



President's Message:

I hope everyone had a chance to show off their British auto during "British Car Week" - May 26th to June 3rd. This annual fling started 11 years ago to help spread awareness of these exciting machines of the past; the machines we enjoy so much.

Speaking of "British Car Week", here's late breaking news. Our annual trek to the Norwich Classic Car Show was a huge success as your club took home the "Club Participation" trophy for the third straight year!!! There's more news to come about this event.

Our annual Eurocar is coming up Sunday June 17th. I hope to see all of you there. This is our biggest event of the season; we need all your support to make this the success it has been the past few years.

Now for a few garage keeping items. Your board of directors decided to have a classified section in our newsletter for any items, within reason of course, available for any of our members to advertise. Get the details of what you would like to sell to Tom Ross, our editor-in-chief of the newsletter. Next, last month your club started a "Recipe Corner." These are recipes that you, our members, asked other members to share. If you have a recipe to share, or are looking for a specific recipe, let Sue Sanborn, our recipe queen, know. She will submit recipes as well as requests. Last year at our General Membership picnic-meeting, recipe requests were flowing like banana peels at the trunk monkey convention.

Speaking of our General membership picnic-meeting, it's coming up real soon - Tuesday, July 10th at Willow Bay Picnic area, Liverpool, NY. Your club, like last year, will be supplying the hotdogs and hamburgers. Members will be asked to bring a dish to pass or a picnic type item (napkins, rolls, plastic-ware etc). Marty Winne graciously took charge of this event this year, and she needs the support of club members. Marty and her crew will be calling for help, do what you can to help support another club event. We all had a great time last year. It might have been a little hot, but the water balloon toss cooled things off a bit.

The weather is great, get out there and drive.

Enjoy your ride!
Mike

MG—Enjoy The Ride!



The 2 Seater

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June -

6/5 - General membership meeting at Barbagallo's
6:00 eat; 7:00—meeting.

6/17 - EUROCAR

6/26 - Board Meeting

6/29 - "Swingin' to the 4th" - Manlius Village Center
Mike Mastracco—635-9335

6/30 - "Beach Days for Breast Cancer" - Gilley Lake.
Galsters—638-1889

July -

7/7 - Old Forge Boat Show - Dave Winne—622-1230

7/10 - General membership meeting/picnic
Willow Bay—Liverpool

7/13-15 Syracuse Nationals—NYS Fairgrounds

7/21 - Wolcott Parade— Loie Mechetti

7/28 - Skaneateles Boat Show

7/31 - Board Meeting—Lock 24—6:30

Check the club web site for other events and updates

www.mgcarclub.com/cny

Disclaimer -

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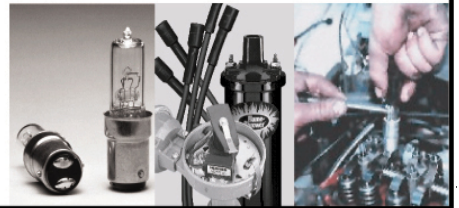
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Once Upon a Time -

By Howie Lapidès

Once upon a time long, long ago, there was a little boy who like most little boys, was attracted to (wrong, not girls) cars. He started driving at about age 12 by sitting on his grandfather's lap and steering as they SLOWLY drove around the block. By the time he turned fifteen, he was (illegally) driving the family Rambler to his grandmother's house on Sunday mornings with his Dad riding shotgun. He had already bought his first car, an early sixties Fiat 550...a tiny gray 2 door with a red racing stripe, buckets and a four speed with suicide doors. He "drove" up and down his driveway every day while listening to the radio. The day he turned driving legal age, he was at motor vehicles for his license. That was just the beginning. After the Fiat came a long list (not as long as Winne's) of used cars... Chevy, Plymouth, Pontiac, Opel and Triumph, just to name a few, but the only one that turned out to be a "keeper" is the MG that's in the garage today. Yes, that little boy was me.

The "B" journey began in the spring of '95 when the kids had flown the coop, and it was time for a big boy toy. MG was the toy of choice, partly because I loved the way they looked, and partly because I knew how to spell it! My search took me to all corners of the state looking at cars that were advertised as being in "excellent condition". I came to find out that that phrase means different thing to different people... wow!! Wouldn't you know, I found my '79 B within ten minutes of my house. Before anyone could say, "what the hell are you doing", I bought it.

It happened to be in really good shape...newer paint, no rust, all kinds of shiny stuff, and it even ran. On a scale of 1 to 10, it was a 7 if you stood ten feet away. Not bad. But for those of you who know me, that wasn't quite good enough. Over the next four years there was a total paint job (Jeff at Franklin & Co.), engine rebuild (Tom's Mechanical Emporium), new top, new interior, overdrive transmission, Ansa exhaust, Weber carb, just to name a few. Isn't nice to know that I put more than a few good meals on the Franklin and Roberts dinner tables?! As that famous saying goes, "I've put more money into the car than it will ever be worth, but so what. All the enjoyment I get from it is well worth it."

Don't let anyone kid ya...having a nice looking car it great, but none of it means a thing unless you drive it, and I do! The car has been to Canada, Vermont, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and Florida. There is nothing like being in my MGB on a sunny day with the top down going for a ride. The only thing better than having one MG is having two! Oh, one last thing, because of the "B", I met some people with this similar MG "sickness", and there was born our MG CAR CLUB OF CENTRAL NEW YORK. As one of our more insightful club members once said, "it's the cars that bring us together but it's the people that keep us together".



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1976 Triumph TR6 CF55959U

Dick Jeffers

Triumph TR6 CF55959U was sold new by Scott -Welch Motor Cars Ltd., Nashville, TN, on 10/30/76. In 1980, the car was brought to North Syracuse, NY, by the original owner but was never driven there during the winter. Nine years later the owner took the car back to Murfreesboro, TN, and used it for daily transportation to work until his family grew to a size that required the purchase of larger vehicles. The Triumph was literally put out to pasture, being parked in a field so that its garage could be converted to a wood shop for the owner's latest hobby. The heat and humidity caused the paint to blister and peel and the leather, rubber and plastic parts to deteriorate, crack and rot. Water leaking in between the top and windows damaged the carpets and rusted out the floor pans. Mice removed the foam padding from the seats, and several families of wasps took up residence under the car.

I purchased the car, in 1994, and had it transported to Syracuse. The engine ran poorly and, after a short drive, backfired through the carbs and caught the air filters on fire (lots of smoke but no real damage). Tom Roberts (Tom's Mechanical Emporium) rebuilt the carbs and tuned the engine. It ran fine, and I decided to do no further engine work, other than a thorough cleaning, as the oil pressure and compression were good.

The car was driven to Matt McGill's Body Shop where it was partially dismantled. Matt replaced the rusted floor, stripped the body to bare sheet metal, and repainted it with epoxy primer and Sikkens urethane finish coat in the original colors. While the car was apart, I replaced the dash top and all other deteriorated or corroded seal strips, hardware, trim, etc. I also replaced the tie rod ends, clutch master and slave cylinders and rebuilt the brakes. The seats were a real challenge, partly because the foam cushion kit that I bought was mislabeled and turned out to be for another model car. Although I had reupholstered my MG TD seats with no problem, I just couldn't get these right so I let Butler Auto Upholstery finish the job. Ted Stoianoff (Ted's Carpets) helped me install new carpets. The last bit of major restoration work was replacement of the suspension bushings by Tom Roberts.

It was a joy finally to be able to drive the car after having it off the road for almost a year. The car has been displayed at the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival Concours de Elegance, at EuroCar, and at The Gathering of the Marques in Cazenovia. However, the engine still needs to be detailed in order for the car to be a concours winner.



Saratoga Automobile Museum AKA Another Food Critic's Outing

By John and Patty Golas

After meeting at Wegmans in Dewitt on 4/14, eleven club members headed for Saratoga via the NYS Thruway. We had to stop at the first rest center we hit (of course). A member picked up a brochure on a military museum in Saratoga. (John was pumped, cars and blasters, all in one place) Feeling refreshed, we again were on the road toward Saratoga.

We arrived at lunchtime and found Lillian's the Restaurant where we had reservations. They were all ready for us and we had a delightful meal. The food was good and the service was great. The ambiance was lovely, and I believe all of us would recommend Lillian's to anyone who visits Saratoga.

At this point a couple of us stayed in town for some shopping and the rest went on to the museum. At the museum we were treated to a group rate, which was a nice surprise. The featured vehicle for this month is famous motorcycle. There were numerous models dis-


played with plaques describing their owners and accomplishments. From racing to cross country trips, to movie star owners, they were very interesting to view. The upper floor had racecars including a very fine Allard with 3 carbs and a cad engine. A few older classics were on display, including cars from the 30s, 40s and 50s. A museum volunteer treated us to a private tour of the workshop and storage area, where we saw soapbox derby cars and a fine old Stanley Steamer. After 1-½ hours or so, we gathered for a group photo and then drove to the Military Museum for more fun. (At this point we lost Bob to meet Judy and Patty for coffee in town).

Believe it or not, we asked directions from a local couple and found the museum in the old armory building. Volunteers run the museum, and they did a great job bringing in all kinds of old blasters and military memorabilia. They have on display an old brass cannon that would have towed quite easily behind my MG. (I have always wanted my own personal cannon).

After enjoying the military museum, we met the rest of the group and headed to Utica for dinner. We had reservations at Dominick Chesterfields on Bleaker Street (recommended by Judy, which was greatly appreciated). Dinner was excellent as was the company of friends. We highly recommend this restaurant to one and all. If you love Italian food this is the place to go in Utica.

We really enjoy this club and the friends we have made through it. We hope the adventures never end.

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Spring Dust-Off – the Larkins

Although the weather was a little misty, we had a good turnout for the Spring Dust-Off on Saturday, April 28th. Actually, its much better to rinse your car before you dust it off anyway-you know to avoid scratches... Well, anyway, we had 14 cars (including a few British car substitutes) and 27 people! Running the back roads from Sweet Inspirations to the next stop, we sampled cheeses and dips at Heluva Good Cheese, bought all sorts of different foods, towels and "stuff" at Spring Lake Market, and tried some wonderful wines at Giancarelli Bros Winery! Definitely want to go back there. By the time we reached Weedsport, with Purple Monkey Antiques and Old Erie Restaurant, some opted to collapse with drinks at the restaurant and some checked out the antique offerings. Management and staff at all the stops were so very cordial, with free coffee, samples, sweets, and other things. That was unexpected! Our winners for the rally questions were 3rd place- Bob & Marie Bunce, 2nd place- Dick & Clare Woods and 1st place with a perfect score-Dan & Rosie Burke! We hope everyone enjoyed themselves as much as we did-thanks for coming



June Birthdays -

- 6/2 **Jim Hearne**
- 6/3 **Darwin Bushart**
- 6/4 **Judy Falcone**
Richard Greene
- 6/5 **Barbara Levy**
- 6/6 **Mark Fleming**
- 6/8 **Donna Bambrick**
- 6/9 **Vic Russo**
- 6/11 **Bruce Fehlman**
- 6/14 **Karen Bocchino**
- 6/16 **Mike Chetwin**
- 6/21 **Mary Barolo**
- 6/25 **Diane Ducharm**
Eric Howard
- 6/27 **Sara Farchione**
- 6/28 **Barbara Hearne**
Linda Weisskopf

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL!!!!!!



Art Zimmer—Publisher of Syracuse New Times and owner of Zimmer Motor Car Co. addresses our May meeting




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