

THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XLIII No. 10

August 2016

Pictures from BCD 2016

BCD Winners



Hot Exhaust

Bob Farrell

Here it is. August, a time to enjoy the outdoors. (Achoo!) Enjoying all the fresh fruits and vegetables (harvesting what is left after the critters and insects have their fill), the blooming flowers (wilted from the heat and lack of water), watching as my yard turns from green to dusty brown and driving the MG, with the top down, in the evening (terrific).

The first Saturday in August is also the time for British Car Day at Eastwood Park. The Dayton Metro Park people ordered up another beautiful day for the event. I didn't walk around the show field as I was working the drink concession, (a big thanks from me to Lois Gribler, Ed Wolf, and anyone else who dove in to the ice to retrieve cold cans and bottles)but I seem to remember seeing at least two British(?) Ferraris pulling onto the show field. I'm sure Skip will have more information on that subject.



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, August 24, 2016

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Upcoming MGCC Events

Aug:

- 21 – Club picnic
- 24 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

Sep:

- 5 – Cheese Pizza Day
- 24 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

Oct:

- 2 – Name Your Car Day
- 26 – Meeting at Rusty Bucket

See meeting minutes for other area activities!!

By the time this newsletter is published, the annual club picnic will have been held in Ft Laramie at the Barnses' estate. Hope everyone had a good time. And don't forget...the Rusty Bucket is again our regular meeting place.

Be safe.

Editor's Note – for those of you attending the picnic on August 21, I recommend using your GPS or an app like Waze. It's no big deal to get there, but way too much territory to cover for me to print a map in the newsletter. It's less than an hour drive from the Rusty Bucket. The Barnses' address is 12018 Eilerman Rd., Minster, OH, 45865. (I hardly ever pull my old GPS out of the glove box any more since I discovered Waze!)

BCD 2016 Winners

total at show - 260

Skip Peterson

MGT

- 1. Steve Markman, 1950 MG TD
AE. Richard Taylor

MGA

- 1. Carole Looft, 1960 MGA 1600
AE. Phil Roberts

MGB 63-67

- 1. Tony & Janet Shoviak, 1966 MGB
AE. Robert Orr

MGB 68-74

- 1. Steve Howard, 1968 MGB roadster
AE. Rick Shields
AE. Ron Parks

MGB GT

- 1. Terry Looft, 1976 MGB GT-V8
AE. Graham Cooper

MGC

- Dave & Lois Gribler, 1969 MGC GT

MGB '75-'80

- 1. Simon Dix, 1977 MGB
AE. Kathy Goodman
AE. Diana Hodges
AE. Tim Lewis

Midget

- 1. Tim & Nancy Shaw, 1961 MG Midget
AE. Bonnie Hankey

TR 2 & 3

- 1. John Coutant, 1959 Triumph TR-3 A
AE. Lou Metelko
AE. Roy Owens
AE. Mike McKitrick

TR 4 & 250

- 1. Tom Moore, 1968 TR-250
AE. Tim Paulus
AE. Mike Smith
AE. Greg Lutz

TR 6 '67-'72

- 1. Steve Broerman, 1967 TR-6
AE. Gordon & Zelda Attridge

TR 6 '73-'76

- 1. Vic Snively, 1975 TR-6
AE. Joe Gerst

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TR 7 & 8

1. John Clifford, 1981 TR-7
AE. Don Kayle

Stag

Ted & Eden Allison, 1973
Stag

Spitfire I-II-III

Tom Hollman, 1966 Mk. II

Spitfire 1500

Jeff & Jodie Barth, 1976
Spitfire 1500

Spitfire '78-'80

Chris Kleindorfer, 1979
Spitfire

GT 6

Bill Brown, 1968 GT-6

Jaguar XK

Richard Davis, 1959 Jaguar
XK-150

Jaguar XKE

1. Paul Weaver, 1969 E-type
coupe
AE. Richard Compton

Jaguar XJ/Sedans

1. Stanley Morgenthal, 1961
Jaguar Mk. II
AE. Dana Springer
AE. Dana Springer
AE. Dr. Turk Logan

Austin Healey 100

1. Larry Beasley, 1956
Austin-Healey 100

Austin Healey 300

1. John & Karen Steck, 1966
Austin-Healey 3000
AE. Jerry & Peggy Spurlock
AE. John Benkovic

Austin Healey Sprite

1. Don Bixler, 1959 Bugeye
Sprite
AE. Charlie Lowndsale

Lotus

Andy McKinley, 2008 Lotus
Exige

Lotus Europa

Steve Veris, 1970 Lotus
Europa

Classic Mini

1. Lou Alvino, 1969 Mini
rally car
AE. Greg Graham
AE. David Evans
AE. Aaron Jensen

New Mini

1. Mike Burdoine, 2015
MINI S
AE. Mike Edgerton

Sunbeam Alpine

1. Bob Thompson, 1967
Sunbeam Alpine
AE. Jean Webb

Sunbeam Tiger

1. John Engle, 1967
Sunbeam Tiger
AE. Jim & Diane Ebert

Motorcycles

1. Rick Ayres, 1973 Norton
Commando
AE. Chris VenDelinder
AE. Mike & Terri Moor
AE. Clark Miller

British Conversions

1. Eddie Cole, 1980 MGB V8
AE. Ryan & Leanne Looft

Open Class thru 1965

1. Pete Melville, 1948
Triumph 1800 roadster
AE. Don Phlipot

Open Class '66 and later

Dale Ballinger, 1974 Jensen
Healey

Premier Class

1. Rick Frantz, 1954 Jaguar
XK 120 SE
AE. Steve & Jayne Powell
AE. David Roberts
AE. Dar Planeaux
AE. John Rindfuss
AE. David Tiettmeyer
AE. Bruce Miles

Diamond in the Rough

1. Chris Peery, 1957
Triumph TR-3

European Open

1. Jay Kolb, 2002 Ferrari 360

Longest Drive

*Simon Dix, St. Louis, 435
miles, 1977 MGB*

Rangers Choice

*Rick Frantz, 1954 Jaguar XK
120 SE*

Taj Ma Garaj Most Unique Vehicle

Chuck Turner, 1973 Reliant

Best of Show

*John Coutant, 1959 Triumph
TR-3 A*

British Car Day Photos

Photos by Ron Parks and Steve Markman



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Our thanks to Skip Peterson and his team of volunteers for another great British Car Day and some great weather!!

Editor's Choice for best picture of all: the Winners Parade



MGB Electrical Troubleshooting Mishap

Karl Sparklin

So the early spring this year allowed me to get our '72 MGB running early and zipping around in early April. What a treat! It was also nice to discover nothing had broken over the winter, for once. I backed it back into the garage and got busy with other things.

Fast-forward a few months and I wanted to take it out again. Turned the key and nothing at all. Rats. OK, put a meter on the battery. Zero volts. All right, get out the charger I bought last year and put it on the battery. After the initialization LED's went out, no LED's showing. Dig out the manual: this is not a valid condition. What?

So is it a dead battery, or a charger that's broken? I thought I'd reverse the connections to the battery and see if the "Reversed Leads" LED would light. It didn't. I touched the charger's clips together. No spark. Refer again to the manual. "Never touch the leads of the charger together." Oh. Oops.

Well, crap. The battery could be so dead, the charger can't do anything, or the charger could be hosed and not charging the battery. So I disconnected the battery, and took it to O'Reilly's and had it tested. Dead battery. Harumph. "'72 MGB? You need a 6v battery." I laughed. "Well, originally. Just give me a 12v battery with same cranking amps but NO BIGGER! This one barely fits." "OK, here's one. Let me ask you something. Why an MGB instead of a Miata?"

I just looked at the young man like he had two heads. "Well, for one thing, I've had this thing since LONG before Miata's existed. For another, Miata's have no SOUL. You don't SUFFER with them!"

By his expression, I was now the one who apparently seemed to have two heads. Anyway, I took the battery home and was surprised at the spark when the cables met the terminals. I put a current meter in series and was surprised to find a pull of 9 amps! Rats. What else is wrong now? I lifted all four fuses out of their holders but it STILL pulls 9A. I'm looking at the schematic, dreading finding some odd short in the starter, or ignition switch or something.

On a whim, I flipped the headlight switch to the opposite position. I hardly ever drive the thing at night since whomever did the Bondo work on the front end of this thing left the headlights both pointing down too much, so I can't see much road in front of me. So I can never remember if the switch goes up for on, or down for on. I rechecked the current. Zero.



Sigh. So apparently, I had left the lights on when I put it away in April and it deep-discharged the battery, probably killing it.

THINGS I HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) MGB headlights pull 4.5A each.
- 2) Backing into the garage with the headlights pointing off into space at dusk can hide their powered state. Make a point of CHECKING them directly.
- 3) O'Reilley's clerks can sometimes ask ignorant questions, but you should resist the temptation to swing a small 12v battery at their head.

Elvis Presley's Rare BMW 507 Rediscovered and Restored

FoxNews.com

Even when he was a soldier, Elvis Presley lived like a king.

While he was stationed in Germany with the U.S. Army in 1958, the rock and roll star bought a 1957 BMW 507 roadster that had previously been used for racing and as a show car by the automaker.

The 507 was one of the "it" cars of the era, and Elvis' Feather White model got more than its fair share of attention. As the story goes, so many of his female fans used to write notes on it in lipstick that he had it repainted red.



After completing his service, Elvis brought the car back to the United States in 1960, but soon traded it in to a dealer who flipped it for \$4,500. During its 1955 to 1959 run, BMW only built 254 examples of the 507, and today they're worth up to \$2.5 million.

That is, of course, if they're in perfect condition. The person who bought Elvis' car modified it for racing with a Chevrolet V8, plus a new gearbox and rear axle, cutting the frame in the process.

By 1968, it had changed owners a couple of times and ended up in the hands of collector Jack Castor, who stored it in a "pumpkin warehouse" in Alabama to await a restoration that never happened.

Castor had heard rumors, but never knew for sure if his 507 had belonged to Elvis, until he read a 2006 article in “Bimmer” magazine about the search for the car. He invited the writer to come by and take a look, and its serial number confirmed the provenance of the now severely deteriorated car.

Eventually, BMW Group Classic bought the 507 from Castor, along with some spare parts that he’d collected over the years, and shipped everything to Germany for a full restoration in 2014. Castor died later that year shortly after the work on the car began.



The 507 was completely disassembled, and the paint removed with acid and alkaline baths. Many replacement parts were recreated using a mix of old and new manufacturing methods, with extras made for other 507s in need. It’s no surprise that the Chevy V8 was replaced with a correct BMW 3.2-liter V8.



To finish the original look, a fresh coat of white paint was applied using the same procedure that would’ve been used when the car was first built.

Elvis fans can keep their checkbooks in their pockets, however, because the car is not for sale. But they can get a look at it when it makes its first public debut at the Pebble Beach Concours d’Elegance on August 21st.

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. srmarkman@att.net or 937-886-9566.

For Sale: Sixty+ years of collecting British motoring memorabilia. 16 West Elm St in Monroe. Clearing out everything with bargain prices. Some of it for free, even:

1980 AUSTIN/ROVER MINI COOPER S. 3 998cc engines ZEMAX body enhancements, walnut dash & door sills 13" alloys extra parts & pieces sub frame carb sets alarm brite metallic green w/gray cloth interior new tyres throaty exhaust. A real looker and show winner. Ready for road, show or autocross \$9500.

1979 VW Beetle Cabriolet. Triple white low miles ready for summer touring when the B is laid up \$11,500. (O.K., not exactly British, but I know Steve is a nice guy.)

1986 REGAL Express cruiser Ambassador 255XL. 260HP Mercruiser I/O Fully outfitted: head w/shower, portapotty, gas range, fridge, hot water, AM/FM stereo cassette sound, sleeps 6, will tow skiers with ease. Come see it where is, as is, 16 West Elm in downtown Monroe. \$8900. (O.K., not even a car, but like I said above...) Larry McCart. 513-310-0313 or 539-7406 (8/16)

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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, July Meeting

Sam Hodges

Let it be stated that all of this is hearsay. I was in Wisconsin at Oshkosh during the meeting so my wife, the lovely Diana Hodges, filled in as MGCC Secretary.

President Bob Farrell called the June MGCC meeting to order at 7:32. This meeting took place at our old standby, Rusty Bucket, since last month's meeting was technically a Pub Run. Apparently, the meeting could have been called to order sooner but Diana Hodges and Lois Gribler were busy having a coffee klatch.

President's Report. Pres. Bob., "Apparently there are 4 or 5 cars interested in going to Stowe, VT. this fall. It'll be the largest British car show on the East coast. We still need to choose another location, but I'll save that for 'Old Business'. Otherwise, that's all I got.

Vice President's Report. V.P. Dave Gribler, "I didn't have any flat tires so I got nuthin."

At this point, since I wasn't at the meeting, I will now start to make things more interesting, as my stand in was kind of 'sketch' when it came to note taking.

Next on the agenda, Ron Parks had a demonstration on the proper way to clean and gut Brook Trout. This wouldn't have been a huge problem, but Ron had to use several Koi from Steve Markman's pond, as he didn't actually have any Brook Trout. It would also have been good if he had told Steve that he was going to use Steve's Koi. In hindsight, maybe the fish cleaning should have been saved for the Holiday party.

Minutes were next on the agenda. As all my notes say is that the Minutes were approved, motion made by Louie DiPasquale and seconded by Joe Hooker. Minutes approved as reported.

Treasurers' Report. Treasurer John Scocozzo. "The MGCC had total expenses of: MG2016 Supplies Reimbursement to Ron Parks (\$180.27) + Carole Looft Postage & Handling (\$28.56.00) for a loss to the MGCC of \$208.83. The MGCC had gains of: Membership & Regalia (\$44.00). Total loss to the MGCC was (\$164.83). Monthly Total loss when subtracted from our beginning balance of \$2,663.04 leaves the

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MGCC with an ending balance of \$2,498.21 in the primary checking account. Gumball cash-on-hand was \$30.00 after payment of the Gumball Rallye. The Savings account currently has \$379.65. Total ending balance of all accounts was \$2,907.88. John Lucente motioned to accept the Treasurer's report. Gary Kinney seconded.

Membership was next. Carole Looft, "There are no Anniversaries, no new members, sorry Bob. Birthdays this month we have George Jennings, Bob Farrell, John Scocozzo, Helen Markman, John Wolfe, Skip Peterson, and Missed some... How does Sam type this fast? Maybe I do need that hearing aid... Oops, that must be a note for me.

President Bob continued, "We had a nice turnout at the Cincinnati BCD. There were 2,800 cars (yeah, I'm making stuff up. Would be nice to have had numbers to work with. BTW, anyone have a spare couch? Once my wife reads these, I'm going to need to borrow it.) in your best Yogi Bear voice) August 21. Check your email for directions to Art and Cathy Barnes' house and for more picnic details.

Sunshine Committee. The Sunshine Committee is reporting anomalies surrounding star KIC 8462852. NASA's Kepler telescope has been reading anomalies in the stars output leading some to suspect comet debris. Others suspect an alien superstructure known as a Dyson Sphere. In other news, Art Barnes had to have rotator cuff surgery and will be unable to help dispose of any bodies for a short while.

British Museum of Transportation. Jeannie Smith, "Things are looking better and better. Immediately after BCD the museum will be open for a tour. There will be a flyer at the tent at BCD (you've missed it already) as well as membership applications and goody-bags.

Newsletter was next. Steve Markman, "Nothing new here." Bob, "(Someone) (really, really need to get my hearing checked...) won a trophy, 5th place out of 4 cars? We were second in Club participation. Missed winning by 3 cars!" Terry Looft: "We mailed 41 newsletters and 2 came back. Did anyone get a mailed copy 'postage due'?"

Webmaster John Scocozzo, "Nothing new."

Old Business. Bob, "Sorry Charlie..." No Old Business, we're getting to the vote on meeting location.

New Business. The vote on meeting locations (even though this is old business, it's showing up as new business, but I know I've been typing about it for at least three newsletters... Hmmm... As I said, sketch notes here...). Terry Looft, "Logan's Roadhouse by the Fairfield Mall has a nice room." One of the Cincinnati members (that's literally what the notes said folks), "I think that's getting too far north for those of us who live south of town." In Diana's defense, she did say she thought it was Dan Deutsch.

Beer Break called at, "...okay, sue me... I didn't record when... those Rusty Bucket Punches were good... And I

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was talking..."

Back from Break 8:20ish.

MGCC Clubhouse Meeting place vote. After a secret ballot presided over by the accountants at the accounting firm of Arthur Andersen, the Rusty Bucket wins. Until there's a new President. Terry Looft, "Why? We voted to end discussion and it was seconded, thirded, maybe fourthed."

There is a Facebook group page under the Club name featuring pictures of restorations. John Scocozzo was charged with putting a link to that page on our homepage.

BCD. Blah, blah, blah, stuffing bags, blah, blah, blah show field setup. It's over, you missed it. Lois Gribler, "How about I bring a wagon to take around selling drinks after the lunch crush?" Skip, "Can we get a 10-year old to do it? Maybe two 5-year olds? Dress them up like Oliver Twist?"

We have a great reputation for BCD. Friendly and welcoming. We're doing a good job.

Club Picnic. MGCC will supply the meat and drinks. Bring a side dish to share. There will be a timed road-rally that starts at Carillon park at 1:30. Picnic starts at 3:00 for those who just want to show up. The last road rally driving event we had, I started dead last and finished third! Racked up the most penalty points! Not sure that was the point...

Tech Tips. (I'm going to assume that this was a Dave McCann Jr. Tip. It sounds like him) "I took pictures and video under the dash with an inexpensive, \$20, borescope that you can hook to your phone. Worked reasonably well for seeing what's there without crawling up under the dash.

For Sale. Ryan Looft has a 1958 MG Midget for sale that'll be at BCD. Skip, "All cars for sale must be entered in BCD!"

Dan Deutsch won Gumball Rallye.

Meeting adjourned. Time? Bah, details...




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