

THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XXXVIII No. 11

September 2004

Elections and Dues Louie's Other British Car

From the President

Sam Hodges

To be sung to the tune of "I did it my way....," (Apologies to Mr. Sinatra)

"And now, the end is near;
And so I face my final column.
My friends, I'll say it clear,
It's been a blast, of this I'm certain.

El Presidente.

Regrets, I've had but few;
But then again, the doughnuts were late.
I did what I had to do,
And got them there and all was still great.
El Presidente.

I lucked out on this uncharted course;
Each task I lead with fearless leadership,
But so much more than this,
El Presidente."

And so we've come to the end of another episode of, "Where's El Presidente?"
What a ride!

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Southwestern Ohio Centre of the MG Car Club

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 **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 the K of C Hall, downtown Dayton, on Bainbridge Street, at 8:00pm. The next meeting will be:

Wed September 22, 2004

MG Car Club Officers

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Upcoming Events

Sept:

- 18 – Cruise-In for Ronald McDonald House (McDonalds on Wilmington Pike, just south of I-675)
- 19 – Concours d'Elegance
- 22 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

Oct:

- 10 – Fall Tour
- 16 – Sam and Diana's Wedding
- 27 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

Nov:

- 5 – Fish Fry (K of C Hall)
- 17 – Meeting (K of C Hall – note date change)

Dec:

- 11 – Holiday Party at Sam & Diana's
 - Note – no December meeting

Jan:

- 26 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

Feb:

- 23 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

Under my exceptional expert leadership we broke 300 cars at BCD, we have over 100 members in the club, and we managed to keep Bill Hammond in line for most of the year. There are those detractors who might say that my tenure was irreparably damaged by the now infamous "late-doughnut-gate" scandal of BCD, but, like other Presidents, I have managed to successfully dodge any and all accountability! I do have to say that there was one area where I would have liked to have made more progress, namely the hostile takeover of the Triumph Club (*yes, I do know that the Triumph Club gets a copy of our newsletter...*). I just wish that we could have gotten more done on that topic...

That having been said, I would be failing to complete my charge as El Presidente if I didn't bring up a few last minute items. There is a pub run, which will have already happened by the time you get this, so I won't go into any details. There is of course, the Concours de'Elegance at the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery. This event may or may not have happened by the time you read this. If this is the case, the date for the event is September 19, 2004 at the Boonshoft Museum of discovery, located at 2600 DeWeese Parkway, Dayton, OH 45414. For those of you who have never attended, this event is truly a must for any car enthusiast in the Metro-Dayton area. I expect to see all of you there.

The Fall Tour is currently being planned by a group of cracked specialist and is

tentatively scheduled for Sunday, October 10, 2004. More details about this event should be forthcoming at the next MGCC meeting. As always, watch your e-mail for more info on this and other events as well. Additionally, mark your calendars for the next Knights of Columbus Fish Fry. It is currently scheduled for Friday, November 5, 2004. Plan accordingly. The November MGCC meeting will be held on the third Wednesday of the month, the 17th, due to Thanksgiving falling on the fourth Thursday. Yet again, mark your calendars. Finally, the Holiday party has been tentatively scheduled for December 11, 2004. I would put a reference to the address that I mentioned at the meeting, but I'm not sure Skip or Jennifer would be too appreciative. Look for more information in an upcoming newsletter article as well as the ever pervasive e-mails that I like to send out.



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That all having been said, I have to confess, that I'm suffering a bit of writer's block. Here it is, my last column, and I'm actually out of things to ramble on about. I could take my obligatory pot-shot at Lois Gribler, but I've done that so much over the past two years, that the novelty is wearing off. Same thing goes for the Bill Hammond cheap-shots. He gives me so much to work with that sometimes it's just a case of information overload. Seriously though, this year would not have been nearly as successful as I was able to take credit for if it had not been for of the hard work and support put in by all of the club members at all of our various activities. I was just the master of ceremonies at the meetings, (*although sometimes they felt more like roasts than meetings*) for it is all of you who truly deserve my thanks and appreciation for all that you have done. For that I wish to say thank you and keep up the good work. Let's keep this club the great place it has always been. It's been fun, see you next time.

El Presidente
Fidel Hodgriguez

Membership Dues and Elections...a Fireside Chat with Fidel

“Hear ye, hear ye! Draw forth and prepare to be heard!” Although, in keeping with the general atmosphere of this club it should be, “Hurry, hurry, hurry! Step right up ladies and gentlemen...” Either way, the point is that it's THAT time of year again. That's right. It's time to wait in the pumpkin patch for the Great Pumpkin to come and deliver toys to all of the good little boys and girls... Er, um, never mind... What I'm trying to say here is that IT'S ELECTION TIME! It's time to pick your favorite President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and various other members of the 2004-2005 MGCC Governing Body. If you have a love for covered bridges, and want to see more tours involving them added to our schedule, then what better way to get your own personal agenda across than as the President of the MGCC. If you are interested in running, for one of the positions, then make sure that you don't miss the September meeting! For those of you not familiar with the process, it's a lot like watching someone make sausage, not the prettiest sight you'll ever see, but well worth the finished product. All you have to do is be a member in good standing (*i.e. you've paid your dues for the year*) and you too will be eligible to run for office. Any office! I'm living proof of the fact that we're not picky about who we elect. Heck, you don't even have to be there to get elected. As a matter of fact, that's actually the BEST way to get elected, so skip the meeting at your own risk. Anyway, if you're interested in an office, just let someone know either before the meeting, or during beer break and we will try our best to railroad, er... um..., I mean elect you as soon as possible.

Welcome To Our Newest Member

By Carole Looft

I'm sure all of you would agree that owning and driving an MG tends to make us feel 'young at heart'. Our newest member, however, truly is 'young at heart'!

Ryan Pitts, a sixteen year old student at Fairmont High School in Kettering, is our newest member. We met Ryan and his Dad, Michael, at our August meeting and got to hear about his black 1977 MGB. Ryan's Mom, Jan, was actually pretty instrumental in helping to locate the MG. She knew that it was

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owned by a patient at the dental office where she works and that he was trying to sell it. (Is this a GREAT Mother??) The price was right and Ryan ended up with the MG.

Ryan is looking forward to having fun with his car and meeting other MG enthusiasts. Finding spare time might be a challenge for him, though. Besides attending school, Ryan works at a local hardware store and he is the lead singer in the local rock band "Bonneville". They will soon be recording their second CD.

Our 'welcome' goes out to our new member and we can surely wish Ryan many, many years of MG enjoyment.

Ryan Pitts
5411 Bigger Rd
Kettering, Oh 45440
(937) 432-1652
yosnapboy@aol.com



Club members Louie DiPasquele (left) and Steve Markman (right) show off their award-winning MGs at the Kettering Invitational Car Show on Labor Day. Tim Oricko also showed his Plymouth.

Louie DiPasquele's Other British Car

For any new members that hear Louie DiPasquele being harassed month after month for owning a Triumph and wondered what it was all about, here is the story. The car is a 1980 Triumph Spitfire with about 45,000 miles. Louie was at a bocce tournament in 1997, and someone mentioned the car. He took a look at it and bought it. As with his MGA, Louie keeps the Triumph spotless and shows it regularly.



Classifieds

For sale: 1979 MGB, 98k, stainless steel exhaust, Weber carb, good and reliable running, but needs both front wings, door rocker panels, painting etc. etc. to make it look nice. \$1400 obo. 513-266-6407 or deckel@emag.de

Wanted: Pair of seat frames for MGB MkI (1962-68). Dieter Eckel, deckel@emag.de Tel. 01149-1727341572 (I will call you back!)

For Sale: Red 1970 MGB chrome bumper w/ wire wheels, toneau cover, and new clutch. Runs well. 90,000 miles. \$3800 firm. 426-2257.

For Sale: Beautiful 1957 MGA 1500. Body and interior completely restored (both red). Spoke wheels with a white soft-top. Runs great, but if going to be a daily car I would suggest a good tune-up. Needs new left-front spring, speedometer tune-up, and an owner who can truly appreciate this car. Asking \$10,000. Rob Zimmerman (Delaware, OH) 740-368-9260.

For Sale: 1951 MG TD. Interior needs a little work, but otherwise in great shape. Runs well. Yellow with dark brown interior. New top. Located in Centerville. \$15,000. Dave Westbrook, 885-7492.

For Sale: Beautifully restored MG TD. Originally a California car that I had shipped here years ago. Also lots of parts that have been in boxes for years. Call Stewart A. Smetts, 513-608-2890, or sasmetts@fuse.net

For Sale: 1977 MGB, wine color, vintage racing wheels, Weber carb & header, new dashboard, new carpet and seats, Grant Wood steering wheel, AM/FM cassette, no rust, hard top (needs refinishing), overdrive, all original spare parts (wheels, carb, steering wheel), convertible top has some tears. \$5995 OBO. 937-672-0736.

For Sale: 1953 MGTD, partially restored by late husband. Large supply of new Moss replacement parts, including new seat covers, new bumper and a new convertible top in Moss Motors boxes and other new things that I don't know what they are. There are two grills in addition to the new one on the car, the original grill, and a 2nd grill that looks pretty new to me. Tires are now flat from sitting for so long. I have the spare tire for back rack also. The engine was rebuilt and the frame stripped and painted and partially reassembled. The fenders, doors and back rack look like they've been stripped / sanded but are not repainted. He repainted the car red (the color of the car when he bought it) although it looks like it might have originally been yellow. Nuts and bolts etc. are in labeled baggies. I have a picture journal of the teardown/restoration; most are Polaroids and are too dark to scan. Asking \$8000. Linda Waymire, Lafayette Indiana, Lwaygirl@aol.com, phone: 765-447-6084 (evenings/weekends)

For Sale: 1976 MGB with hardtop, new engine and fuel tank, \$2500, call Terry 1-937-286-9255

Wanted: MGCGT, contact Mike Hirschman at mhirsch1@fairview.org or 763-391-5769

For Sale: 1962 MGA 1600 Mark II roadster, red with black leather interior and red leather trim. Cincinnati area. Digital photos available. \$7000. thunderm3@yahoo.com.

For Sale: 1960 MGA in process of frame-off restoration. Frame was chemically dipped, primed, rustproofed on the inside of the rails, correctly welded (such as with original battery trays), and painted in black hammerite paint. The body was braced, chemically dipped, and primed. The body will require the typical lower reconstruction. All other components are pretty much as removed. I have tons of new parts

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including most hardware, gaskets, and some interiors, and metal. Also, wire wheels with knock offs, and a few original lenses and goodies. Contact Joe Morgan, 724-457-2880 or joemorgan12345@cs.com

For Sale: Zenith-Stromberg carburetor off '79 MGB, including manual choke conversion, airfilter and manifold \$150.

For Sale: Red 1953 MGTD. It has a new top, new brakes front and rear, new steering wheel and recently tuned up. All work was done by Steve Miller of MG Automotive. Will sell for \$12,500.00. Also I have a 9 piece set of Whitworth Socket Set, 3/4, sale for \$95.00, Fender guards-2 for \$25.00, TD workshop manual with complete wiring diagram for TD's, \$25.00 and a Service Part list Book, \$20.00. John Carter., jabba8811@aol.com, Phone number is 1-937-947-1647

1975(?) MG Midget - rubber bumper parts car. No title. Wheels, suspension, rack, engine (1500), trans, doors, windshield, fenders, trunk deck still on the car. Also has a good top frame but I heard rumors that Skip has first dibs on that item. Some rust in the usual spots...rockers, floors, lower fenders but not quite a total rust bucket yet. 1977(?) MG Midget - rubber bumper project car. Also no title. 1972 MG Midget. Make offer. Call Dan at 937-426-9839 for more details.

'75 MGB, overheated last summer, and hasn't run or been driven since. Original car except for repaint in non original green. Stored inside since overheating. Car is in Cincinnati Contact Dave Davis at 513-271-9413

'79 MGB, Orange with black top, 70,000 miles, runs and looks good, dependable driver, car located in Loveland. Contact Carol Colclasure 513-683-1920, ext 504 or colclaca@loveland.k12.oh.us

Minutes Report July 28, 2004

Rich Cutright

8:05pm - The Secretary arrived fashionably late leading most members to think he was bringing donuts. However, that is an Executive Responsibility. Up to that point Jennifer Peterson filled in as ad hoc secretary and covered the proceedings. Based on the minutes she recorded one assumes that nothing happened.

President's Report – El Presidente reports that under his glorious leadership the BCD accomplished and broke the goal of 300 cars entered. Also, due to Fidel Hodgeriquez's divine guidance the club records 100 paid members. We will sorely miss El Presidente after the September overthrow.

Vice President's report – no news is good news.

Treasurer's Report – Reportedly in Grand Cayman.

Minutes – approved. Grudgingly. We will sorely miss the secretary, but will celebrate the return to the age of enlightenment after the September ousting.

Membership Report – Even without breaking a sweat El Presidente Sam manages to pull in the 101st paid member. It seems he's trying to influence the election with these last minute aces.

Sunshine Committee - Dick Goodman had surgery and is doing well. Joanne Zeno reports (through Ron Parks) that she is doing much better.

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Newsletter Report – Steve Markman thanks the contributing members for giving him the opportunity to put out a beefy newsletter. Lots of contributors with leftovers to save for the next newsletter. Keep ‘em coming!

Activities – Next year’s NAMGAR will be in Mackinaw City, and MG 2006 will be in Pigeon Forge. MG driving country fer sher!

Beer Break – called at 8:21pm, meeting reconvenes at 8:37pm.

Old and New Business – Big THANK YOU to Dick Goodman for hosting the MG(SWOC) Summer Picnic which was called a great success. Dick thanked the membership for being the perfect guest. The September Pub Run was planned for the 12th at Fox and Hound. New Member Ryan Pitts (‘77B) was introduced and Lois presented him with an Official BCD 20th Annual T-shirt. Motion was made (and carried) that extra newsletters should be made available to the public at MG Automotive. Jeff Opt suggested the Website could list Favorite Drives submitted by club members. The November meeting will be on the 3rd Wednesday in the Big Room. First Fryday of November is the Fish Fry.

Tech Tips – Lightening Rust, available at Greive Hardware from Ryan Pitts. Lightening Rust will attack and treat that nasty rust before it does too much Lightening of your car.

Gumball – Phil Johnson won the drawing and wasn’t even here for the traditional heckling.

Meeting Adjourned – 9:10 buh-bye

Summer Picnic

By Ron Parks

Many thanks go to Dick and Cathy Goodman for hosting the summer picnic again this year. It was a beautiful day on Sunday August 22nd and there was a good turnout as evidenced by the photos herein. By Carole Looft’s count there were 43 people and 22 MGs. Great food and drink! A good time was had by all.

A mystery car has become a tradition for Dick Goodman the last couple of years at the picnic and this year he had a real puzzler. It wasn’t a British car at all, actually. It was an American car that was assembled in England and spent most of its life in the South of Africa in what was then Rhodesia. It is a 1933 Chevrolet, 4 Door Convertible owned by Jim and Pat Tallman. Jim is in the photo with the car. Someone guessed Cavalier. No one else was even close. It was unbelievable how quietly and smoothly the car idled when Jim fired it up.

Joann Gribler’s MGB made its debut at the picnic, after body restoration, with new paint and interior. Joann had driven the car to NAMGAR’s summer event in Connecticut, but this was the first local club event for the car. You can see in the photo how happy she is with the results.

Photos From the Club Picnic

Thanks to Ron Parks for these shots, and a special thanks to Dick and Kathy Goodman for putting up with us yet another time.

