THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XLIII No. 9

July 2016

Stories and Pictures from MG 2016

Register for BCD



Hot Exhaust

Bob Farrell

uly is here and it is hot.
Not too hot, yet.
Beautiful evening
driving weather with the top
down to go for an ice cream
cone, sundae or a cool drink.
Or for you GT owners, to roll
down those windows.

British Car Day will be here in a couple of weeks. Volunteers will be welcomed and put to work. Sacrifices to any and all Sun Gods would be appreciated.

As decided at the June meeting, we'll meet again at the Rusty Bucket and hold a vote either to continue to meet at the Rusty Bucket or to move our meeting location to Bennetts Publical. There was a misunderstanding in January about using the patio area, but problem has been addressed and we have had no further problems. Outside noise has caused interruptions during our meetings, but it's nothing we can't handle.

The next meeting is July 27 at 7:30pm at the Rusty Bucket.





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, July 27, 2016

MG Car Club Officers

PresidentBob Farrell
phone
email <u>rfarrell@woh.rr.com</u>
Vice PresidentDave Gribler
phone937-898-9928
email <u>drivesmgs@yahoo.com</u>
SecretarySam Hodges
phone937-581-4767
email <u>sammgb@earthlink.net</u>
Treasurer John Scocozzo
phone937-291-1710
emailjscocozzo@hotmail.com
Member at LargeSkip Peterson
phone937-293-2819
email <u>mgbskip@aol.com</u>
President EmeritusTerry Looft
phone937-382-1520
email <u>terry@looft.net</u>
Web MasterJohn Scocozzo
phone937-291-1710
mailjscocozzo@hotmail.com
Activities ChairEd Hill
phone937- 461-6688
email <u>ehillmgb@aol.com</u>
Membership ChairCarole Looft
phone937-382-1520
email <u>carole@looft.net</u>
HistorianDick Smith
phone937-434-1750
email <u>rsmithomo@aol.com</u>
WebPagewww.mgcarclubswohio.com
NAMGAR POC Dave and Lois Gribler
phone937 898-9928
email <u>drivesmgs@yahoo.com</u>

Your Octagon News Editors

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Steve Markman} & 937\text{-}886\text{-}9566 & \text{Terry Looft} & 937\text{-}382\text{-}1520 \\ & & \underline{\text{terry@looft.net}} \end{array}$

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Upcoming MGCC Events

Jul:

24 – Tell an Old Joke Day

27 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

Aug:

6 – British Car Day

6 – Root Beer Float Day

24 – Meeting at TBD location

Sep:

24 – Meeting at TBD location

See meeting minutes for other area activities!!

MG 2016 in Louisville

Skip Peterson

pproximately 40 members and at least 21 cars from the MGCC, SWOC attended MG2016 in Louisville and while they had a good time attending parties, tech sessions and dinners, they also snagged six First in Class awards at the car show and 11 other awards. The NAMGBR awarded the club participation award to the Emerald Necklace group from Cleveland with 15 members present. We are confident that we had more members there; we're just not sure what the criteria were for that award.

Monday evening was a tour of Churchill Downs that was better once we got inside the museum and some air conditioning. Tuesday was clean up cars, fix flat tires and brake light switches, attend tech sessions and have

fun. John Twist also had his rolling tech session and there were self guided driving tours and trips to the Bourbon Trail and Corvette factory. Each register had a dinner that night and after that a concert/party with a cover band. A good time was had by all before adjourning to the supply trailer in the parking lot.

Wednesday was more of the same and the afternoon as interrupted with a pretty heavy rain that washed all of the cars once again.

Thursday dawned with blue skies and plenty of sun & humidity as the group made their way to the park along the Ohio River. 841 cars were reported to attend the car show, on a great grassy field with not a tree in sight. The predicted temperature of 96 degrees was reached shortly after noon and the Weather Channel listed the heat index at 108 degrees around 1 pm. Luckily we all sat in chairs under the freeway overpass by the park and stayed reasonably comfortable. Lots of water was consumed.

It was back to the hotel for a shower before the individual club awards presentation where all awards other that first place were handed out. The First Places were awarded during the dinner.

About 1000 people were crammed into the Crowne Plaza ballroom for the buffet, and we all got to listen to Dennis Gage speak about himself and cars for about 20 minutes. Even with more than 50 awards to hand out, the banquet wrapped in just over 2 hours and there was one last parking lot party at the supply trailer.

First Place Awards earned by club members

Carole Looft, MGA 1600 Wire Wheels, Leeann Looft, MGB Conversions, Ryan Looft, Photo Contest, Terry Looft, MGB GT Factory V8, Ron Parks, MGB MK II 73-74 Honeycomb Grille, Skip Peterson, MGB MK II 70-72 Recessed Grille, Tony Shoviak, MGB MK I 65-67

Other Awards

Dave Estell, 2nd MGB MK I 62-64, George Chase, 4th MG Midget Chrome Bumper, Dave Gribler, 3rd MGC GT, Lois Gribler, 3rd MGA MK II, Kathy Goodman, 3rd MGB LE, George Chase, 4th MG Midget Chrome Bumper, Rick Shields, 5th MGB MK II 73-74 Honeycomb Grille Terry Looft, Award of Excellence in Concours Judging MG 1100, Dave McCann Jr. NAMGAR Special Award, Lian Shoviak, 2nd Kids' Class Valve Cover Races.

Skip and Ron's Most Excellent Adventure to MG2016

Skip Peterson

t was a pretty simple plan, gather a bunch of MG's, take back roads to Louisville and go to MG 2016. The route was about 160 miles, and we knew it wasn't going to be fast, but an enjoyable Monday drive in the country.

What we didn't know, it was going to take 6 ½ hours! But then again, we're driving MG's.

Ron Parks and I had scoped out the route twice, and it was a little over 4 hours with 2 quick stops. I figured 5-½ hrs - counting a rest stop and a lunch in Madison; did I mention we were driving MG's?

Ron & Linda Parks, Skip & Jennifer Peterson, Rick & Susie Shields, Bob & Cheri Farrell, Chuck & Marcia Irvin and Fast Eddie Hill left the Dayton Mall at 9 am.

We picked up Dave & Carol Estell at Traders World on Rte. 63 and the fun began. Dave's car wouldn't start and we quickly made a couple of u-turns and parked. We tried to jump it, but we weren't sure since it was positive ground and we didn't' want to blow up either car's battery or wiring harness. We then proceeded to push/bump start it. On our way a few more miles on Rte 4 and Ron Parks is concerned about a "spongy" brake pedal. Another stop and after some "expert" consultation, that one pump was weak, two got a good pedal, and we were off with Carol Estell in the Camry following the whole group to run interference.

Pretty soon Eddie called me on the radio, "Are you riding the brakes?" "No," I replied and Eddie then informed me, "Well, your brakes lights are on."

Dave's car stalled again at low speed nearing a traffic light, but a quick bump start and he's on the road again.

We cruised through a small town, Cleves, and Dave's car stalled at the light, and he made a quick right on red to get out of the way. Two kids in and old Chevy pickup saw the problem, parked their truck,

jumped out and pushed Dave through a U-turn and got him going again and we didn't miss a beat as he caught the end of the caravan going through the light. Those are two fine young men, whoever they are.

We sailed along for a while, approaching our lunch stop in Madison, Indiana, when the big call came, "I've got a flat tire!" Bob Farrell needed a pit stop. We pulled into Madison Tool Co. lot, and the group flew into action. Jacks were moving, knockoffs removed, bags scattered to find the spare tire and things moved along. Not quite as quick as NASCAR pit crew, but still very impressive.

But Dave's car wouldn't stay running at idle and the battery cover is now being removed. The voltmeter showed 10 volts, and we called our crew chief, Steve Miller, for consultation. Steve confirmed the worst fears and it was determined Dave needed a new battery. With the help of Google, we located an Advance Auto Parts, just about a mile away. They had one series 26 R3 battery, with top posts! (We're getting lucky now.) We missed Bruce and Ethel Miller in Versailles but they drove by the group at this pit stop and joined us. Here's the scene now, Chuck and Eddie are pulling the battery, Rick, Ron and Bob are buttoning up the tire change while Skip, Carol, Bruce and Ethel head to Advance to get the battery. The others head off for lunch at Wendy's.

With a quick swipe of a credit card, we're headed back to the car, drop the battery in the box, attach the cables and Dave's B is running like a champ. (He had driven the car every day for the week before the trip and it was running fine, why would he think he needed a new battery? Also, after the new battery was installed, the tach started working again!)

After lunch, we're heading toward Louisville with the worst behind us. About 28 miles later, as I'm leading the group, my wingman Fast Eddie calls, "Hey Skip, check the mirror, we're all alone!"

We make another U-turn and find the group on the side of a two-lane road, with not much shoulder and Bob Farrell has another flat left rear. Same tire!

Jacks are already in place and Dave Estell grabs his spare, (it's a spline drive wire) and we're making another NASCAR pit stop. I remind Bob Farrell that we're running out of wire wheels.

Bruce Miller pulls an orange and yellow safety vest from his truck, and is in the middle of the road, directing traffic. He flagged down a semi-truck coming over the top of a hill and got him slowed down and was alternately stopping one lane and letting another go through. It made this stop much safer and Bruce is a pro at traffic control.

After maybe 15 minutes or so, we were on the road again. From there, it was smooth sailing, about 92 degrees, but smooth, and at 3:30 pm, we pulled into the Crowne Plaza. It was an hour later than I predicted, but after all the fun we had, I wouldn't change a thing, and we left no one behind.

PS, The same group took the same route home and we had no issues.



Pictures From Louisville

Photos by Ron Parks and Skip Peterson





































Dave McCann received a special presentation from Peter Cook, the Overseas Director of the MG Car Club in England. Four prints, each depicting Cecil Kimber along with various MGs, were given to club members for their work supporting MGs. ...meanwhile, in Destin, Florida, Charlie McCamey celebrates MG 2016 with his kids!



Winner of 1908 New York to Paris Race Honored by Historic Vehicle Association

Andrew Ganz



oday, a flight from New York to Paris is a mere seven-hour journey, but when this 1907 Thomas Flyer Model 35 set out from the Big Apple, the journey was far more challenging.

Plucked from Thomas' showroom in Manhattan a mere three days before the race, the 60-horsepower, \$4,500 car stood for years as a testament to the Buffalo, New York, automaker's high quality engineering. Now, the car has been entered into the

Historic Vehicle Association's National Historic Vehicle Register, which means that documents relating to the Flyer will be stored permanently at the Library of Congress.

The HVA has also done the same for cars like the Shelby Cobra Daytona prototype, the original Meyers Manx dune buggy, and the Marmon Wasp that won the first Indy 500.

As for the Flyer, its story is among the most intriguing.

The New York to Paris race was inspired by the Peking to Paris race a year prior. Racers had to make it to the West Coast of North America for ship passage to Asia, and then they continued their overland journey through remote stretches of Asia and into Europe. Six cars eventually lined up on the morning of February 12, 1908, for the race, including the Thomas Flyer that represented the United States team. One rival each represented Germany and Italy, while three French cars were entered.

The journey would be nothing like today since roads, even for wagons, were rare. At times, the cars used balloon tires to drive for days at a time on railroad tracks.

Forty-one days later, the Flyer was the first to arrive in San Francisco—a journey that takes about 42 hours today—where it was put on a ship to Valdez, Alaska. However, Valdez in the dead of winter was no place for a motorcar, so the race was rerouted from the original plan to trek through the Bering Strait. Racers were sent to Vladivostok, Russia.

Only three racers made it as far as Vladivostok, but the journey became ever more difficult thanks to spring rains that turned any semblance of terra firma into mud before the Thomas arrived in Paris on July 30. Technically, the German Protos racer was there first, but it was penalized for skipping the Alaska jaunt and because the team moved the car by rail at one point.

The winning Thomas Flyer was piloted by George Schuster, who had worked as one of the engineers at Thomas. Schuster was integral in identifying the Flyer after it was purchased by Bill Harrah, founder of Harrah's Automobile Collection and Harrah's Hotels & Casinos, in 1964 from a private collection. Major identifying marks on the car included places where the team had actually welded its chassis back together. As part of the Harrah's Collection, it was restored to the condition as it appeared after finishing the race, including the weathering and mud. The car is still owned by Harrah's today.

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: 1953 MG TD, matching numbers. An original car. Car has original paint (woodlawn green) and original upholstery light green. The repairs to this point, new battery and 5 new tires from Coker, master cylinder rebuilt, carbs rebuilt. Gas tank cleaned, lined and sender unit rebuilt. The primary wire harness has been replaced. Three bow convertible top frame has been painted to original tan color, but no canvas. Side panel frames are conditioned for repainting. Original top tarp and panel material has been retained. All parts that have been repaired have been retained. This vehicle comes with an original hard top! Guaranteed to run and has 25,000 + miles on the odometer. Before I obtained this car it was on blocks from 1965. Ownership, father deceased then wife then son, plus one person for 6 weeks then myself. My repair log and cost are available. This car has been in my possession for 9 months. A huge amount of photos are available. The asking price: \$15,500, which is what I have invested. Doug Beilstein Mansfield Ohio dbeilsteindds@neo.rr.com 419-526-2966. (7/16)

For Sale: 1978 MG Midget. New top, interior, steering wheel, radiator, and other new parts. Asking \$4500. Call Bob at 937-253-9935. (7/16)

MG Car Club Minutes, June 22nd Meeting

Sam Hodges

The MGCC June 2016 meeting was called to order at Bennett's Publical at 7:34.

Welcome to our first ever Pub Run club meeting.

President Bob Farrell, "I don't know who knows but I was lucky enough to have 2 flat tires on the way to Louisville. About 30 miles apart. I had a spare but no jack. Luckily, Rick had a jack and then 28 miles later the spare blew. Dave Estell lent me his spare and I made it the rest of the way. Tuesday morning I found a place in eastern Louisville that could repair wire wheels."

Bob continued, "While in Louisville, I had the best fish sandwich. I was expecting some fish on a bun, what I got was 10-12 inches of fish that I would have to have folded three times to fit onto the bread. It was only \$7. The newsletter didn't have anything about the winners in Louisville. Wednesday we took a distillery tour of Evan Williams and then over to the Louisville slugger tour. Everyone received a replica bat."

Vice President's Report. Dave Gribler, "I've got nothing. But I did have a flasher unit go out on the way down." President Bob, "The person who drove to Louisville from Florida said they'd driven 2,000 miles to get to Kentucky. Not sure how they went, must have gone through California." Dave Gribler, "The farthest driven award isn't just straight line from A-to-B. He could have driven that far." Dan Deutsch, "So starting today, I'm on my way to San Diego." Dave Estell, "Did they have an award for the car that got pushed the farthest?" Dave had a dead battery as the MGCC Road Crew met up with him on Rt.63. "We kept going and he just sat there." Dave E., "I thought it was an electrical issue that turned out to be a 17 year old battery. Most of the club pushed me at some point."

Dave Estelle motioned to approve the Minutes as reported. Bonnie Hankey seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report was next. Treasurer John Scocozzo. "The MGCC had total expenses of: MGCC Postage and Mailing (\$19.27) + Erie Insurance (\$240.00) for a loss to the MGCC of \$259.27. The MGCC had gains of: Membership & Regalia (\$44.00). Total loss to the MGCC was (\$215.27). Monthly Total loss when subtracted from our beginning balance of \$2,878.31 leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$2,663.04 in the primary checking account. Gumball cash-on-hand was \$40.00 after payment of the Gumball Rallye. The Savings account currently has \$379.63. Total ending balance of all accounts was 3,082.69. Dave Gribler motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Dave McCann Jr. seconded. Art Barnes (Very eerily channeling John Zeno) "Why do we have Insurance?" Skip Peterson then explained that it's because we live in a litigious society. "If we ever have an issue while on one of the MGCC events, we need the insurance as protection. Additionally, the BCD insurance is a rider that is only in effect for 48 hours.

Membership, Carole Looft, "No new members, we're still at 87." Terry Looft, "That's kind of a record low..." Carole, "When I was working on Gumball, I put in 40 names from Louisville. We had a really good turnout and it says a lot about what we're doing and what people are hearing about us."

John Shoviak, Diana Hodges, Steve Veris, Bonnie Hankey and Kathy Goodman all had birthdays this month.

Activities with Eddie. July 4th is the Americana festival starting about 9. If you're planning on attending, let Steve Markman know, Steve M., "I'll hold spots." Pres. Bob, "Steve's usually down around Marion's Pizza." Eddie continued, "June 25th in New Lebanon, Classics & Collectibles. Bring a toy or item for the needy, car registration is \$10. Vintage Grand Prix at Mid Ohio is this weekend. MG is featured marque. July 10th is Cincinnati BCD. Saturday July 9th is MadDogs and Englishman. MGA featured marque in Kalamazoo MI.

Most importantly, BCD is Saturday, August. 6th. This year's MGCC Pic-a-Nic is scheduled for August 21 at Kathy and Art Barnes house in Lake Laramie.

Sunshine Committee. Jennifer Peterson, "I have no reports."

British Museum of Transportation. Mike Edgerton. "No real news. We keep getting more vehicles. We're also getting funds to repair the roof. Once we meet handicap accessibility requirements we'll be ready to go. The bathrooms are working, but we need a proper handicap access ramp."

Newsletter Editor Steve Markman. "I assume the people from MG 2016 will send me pictures and an article or two and maybe a list of winners."

Webmaster John Scocozzo, "I just need some pictures and I can put them up." Jennifer, "Ron thousands of pictures At least is seems like he took that many."

Old Business. Jennifer P., "Charlie's not here." Ron, "Who's taking over old business when Charlie's not here?" Ryan Looft, "He's probably over at the Rusty Bucket."

Beer Break 8:00

Back from Brake 8:20

Bob, "Ryan, I'm sorry to interrupt..."

President Bob, "Any new business? BCD, Where do we stand?" Carol Estell, "It's going to happen." Skip P., "As of right now, we've got about 25 cars registered. That's about normal for now. We've got sponsorship from AAA and White Allen. They're also a Land Rover Dealer now. They're bringing Jag & Range Rover." Steve Markman, "Did you ever figure out why some people pre-registered but didn't have packages last year?" Dave Gribler, "Yes. There was an email glitch that we discovered that we're fixing by sending over a hard copy of all the registrations this year." Skip, "Otherwise, we're fine and we're counting on help from all of you." Lois Gribler, "I got the hotdogs cheap." Eddie, "Are we going to have sno-cones?" Jennifer P., "Only if you do it." Carole Looft, "Are we keeping prices the same?" Lois, "Let me get through the July 4th sales and I can better tell you what our actual costs are going to be."

MGCC Club Pic-A-Nic. Art Barnes, "There will be a Road Rally to get there but we're not going to tell you the details yet so you can't preview the route." Jennifer P., "Doesn't the club supply the meat?" Everyone brings a dish to share, appetizer, sides or dessert.

Tech Tips. Terry, Looft, "Steve Miller broke the throttle cable on Dar's car. He had a heck of a time trying to splice together the throttle with the choke and get it going. Turns out that the door pulls in the MGA are throttle cables. I didn't know until I replaced the door pulls on Carole's MGA and the new door pulls came in a pack marked throttle cable."

Skip, "Harbor Freight has stubby tools on sale. Only \$9 with a coupon." Ryan, "Could you explain stubby tools to us again?"

Pres. Bob, "One of my flats was caused by a staple between the tube and the tire."

Terry, "I don't know if it's old or new, but where's our next meeting?" Bob, "That's coming up, I'm saving that for last."

For Sale. Dave Gribler, "I've got an MGA trunk kit for sale - black." Skip, "We can talk." Lois, "We've also got a set of MGC headrests for sale. They'll fit a '69 B or C."

Pres. Bob, "Our next meeting. Where is our next meeting is going to be? As far as I know, right now, we still have reservations on the 4th Wednesday of every month at Rusty Bucket. Tonight's Pub Run was a 'Pub Run'. I really don't know how to proceed. Do we want to vote, ballots, raise hands? There was some discussion as to the merits of both places. Eddie., "RB is a corporate chain. This is a local place, what if we show up and this place is closed?" Bob, "That's a concern of mine." After some more discussion, Jennifer P., "I think we should do ballots." Ron Parks, "Did anyone have problems finding parking?" Some say yes, Some say no...

Dan Deutsch makes a suggestion. "Have the next meeting at Rusty Bucket but announce that a vote will be held at that meeting to decide our future venue." Sam H., "Stop using logic. We don't like that around here."

Skip, "Bob, this is why we pay you the big bucks. To make these kind of decisions."

Next meeting will be July 27th at the Rusty Bucket and we'll have a written vote on our future then.

Gumball Rallye was won by Eddie Hill. Meeting adjourned - 8:47.



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e-mail: MgAutomotive1@aol.com



32nd Annual Dayton British Car Day Midwest's Best British Car & Motorcycle Show Featuring & Celebrating 50 years of GT6 & Lotus Europa Saturday, August 6, 2016 9am - 4pm Eastwood MetroPark, 1385 Harshman Rd. Dayton, Oh.

Participants choice car show, vendors & swap meet, full service concession stand, dash plagues to first 325 entrants, and as always, spectators are admitted for free.

Registration: \$15 in advance includes free BCD t-shirt *if received before July 23, 2016*; \$15 day of show, Vendors; \$25 or door prize of equal value. Registration open 9 am until Noon. Show runs rain or shine!

Special Awards: Longest Drive, Ranger's Choice & Best of Show presented by the British Transportation Museum

Classes: MGT, MGA, MGB '63-'67, MGB '68-'74, MGB GT '65-75, MGB '75-'80, MGC, MG Midget, TR 2-3, TR 4-250, TR 6 67-'72(chrome), TR 6 '73-'76(rubber), TR 7-8, Stag, Spitfire Mk. I-II-III, Spitfire Mk. IV, Spitfire 1500, Spitfires 78-80, GT-6, Jaguar XK, Jaguar E-type, Jaguar XJ/Sedans, Austin-Healey 100, Austin-Healey Sprite, Mini-old, Mini-new, Aston-Martin, Land Rover, Lotus, Lotus Europa, Sunbeam Alpine, Sunbeam Tiger. Motorcycles, British Conversions (V8 engines- custom bodies-etc.), Open Class thru 1965, Open Class-1966 & later, Premier Class (2014 class winners), Diamond in the Rough and European Open Class.

Host Hotel: Holiday Inn, 2800 Presidential Drive Fairborn, OH 45324 Phone: 937.426.7800 Toll Free: 877.512.8797 Group Code DBC

For more information:

General Info & Show: Skip Peterson, 937-293-2819 or DaytonBCD@gmail.com

Registration: Stan Seto, 513-683-7974 or DaytonBCD@gmail.com

Visit our website and register online! www.britishcardaydayton.com



British Car Day 2016 Registration

Name			
Address			
City	State	Zip	Phone
e-mail			Driven to BCD
Yr./Make/Model		Class	
Require trailer parking Yes_	No_		
Advance registration (include Deadline: Must be received by t-shirt size SML_X	July 23, 20	16	\$15.00
Additional t-shirts (day of sh SM L XL XX			\$10.00
Vendor registration			\$25.00
			Total
Make checks payable to: Brit Mail to: BCD 2015, 1754 Lir Neither I, nor my heirs, will hold the Mis Rivers MetroParks, or any other sponso	ndenhall Dr ami Valley Triui	Loveland	I, OH 45140-2120 G Car Club, Southwestern Ohio Centre; Five his event, liable for any personal injuries or any
damages done to me or by me, my party event.	or my car, while	e engaged in th	nis event or while traveling to or from this
Signed			Date