

THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XXXVI No. 9

July 2007

Pictures From July 1st Pub Run

On the Road Again... with the Looft Family

From the President

Ron Parks

I have no weather comments this month other than it's been pretty nice. Terry, Carole, Ryan & Torey Looft, on the other hand, have encountered extreme heat, fog and Sand Storms on their way to California. Check out their updates and photos elsewhere in this issue for more details.

I was trying to come up with something new for this column; perhaps something more helpful or meaningful. So, I went to MGB Driver to read the Chairman's Chat and Vice-Chairman's Notes; to see what subjects they expound upon. What I found was that they do pretty much the same as I and past presidents of our club have done. That is to encourage member participation in events that bring us together to enjoy our cars and each other's company.

Soooooooo here goes. For those of us who did not travel out West for the MGB gathering in Sonoma Valley, California, or the MGA event in Whistler,



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, July 25, 2007

MG Car Club Officers

President.....**Ron Parks**
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Vice President.....**Dave McCann**
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Member at Large.....**Louis DiPasquele**
phone.....937-299-4089
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President Emeritus.....**Skip Peterson**
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Upcoming Events

July:

16-19 – National MGB – Sonoma CA
23-27 – National MGA – Brit Columbia
25 – Meeting (K of C Hall)
28 – BCD XXI Cleveland

Aug:

4 – British Car Day (Eastwood Park)
10-12 – University Motors Summer Party
22 – Meeting (K of C Hall)
26 – Picnic at the Goodmans'

Sep:

16 – Concours d'Elegance (Carillon Park)
26 – Meeting (K of C Hall)

British Columbia, there are lots of things to keep us and our MGs busy, right here in Ohio. As you're reading this, the Cincinnati British Car and Cycle show is history. I trust several of our members came home from Cincy with awards. Our Pub Run on July 1st was well attended as evidenced by the photos herein. I believe a good time was had by all! Yet to come is the Cleveland show on Saturday July 28th and our very own Dayton British Car Day on Saturday August 4th. So, as the cruise line commercial says: "Get out there!"

See you at the meeting.

Welcome New Member

Steve Roselle
2360 Fauver Ave
Dayton, Ohio 45420
(937) 253-3911
sgroselle@webtv.net
'79 Midget

DiPasquele, Markman Take Trophies at Americana Festival

Three club members participated in this year's Americana Festival on July 4th in Centerville: Joe Hooker, Louie DiPasquele, and Steve Markman. About one hundred cars lined Far Hills Ave, and the weather even participated by numerous scattered showers missing the display area repeatedly throughout the day. Louie DiPasquele took first place and Steve Markman took third place in the imports category.



Fairgoers admire Steve Markman's MGTD, Louie DiPasquele's MGA, and Joe Hooker's MGTD on display at Centerville's Americana Festival.

Pictures from July 1st Pub Run at Rusty Bucket

Ron Parks



The Loofts are always on a Pub Run



Are those Cadillac fins on Looft's Trailer?



Hammonds and McCameys



Loofts and Estells. Emm! The beer is good!



What, Old Blue wouldn't start?



What's Terry got under the hood that's so interesting, a fantastic set of chrome Hooters (Carbs)? He *does* rebuild his cars with some remarkable extras

Latest on the Looft Family Trip to NAMGBR 2007 in Sonoma, California

Terry Looft

7/8/07 - Good (but hot) trip so far. In Liberal KS tonight, to the top of Pike's Peak tomorrow. Cars running good but did have a blow out on a trailer tire.

7/9/07 - Witch way did the GPS say to turn? Lost in Kansas, (kind of). Those formations are chalk in Western Kansas, shoot up about 70'. Got to Co.Springs late. Pike's Peak tomorrow early.

So far so good.

7/10/07 - Not much of a drive to Pike's Peak. The fog was so bad you could not tell where the gravel road started and ended. We soon had to turn back but did make it to the 11,000 foot mark. My car is not liking the heat, Carole and I both had the cooling fans quit at one point and had to do some roadside work. I also had to replace a rad hose. Made it to Grand Junction tonight, tomorrow we hope to be well West of Salt Lake City. WX people are calling for 100s tomorrow (just like today) so it will be another hot one.

7/12/07 - Just a quick note, it's late here. Made it to NV after dark, night trip through the salt flats. Only three break downs today, Torey's car, the third car to give in to the heat (yes that picture is of cruise temp) his heater valve let go and filled the distributor with coolant. Changed the valve on top of a mountain, sure wish I packed those stubby wrenches. The other two were that damn trailer, another blow out and the axel repair let go again. Are we having fun yet? Tomorrow night Reno! Anyone want to place a bet?



Made it out of Dodge before sundown!



Chalk formations in western Kansas.



Driving up Pike's Peak in the fog.



107.3. That's the temperature, not the FM station!

Tech Tip

(from Steve Miller, MG Automotive, so you know it's a good one!)

Ron Parks

I went into MG Automotive the other day to pickup my brake light switch for my MGB that I had ordered a couple of days earlier. I commented to Steve Miller that I hope this switch lasts longer than the previous two had. He said, "Yah, I sell a lot of these." He went on to explain that many times people screw the switch in too far, which places excessive pressure on the internal workings of the plunger part of the switch. This switch works backwards from what most people would think (editor's note – it *is* British!). When the plunger is depressed the brake lights are off. When the brake pedal is pushed, the top of the pedal releases pressure on the brake light switch, turning the brake lights on. Steve recommends screwing the switch in just enough for the brake lights to turn off, no more. This way the brake pedal is not constantly bottoming out the switch and putting excessive stress on the electrical part of the plunger. This should make the switch last a lot longer.

Classifieds

For Sale: 65 MGB roadster. White with black interior and wire wheels. Includes hardtop and extra parts. Engine and tranny rebuilt. Solid car, an 8 mechanically, a 4 or 5 cosmetically. Needs some work but runs and drives well. Owner has run out of time and space. Price is negotiable. Owner is looking for someone to save the car, not part it out. Will provide photos by e-mail. Contact Bryan Fite at angus@donet.com.

For Sale: 76 MGB Roadster. Dark blue, solid, no rust, new tires. brakes. For, pics, details, price, etc, contact whammond@woh.rr.com bill (937)434-9967

For Sale: MGB LE, G. Dale Packer, 2624 Sungale Court Lexington, KY 40513, 1-859-967-6888, dale.packer@insightbb.com

For Sale: 1965 AH Sprite owned since 1973 and always garaged, new tires, owner was a professional bodyman and had taken the sheet metal off to restore, most panels restored and some new. Located in Troy, OH. Call Ken Keirsch at 937-339-0487.

For Sale: 1979 MGB LE (Black). Purchased 7 years ago. Garaged since the purchase. At that time, new tires, battery, seats recovered, etc. Since the purchase, new breaks, alternator, battery, rebuilt the carburetor, new rocker panels installed, renovated the interior with carpeting, and other small repairs that were needed, both to the body and engine. Frame has rust on it, both doors showing signs of rust, and a little fender rust. Electrical system needs work or just cleaned up. Runs well. Have had my fun, would like to sell. Car located in Lexington Kentucky. Asking \$2000. G. Dale Packer, 1-859-967-6888 or E-Mail dale.packer@ymca.net or dale.packer@insightbb.com.

For Sale: 1976 MG Midget, approximately 50,000 miles, new top, new tires, new paint and in great shape. \$3,200. Xenia, 937-376-4350 or 937-266-4351.

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For Sale: 1977 MGB, Yellow/gold color. New left front shock; tune up; hand brakes repaired; new radiator hose and some other things. Approximately 89,000 miles. I'm asking \$7200 OBO. Paul Webb, 937-778-8615.

For Sale: 1973 MGB. Very original. Blue with black interior and tan top. Very nice condition. Rebuilt engine. Always kept in garage. Must see to appreciate. \$7000. Call Rob Pence, 937-435-4980 or 513-425-9598.

For Sale: 1979 MG Midget. Butter Scotch – Yellow. 36K + miles. Solid Body, nice shape. New top and tires. Runs Well. Asking \$6500. Car may be seen in Huber Heights. Call Ken Bender at 937-845-3450.

For Sale: 1971 MGB GT. Asking \$4500. 937-426-4698.

Wanted: Original aluminum hard top for the MGB V8. E-mail Jim Cole at championcsa@aol.com or call (541)261-2603.

For Sale: 1974 MGB convertible. This car has less than 16,000 original miles and all of the original bells and whistles. The original paint is red and the leather upholstery is black. The body is in perfect condition as well. This car sat in an old lady's garage in Murfield, OH for years and came into my father's possession by chance. If interested, my mother is asking \$7,000 or best offer. The car can be seen in Vandalia by contacting Mae Cohen at 898-5365.

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 enthuse-iaist, 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

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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.

MG Car Club Minutes, June 27, 2007

Diana Hodges

8:04 Meeting called to order.

President's Report: President Parks, "So many events, so little time... I'll be leaving July 27 for the Cleveland British car show." Anyone interested in traveling to that show, see Ron for more information/details.

We have some residue from the Ft. Meigs show. Charlie McCamey won an Award of Excellence. Ron got one just like it and Mike Hooker took a first place award for the Austin Healey 3000. Dave McCann, "Hey Ron, how much did you have to pay for yours?"

Spring Tour: Great job Linda and John. We saw tons of King Midgets. Apparently there was a gathering of King Midgets in Marietta the same weekend.

At this point, Dick Smith came in and reported that it's raining out... Jim Cooley ran... Terry Looft, "Top's up on the Lexus..."

The King Midgets were originally assembled in Athens Oh. Apparently, according to reports, there was/is a hill that they tested the cars on. If it made it up the hill, then it was okay to sell.

John Zeno called Ron. John wants another Buckeye tree to go with the one that he has. According to Ron, he wants to put another tree out there for his son to go with the one planted for JoAnn.

Ron reports that if you get a chance to drive the Ohio Tale of the Dragon, do so.

Vice President's Report was next. The Ohio trip was great. He had a great time on the Ohio Tail of the Dragon. The group stopped at Big Muskie. There's a photo of them standing in the shovel. Apparently, he put about 430 miles on the car Sunday.

There was one slight detour that ended up at a covered bridge. There weren't any stop signs for about 45 miles, but somehow there were 3 covered bridges.

While in town, Ron and Bob saw a Midget across the street. Terry L. "I think they prefer little people..." Apparently the owner was having a problem with the Midget and Bob was actually able to solve the problem.

Minutes Report was next. There were *several* corrections to the minutes. Most of it centered on the information pertaining to the show at the Second Street Public Market. Ron won something, Dick Goodman didn't have his T-series car, Charlie and Skip also won something or another... As our group Secretary was *ACTUALLY* at the meeting this evening, all inquires, comments, complaints and rotten



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eggs were directed at her. Bob Charles motioned to accept, Dick Goodman seconded, Eddie Hill opposed. Minutes approved.

Treas. Report was next. Apparently Ron suggested last moth that our Treasurer should give the report in English Pound Sterling instead of dollars and cents. THEREFORE, this months report was given by Graham “*Prince of Pence*” Cooper in pounds, schillings pence and quid. “I’m going to try to do the report with an English accent if I can...”

The starting balance of the club was £647, 2 schillings and 9 and one ha’penny. **Income:** From Membership Dues income was £12, from Regalia £15, 10 shillings for a total income to the club of £27 10 shilling. **Expenses.** Total expenses from Flowers for Gary Kinney were £31 and 2½d (pronounces “tuppence-ha’penney”), from Badge Magnets, £44, 15 shilling, from the Trailer Stickers £7, 14 shillings and 1¼d (pronounced “pence one farthing” – *I think*) from Gumball £2, 10 shilling, from Hall Rental fees £22, 10 shillings for a total expense from the club of £109, 9 shilling and 3¾d (pronounced “three penny bit, three farthing”). This, when subtracted from the previous balance leave the club with a balance of £566, 3 shilling and 7¼d (*I don’t have a clue what he was talking about!*) Secretary’s Note: At the time of this writing the current currency exchange rate is £2.0344 = \$1.00. After a round of applause, Jim Cooley motioned to accept the report. Dick Goodman seconded, Eddie Hill, “I couldn’t if object I wanted to...” For those of you not at the meeting, it was a work of art.

Membership was next. Steve Roselle is the new member. He owns a 1979 Midget and his joining the club brings the total membership count up to 107.

Sunshine Committee was next. Jennifer’s not here (*again- another trip top L.A. perhaps!?! You and Lois, who wasn’t here as well, out running the streets?!?! We want to know who’s well, who’s sick and who should be committed – other than me!!!!!! Rant Over!*). Joe Hooker just got back from Alaska. Joe, “I wouldn’t have gone if I didn’t feel good.” Apparently, former member Matt Schneider is in therapy over at Heartland in Beavercreek. He’s had some leg problem – water retention, blisters, swelling, etc.

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They wrapped his legs and then his arms swelled up. He couldn't walk for three weeks. It came on gradual and it got to the point where he had to do something. Your thoughts and prayers are welcome. Tim Oricko called. Apparently Mary collapsed at a store. After taking her to the hospital and examining her it was determined that she's going to need a pacemaker.

Newsletter was next. Steve couldn't be here tonight but he does want you all to keep the articles coming.

Jim Cooley reported that there's a place in Springfield that rebuilt his shocks and it'll now run the B's off the road. (*I've seen you drive Jim and it's not the car...*) Louie, "My Spitfire will beat ya..." Oddly, no one commented on that comment.

Activities were next.

June 29-July 1 – British Car Show Down at Mid-Ohio

July 4-7 – New England MGTF Register

July 14 – London – Brighton in Indiana

July 15 – Cincinnati BCD

July 16-20 – NAMGBR in Sonoma

July 21 – COMGO Summer drive in Wilmington

July 21 – Aug __ National meet of Jag owners in Indianapolis

July 23-27 – Whistler

July 27-29 – Amphicar Swim-In Celina

July 28 – BCD Ursuline College Cleveland.

Terry Happensack would a more extensive list of the activities going on. Dave Gribler, "Sounds like we have a volunteer." Skip, "Yeah, you can work with Rueben." Linda Wolfe, "All in favor say aye..." No one opposes, congrats, Terry, you're now in charge of coordinating with Reuben to make a more extensive listing of British car interests in the Miami Valley region. (*Is it that you can't learn, or you won't learn?*)

*When will you
people learn
not to bring up
new ideas –
unless of
course you
WANT to be
responsible
for its
gestation!?!)*

Terry Looft reports that at the August 9-11 University Motors Summer Party in Grand Rapids event our beer trailer will be there.



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Louie motioned for Beer Break, Terry Looft seconded. Beer Break at 8:35
Back from break at 8:57 – Long break...

Old Business

Window decals are still available.

Sweat shirts are available.

Name tags - we're fine

Grill badges are okay. Antenna flags are running low, now we can't get them \$5.00 (£10, 17 shilling...).

Concours is scheduled for September 16th. Mark your calendars. Class marshals are always welcome. If you did it before, check your e-mail, Ron's already sent you a request to do it again. Skip, "To all of you who have been class marshals in the past, thanks."

This year there will be a Car Chorale. Each club will be parked under the trees at the park. Different clubs can have their own chorale, right now we've got Corvettes, Pontiac and Porsche committed. BMW and hopefully MGB will also have chorales.

The "**Supplies**" trailer went to Florida and is going to Michigan. Its losing air sitting parked, Terry Looft thinks it might need new tubes. We're going to need to do some bodywork at some time in the future. We might need to plan a work day to keep it looking fresh. Basically, we just don't want it to start showing its age. Jim Cooley reports that his son has a metal shop that might be able to help us out. We've decided to hold off on the lettering, and we're planning on making it an official ceremony at BCD. If we're going to do some bodywork, we might want to wait to put on the stickers. Carole Looft, "Why don't we just scotch tape it on?" Skip, "I went through all of that and that stickers not on yet!!"

British Museum. There's a building in downtown Dayton that's close to the K of C hall that has great potential. The location and price are right, so we're hoping to get that building as the new home for the museum. A 1950 MG YA sedan is the newest acquisition. Darkish almost black two-tone. A Jag XKE is currently being pursued by the museum as well - might not happen, but we'll see.

Skip had a certificate made up for Roger James of D&D classics "...in appreciation of..." Ron will have it framed and deliver it to Roger and D&D.

New Business.

Bob Charles checked on Phil's V6 conversion and it's looking like a real top-flight piece. V6 Camaro engine and a Mustang 5-speed. There are no modifications to the car at all - it can go back to stock if need be.

Peggy Pareaseau would like to know who owns Tony's old MGB (Gary Kinney's bought it from Peggy) because Peggy's daughter would like to buy the car back. Joe Hooker thinks he might know who has it now. Jim Cooley, "The first guy that I ever met was Gary Kinney. He was a great guy that brought me into the club." (*So THAT's who we have to blame!*)

Jennifer Peterson shows up at 9:20...

Caravan to Cincinnati BCD. We're meeting at the TGIFriday's on St. Rt. 725 at 9:00 on July 15th for those going.

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For Sale:

Dick Goodman still has the chrome badge bar but now it's free for whoever buys the four LE wheels with tires.

Jim Cooley specifically wants Mike Edgerton to know about a BRG 1970 MGB for sale. "I'll make a deal to anyone who wants to get into an MG, Mike" Skip, "Buy here, pay here? Bring in a pay stub?" Terry Happensack, "Push, pull drag, even a Triumph?" Kathy Goodman, "We almost made it through the meeting..."

Pres. Parks, "My stop light switch stopped working again." Terry L., "I sold you that switch... the warranty's gone..." Ron got another new one and apparently the key is to not screw the switch in too tightly. Steve Powell has an Oldsmobile part number for an Olds part that is a very good replacement. He has the part number if you need it.

140 weight oil for transmissions and rear ends is available from Carquest by the gallon for the T-cars that use that oil. Skip, "Castrol High mileage 20w50 works great in his car. Its stopped leaking as much as it used to. *(I've been using that same oil in my cars for a while now and I'm quite pleased with the performance.)*

Gumball Rallye – Terry Looft, "I want to be paid in dollars." Joe Hooker won.
Bob Charles brought in a coupon book that we're raffling off. Terry Happensack won.

9:40 Jim Cooley motioned to adjourn. Terry Looft seconded.
Eddie H opposed. I think he's still there...

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Note – This is for Dayton BCD,
despite the Loveland address!

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British Car Day 2007 Registration

Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

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Yr./Make/Model _____ Class _____

Club affiliation _____

Advance registration (includes free t-shirt) \$10.00 _____

Deadline: Must be received by July 20, 2007

t-shirt size S___ M___ L___ XL___ XXL___

Additional t-shirts (day of show \$12) \$10.00 _____

S___ M___ L___ XL___ XXL___

Vendor registration \$15.00 _____

Total _____

Make checks payable to: British Car Day 2007

Mail to: BCD 2007, 1754 Lindenhall Dr. Loveland, OH 45140-2120

Neither I, nor my heirs, will hold the Miami Valley Triumphs; The MG Car Club, Southwestern Ohio Centre; Five Rivers MetroParks, or any other sponsors or persons associated with this event, liable for any personal injuries or any damages done to me or by me, my party or my car, while engaged in this event or while traveling to or from this event.

Signed _____ Date _____