

THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XLIII No. 1 October 2015



Pictures From Concours
Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership!!

From the President

Bob Farrell

Well, Hello. My name is Bob Farrell and I have been elected President of the MGCCSWOC for the 2015/2016 year . I've been a member of this club for over six and a half years and have participated in many club events. I'm looking forward to serving these next twelve months.

A thank you to the previous year Club Officers and Chairpeople for many different jobs well done. Without these elected officers and volun-teers, the club would not be as interesting or as organized as it is.

Cheri and I went to The British Invasion at Stowe, Vt. A 2100 mile trip in our 1972 B Roadster, we averaged just over 30 mpg and had three problems. (Blown inner tube - removed; loss of all electric power - replaced the 7 1/2 year old battery and cleaned cables; and no headlights - bad dimmer switch.) But the show was quite an event with well over 600 British cars of all



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 Rusty Bucket, 2812 Miamisburg-Centerville Road, 45459, in front of the Dayton Mall, at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be:

Wed, October 28, 2015

MG Car Club Officers

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Upcoming MGCC Events

Oct:

28 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

Nov:

18 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

Dec:

No meeting & no newsletter
Happy holidays!!

See meeting minutes for other area activities!!

makes participating. More later. I hear that some club members may be interested in attending next years show. It's worth the drive.

A hastily called pub run was organized for October 4th at the Ye Olde Trail Tavern in Yellow Springs. About fifteen people attended, many of whom were the group that was going to the Shenandoah event which was cancelled because of heavy rain and flooding.

Hope to see everyone at the next club meeting at the Rusty Bucket, 7:30pm, on October 28.

Oh, yes. Please wear your name badge because I don't know everyone's name.

New Officers Elected

At our September meeting, we elected new officers for the coming year. Elected were President Bob Farrell, Vice President Dave Gribler, Treasurer John Scocozzo, Secretary Sam Hodges, and Member at Large, Skip Peterson. Congratulations to our new officers and a big "Thank You" to our outgoing officers.



Outgoing President Terry Looft.

Welcome New Members

Carole Looft

No new members???

Membership Renewal Time

Carole Looft

September is the month for your membership renewal. Dues can be brought to the meeting or sent to:

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

Renewals are \$18/year for current members. Dues are only pro-rated for new memberships. 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. Thanks.

Upcoming Holiday Party

Terry Looft

The Holiday Party this year is scheduled for 6:30pm on Saturday, December 5. It will be held at our club meeting location, The Rusty Bucket. In an effort to have an idea of the amount of food needed, please RSVP to tlooft@earthlink.net or 937-382-1520 if you will attend. Again this year we will be able to bring along a favorite dessert to share, in addition to a 'gag gift'. Please save this date, as this party is always a fun time for all of us. We hope all of you will be able to attend.

MG Car Club Embroidered Shirts

Carole Looft

At the September club meeting, there were several samples of different colored t-shirts with our club logo embroidered on them. The majority of the members chose the stonewashed blue color for a club color. At that time I took orders for shirts from the members who were in attendance. Those shirts have arrived.

In addition to t-shirts, we are able to order embroidered polos in both men's and women's sizes. The price for t-shirts is \$10.00 with additional charges for 2XL or 3XL. The polos are \$20.00 and additional for 2XL or 3XL.

There are a variety of colors to choose from, so, you are able to customize any shirt you would like to have. If you would like to order any shirts, let me know, or come to a meeting and I will have the samples for you to see.

FYI: Our supplier is moving at the end of the year, and will be in a transition period for about 3 months. He will be taking no orders during that time.

Pictures from Concours D'Elegance

Photos by Steve Markman and Ron Parks

Editor's Note – We all know what our cars look like. It's the work of our members that helped make the event great. Sorry I didn't get everyone who helped.





Mum Festival in Tipp City

Ron Parks
Photos by Ron Parks



Several club members attended the Mum Festival Cruise-In in Tipp City on Friday September 25th. Several MG Car Club Members brought their MGs Besides those pictured here, Clark Miller, Steve & Jayne Powell and Ron & Linda Parks attended.



Five of the Best Classic Car Swap Meets

Hagerty

With the rise of eBay and other virtual parts bazaars, many predicted that it was only a matter of time before swap meets became a thing of the past. Swap meets haven't died yet, nor do they show any sign of fading away. Maybe it's something primordial within people, the thrill of the hunt—risking a case of tetanus to grab that rusty Model A fender—that just can't be satisfied with a sterile mouse click. Here are five great swap meets that are still going strong:

Hershey: Hershey is the granddaddy of U.S. swap meets, held during the first week of October in conjunction with the AACA Eastern Regional Fall Meet. It's a bit of a cliché, but it really is true: If you can't find it at Hershey, it probably doesn't exist. The problem, though, is finding it in the first place. With 9,000 spaces spread over hundreds of acres, it's virtually impossible to see everything. RM/Sotheby's holds a high-end catalog auction, as well.

Portland Automotive Swap Meet: Portland's mega swap meet celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, and like Hershey, it's not going away any time soon. "Always in April" is the slogan, and in 1970, the meet moved to its current home, the Portland Expo Center near I-5 and the Portland International Raceway. Early April is a curious time of year to hold it, still firmly within Portland's rainy season, but at least part of it is indoors. Lately, it's gotten more of a reputation as a seller's market, whereas Hershey is seen as more of a place to buy.

Pomona Swap Meet: The Pomona Swap Meet bills itself as the West Coast's largest automotive swap meet. Held on multiple dates throughout the year, the weather is in another league relative to other meets on this list. In Pomona, it's always gorgeous at the Fairplex. Pomona specializes in Corvette, Porsche, VW and street rod parts.

Spring Carlisle Collector Car Swap Meet, Corral and Auction: We're not sure what it is with Pennsylvania and swap meets, but in addition to Hershey, it's home to another great event that takes place in early April at the Carlisle Fairgrounds. Nearly the size of Hershey with more than 8,000 vendor stalls spread over 150 acres, Spring Carlisle is also the home of a massive car corral with about 2,000 cars for sale (about twice the size of Hershey's car corral), as well as an onsite collector car auction.

Beaulieu International Autojumble: "Autojumble" is British for swap meet, and the one that takes place in early September on the grounds of the UK's National Motor Museum in Beaulieu, Hampshire near the port city of Southampton is one to behold. It is to the UK what Hershey is to the U.S., and if you're into British cars, it's a bucket-list event, if for no other reason than the joy of explaining what the TR4 tail lamps are doing in your carry-on bag. Bonhams holds an auction there and Hagerty's UK office presents a collecting seminar.

Ten Things You Should Never Do on a Road Trip

Jimmy Im
Yahoo Tavel

According to American Automobile Association (AAA), one in four Americans takes a road trip every year for self-discovery, nostalgia, and to see the most beautiful parts of the U.S. There's no better time to hit the road, Jack, thanks to advanced GPS systems, more efficient cars, improved roads and highways, and

cheaper fuel (for now!). But there is always the potential for National Lampoon's Vacation/Griswold-esque mishaps if you don't plan well. To avoid the highway to hell, here are the top 10 things not to do if you want a fun, seamless journey.

1. Don't pick a boring travel buddy. Trust me: you don't want to spend hours with a backseat driver, a loud singer, or a cheapskate. In fact, a recent survey found that 75 percent of people argue in the car — over things like backseat driving and traffic. So having a road-trip partner who is great with directions, enthusiastic, and shares the same road-trip "vision" as you do can make a trip more memorable and less frustrating. "A willingness to accept and persevere through the challenges of a road trip are key in a partner," says Matt Thomas, a driver for Roadie (a new, peer-to-peer app that allows users to deliver items with a network of drivers — like UPS meets Uber), who spends about 40 hours a week on the road. "This includes chipping in on the driving responsibility, navigating so that the driver can stay focused, and being OK with alone time/silence when necessary." It also doesn't hurt to choose someone fun. "I took a road trip with a stand-up comic who had over 100 unique voices he could imitate," says Thomas. "We asked him to do a conversation about an upcoming colonoscopy between President Obama and Stewie from Family Guy that had us in stitches."

2. Don't underestimate your budget. Be realistic — you don't want to budget \$5 a day or expect five-star hotels the entire way. Do some research to figure out where to save and where to splurge. And everything should be discussed with your road trip buddies before you depart. But more importantly, make room for unanticipated expenses like an oil change, roadside attractions, tolls, tickets, entrance fees, and other surprises. Outdoor Blueprint offers an amazing budget calculator so you have a general idea of what you'll spend — and how to divide it up amongst your travel crew.

3. Don't drive a crappy car. Bad road-trip cars are actually a thing now. Just check out this recent poll on Reddit about the worst cars driven for a road trip. But walk away from the hatchback, people. It's just not worth it. Bill Kwong, Lexus Dealer Education Administrator, says road trippers should consider "fuel economy, passenger comfort, cargo volume, off-road ability and cruise control. And regardless of destination, safety features like airbags, traction control, vehicle stability, and tire pressure monitor system should be considered for a road trip." Check forums like Road Trip America to see what cars are best-equipped for a long haul. Some times it's worth renting a vehicle rather than being stranded roadside in your Pinto. The biggest safety tip happens before you drive: get a proper tune-up, check tires, battery, A/C, and oil before you hit the road.

4. Don't put your feet on the dashboard. Were you raised in a barn? Keep your feet on the floor. It's good manners. More importantly, it's a lot safer. In the event of a collision, an airbag can deploy at up to 220 miles per hour and deliver a force of more than 880 pounds to a front-seat passenger. Feet on the dash can result in knees being slammed into the chest or face. It happened to this poor girl learned earlier this year. During a collision while her feet were on the dash, her knees broke her cheekbone, left eye socket, and nose, dislocated her jaw, broke both her feet, and tragically, she suffered brain damage.

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5. Don't drive tired. It's important that the driver gets optimal shuteye (seven to nine hours) the night before a long drive to avoid potential accidents. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that 100,000 crashes are the direct result of driver fatigue each year, resulting in an estimated 1,550 deaths, 71,000 injuries, and \$12.5 billion in property damage. And the more sleep deprived you are, the more dangerous it is. In fact one study found that staying awake for 24 hours is the equivalent of driving impaired with a .10 blood alcohol level, which is actually illegal. If you have long distances to cover, pull over and take a 20- to 30-minute nap. Your body can get the rest it needs in less than an hour.

6. Don't let the passenger play DJ. Oprah Winfrey famously made her BFF Gail turn off the radio during their on-air cross country road trip, because the Queen of All Media prefers silence. But as it turns out, that may not be the best idea while driving. According to some studies, listening to music can positively impact mood while driving, which can translate to engaging in safer driving behavior. What's more, music that has personal meaning to the driver (i.e., that the driver likes listening to) is associated with increased engagement, while unfamiliar and less-liked music can have some negative affects, according to one study. So what does that mean? The driver gets to pick the playlist or radio station.

7. Don't rely on a single GPS. Plenty of useful iPhone and Android navigation apps are available to download, and I learned from a recent trip to use them all. While Waze is great at getting you to your destination fast (it computes the best route based on traffic), my travel buddy and I consulted with Google Maps to stop in places we didn't plan. Unlike Waze, Google Maps actually had attractions like national parks within the screen, so we made quick excursions to see them. By comparing the two apps, we were able to determine spontaneous stops and quick routes. Don't have a large data plan on your cellphone? Download the new Here app, which actually downloads your route so you can use the GPS while you're offline.

8. Don't stay on the highway. What's a road trip without random adventure? Going off the beaten path can not only often save you travel time but back roads may offer more scenic routes. Heck, it may even end up being the highlight of your trip. On a recent journey through the southwest, my co-road-tripper and I initially mapped out a route on the iconic Route 66 from Santa Fe to Phoenix. But on the trip we decided to drive Arizona's State Route 377 and follow the Hashknife Pony Express (the longest sanctioned U.S. Postal Service Pony Express route in the world) through Payson, Ariz. — more or less the same distance but definitely off the grid. The landscape was at first green and verdant, then barren and mysterious, with windy roads that hugged the hills of the state's Tanto National Forest. Our photos (hundreds) prove that going off the beaten path can offer tons of charm. RoadTrippers.com has great options for alternative roads and even highlights cool things along the way. Just remember the road less traveled means fewer gas stations, public attractions, and rest stops, so make sure your car is in good working order. You may also want to text a friend the new route just to play it safe.

9. Don't O.D. on fast food. We get the occasional stop for In-N-Out burger, but with all that sitting you're doing, eating right will keep you energized and comfortable (who wants to be bloated or tired for hours on end?). Not to mention it will help you avoid gaining weight — I put on four pounds on my last eight-day road trip. According to nutrition expert Pamela Salzman, it's best to be prepared with easy snacks that are a good combo of protein, carbs, and healthy fats to keep you satisfied. Also, make sure the foods are non-perishable and won't be affected by changes in temperature (in case they're left sitting in a hot car). Some great picks: "Trail mix is full of fiber, good fats, and protein — all of which stave off hunger pangs and keep blood sugar stable," Says Salzman. Nut butters are excellent sources of protein and don't need refrigeration. (Some brands, like Justin's, come in individual single-serving packages. Brown rice cakes and pretzel sticks are all great dippers.) Dehydrated fruits (without added sugar) are nice for something sweet. Healthy protein bars loaded with nuts, seeds, oats, and dried fruits but without tons of sugar are a go-to. Salzman likes Elemental Bars, Kind Bars, Rise Bars, and Pure Organic bars. It's also

not a bad idea to stop every few hours and to walk around, do a couple of push ups, or stretch to increase your energy and counteract the ill effects of sitting for so many hours.

10. Don't motel it, if you can avoid it. If all you're looking for is a bed to crash in at the end of the night, by all means, pick a creepy roadside motel. But considering how much you're saving on gas (gas prices are at their lowest since 2009, according to the US Energy Information Administration,) why not stay in a hotel? Some hotels in road-trippy destinations (think Holiday Inn or Days Inn) are not that much more costly (especially when you're splitting the price with road trip buddies) and can offer value-added amenities you'll appreciate when you arrive, like complimentary breakfast, a nice pool, fitness centers, and comfy mattresses. They're also a good way to rack up points for loyalty rewards, so plan out your hotel stays rather than blindly driving to random accommodations (and be sure to research all your options before booking). Use sites like TripAdvisor and Yelp to preview accommodations. Or for the adventurous, last-minute planners Hotel Tonight can help you find a hotel for the night on short notice at discounted rates.

Chuck Jones' 9 Golden Rules for the Coyote and the Road Runner

Editor's notes – First, I know this has nothing to do with cars, but I thought it was cute. Second, I don't remember where I got this, so I can't credit anyone. But, if you Google "Chuck Jones," you'll get tons of stuff on these iconic cartoon characters.

Wile E. Coyote and the Road Runner are a duo of characters from the *Looney Tunes*. The characters were created by Warner Bros. animation director Chuck Jones and they made their first appearance on September 17, 1949. To date, 48 cartoons have been made featuring these characters (including the three CGI shorts), the majority by Chuck Jones. Jones had 9 golden rules for Wile E. Coyote and the Road Runner. It's important to think of these more as guidelines versus hard and fast rules that could never be broken.

Jones' rules, first made public when he published them in his 1999 autobiography *Chuck Amuck: The Life and Times of an Animated Cartoonist*, are probably pretty familiar to animation students and Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote fanatics. They are a fascinating testament to the need for clearly defined systems within a wacky creative process.

1. "The Road Runner cannot harm the Coyote except by going "beep beep"." This rule was broken in *Clippety Clobbered* when the Road Runner drops a boulder on the Coyote after painting it with "invisible paint", and has been broken in several CGI shorts from *The Looney Tunes Show*.
2. "No outside force can harm the Coyote — only his own ineptitude or the failure of Acme products." Trains and trucks were the exception from time to time.
3. "The Coyote could stop anytime — *if* he were not a fanatic. (Repeat: "A fanatic is one who redoubles his effort when he has forgotten his aim." — George Santayana)."
4. "No dialogue ever, except "beep-beep!"" This rule was violated in some cartoons such as in *Zoom at the Top* where the Coyote says the word "ouch" after he gets hurt in a bear trap.
5. "The Road Runner must stay on the road — otherwise, logically, he would not be called Road Runner." This rule was broken in several shorts including cactus mines, cliff edges, mountain tops and railways.

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6. "All action must be confined to the natural environment of the two characters — the southwest American desert."
7. "All materials tools, weapons, or mechanical conveniences must be obtained from the Acme Corporation." Although in *Rushing Roulette*, the Coyote uses Ajax Stix-All glue.
8. "Whenever possible, make gravity the Coyote's greatest enemy." For example, falling off a cliff.
9. "The Coyote is always more humiliated than harmed by his failures."

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: 69 MGB. Red. Hard and convertible tops. Runs well. Recent engine rebuild. \$3000 OBO. Call Ron Long. 937-263-6027. (9/15)

For Sale: 75 MG Midget. New paint, interior, and tires. Eighty miles on engine since rebuild. Too much to list. \$4500.00 Call Greg Isaacs, 937-456-1989. (9/15)

For Sale: Set of go-jacks I no longer need – including a cart for moving / storing them. \$150. Also, two MGB top frames – less header rails. Free for the taking – otherwise I'm scrapping them.
Bill.Hunter@emerson.com

MG Car Club Minutes, September 23rd Meeting

Sam Hodges

President TerryLooft's last meeting as was called to order at 7:32... for the first time...

Terry, "Military guys will know what a short timer is. I'm so short, I've got to undo my top shoelace to see where I'm going. Thanks to Sam & Di for the picnic." Dave Gribler, "We didn't drink all the beer." Sam, "Don't worry about that, we're working on it."

Terry continued, "MGA update, Skip?" Skip, "Huh? What?" Terry, "Same as last month?" Skip, "It's sitting in the garage next to the MGB leaking oil."

Lois Gribler, "I've got some of Tom Dworetsky's business cards (of which I took one). He had three cars win awards at the Concours this year. He's also done several MGCCer's cars as well. If you need some bodywork or paint, give him a shot."

Terry, "Well I was hoping someone would give a report..." Skip with a Concours report, "It was a fairly successful year. Carillon said that they think there were at least 4,000 people through the gate. It went off fairly well, there were no major glitches." Lois G., "The museum sold 99 family memberships this year. That was up from last year." Dar, "I had the premier class and they said that its the best show they've been to. They were also glad that Premier was not judged. They'd already won so now they could just enjoy the show without worrying about their cars." Congrats to Ron Parks for winning his class even if it was with his Triumph, as beautiful as it may be... Ron P., "I was at my car and Jenny Hammond, Bill's daughter, came up to me and introduced herself. She wanted to be there in her dad's honor."

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Vice President's Report. V.P. Sam Hodges, "I got nuthin, let the Minutes reflect."

Minutes were next, Eddie opposed even before anyone motioned. Dave motioned to accept the Minutes as reported. John Scocozzo seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report was next. Young Dave McCann was sitting in for elder statesman Dave McCann with has the update. Young Dave, "Looks like we still have money, but it's all been converted over to Costa Rican lire. The MGCC had total expenses of: MGCC Newsletter postage (\$31.24) for a total loss to the MGCC of \$31.24. The MGCC had gains of: Dues & Regalia (\$260.00) for a total gain to the MGCC of (\$260.00). Total gain to the MGCC was \$228.76 that when added to our beginning balance of \$2,239.43 leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$2,468.19 in the primary checking account. Gumball cash-on-hand was \$10.00 after payment of the August Gumball Rallye. The Savings account currently has \$379.45. Dave Gribler motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. Ron Parks seconded. Treasurer's Report approved.

Membership was next with Carole Looft. Carole, "You ended up with 96 members for the year, not the record." Dave G, Ryan Looft, Terry Happensack, Bob Orr all have birthdays this month. Terry, "At least I didn't have to report on any dead people. We had a bad year."

Activities, with Eddie was next. Eddie, "We might think about doing a fall tour or at least a pub run. Next month is Oct, so think about it. Saturday at Young's Jersey Dairy is their 19th annual Orphan car show. Sat., 10-3. We also have an invitation from the Triumph club for a drive Saturday, Oct. 3rd. with a Springboro start." Ron Parks, "We're meeting Oct. 1st at the McD's on Rt. 31 by I-71 for the Shenandoah Valley departure caravan.

Sunshine Committee. Dave Jr. "Dave Sr. is just as ornery as usual. Surgery went well. He's still in ICU tonight, because apparently they like him or something. Surgery took a little longer than expected - knee surgery."

Newsletter. Steve's not here...

John Scocozzo, "Send me the photos and I'll get them on the internet."

Beer Brake 7:55 - Terry, I'm almost done.
Back from Break 8:20.

Old Business - Charlie's not here...

Pres. Terry, "Skip, Where do we stand on Grille Badges?" Skip, "I sent you the info." Terry, "I haven't had a single response." Skip, "I think we ought to not move forward. They're \$22/badge. I don't think we need to invest \$1,600 in badges when we're not sure what we're going to sell." Jennifer, "Then we need to table it." So tabled.

T-Shirts. "T-shirts are \$10. They come in mens' and womens' sizes and colors - something like 37 colors." Terry, "We order them in batches of 6. We were talking about ordering a few extra to have on stock." After some discussion, the club decides that it's best just to see the brochure and order what you need now that the initial setup has been dealt with.

Antenna flags? On order. Skip, "Can koozees will be available next month. They were shipped today so I'll have them at the next meeting."

Skip, "We have the permit in place for BCD, so it'll happen again next year regardless..."

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Terry, "Are we ready for this, Elections?"

Lets start from the top. President.

Ron Parks, "I nominate Bob Farrell." Bob will accept.

Eddie motions to close. Mike Edgerton seconds the motion to close. Nominations closed.

Bob Farrell is the new President.

Vice President. Eddie nominated Dave Gribler. After assurances from me that the job really wasn't a huge time commitment, Dave accepted. Nominations were motioned closed. Dave G. "I got nothing."

Congrats to Dave Gribler, Vice President.

Secretary. The only question was who 'technically' had to be Secretary based on the bylaws. Congratulations to me. Sam Hodges is the new Secretary. Me, "It just dawned on me that this is the 10th Anniversary of this charade."

Treasurer, probably the only truly contested office. Terry, "We should make this a two year position due to the change over issues. Some mention was made of the bylaws and the charter and how we need to publish any such changes prior to the actual meeting where we want it to take place... After the usual search for someone who doesn't avoid eye-contact, John Scocozzo agrees to be the new Treasurer.

Skip Peterson is elected "Member at Large."

Terry, "So just what are the procedure for changing the by-laws?"

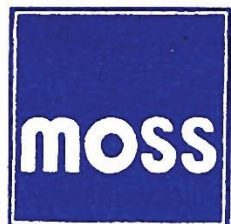
Tech Tips. Ron told the story of his loose differential, loose axle tube and torque steer issue. Basically, his TR4 was having a torque steer issue. after searching the suspension, it was stumbled upon that the axle tube was itself actually loose. Terry, "So your tech tip is, don't buy a Triumph."

Gumball Rallye - Bonnie Hankey wins.

Adjourned 8:44 Terry, "I'm done!"

The logo for MiniMania, featuring the word "Mini" in a stylized font above the word "Mania" in a larger, bold font.The logo for MG AUTOMOTIVE, with "MG" in a large, bold font and "AUTOMOTIVE" in a smaller, bold font below it.

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