

THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XLVII No. 8

June 2021

British Car Day in ON
Pub Run



From Under My Car

Terry Looft

As you read this a bunch of us are having a great time in Atlantic City at MG International 2021 (Wish you were here!). Carole's new MGC ran perfectly and won all the awards. So much for straining the crystal ball. Back to real time. We have run the new engine, it sounds great. We dropped it into forward and reverse and the car wants to move. The brakes have been gone through and are done, and all of the interior is finished. The engine bay is 98 % done, but we are still waiting on a few small parts to finish. We are hoping this week all the body parts are in place and we can do a test drive. Then to get a quick 500 miles and an oil change before we head to New Jersey. We are up against the clock, but still have hope that the car will be ready. In the mean time, Ryan and I put a custom British trailer hitch on his MG 1100, he kept mumbling something about needing more room for shoes. I



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 **twenty-five (\$25.00)** 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:

Next meeting June 23rd

MG Car Club Officers

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And special thanks to Ron Parks for proofreading.

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3	Pub Run Information
3	Taking Care of Chrome
5	Minutes from May Meeting

Upcoming MGCC Events

Jun:

- 3 – National Chocolate Custard Day
- 6 – British Return to Fort Meigs
- 23 – Meeting at Bennett's Pubical
- 27 – Pub Run

Jul:

- 5 – Americana Festival
- 9 – National Sugar Cookie Day
- 28 – Meeting at Bennett's Pubical

Aug:

- 7 – British Car Day
- 12 – Middle Child Day
- 25 – Meeting at Bennett's Pubical

See meeting minutes for other area activities!!

thought he only had two pairs?

I still have two more 1100's to check over to make sure they are up to the trip. It should be fun, you know how we love our road trips in the MG's. So far it looks like we have 11 cars in the caravan to AC. I think 4 of us will be pulling trailers with our little cars, one being the CST (Club Supply Trailer) being towed courtesy of Mr. Parks. Thanks Ron!

Another bright note, BCD is looking like it's a go. There will be a few changes and a lot more details yet to come out. I'll say there are a few of us really looking forward to sitting with our cars, looking at cars, and talking to people. It will be a very nice change to attend this year and maybe not work quite so hard. I'm guessing Skip will have a lot to tell us along those lines.

An upcoming Pub Run is being discussed toward the end of June. Keep an eye out for an email about that.

My remote tech tip is a neat little RPM/MPH guide based on your diff gearing. Interesting to see what your engine is doing and how close your tach is. Hope you find it useful.

Welcome New Club Members

Carole Looft

Dave & Kim VanDerkar
2502 Willow View Ct.
Grove City, OH 43123
330-206-9999
davevanderkar@gmail.com
kimvanderkar@gmail.com
1971 Midget

British Car Day 2021 is ON

Skip Peterson

After a one year hiatus, British Car Day will be returning to Eastwood MetroPark on Saturday, Aug. 7 from 9 am to 4 pm. We received permission on June 2 and had already had on zoom meeting to get our ducks in a row. We are now in full planning mode and don't really expect any huge problems, just a lot to do in a short period of time. The website is up and running and we already have 25 entries. You can register online at britishcardaydayton.com

The park has lifted all restrictions so all we need is sunny skies, 72 degree weather and lots of help on both Friday evening and Saturday.

Pub Run, Sunday June 27, 2 pm

Skip Peterson

M eet at MG Automotive at 3733 Wilmington Pike in Kettering and be ready to roll out at 2pm for a leisurely drive on back roads to the Old Bag of Nails Pub in Mason. Once there we'll have a late lunch or early dinner. Turn by turn directions will be handed out at MG Automotive. Afterwards, you're invited back to Carol and Dave Estell's house for a dessert and hang out on the CICADA FREE screened porch! Their home is 4 miles for the Old Bag of Nails, right off St. Rte 741 at 2957 Wooded Vista Ct. Mason, OH.

Send Us Your Pictures!

Carole Looft

I 'm sure most of you have explored our club's website at <http://mgcarclubswohio.com/> . One of the sections for viewing features our members along with their cars. We have quite a few members who are missing from this section. If you would send us a picture of you with your car/cars, we are hoping to update this section with current members and car information. Send to clooft@earthlink.net and I will pass it on.

Classic Chrome

Submitted by Carole Looft

Our apologies to the unnamed author from whom this article was plagiarized

M Gs are meant to be driven, but if you drive them in winter, you will need to clean the road salt off the bodywork and in particular from the chromework. Chromium plating provides an attractive and durable finish to mild steel and plays a vital part in the visual appeal of a classic MG.

In the 1950s and 60s most cars were embellished with more than their fair share of chrome. Many a Sunday morning was spent cleaning and buffing up bumpers, hubcaps, window frames, wing mirrors, door handles, side strips, fuel caps and in the case of an MG even carefully cleaning every slat of the chrome grille.

In the 70s chrome started to disappear as an embellishment and was replaced by shiny plastic, stainless steel, or even black paint on the cheaper cars. While the 80s saw the introduction of color-coded plastic bumpers and the virtual disappearance of bright work on car exteriors except perhaps for their, badges.

Over the years all chrome plated surfaces will deteriorate and all chrome is vulnerable to surface rust discoloration but it is amazing how with just a little effort even a quite rusty chrome part can be cleaned and restored back to its original gleaming condition. Chrome can be cleaned with ordinary car shampoo and then wax polished but when rust discoloration has taken hold or the surface is badly corroded then a specialist chrome cleaner will be necessary.

Serious damage has only been done when the chrome surface has actually broken. through or become so severely pitted by rust that the finish is beyond saving. Nowadays, few modern cars have any chrome work at all and as a result many younger owners have little experience of the extra level of care necessary to keep their bright work looking bright. Chrome needs regular cleaning and also the protection of polishing with a quality wax polish. Some people even apply Waxoyl to their chrome work; bumpers and hubcaps. Applied sparingly and then carefully polished Waxoyl can form a protective layer on the bright work.

The Midget and MGB/C and the MG saloons of the 50s and 60s from the Magnette to the MG1100/1300 series all had handsome chrome bumpers. Rust will form on these bumpers especially after driving the car on our salt strewn winter roads. A wash with warm water and car shampoo will usually get rid of surface rust but the more persistent corrosion will need the application of chrome cleaner and some hard rubbing to restore the shine. Once chrome is restored it is a good idea to wax polish it just as frequently as you would the rest of the bodywork.

MG Practical Joke

Submitted by Carole Looft

I found this in an old issue of *Enjoying MG* dated in 2001. This is about youngsters and their pranks.

Two young boys called at a neighbor's house on 'Trick or Treat' at Halloween. The occupant banished them with a few choice words and they chose to target the chap's MG TD in revenge. They returned with a trolley jack and raised the car and set the chassis on blocks so that the wheels just cleared the ground. The owner (who also happened to be the boys' teacher) attempted to leave for school the following morning and couldn't understand why the car wouldn't drive away. He returned to his house to phone a mechanic and the boys quietly removed the blocks and hid. When the mechanic arrived, the teacher started the car, revved it madly and dropped the clutch. The wheels spun and the car nearly demolished a wall. Sweet revenge.

BCDs Past



2007 BCD



2009 BCD

Classifieds

Help Needed: Someone with the equipment and experience to pray paint lacquer on my TD's fender. What started out as fixing a few scratches is turning into a major mess to my car's paint. Steve Markman, srmarkman@att.net, 937-886-9566. (6/21)

For Sale: MG-TD new body timbers: 1) Front latch pillars, left & right, Moss part no. 450-820 & 450-825. 2) Hinge pillars, left & right, part no. 450-830 & 450-835. 3) Under door rails, left & right, part no. 450-840 & 450-845. Half off the Moss price & includes free shipping. Danny Mortensen, 859-384-7821 or agsdanny@aol.com (5/21)

For Sale: 1970 MGB. It is a restoration project and I just don't have the time to give to it. It has a hard top and a soft top and chrome bumpers. It has been stored in my garage for the past 7 years. If interested we can send pictures. Asking \$3,000. Valerie Powell, clpowell428@gmail.com. (4/21)

For Sale: 1950 MGA project car. Vehicle has new cam shaft bushings; crank was ground (-.330 down) and stored correctly; missing carbs and manifolds. My dad was an MG enthusiast, and this was his last project before he passed away a year ago. We want to see it go to a good home to complete the restoration. Asking \$2500 or best offer. Located in Plain City, Ohio. Please contact Krista Precourt for more information at kprecourt10@gmail.com, or 805-427-5334. (4/21)

For Sale: Honeycomb grill (1973 & 1974), good condition. Asking \$75. Reasonable offers accepted. Ron Parks, H 937-322-0717, C 937-207-9009, or MGdriver@woh.rr.com. (3/21)

For Sale: 1979 MGB. New Stayfast Acrylic top, new top frame, new tires (as of summer 2020), working AC, new wiring harness, trailer hitch with wiring, twin Su's, Fiero seats. Asking \$7500. Call Larry Youngblood at 937-689-6995. (1/21).

For Sale: Hayden Electric Fan, used, excellent shape. Listed in the current Moss catalog, MGT-154 on p. A27. \$35 includes shipping. Dan Mortensen, agsdanny@aol.com or 859-384-7821. (1/21)

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.

Minutes from May Club Meeting

Diana Hodges

The May 2021 meeting of the MGCC was called to order at 7:30 on the dot. (*It was actually 7:33 but Terry was ready to go at 7:29. The rabble just wouldn't settle down.*)

There were 30 people in attendance.

President Terry Looft, "Unfortunately we're starting off with some bad news. How many of you remember Tim Lewis. He passed away from a pretty aggressive cancer. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers a donation to his charity of choice, the AlphaOne Foundation be made." After a brief bit of

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research by Skip, The MGCC made a motion to send a donation to the AlphaOne Foundation. Skip Peterson made the motion. Jim Carson seconded. MGCC unanimously agreed.

President Looft continued, “We would like to thank Jim Carson for planning the Spring Drive to Valley Vineyards. There’s not much going on for us. We got the windshield on the MGC installed. Tomorrow we’re going to do the dashboard and hopefully start the car this weekend. The doors line up and everything seems to be going fine.”

Vice President Jim Carson, “I want to thank everyone who came on the drive. The only person who got lost was me. If you followed me, you got lost, but otherwise it was a fun drive. There’s car show coming up June 5th is the Ace Car show on Route 741 car show in Lebanon if you’re looking for something to do.”

Minutes were next. As usual, Secretary Sam Hodges (me) refused to entertain any changes to anything about his masterpiece of Minutes. Bob Farrell motioned to accept the Minutes as reported. Ron Parks seconded. Minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report was next. Treasurer Bob Farrell, “The MGCC had gains of: Membership Dues (\$36.00) in income for a total gain to the MGCC of \$36.00. We had total expenses of: Mother Club Dues (\$75.82) + Tune-Up Clinic coffee & donuts (\$22.14) + Post Office Box Rental (\$134.00) + Erie Insurance renewal (\$240.00) + April Gumball (\$10.00) for a total expense to the MGCC of \$481.96. Monthly total gains when subtracted from the losses means a loss of \$445.96 to the MGCC. When subtracted from our beginning balance of \$4,247.72, leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$3,801.76 in the primary checking account. The Savings account now has \$381.73. With Cash-on-Hand of \$50. Total ending balance of all accounts was \$4,233.49.” Jennifer Peterson motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Lois Gribler seconded. MGCC voted and approved of having money.

Membership was next. Carole Looft, “We have 68 members now. We acquired new members Dave & Kim Vandercar, from Grove City, Ohio who own a 1971 Midget.” Carole continued, “Bill & Melinda Cole came down from Findlay, Ohio to join us.” Melinda, “He finally gets to work on the ‘58 Magnette.” Carole Looft, “Also in attendance is Enoch Caudill. Who does not have a Mini as erroneously reported previously.”

May Birthdays: Mike Hirsch, Sue Scocozzo, Mary Planeaux, LeAnn Looft & Torrey Looft. Bob Farrell, “My grand-daughter just had her first birthday.” Skip P., “Is she a member?” Terry Looft, “We could use the cash.”

Activities with Eddie. Eddie Hill, “Sunday, June 6th is the annual Return to Perrysburg. The MG Atlantic City 5-year meet is happening June 14-18. There’s a car show at Armco park and the July 4th is the Americana Festival in Centerville. We still don’t know much about BCD this year. Cincinnati British Car Day is scheduled for Sept. 12th.” Lois Gribler, “The MGC gathering is in Petersburg, VA. There are 14 cars committed. 9 roadsters and 5 GTs.”

Sunshine Committee was next. Carole Looft, “I don’t know anything.” Jennifer Peterson, “Does anyone know anything about anyone? We’re all good.”

Carole, “Could you pass on to Steve that we need the newsletter a week early because we’re leaving for Atlantic City?” (*Steve obviously got the message*).

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Webmaster John Scocozzo. “I saw that some people have been taking advantage of the online forum. If you register on the website, you’ll be able to browse without joining but you have to get a password in order to post. Carole, “John & I got together, and we want current pictures so that we can update who our club members are and what they’re driving.” John, “We updated the website and created a In Memoriam section of people who’ve passed on.”

Beer Break called at 7:52.

Back From Brake at 8:06

Eddie Hill, “Everyone be quiet. We can watch Terry beat a table to death.”

Jennifer Peterson, “We have breaking news. Steve Powell is having hip replacement surgery on June 8th.”

Old Business. Who’s the old business tonight? Skip, “Wait a minute. How did I get involved in Old Business.” Terry, “You’re going to have to face facts.” Skip, “I actually drove the MGA under its own power last Friday after 27 years. Once the interior is in, it’ll be back on the road.” Terry, “Great, we’ll see it next meeting.” Skip, There’s no interior. I can’t drive it on a milk crate forever.” Dave Gribler, “Why not?”

Skip, “Regarding BCD, as of today, the Five-Rivers Metro Park District is still trying to evaluate how the Governor’s mandates will effect large events. As of (the meeting date), there’s still no decision. The large gathering guidelines are still in effect.” Terry, “You’ll let us know as soon as you know something.” John Scocozzo, “I don’t think cars are super spreaders of Covid.” (NOTE: *As of June 2nd, a decision was made by the Five-Rivers Metro Park District that will allow BCD to go on as planned. Check your email for more details*).

Dave McCann Sr., “I was reading an article about the park in downtown New Carlisle. Anyone know anything about that park or maybe changing locations.” John Scocozzo, “Could this be the Park District trying to squeeze us out?” Skip, “I’m afraid that this might be the case. They’re trying to use this as a way to get out of cars. It doesn’t fit with their kayaking, hiking, biking, canoeing theme that they’re going for. June 1 is our drop dead date for go/no go with the park district.”

British Museum of Transportation. Ed Wolf, “The MGA runs. It’s been outdoors and has 4 wheels and an exhaust system. It just needs a few little touches.” Terry, “Like the body coming back from paint...” Ed.W., “Yeah, that’s one of those details.” Ron Parks, “I’ve got the thermostat at home to boil and see if it works.” Terry, “You won’t get it tender enough no matter how long you boil them.”

Club Historian. John Scocozzo, “I went to the museum and was looking for documents. There are a few boxes that haven’t been moved over yet. As soon as we get all of that stuff, I’ll digitize them and put them on the web.”



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New Business. Terry, “Pub Run anyone?” Jennifer, “Carole Estell and I talked about a pub run to Two Cities Pizza. We’d start at MG Automotive, drive down and get pizzas, and then head over to the Estell’s house, about 4-miles away. Possible date would be the last Sunday in June, 27th.”

Tech Tips. Ron Parks, “I got new tires on the MGB and they balanced them, but then I started getting a shimmy at 60 MPH. I took it to Grilliots Tires in Greenville, and they can do a road force balance. It was about \$60 for all four. I got the car up to 80 mph and there was no shimmy at all.” Sam Hodges, “Ron, where’d you find a hill long enough to get up to 80?” Ed Wolf, “I have a US Spec speedometer to replace the Canadian metric unit he’s obviously using.”

Skip, “In trying to find parts for the MGA, I discovered a bunch of items in the garage. Most notable, was this lovely MGCC SWOC stationary. We bought these back before the internet.”

Carole Looft, “Putting the windshield on the MGC, I thought the rope we were going to use would be too abrasive. My suggestion, how about an extension cord?” Terry, “We had a new 9-ft cord and it worked wonderfully.” Terry continued, “I’ve also been 3D printing window winder extensions to get the crank off the door.” Dave McCann, Jr., “You couldn’t just buy her power windows?”

For Sale, Ron Parks, “Seats are gone but I’ve got two grilles and a transmission. One is a TR-4 grille.”

Gumball Rallye was suspiciously won by Bob Farrell. Steve Veris, “Now he doesn’t have to pay the money back.”

Motion to adjourn @ 8:31.



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