

# THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XXXIV No. 3

January 2005

Concours 2004 Rundown & Holiday Party Pictures

Steve's TD – The Adventure Continues

## From the President

Ryan Looft

I would like to start by saying I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday season. I would also like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hodges and the girls for hosting a wonderful holiday party. The food was all good and we had a great turn out of club members. Lots of laughs were had by everyone, especially seeing Dick Goodman put on Union Jack boxers and his daughter Cathy Goodman wearing an apron with an inflatable chest. I greatly enjoyed getting the 1 ½ liter of Heineken as my gag gift and as I have done before, I opened the bottle and starting drinking it so no one could take it from me. You just can't go wrong with beer as a gag gift. A good time was had by all and thanks again to the Hodge family. Now it will be my turn to host the next holiday party. Mom and dad, are you ready?

We have started a new year and already there are many activates planned. The next meeting will take place on

–Continued on Page 2 –



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, January 26, 2005**

## MG Car Club Officers

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## Inside This Issue

2	Upcoming Events
3	Concours D'Elegance 2004
5	Holiday Party Pictures
9	Minutes from November Meeting

## Upcoming Events

### Jan:

26 – Meeting (K of C Hall)  
28 – Fish Fry (K of C Hall)  
30 – Pub Run (Harrigan's)

### Feb:

12 – Valentine Party (Gribler's)  
23 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

### Mar:

23 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

### Apr:

27 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

### May:

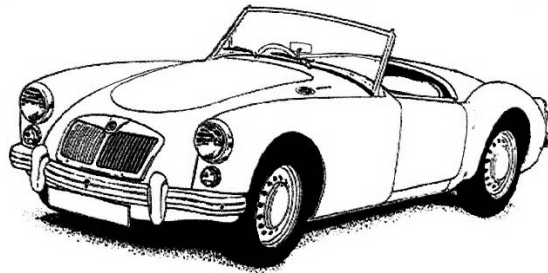
21 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual British Car Meet (2<sup>nd</sup>  
Street Market – Dayton)  
21 – 29 – Drive Your British Car Week  
25 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

### June:

5 – “The British Return to Ft. Meigs”  
Perrysburg, Ohio  
22 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

Wednesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, so be sure to attend because we will go over the currently planned events for the year. Coming up within the next month we will have the next Fish Fry on Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, at the Knights of Columbus hall. Our next Pub Run will take place on Sunday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at Harrigan's in Kettering at the corner of Marshall and Stroop. An added bonus; Harrigan's has Old Speckled Hen on tap so plan on meeting around 5:30ish to enjoy a few before dinner. The annual Valentine's Day Party will, again, be hosted by the Gribler's so plan on celebrating with your loved ones (man, woman, or car) Friday, February 12.

I am excited about this year's events and cannot wait for good weather to get the cars back out for the season. There will be several shows close to home, or if we want to get in the cars and drive, there will be several out-of-town shows as an excuse to enjoy a longer trip in the car. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting and get ready to drive this year.



## Welcome to Our New Members

Carole Looft

<p>Enoch &amp; Iaa Caudill 4381 S. Union Rd. Miamisburg, Ohio 45342 (937) 865-5221</p> <p>72 MGB GT</p>	<p>Brian &amp; Toni Hellwig 2726 Wildflower Dr. Springfield, Ohio (937) 390-2726 toni-brian@ameritech.net</p> <p>74 Midget</p>	<p>Roy &amp; Marlo Troughton 4404 N. Mallard Cove Mason, Ohio 45040 (513) 459-0844 L-1329@earthlink.net</p> <p>Roy &amp; Marlo are looking for a GOOD MG</p>
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## Concours d' Elegance 2004

By Ron Parks

The MG Car Club Southwestern Ohio Centre's participation in the Concours d' Elegance for the benefit of the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery has grown over the years. Besides providing Class Marshals and other workers for the event, the MG Car Club Southwestern Ohio Centre also sponsors the trophy for the European Sports Cars class. MG Car Club Southwestern Ohio Centre President Sam Hodges is pictured herein, presenting the trophy to this year's winner Andy Manganaro of Xenia, who topped the class with his red 1966 Ferrari 275 GTB. The Concours d' Elegance was held on Sunday September 19, 2004 at the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery in Dayton Ohio (see photos).



The following MG Car Club members participated in the show with their cars and some are pictured in this newsletter: Louie DiPasquele-1961 MGA & Triumph Spitfire, Joe Hooker-1953 MG TD, Gary Kinney- 1961 Rolls Royce Silver Cloud II, Steve Markman- 1950 MG TD, Tim Oricko- 1962 Chrysler 300, Ron Parks- 1974 MGB, Dar Planeaux- 1958 MGA (*Award of Excellence*) and Steve Powell-1949 MG TC.

In addition to MG Car Club's Skip Peterson Co-Chairing this event, many of our members have served as Class Marshals over the years since the inception of the show. This year's Class Marshals include: Tom Davis, Dave Estell, Kathy Goodman, Dick Goodman, Dave Gribler, Sam Hodges, Joe Hooker, Tim Oricko, Ron Parks, Rueben Wasserman, John Wolfe and Linda Wolfe. In addition, Bill Hammond handles the class trophy sponsorship program, helps with the awards the day of show, and is the main "Crisis Control" person on site. (Quote from Skip Peterson: "It means when we're in deep trouble, we ask Bill to dive in as needed.")



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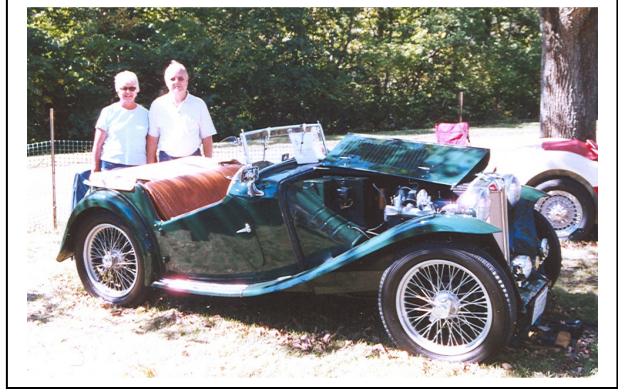


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## The Octagon News (January 2005)

Skip Peterson describes Ed Hill's involvement with the Concours d' Elegance as follows: "Fast Eddie" Hill was also in the wrong place at the right time a number of years ago, like year one, and organized the first "Parade of Winners". That on the fly plan has evolved, and is now a significant event at the end of the day. A few years back, we also lost our "Show Field Planner". Guess what? "Fast Eddie" has done British Car Day for years, and now he also handles the show field layout for the Concours. It should also be recognized that many of the class marshals give up part of Saturday before the event to help Eddie layout the show field, stuff goodies bags, pickup sticks and trash, run errands, and literally do anything they are asked.



The club's participation is much appreciated by the Concours d' Elegance committee and Skip Peterson in particular who is quoted as saying, "When I asked the club to help out with this event nine (9) years ago, little did I know what I was getting involved with in putting together the Concours. I knew the club could deliver, they always do, but I didn't realize what I was asking for. But, the members came through,



did more than we asked, and frankly, without their help, we wouldn't be able to pull off this show each year. No one group associated with the Concours has contributed anywhere near the amount of time and effort, not to mention the dedication, that the MG Car Club members have. The Concours Committee has come to count on the MG Club, their spirit of volunteer effort is key to the event's success, and it is truly appreciated. On a side note, at the end of a very long day, I've had plenty of participants complain about one thing or another, but I've never heard a complaint from a club member. That's pretty neat after they have worked a 10 hour

day for nothing but a shirt, hot dog and a car show!"

There is an informal MG car show within the Concours d' Elegance. Although we don't have a photo, several of the Class Marshals from the MG Car Club who happen to drive their MG to the event, usually park in a row across from the registration tent and attract some attention. And, why wouldn't they attract attention? They are some of the finest examples of MGs in the area or the country for that matter, after all!

As the MG Car Club's association with the Concours d' Elegance is evolving, Skip Peterson has asked me and I have agreed to coordinate the Class Marshals effort next year during the event. This will free Skip up for other duties as required and help insure that any and all needs of the participants are met promptly by the Class Marshal team.

The Concours d'Elegance is a fun event that I personally look forward to each year. If you haven't volunteered to work this event before, you might consider it next year. I say work--I guess you could



call looking at fine automobiles all day, talking about cars with old friends and making new friends, work? Anyway, it's a good time and it's for a good cause.

## Pictures From the Holiday Party

Photos by Ron Parks



Special thanks to the Hodges for hosting a great party!!!



# Steve's Carburetors...

## An Update...And the Adventure Continues

Steve Markman

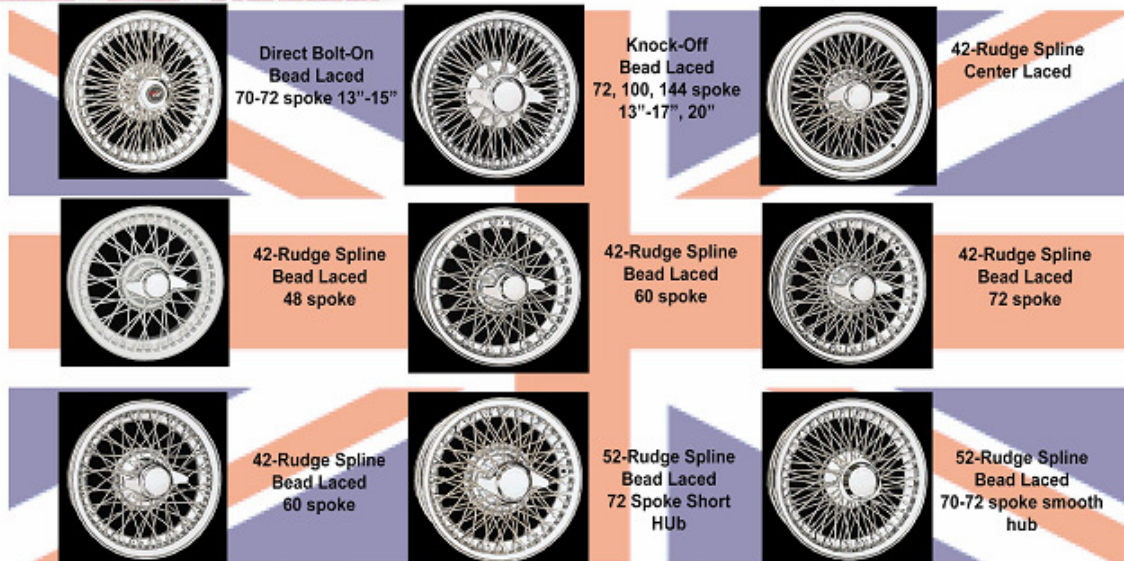
First the good news. I'm reasonably sure my sticky carb problem is solved. After the driving season ended, my first project was to paint the valve cover, right side of the engine, and the exhaust manifold. The paint job would be easier by removing the carbs, still attached to the intake manifold. Once they were off the car, I took this assembly back to MG Automotive and Steve Miller worked on them a little more. He said that all he did was open the carbs, then retighten everything, but he got the jets to retract fully and smoothly without binding (Recall that after driving a mile, I used to stop, pop open the bonnet, and manually retract the jets to the full lean position).

I got everything back together within a few days, fired it up, and drove through the neighborhood for ten minutes or so to make sure everything was working. I pushed the choke to the panel, and the carbs did indeed go to lean. Then, out on the country roads for a good run.

It ran great for another few miles until the engine just died. Dead. Nothing. I spotted a patch of gravel off the side of the road ahead and coasted to it. After stopping, I pulled the starter knob. The engine turned over but not a hint of a sputter. I lifted the bonnet and turned the ignition back on. No ticking from the fuel pump. I opened one of the carb bowls, and it was empty. (Say what you like about antique cars, but most problems sure are easy to troubleshoot!) I took the cap off of the fuel pump and tried my

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best to clean the points, to no avail.

About this time, someone came by and stopped. He didn't have a cell phone, but offered to drive me into Bellbrook, about a mile away. I hated leaving the TD by the road, but didn't have much choice. I called a tow truck and the good samaritan drove me back. He turned out to be a fireman/paramedic, and even insisted on buying me a cup of coffee so that I wouldn't be cold sitting in the car waiting. As if things weren't bad enough, the only other driver to stopped turned out to be my old friend and former co-worker, Bruce Clough, who also happens to be the president of the Triumph club! We've traded many jabs over the years. I had no idea he lived nearby, and he just happened to be off work that day. Since the truck was on its way, I told him I really didn't need any more help. The flat bed truck arrived shortly and we got the TD home safely. I don't think any of the neighbors saw our undignified return. AAA paid the tow, so at least I felt a little less bad.

Safely in the garage, I took a closer look at the pump. The points appeared to be in good shape. When I applied power, I noticed that the pump made one click, then stopped. Could the points be sticking? I tried a few dabs of oil on the pins, but no improvement. Could the inlet filter be clogged? I disconnected the fuel line from the tank, but the pump still gave only one tick when I applied power. The only other thing I could think of was the capacitor. Since it is there only to keep a spark from jumping over the points, I reasoned that the pump should work without it, but to expect to see a spark. Wrong again...still just one tick and a big spark over the points. At this point I was out of ideas. I contacted Dave DuBois in Bremerton, Washington, who overhauls SU fuel pumps, and sent it to him for repair.

More to follow.

## Classifieds

**For Sale:** 1949 MG TC, TC9690, This is a nice, clean driver. It is in excellent mechanical condition, and I estimate that the car has only covered 78,000 miles since new. Starts and runs well, with no issues or problems at all. The car is solid with good wood, has recent black paint, and the chrome is excellent. The interior is beige. The car was originally a home market car that was brought over from England in 1976. The car is complete with all accessories, such as original tool kit, jack, etc. Pictures are available upon request. \$17,500.00. Randy Kegg, 410-592-3733, or Randell\_Kegg@msn.com

**For Sale:** 61' MGA Roadster & a 76' MGB Roadster. The MGA is a basket case (fully dis-assembled), and is very rough. However, many parts are in good condition. This car could make a good project for



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## The Octagon News (January 2005)

the serious collector. I would be willing to part out the car or sell it as a whole. The car has been in my family for over 30 years. Unfortunately, rust caused the frame to break, but I do have a solid frame for replacement. The 76' MGB is also pretty rough, but it is solid, and could be restored easily. Contact Charles Falletta at cfalletta@sbcglobal.net

**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,

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## The Octagon News (January 2005)

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 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

## Minutes From November 17th, 2004 Meeting

Linda Wolfe

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m.

President's Report - Ryan reported that we had 12 members present for the Fish Fry and 31 attended the pub run at Quaker Steak & Lube. Louie's Spitfire was parked out in front. He took a little razzing for that.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

Dave Estell reported that we took in \$279 from memberships, \$1700 from BCD and \$86 from regalia for a total of \$2,065 income. Expenses were \$122 for printing the newsletter, postage and gumball rally. We also paid the K of C \$120 for the Fish Fry. Total expenses were \$142. Our new balance is \$3,567.

Skip Peterson reported that their MGA has gone out to be painted.

Carole Looft reported that we now have 69 members and she will print an updated list in the January newsletter. Phil Johnson brought a guest from Australia (Ken Kook). Ken told us a little about driving in Australia and the cost of fuel. They pay a lot more than we do.

Sunshine - Jennifer reported that Cory & Sara Cooper are expecting twins in May. Congratulations! They are also moving in April. Mary Oricko and Joanne Zeno still need out thoughts and prayers.

There will be no newsletter in December.

New Business: BCD is participant friendly and they are thinking about adding 8 classes and starting a Club Participation Award (MG & Triumph clubs will not be eligible). We need to add a club affiliation

## The Octagon News (January 2005)

blank on the application. Phil Johnson suggested that they think about a Hard Luck award. They would like to change the emblem and want the design to include a MGB and a TR2. Somebody wanted to know if they would have a class for painted wheels and we might need another quarter barrel.

Beer break at 8:35 p.m.

Our Holiday Party on December 11th at Sam & Diane Hodges was discussed. Directions were in the last newsletter and we had maps available at the meeting.

Bill Hammond gave Ron Parks a hand and Ron gave Bill a picture of an Auburn with blue wheels.

January 28th is the next Fish Fry. Please add this date on your calendar.

Dave McCann will put something together for our Spring Tour in northern Kentucky or Portsmouth.

January 23rd at 5:00 p.m. will be our next pub run at Harrigan's.

No meeting in December and Dave McCann won the Gumball Rally.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

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Steve's latest "Pet of the Month" picture was deferred to a later date thanks to so much input this month from Ron Parks. Keep up the great work!