

THE OCTAGON NEWS



Volume LXI No. 10

August 2026

British Car Day Photos & Results

Ryan Looft's '1965' MG 1100 - Featured Car



Vapor Locked

President, Terry Looft

As we watched the weather forecast all week and seeing the radar Saturday morning, we expected a total washout of BCD. As the morning progressed, we started to realize our fears of the rain. It started pouring and looked like it was going to last for quite a while. As luck would have it, the skies started to clear. By early afternoon it dried up and the day was not a total loss after all. No more rain and somewhat pleasant temperatures, but unfortunately the damage was done. With the cars on the show field totaling 90, the car show itself was somewhat depressed. But like any car show, even a



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

Wed, August 19, 2026

MG Car Club Officers

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email.....Terry@Looft.net
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bad one is a good show for the people there. Lots of visiting with friends and a good time was still had by most all.

Thanks to everyone that came out Friday and Saturday to give a hand on putting the show together and parking cars. We just can't do this without club participation.

With the BCD box checked we now set our sights on the National Meet in Sandusky. If you are not heavy into preparation for the Sandusky show, you should be. It's going to be here before you know it.

On our end, preparations had been mostly centered around Ryan's MG 1100 now identifying as a 1300. It has been a long effort in getting it reassembled and on the road again. Breaking in the new engine has been the top priority. That is now in the hands of Ryan as he finishes the break in miles on it. The car is driving nicely with only the 500-mile oil change and cylinder retorquing to do.



The next one on the list was Carole's MGB roadster. It has been in storage since last year and not seen a lot of service since Calgary. One issue it picked up from Calgary was a rock in the windshield, and the right-hand headlight also took a rock hit. Those things needed to be tended to before the show. I put it off as long as I could. If there is a worse job to do than replacing a windshield on a MGB I'd like to know what it is. It is simply horrible to do. A lot of the misery is two of the bolts holding it to the body. They are right against the dash. You have to do one to understand. The windshield is now installed

along with the new headlight. There are a few other details and it's ready to go.

Remaining is my V8 GT which will be towing the electric 1100 to the show for display. Not much to do other than checking it over and making sure everything is up to speed.

In the meantime, Ron and I have been reworking the supply trailer. The lights have been rewired with new LED bulbs and a few minor repairs. The supply trailer also got a new set of gas struts to hold open the boot lids. No more dowl rods! The trailer is at Ron's house preparing to receive the "supplies".



I hope to see everyone there, it's going to be great!

Don't forget that the club meeting will be held one week earlier than normal this month. We will be seeing you on August 19th at Bennett's Pubical.

Terry

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.

Up Coming Events

August:

1 – British Car Day, Dayton (Eastwood Park)
14-16 – MG103FEST Gananoque, ON, Canada
19 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)
24 – 27 – MG International 2026, Sandusky, OH

September:

18-20 – British Invasion, Stowe VT
20 – Concours d'Elegance at Carillon Park
23 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)
24-27 Peachtree GA - British Car Festival
26 – British Car Day Toronto, ON, Canada

October:

28 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

November:

18 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

December:

6 – Holiday Party 5:00pm at Bennett's Publical Sports Grill

January:

27 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

February:

24 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

March:

24 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

April:

28- Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

May:

26 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

June:

23 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

July:

28 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

August:

7 – British Car Day, Dayton (Eastwood Park)
25 - Meeting (Bennett's Publical Sports Grill)

- 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

From the Editor

Ron Parks

R

remember 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.

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 Members

By Carole Looft

James Dean

1416 N. Park Dr.
Medway, Ohio 45341
989-255-1384
alpenajimmy@gmail.com
1960 Austin Healy Bugeye Sprite

Robert Lynch

3806 Briar Place
Dayton, Ohio 45405
937-554-6357
lynch1952@yahoo.com
1966 Triumph TR4A

Membership Renewals for September

By Carole Looft

As a reminder, when September rolls around it will be time again to renew your MG Car Club membership. 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.

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

We appreciate your continued support of the MG Car Club Southwest Ohio Centre.

BCD T-Shirts for Sale

By Carole Looft

We have a number of left-over t-shirts from BCD. I will offer them for sale for \$5.00 apiece. I will have them at the August club meeting on the 19th.

There are:

S – 2

M – 10

L – 5

XL – 10

2XL – 3



Come to the August meeting - those arriving first will get the best pick.

Club Photo at Sandusky

By Carole Looft

A tentative time for all of us to get together for our club photo is Wednesday afternoon after we return from the car show. I am hoping between 4-4:30 in the parking lot by our club banner might work for all of us. We can discuss this after we get there if there might be a better time.



Garage Art

Garage Art this month is more of a notice of ending for at least awhile. There is not a lot of input and I'm running out of material. We will pick this up at a later date. One simple picture from David Smittle says it all.

Safety Fast, Terry



Member Featured Car of the Month

Ryan Looft's 1965 MG 1100

"Third Time is a Charm"

By Terry & Carole Looft

Third time is a reference to how many times we have put the new engine into Ryan's MG 1100.

First a little backstory. Carole and I first saw this little 1100 in San Diego during MG 2017. Carole and I drove our MG's along with 2 other club members to the MGA GT in Solvang and then down to San Diego for the MGB National. Carole was in her 78 B, me in my 76 V8, Dar in his 58 MGA and Kathy in her 80 LE. A nice little 6500 mile, 3 and ½ week trip. We did have a ball.

We had a great visit with the owner of the pretty little blue and white 65 MG 1100. We talked about our affection for these little cars; about the ones we have and how we enjoy them.



Very little thought was given to that MG 1100 after our return. But a couple years later we heard from the owner who was looking to sell his MG 1100? If you know us, you know we rarely turn down an offer for another car. Thinking, we really do not need yet another MG 1100. We thought how about our son Ryan? He also has a real affection for these cars. He has owned his other 1100 since his teen years. He also has the same problem that he can't turn down a car. A deal was made and we set up a time to go retrieve it. Easy trip, just drive from Ohio with a tow dolly and tow the car home. No problem! Maybe that's another story for yet another time. But not here.

Jumping ahead to the Atlantic City all MG meet in 2021, we drove 3 family MG 1100s to that show. Needless to say, we had the 1100 class pretty much locked up.



There were some issues that showed up with this 1100 and we decided that we would go ahead and do sort of a mini restoration on the car. We mostly concentrated on the engine compartment, and anything else needed. As it happened, the owner had also given us a 1300 unit to eventually go into the car and we thought this would be a good time to rebuild the 1300 and gearbox. We decided to do an upgrade on the car making it a MG 1300 out of it.

We proceeded with this plan, including an all-new interior. We rebuilt the engine and gearbox. It was just a 3-synchro box, but that's what we were kind of used to anyway. I did up the final drive to be more suitable for the 1275 engine, making it more of an interstate cruising car.

Engine Installation #1

The engine, gearbox and everything else was gorgeous. All was rebuilt, painted and detailed to perfection. The engine started up instantly, sounded wonderful for about 4 seconds, and then the oil filter blew up. Oil hit the ceiling, hit the floor and us. What a mess! What the hell was going on? It blew the gasket right out of the filter. We put a new oil filter on it, double checked everything and all looked good. Fired it up and it did exactly the same thing. Okay, something was wrong. We checked the pressure relief valve, we looked at everything and just did not see anything wrong. So, we gave it a third try. Well, I don't have to tell you what happened.

So now we are really puzzled and mildly depressed. We are trying to figure out what's going on. We had put on a spin on oil filter kit. Is this the problem? So, I'm on the phone with Kelvin at Moss asking what's going on? Why is this happening?

He said, there have been no issues with the oil filter, and then he threw out something that made me wonder. He asked how many oil gallery plugs did they put in? He had heard of there being an extra one put in that should not be there. One being the outlet for the oil bypass from the regulator into the crank case. Could it be? So, I acquired a good quality very tiny borescope. I ran that into the oil pressure relief hole, then hooked a 90 down toward the sump. I took a look; it sure looked like a plug down at the bottom. The solution, pull the engine gearbox once again out of the car. We separated the engine from the gearbox and sure enough, there was a plug in the hole that shouldn't have been there.

Engine Installation #2

We recovered from that mess. Got the engine carefully reinstalled back into the car. Everything was still perfect, and we didn't even scratch the paint. We started the car and it ran perfectly. Everything was great. We took it for a test drive to see how the new gearbox engine performed. Both worked perfectly. It shifted nicely and smoothly through all the gears. The clutch worked good with proper take up and the engine sounded good with good temperatures. We were quite pleased with it. I put about 25 or 30 miles on the car. Everything was great. We handed the car

over to Ryan and said, here, drive it to break in the engine. After a period of time, which was not very many more miles, like maybe 10, he called. He said, you know, it's catching some teeth going into fourth gear. I'm getting some grinding for some reason. This can't be, it had worked perfectly. The clutch throw was good; everything is just the way it should be. So, I decided to drive the car to see how it was acting. Well, winter was on us so we ended up putting the car in storage and pulling it out this spring and I started driving the car. After just a couple of miles, yes, it was catching a little tooth on a shift. But only fourth gear. Within about another 10 miles, I couldn't even get it to go into fourth gear. It would only grind. What has happened to the synchronizer, it is not working at all. The synchronizer was brand new, which may be part of the problem with the parts supply these days. Or a real possibility, what did I screw up? Everything else seemed okay, except it wouldn't go into fourth gear. Well, gosh, we're getting really good at this. Let's pull the engine and transmission out again and see what's wrong. In the meantime, I'm thinking, I don't want to tear into this transmission again. We're just out of time with all the other projects. But I've got a really nice 4 synchro gearbox that I have actually driven before. It was removed from another car for restoration. I'll just give Ryan that gearbox.

Engine Installation #3

That we did. We swapped the gearbox, final drive with all the bits. All the things necessary to make it all fit into his car. I test drove it today and it was working great. Everything is fine, for now. I took it over to Ryan's house and he took it for a drive. As far as what happened to the other gearbox, I don't know. I don't have time to investigate it, but his car is working great. And hopefully will last a long time.



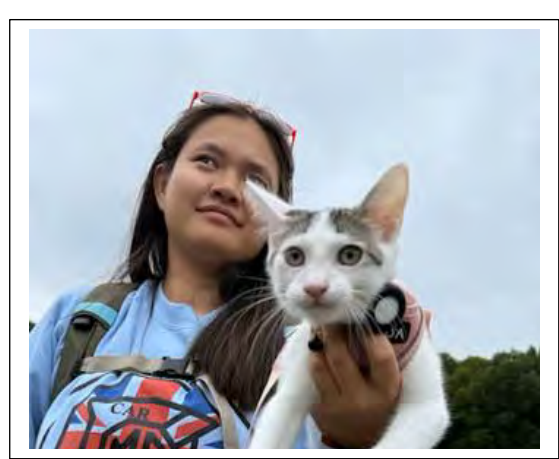
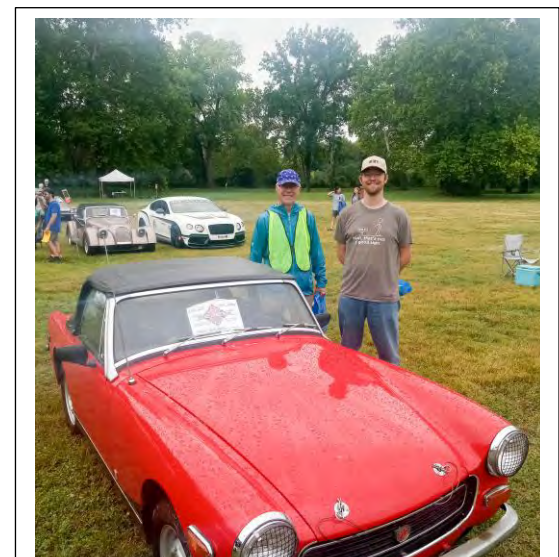
Tech tip, trust the machine shop, but verify. It's just one of those things you never would have thought of looking at. Unless you were really, really familiar with the car in the first place. Most of us don't do maybe an engine overhaul a year possibly. And this was the first one on the MG 1100 for me. I'm sure it won't be the last.

And thank you to Carole, I could not do this level of work and detail without her. It's truly a team effort doing these cars that we love so much.

Terry & Carole

British Car Day Dayton 2026 Photos

By Ron Parks & Janet Shoviak



British Car Day Dayton 2026 Results

<u>Winner's Name</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Awards of Excellence</u>
David Roberts	Austin-Healey 100 & 3000	Marc Masquelier
James Dean	Austin-Healy Sprite	
Gabe & Louise Buntzman	Best of Show	
Phil McConnell	British Conversions (V8 Engines/Custom Bodies)	John Scocozzo & Mike Moor
Dana Springer	Jaguar E-Type	
Terrell Allen	Jaguar XJ & XK - Post 1992	Richard Davis, Tom McKierman & Robert Maassel
Dana Springer	Jaguar XJ/Sedans - Pre 1993	
Arick Mittler	Land Rover	David Becker, James Raiker & Branden Rohne
Bryan Tschanz	Lotus	Gary Moore
Lois Gribler	MG Midget	
Michael Smith	MGA	
Dana Springer	MGB chrome bumper Danny	Osborne, John Florkey, Robert Clark & Ross Collins
Ed Wolf	MGB pull handle	
Tom Angerer	MGB rubber bumper	
Dave & Lois Gribler	MGC	
Pete Dirisamer	MINI-NEW	
Kylie Magill	MINI-OLD	David Lindsey & Chelsie Wise
Gregory Costa	Open Class '66 and Later	
Gabe Buntzman	Open Class thru 1965	
Gordeon Attridge	Premier Class (<u>Last Years Winners</u>)	Lian Shoviak, Chris Muia Jacquelyn & John Bradmer, Joe Vandhatert & Andrew Morris
John Timpone	Spitfire chrome bumper	
Michael & Rebecca Lovey	Spitfire rubber bumper	
Mike O'Donnel	Sunbeam Alpine	Tom Johnson & Robert Dwain Cook
Robert Dwain Cook	Sunbeam Alpine Modified	
Allan Geschke	Sunbeam Alpine Rootes Other	
Jerry Logan	Sunbeam Tiger	
Greg Meyers	TR 2-3	
Tim Moore	TR 4 & 250	
Matthew Toth	TR 6 '69-'73(Chrome)	Linn & Terri Williams
Wendell Terrill	TR 6 '74-'76(Rubber)	
TR 6 '74-'76(Rubber)	TR 7-8	Bruce Clough & Steve Morse

Beachwood British Car Day

By Janet Shoviak

Dave Smittle and Tony & Janet Shoviak participated in the 39th Annual British Car Day held on Saturday, July 25, 2026, featuring classic vehicle displays, registration for \$20, and local food trucks. The event was held from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the parking lot at Beachwood High School located at 2758 Richmond Rd, Beachwood, OH.

Dave Smittle entered his blue 1946 MG TC. Tony and Janet entered their daughter, Lian's 69 MGCGT.



A-TEAM

By Ron Parks

The A-Team made more progress towards turning the donated MGA 1600 Roadster into a nice driver that the British Transportation Museum can sell for a profit.. Not much happened this month. We are into that busy summertime. We are still working on getting all the lights working. New turn signal switch has arrived.

Classified Ads

For Sale: 1972 MGB-GT Aqua (Teal). Restored and driven locally, always garaged. Upgraded seats, steering wheel & Stainless steel exhaust. Entered in Concours d'Elegance and British Car Day Dayton. \$30,000 OBO. Email or call John Smith chmalmal@gmail.com (937-979-7911) (2-26)

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 (1/26)

For sale: 1 left front latch pillar for the MG TD,.Moss catalog #450-825. Selling for 1/2 the catalog value - \$94. Brand new. Free shipping. Danny Mortensen 859-384-7821 or agsdanny@aol.com (1/26)

For Sale: Triumph TR4A grille. \$65 Contact Ron Parks at 937-322-0717, MGdriver@woh.rr.com (8/26)

Here are links to MG International 2026 official website & additional Info:

[MG INTERNATIONAL 2026](#)

<http://mgcarclubswohio.com/images/temp/MGInternational2026.pdf>



North American MGB Register

MG International 2026 – Sandusky, OH

Article by Glenn Frasca

The MG International event will be a fabulous opportunity to see and talk with SO MANY other MG owners! In early May, I had personal business in Sandusky, Ohio....in addition to the extracurricular activities shared on the MG International website, I have crafted this article to provide more insight to make the most of your journey!



Lake Erie Perch Dining:

- [Lake Fish Company](#) 5.0 (5 reviews)
 - o "Very nice people to work with. Very friendly. **Fish** are filleted in the spot."
- [Dockside Cafe](#) 4.3 (224 reviews)
 - o "Dockside has awesome **perch** tacos! Great portion and they were super yummy."
- [Shore House Tavern](#) 4.5 (141 reviews)
 - o "It was super cheesy but didn't taste the cheese. We, of course, ordered **perch** which was AWESOME."
- [DeMore's Offshore Bar & Grill](#) 4.2 (378 reviews)
 - o "Our **perch** sandwiches were fried to perfection and the taste of fresh perch on a fresh bun cannot be..."

Lake Erie Sunsets are Stunning!



Store - NAMGBR



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 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 July Club Meeting

By Sam Hodges

DISCLAIMER: *The notes for the July meeting were taken by my lovely wife, Diana since I was not in attendance. Any and all discrepancies are totally her fault. I usually make it up as I go, but now, I'm REALLY fabricating the normal lies.*

President Terry Looft called the July 22, 2026 meeting of the MGCC SWOC to order, for the first time precisely at 7:31. And then, since no one listened, proceeded to wait. President Looft, “Apparently no one has a watch.” President Looft continued “I’d like to give. A big thanks to the Gribblers for covering the Anniversary dinner. It was above and beyond. Thank you!” Ed Wolf, “I’ll get the tab for the 100th anniversary.” Terry continued, “It was a really nice party. We had a really good turnout. The displays of the MGCC over the years that Ron prepared were great.” The MGCC wants to thank Terry & Carole Looft for planning the entire event and handling the details.” Carole, “I put together the 40th, so this wasn’t anything.”

President Terry continued, “On to projects. The MGCC is at home. Not much happening since we’re preparing the cars for Sandusky. We’ve got about 100 miles since the rebuild of Ryan’s

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1100. The biggest issue we had was that we blew the oil filter off the car. Did a nice job coating the garage with oil. Had crazy high pressure until we figured out there was a plug in one of the oil galleries. Had to use a bore scope to find it. There was a plug that the machine shop had left in. There were some other glitches as well, such as the synchros, but nothing that can't be fixed. There are a ton of pictures on Facebook. You should think about contributing some of your own."

Vice President's Report was next. Vice President Chris Muia, "We figured out that what I thought was a carb issue, was actually voltage leakage from spark plug wires. Everything looks great. Seems like any issue is always an electrical issue. Otherwise, nothing much to report."

Minutes we're the next thing on the list. John Florkey motioned to approve the Minutes as reported. Sue Scocozzo seconded. MGCC voted. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report was next on the agenda. Treasurer John Scocozzo, "For July we had income of dust. Nothing. \$0. We had total expenses of: Postage (\$2.17) + Office Supplies (\$170.96) + Dinners, Drives & Outings (\$155.73) for a total expense to the MGCC of \$328.86. Total gains (\$0) when added to losses means a total loss to the MGCC of \$328.86. When subtracted from our beginning balance of \$845.19 leaves the MGCC with an ending balance of \$516.33 in the primary checking account. As a result, \$1,000.00 was transferred from the savings account. The resulting balance is now \$1,516.33 in primary checking. The savings account now has \$886.34 after the transfer and the application of \$0.07 in interest. Total ending balance of all accounts was \$2,452.67 with \$50.00 as cash on hand." Graham Cooper motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report. Terry Happensack seconded. MGCC voted. Treasurer's Report was approved.

Membership Chairwoman Carole Looft was next. Carole, "We actually got another new member this past month. Jimmy Dean" *cue bad James Dean, Rebel without a Clue* jokes. "He has a 1975 MGB and a Bugeye Sprite." Welcome to the club.

Birthdays in July: John Scocozzo, Dave Johnson, Joanne Gribler, all had birthdays.

Activities with Eddie. Eddie Hill, "BCD is the obvious one. There's a parking list and a sign-up going around. You all know the drill by now. Friday, July 31 at the park is our setup party. We'll start at 6:00 and go until we're finished. The end of August is Sandusky. Hope you've planned accordingly." Terry, "Don't forget that the next meeting is the 3rd Wednesday, Aug. 19th." Dave Johnson, There's a Biscuits & Tea this Saturday."

Sunshine Committee. Everyone's okay.

Newsletter Editor-for-Life, Ron Parks, "I wanted to thank Bill Hunter for his article. Keep them coming. We need new covers, but I couldn't find the artwork." There was a MGCC discussion about how many we should purchase. 500 would be \$217.84. This turned into a greater discussion as to whether we should even still mail them at all. This number will give us 3 years to figure out what to do next. Ron motioned to buy the covers. Eddie Hill seconded. MGCC voted and approved the purchase of a 3-year supply of covers.

Webmaster John Scocozzo, "Pics are going on the web. Not much else is new."

Beer Brake called at 7:59

Back from Break 8:14

Old Business. Terry, Who's the oldest one here? I guess that falls on Dr. Powell tonight. Dar, "I miss it by 2-weeks whenever Steve's here." Honorable mention to Art Barnes who's also in attendance.

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Here in the notes there's a reference to "the Dick Smith Story..." This is all I have so, those of you who were at the meeting, think back and remember fondly the story that was told.

BCD. John Scocozzo handed out a list of activities that the MGCC does related to BCD. "We need an event co-chair. We also need someone to handle the website, food vendors, awards of excellence, line-up the winning cars."

Ron Parks and **The British Museum Project**. "It's going slowly, but it is moving forward. Progress and the car. It'll be for sale sometime."

President Looft, "We have a MGCC Printer that we print the newsletter with. Why can't we print the covers as well?" Ed (*As we have two Eds, and the note just says "Ed", Wolf/Hill - doesn't really matter*) made a motion to print the cover sheets. Bill Hunter seconded. "There's no need to buy cover sheets. Nix the part in the report about buying cover sheets"

Tech Tips. Ed (*Wolf/Hill - doesn't really matter*), "If you replace an engine, get it started on a stand first so you don't get oil on the ceiling." Lois Gribler, "Modern Touring has devices for holding vent windows open for better ventilation." Terry L., "University Motors also has online tech tips. You can register for the newsletter and they also have zoom meetings twice per month. University Motors Online.

For Sale. Eddie Hill, "Ron McClain has a cream colored Jag roadster, 1957 XK 140. Hasn't run for several years and has known fuel system issues. James Dean, "The Museum has a 1974, MGC GT. They're asking \$3,995. It needs brakes, some typical MG rust repair. There's also a 2005 Range Rover with no compression (*so a standard Range Rover?*).

Dave Gribler, "The Michigan club got a demand letter for copyright infringement."

Gumball Rallye was won by Leslie Hunter.

Meeting adjourned 8:49

British Car Humor

Draw your own **public domain**, humorous, MG cartoon in the box below; then laugh!

(Be creative and bring it to the August meeting)

