terry, "I haven't lost that bet yet!"

Linda Wolfe, "I nominate Sam Hodges (*HEY! Wait! What?*)"

Motion to close nominations. Nominations closed. Ballots are passed out and the MGCC voted.

Voting commenced... Eddie, "You're a newsman Skip, can you feel the tension?" Skip, "It's being counted over here and certified by PriceWaterhouseCooper and someone just spilled beer on the ballots..." Jennifer Peterson, "This has never happened before. A first ever tie. I don't know what to do." Meanwhile, a caucus is being held between Terry and Sam (*weird writing about myself in the third person... Although, I could get used to it.*) After some backroom discussion, Sam voluntarily withdraws his name from consideration.

Congratulations to new and former **President, Terry Looft**.

ALL ABOARD! At this point, after the only actual vote of the night, the MGCC Railroad Express left the station...

Ron, "We'll open the floor to nominations for **Vice President**."

Eddie Hill, "I nominate Sam Hodges" Skip, "Motion to close nominations." Bonnie, (*I think*) seconded. Motion approved (*This happened SO fast I actually missed WHO said WHAT!*) MGCC voted. Sam opposed.

Congratulations to new **Vice President, Sam Hodges**. (*Did I mention that I, er, I mean, Sam opposed?*)

Ron, "We'll open the floor to nominations for **Secretary**."

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Ron, “Who’s Secretary now? Sam?” Eddie, I nominate Diana Hodges.” Motion to close nominations. MGCC voted. Diana opposed.

Congratulations to new and former **Secretary, Diana Hodges.**

Well this is a first. The VP will be taking notes for the Minutes at most meetings... huh. Who knew...

Ron, “We’ll open the floor to nominations for **Treasurer**. Is there anyone who actually wants to do it?” Dave McCann Sr., “Sure, I can do it. I’m looking forward to one of these trips to Alaska. Or maybe Key West. We were talking about going to Key West this year...” MGCC voted.

Congratulations to new **Treasurer, Dave McCann.**

Eddie Hill nominated Louie DiPasquale for Member-at-Large. John Scocozzo seconded the nomination. Louie, “What do I have to do?” Ron, “In case there’s a board meeting, you have to break any tie in the voting.” Skip, “We haven’t had a board meeting since 1989...” MGCC voted to close nominations. MGCC voted. Louie opposed.

Congratulations to new **Member-at-Large, Louie DiPasquale.**

President Emeritus Ron Parks wrapped up the meeting.
Other. Nothing.

Gumball Rallye. Lois Gribler gets a free membership.
T-shirt #1 goes to Jayne Powell. T-shirt #2 goes to Terry Looft. Ron, “Congrats! You get to take it back home and keep it.”

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 9:02.

Thanks to Ron for another great year as President.

Ron, “It’s been a pleasure being your president.”



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