

THE OCTAGON NEWS

Volume XXXVII No.5

March 2003

More New Members!

Minutes From February Meeting!

From the President

Ron Parks

Happy St. Patrick's Day! I don't know what I'll use for an introduction for my President's column when we hit a month that doesn't have a Holiday!

Getting itchy to get that MG out of the garage? I am and I've talked to several others of you who are also suffering from MG winter withdrawal. It won't be long now. Getting the MG on the road is just past getting the Income Tax filed for me. Actually, I hope to get my MG on the road and back to the body shop next week to have my deer strike damage repaired.

The club's web site is taking shape. Most of the items listed on the left side of the web page are not currently active, we'll add more information each month as we go forward. Go check it out at www.mgcars.org.uk/mgcswooc.

Don't forget the fish fry on Friday March 28th. This is the last fish fry of the season. We had a good turnout of MGers at the last one and that makes it nice. We can spread the work around and no one has to work a long shift.

See you at the meeting on March 26th.



North American MGB Register

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 Linda Wolfe 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 Mar 26, 2003

MG Car Club Officers

- President.....Ron Parks**
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 mail.....mgdriver@woh.rr.com
- Vice President Linda Wolfe**
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- Treasurer.....Dave Estell**
 phone.....513-459-0155
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- Member at Large.....Skip Peterson**
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- President Emeritus.....Terry Looft**
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WebPage.....www.mgcars.org.uk/mgcswooc

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Upcoming Events

MAR:

15 - St. Patrick's Party (Gribblers)
26 - Meeting (K of C hall)
28 - Fish Fry (6:00 K of C hall)

APR:

12 - Tune-up clinic
23 - Meeting (K of C hall)

MAY:

4 - British Swap Meet & Car Show
(Independence, Oh)
28 - Meeting (K of C hall)

JUNE:

1 - British Car Show – Perrysburg
19-22- MGB Register – St. Louis
25 - Meeting (K of C hall)

JUL:

23 - Meeting (K of C hall)
27 - All Ohio Meet – Columbus

AUG:

2 - BCD – Dayton Metro Parks
10 - Picnic (D. Goodman's)
27 - Meeting (K of C hall)

Meet our Newest Members!

By Carole Looft

Ken & Lois Elrich
7159 Westfall Dr.
Dayton, Ohio 45414
(937) 890-4510
kelrich@who.rr.com

Ken and Lois are so new that we don't even have a bio or pictures to print. They own a 1973 Midget. Welcome to the club!

From the MG Bulletin Board

...the question:

On start up from cold the tappets on my 51 TD clatter away for about a minute or so until the oil reaches the top end and quiets things down to normal. Oil pressure is a pretty good constant 50psi dropping to about half that on idle. So far so good except the tappets still rattle!! Your thoughts will be very much appreciated.

...the replies:

My car does this as well and always has since I have owned it. I thought that it was pretty normal and have never worried about it. It just takes a little time for the oil to get up there and down the push rods to the cam followers. Hope I'm right.

I would suspect worn rocker shaft bushings along with a worn shaft. This will lower the oil pressure reading considerably. FYI. MG's do not leak oil, they just mark their territory. I never start my TD until I have cranked the engine with the key off. I pull on the starter cable until I have a oil pressure reading on the gauge. Then, I turn key to "on," let the carbs fill and start the engine. This always gets oil to the upper engine and tappets. My rocker arm tappets also are a little loud until the engine warms up. I've always thought of this in a MG engine as music. MG's just sound different than Ford V8's or Chevy's Hope this helps.

All engines with solid valve lifters clatter on startup because the cold valve clearance is greater than the hot clearance by several thousandths of an inch. So they always "tap" a little when cold. As soon as the engine heats up and the valves expand longitudinally the "taps" should mostly go away. Oil has very little to do with the tappet noise. (unless you don't have any).

MG Car Club February Minutes

Sam Hodges

MG Car Club Southwest Ohio Centre. February 26, 2003 Meeting, Minutes Report

8:05 – President Ron Parks calls meeting to order.

Pres.’ Report. Ron reports that the renewal form for the NAMGAR membership came in last month and that it would be mailed out this month.

According to a letter received by Ron from our insurance company, we now have coverage for acts of terrorism. Even though the letter stated that we did not have to pay for this coverage now, it implied that we might have to pay for it in the future (*who didn’t see that coming*). The Club decided that this needs to be investigated further and while Skip Peterson was out of the room, *in traditional MGCC style*, we nominated him to head up the investigation. Good Luck Skip! *By the way, next time, don’t take a smoke-break in the middle of the meeting...*

MG2003 St. Louis was again discussed. So far, there are two groups heading down. The Loofts are leading one group that’s planning on leaving on Wednesday. There is another group, leaderless at this point, that’s planning on leaving on Thursday.

Vice Pres.’ Report was next. Linda Wolfe stated that she was glad the weather was getting better but otherwise, she didn’t have anything new to report.

Minutes of the last meeting were next. Louie DiPasquele made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. This was seconded by Bill Hammond. The Club voted, the motion was passed. John Zeno opposed claiming that statements in last months minutes were slanderous. (*I wonder what I said...?*)

Treasurers’ report was next. February has been a slow month. There was \$126.00 in membership that came in, \$1.75 in bank interest. This leaves the Club with a balance of \$2,478.05 for the month of February. There

were no other expenditures for the month. Skip Peterson made a motion to accept the Treasurers report. Joe Hooker seconded. The motion carried, Treasurers report was approved. John Zeno did not oppose.

Membership report was next. There are currently 77 paid members. No new members reported this month.

Sunshine Committee was next to report. We *think* everyone is okay. One member of the committee (*I won’t mention any names here Jennifer*) was too preoccupied with a televised basketball game to come and give the report... JoAnn Zeno is doing fine. She has regained her appetite after having chemotherapy treatments. We all wish her well in her continued recovery. Tim Oricko is also having some procedures done so we wish him luck, success and a safety fast recovery.

Thanks to Steve Markman for the **Newsletter** were again expressed. (*You really ought to try to make it to the St. Patrick’s Day Party if not the next meeting.*)

The St. Patrick’s Day party was next discussed. The party is scheduled for March 15, 2003. By the time you read this, a good time will have already been had by all.

Activities were next. There is a plethora of shows being held this summer. Tim Oricko and Joe Hooker are the contacts for more information on these events. Some of the highlights are the Easton Town Center show in Columbus on May 17, 2003, the All Ohio meet on July 27, 2003 and “Drive Your British Car to Work Week” May 25-June 6, 2003.

Old Business was next. The Website was discussed. The web address has been shortened to www.mgcars.org.uk/mgccswoc. (*I’ve checked it out and it’s definitely worth a hit. Keep in mind that it’s a work in progress if you do take a look.*)

8:35 BEER BREAK was called

8:49 Meeting called back to order

New Business was next. Skip P. brought up the fact that custom embroidering of the MGCC loco on almost any type of apparel can be accomplished. The cost for this is \$5.50 for the

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embroidery plus whatever item you wish to have embroidered.

The next Fish Fry is scheduled for March 28th at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Plan accordingly.

This years Tune-up clinic was next discussed. Unfortunately, Matt Schneider is not staying with us here at the MGCC. Since his home was the site of the past several tune-up clinics, the Club needed to find someplace new for this year's tune-up clinic. Fortunately, Steve Miller of MG Automotive has offered his shop as a possible site. After the typical discussions, the club decided that in order to work around Steve's racing schedule, the tune up clinic will be held on **April 12, 2003** starting around 9:00 a.m. Bill Hammond made a motion to approve this date and to have the club buy coffee and donuts for the event. John Zeno seconded. Motion carried and approved. John Zeno did not oppose. Thanks to Matt Schneider for his many years of hosting this event and thanks to Steve Miller for opening up his doors for this years' (and possibly future) events. (*Assuming that we don't break too many things or make too much of a mess...*)

Concours de Elegance was next. Packard, Studebaker and MG will be the featured marks. There will be 3 classes for MG – Pre-war, Post-war and MGB, so start polishing now if you think you've got a chance. Linda Wolfe motioned that the MGCC buy all 3 of the class trophies for the Concours. This would give the Club the right to present the trophy, the Club logo on the trophy and we get to keep any Triumph owners from sponsoring MG's! Fred Shaneyfelt seconded motion. Motion carried and approved. John Zeno did not oppose.

Pres. Parks motioned that the MGCC make a donation to the British Museum. Louis DiPasquele moved that the club donate \$200.00. Betty Shaneyfelt seconded. Motion carried and approved. John Zeno did not oppose.

There is a picnic tentatively scheduled for August 10th at Dick Goodman's in Beavercreek. British Car magazine was bought out by Grassroots Motorsports. The club needs to check and see if this will effect the advertisements which had previously been run in the magazine.

FOR SALE:

John Wolfe has 20 years of Road & Track Magazine for sale. Linda says that she wants her house back and they have to go! Contact John for more info. There was some mention of the British Car Museum wanting them, so act fact if you want them for yourself.

Robert Charles has 5, 60 spoke, painted, 14 inch wire wheels with 4 knockoffs that will fit an MGB.

Gumball Rallye was next. New member Dar Planeaux won.

9:17 p.m. Linda Wolfe made motion to adjourn meeting. Joe Hooker seconded. Technically the meeting never really ended since everyone was out the door before anyone actually voted on whether to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Classifieds

FOR SALE: '49 M.G. TC; primrose/biscuit: '54 M.G.TF cream/red: both are very accurate older restorations complete in every detail plus ! '52 M.G.TD green/green, original except for top. Needs NO restoration! M.G.A red/black; fresh painstaking restoration. Inquiries to: blakatgal@aol.com or 513-539-7406

Bob Higgins. is selling his 77 MGB. He says that it is in excellent condition and has been a great car but he has to sell it. It has 29,000 original miles, has always been garaged and has new wheels and tires. Asking \$7,300.00. He can be contacted at (513) 988-0682 or (513) 317-2011. He also sent a picture which will be at the next meeting.

Looking to buy an MGB. Please contact Ray Flanagan, Cleveland Ohio, Tel.440-236-3985

'79 MGB for sale from second owner of the car, which is all original. 21775 original miles, pageant blue and in excellent condition. There is a small dent on one fender. Ron Hilen of Hilen Classic Cars appraised the car at \$8500, which is the asking price. Located in Troy. Susan Fogt, 937-339-3232.