
THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XXIX No. 10

SEPTEMBER 1996

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MG CAR CLUB

30 Years of MG Car Club History

By Dick Smith

On this our 30th Anniversary Year of the MG Car Club, Ron Parks, Octagon Newsletter Editor, has asked me to bring club members up to snuff on the history of the Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club. Well, I will do the best that I can, but a lot of our history has been lost over the years. I will try to reconstruct as much of it as I can.

The Club (as I will refer to it) was formed in 1966, August or September, with the first meetings at Davis Buick (Dayton's lone MG dealer at that time). We met in the Show Room on folding chairs. For those of you who have no idea where Davis Buick was, it was located on South Main Street in the complex of buildings now housing the Blood Bank and the Packard Museum. The Parts Department was located in the exact place where the Packard Museum now resides. I have attached a list of Club Officers from the Club beginning to the present and while I feel it is reasonably accurate, there is always some level of error.



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:

September 18, 1996

BCCD '97' PLANS

MG Car Club Officers

President.....Dan Wagner 667-6286
vice-president...Paul Wehner 252-0026
Secretary.....Vicki Wagner 667-6286
Treasurer.....Linda Wolfe 429-0847
Member at Large...Eddie Hill 461-6688
Pres. Emeritus..Skip Peterson 293-2819
Activities Chair....Tim Oricko
434-5928
Membership Chair.....Jennifer Peterson
293-2819
Oct. News Editor..Ron Parks 322-0717
Librarian.....John Wolfe 429-0847
Historian & DIXMYTH.Dick Smith
434-1750
MG News Hotline..... 434-1287
British Car BBS..... 434-1655

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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At the time of Club formation the MG automobiles were manufactured by British Motor Corporation (BMC), later to become British Leyland when BMC and Triumph combined. The area representative for BMC at the time of Club formation was a man named Jim Deppner. Jim got a list of all registered MG cars in the area and sent out flyers inviting owners to an organizational meeting for a MG Club. Jim was very active in the Club formation and early events until he had a falling out with BMC. From the first meetings at Davis Buick, we moved to the lower level of the "Landmark Cafeteria" located where Frickers South is now. We held monthly meetings and began work on the original Club Constitution and Rally Rules. Dixon Switzer, our first President was a stickler for "Robert's Rules of Order" and meetings became long and full of discussion, but we prevailed and finished the documents which have guided us through the years. It is at this time that we applied for affiliation with the International Club and took our official name. (See attached reproduction of announcement in News Paper).

The Club was Incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio on October 13, 1968. I still remain the Statuary Agent representing the Club in Corporation documents which are updated every 5 years.

Meetings were moved over the years to numerous locations such as Vic Cassano's on Stroop Road, Urban Suburban, Pappy's Kitchen on North Main Street, Kettering Village Inn (where we were constantly interrupted by beer bottles being sent down a chute),

Upcoming Events

September:

- 16-17 **KilKare** Kruse '96'
 18 **MGCC Meeting** at Lithuania Club
 20 **Fish Fry** at Lithuania Club
 27-29 **Indy British Motor Days** Indianapolis Raceway Park
 28 **Highway Cleanup** at McD's in Vandalia
 28 **30th Anniversary Party** at Zeno's
 29 **Caravan to Indy British Motor Days** 8am Meijer
 Parking lot in Englewood

October:

- 5/3rd **Fall Leaf Tour** 3 Hour Cruise End at Randy Balogh's.,
 16 **MGCC Meeting** in Lithuania Club
 18 **Hayride** 7pm \$5 Adults, \$3 Children 6-17

November:

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

December:

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

TBD Events:

Historical Tour Yellow Springs Area (Maybe in the spring?)

LAMACHYs and now of course the Lithuanian Social Club. Early club activities were heavily Road Rally orientated with the Club even sponsoring a yearly Rally Series. John & Linda as well as Carol and I were very active in putting on Rallies which were mostly all TSD (Time-Speed-Distance) Rallies. Club activities later changed more to Autocrossing and Racing activities with some members owing and driving race cars and other members supporting them. As the cars were no longer made (the last MGB being produced in 1980) the emphasis began drifting more toward restoration and Car Shows where most of the interest is in the Club today. This is kind of nice. as other than parties, we have more members participating in shows than we have had in other Club events for many years. Of

course members always like to party and parties are still a part of the Club Activities.

INTERNATIONAL CLUB ESTABLISHES DAYTON CHAPTER

(Announcement in Newspaper)

Last night at their monthly meeting, the MG Car Club of Dayton announced that they have received their charter as a Regional Centre of the MG Car Club Limited, with headquarters in Abington-on-Thames, England. According to Club President, Dixon Switzer, the Club will now be known as The MG Car Club Southwestern Ohio Centre.

Organized in May, 1966, the Dayton club was founded by a number of owners of the English cars who were interested in becoming part of the International Club. The Southwestern Ohio Centre becomes the twenty-third such Centre in the United States and one of fifty-seven throughout the world, including such locations as Australia, Rhodesia, Holland, France, Switzerland, Sweden, Japan, India, and Canada.

The local club has been active in sponsoring area sports car rallies and plans to expand activities with gymkahans, scenic tours and other motoring and social events.



Social Activities:

September 8th, Miata Club, Green County Fairgrounds to benefit Diabetes Association, Ragtops only.

September 27-29, Indy British Motor Days, Indianapolis Raceway Park.

Sunday September 29, caravan W/Skip Peterson to Indy. British Motor Days. Meet at 8am in the Meijer parking lot in Englewood.

A thank you letter from the Sons of Italy, thanking the MG Car Club for our participation in their car show, was read aloud.

September 16-17 KilKare Kruse '96'

Beer break was called at 8:30pm.

There are some BCCD T-shirts left.

Holiday Home show - Labor Day, Monday September 2. Skip Peterson had been asked to judge again this year.

Saturday October 5 is our Annual Fall Leaf Tour. It will start at

Motion to accept was by Dick Goodman seconded by John Wolfe. None were opposed.

The next BCCD meeting will be held at Marian's Pizza North, next Wednesday at 7pm.

Skip is looking for dash plaques for vendors. He has placed several calls to Ron Wynn with no response.

Minutes of August Meeting

By Vickie Wagner

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm by Dan Wagner.

Minutes of the July 17, 1996 meeting were read and accepted on a motion by Bill Hammond seconded by John Zeno

The treasurer's report given by Linda Wolfe indicated a starting balance of \$408.79, income of \$112.62, expenses of \$50.97 and an ending balance of \$470.44.

S T R I C T L Y	
	
BRITISH	
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RANDY BALOGH	
226 Kirby Road Lebanon, Ohio 45036	
(513) 833-0850 MGBay@AOL.COM	

Skip's and end at Randy Balogh's.
(3 Hour Cruise)

Saturday evening September 28th we're having 30th Anniversary party at Zeno's. The club is buying the steaks and drinks. A postcard mailing was suggested for RSVP so that an accurate count can be obtained for buying.

September 20 - Fish Fry at the Lithuanian Social Club. We'll be dealing Showdown again.

September 28, Highway cleanup.
9am at McD's in Vandalia.

October 18 - Hayride, 7pm, hayride at 8pm. \$5 adults, \$3 for children ages 6-17.

Reminder - Elections next month. Offices up for grabs are: President, vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Member at Large and Membership Committee. Ron Parks will continue to be the Octagon News editor. Historian and Librarian were not voted on.

Membership report welcomed new members: Roger & Charlotte Austin, Mike and Karen Bell and Eric Hansford. We had one guest at the meeting: John Florkey.

A member wanted input and advice on passing E-Check for Rubber Bumper B's. There is a 4 month exemption in Montgomery County. Collector plates were discussed and seem to be a good alternative. Information about Collector plates will be put in the newsletter.

Anything else?: Skip Peterson reminded us that we have a two year contract for the Adopt a Highway program. Do we want to continue? We'll vote on that at the next meeting.

Ron Parks is passing around an extra set of pictures from BCCD

'96'. Anyone can take any they like.

The Gumball Rally was won by Dick Smith.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm on a motion by Brad Barnes, seconded by John Wolfe.

Member Featured Car of the Month

By Karl &
Ellen Sparklin

Our MG is a '72 'B. Ellen has calculated that it was made February of our freshman year.

It is a stock model, with nothing of note added. I bought it from some guy who bought it from a dealership downtown. It was originally white with blue interior, but at some point was painted with some non-standard yellow paint. With the black stripes, I call it the Bumble-B.

It did come with six speakers, two of which were actually connected! The gas-tank appears to be the wrong version for that year, but other parts, working or not, appear

to be "authentic". Not counting the considerable Bondo that makes up parts of the body panels.

It runs well, normally, and I've had none of the problems that plagued me when I owned a '77 a few years ago. I also like the lower seating position of the '72, such that I don't have to look over the top of the windshield!

The engine is worn (uses lots of oil), but gives no trouble, usually. Unfortunately, it's running very rough at the moment, and being no



mechanic (what? and he owns an MG!?!), I'm having trouble getting it working again.

Having had no luck getting the 'B to pass E-Check, I'm applying for Collector's plates.

- AUTO

ELECTRIC BARRAGE

429-9951

The Octagon News (September 1996)

1197 N. FAIRFIELD

5

I took a trip in it with the club to Hocking Hills a few years ago; otherwise, it usually remains a frequent driver for my new wife and me to take evening rides in. Ellen was born in Europe and as such, recognized the 'B for what it was on our second date ("Oh! You have an MG!"). She loves riding in it as much as and would like to restore it some day. If we can get it running again, we'd like to take it on our first club outing together, to Cincinnati next month.

We love the 'B so much that we incorporated it into our wedding in June! It drove us between the church and reception, decorated carefully by her and her bridesmaids. Our pictures with it turned out wonderfully and will be used in our wedding album. We hope to spend many wonderful times in it (Lucas willing) over the next few years!

Future Plans for BCCD

By Skip Peterson

Members of both the MG Car Club and the Miami Valley Triumphs met on Wednesday, August 28 to review this year's British Car Day and plan for next year. Dan Wagner, Skip and Jennifer Peterson, Bill Hammond and Dave Gribler joined Frank Ciboch, Dan and Mary Stinson, Ron Wynne, John Clark, Bruce Clough and Phil Day to discuss the show.

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The financial aspect is very positive, with a net profit of about \$2600. It was decided to leave the \$1000 seed money in the checking account and divide the remaining amount, roughly \$800 per club. Excellent weather and car count, brisk concession sales and sponsor support, in addition to no rental fee for the site were all factors in the financial success of the event. A deadline of Sept. 22 was agreed upon for a complete financial accounting of the event to be delivered to both clubs. Ron Wynne said the Five Rivers Metro Parks were pleased and have offered a 5 year agreement. Wynne was asked to proceed to get the five year agreement in writing. There is no real penalty should we decide to break the contract, but it does guarantee the first Saturday in August as the date for the next five years. There was a lot of positive feedback from the attendees about the site so it appears we have a winner in the location.

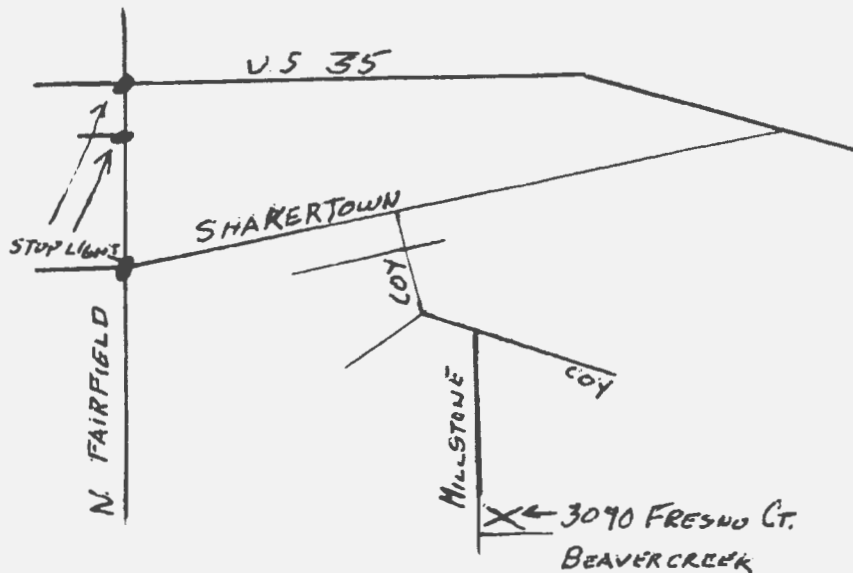
Talk then turned to the actual organization of the event, and it was agreed upon that there should be one person to serve as the General Chairman of the event. That chairman would report to the president's of both clubs, but would

have the overall responsibility to appoint the needed committee heads and make sure everything happens successfully. It was also agreed upon that there should be estimated budgets for the various committees based upon the financial records of the past few years.

With both of those items agreed upon, Frank Ciboch and Skip Peterson were both nominated as potential General Chairmen. Ciboch declined the nomination and Peterson was named general chairman by either acclamation or default, depending on how you look at it.

The date for next year is Saturday, August 2 (pending approval of the Park people). There was also discussion to drop the word Cycles from the name of the event and refer to it as BCD '97 (still open to discussion.)

There is a serious need for volunteers to head committees, and we would like to appoint those as soon as possible. Chairs are needed for registration, vendors,



awards, the site, T-shirts, public relations, food and door prizes. While we have many experienced people who have handled these jobs before, we would still like to hear from anyone interested in being a committee chair. The responsibility for each of these committees will be outlined in writing at the next BCD meeting.

Anyone interested in either chairing a committee or just volunteering is encouraged to attend the next meeting.

It is scheduled for 7:30 PM, Oct. 22 at Marion's Piazza at the corner of Patterson Rd and Shroyer near the Dayton/Oakwood city line. For more information, please feel free to call Skip Peterson at 293-2819.

Thirtieth Anniversary Party Plans

By John Zeno

The 30th Anniversary of the MG Car Club will be celebrated with a picnic at John & Jo Ann Zeno's; 3090 Fresno Court, Beavercreek; on Saturday September 28th starting at 4PM. (See map above)

The club is going to buy steaks beer and soft drinks, therefore, you must call John & Jo Ann Zeno at 429-2557 with your R.S.V.P. no later than September 18th. Or you can give your R.S.V.P. in person at the meeting. We must know how many people from your family are planning to attend and if your children would rather have hot-dogs or hamburgers instead of steak.

Bring a covered dish, salad or dessert and your own steak knives,

forks, spoons and lawn chairs. The club will provide plates, cups and napkins.

Highway Cleanup Plans

By Dave Gribler

The highway cleanup scheduled for September 28 is still on. I have the remaining supply of trash bags and vests. I plan on getting a new supply before the 28th and will make contact with ODOT to get the signs up.

Collector & Historical Plates

By Ron Parks

This information was Faxed to me by the License bureau and appears on the back of the applications for these special plates.

“Collector’s Vehicle” means any motor vehicle or agricultural tractor or traction engine of special interest having a fair market value of one hundred dollars or more, whether operable or not, that is owned, operated, collected, preserved, restored, maintained or used essentially as a collector’s item, leisure pursuit or investment, but not as the owner’s principal means of transportation. “Licensed collector’s vehicle” means a collector’s vehicle, other than an

agricultural tractor or traction engine, that displays current, valid license tags issued under Section 4508.45 of the Ohio Revised Code (O.R.C.), or a similar type of motor vehicle that displays current, valid license tags issued under substantially equivalent provision in the laws of other states (O.R.C. 4501.01).

\$5.00 plus \$2.25 deputy fee. Replacement plates cost \$5.00.

You may purchase Collector's plates by mail by sending the amount due, make checks payable to State of Ohio BMV; your current registration card for the vehicle and completed signed application. A temporary registration or registration card which expired

registration card is unavailable, send Certificate of Title or Memorandum Title (original document only). You may take these documents to any deputy registrar agency. The deputy will verify the vehicle information for a service fee.

Mail your application and related information to: Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Attn: Registration Division, P.O. Box 16521, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0021. Your application will be processed and plates will be mailed within four weeks. Failure to follow instructions will delay the processing of your application.

If your current registration expires within 90 days, your application will be held so that new license plates can be issued during your month of registration.

Now for **Historical** plates. To qualify, motor vehicles must be at least 25 years old. They are solely collector's items and are used for participation in club activities, exhibitions, tours, parades, etc, but NOT for general transportation.

Historical license plates are valid without renewal for the life of the vehicle, except when there is a change in ownership. In that case, the plates must be surrendered to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles.

If the vehicle has a regular Ohio vehicle registration, there will be no refund or partial refund for your current vehicle registration.

As for **Historical "Model Year"** plates, no fees are required. The model year license plates shall be authentic, legible and serviceable license plate by the State of Ohio and the same year as the vehicle. Historical military vehicles may

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Collector's License plates must be renewed annually for a cost of

more than 11 months ago is an unacceptable substitute for a current registration card. If current

display the assigned registration number of the vehicle by painting the number on the front and rear of the vehicle. Only one model-year plate is required to be displayed on the rear of the historical motor vehicle at all times. To comply with O.R.C. 4503.19 (requires distinctive number plate be issued to a motor vehicle) the vehicle must be registered with regular Ohio historical plates. The model year plate must be procured by the applicant. The model year registration card, the distinctive historical plates and registration card must be in the vehicle and available upon demand by law enforcement officer at all times the vehicle is operated.

From the Editor

Ron Parks

I want to thank all of you who have submitted articles and encourage everyone to get your stories to me so that we can get them in print for the enjoyment of all the members.

Looking for a member car to feature in the October issue. If you have a nice picture of your car, with or without you in it, please send it to me with information, such as modifications you've made, trips you've made and any other interesting side lights. I bet there are things about your car or the history of your car that some of the other members don't know and would find interesting. So, don't be shy! Enter your car today!

Regarding Classifieds - I think we'll run the classifieds for two

months then drop them. If you want your classified to run longer, just let me know. Also, if you've sold your car after the first month, let me know that, so that we can drop it.

Remember, any and all contributions to the newsletter are always welcome. You can mail them to me at 4101 Grossepoint Street, Springfield, OH 45502. Or if you prefer the information super highway, my E-Mail address is: FKZS47A@prodigy.com I'm also on the British Cars BBS as Ron Parks. Any of those methods will work fine or you can call me at home (322-0717) or at work (445-4623) and we can arrange to meet and transfer materials or conduct an interview.

* Classified *

'51' TD for sale - White with red interior. Steve Miller rewired and fixed the brakes. \$ 13,000, will negotiate. Ed Barry, Centerville, 885-3562

'76' MG Midget partially restored; new kingpins and bushings; lots of

spares: extra doors and bumpers, extra dash pad (no cracks). With trailer, single axle with tilt and ramps. Asking \$ 1,000. Call work (813) 4465455 or evenings (813) 586-5990

'67' MGB, Classic Blue Roadster Convertible, Vintage Sports Car, 74K orig miles, rare-of-a-kind, Collector's Dream, EC, Asking \$4995, Serious Buyers only, Robert Cross, 1102 Bay Harbour Circle, Centerville, OH 45458 Call for Weekend Appts only. (513)438-0518.

'66' Midget Basket Case, wire wheels, 1275cc engine, \$500, Randy Balogh, (513)933-0950

'62' MGB, Serial #159 which means it was the 59th one built, needs restoring, \$3500, Randy Balogh, (513)933-0950.

