

# THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XLIII No. 5

March 2016



Pictures From Pub Run  
More Spooky Places to Visit This Summer

## Hot Exhaust

Bob Farrell

This being the month of March, It is nearly time to unwrap the cocooned MG's and figure out what went wrong over the winter. Is the battery dead? Will the starter work? (In my case, it will not.) Will a connection corrode and now you only have one tail light that works? The possibilities are endless. Start troubleshooting now and you may find the problem by June. Or throw in the towel and let Steve at MG Automotive find the problem.

I was out Saturday (March 12) running errands in the MG to put some miles on the new engine. Made three or four stops and had no problems, with the car running well. At the last stop, I came out, got in the car and turned the key. Nothing. The red light on the dash came on, but no cranking. Fortunately I was on a down grade and bump-started the car and drove home. I love surprises. *(editor's note – ya, right!)*



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, March 23, 2016**

## MG Car Club Officers

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## Upcoming MGCC Events

### Mar:

14 – Pi Day (you missed it)  
22 – As Young as You Feel Day  
23 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

### Apr:

9 – Tune Up Clinic at MG Automotive  
27 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

### May:

25 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket  
28 – British Car Meet at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Market

*See meeting minutes for other area activities!!*

Just returned from the Sunday pub run at Bennetts Publical in Miamisburg. We had a nice turnout and a room all to ourselves. Good food and nice atmosphere.

The next meeting will be at The Rusty Bucket on March 23, 2016 at 7:30pm. **Fourth** Wednesday of the month, just like always.

Be safe.



## Mystery Buyer Bids \$3.5 Million for Aston Martin DB10

Viknesh Vijayenthiran  
Motor Authority

**A**ston Martin built 10 examples of a stunning sports car known as the DB10 for the 2015 James Bond movie Spectre. Of these, one was offered for sale to the public to help raise funds for charity. The auction took place last night at Christie's in London and the winning bid came in at £2,434,500 (approximately \$3,478,700). All proceeds from the sale will go to benefit Médecins Sans Frontières.



The mystery buyer now owns a true piece of automotive history. Furthermore, although there were 10 DB10s built, many are in poor condition due to the rigors of filming. The one that just went under the hammer is one of only two “show” cars left unmodified. This is because it was mostly used for close-up camera work and display purposes.

The DB10 is based on Aston Martin's Vantage sports car and maintains the production model's 4.7-liter V-8. Peak output is 420 horsepower and drive is to the rear wheels only, via a six-speed manual transmission.

Though this particular example is in full working condition, since it's not homologated, certified or approved for use on any public roads it can't be registered for road use. It does qualify for Aston Martin's Assured Provenance registry, though.

"The DB10 is one of the rarest cars ever created," Aston Martin CEO Andy Palmer said in a statement. "Only 10 will ever be made and this is the only one that will be made available for sale."

*Editor's note – James Bond's Aston Martin DB5, used in Goldfinger and Thunderball, is on display at the Spy Museum in Washington D.C., or at least it was a few years.*

## Pictures From Mrch 13<sup>th</sup> Pub Run

Photos by Ron Parks



...and for the really adventurous

## More Spooky Places to Visit This Summer

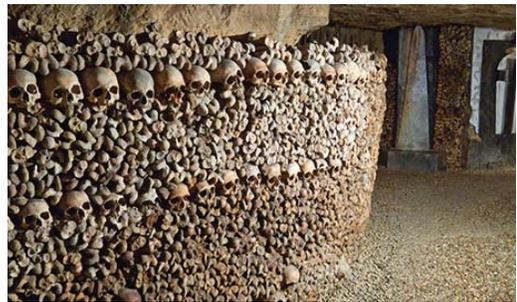


### **The Hanging Coffins, Sagada, Philippines**

In the northern Philippines, members of the Igorot tribe have traditionally buried their dead in hanging coffins, nailed to cliffs high above the ground, and occasionally the practice is still carried out. The coffins are small, and the dead are buried in the fetal position. The belief is that from this perch, the dead will be closer to the ancestral spirits, but it's also a practicality to prevent water, dogs, or grave robbers from touching the corpses.

### **Catacombs, Paris, France**

The Catacombs in Paris is an underground ossuary within a network of caverns and tunnels once used for mining. The catacombs house the remains of approximately 6 million people, but public access is limited to just a small section of the ossuary, although ghost hunters and intrepid “cataphiles” do explore the vast network beneath the city—albeit without any cellular service.



### **Island of the Dolls, Xochimico, Mexico City**

The island itself is actually just a floating garden or *chinampa*, but its strange decorations—hundreds of suspended dolls, some limbless, headless, and eyeless—have transformed it into a creepy stop for tourists. The legend is that the island's caretaker found the body of a girl who had drowned, and later found her doll floating in the water. He hung the doll, and others he collected from the nearby canals, to appease the girl's spirit and ward off other evil spirits. The caretaker reportedly drowned in the same spot as the young girl, 50 years later.

### **The Tower of London, England**

The Tower of London has a very distinguished guest list when it comes to ghost sightings. Hundreds of people were executed on the site and some of the spirits reported include Anne Boleyn, one of Henry VIII's wives who was beheaded in 1536, and Lady Jane Grey, who met the same fate in 1554, as well as Henry VI, Thomas Beckett, and Sir Walter Raleigh. But the most ghastly of the ghostly encounters is the reported reenactment of the death of the Countess of Salisbury, who escaped and was pursued by the axe-wielding executioner.





### **Dargavs, Russia**

They look like tiny white houses, but in reality this is a cemetery, called the “City of the Dead,” with nearly 100 ancient stone crypts. Legend says that visitors to the city never return, but that’s likely because the crypts were originally built to quarantine victims of an 18<sup>th</sup> century plague, who ultimately were buried there. In front of each crypt is a well, and it is tradition to toss a coin in—if the coin strikes stone, it’s good luck. And if it doesn’t, well, wait...who’s that behind you?

### **Pripyat, Ukraine**

Nothing says “ghost” like a ghost town, and Pripyat, which was abandoned after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, is one of the eeriest. The entire town of nearly 50,000 residents was evacuated in just two days after the explosion in 1986, leaving many personal objects behind and creating a decaying tableau from another era that is still untouched because of radiation levels.



### **Bran Castle, Romania**

Widely known as “Dracula’s Castle” because of its striking similarity to the castle in Bram Stoker’s tale, Bran Castle sits between Transylvania and Wallachia. Vampire legends are derived from local folklore: A century ago, villagers near Bran believed in “strigoi.” Strigoi were evil beings who lived normal lives during the day, but whose spirits left their bodies and tormented their prey from midnight until dawn.

### **Actun Tunichil Muknal Cave, Belize**

Even if you are brave enough to hike through the jungle, swim into the mouth of the cave, and wade through the river as you explore the caverns, what you find at the end of the journey will terrify you. This is an ancient Mayan sacrificial site, and there are more than a dozen skeletons at the terminus. The most famous is the “Crystal Maiden,” an 18-year-old victim whose bones have been naturally preserved by a sparkling calcite coating. Beautiful? Maybe. Creepy? Definitely.



## 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.*

72 MGB GT. Needs new home and tender love and care. Fuel pump bad but new one in car. Engine ran by putting fuel in carb. Clutch slave bad but new one also there. This car needs work. Need to sell for best offer. My phone number is 614-506-2245. E-mail is stanbrin@rocketmail.com .

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

Sam Hodges

President Bob Farrell, "If we'll all stand and recite the pledge of allegiance and then we'll sing the Star-Spangled-Banner..."

"We're here at the Rusty Bucket for as long as we want to be. I talked to corporate in Columbus and, while it wasn't a mix-up, we're welcome to stay until they kick us out again. They're trying to promote using this area for even MORE drinking than we do, but they said that we can stay since Wednesday's are usually quiet anyway. If you read the newsletter, you saw that my car has a new engine. I had two sources of oil coming into the bell housing from the various leaking seals. Now it's working really well."

Vice President Dave Gribler. "I don't have anything in the fine tradition of Vice Presidents, but I do want to mention that we (Lois & I) have taken over as the contacts for NAMGAR." Lois Gribler: "Linda Wolfe used to do it but we changed the address so that the correspondence will now come to our house instead of through the P.O. Box."

President Bob continued, "We received thank you letters from the Food Bank and the Salvation Army thanking us for the donations we made last holiday season."

Minutes were next on the agenda. Cheri Farrell motioned to accept the Minutes as reported. Lois Gribler seconded. Terry Looft, "Eddie's not here so I'll cover for him, Oppose!" Minutes approved as reported.

Treasurer's Report was next. The MGCC had total expenses of: MGCC Newsletter postage and printing (\$348.00) for a loss to the MGCC of \$348.00. The MGCC had gains of: Dues & Regalia (\$252.20) for a total loss to the MGCC of (\$95.80). Total loss to the MGCC when subtracted from our beginning balance of \$3,773.13 leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$3,677.33 in the primary checking account. Gumball cash-on-hand was \$80.00 after payment of the Gumball Rallye. The Savings account currently has \$379.55. Total ending balance of all accounts was \$4,136.90. Dave McCann Jr. motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. Skip Peterson seconded. Treasurer's Report approved. Terry Looft, standing in for Eddie, standing in for John Zeno opposed. Treasurer's Report approved.

Membership, Carole Looft, "Bob, you've got 85 members right now. You're zipping right along. We have a new member from Mansfield who owns 2 1953 MGTD's. Don't know why he's in our club as there's some in Columbus, but we're happy to have another new member. Larry Baygents and Carole Estell both have birthdays this month. There are no anniversaries that I'm aware of."

Activities with Eddie. Terry Looft, "I oppose." Bob, "We've got a change to the Tune Up Clinic's rain date. It will now be April 23rd. The previous week Steve and Mimi will be in Chicago at a swap meet."

Sunshine Committee. Dave McCann Jr., "Dave Sr. is under the weather with a broken kneecap. It's not related to the recent surgery; he basically just fell, landed wrong, and fractured his kneecap."

Newsletter Editor Steve Markman, "We've included a list of the MGCC tools in the newsletter. If anyone has any other MGCC tools, let me know and I'll update that list."

Webmaster, John Scocozzo. "I just sent out a Membership list to the members and made some general updates to the website."

New Business. Carole Looft, "I don't know who comes up with these ideas. I thought it would be nice to have a window cling-on decal that would celebrate our 50 year anniversary." Skip, "I wonder who would have those made?" Carole, "I was hoping someone would know someone..." Skip, "Rallye Productions, ask for Mary..." Carole, "I was thinking it could be clear background, maybe white..." Dave McCann Jr., "It should be white, it'll show up better." Skip, "We can print them out and use scotch tape to put them on." Terry, "I could do it for \$.25 and still make money!" Skip, "I can talk to Rallye and see what they can do." Skip then motions to have Skip look in to it. Carole, seconds. Bob, "Terry, you gonna oppose?" Terry, "I wouldn't dare."

Skip, "The posters that some of us bought a month or so ago, the remaining inventory is up for sale. I think we should try to get the inventory and try to sell them at future events. After some discussion it's decided to try to see if we can get them for an 'affordable' fee and then use them for future events."

President Farrell, "I got a poster from John Hammond's collection. I also have a picture of a black & silver Corvette. At a recent flea-market, I ran across a copy of a 1956 Road & Track that had a Corvette on the cover but on the back cover was an ad for the 'New 1956 MGA!'"

Beer Break called at 7:53.

Back from Brake 8:13

Tim Dunham "I'm not sure if this should be new business (it should...). The Oakwood Rotary has an event in May called 'Affair in May'. Last year, they did a car show and it was their first shot. My first day as an active rotary member was working that event. So, being a volunteer, and having expressed an interest in cars, I was *voluntold* that I could organize the next one." Skip, "Tim, Tim, Tim, Tim... Tsk tsk tsk...ave you learned nothing?" Tim, "Apparently not. So, May 21st at Oakwood High School, the City will block off the street and allow us to have a car show again this year. If you elect, you can put your car in the car show parade or just go to the show. I'd therefore like to invite the members to bring some of their cars and do a little ambassadorship. May 21st, show starts at 11. Parade starts at 12. Parade ends at

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the Oakwood High School for the car show parking." Skip, "This is after the TuneUp Clinic, so most of the cars should be running." Tim, "We'd just love to have some really interesting cars. The show's open to anything. We had a 1966 Corvette last year, but we really want the more interesting items." Contact Tim at timd@yahoo.com to sign up if you think you're interested in taking a car. Please rsvp so that Tim knows what to expect.

President Farrell, "Any old business?" Charlie Jokes abound...

British Car Day, Skip, "Yes, it's Saturday August 6th. It's the 50th Anniversary of the GT6 and Lotus Europa - Steve Veris can be the grand Marshall with his Europa." Dave Gribler, "The Europa, wearable automobiles."

Charlie McCamey, "University Motors used to have a cherry picker at their car show where people could ride up and take pictures of the car show grounds. We ever thought about doing something like that at BCD?" Short answer, 'No' due to liability issues. Long answer in the traditional MGCC fashion, 15-minutes of mostly bad lawyer jokes.

Bob Farrell, "An MGCC bourbon tour in Louisville was mentioned by Terry. Terry?" Terry Looft, "I don't remember that." Carole, "How many gin & tonics did you have?" Jennifer Peterson, "Is he still on vacation." Terry, "We're still looking into the details."

Bob, "Ron, are you planning an alternate route to Louisville?" Ron, "Yup. We're still in the planning stage on that too."

Tech Tips. If you want to have an overdrive transmission that needs work or that you just want to learn to work on, take John Twist's University Motors course. It's two days but it's cheaper than buying one and you'll have an overdrive transmission that's been overhauled. Well worth the money.

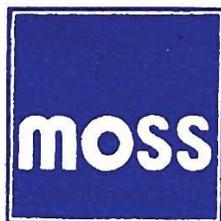
Skip, "Put a magnet on the back side of the bolt and it'll pull the washer up and hold it while you thread the nut."

Next meeting is March 23rd. Gumball Rallye was won by Bonnie Hankey.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32.

The logo for MiniMania, featuring the word "MiniMania" in a stylized, bold, black font with a jagged, sawtooth-like outline.The logo for MG AUTOMOTIVE, with "MG" in a large, bold, blue font and "AUTOMOTIVE" in a smaller, bold, blue font below it.

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