
THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XXXV No. 11

September 2006

Pictures from Concours d'Elegance

Don't Forget to Renew Your Membership and Vote!

From the President

Skip Peterson

You're reading my 11th column consecutive column, and my last one for a while. I will say I've enjoyed my year as President, and there hasn't been a down side to any of it.

We've done a variety of things, but our trip to Gatlinburg was really the highlight.

We've maintained membership at over 100, British Car Day was a huge success, and as I write this, it's Monday morning after the 10th Discovery Concours d'Elegance. We had a number of members participate, a couple won Awards of Excellence, and we had a strong turnout of volunteers serving as class marshals, who have played an important role in this event for many years. I want to say thanks again to all of you who willingly give of your time to make many events outstanding. This is a group of DOERS! Not sure that's really a word, but it is now.

The next step is our September meeting. You have two



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 27, 2006

MG Car Club Officers

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Upcoming Events

September:

4 – Kettering Invitational (MG to be featured marque)
17 – Concours d'Elegance
27 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

October:

14-15 – Reliability Run
25 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

important things to do. First, pay your dues, which remain at the bargain price of \$18. And then, elect a new slate of officers to guide us into our 41st year. It isn't a tough task; slightly time consuming, but no headaches. We have no political infighting, no cliques, and no hassles. Just organize some car stuff and fun things and you're good to go. Consider running for office, and you too can sit at the front table, and be battered by barbs from the peanut gallery. Hell, that's half the fun. I also wonder what other clubs think when they read our minutes. I'll tell you one thing, they're a lot more interesting than those in some other club newsletters I receive.

Please also consider sharing any advice or tech tips you have with Steve Markman for the newsletter. He's

always looking for info to share and we can all use the help as we keep the little leaders on the road.

It's time for me to assume my role, as past president, I believe I'll win this election in a landslide. It's been both a pleasure and honor to be elected by you, and I will continue to be active. Mark your calendars for Saturday night, December 9th for our annual holiday party, which will convene about 7:30 pm. Jennifer and I are looking forward to seeing all of you, our friends, and would like you to help christen the new bar in the family room of the Peterson Estate.

Welcome New Members

Carole Looft

New members joining our Club in August were Keith and Bonnie Hankey. The Hankeys live in Harveysburg, Ohio and own a red 1973 Midget. Keith and Bonnie bought the car through an eBay auction from a fellow who lives in Cincinnati, and have been enjoying it for close to a year.

The car looks to be in good shape, but, as Keith will tell you, upon taking possession of the car, found it to be lacking in performance. \$1000 + later, the suspension has been replaced, seats redone, undercoating applied and a good tune up has been performed on the car. A good start on any project, don't you think?

Keith has acquired a spare engine and is taking a 'hands-on' course in teaching himself the workings of the Midget engine. His hopes are to someday try his hand at auto crossing this car.

We welcome you, Keith and Bonnie to our Club, and look forward to seeing the two of you (and your MG) at many upcoming events.



Welcome to new members Bonnie and Keith

Membership Renewal Time

Carole Looft

September is the month for membership renewals. Dues can be brought to the meeting or sent to:

P.O. Box 20032
Dabel Branch
Dayton, Oh 45420-0032

Renewals are again \$18/year. If you need to make any corrections or additions to the information we have on hand for you, drop a note along with your payment, and we will update our records.

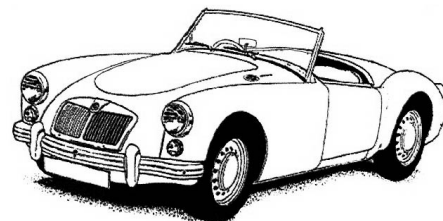
MG Featured Marque at Kettering's Holiday at Home

Steve Markman

Nine members of the MGCCSWOC showed their MGs at Kettering's Holiday at Home on Labor Day. Being the featured marque meant that we were parked on the street in full view, rather than being hidden in a parking lot with the rest of the cars. A few members won door prizes, but no one took home an award (all three awards were by popular vote, which always favors American muscle cars—no surprise there). On the great side, the weather was 70ish and overcast and we were parked on the shady side of the street, making it a perfect day for a car show. Lots and lots of visitors walked by, giving us the chance to rave about our love of MGs. Led by our president Sip Peterson and Jenifer, the delegation included Ron Parks, Louie DiPasquale, Steve and Helen Markman, Joe Hooker, Larry and Gloria Youngblood, Jim and Susan Conrad, Dan Juhl, and Ruben Wasserman.



MGs lined Lincoln Park Drive for Kettering's annual Holiday at Home Festival and were viewed by thousands of fairgoers. (I had to wait several minutes to get a picture of our cars without being blocked by all the people!)



Concours d' Elegance

Steve Markman

What a great day—temperature 80ish, blue sky, three member's cars on display, many members volunteering, and two awards (hope I didn't miss anyone)! Louie DiPasquale and James & Polly Turner had their MGAs, Steve and Jane Powell had their TC, and Steve Markman had his TD. Louis and Steve each took Awards of Excellence in their classes (Sports Cars through 81, Post War Classics, respectively). In addition, Joe Hooker's son Michael and his wife Tracey brought their Austin Healey from Toledo and took an A/E for the Premier 2005 class. I didn't count all the club members who volunteered to make the event such a success, but I kept running into them all day. Thanks for all your help! While only three club members' cars were on display, the club essentially had its own show off to the side, where about a dozen members' cars, mostly MGBs, were parked. The crowd viewing them often was as thick as the show on the main street itself. Thanks to all our members who helped make the show a success.



Louis DiPasquale with his Award of Excellence for his 1961 MGA



Steve Markman with his Award of Excellence for his 1950 MG TD.



Michael and Tracey Hooker with their Award of Excellence for their 1961 Austin Healey BT-7.



MGBs, all belonging to club members who were volunteering, created their own show.



Everyone's favorite stop, the Esther Price tent! They didn't mind my sampling for all the club members that didn't make the show.



Jennifer and Skip Peterson, hard at work, as usual. No smiles this time? That's because they were the ones hassling with all the last-minute crises so everyone else could have a great time.

Second-Most Favorite Hobbies

Talk about a few other great hobbies if you get tired of driving your MG seven days a week!! Larry McCart is a founder/charter/life member of the Miles Greenwood Historical Fire Apparatus Society, a chapter of the Society for the Preservation & Appreciation of Antique Motorized Fire Apparatus in America. (Miles G. was the first paid fire chief in the USA, in Cincinnati, Ohio). At one time Larry even owned his own 1923 American-LaFrance fire engine.



Larry and Fire (what else would the dog's name be?) sit in a 1920 Ford T Chemical fire truck built by the Prospect (OH) Fire Engine Co. Unfortunately, (or fortunately, maybe) this truck isn't Larry's, but belongs to the Chip Lytle collection of over sixty antique vehicles.

And, if driving MGs and antique fire trucks isn't enough, Larry helps maintain and operate the steam locomotives at Kings Island. The trains are live steam, narrow gauge copies of The General of Civil War fame, built in 1972 for Kings Island amusement park. They were custom built to order by the Crown Metal Products Co of Wyano PA. This is Larry's 7th season as



Larry helps operate and maintain both of the live steam engines that run at Kings Island amusement park in Mason, Ohio

a train engineer. And, if that still isn't great enough, it is a paying job no less, and Larry puts in around 50 hrs per week between during the peak season!! The trains operate at a speed of around 5-6 mph on one mile of track, transporting visitors between the main park and the water park area known as Boomerang Bay.

Classifieds

For Sale: MGA (year not specified). Total mileage not quite 40K, and only driven 1000 miles in last 4 years. Asking \$14K. Craig Allinson 703-926-9806 cell, or 540-751-1469 home.

For Sale: 1960 MGA. Black, hand-rubbed lacquer, red leather interior, tan rag-top. Good condition, but needs cleaning and tuning. Frame up restoration completed in 1983 except for the wire wheels. Currently stored in Marco Island, Florida. Looking for serious British car enthusiast, not just any "bloke". Asking \$20,000, but negotiable. Contact Carolyn Lee at 216-371-1135 .

For Sale: 74 MGB roadster. Green with tan interior, \$6200 (\$5800 or best offer to club member). Jim Cooley, 937-399-1834.

For Sale: 15 inch Mustang wheels that came on the rubber bumper B she bought from Ryan Pitts. Has the lug nuts and all. Vickie Gearhart, vsg626@aol.com.

For Sale: 76 B roadster. Body has been restored, interior is original and needs TLC. Runs well. Looking for \$5000 or best offer. Contact Ron Hall, 937-760-8172 (this is Skip Peterson's letter carrier, so it has to be a good deal).

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Wanted: I want to be an MGB owner! Looking for a 73-74 MGB Roadster in the Midwest area- will drive 250 miles from Kalamazoo, MI for the right car. Must be red color, driveable, and body in good condition. Flexible on interior and drive train. Will give it TLC and a good home. Finders Fee of \$100 paid to first referral that result in a successful purchase. Ed Boyer, Mattawan MI 269-668-7612 Email: edmaddog3@gmail.com

Looking For: Club member Vickie Gearhart is looking for a set of original wheels for her 77 MGB. Anyone with a set for sale, or who knows where there is a set, please drop her a note at Gearhart@oakwood.oh.us

For Sale: 77 MGB with 74 engine. Runs well. Nice body with red paint, black interior in good shape, needs some wiring work. Owner paid \$5000, put in over \$1000 in repairs, asking \$4500. Owner passed away and widow can't drive a stick / helping widow sell car. Contact Roy Owens at (937) 623-5772.

Looking For: MG TF. I'm not a dealer - personal use only. Jay Moszynski, Cambridge, Ontario, 519-650-3263 (home), 519-653-4482, Fax: 519-653-4637, Jo.Moszynski@wcdsb.edu.on.ca.

For Sale: '61 1600 MGA. Has been stored for the past three years and runs great. Wire wheels and a hard top. Only thing wrong is that the heater leaked while in storage and damaged the paint in the engine compartment. Asking \$5,500 as is, or an extra \$400 to have the paint fixed. Dave Frances (former MGCCSWOC member), 1625 SR 121 South, New Madison, OH 45346 (SW of Greenville), 1-937-996-0229, NFrances@bright.net.

MG Car Club Minutes, August 23, 2006

Sam Hodges

Meeting called to order at 8:06.

Skip then calls for a motion to approve the **Minutes** as reported in last month's newsletter. *It should be noted here that Skip commented on how "kind" I was in last month's minutes.* Louie DiPasquale made a motion to approve the minutes as reported. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report was next. Kathy Goodman is not here tonight, but we have checked and are pretty sure that she's still in town. Apparently she talked to Skip and claims that the numbers are about the same as last month. Linda Wolfe looked a little concerned and muttered something about, "...she'd better not have left without me!"

Next the topic of conversation turned to BCD. Someone asked if Dave Gribler was present, but it was pointed out that by Gribler-Time-Standard (GTS), it's still early.

President's Report was next. "Thanks to all of you for the work that you do for BCD and all your support." Jim Cooley, "Thanks to our fearless leader." Linda Wolfe, "Now might be a nice time to read the note I gave you." Skip, "Thanks to my Ed McMahon" *Of course it's at this point in time that everyone in the room starts doing their best Ed McMahon impersonation with a rousing chorus of "Hi-yo's..."* Apparently Linda received an email from the Shues (sp?) that thanked and praised the show and all that went on.



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To Terry “O'-King-of-the-grill” Looft, thank you very much. Not only is he the king-o-de-grill, but apparently he’s also pretty darn territorial about it as well. According to Jennifer P., Dar's wife Mary has been sucked into the park restaurant business even though I don’t think she knows yet... There was some criticism from the club member about the lack of a proper beer-trailer. Apparently there was some confusion and disorientation due to the “hidden” nature of the beer dispensing device that was present. *This of course begs the question, was it the lack of beer that caused the confusion and disorientation, or the presence of the beer that caused the confusion and disorientation...*

Parting shot about BCD: Anonymous, “What a great idea to invite the Miata Club.” Skip, “Invite?! I've got tow trucks coming...”

Vice President’s Report was next. Ron reported that he had received his judging sheets from the Coucours he entered in Gatlinburg. Apparently he scored 816 out of 1000 possible points on the scoring sheets. Turns out he was dinged for the things he likes the most, such as his steering wheel.

“This part of my report is for Louie.” Ron proceeded to pull out some colour samples and then held them up for all to see. “This is the color that my Triumph's going to be.” ...as he holds up a dark red card. *Wait a minute! Why are we wasting our newsletter space talking about his Triumph?! Besides, I thought we bought out the Triumph club when I gave one of them a stick of gum at BCD?!*

Concours d’Elegance. Ron is in charge of marshaling the class marshals. Concours is September 17 at the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery. If you’re a marshal, then you need to be there at 7:30 to get your information for the day. However, by the time you read this the show will be over and you will have missed it if you weren’t there, so that’s all I have to say about that.

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Comical interlude. Some poor guy wanders in and has a seat at the back of the room. The meeting goes on with our usual chit-chat, banter and Triumph bashing. Carole Looft goes over to get some information so as to introduce a new member/guest to the room. After a brief conversation with Carole, he gets up and leaves (*can't blame him with this group*). Turns out that he was looking for an AA meeting that was supposedly meeting across the street. *Isn't that like walking into a cage of hungry lions wearing a meat helmet?* Ironically, at this point in time, it's decided to call...

Beer Break - 8:25

8:43 - Back from beer break. Skip, "I thought that was a reasonable amount of time..."

Skip, "I missed the opportunity to say something earlier, but Louie, it's damn glad to see you back, and you're looking good, and for all the grief that we give you, it's only because we love you." Terry Looft, "You, not the car..."

Member-at-Large. Skip, "Where's our member at large? He's always moving..." Jeff reports that he has all of the 2004 newsletters uploaded to the website.

Membership is next. Carole Looft reports that as of tonight, we have 106 members. Present for tonight's meeting are new members Bonnie and Keith Hankey owners of a 1973 Midget. Bonnie, "We drive our Midget weekly." Peanut Gallery, "Wow, yours runs?" (*Did you not see that coming Bonnie? First rule of being in this club is that ANYTHING you say can and will be used against you – even if it's just "Hello".*) Keith, "Is there a question and answer session later?" Jim Cooley, "You might not like the answers." Other new members not present are John & Sue Koehl, 1971 MGB and Ken & Jill Waeber, 1964 MGB. Welcome to the club.

Carole reports that we're getting a lot of members from the southern part of town. "Is there a Cincinnati MGCC?" Skip, "No, they just have a British car club. See, Graham drives up from Cincinnati just to visit us. And as you can see, he's lonely tonight."

The next topic to come up was **Window Stickers**. It's time to re-order. Jennifer P. "What's wrong with you? All that hotdog money burning a hole in your pocket?" Graham, "Sometimes being a loner is alright."

Newsletter was next. Steve and his "I'm-going-to-rub-it-in" trip to Alaska were the topic of conversation for the next few minutes. (*Of course I'm jealous. He's cruising Alaska while I'm stuck here baking my brains out watching lazy teenagers play soccer poorly all in the name of supporting the kids!!!*)

Steve Powell, "I would like to see more articles like Dick Smith's." Hammond, "There's an article in this month's MG Enthusiast about the proper color of Rostyle wheels." (*You can always tell when someone has really made it big when they can go by just one name, Madonna, Sting, Cher...Hammond.*)

Our upcoming 40th Anniversary was the next topic. Apparently the Mother club has recognized that we are coming up on the big 4-0 and the topic of conversation turned nostalgic. The Smiths' and the Powells' are both original members of the club with the Wolfe's joining the second year. According to Dick, that first year there were maybe 20 members.



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Summer Picnic. Everyone bring covered dish. Club provides the beer trailer. (Wow! You didn't just miss this, you missed it by a LONG shot. It was the weekend after the last MGCC meeting. I don't know why I'm still writing...)

Fall Tour. (Yet again, something else you missed if you weren't there.)

October 7th. Graham has worked on the hotel. He and Ron P. have been drafted into service as the rally masters. The Best Western in Columbia KY. is the Hotel. Plan on a good 250 miles one way.

Jim Cooley's son has found out a way to make our badges into belt buckles. \$10.00 plus you supply the belt. Jim, "That makes a large belt buckle, but then again, we've got some large bellies."

New Business. Concours Sponsorship. The MGCC usually sponsors a class. Jennifer P. "We're going to pass on that..." Dave McCann, "Skip, Graham is looking smarter and smarter here as the night goes on..." Skip opens the motion \$200 to the Concours for sponsorship by the MGCC and the British Museum of Transportation. Louie D. firsts, Dave McCann and Gary Kinney jump in on the second. Motion approved.

Elections. Need not be present to win! Skip, "You can pay someone else's dues if you think that they might make a fine officer." (*Of course don't look for any kind of Christmas card from that person should you do that, and it WILL be reflected in the minutes just who paid who's dues.*) Steve Powell, "Is it over yet?" Eddie Hill. "I think we just heard a presidential nomination."

Club Awning. Jim Cooley wants it for a Boy Scout troop in Springfield. Skip wants to go ahead and donate it to the Boy Scouts. (*Somebody motioned - I missed it...*) Terry H. seconds. Motion passed.

Skip, "We have been given a few of the limited edition prints from MG Gatlinburg by Ken Smith of Moss Motors." Ryan, "I motion that we get one framed and hang it where the Pope is." Terry Happensack, "So where are we meeting next year..." Someone suggested that one of the framed prints could be a traveling trophy given to that years club President. Each President could sign it and pass it on to the next president. Charley McCamey, "What about the hole that would be there when it got passed on?" Terry Looft, "That's where the picture of the pope goes." *I don't think we voted on this, and if we did, I TOTALLY missed it...*

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Skip wants to start a silent auction and close it out at the holiday party and all the money will go to the charity of our choosing. Jim Cooley motioned, Phil Johnson seconded. Silent auction motion approved.

For Sale: 1960 Black/red MGA currently in Florida. Carolyn Lee 216-371-1135 - 2868 Washington Blvd. Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. You should have received an e-mail on this one.

Ruben Wasserman doesn't have anything for sale, instead, he has graciously donated 2 brand new walkie-talkies with batteries to the MGCC. Thank you, Ruben. On a similar note, Bob Charles has a thirty-cup coffee pot that the club can have as well. Thank you, Bob, as well.

Tech Tips. Peanut Gallery, "Phil, did your wife give you that black eye? Phil, "Wouldn't be just a black eye if my wife did it." Turns out that Phil was making an adjustment/repair to his garage door and when he went to adjust the bracket, he chose the wrong bracket. By accident, he had been working on the one with the spring attached. Moral - Don't screw around with your garage door. Apparently the spring sprang and, but for the fact that Phil was wearing glasses, almost took an eye with it. Phil got lucky in that he only walked away with the black eye.

Museum Update. September 10th is the open house at the museum (*yep, you missed that too...*). October 6th-7th is the Morris Minor Regional. Mark your calendars.

Gumball Rallye

- Left over BCD car wash packets - Given to the new members for showing up.
- Steering wheel cover - Jeff Opt, "Can I trade it for the cash?"
- \$5.00 - Graham Cooper.

9:29 adjourn.

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