



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MGs of BALTIMORE MD

March 2020

www.mgsofbaltimore.org

From El Presidente:

A big thank you from the club goes out to Steve & Tina Sharpe for hosting the 23rd Annual MGOB Chilly Run. Steve's new garage and Tina's house are really nice, a perfect place for a party. Look for Kathy's write-up on the event including the winners and photos in this issue of the Octagram.

The Capital Triumph Register will have their Annual Britain on the Green at Gunston Hall, in Lorton, VA on April 26th – for info and registration go to <u>www.britainonthegreen.com</u>

The 31st Annual "Get the Dust Off" Rallye is set for Sunday, May 3rd. This year's rallye will start and end at the DeJon Vineyards, located at 5300 Hydes Road, Hydes, MD 21082. Cars assemble starting at 10:30 a.m. for more information checkout the flier in this issue of the Octagram or on line at <u>www.mgsofbaltimore.org</u>

We have agreed to participate at the Monumental Brewing Company's British Invasion Festival on Sunday, May 17th, 2020 from Noon until 4 p.m. at their brewery/pub located at 1 N. Haven St. Baltimore, MD 21224. There will be a car show with prizes for the top three cars, live British Invasion music, food is available next door. Checkout their website at <u>http://www.monumentcitybrewing.com</u> I hope to have a promotional poster and additional information soon. By the way, members that bring a British car will receive a wristband for discounted beer. No change since last month.

43rd Annual Original British Car Day is schedule for Sunday, June 7 at Serra Valley Farms located at 5601 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, MD 21771. The event flier will be out soon.

TRAC's Annual Brits by the Bay is scheduled for June 28th, 2020 at the Harford Winery, Forest Hill MD. See the event flier in this issue or go to <u>https://www.tracltd.org/</u> for more info.

MG 2020 the 29th Annual North American MGB Register Convention event website open for registration at <u>https://mg2020.regfox.com/mg2020-calgary</u> Don't miss out on this Mega MG event June 28th – July 1st – Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Safety Fast! Richard

** LAST CALL FOR 2020 CLUB DUES. PLEASE PAY NOW OR BE DROPED FROM THE CLUB ROSTER & E-MAIL LIST AT THE END OF MARCH**

Please mail your \$20.00 check payable to: MGs of Baltimore, Ltd. Car Club; 5237 Glen Arm Road East; Glen Arm, MD 21057 or pay at the next meeting

The following members owe **DO NOT** owe dues at this time:

Glenn S. & Barba	ra Abbott
Shane & Megan	Absher
Jerrold & Abby	Appelbaum
Joe & Barb	Auer
Neal & Suzanne	Becker
Bill	Berg
Bill	Berg III
Steve & Linda	Berry
Bill & Cindy	Bollinger
Suzie	Boltz
Howard & Susan	
Gary	Breeback
Jim	Buckmeier
John & Carol	Buettner
Chas & Pam	Burke
Peter	Carroll
Tom	Carroll
Joe	Clark
Jack & Joanna	Dagilas
Clint & Beth	Davis
Doug	Diem
Matthew	Dinnerman
Cliff	Essman
Paul & Alicia	Farley
Duff & Barbara	Fowler
Paul	Gass
Rick & Cynthia	George
Ron	Gillis
Dale & Claudia	Glatfelter
Ben & Angie	Gugliuzza Jr
Robert	Guienot
Doug & Anne	Hart
Larry & Barbara	Heaps
Bill	Henry

Sandy & Mike Hickman Chris & Diane Horant Richard & Carole Jefferson Bob Keefer Randell & Sheila Kegg John & Marylyn King Brian & Denise **Kraus** Tom Lallev Richard & Kathy Liddick Jack & Liz Long Jim & Donna Lucas Michael & Mary Lutz Rick & Patsy MacInnes Roger Marshall Francis & Eileen McGrath Richard C. McShane Jr. Michael & Camille Medinger Stephen & Sally Meisel Barney & Lydia Michel Bill & Pam Minor Richard & Janet Moure Kurt & Susan Nagl Chip Norman Alex Ollerman Ken & Sharon Olszewski Tom Orisich Jim & Jane Orrell Michael Perkins Cheryl & Eric Reitz Bob Robinson Eric & Mary Salminen Marty Schlining Steve & Tina Sharpe Terry & Cindy Shenberger

Ned & Pattie	Shields	Tom	Sweeney
Bert & Sandy	Shirey	Tracy	Trobridge
Rick	Smith	Alan & Carol	Tucker
Wendy & Robb	Stahl	Steve & Valerie	Williams
Denise & Robert	Stemler	Tom & Diana	Wunk
Jack & Sheila	Stern	Sergio & Joy	Zarbin
Jim	Strickler		

The MGs of Baltimore, Ltd. Car club was established in 1977. The club represents over 150 members in the Metro Baltimore area. As the name implies, the club centers its activities around the preservation and enjoyment of the cars that bear the classic MG marque. The club is affiliated with the following national organizations: The North American MGA Register, The North American MGB Register, and The American MGB association. Internationally, the club is affiliated with the MG Car Club and The MG Owners Club. The club's activities include sponsorship of the nationally known "MGs on the Rocks" car show, a series of challenging (and FUN) historic car rallies, as well as numerous fun gatherings all through the year.

American vs. English Car- Related Words

- We say TRUNK, the Brits say BOOT.
- We say FENDER, the Brits say WING.
- We say HOOD, the Brits say BONNET.
- We say WINDSHIELD, the Brits say WIND SCREEN.
- We say LICENSE PLATE, the Brits say # PLATE.
- We say OIL PAN, the Brits say SUMP.
- We say TIRE, the Brits say TYRE.
- We say GAS, the Brits say PETROL.
- We say MUFFLER, the Brits say SILENCER.
- We say COTTER PIN, the Brits say SPLIT PIN.
- We say GENERATOR, the Brits say DYNAMO.
- We say GROUND, the Brits say EARTH.
- We say LUG NUT, the Brits say WHEEL NUT.
- We say TRANSMISSION, the Brits say GEAR BOX.
- We say DASHBOARD, the Brits say FASCIA.
- We say DRIVE SHAFT, the Brits say PROP SHAFT.
- We say SHOCK ABSORBER, the Brits say DAMPER.

23nd Annual "Chilly Run"

This year's annual Chili Run was hosted by Steve & Tina Sharpe. Steve had things so organized for this event including pre-written names tags it was a secretary's dream.

In true MGOB fashion the food was plentiful and if you left hungry it was your own fault. There were 15 different types of chili for judging along with more appetizers, cornbread and desserts then you could count. Some of the chili's had great names such as Afterburn and Carrol Shelby Race Day Chili.

We had 6 people drive their MGs to the event which was wonderful to see.

Steve went above and beyond with awards by making a special certificate for each winner.

Richard Jefferson presented the Annual Wayne Norman "Hey Buddy" Award to our Treasurer, Tech Advisor and an overall great guy Randy Kegg.

The winners were as follows:

Hunka Hunka Burning Love Award - Richard & Carole Jefferson

Overall Best Chili – Mike & Mary Lutz

Side Dish/Cornbread – Duff & Barbara Fowler

Appetizers – Michael & Vicki Egliskis

Dessert – Karen Barry & Tom Orisich (1st Place) Tracy Trobridge (Runner Up)





MGs of Baltimore Octagram











In the Middle of Winter-- In the Middle of the Night --in the Middle of Nowhere

By: Richard Jefferson

Why would 40,000 people do anything so crazy? Why would people subject themselves to crowds, lines and noise? Why would they do it in the cold and dark of a winter's night in a remote wilderness? To see a Groundhog of course!

OK don't laugh; it's worth it. If you want to see what makes America so special, may we suggest that you set your course for Punxsutawney PA next February 2nd. There you will find everything great about America including friendly people, lovely countryside, the preservation of tradition and the ability to turn nothing into productive commerce.

A group of us MGOB'ers headed off this year to see what all the fuss was about and to frankly check something of our bucket list. (Barbara and Duff Flower, Cheryl and Eric Reitz, and Carole and I). No, it wasn't top down weather or even top up weather, but the back roads made us wish it were. Punxsutawney is located in western PA. If you've ever been to Altoona for the Summer Festival or the Roadster Factory, then you were close.

What you find is a whole town that is 110% behind an event and willing to make the thousands of guest welcome. We arrived Saturday lunchtime and found Cheryl and Eric reserving us a table in one of the nicer watering holes. I must say those folks put out a tasty cheesesteak in record time considering the place was packed. Our advance scouts, who had arrived earlier, then made sure we saw all the local hotspots: the library (Phil's Home), the historical society and numerous shops. The town park in the center was a tent show of artisans and other vendors selling, you guessed it, many Groundhog related items. We didn't drink enough to be tempted to get a Groundhog tattoo but felt obliged to increase the town's GDP by purchasing several "GH" emblazoned T-shirts. The Top Hat was also a traditional buy for the many guests since the ceremony on Gobbler's Knob is a formal affair. Now there are lots of other things to see in town like art shows, talent contests and of course a continual showing of the classic Bill Murray film Groundhog Day. There's even a dance in the evening. We passed on the dance since our hotel was a fair piece from town, but we all had a fine time at a restaurant in a converted train station. The restaurant was smart, they put us in our own private room so we would not disturb the other dinners with the usual MGOB loud storytelling and laughter. Then we retired for the night in preparation for the morning's festivities.

Did I say morning, by that I mean 2:30 AM! You see the festival on the Knob starts at 3AM. Now the GH doesn't show his face (or shadow) till about 7:26. Not to worry - it's only 28 degrees in the middle of the woods in the dark with a light snow falling so there's only a few hours to kill. Again, not to worry because on stage is what I'll call Woodstock for Woodchucks. Two energetic MC's kept introducing bands and

other entertainment that kept the crowd more than enthusiastic. We even had a birthday part of sorts since you can't believe the number of people from all over the country come to celebrate their birthdays with Phil. Lots of bands serenaded us to the appropriate GH related ballads. So Purple Rain becomes GH Day, GH Day and Born in the USA becomes you guessed it, Born on GH Day! The lyrics were good, and the crowd sang along with every chorus. Just before the big Phil moment a fantastic fireworks display goes of literally above your head; it really warms you up in the cold dark night.

Finally, the hour arrives and the Inner Circle of the Ground Hog Club retrieves Phil from his borrow and the chairman of the group, who is the only one who holds the magic stick that allows him to comprehend Groundhogese, speaks to Phil to get the forecast. This year's forecast was proclaimed to be an early Spring, of course at virtually that moment it began to snow harder. Go figure.

So, should you go, and would I go again; yes, on both counts. It's fun and you'll never see a happier crowd outside of maybe Disneyland.









MGs of Baltimore Octagram

TECHTIP: SteeringWheel Changes... From the Journal of the Michigan Rowdies... A-Antics: January 2010 As Printed in the Texas MG Register Backroads Newsletter

Ever try to change your steering wheel? For the first 31 years of ownership of my MGA, I studiously avoided taking the steering wheel off the steering column of my car. Once I discovered that I could easily remove the adjustable column extension (remove the pinch bolt and collar at the dash and then pop out the locking key at the side and it slides right out) with the steering wheel still attached, I gave up even trying to take the wheel off the shaft. I painted and added a leather cover to the original steering wheel this way. But I finally decided that I wanted to try a fancy Moto-Lita type wood and aluminum wheel on for size. I had easily avoided this for 31 years due to the price of these. But recently, I found a company on EBay in England (Watford Classic Cars) selling a similar wheel and boss for 1/2 the price, including shipping. The wheels come in 13" thru 15" sizes - somewhat smaller than the original 15-16" wheel but allowing for a bit more leg room getting in and out of the car. I opted to try for the 13" size; although I was concerned it might not have the proper 'feel'.

When it arrived, I was still a bit worried because it looked much smaller than the factory wheel. Plus, I had now come head to head with my original problem of getting the wheel off the shaft of the steering column. Getting to the single nut was easy - just pull off the center MG medallion hub. But I quickly found out that the only way to loosen the nut was going to be with a socket. And a BIG socket at that.

Turns out the correct size is 1 15/16. Also turns out that 1/2" drive sockets usually only go up to 1 1/4" size, so I had to hunt around. Harbor Freight came to the rescue with an 8-piece 3/4" impact socket set from 1" to 1 1/2" in 1/16" increments for only \$26.95 (Item #02561) and a 3-piece 1/2" to 3/4" adapter kit for \$4.99 (Item #02117).

When I tried the nut (which was undoubtedly placed there 53 years ago at the factory), I got ready for a struggle. But a 3/4" socket can provide a whole lot of torque and it came off easily. Then I looked at the tiny splines holding the wheel on and found I had no way to pull this loose. But when I removed the wheel and extension shaft together, I found that a light tap with a hammer and piece of wood popped the shaft loose easily also. What a deal! Plus, the new wheel slipped right on and tightened up easily! I was impressed!

But how would it feel? Will, it feels like one nicely made and good fitting wheel. So far, I am enjoying it more than I thought I would. Steering requires a bit more effort with the smaller wheel, but it also feels 'tighter' on the road and quite pleasant so far. So, if you have a steering wheel change coming up, you might check out Watford Classic Car and Harbor Freight. *Safety Fast!* Ken Nelson

Why MG? By Dan Shockey

Reprinted from The Octagon, the newsletter of the Northern California Centre of the MG Car Club.

The success of MG was remarkable. The love and devotion to the margue is incredible. You often hear exalted the engineering prowess of the Mercedes and Auto Union Grand Prix cars of the 1930s. "But don't forget that, for example, the MG-R type at that time had an engine with the highest output per litre of any racing or touring car in the world car industry in 1935!" (Gerhard Maier, Germany). In the 1930s, Great Britain became locked into a technological and industrial competition (later war, of course) with Germany. As Germany came out of its great depression, it seemed like Britain was losing at every point. Automotive and aircraft investment and technology was clearly critical. Charles Lindbergh reviewed the German aircraft industry and declared that no one could compete.

The one great hope for Britain in this intense competition was a tiny under-dog company with no resources but a great heart and ability to improvise – Cecil Kimber and his MG Car Company. MG in the early and mid-30s was



much like Porsche in later years – designing and building sports cars and racing cars that cleaned up on the world's road and track races. By sheer willpower and dedication, it seemed, MG brought out a new improved sports car about every 6 months and continued to win the important races, trials (extreme hill climbs) and rallies despite organizers continually changing the rules to keep MG from winning everything.

Thus, MG was a great inspiration to pilots and other members of the Royal Air Force in particular. Industrial capability and technology came together – most clearly in fast (and close) battles at 30,000 feet above enemy-held territory. A couple horsepower or slightly better controls made the difference between living and dying. That a few very-ordinary British folk at MG could beat the world gave the British airmen and industry the sure knowledge that they could win too. I think that was why the RAF loved MG. It inspires me to this day. *-end-*



Tools Available for Club Members to Borrow Contact Randy Kegg

- Engine Stand (2)
- Engine lift with tilt device (2)
- Whitworth wrenches & sockets
- Whitworth thread file
- MGB Kingpin Reamer
- Sandblaster (Suction from a bucket type)
- Rostyle Wheel Paint Mask (MGB)
- Midget King pin reamer
- SU Carb throttle shaft reamer for MG T, A, B carbs
- SU Carb throttle shaft reamer
- Midget carbs
- Torque Wrench Click Type 0.150 ft lbs
- Standard 12" socket set
- Hub Puller
- Compression tester
- Harmonic balancer puller
- Camshaft Degree Wheel with TDC finder.
- Timing light
- Dwell/Tach Meter
- Differential flange removal tool
- Brake line bender tubing cutter, bubble type flaring tools
- Slide hammer for bushings, bearing caps and axle extraction tool
- Lift-A-Dot Upholstery Punch tool
- SU Carb Synchronizer
- Pickle Fork for Tie Rod Ends
- Mob Clutch Alignment tool
- Front Suspension Toe-In adj tool
- Rear Hub Sockets for MGA and early and late MGB.
- Cylinder Leak Down tester

CALENDAR

MARCH

3rd MGOB monthly meeting

APRIL

- 7th MGOB monthly meeting
- 18th Williamsburg British & European Car Show Williamsburg, VA <u>www.wmbbrit.com</u>
- 26th Britain on the Green, Gunston Hall, Lorton, VA <u>www.britainonthegreen.com</u>

MAY

- 3rd Get the Dust of Rallye DeJon Brewery
- 5th MGOB monthly meeting
- 17th British Invasion Festival at Monumental Brewing Company - more information to follow

The club membership meets at 7:30 PM the first Tuesday of every month at Johnny Dee's Lounge. Johnny Dee's is located at 1705 Amuskai Rd; Baltimore, Md, just off of Loch Raven Blvd at Joan Ave. From I-695 Take the Loch Raven Blvd. Exit south. Go about 1 mile, turn left onto Joan Ave. Park in the upper lot. For more info go to their website at www.JohnnyDeesLounge.com Come early and have diner. We start arriving between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m. The meetings are about sharing experiences, taking care of club business and normally include a monthly tech session provided by our MG "technical guru" Randy Kegg. More than just MGs. Many members of MGOB are owners of the other classic British marques and all are welcomed to join the club.

21st Annual 2020 Williamsburg British & European Car Show Saturday, April 18, 2020 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Open the 2020 car show season by visiting beautiful Colonial Williamsburg Virginia for the 21th Annual British and European Car Show sponsored by the Williamsburg British Car Club at The Shops of High Street on 4/18/20.

Location:

Revolution Golf & Grille at The Shops at High St 1430 High St. Williamsburg, VA 23185

Registration: Register on WBCC Website for the show <u>http://www.wmbgbrit.com/</u> \$25 pre-registration due by April 11, 2020; \$30 after April 11, 2020; Spectators Free

For more information contact Roy Gavilan at <u>WBCCcarshow@gmail.com</u> or call 757-637-5902

23rd Annual Britain on the Green April 26, 2020 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

The Capital Triumph Register is proud to announce that the 23rd annual Britain on the Green (BOG) will be held at historic Gunston Hall, the colonial home of patriot George Mason, in Lorton, VA, on April 26, 2020. BOG, which welcomes all British cars and motorcycles. is well-established as one of the premier all-British shows in the metropolitan DC area.

Cars pre-registered by April 15 will receive the collectable 23rd anniversary show poster by famed artist Joseph Craig English. All for \$25, a savings of \$10 from day-of registration. Registration after April 15, 2020: \$35 per car. Mail in registration: \$35 per car

Further information on Britain on the Green can be found at: http://www.capitaltriumphregister.com/bog/

Location: Gunston Hall 10709 Gunston Road Lorton, VA 22079 http://www.gunstonhall.org/ Spectator Admission Prices:

Adults: \$10; Children 6-18: \$5; Children under 6: free



Washington D.C. Region SCCA and The MGs of Baltimore, Ltd. Present the 31st Running of the GET THE DUST OFF RALLYE Sunday, May 3, 2020 First car off at 11:31 a.m.



Dedicated to the memory of Richard W. Murphy

\$30 per car to April 21st - \$35 per car afterwards

To register complete the entry form below and mail it with a check payable to "MGs of Baltimore, Ltd."

SEND TO: Eric Salminen, 12321 Jerusalem Road, Kingsville, MD 21087 (mgobrallymaster@gmail.com)

This will be a GTA (Game, Tour, Adventure) style rally of approximately 60 competitive miles. No unpaved sections. All **vehicles welcome**. Classes will be provided for Historic up to 1981 and modern 1982 and later.

START & FINISH: Dejon Vineyards, 5300 Hydes Rd., Hydes, MD. **www.dejonvineyard.com**. Bring along your picnic basket lunch and tailgating supplies. Food truck will be available on site. Wine tasting will be provided for entrants (MGOB hand stamp required).

REGISTRATION: Opens at 10:30 am. Drivers' meeting at 11:15. Please plan to arrive early.

Contact Rallymaster Eric Salminen at (443-463-3071) or mgobrallymaster@gmail.com for additional rally information

All vehicles must have no more than 2 people in the car. If a minor (less than 18 years old) is to participate you must contact us in advance to secure a minor release form which requires the signature of both parents.

Driver:	Navigator:		
Address:	Address:		
City/St/Zip	City/St/Zip		
Phone:	Phone:		
e-mail:	e-mail:		
SCCA region: Member#	SCCA region	_ Member #	
Vehicle information: Make:	Model:	_Year:	Color:
Member: MGOB? TRAC? SCCA/Bra	nded Rally? Other:		_
Class: Select oneHistoricMo	odern		

I hereby warrant that the entered vehicle is on the road legally, is being used by the entrant with the owner's permission and is covered by liability insurance of not less than \$20,000/\$40,000/\$15,000 or the minimum requirements in the state of registry, whichever is higher.

Driver Signature:

Navigator Signature: _



"Brits by The Bay" 2020 Modern & Classic British Car & Motorcycle Show

Open to ALL British Cars & Motorcycles ***** GREAT LOCATION *****

Harford Vineyards & Winery 1311 W. Jarrettsville Rd. Forest Hill, Md. 21050 <u>www.harfordvineyard.com</u> <u>NO PETS PLEASE!!</u> <u>Sunday</u>, June 28th 11am – 3 pm <u>Gates open 10:30am</u> Rain or Shine Pre-Register by <u>May 19 to Receive a Free Show T-Shirt & Dash Plaque</u> Door Prizes, Music, & Good Ole Car Talk Food, Snacks, Wine Tasting & Beverages Available On-Site <u>NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL ALLOWED</u> Please Contact: <u>Britsbythebay@gmail.com</u> For up to date info Go to www.facebook.com/britsbythebay

Debit & Credit Card Payments Accepted Securely Online!

For More Information, Online Registration or Directions Visit: WWW. TRACLTD. ORG or contact Steven Horant@443-827-6116 Email Us at: BritsByTheBay@gmail.com

Detach coupon below and send it with your check made payable to TRAC. Mail to: TRAC, 902 A Cedar Crest Ct., Edgewood, Md. 21040

Name:		/	Address:		
City:					
Car Year:	Make:		Мос	iel:	
Email Address:					
Club Affiliation:					
Pre-Registered T-SI					X-Large
2 XL (\$2extra)					
Pre-Registration (ntriespos	tmarked by N	lay 19)	\$20 per ca	r
Registration (I	Registratio	on postmarke	d after May 19)	\$25 per ca	r

Netther I, nor my heirs, will hold I klumphs Around the Chesapeake, Ltd. or the Hartord Vineyard & Winery liable for any personal or Vehicle loss, damages, liability or injury occurring during or as a consequence of being involved in or traveling to or from this show. Owners attending this show do so voluntarily and agree to assume all risks of any kind to their person or their vehicle. Shade Canopies are at the discretion of TRAC.

Signature:

2020 Convention Information

GOF WEST JUNE 29th - JULY 3rd

https://gofwest.org/gof-west-2020

NAMGAR GT-45 JUNE 1st to JUNE 5th

https://gt45.co/

Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!



Join over 2,000 enthusiastic owners in the restoration, preservation, and sheer enjoyment of driving an MGA, Magnette, or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive six bi-monthly issues of *MGA*!, our full-color,

award winning magazine, invitations to National and Regional Get-Togethers throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus a knowledge base and support group second to none. All this for just \$37.50 per year (North America), or \$52.50 (International). Get more information at http://www.namgar.com, or contact registrar@namgar.com.



NAMGBR 29th Annual Convention JUNE 28th - JULY 1st

https://mg2020.regfox.com/mg2020-calgary



MGs of Baltimore - Octagram

15

OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

President	Richard Liddick	410-817-6862	rgl2mgbgt@aol.com
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2 nd Vice President	Mike Lutz	410-592-8610	mglutz@comcast.net
Treasurer	Randy Kegg	410-592-3733	randell_kegg@msn.com
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Web Master	Richard Liddick	410-817-6862	rgl2mgbgt@aol.com
Regalia	Cheryl Reitz	410-336-2584	creitz@dap.com

MGs of Baltimore Affiliations

North American MGB Register North American MGA Register American MGB Association MG Car Club UK

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Submit any changes to:

Kathy Liddick 5237 Glen Arm Road Glen Arm, MD 21057 themgbabe@comcast.net

DISCLAIMER

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