



President's Message:

"Time flies when you're having fun!"

Everyone has heard and repeated this phrase many a time. We've heard this expression since we were kids, we continue to hear it and use today as adults. Adults?

"Where does the time go?" Another saying that is so true at the end of a vacation week, the end of summer, when the kids are grown and have moved out of the house. Let's not forget this holds true when the kids are married and now they have children of their own. Where does the time go?

How's this relate to our monthly newsletter you say? I'm repeating these two time honored questions because, as most of you know, my two-year stint as president is coming to a conclusion soon. And yes, both are true, so true. Time flies when you're having fun. Can you believe our club is almost eight years old? Where does the time go?

Being your forth President in 8 years has been enjoyable, rewarding and a whole lot of fun. As a British auto club we have come a long way in a short eight year time span. A few years ago a couple kids were walking past my TR and commented, "hey man, look at the Ferrari." Yeah, maybe in my dreams. Joe Calie says the same thing happened to him recently, "hey man, nice Cobra!" Maybe in his dreams. We as a club have made a huge footprint on the Central New York classic car scene since our inception.

The

2

Seater

December, 2007

Central New York has seen more MG's, Triumph's, Austin's and such on the roadways thanks to our club. As I've said and will continue to say, "these cars were made to be driven." That, in a nutshell, is what we enjoy doing. Drive to breakfast, lunch, dinner and ice cream, and we can't forget all the back road trips we've taken individually or as a group.

As this is my 24th and last front-page message, I would like to thank all the officers and committee chair people who have volunteered their time and effort towards our club the last two years. This also includes the members who make our Eurocar the success it is each year. With their efforts, along with the participation of all of you, we have pushed our club to the next level of enjoyment. A big thanks goes out to each and every one of you.

I wish you, and your families a grand holiday season. Enjoy the festivities that come with the holiday, enjoy spending time with family, and enjoy the hustle and bustle of the busiest time of the year. Eat, drink, be merry and be thankful it only comes around once a year!

Enjoy your drive.
Mike

MG—Enjoy The Ride!

The 2 Seater

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UPCOMING EVENTS

December -

12/4 - General Membership Meeting at Barbagallo's
6:00—eat; 7:00 meeting & **Annual Gift Exchange**

12/7- Cirque D'Vin Wine Club at Knights of Columbus
in Baldwinsville—Marty & Dave Winne (see
web site bulletin board for details)

12/15 &16- Dickens Christmas in Skaneateles -
Sharon Hartman—see web site for
Exact day and time.

January -

1/8 - General Membership Meeting at Barbagallo's
6:00—east; 7:00 meeting.

1/19 - After Holiday Party—Janet Moyer/Sue Sanborn

Check the club web site for other events and updates

www.mgcarclub.com/cny

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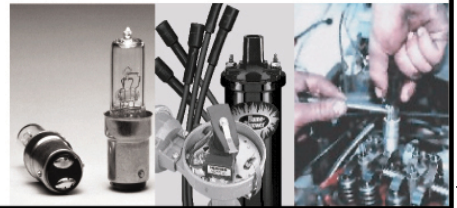
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My First Sports Car Race

by Richard D. Jeffers

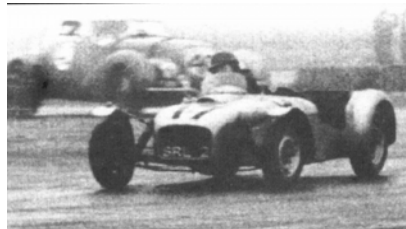
At the end of 2001, I retired after 28 years in Engineering/Engineering Management. Actually, my employer gave me no choice (if you know what I mean). Consequently, I suddenly found myself (not unhappily) with time to work on my hobby cars and to start reading the backlog of books that had been accumulating on the shelves in my home office. The first book that I pulled down was "The Last Open Road" by Burt Levy, which my wife had given me on Christmas 1994 (how time flies!). The fiction of "BS" Levy magically transported me back to 1952 and the time when I acquired my lifelong fascination with the automobile. In that year my father took me to my first auto races: stock cars at the 1/4 mile paved Brewerton Speedway in Central NY. Dad was the manager of the A&P grocery store in Phoenix, NY and knew several of the drivers, who were customers of his—this made me feel somehow "connected" to the racing at this venue. The same year my best friend, Bill Kisselstein, attended his second consecutive Watkins Glen Grand Prix with his parents. He was standing along Franklin Street on the outside of the first turn, onto Corning Hill Road, when Fred Wacker's Allard brushed into the crowd at the beginning of the second lap of the Grand Prix. He remembers that there was only a rope between him and the track and that the Allard passed very close to him, catching a road sign between its left front cycle fender and body, before he was whisked away by his parents.

Over the Winter of 1952-53, Bill and I raced toy cars on the living room rug and cross-pollinated ourselves with stories of our racing adventures. In 1953, Bill and his father joined us at Brewerton, and I bought my first copy of Road & Track magazine. However, it took me until 1955 to convince my parents to spend some of their valuable vacation time attending a Sports Car race. We went to the Sports Car Trophy Races at Edenvale, Ontario, on August 13th. I remember that we spent the night in a crummy motel with a leaky roof, in Barrie, and that it rained during most of the races.



We parked on the inside of this airport course, near the start/finish line, the grassy apron between the line of parked cars and the track providing the main protection for spectators (I don't remember so much as a rope barrier). At first I was disappointed at the apparent slow speed of the cars but later realized that this perception was the result of our not being right up close to the track, like in the grandstand at Brewerton. It also took us several races to figure out that the exciting places to watch from were the corners and not the straight-aways. A highlight of this event was standing behind the row of race cars during the LeMans type start of the feature race. This race was won by Bill Klinck driving a Lotus 6 with an MG engine. Second and third places were taken by the Mercedes Benz 300SL coupes of Paul Van Antwerpen and George Arents Jr. respectively. John Shakespeare placed well in his Ferrari 212 Barchetta. Other races were won by a Siata Amica Spyder, Renault 4CV, MG TC, AC Ace, Triumph TR2, OSCA MT4 and Paul Van Antwerpen's Mercedes. Driving away from the track on narrow secondary roads, my sports car fervor reached a zenith as our lumbering Dodge sedan was overtaken by a succession of nimble Austin Healeys, Triumphs, MGs and a lone Swallow Doretti.

The memory of my first sports car race was refreshed, in 1995, when I met Sid Broad, a cornishman, who had raced a Lotus 6 similar to Bill Klinck's. Sid ran a garage and sold Triumph cars in Launceston, Cornwall, and would install the engine and gear box from his MG TC into the Lotus for the racing season and then put it back into the MG for the Winter. He had the distinction of winning the last race ever held at the Davidstow Race Circuit, in Cornwall, on Whit Monday, May 30, 1955. The race was a formula libre handicap race of 20 laps around the 1.85 mile circuit. Sid was given enough of a head start that he was able to come home ahead of two Connaughts and a Cooper-Bristol (F1 cars), the famous ex-Bira ERA R5B, an Aston Martin DB3, a C-Type Jaguar and Ken Tyrrell in a Cooper Norton. Listening to Sid reminisce about his racing experiences afforded me a vicarious ride in one of Colin Chapman's earliest creations.



Hi Folks,

It's the end of the year which means it's time to pay your 2008 Membership dues of \$20.00. PLEASE complete the form below even if you are presently a member so I can update information such as address, cell phone numbers, types of cars, etc. I will be collecting dues at the next few meetings for your convenience or you can mail them to the Club PO Box.

Thanks.

Patty Golas, Membership Chair



The MG Car Club of Central New York

Annual Membership Dues are \$20.00 – All Memberships Expire December 31st

RENEWAL

NEW

NAME: _____ BIRTH DAY/MONTH: _____

SPOUSE/FRIEND: _____ BIRTH DAY/MONTH: _____

NUMBER/STREET: _____

CITY/TOWN: _____ STATE: _____

ZIP +4: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

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CELL: _____

CARS OWNED/YEARS: _____

IMPORTANT –Please indicate your preferred method of receiving the monthly newsletter.

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RECIPES CORNER

From Marty Winne

White Lake Lodge Au Gratin Potatoes

1 stick butter
1 tsp salt
¾ cup chopped onion
3 cups cheddar cheese
1 pint sour cream
¼ cup milk
¾ cup parmesan cheese
1 bag hash brown potatoes

Combine all of the "stuff" and bake uncovered for 1.25 hours at 350 degrees in a 9 x 13 pan.
Serves 8.

NAPA DISCOUNT

For those who will be working on your car over the winter...Just a reminder (and for those who are new bees), when you show your MG Car Club Membership Card at these area NAPPA Stores you will receive a discount on your purchase. You must tell them our account number to receive the discount.

Our account number is 6145.
The stores that honor discount are:

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Auburn Rt. 5
Central Square
Main Store on Midler Ave.

Newsletter Note

As has been announced at recent meetings, your newsletter editor is "retiring" after the January issue. If the membership desires an unbroken continuation of the monthly newsletter, someone needs to step up and volunteer for the job. No volunteer, no newsletter after January!

Car People!

By Rick Kunz

I really like those TV commercials about the "Car Guy"; you know the one where the Tuba Player gets his revenge or the guy is lost but doesn't care.

We just love to take a nice day and go out and wander the countryside in our little cars or on our motorcycles. Sometimes, however, we become a little more than carefree car enthusiasts out for a self-indulgent spin with the wind in our hair or bugs in our teeth.

Some of us, such as myself, choose to drop what we are doing to respond to calls for assistance, as I did on October 30th about 3:30 PM when I responded to a head-on collision on Route 31, in the town of Cicero.

As Bridgeport firefighters, our job was basically to cover for and assist the South Bay Fire Department, as they would be tied up for several hours. But this is not about me or what I chose to do, it is about the type of people in the car hobby and in our club.

While standing by at the South Bay Fire Department, doing what we call a coverage move up, a line of cars being detoured around the accident site was filing past us. There in line was a snappy little MG Midget with - you guessed it - our own Tom and Dee Lynch, car folks and just plain nice people, enjoying the cloudless sky and unseasonably nice weather.

As happens many times when traffic is detoured from its normal pattern, it became more congested and that can create additional problems. Shortly after Tom and Dee passed by, we received a call of a second accident with injuries at South Bay Road and Whiting Road. As we responded to the scene, the back of my mind thought of my fellow club members who had just passed by a very short time ago.

When we arrived on the scene there were Tom and Dee, among the first people to stop and give aid in what looked like a pretty serious accident!

Car people like Tom and Dee put the "people" in the car experience and we, as fellow club members, should be proud to have them as members of the MG Car Club of New Central New York.

To Tom and Dee and their Little Midget, thank you for putting people first !

December Birthdays -

- 12/3 Dave Winne
Bonnie Stewart
- 12/4 Marilyn Spina
- 12/5 Patty "Wild Woman" Golas
- 12/6 Jay Levy
- 12/7 Jim Reilly
- 12/8 David Manzano
- 12/12 Robert "TV Star" Carbone
Arthur Helmbold
Peter Warburton
- 12/13 Sandra Glenister
- 12/14 Tom Cantine
- 12/15 John Bonewell
- 12/16 Mike Maruk
- 12/17 Rhonda Arnsby
David VanNess
- 12/18 Chris Harter
- 12/19 Carol Owens
- 12/22 Jason Dellilo
- 12/24 Chris Daley
- 12/25 Chris Carbone
Mary Tygert
- 12/26 Paula Camp
- 12/27 Susan Beck
- 12/30 Nancy Helmbold
Joan Seager

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!!!!
&
HAPPY HOLIDAYS, TOO



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Fall Seneca Lake Wine Trip

By Dave Winne

Marty and I hosted the Fall Wine Run to Seneca Lake on Saturday, October 20th. We met at Denny's in Camillus at 8AM for a great breakfast and roll call. We had a great turnout for this event—about twenty-five people, some in British cars, some in family cruisers. We were blessed with nice weather and the attendance of our special guests - my sister and brother-in-law, all the way from Raleigh, NC, to attend our event.

After a leisurely drive down Routes 5 and 20 through Auburn and Seneca Lake, we headed down Route 414 to Wagner Wineries for wine and beer tasting. This was followed by a nice buffet luncheon at the Wagner Restaurant, the Ginny Lee.

The next stop on our tour was Standing Stone Vineyards, followed by Chateau Lafayette Reneau. We then proceeded to the bottom of the Lake, through the historic village of Watkins Glen, and headed north on Route 14, up the West side of Seneca Lake. Our last stop was the new Heron Hill Winery, where we stocked up our wine cellars, in preparation for Winter.

We had some new members join us for this event and it was nice to see new and different faces, as well as some of the great familiar faces, join us for another MG adventure. Please join us in upcoming events and in our Spring Wine Tour for 2008!




TECH SESSION AND PAINT OUT

November 11---It might be the first tech session we have hosted when we didn't have snow! Paul and the techies gathered in the shop to discuss preparing the babies for winter hibernation. Topics covered were body, interior and mechanical preparation as well as rodent control. After they exhausted that topic, they helped one member disassemble some rotor assemblies that needed a torch to convince them to come apart. They also had an open session to discuss whatever interested the participants. It was a great turnout and a good time.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch and down in my studio, there were the artists! It always tickles me silly how whoever comes for the beginner watercolor lesson does such a great job! They each got a drawing to trace and then followed my sometimes less than expert directions for flowing paint into water to get variations in color. We finished our lesson quickly and went on to some "experimental" fun. Paint got dripped, dropped, blown, tilted, spattered, spritzed and sponged. But soon the techies came marching in from Paul's shop. So after much oohing and ahing, we retired back upstairs for a much deserved meal. Thanks to all the delicious goodies you all brought, we managed to stuff ourselves pretty well before everyone headed home.

Next time we promise to get back to having snow!
Loie and Paul






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