

THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume XLVIII No. 9

July 2022



Pictures from Biscuits and Tea
BCD Volunteers Needed

Fast Idle

Ed Wolf

Greetings Club members and Happy July. Hope you are enjoying the summer weather, and getting out for a drive during the cooler hours of the day.

This is the season for too many car shows and events to list, so just trying to pick a few and get to those. The Americana festival and car show a few weeks ago in Centerville was quite nice (and hot!). John Scocozzo and Steve Markman represented the club, and Steve even took home a trophy to add to his collection. Also a National Mini meet in Fairborn with a photo event at the British Transportation Museum occurred a few weeks ago. A big "Thanks" to our own Rick Shields and Mike Hirsch for stepping up during a pinch and working the grill during that event. See photos below.

And don't forget...our own British Car Day will be here in just a few short weeks. Mark your calendar for Saturday August 6th, and also



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 July 27th

MG Car Club Officers

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And special thanks to Ron Parks for proofreading.

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Upcoming MGCC Events

Jul:

- 4 – Americana Festival
- 27 – Meeting at Bennett’s Pubical

Aug:

- 6 – British Car Day!!
- 12 – Middle Child Day
- 24 – Meeting at Bennett’s Pubical

Sep:

- 18 – Concours d’Elegance
- 19 – Talk Like a Pirate Day
- 28 – Meeting at Bennett’s Pubical

See meeting minutes for other area activities!!

Friday evening if you can come by Eastwood MetroPark and help with the show field layout and setup.

Hoping to see you at the next event or out on the road.



Welcome New Members

Carole Loft

Michael & Linda Combs
303 The Alameda
Middletown, OH 45044
513-594-2201
cbmichael1@cinci.rr.com
1973 MGB

Dennis Gates
3297 N. Waynesville Rd
Oregonia, OH 45054
513-235-1560
gatesdg@gmail.com
1972 Midget

David & Cindy Uible
2652 SR 132
New Richmond, OH 45157
uible@yahoo.com
1974 MGB

BCD Hudson-Cleveland

Ron Parks

My Grandson, Cameron and I went to the BCD Hudson-Cleveland show on Saturday July 9, 2022 (see photo). Of the fifteen or so cars in the MGB Chrome Bumper class, ours was voted second place. It was a nice show chaired by Tony and Lynn Burgess. There were over 200 cars registered, with most of them represented on the show field, as the weather was perfect. Jeff Fields and I represented the MG Car Club Southwestern Ohio Centre. Jeff did not have one of his cars there, instead, he volunteered to drive a nice original MG YT. for a friend.

Cameron and I had a good time! We drove up on Friday afternoon in a bit of a misty rain and stayed with Cameron's aunt Liz, my daughter. My son-in-law, Chip made room in the garage and put down cardboard to catch the oil drips. I Spritzed off some road grime and the car was good to go. We had great accommodations, complete with games, we played ping pong, bacchii, and dominos. Was a good family visit, followed by a good car show on Saturday and a sunny, top-down drive home!



BCD Volunteers Needed!

Skip Peterson

It's getting close to British Car Day and we need some volunteers to help park cars on show day, not to mention helping with setting up the field on Friday evening.

Friday at 6 pm, we need as many hands as possible to mark off the rows and parking spaces. With a good turnout, we're done in a little over an hour. Park in the lot, not on the grass. We passed around a sign-up sheet for the day of the show at last meeting to volunteer to help park cars on showday. Still need one volunteer for the 8am-10am shift and 5 for the 10-12 shift. You just need to direct the entrant to the proper rows (which are numbered) and where to go in the row. We'll provide the maps, vests, all info needed. If you help, please send me an email at mgbskip@aol.com.



Photos From June 18 Biscuits and Tea

Photos by Steve Markman



Pictures from July 16 Biscuits and Tea

Photos by Steve Markman



Celebrating 100 Years of the MG Marque

Submitted by Carole Loof



The first MGs were made and sold in 1923.

A detailed account was published in the February 2018 edition of *Safety Fast!* of what is believed to be the first Morris Garages Sports Special registered on 1st June, 1923. This is why we have chosen **1st June 2023** as the start of our **year-long celebration** of the MG centenary starting with a small display adjacent to the original showroom where the first MGs were sold by Cecil Kimber in Oxford. As a club with many international affiliates across the globe, we decided that a full year would enable all our affiliates wherever they are to enjoy a summer event of their choosing. The culminating event for us will be in June 1924.

In the meantime, we hope that other MG clubs will come together for this common purpose.

Peter Cook
MG Car Club, Vice-chairman and Overseas Director.

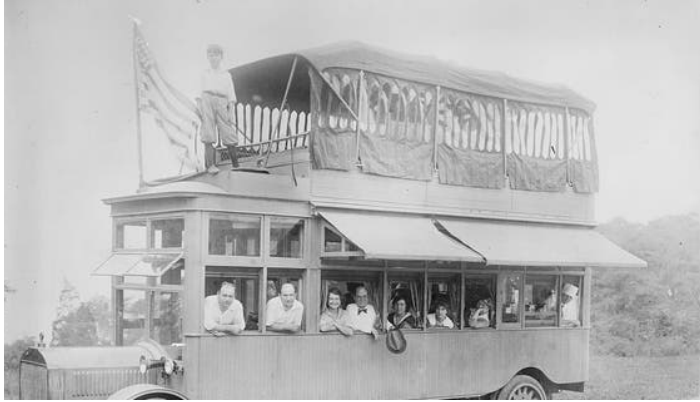
The American Who Invented the Motor Home

Kerry J. Byrne | Fox News

An unheralded entrepreneur born in Urbana, Ill., outwitted the titans of industry in the effort to domesticate the untamed American roads of the early 20th century. His name was Roland R. Conklin — and he was a visionary in the early days of the automobile. He put all the comforts of home on wheels — and in dramatic style.

Conklin introduced in 1915 the first full-scale motor home, dubbed the "Gypsy Van." He then led a crew of eight on a spirited cross-country tour aboard the tricked-out Packard pick-up truck, from Huntington, Long Island, to the Panama-Pacific Exposition in San Francisco. The trip took two months, a testament to the poor quality of American roads at the time. The stunning vehicle featured room for 17 passengers. It had electricity, cold drinking water, incandescent lights, bath, shower, stove, pantry, phonograph, book case, closets and roof deck, among other luxuries.





"This transport was a marvel of technology and chutzpah," Smithsonian Magazine enthused. Millionaire industrialists Thomas Edison, Harvey Firestone and Henry Ford at the same time ventured on high-profile road trips across America, generating national headlines for their celebrity glam camping — helping to popularize Model Ts and rubber tires along the way. "Each year the announcement of their latest summer excursion sparked endless speculation about where they might

venture next," wrote author Jeff Guinn in his 2019 book, "The Vagabonds: The Story of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison's Ten-Year Road Trip."

Ford and friends traveled in a fleet of luxury cars. But neither Ford nor Firestone, names synonymous with the American auto industry, had the foresight to put a home on wheels and hit the road. Conklin was a New York City financier, real estate mogul and early auto enthusiast. His Gypsy Van "gave the upper class a play home that combined some of the appeal of a yacht or a private railroad car with the flexibility of the automobile," American Heritage magazine reported in 1985.

Conklin created more than just a new set of wheels. He inspired a largely American cultural phenomenon. Today, the recreational vehicle (RV) industry is set to produce nearly 550,000 vehicles in 2022, according to GoRVing.com. Meanwhile, 11.2 million households — nearly 10 percent of all U.S. homes — own an RV. About 1 million Americans live full time in an RV. The U.S. accounts for more than half the global RV market, said Darryl Searer, president of the RV/MH Hall of Fame in Elkhart, Ind. GoRVing even put the figure at 60 percent.



The New York-to-California trip, which took Conklin two months, is now covered by commercial airliner in less than six hours. The drudgery that his team and only a select few others ever experienced changed the course of American transportation.

Classifieds

For Sale: Luxury yacht. Great place to party in luxury with lots of your friends while cruising the world. Owner no longer able to travel outside of own country. \$50M or best offer. Email for more details, pictures, and secret location. vladimir@thievingoligarchs.ru. (5/22)

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. If you wish to continue the ad for an additional three months, contact srmarmkman@att.net or 937-886-9566.

Minutes from June Club Meeting

Sam Hodges

President Ed Wolf called the June 2022 meeting of the MGCC SWOC to order promptly at 7:31 actual time. 25 members were present. President Ed Wolf, “The meeting is now in session. Thank you for attending. We’ll go straight to the Vice President’s report.”

Vice President John Scocozzo, “Mine’s the same as the Presidents. I do want to thank Ed for being here tonight.

Reading of the Minutes was the next item on the agenda. Dave McCann, Jr. motioned to accept the Minutes as reported. Jennifer Peterson seconded. MGCC voted. Sam Hodges objected. Minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report was next. Ed Wolf, “I did get a piece of paper with a lot of numbers on it. Looks like the stock market has ravaged our account.”

Treasurer Sue Scocozzo, “The MGCC had gains of: Membership Dues (\$71.00) *Seems oddly suspicious that we have dues coming in this late. I want to see the credit card recipes that paid these dues. Does it say “Wolf?”* Total gain to the MGCC was \$71.00. We had total expenses of: Gumball Rallye Cash (\$55.00) for a total expense to the MGCC of \$55.00. Monthly total loses when subtracted from the gains means a gain of \$16.00, to the MGCC. When added to our beginning balance of \$4,100.72, leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$4,116.72 in the primary checking account. The savings account now has \$381.95, with cash-on-hand of \$65. Total ending balance of all accounts was \$4,563.67.” Ron Parks motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Dave McCann, Sr. seconded the motion to accept the report. MGCC voted. Treasurer’s Report approved. Sam Hodges, “I’d like to make a motion that we diversify our holdings into Stella Artois, Coors, Heineken.” Skip Peterson, “I think we should buy gold.”

Membership with Carole was next. Filling in for Carole was Jennifer Peterson, “We have 66 members.” There was some discussion as to whether there were 66 or 67 members in the MGCC since we had a visitor at the meeting who might or might not have already paid their dues.

Birthdays this month: Tony Shoviak, Eileen Wolf, Diana Hodges, Cathy Barnes. President Ed, “My wife’s name is on that list. Can we get these published the month before? That might have helped.”

Sunshine Committee. Terry Looft tested positive for Covid which is why he and Carole aren’t in attendance. Dar Planeaux, “We got turned back at the Canadian border after he tested positive.” Ed Wolf, “How do we send a card when Carole has all the cards?”

Newsletter Editor Steve Markman was also not in attendance. Send pictures, and articles. Skip, “If we don’t, we’re going to get more stories about fish.” Jennifer P., “He has Koi.” Skip, “Isn’t that a fish?”

Activities with Eddie. Ed Hill, “I got nothing. Actually, it’s the heart of the season.” Dar, “Colorado was a great trip all the way out and back, except for the Gribler’s MGA that made the trip home on a car hauler. Everyone made it to the 14,000 foot top of Pike’s Peak. They probably wouldn’t have made 15,000 though so that was good. They stopped you at 10,000 feet on the way down and checked your brake temp. If it was too high, they pulled you off and made you wait.” Lois Gribler, “The Mazda in front

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of us got pulled over and had to wait.” Dar continued, “Even with the supercharger, at the top I had 11lbs of boost. There’s no oxygen up there.” Dave McCann, Jr., “My car broke on the way out and I had to have it towed home.” Dave Gribler, “After we got it home and pulled it apart, turns out that we broke a rod bearing on the MGA. It’ll get better with a large enough infusion of cash.” Dave Gribler continued, “On an unrelated note, I have car show results from NAMGAR. Our MGA GT Mk II took 2nd place in class, Carole took 1st place in 1600 wire wheel and Terry took 2nd place in the MGA coupe class. Unfortunately Ryan’s Magnette was in probably the strongest class of Magnettes that I’ve ever seen.”

Eddie, “Mark your calendar. July 17-20 will be in Calgary. July 4th is the Centerville Americana show. If you’re interested in participating (*it’s too late*). August 6th is our annual British Car Day. Recovery is Sunday the 7th. Back to reality is Monday 8th. Concours at Carillon Park is Sept. 18th.

The Barnes’ have graciously agreed to host a picnic. Art Barnes, “It’s Cathy who’s gracious.” Cathy Barnes, “If there’s a vowel in your name, bring a dessert. The picnic will be August 21st from 2pm-2am.”

Webmaster John Scocozzo, “Due to popular demand, we now have a mechanism for uploading pics from past events.” Dave McCann, Sr., “Can we have a limit on how many times we see Ron’s MG?” Skip, “BTW Ron, you can’t put the Triumph on there.” Ed Wolf, “People would think there are a lot of green MGB’s in that club.” (*Which there actually are.*)

Beer Brake called at 8:00.

Back from Break 8:07.

Dave McCann, Jr., “Well that was a short break.”

Old Business. Skip, “Who’s old business? Dar?” Dar, “No.”

Ed Hill, “I just found out that the Mini Meet East is at the Holiday Inn Fairborn out by the Nutter Center, July 1-4. (*Not sure why I left that in.*)

Skip, “British Car Day. I brought a sign up sheet tonight for the volunteers to be able to help park cars. We also need a couple other people for registration, to be able to ask the owner what class they should be in and then they can stick a post-it note on the window to allow the parkers know where they need to go. Claiborne Grille food truck will be there with their full menu. Bring your own coffee & Donuts. They’ll be set up and ready by 10:30ish. There will also be an ice cream vendor, not Graeter’s, selling ice cream. We have a total of 6 sponsors now.”

Tech Tips. Lois Gribler, “Calling my secret supplier for Vredstein tires, the back order is at least 60-days, more like 3-months if they can even get them from Holland. If you’re interested, I. Can give you more information, but you need to get on the list if you want a set.”

Ed Hill. “Older MGBs have 5-wire alternators. Those are no longer available, you have to get the 3-wire if you want a new one. There’s a place on Salem Ave. called Quality Starter. Beaver creek was option A, this place is a B- but they might be our next best option. They’re across from the old Kontiki Theatre. Skip, “Non-ethanol gas is still available at Buckey’s gas stations.”

For Sale: Lois, “Dave’s for sale. He broke our car.” Ron Parks, “I’ve got a Triumph TR4A grille for sale.” Lois. “Keep the grille, sell the car.”

Dennis Gates, “I’ve got an MGB hood for sale. They sent the wrong hood and then wanted more than the

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hood to ship it back.” Ed, “I’ll sell you the rest of the car.”

Gumball Rallye, Lois Gribler won. Pres. Ed, “One more drawing. I’ve got seven used golf balls.” Jennifer, “No one wants those.” Ed W., “That’s why I’m giving them away.” Dave McCann, Sr. won the golf balls.

Meeting adjourned 8:33.

<p><i>Steve's Classic Car Appraisals</i></p> <p>513-535-2897</p>  <p>Wesley Greiwe 203 Hallie court greiwewa@yahoo.com Lebanon Ohio 45036</p>	 <p>Riverside Motors & Restorations, LLC Peter Spence, Owner</p> <p>Mini Morris Triumph Austin-Healey & other English Cars</p> <p>614-286-9005 peter.riverside@gmail.com Member of The British Motor Trade Assn.</p>
  <p>www.BritishTransportationMuseum.org 321 Hopeland St., Dayton, OH 45417</p> <p>Giuseppe Automotive Restoration (818) 269-3240</p> <p>Your antique/classic maintenance and restoration expert</p>	  <p>Parts, Service and Restoration for MG, Triumph, Austin Healey and Related Autos</p>  <p>Steve Miller 3733 Wilmington Pike Kettering, Ohio 45429 (937) 294-7623 e-mail: MgAutomotive1@aol.com</p>

