

# THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XLVII No. 11

September 2020



We Really Had an August Meeting!!  
Time to Renew Your Membership

## From the Driver's Seat

Diana Hodges

What a long, strange trip it's been. As I write my last column (for now?) as President of the MGCC, if you told me this year would go the way it did, I'd have never believed you. Much like that time I substituted as the President and Sam told me that I was going to be elected and I didn't believe him, who knew that 2020 would be the year it's been. Despite the quarantine, pandemic, and the cancellation of nearly every event that we normally would have done, it has been an honor and privilege to be President of this club. I look forward to what the future brings and hopefully a return to some form of normalcy with our future endeavors. So I wish good luck to the next President. As we move forward, next year is definitely going to be an interesting affair. Despite some calls from some very vocal members to extend my tenure, that won't be happening. The new President is going to have to deal with all of the same issues that we've faced this year, and the



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 **Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill**, 67 South Main St, Miamisburg 45342, at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be:

**Wednesday, September 23, 2020?**

## MG Car Club Officers

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### Inside This Issue

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## Upcoming MGCC Events

### Sep:

- 13 – Uncle Sam Day
- 20 – Concours d'Elegance – **cancelled**
- 23 – Meeting at Bennett's Pubical?

### Oct:

- 2 – National Name Your Car Day
- 28 – Meeting at Bennett's Pubical?

### Nov:

- 1 – National Calzone Day
- 11 – Veterans Day 
- 18 – Meeting at Bennett's Pubical?

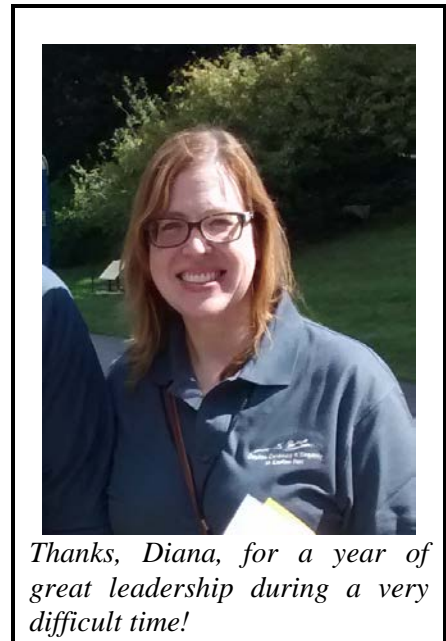
*See meeting minutes for other area activities!!*

way 2020 has been going, I'm sure many more.

One of the things that seems to have occurred this year is that we've managed to get more car drives into the schedule. With the Ice-Cream Social distancing drive, the Halderman tour and the upcoming London-to-Brighton drive, we've managed to get together, drive our cars and be social at the same time. Perhaps going forward, this will be the template for the next President. If we can get a good half dozen rides planned for next year, despite what the pandemic has planned for us, we can soldier on. There was an idea brought up about having an outdoor meeting, perhaps at Eastwood Metro Park. I think it's a really good idea, it just came too late in the year to make it work. If we spend the winter off season planning these events going forward, then our new normal might just

be a lot of drives and picnics if things don't get back to normal. Maybe we can just add these ideas to whatever the future holds...old normal or not. This just might be the year for someone to plan a Sno-Ball Rallye where we can test our heaters.

Again, it's been an honor serving as your President, and I hope that I've done a good enough job at it that you might consider allowing me to do it again sometime. Now, I just have to make sure that we pay our dues in October from now on.



*Thanks, Diana, for a year of great leadership during a very difficult time!*

## Membership Renewals for September

Carole Looft

**A**s a reminder, when September rolls around and it is time again to renew your MG Car Club membership, we have had to increase our dues for this coming year. Membership is \$25.00 for club members who will be receiving the newsletter by email. Those members wishing to continue with a paper copy of the newsletter will need to add an additional \$10.00 to offset printing and postage making their total \$35.00.

In the event we have to continue to cancel in-person meetings, please send your dues to:

MG Car Club SW Ohio Centre  
P.O. Box 20032. Dabel Branch  
Dayton, OH 45420-0032

# Biscuits and Tea, September 12

Photos by Ron Parks



# Here's How Far You Can Actually Drive on Empty

Morgan Cutolo

How far can you actually drive on those last few gallons of gas?

Let's be honest, we've all waited a little too long to fill our gas tank after we've hit empty. Some of us have been lucky and pulled into the gas station running on fumes, but others have had to walk five miles round-trip to the nearest gas station to refuel. This is why all cars don't have gas tanks on the same side.



But, when the gas light goes on, we never go into an immediate panic because Dad has always said, "You've got a few more miles left after the light goes on." Well, you were right to trust him, and this chart tells you exactly how far you can drive on empty.

Your Mechanic researched the miles



remaining once the warning light is on for the top 50 best-selling cars in the United States. It outlines how many gallons of gas are left in your tank and how many miles you'll be able to drive. This data is based on 2015 models, but these approximations remain the same for newer models.

Your Mechanic writes: "Note: For vehicles with "Not available" listed for the point at which the warning light comes on, the light is triggered based on the distance to empty calculator having the listed number of miles remaining."

*Editor's note – I've always been advised not to make a practice of running my car on fumes. In most cars (MG TD, and possibly others, excluded), the fuel pump is located in the gas tank and it uses the liquid gasoline to keep the pump from overheating. As more of the pump is exposed to air, it runs warmer because air doesn't conduct heat away from the pump as well as the gasoline. Thus the pump's life may be shortened.*



### How Far Can You Drive Your Vehicle on Empty?



Make	Model	Fuel remaining when low fuel warning light is triggered	Miles remaining when low fuel warning light is illuminated
Ford	F-150	1/16th of a tank	35-80
Chevrolet	Silverado	not available	25
Ram	150	3 gallons	63-87
Toyota	Camry	2.6 gallons	65-91
Toyota	Corolla	2 gallons	60-84
Nissan	Altima	3 gallons	81-114
Honda	Accord	2.6 gallons	70-93
Honda	CR-V	2.3 gallons	62-78
Honda	Civic	1.9 gallons	59-80
Ford	Fusion	1/16th of a tank	35-80
Ford	Escape	1/16th of a tank	35-80
Toyota	RAV4	2.4 gallons	57-74
Chevrolet	Equinox	not available	50
Nissan	Rogue	3 gallons	78-99
Hyundai	Elantra	not available	30
Ford	Explorer	1/16th of a tank	35-80
Chevrolet	Cruze	2 gallons	56-84
Ford	Focus	1/16th of a tank	35-80
GMC	Sierra Delani	4 gallons	64-92
Hyundai	Sonata	not available	40
Jeep	Cherokee	3 gallons	66-93
Nissan	Sentra	2 gallons	60-80
Jeep	Wrangler	2.8 gallons	47-58
Chrysler	200	3 gallons	69-108
Chevrolet	Malibu	2 gallons	50-72
Jeep	Gran Cherokee	3 gallons	66-90
Toyota	Tacoma	3 gallons	63-75
Subaru	Forester	2.6 gallons	62-83
Kia	Optima	not available	30
Toyota	Highlander	2.9 gallons	58-72
Kia	Soul	not available	30
Toyota	Sienna	3 gallons	54-75
Subaru	Outback	2.6 gallons	65-85
Nissan	Versa	2.6 gallons	65-85
Volkswagen	Jetta	1.85 gallons	57-85
Honda	Odyssey	3 gallons	57-84
Honda	Pilot	2.5 gallons	45-62
Ford	Mustang	1/16th of a tank	35-80
Ford	Edge	1/16th of a tank	35-80
Chevrolet	Traverse	2.5 gallons	42-60
Toyota	Tundra	4 gallons	60-72
Jeep	Patriot	2 gallons	46-60
Toyota	Prius	1.6 gallons	76-81
Hyundai	Santa Fe	not available	40
Kia	Sorento	not available	40
Chevrolet	Impala	2 gallons	44-62
Ford	Transit	1/16th of a tank	35-80
Mazda	3	2.3 gallons	69-94
Mazda	CX-5	2.6 gallons	67-91
GMC	Terrain	not available	50

# Car (Song Lyrics) of the Month

## Drag City by Jan and Dean

Just tuned my car, now she really peels  
A lookin' real tough with chrome reverse wheels  
A Blue Coral wax job sure looks pretty  
Gonna get my chick and make it out to Drag City

Yeah, I'm goin' to Drag City  
(Run her through now)  
Goin' to Drag City  
(What'll she do now?)  
Goin' to Drag City  
(Run her through now)  
Goin' to Drag City  
(What'll she do now?)

Burn up that quarter mile

The DJ's sayin' on my favorite station  
The Drag City races are the fastest in the nation  
Wheels are the wildest and the stockers are pretty  
I'll get my honey, grab some money, split to Drag City

Well, I'm goin' to Drag City  
(Run her through, now)  
Goin' to Drag City  
(What'll she do now)

Goin' to Drag City  
(Run her through now)  
Goin' to Drag City  
(What'll she do now?)

Burn up that quarter mile

'Round the drag way thick exhaust fills the air  
The final teams tachin' up and action everywhere  
Checkered flags, wheel stands, sure sounds pretty  
To hear the cheers, bring your ears out to Drag City

Yeah, I'm goin' to Drag City  
(Run her through, now)  
Goin' to Drag City  
(What'll she do now?)

Burn up that quarter mile  
Burn up that quarter mile



*Editor's note – I remember back in the early 60s helping my dad Blue Coral his car each summer. I guess that in the old-old days, people rubbed kerosene on the paint to make it shine for a few days. Anyway, after slaving away for a hot afternoon, my aunt stopped by, complimented us on how shiny the car looked, and asked if we had just wiped it down with kerosene. My dad gave her a cross look and didn't talk to her for another few weeks.  
P.S. It took another two or three days until my hands finally stopped smelling and the blue color finally faded.*

# Sailing to Make a Comeback in Wind-Powered Car Carrier

Reuters Sept 11, 2020

Will hold 7,000 cars and make the North Atlantic crossing in 12 days



STOCKHOLM — A Swedish consortium aims to launch commercially by 2025 a wind-driven car carrier that will emit 90% less carbon dioxide than a conventional roll-on/roll-off (RoRo) cargo ship, it said on Thursday. The 200-meter-long carrier will have a capacity for 7,000 cars and have a maximum height of 105 meters when its five 80-meter upright "wing sails" are fully extended — bringing to mind a futuristic version of the wings of a 19th-century clipper.

"This will of course challenge our habits, and when this vessel will be in the ocean sailing, it will be an odd bird," consortium partner Wallenius Marine Chief Operating Officer Per Tunell told an online news conference. "We are on track to make it possible for launching and putting this vessel in operation for late 2024."

The consortium said in a statement a North Atlantic crossing would take the ship around 12 days, against eight days for conventional vessels. "The technology of the wing sails is quite similar to airplane wings," Wallenius Marine architect Carl-Johan Soder said, adding that the 90% emission reduction estimate was based on a North-Atlantic crossing at an average speed of 10 knots.

The vessel will have a fuel powered engine for operating in ports and for support when wind is very weak. Tunell said the vessel would be slightly more expensive than a traditional RoRo carrier of comparable size.

Besides Wallenius Marine — which is controlled by the founding family of the Wallenius RoRo shipping group — the consortium includes Sweden's Royal Institute of Technology and shipping consultancy SSPA. The project is co-financed by the Swedish Transport Administration.

## Classifieds

**For Sale:** 1977 MG Midget. Excellent condition, regular tune-ups & oil changes, Weber carb, runs great, no rust, fresh paint (BRG). 54,500 miles. \$3500. OBO. Call Clay at 937-558-2589 or e-mail [hclaywhite@usa.net](mailto:hclaywhite@usa.net) (7/20)

**For Sale:** 1978 MG Midget. New top, interior, exhaust, master cylinder, rear bushing, steering wheel, radiator, and a box full of about \$350 worth of other new parts. Garaged. Asking \$3,000. Call Bob at 937-253-9935 after 4 PM. (7/20)

***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](mailto:srmarkman@att.net) or 937-886-9566.*

## Minutes from August Meeting

Sam Hodges

The August 2020 meeting of the MGCCSWOC was called to order precisely at 7:32 by President Diana Hodges. “Good evening in person for the first time since June. Since the numbers appear too be going down and Bennett’s was able to accommodate us, we decided to forge through with an actual meeting. Again, thank you to Art & Cathy Barnes for planning the Halderman Barn Museum visit.”

President Hodges continued, “Whenever Sam goes to a store that has Hot Wheels or Matchbox, he always takes a spin down the aisle to see if there’s anything interesting. Well, he finally brought home something interesting. He found this Matchbox 1971 MGB GT at Kroger’s. He assured me he didn’t buy them all but he did bring home three.”

Vice President’s Report was next. V.P. Terry Looft, “I just did it.” President Di, “Okay. Moving on.”

Minutes were next. Diana, “I do have a correction to the Minutes. In the last Minutes, I was named as ‘Old Business’. I want to make a motion to replace me as old business.” The MGCC seemed nonplused by the motion which not only failed, but also brought much ridicule and derision. MGCC voted. Minutes approved as reported.

Treasurer’s Report was next. Treasurer Bob Farrell, “Surprisingly, we still have some money.” Terry Looft, “Have we actually spent any money?” Bob, “A little.” The MGCC had gains of: Squat. Zero. Nil. (\$0.00) for a total gain to the MGCC of \$0.00. We had total expenses of: Tune-Up Clinic coffee & Donuts (\$15.50) + Picnic Expenses (\$71.66) + June Gumball (\$10.00) for a total expense to the MGCC of \$97.16. Monthly total gains when subtracted from losses means a loss of \$97.16 to the MGCC. When subtracted from our beginning balance of \$3,638.95 leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$3,541.79 in the primary checking account. The Savings account now has \$381.43. Total ending balance of all accounts was \$3,923.22. Terry Looft, “At our current rate of expenditures, how long can we exist?” Bob, “We’ve spent approx \$100 since the last meeting. Terry, so 39 years.” Dar Planeaux motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report. Eddie Hill seconded. MGCC voted. Report approved.



## The Octagon News – September 2020

Membership was next. Carole Looft, “As you’ve read, Dues are coming due in September and they’re going to \$25. We currently have 67 members right now. Last month we got a new member, the Fishers from Xenia who own an MG TD.”

Birthdays in July: Skip Peterson, John Scocozzo, Karl Sparklin, Bob Farrell, Helen Markman, Dave Johnson, and Joanne Gribler. August birthdays: Jennifer Peterson, Jane Powell, Terry Looft, Carole Looft, Bruce Miller, and Dave McCann, Sr.

Speaking of Dave, Sr., he reported, “Monday I had a heart catheterization and by 6:30 I was driving home. I’ve got 13 stints in me and most have cost me at least one night in the hospital. This is the fastest that I’ve ever had it done.”

Newsletter Editor Steve Markman was at home keeping safe and healthy, but misses his monthly beer. The club liked the pictures of this years BCD at Eastwood Metropark as published in the last newsletter.

Webmaster John Scocozzo. “The Website’s still there.”

Activities with Eddie. Ed Hill, “Most things have been cancelled. The Peachtree Registry in Dillard Georgia is still planning their regional meeting. Currently planned for September 17-20, there are a few intrepid souls (the Gribler’s and the Looft’s) planning on making the drive down. Sunday, October 10th is the 90th anniversary of the MG Car Club. They’re hoping that all of the Chapters worldwide will plan an event to celebrate. Dave McCann has planned a London to Brighton drive as our entry. After some discussion as to the best date, the membership concluded that Sunday Oct. 4th would be the best day since Dave Sr. Is having a procedure on the 11th.

Activities continued. Eddie, “Next year, 2021 is the next ‘All MG Meet’ and it will be held in Atlantic City.” Mark your calendars, get your hepatitis vaccines updated and plan accordingly.

Dave McCann, Sr. “Is there any way that we could have an outdoor meeting at Eastwood park. Maybe in October? Art Barnes, “We can’t have beer in the park.” Dave McCann, Jr. “Without the walls to trap them, all the people that we want to get into office for next year can get away too easily.” Art, “Also, it’s probably going to be dark by 7:30 in October.”

Jim Carson, “If you’re driving your MG without a mask and someone says something, just roll up the window.”

Beer Break was officially skipped, but Terry Looft brought his torque wrench calibration tool. He was calibrating wrenches just before the meeting. If you are coming to the September meeting, and we highly suggest you do if you do NOT want to be an officer, bring your torque wrenches. Terry will be back with his calibration tool.

Old Business was next. Dar Planeaux volunteered to be old business this month. Otherwise, nothing new in old business.

New Business. Dave Gribler, “Beer Break?”



## The Octagon News – September 2020

President Diana, “Any tech tips other than rolling up the window and don’t forget to play with your tools next month?”

For Sale. Bob Farrell, “I had Steve Miller rebuild my carbs and after I got them back, I wanted to change the plugs. I finally found them at the Autozone by the Krogers at Alex Bell and 741. When I went in and asked for them, the guy asked what kind of tractor I had. The box has ‘lawn & garden’ on it.” Terry Looft, “About 40 years ago we went to an Odd Lots and they had Champion N9Y’s for sale. We filled the cart. We’re still opening those packages.”

Carole Looft, “Di, don’t forget about those magazines, I don’t want to take them home.” Diana, “I’m just going to play Oprah. You get a magazine. You get a magazine! You get one, and you get one...” By the time she’d passed them out, almost everyone present got a magazine to take home.

Dave McCann, Sr. “For the London-to-Brighton Run, be at the Courthouse in London, OH at the corner of 42 & 56 by 1:00 Sunday, Oct.4th. The actual drive to Brighton is only about 8 miles. But we’re going to go for a drive in the country.”

Cathy Barnes won the Gumball Rallye

Meeting adjourned 8:03.

The logo for MiniMania features the word "MiniMania" in a bold, stylized font. The "M" is particularly large and has a jagged, mountain-like appearance. The letters are black with a white outline.

**MG AUTOMOTIVE**

Parts, Service and Restoration for  
MG, Triumph, Austin Healey and  
Related Autos



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