
THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XXIX No. 5

May 1996

HIGHWAY CLEANUP 2ND TRY GOOD

CHEESE TOUR SHAPING UP

HIGHWAY CLEANUP

By Ron Parks

The MG Car club highway cleanup, the first one of 1996 was carried out by perhaps a motley looking, but aggressive crew on Saturday April 27th. Our attempt on the 20th was rained out.



Pictured above is part of the crew poised for action! From left are Linda Wolfe, Larry Callahan, Dan Wagner, Dan Callahan, Karen Callahan and John Wolfe.

We split up into two and three person teams and scoured the entire area for which we are responsible. Some who were there for the first cleanup last year said it wasn't quite as bad this year. It looked good when we finished!



Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club

MG Car Club Monthly Meeting

The Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club meets on the third Wednesday of every month at the Lithuanian Social Club, 922 Valley Street, Dayton, at 8:00pm. The next meeting will be:

May.15, 1996

MG Car Club Officers

President.....Dan Wagner 667-6286
Vice-President...Paul Wehner 252-0026
Secretary.....Vickie Wagner 667-6286
Treasurer.....Linda Wolf 429-0847
Member at Large...Eddie Hill 461-6688
Pres. Emeritus..Slip Peterson 293-2819
Activities Chair...Tim Oricko
434-5928
Membership Chair.....Jennifer Peterson

293-2819

Oct. News Editor..Ron Parks 322-0717
Librarian.....John Wolf 429-0847
Historian & DIXMYTH.....Dick Smith
434-1750
MG News Hotline.....434-1287
British Car BBS..... 4341655

Club Membership Information

Membership dues of 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 Jennifer Peterson for further membership information.

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Member Car of the Month

By Steve and Jayne Powell

It's a 1955 MGTF 1500. We bought this car in 1969 here in Dayton. I know none of the previous history. It was originally yellow with red interior. The car has never been restored, but many mechanical and cosmetic things have been done, such as engine rebuild (3200 miles ago) and new leather interior.

We have owned many MG's through the years. Our first was a '50' TD that we bought in 1962. Some others include a 1929 M-Type, a '53' TD MK II, a '47' TC and I believe several others, TD's. We also presently have a '69' MGC GT that is restored. We have never owned any A's or B's.

Minutes of April Meeting

By Vickie Wagner

After the April 17, 1996 meeting was called to order, minutes of the March 20, 1996 meeting were read aloud by Vickie Wagner. The minutes were approved as read on a motion by Bill Hammond, seconded by Dan Callahan. Linda Wolfe presented the treasurers report indicating a starting balance of \$ 1,686.78, income of \$ 6.84, Expenses of \$ 45.00 and a final balance of \$ 1,648.62. The report was approved. The Gribblers in their absence were thanked anyway



for hosting the St. Patrick's Day party.

Tickets were put in the Gumball Rally for those present

Jennifer Peterson's membership report, delivered by her husband Skip has us with two new members, both of whom own MGA'S: Chris Tempone and Steve Ferris. Welcome! A membership book was circulated so that members could update information about their cars.

Skip Peterson reminded the membership that we'll be needing volunteers for BCCD parking cars selling food, etc.

The featured Marque will be on the T-Shirt like at other car shows.

A deposit of \$500 was made by Skip at the Credit Union.

Suggestions for different activities at BCCD were discussed:

British food - Concern, \$15 fee ish't enough. % of

money made should be given to clubs. Concern, a new location is one big variable right there. Maybe we shouldn't add too many new activities and other variables.

Car Games - Concern, liability insurance for moving events.

Car Part Booth - This would allow people in both clubs to get rid of their junk.

S T R I C T L Y	
	
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Upcoming EventsMay:

- 5 **Richfield** Car Show
 11 **Tune-up Clinic** at Danny Callahan's
 11 **Vintage British Car Show** Dayton Carillon
 15 **MGCC Meeting** at Lithuania Club
 18 **BCCD Planning mtng/picnic** Eastwood Park 1:00pm
 19 **Continent Car Show** in Columbus

June:

- 8-9 **Cheese Tour** through Millersburg, OH
 19 **MGCC Meeting** at Lithuania Club
 22 **Indiana British Car Union** London to Brighton Run
 26-30 **Indy 96** in Indianapolis, IN

July:

- 17 **MGCC Meeting** at Lithuania Club
 20 **Highway Cleanup** at McD's in Vandalia
 28 **Cincinnati** British Car Show

August:

- 2 **Courthouse Square:** (pre BCCD)
 2 **BCCD 96:** at Eastwood Park
 6-19 **University Motors Summer Picnic:** In Grand Rapids MI
 21 **MGCC Meeting:** at Lithuanian Club

September:

- 16-17 **KilKare** Kruse '96'
 18 **MGCC Meeting** at Lithuania Club
 28 **Highway Cleanup** at McD's in Vandalia

October:

- 5 **Fall Leaf Tour** and Picnic at Zeno's
 16 **MGCC Meeting** in Lithuania Club

November:

- 2 **Highway Cleanup** at McD's in Vandalia
 20 **MGCC Meeting** in Lithuania Club

December:

- 7 **Christmas Party** at Wagner's

TBD Events:

- Fall Leaf Tour
 Hayride

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An example and a concern was voiced by Skip Peterson. Ted Shoemaker wanted to give us a box of stuff to sell with 12% of the take going to the club. We would have to give him a credit card to cover the possibility of someone stealing something.

Fish Fry workers were thanked for their support and tickets were placed in the gumball rally for them. We received a thank you card from the Lithuanian Social Club for our participation at the February 16th fish fry.

Correspondence:

14th annual Len Immke July 12-13, 1996.

Columbus Ohio Arthritis Foundation Classic Auto Show March 26, 1996.

Indiana British Car Union 100th anniversary of the London to Brighton Run, Indiana that is. Saturday June 22, 1996.

Vintage British Car show May 11, 1996, Dayton Ohio, Carillon Park.

Postmaster Letter.

The Epilepsy Association of Western Ohio, February 15-23, 1996.

Upcoming events: Highway Cleanup is April 20th 9:00am at McD's in Vandalia. April 27th is rain date.

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The annual Tuneup clinic is scheduled for May 11, 1996 all day. Bring beer and hors d'oeuvres.

Skip Peterson reported that he has Indianapolis forms left. Club T-shirts for the event will be one color printed with club logo etc. The cost will be divided by the number of people ordering them.

North American MG Register. If anyone is interested in signing up, see Skip Peterson for forms.

There will be a BCCD Planning meeting/picnic at Eastwood Lake Park on Saturday May 18, 1996 at 1:00pm.

MGF advertisement from a newspaper in Singapor was displayed.

Ron Parks, Newsletter, Great job! The club's PO Box has changed to 20032 so covers need to be changed. The color will be green on tan. Yeah!

John Wolfe needs CO2 tank. Where can he set it? Weiler Welding.

Expenditure of \$ 176.00 for Insurance policy premium was approved on a motion by Dan Wagner, seconded by Ron Parks.

Paul Wehner reported that Abby Road Promotions price for name tags is \$3 each. They are tan and dark brown. Ron Parks made a motion to purchase a name tag for every paid member at a cost of \$300 for 100 name tags.

Collision switch - Bill Hammond needs this.

Picnic at Zeno's and Fall leaf tour October 5, 1996.

Paul Wehner won the gumball rally.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.

Spring Cruisin

By Skip Peterson

It's time to get the MG ready for summer. If you haven't already, you better get started. If yours is like mine, it's been sitting a long time. We all know an oil change is in order, but after spending about 4 hours under my "B", I thought I'd share some of my revelations. This isn't rocket science, but we do need to remember these cars were built at least 16 years ago.

I made a quick check list of things to do before summer driving, and then I discovered more stuff that needed to be checked.

Get your jack stands out, plan on getting dirty and set aside about a half day.

It's really a lot of fun. Under the hood, all fluids need to be checked. Fresh oil and filter (every 3,000 miles at least, I do mine every 1,000 miles.) I've been told by more than one mechanic to steer clear of any of the fancy additives (Slick 50, etc.) They are hard on the seals and these engines just want 20w50 Castrol or any other oil of that weight. Transmission, drain and fill with fresh 20w50.

Radiator, drain and fill with fresh coolant and water (50/50 mix). Leaving old coolant in the radiator is hard on the inside of both the engine and the heater core.

Master cylinder for clutch and brakes. Top up. If you haven't changed the brake fluid in a while, I'd recommend you do. After a year, it starts to collect some water and deteriorate. You'd be surprised how much better the brakes are with fresh fluid. If your brake fluid is the least bit cloudy, change it immediately. When we get to the rear of the car later, be sure to adjust the rear brake shoes. Properly adjusted brakes make your car handle and stop better and the feel of the pedal can be shocking if they were too loose to begin with.

Thought about the differential? It would like some fresh 90 wt gear oil. Drain and refill it and your fluids should be in good shape. Remember to top up the dash pot oil in those SU's. We still don't know where it goes, but it

needs to be topped up. About a quarter inch from the top of the chamber.

Grease the front end. Before starting, wipe away all the old grease, clean up the front end so you can look it over and shoot grease into all the fittings until fresh grease emerges. Also be sure to grease the U-joint if it has the fitting, and also the hand brake cable.



Now let's check those shocks. I use a small oil can with the flexible snoot to shoot motorcycle shock oil into the hole. You can tell when they're full, wipe away excess leaking oil and replace the filler bolt.

Before we get real serious, be sure to check the tire pressure and inflate them accordingly. Also check the condition of the radiator hoses (if cracked, fix now) and also the fan belt tension. Look over the spark plug wires, coil, under hood wiring, just a good look to see if there's a problem waiting to slow you down. If you sense something wrong, get after it.

Now let's get some wrenches and sockets out and look for things we didn't expect. Start at the front and work your way to the back. Check the shock absorber mounting bolts, brake backing plates and be sure to check the bolts on the coil spring pan and the sway bar. My shock absorber bolts were a half turn loose and the spring pan bolts were also in need of another twist. Also look over those flex hoses on the brake lines and if they are swollen in any way, they need to be replaced. Use a wire brush and clean these areas for a good inspection.

Working our way further back, check the motor mounts to be sure they haven't worked loose as well as the transmission mounting bolts. Also check the clutch slave connection, the speedo cable connection and all the exhaust mounting hangers. Take a serious look and check on the rear shock mounts as well as the spring mounts on the differential. These work themselves loose over time. We've pretty much got everything checked now, so one last look under the hood.

Check all the mounting bolts on the intake/exhaust manifold, as well as the carburetor mounting bolts. Valve cover nuts, throttle and choke cables, look for any leaks around gaskets or from the oil cooler.

If you don't already have a Haynes manual for your car, get one right now. Most everything I have talked about is explained in relatively easy terms and will help you complete the job correctly. If you have other questions, start calling your fellow club members. I bet at least one of us has done the

job before and can save you time and trouble.

Looks like we have things pretty well under control now. It's still only about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Time for a quick ride with the top down. These few hours spent now will insure lots more hours on the road this summer. I'm not an expert on this stuff, but in the last 6 years, nothing has fallen off the B, and the oil stays pretty clean. B seein' you on the road, and if the rain stops, I'll put the top down

Cheese Tour Plans

By John Zeno & Frank Crabtree

Our cheese tour to Amish country of Holmes county is planned for June 8th and 9th, 1996. We will meet at the Xenia Town Mall in downtown Xenia Ohio at 6:45am on Saturday June 8, 1996 and depart at 7:00am on the 150 mile drive to Millersburg Ohio. We'll tour between there, Berlin and Roscoe village. There is a campground and tourist home cabins being considered for reservations. We'll need to know by the May

meeting if you're going so that reservations can be made. If you can't make the meeting, call John Zeno at (429-2557), no later than May 18, 1996 so that reservations can be made for those planning to go. Follow the MGBer trailer to Millersburg!

Indy Reminders

By Skip Peterson

We should discuss plans for plans for the MG Indy weekend in June. Tentative plans call or us to caravan to Indy on Thursday, June 27, leaving around Noon or so, and return on Sunday. All members are welcome in the caravan. I have also talked with Abbey Road promotions regarding a T-shirt.

I've pulled together a design with our club logo on the sleeve, and a large MG Indy logo and drawing of an MG on the front. The guy at Abbey Road says khaki is a hot color this year and we discussed a khaki colored T with the design in British Racing Green. He said he could produce them for about \$10 each, with a minimum order of 36 shirts. Whatever the cost is, it will be divided by the number of shirts. There's no profit in this deal, just a fun item for the club. thanks-skip Millersburg!

From the Editor

By Ron Parks

There was some space left here at the end so I thought I ask for some input. I haven't run across any car related cartoons or jokes lately. If any of you do encounter some car humor, please send it to me so we can all have a chuckle.

We didn't get the covers reprinted this month, because Ed Hill had a higher priority. He went to Disney World! He makes the artwork negatives for us. We'll try to get that done this month.

