

# THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume LXI No. 1

October 2025



## Vapor Locked

President, Terry Looft

I want to thank everyone for their overwhelming support. It was a long, hard-fought campaign, but in the long run I was successful. My writings will be unlike the previous administration. They will be direct and fact based and likely short. (Except for bad spelling and poor punctuation.) There is a new sheriff in town and order will be maintained. I was able to keep my head down for 5 years but as the line in the movie goes,



I can't go on without first thanking our outgoing President and Vice-president, Sam for his great



## MG Parts Sorting Party

### Jason Tinnerman's 1968 MGB - Featured Car



North American MGB Register

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

### Club Membership Information

Membership dues of 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 Pub & Grill**, 67 South Main St. Miamisburg 45342, at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be:

**Wed, October 22, 2025**

## MG Car Club Officers

**President..... Terry Looft**  
phone.....937-382-1520  
email.....[Terry@Looft.net](mailto:Terry@Looft.net)  
**Vice President..... Chris Muia**  
phone.....937-289-2985  
email.....[cjmuia@frontier.com](mailto:cjmuia@frontier.com)  
**Secretary..... Sam Hodges**  
phone.....937-581-4767  
email.....[sammgb@earthlink.net](mailto:sammgb@earthlink.net)  
**Treasurer..... John Scocozzo**  
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email.....[jscocozzo@gmail.com](mailto:jscocozzo@gmail.com)  
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**Web Master..... John Scocozzo**  
phone.....937-231-9188  
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**Activities Chair..... Ed Hill**  
phone.....937-474-0470  
email.....[EHILLMGB@aol.com](mailto:EHILLMGB@aol.com)  
**Membership Chair..... Carole Looft**  
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Historian.....Open

WebPage..... [www.mgcarclubsohio.com](http://www.mgcarclubsohio.com)

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## The Octagon News – October 2025

penmanship and great stories. Also, Ed, another great past President and outgoing Vice-president for keeping us up to date on fuel prices. Others getting high marks are our acting newsletter editor Ron Parks and our secretaries, Sam and Diana Hodges. Also, thanks to Treasurer/Web Master John and Sue Scocozzo, Ed Hill as Activities Chair, and a special acknowledgement for Carole Looft for Membership Chair and for keeping me in line. Thanks Chris for standing up, waving your arms shouting “pick me” for VP. Welcome aboard.

I would like to thank Anna and Scott Chapel for hosting an episode of “Name that Part”. All the contestants showed well, sometimes scratching our heads. I myself showed my talent of breaking into a MG with a locked and broken door latch. Early MGBs have a lot more in common with the MGA than one would think.

There will be a lot of boring stuff about my 1969 MGC-GT project that Carole and I started just a few weeks ago. Our MGC was our third MG that we bought. More on that in the coming months as the project proceeds. I will say the car is special to me. After more than 45 years of ownership and decades of driving, it has been a real work horse. Over the years it was always pulling a trailer to shows and giving very few problems in return. I drove my MGC into the shop a couple weeks ago. This is what it looks like a few days later.

For all our MGC owners may we proclaim the 18<sup>th</sup> of October as “Drive Your MGC Day” in honor of its unveiling to the public on that date in 1967! We will drive Carole’s C to dinner that night.

There will be a lot of talk about upcoming trips, shows, and drives. My goal is to get people off their collective jack stands and start enjoying their cars more. You know, like the old days when we had so many going on our club drives and events. Our time is slipping away, let’s drive and not let our cars waste away in the garage.



The before and after pictures now, I hope we reverse these in the coming year.

Come join us at the meeting,

Terry

*Safety*  *Fast*

## MG Help Hotline

Need help with repair or maintenance of your MG? Call one of the club members listed below. If the person you contact cannot help, they most likely can refer you to someone who can and/or they can assemble a team to come to your house to help work on your MG.

- Graham Cooper 513-680-8657
- Dave Gribler 937-671-8994
- Sam Hodges 937-581-4767
- Terry Looft 937-527-7353
- Ron Parks 937-207-9009
- Steve Powell 937-470-8962
- John Scocozzo 937-231-9188



### MG AUTOMOTIVE

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



#### Steve Miller

3733 Wilmington Pike  
Kettering, Ohio 45429  
(937) 294-7623

e-mail: MgAutomotive1@aol.com

## Up Coming Events

### October:

22 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### November:

19 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### December:

6 – Holiday Party (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### January:

28 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### February:

25 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### March:

25 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### April:

22 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### May:

27 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

### June:

24 - Meeting (Bennett's Pubical Family Sports Grill)

## From the Editor

Ron Parks

**R**

**emember any and all appropriate contributions to the newsletter are always welcome.**

You can mail them to me at 4101 Grossepoint Street, Springfield, OH 45502, or E-Mail to: [MGDRIVER@woh.rr.com](mailto:MGDRIVER@woh.rr.com). Either of

those methods will work fine or you can call me at (937) 322-0717 and we can arrange to meet and transfer materials or conduct an interview. Editorial cutoff each month is Wednesday two (2) weeks prior to the Club meeting.

## Welcome New Member

By Carole Looft

Robert & Jacqueline Kissell  
2502 New Germany Trebein Rd  
Beavercreek, OH 45431  
937-426-5270  
[RobertR.Kissell@gmail.com](mailto:RobertR.Kissell@gmail.com)

1973 MG Midget

## Membership Renewals Are Now Due!

By Carole Looft

**Y**our membership renewal is now due!

Membership dues are \$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.

**NOTE:** The pro-rated amount is for **NEW** members only.

We appreciate your continued support of the MG Car Club Southwest Ohio Centre. You can bring your dues to the monthly club meeting or you can send it to:

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

## Last Chance to Get a British Car Day T-Shirt

By Carole Looft

**W**e only have a few t-shirts left from BCD 2025. We have (2)small, (7)medium, (3)large and (7)Xlarge. Reduced to just \$5 each. There is (1) XXL – reduced to just \$10. Text or Email me if you would like one.

513-254-4848 or [clooft@earthlink.net](mailto:clooft@earthlink.net). I will have them at the meeting for pick-up.



## Garage Art

**G**arage art this month comes from the garage of Ron Parks.

The big “Vote Yes for Parks” sign was given to me by Joe Hooker and the “I Heart Parks” bumper sticker by Steve Markman. They both enhance my garage wall.

The poster print from the 2023 Concours d’Elegance at Carillon Park is of the impressionist painting of MGs by that year’s featured artist, Daniel Brown.

The Vermont covered bridge is a postcard I received from Carole and Terry Looft from their recent trip to the British Invasion car show in Stowe Vermont. There is a story behind this. When we

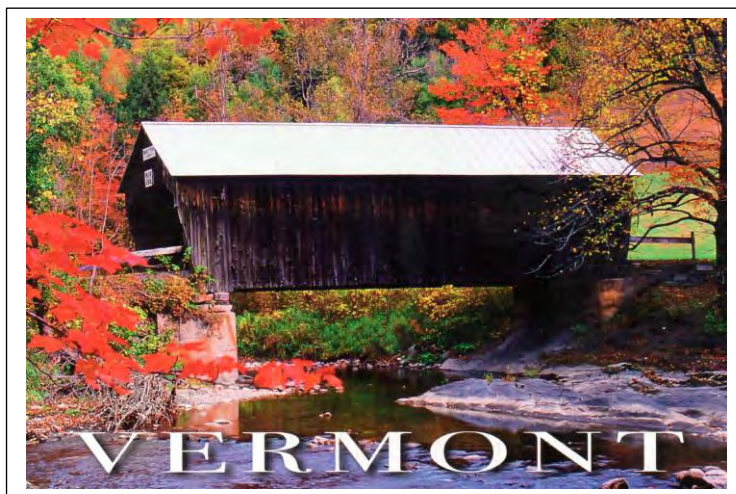


## The Octagon News – October 2025

were at the show in Stowe in 2021, I was on the lookout for postcards to send home and made the innocent comment that everyone likes to get postcards. Well, the week after returning home I got covered bridge postcards from everyone else who had been on the trip. Unbeknownst to me, they had been laughing about this all the way home. I had a good laugh too, when I went to the mailbox and found four (4) postcards! Ron

Send your .jpg pictures to me at: [garageart@looft.net](mailto:garageart@looft.net)

I will compile all the pictures and forward to Ron. For the more unique items feel free to add a note of where, what, when the item was acquired. Terry



## Member Featured Car of the Month

### Jason Tinnerman's 1968 MGB

By Jason Tinnerman

Owning an MG reminds me of owning my boat... exhilarating, grease under my fingernails, wind in my hair, choice words of frustration, freedom to roam, confusion from perplexing issues that I swore were resolved, getting lost on a beautiful day, satisfaction, did I mention confusion, pride... the story you receive depends on the Jason you ask!

I stumbled across my 1968 B by accident while my son was helping my childhood music teacher prepare her house for sale, December of 2021. I noticed the car in the back of the garage and was mesmerized. It belonged to her late husband and hadn't seen the road in 25 years. Everything appeared to be there in my novice eyes and with grand visions, I was soon the new owner.

I describe her as a 20/20 car... looks great going 20 mph at 20 feet away/

The majority of the work to be roadworthy mainly came from setting in storage. Brake system, exhaust manifold leak, tires, general tune-up, slave cylinder, minor wiring, simple cosmetics, cooling system and I was confident the road would belong to me (yes, I was that naive). Thank goodness for MG automotive, who took care of the carbs and tuning when I was ready to give up. September of 2023 I was finally driving and also found you gracious folks!

My goal was to have random drives and chase sunsets, which I've thoroughly enjoyed. However, I do have new aspirations for her, beyond the endless list of improvements. I hear the stories and locations other members have embarked upon. At first, I thought it was totally insane. Now, I envision myself taking long trips, or maybe I've drunk the Kool-Aid!! Until then, I continue to steal moments, hours, days and weekends, seizing the unknown and relishing in the discovery. Trusting in her and myself, whether a solo ride or shared with someone special.





## The Octagon News – October 2025

This club has expanded my view of possibilities to enjoy what is more than a car to me, for that, I am grateful.



## Sunday September 28<sup>th</sup> was a great day.

By Scott Chapel

The weather was warm and sunny and we got to spend it with our new friends from MG Car Club Southwestern Ohio Centre. There are several people I want to thank:

- Carole Looft for taking the helm – without her we would have drank beer and swapped stories. Nothing would have been accomplished.
- Lois Gribler for labeling all my parts and pieces with her beautiful handwriting.
- Dave Gribler, Sam Hodge, Terry Looft, and Ron Parks for their knowledge and expertise. Especially the unanimous veto of my inquiries into Weber carburetors.



My son, Ethan, and I learned a lot that day. We look forward to the crew coming back and getting elbow deep in the grease and grime since we are now convinced that our '65 MGB is a rare find, in good condition, and needs the engine and trans pulled and gone over.

I also learned a new term that day, “carolize”. This one must have slipped past Google. The definition from the group seems to be: *to make something look presentable at a level approved by Carol*. To use it in a sentence: *You need to carolize that engine compartment*.

I also want to thank my wife, Anna, for pushing me to take the car from my dad (he was going to sell it). She also found the club and encouraged us to join. Lastly but definitely not least, she provided all food, drinks, and pleasantries.

We hope that all of you visit again and bring more of the club members.

Thank you,  
Scott Chapel

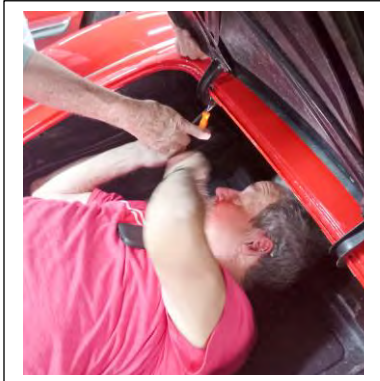




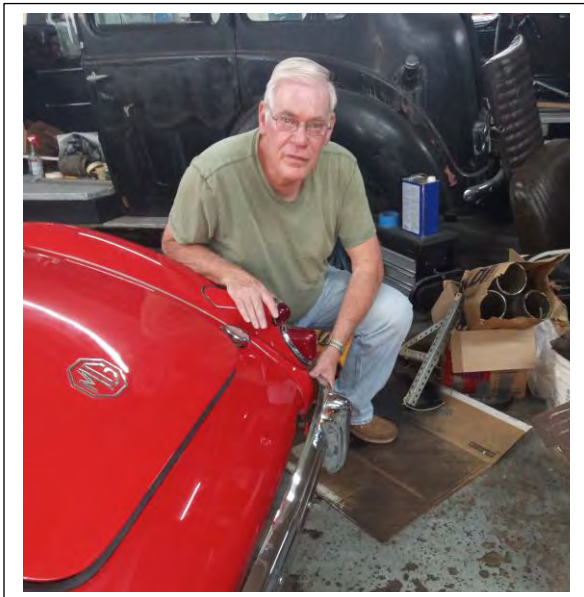
## A-TEAM

By Ron Parks

**T**he A-Team has made more progress towards turning the donated MGA 1600 Roadster into a nice driver that the British Transportation Museum can sell for a profit. This month Bill Hunter and Ron Parks finished fitting the boot lid and Rick Shields polished and fitted the rear bumper. Before attaching the rear bumper, painting scuffed areas on the fenders must be done. Rick and Ron glued the boot seal in place.



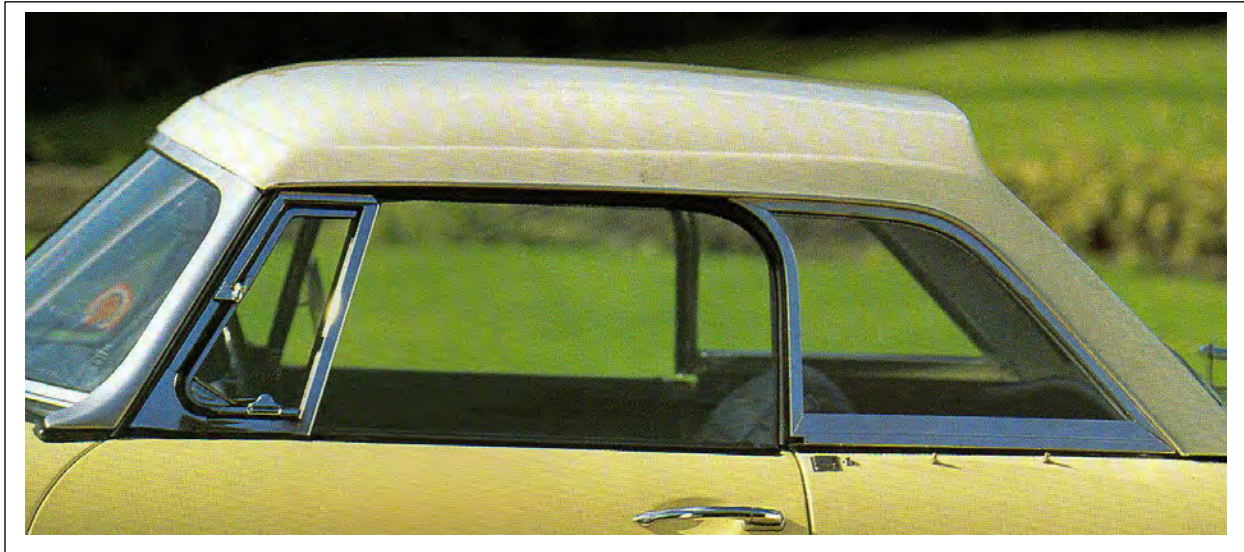
We still need volunteers to accomplish the items on the list of reassembly items to be done that was emailed to members. The list asked for some volunteers to adopt tasks for various areas of reassembly. Thank you to Ed Wolf, who signed up to help with this project. Things are staged and ready for work to begin on reassembly and cleaning tasks. The hope is that we can be all over the car at the same time without getting in each other's way and make the car drivable and saleable for next summer's driving season.



## Optional Factory Hard Top

Contributed by Ron Parks, scanned and captioned from "Original MGB" book by Anders Ditlev Clausager, Photography by John Colley

This was the only style of hard top offered by the factory from 1963 to the end of production. Originally available in a variety of colours, from 1966 it came only in black. A white hard top, therefore, is not strictly correct on the Pale Primrose Yellow car, as this colour was only introduced in 1967! But it looks pretty...



## Classified Ads

**For Rent:** Car storage in Wilmington, Ohio. \$30/mo for one car, \$50/mo for two cars for club members. Non-club members \$35/mo per car. Indoor heated. Electric for battery maintainers. Please bring chargers and extension cord. Terry Looft 937-527-7353 or [tlooft@earthlink.net](mailto:tlooft@earthlink.net). (10/25)

**For sale:** 1975 Forest Green MGB convertible with 67K miles. Brand new tires (summer 2025), Turns over on first try. I have the top boot and another top that is included. Come by Powell Ohio to see it. Please contact Jon Ogden for pricing and questions. 330-417-3412 or [jonathan.m.ogden@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.m.ogden@gmail.com) (9/25)

**For Sale:** Ignition coil, new for TCs, TDs, Moss P/N 143-210. \$95 Danny Mortensen, 10901 Kimberly Dr., Union, KY 41091. 859-384-7821, [agsdanny@aol.com](mailto:agsdanny@aol.com) (10/25)

**For sale:** 1 right & 1 left front latch pillar for the MG TD,.Moss catalog #450-820 & 450-825. Selling as a pair for 1/2 the catalog value - \$94. Brand new. Free shipping. Danny Mortensen 859-384-7821 or [agsdanny@aol.com](mailto:agsdanny@aol.com) (10/25)

**For sale:**, 1970 Arkley Needs finishing. Front and rear body clip for an Arkley. TOP not included. (Arkley Fiberglass Body for Sale) Come by to see it. Please contact Steve Miller at MG Automotive for pricing. 937-294-7623 or [MGAutomotive1@aol.com](mailto:MGAutomotive1@aol.com). (10/25)

*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 Ron Parks [MGdriver@woh.rr.com](mailto:MGdriver@woh.rr.com) or 937-322-0717*

*Larger ads may be purchased for inclusion in the Octagon News for the following annual prices for 11 issues: full page ad - \$100, half page - \$ 75, quarter page - \$50, & Business card size - \$25.*

## Minutes from September Club Meeting By Sam Hodges

**El Presidente** Sam Hodges called the September 2025 meeting of the MGCC SWOC to order, for the first time for the eleventh time precisely at 7:31 and then again at 7:32. El Presidente, “Let’s start this off with elections. It’s time to abdicate the throne.” (*He’s drinking a beer already. El Presidente is checked out. Standing on the platform waiting for the 7:45 out of Miamisburg...*) President Sam, “I actually don’t have anything MG related, but I do have a car story about Corvettes. Diana and I went over to the IMSA race at the Indy Motor Speedway. One of the things that we got to do as part of the Corvette owners group, was from 9-9:30 they let the Corvettes take laps around the track. During the driver’s meeting, they told us that the laps would be ‘spirited’ and if we weren’t up for ‘spirited’ to just sit it out. Also, we had to keep up with the pace car. Fast forward to lap 2, going down the back straight, I came around the corner and said ‘what pace car?!?’ We ended up doing 4 laps and my top speed on the front was 120mph and my top speed down the back was 110mph. Other than pulling out onto the track and pulling back into the parking corral, I never saw the pace car. We had a blast. It was the 6-hour IMSA enduro.”

**Vice President’s Report** was next. Vice President Ed Wolf, “Gas is \$2.69 and \$3.49 for diesel.”

**Minutes** we’re the next thing on the agenda. El Presidente, “Do. Have a motion to accept the much more accurate Minutes?” Sue Scocozzo fell on the sword for the good of getting this over with. Lois Gribler seconded. MGCC voted. Minutes approved. ‘Technically Secretary (*she takes shoddy notes that her ghost writer makes into this masterpiece*)’ Diana Hodges opposed.

**Treasurer’s Report** was next on the agenda. Treasurer John Scocozzo, “For September we actually had income. We had income of Membership Dues (\$382.00) + Regalia (\$30.00) for a total gain to the MGCC of \$412.00. We had total expenses of: Postage (\$14.96) + ‘Office Supplies’ (\$21.45) for a total expense to the MGCC of \$36.41. Total losses when subtracted from gains means a total gain to the MGCC of \$375.59. When added to our beginning balance of \$323.35 leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$698.94 in the primary checking account. The savings account had \$3,884.79 before the application of \$0.16 in interest. The savings account now has \$3,884.95. Total ending balance of all accounts was \$4,603.89 with \$20.00 as cash on hand.” Eddie Hill motioned to approve the Treasurer’s report. Ron Parks seconded. MGCC voted. Treasurer’s report approved.

**Membership Chairwoman Carole Looft** was next. Carole, “You’re ending the year with 63 members. We do have new members, Mike D(??) owner of a 1973 MGB GT. He acquired an MG with a V8 so a conversion, we think. Steve Milby is here with us tonight.”



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**Birthdays** in September: Dave McCann, Dave Gribler, Ed Hill, Ryan Looft, Bill Hunter, Terry Happensack, Bob Orr, Linda Chase, Randall Fink, Marc Masquelier, John Smith, Mary Miller, Barb Keferl & Susie Shields. Eddie, “That’s a lot of September birthdays.” El Presidente, “Christmas.”

**Activities with Eddie.** Eddie Hill, “Sept. 9th is the most popular birthday. The only activity is Scott and Anna’s sort party. There’s a Cars & Coffee at Austin Landing 8-11 next Saturday. Otherwise, nothing. Did we want to think about a Fall Tour? Maybe a Pub Run?” Sam, “How about Carole’s idea about a Halloween pub run?” After some discussion, it was deemed too logistically challenging.

**Sunshine Committee.** Ron Parks, “Linda Parks has fully recovered.” Carole, “Dave Johnson has upcoming surgery.” Dave Johnson, “No I don’t.” Carole, “Never mind.” Dave McCann Sr. is still in the rehabilitation center but is expected to be released this week.

**Newsletter Editor-for-Life, Ron Parks,** “Thank you Sam for your columns and pictures. Thank you Terry for Art’s article. Anna & Scott are hosting next Sunday. Thanks to Gordon for the cartoon.”

**Webmaster John Scocozzo,** “The internet is still there.”

Beer Brake called at 7:45 (Diana - *I’m so checked out, had to ask El Presidente when he called beer brake*).

Back from Break 8:00

**Old Business.** President Sam, “Who’s the oldest one here?” (*At this minute, Art Barnes was heading out to the bar area*). El Presidente, “Hold up Art. You can’t leave. You’re old business.”

Dave Gribler, “Art & Cathy, “Thank you for planning and hosting the club picnic. I’d also like to thank everyone for helping with the Concours, especially Mark who stayed to help clean up afterwards.”

**BCD.** Sam, “Is there any new business or information?” Dave, “I need to make contact with the hot dog guy to get the final pay out. We don’t have any numbers yet.

**New Business.** The Loofts went to Stowe. Terry Looft, “We had a nice trip. Ran about 70-75 on the highway all the way. Woke up on Sunday with ice on the car. It was 90° by the time we hit Erie, PA. Dillard will actually be in Dillard, GA next year.

Art showed off the bag that Cathy made for the British flag picnic banners. Could also double as a body bag if needed on short notice.

President Sam, “The time of the evening that I’ve been trying to get to since we started.

**Elections:** Sue Scocozzo motioned to open elections to nominations. MGCC approved with all of the appropriate seconds, votes and discussion. (*It happened! Don’t question it!*)

Nominations for **President:** Ron nominated Terry Looft. Eddie Seconded the nomination. Sue motioned to close nominations. MGCC voted. Congratulations Terry Looft, President Elect.

**Vice President** was the next car connected to the train. Lois Gribler nominated Chris Muia. Ed seconded. Nominations closed. MGCC voted. Two cars down, two to go, and the caboose.

## The Octagon News – October 2025

Next was the position of **Secretary**. President Sam, Technically Diana is Secretary this year so next year would have to be me. Ed Hill nominated Sam. technically Ron seconded, but that was about the extent of it.

**Treasurer** was the final car for the train. Sam, “How many years did we change the bylaws to allow the same Treasurer?” John Scocozzo, “Three. This was year two. I’m good for another year.” Terry Looft, “So I’ll have to change the bylaws again. got it.”

And now for the caboose to this train: **Member-at-Large**. Ron Parks nominated Lois Gribler. Dave & Rachel Johnson provided enough validation to make it legit.

Congratulations to the new officers for the 2025-2026 school year!

**Tech Tips**. Ed Wolf, “There’s a special tool for electrical connectors with tabs. It’s a special pair of pliers for that type of connector. Only \$6 on Amazon.” Dave McCann, Jr., “And how many do you have on your MG?” Ed, “None. But there are a lot on my Acura.”

**Gumball Rallye**, was the attack of the Eds. Ed Hill won the free membership. Ed Wolf won \$10.

Pres. Sam, “**Next Meeting** is not my problem. But it is October 22nd.

Carole, “We have t-shirts **For sale**. \$5. There’s also an MG for sale in Powell, OH. See the newsletter for more details.

Paul: There are old BCD t-shirts up for grabs. If you need one to complete your collection, I’ve got shirts going back 20-years. Ron started riffling through before El Presidente was done with the announcement.

Thanks to Gordon Lindsay for submitting this month’s funny from an old “Road and Track” magazine. If you run across a funny MG related cartoon, please send it to Ron Parks [MGdriver@woh.rr.com](mailto:MGdriver@woh.rr.com) to share with our members for a monthly chuckle.



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PHOTO BY DONALD HICKS