

# Spokes

Official Publication of the MG Car Club Western New York Centre

Volume 62 No. 2

Issue No. 731

February 2020



Remembering George Herschell

# MG CAR CLUB WESTERN NEW YORK CENTRE

PO Box 92556, Rochester, New York 14692

Website: <https://mgcarclub.com>

*Spokes* is published monthly by the MG Car Club Western New York Centre as a benefit to its members. Please see the inside of the back cover for a membership form. You may also join via the website. Current and past issues of SPOKES are also available in Adobe PDF format on the website.

Articles reflect the opinion of the author. Articles are the property of MG Car Club Western New York Centre and may be reprinted by similar clubs providing the author and source is credited. It is requested that two copies of the republication, one for the author and one for our files, be forwarded to the editor of *Spokes*. No other use is permitted.

---

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS and APPOINTEES

### CHAIRMAN

Ted Hershey  
PO Box 159  
Conesus, NY 14435  
(585) 727-9000  
[thershey@frontiernet.net](mailto:thershey@frontiernet.net)

### VICE CHAIRMAN

Rob Schrader  
70 Cook St  
Rochester, NY 14620  
(585) 442-8143  
[schrader59@gmail.com](mailto:schrader59@gmail.com)

### SECRETARY

Dan Suter  
186 Hillrise Drive  
Penfield, NY 14526  
(585) 377-1877  
[dmesuter@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dmesuter@rochester.rr.com)

### TREASURER

Leon Zak  
2467 Westside Drive  
North Chili, NY 14514  
(585) 594-9150  
[leon@mgcarclub.com](mailto:leon@mgcarclub.com)

### ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

Mike Robinson  
2968 Graney Rd  
Caledonia, NY 14423  
(585) 748-9901  
[mr1057@frontiernet.net](mailto:mr1057@frontiernet.net)

### TRUSTEE

Mike Robinson  
2968 Graney Rd  
Caledonia, NY 14423  
(585) 748-9901  
[mr1057@frontiernet.net](mailto:mr1057@frontiernet.net)

### TRUSTEE

Al Costich  
870 Culver Road  
Rochester, NY 14609  
(585) 482-2695  
[alcostich@mgcarclub.com](mailto:alcostich@mgcarclub.com)

### MEMBERSHIP

Paul Osborne  
7379 East Main St  
Lima, NY 14485  
(585) 255-0531  
[paul@ece.rochester.edu](mailto:paul@ece.rochester.edu)

### HOSPITALITY

Betty Langswager and  
Barb Wild  
46 Stonington Drive  
Pittsford, NY 14534  
(585) 385-9956

### CARDS AND LETTERS

Nancy Chase  
689 Erie Station Road  
W. Henrietta, NY 14586  
(585) 334-6826

### CLUB REGALIA

Joe Bellizia  
3 Oak Manor Lane  
Pittsford, NY 14534  
(585) 749-9263  
[blitz7711@gmail.com](mailto:blitz7711@gmail.com)

### CLUB HISTORIAN

Dave Wild  
166 Loud Road  
Fairport, NY 14450  
(585) 223-1065  
[wagonjack@mgcarclub.com](mailto:wagonjack@mgcarclub.com)

### SPOKES EDITOR

Michael Goodwin  
8 Harmony Circle  
Rochester, NY 14624  
(585) 889-2646  
[spokes@mgcarclub.com](mailto:spokes@mgcarclub.com)

### WEB MASTER

Leon Zak  
2467 Westside Drive  
North Chili, NY 14514  
(585) 594-9150  
[leon@mgcarclub.com](mailto:leon@mgcarclub.com)

### LIBRARIAN

Alan Costich  
870 Culver Road  
Rochester, NY 14609  
(585) 482-2695  
[alcostich@mgcarclub.com](mailto:alcostich@mgcarclub.com)

---

### SUBMISSIONS ARE WELCOME

DEADLINE: One week after a general meeting. Contact the editor for additional information. Send all correspondence and material via e-mail to [spokes@mgcarclub.com](mailto:spokes@mgcarclub.com). Alternatively, mail to Michael Goodwin, 8 Harmony Circle, Rochester, NY 14624 or deliver by hand at the meeting.

### Cover Photo:

George Herschell with his 1966 MGB at the George Eastman House, 1988  
(photo by Bob Tescione)

### Spokes Staff

Advertising: Al Fink [alcycle@hotmail.com](mailto:alcycle@hotmail.com) (585) 342-0625  
Address Changes: Paul Osbourne (585) 255-0531  
Send Photos for *Spokes* & Web: [photos@mgcarclub.com](mailto:photos@mgcarclub.com)

### MEETINGS

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, except December, at the American Legion, 360 Middle Rd., Henrietta, NY 14467. Board meetings are normally held in odd-numbered months and are open to all members. Contact the chairman for the date, time and location of the next board meeting and to request your item to be added to the agenda.

## Contents

MG's Corner .....	4
Minutes of the Meeting .....	5
Attendance .....	6
Activities Report.....	7
Remembering George Herschell .....	8 - 11
Robbie Burns Day .....	12-13
UPCOMING! Valve Cover Racing .....	14
Seneca Lodge Room Requests.....	15
Sunshine Page .....	16
Driving to Reno.....	17
Membership Application.....	20
Classified Ads.....	21
Calendar of Events .....	Back Cover

## Advertisers in Spokes

Finger Lakes  
Vintage & Sports Car



**BRITISH AUTO**



**imparts**

They support the MG Car Club,  
please support them.

### BRUDNO AWARD LIFE MEMBERS

Desi Benet ~ George Haynes ~ Alex Kopen ~ Joe Tierno ~ George & Nancy Herschell  
Gil & Betty Langswager ~ Richard & Bethel Powers ~ Dave & Barb Wild ~ Steve Fitch  
Jim Priestley ~ Wendy Dakin ~ Dave Chase ~ Wally Roworth ~ Doug & Laurie Scribner



#### Add Your Name to the MGCC Endowed Scholarship Plaque

An engraved nameplate is added to the plaque in recognition of donations of \$30.00 or more (engraving fee is \$5.00). This plaque, created by Paul Heaney, is installed in the Monroe Community College Automotive Technology Department. A nameplate can be purchased in the name of the donor for a friend, or as a memorial. There is no requirement that donors of those honored through donations be members of the MG Car Club. If you wish to purchase a nameplate, send a check payable to MG Car Club to:

Frank Stepanik  
13 Flora Drive  
Fairport, NY 14450

Please indicate exactly how the name should appear on the plaque.



# MG's Corner

by MG (his mother named him Michael)

---

As I write this, it's nearing my first publication deadline as editor of *Spokes*. I'm finding that getting this first issue ready is a bit of a challenge. First off, I'm feeling a little out of touch with the MG Car Club of WNY, since for the past few weeks I've not been anywhere near WNY. Susan and I are getting comfortable again in our tiny house in coastal Northern California, and that is taking a bit of work. We'll be here until around the end of April. Dealing with a scarcity of strong sunshine in this rainy season is biting some chunks out of our time – you see, our tiny house is completely off-grid, and without much sunshine on the solar panels, we've been a tad inconvenienced. But finally yesterday, we added a 24 volt, 40 amp battery charger that we can plug into our generator to supplement the solar panels. Today, the sun shined brightly for several hours, so we're charged up well now. It has been a pain to have to go out and start the generator to make coffee or toast, or

to watch a bit of TV in the evening. We've also been rather busy traveling out here (we flew this time), then from here to Reno Nevada and back, meeting our incredibly brilliant and handsome new grandson (whom for now we can safely refer to as our "favorite grandchild"). Ah, but the Reno trip has given me a bit to write about, and I received some nice submissions from Annabelle Tescione and from Dick Powers, who has written a very nice remembrance of George Herschell and passed along more about George from *Safety Fast* from Brian Woodhams, MGCC UK. Overall, I think this issue has shaped up well. Please feel free to give me any feedback, positive or negative, and be assured I'll always welcome your written or photographic submissions.



**THIS IS WHO WE ARE**

**moSS**

**DELIVERING QUALITY SINCE 1948**

We take pride in being fussy. Take our Classic Gold brake shoes for example. Before being called Classic Gold, we improved the original stock design, then had them manufactured, inspected, trial fitted and tested on the road. Accept nothing less than the best. We don't.

**David Williams**  
R & D Shop Supervisor ASE Master Technician  
Moss employee since 2005

**David Aichik**  
Chief Engineer  
Moss employee since 2011

**Mike Vickers**  
Product Quality Assurance Supervisor  
Moss employee since 1998

**SAME DAY SHIPPING** | **FREE CATALOGS** | **TECH SUPPORT** | **EAST & WEST COAST WAREHOUSES**

**800-667-7872**  
**MossMotors.com**

## Meeting Minutes MGCC Meeting January 16, 2020

By Dan Suter, Secretary. Thanks to Bob Welch for taking the minutes at the meeting.

---

The meeting was called to order at 7:30PM. Ted Hershey kicked off the first meeting of 2020 for our Western NY Centre.

Ted announced the passing this week of long-time club member George Herschell. George had numerous contributions to our MGCC Centre including (but by no means limited to) his famous artwork for all our Victor shows over a great number of years, as well as the New England Mountain Adventures, and many others. He will be missed.

November minutes were motioned, seconded and approved. No new members or guests tonight. Birthdays and anniversaries were noted.

**Treasurer Report:** Leon Zak continues as our Treasurer in 2020. Leon noted our current balances (please see him for details) and the fact that club dues renewals are lagging and are not yet at 50%.

**Activities:** Mike Robinson announced that we have events scheduled for every month except June and that the activities calendar looks great overall. Upcoming events:

- **January – Robbie Burns Day.** Hosted by Annabelle in memory of Desi Benet.
  - January 26th from 1:00 PM till 4:00 PM. It'll be at McGregor's on Empire Blvd, 1:00-4 PM. Reservations required before Wednesday January 22nd.
- **February – Wine and Cheese Tasting and Valve Cover Races.** Hosted by Al and Phyllis Wagner.
  - Sunday February 16. Bushman Cabin, Memorial Park in Henrietta. 1:00 - 5:00 PM. Please notify Al if you plan on coming, and whether you will be entering in the VC Races.
- **March – Pancake Breakfast Buffet.** Hosted by the American Legion.
  - Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM till 12:00 Noon. \$7.50 per person. Menu will be provided

- **March - Steak Roast and Auction.** Hosted by – (Open)
  - Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Eyer Park in East Rochester. 11:00 AM- 4:00 PM
- **April – Tune Up Clinic.** Hosted by Hollis Hames
  - Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM till 12:00 PM (Tentative)
- **May – Swing Into Spring.** Hosted by Dick Powers
  - Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> Location and times to be announced.
- **May – Hammondsport and Ithaca.** Hosted by Jeff and Susan Kath.
  - Saturday and Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Further Details pending

**Regalia:** Joe Bellizia is taking over regalia and is getting underway.

**Spokes:** New Editor Mike Goodwin can be reached via e-mail, and will get underway with the February issue of *Spokes*. Submissions for next month are due on Jan 23<sup>th</sup>.

**Watkins Glen:** Dave Wild shared upcoming activities at the IMMRC (motor racing research center/library)- the event previously scheduled for Jan 18 has been rescheduled. Please see the website. Dave also noted Alfa Romeo will be the featured marque at the vintage race weekend and downtown festival. Dan Suter (your scribe) is continuing Seneca Lodge room coordination and has announced room requests are now being accepted – watch Spokes for details on how to request a room or e-mail Dan.

**Librarian:** Al Costich noted the library has a new DVD from the IMMRC

**Rochester Yacht Club Brunch:** In past years, this was a popular MGCC/WNY event hosted by Anne Faust who was also a RYC member. It was often held late in the driving season (even the first week of November) but many brought their sports cars. Dick Powers announced that his friend, also an RYC member, has agreed to host our club if we wish to re-introduce this event.  
*(continued next page)*

## Meeting Minutes *(continued from previous page)*

---

An informal show of hands at the meeting showed strong interest. We hope to have further updates soon.

**2020 Motoring Challenge:** Chad D'Angelo shared an introduction to this and notes it will be on our website.

**Website:** Leon Zak indicated all is well with the club website and said to send him articles to post on the site.

**Car Show:** Ted Hershey and Mike Robinson will serve as co-chairs of the Car Show. Joe Bellizia will continue to support the show through his great contacts among local TV and radio stations and indicated he is pursuing coverage in advance of the event. The Car Show is July 19 at the Rush

Fire department Field, a new date and locale for the show this year. Volunteers are needed so please support the show effort this year!

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** There was no New Business at this meeting.

**Discussions and Other Topics:** The North American MGA Register national meet will be in Colorado Springs, starting June 1. The MGB convention will be in Calgary this year.

**Member projects and trips:** None were captured.

**Door prizes** were raffled and the meeting was closed at 8:15.

## Meeting Attendance

January 16, 2020

---

Barb Wild  
Dave Wild  
Ted Hershey  
Doug Scribner  
Gil Langswager  
Betty Langswager  
Hollis Hames  
Mike Robinson  
Chad D'Angelo  
Paul Osborne  
Rod Rodman

Robin Allen  
Annabelle Tescione  
Dick Powers  
Frank Stepanik  
Karen Davis  
Jim Davis  
Paul Wegman  
Bob Welch  
Chris Baum  
John Baum

Leon Zak  
Barb Zak  
Alan Costich  
Mike Ruisi  
Allyn Wagner  
Bill Baldwin  
Cheryl Baldwin  
Tom LeStrange  
Rob Shrader  
Al Fink  
Larry Willoughby



**VEHICLE STORAGE**  
MG Restoration & Performance Consulting

5795 Cleary Rd. | Livonia, NY 14487 | 585.233.4409  
Consultants: Dick & Marlene Rzepkowski

# January 2020 Activites Report

By Mike Robinson, Activities Director

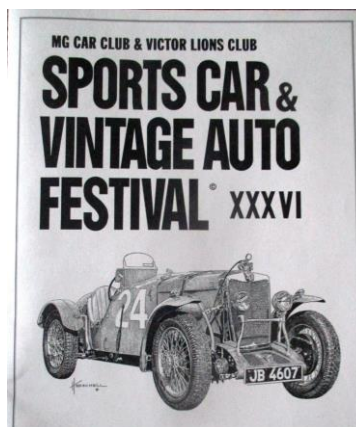
---

For 2020 we have an activity nearly every month except June. All known activities and/or details for 2020 are listed on the Event Calendar on the website. For the upcoming months we have the following:

- **January – Robbie Burns Day. Hosted by Annabelle Tescione** in memory of Desi Benet.
  - January 26<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 PM till 4:00 PM. It'll be at the usual location at McGregor's on Empire Boulevard, from 1:00 PM till 4 PM. Reservations required before Wednesday January 22nd. Send a note to Annabelle or myself if you wish to attend.
- **February – Wine and Cheese Tasting and VC Races.** Hosted by Al and Phyllis Wagner.
  - Sunday February 16. Same location as last year. Bushman Cabin, Memorial Park in Henrietta. 1:00 to 5:00 PM. Please notify Al if you plan on coming, and whether you will be entering in the VC Races.
- **March – Pancake Breakfast Buffett** , hosted by the American Legion.
  - Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM till 12:00 Noon. \$7.50 per person. Menu will be provided.
- **March - Steak Roast and Auction.** Hosted by – (Open)
  - Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Same location as last year, Eyer Park in East Rochester. 11:00 AM till 4:00 PM
- **April – Tune Up Clinic.** Hosted by Hollis Hames
  - Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 AM till 12:00 PM (Tentative)
- **May – Swing Into Spring.** Hosted by Dick Powers
  - Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> Location and times to be announced.
- **May – Hammondsport and Ithaca.** Hosted by Jeff and Susan Kath.
  - Saturday and Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Further Details pending.



by G. Herschell, from MGCC Scrapbook



by G. Herschell, from MGCC Scrapbook

## George Herschell. Western New York Centre

*(Reprinted with permission from Safety Fast, MG Car Club UK)*



George passed away peacefully on January 12, 2020 at the age of 88. George is survived by his sons, George and Jim, and our sincere condolences go out to the family on their sad loss. After high school, George attended Rochester Institute of Technology where he received a degree in Fine Arts, which helped usher in a lifelong love of Architectural rendering and Automobile Art. George and Nancy were married in 1952 and the Western New York Centre (WNYC) was formed and Affiliated in 1958. George and Nancy were involved in this Centre almost from the formation and he/they held most of the Board positions at one time or another. George owned a 1966 MGB, a 1950 MGTD, and a 1955 MGTF. George was a true MG enthusiast and a brilliant MG artist. I had the privilege of being personally presented with his book of MG drawings and history at Watkins Glen when MG was the featured Marque in September 2015. George and I had forged strong links between the WNYC and the UK when he “demanded” my presence at the Centre’s 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2003, and then again in 2008 for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In 2018 Richard Powers requested I attend the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the WNYC and I once again met up with George and his family. George was a true New York gentleman and real MG enthusiast – RIP George, you will be missed.

Brian G Woodhams  
MGCC UK North American Manager

## Paul's Canvas



Marine / Auto and  
Outdoor  
Upholstery

Paul Osbourne  
Lima, N.Y.  
585-255-0531



# George Herschell

By Dick Powers

By now, most of you know that our good MGCC friend, George Herschell, passed away on January 12. George and Nancy, or Mom and Dad as some of us who were on their New England Mountain Adventures called them, joined our MGCC about 1970. They had a TD that was a second car George drove winter and summer back and forth to work. They bought the TD from Sports Car Sales, that was owned back then by Doris Britt, a founding member of our MGCC.

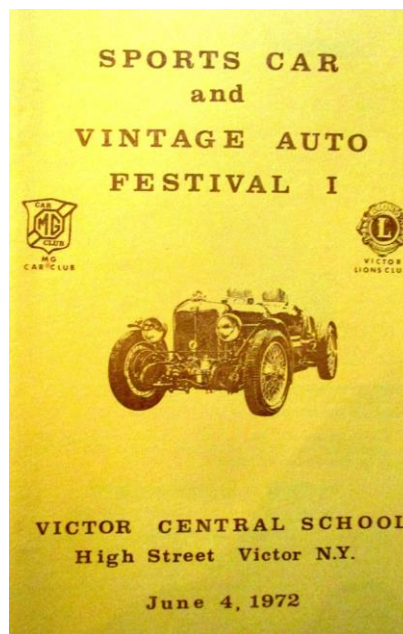
That TD eventually wasn't a daily driver and got restored, winning many show awards including a T Register "Premier," the highest car award they give. Interesting thing about that car; George did the restoration and painted it with Martin Senour black lacquer. George didn't have a compressor, so every drop of paint on that TD came from "rattle cans". Yes the kind you shake up in your hand and get at places like Home Depot or Lowe's. George's son, Jim, told me his dad knew he had hand rubbed the paint enough when he could clearly see the reflection of his wristwatch in it and tell the time! The other thing George did was to buy more paint, of the same lot number, than he needed. If you were at our MGCC 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, you may remember seeing George in the TD.



*George Herschell (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) wanted a little extra help on show days. So he wore his lucky pants – Photo from MGCC scrapbook*

That TD is still a winner in every way, but for some reason when it was first done, George

wanted a little extra help on show days, so he wore his "lucky pants". I'm not making this up as I heard this story years ago from Bob Philip, Gil Langswager and Dave Wild. Gil said George wore his "lucky pants" to a number of T Register shows and many local ones too. Dave Wild commented, "They were pants for a golf course". Well, they must have worked, as that rattle can painted TD won many prizes.



George attended RIT and received a degree in Fine Arts. Many of his outstanding pen and ink renderings of MGs graced our newsletter and our Sports Car and Vintage Auto Fest posters and programs from the first to the 40<sup>th</sup>. His drawings are known and collected by auto enthusiasts around the world. Even the car show posters are collectable, as George made sure the printing was top shelf and done on quality stock. He knew printing well as his professional life was spent at Great Lakes Press where his customers were top companies including Mercedes Benz. George also did many architectural renderings of expensive homes being built by the top builders in the Rochester area.

Many don't know that George had another artistic part of his life. He was a very accomplished pianist, taking classical piano lessons for 16 years! But like many musicians,

including myself, jazz became our music of choice. For a while, George was in a band that made a few records. I don't know when George and I found out we were both musicians, but from that moment on, we always had time to talk about music, groups we enjoyed and places we enjoyed hearing music. One big band we liked was the Stan Kenton Orchestra and a singing group that often performed with them, the Four Freshmen. George and Nancy liked the Freshmen so much they joined their fan club. A few years ago, the three of us even traveled to the Albany area for a Kenton tribute concert that included the current version of the Four Freshmen. George really knew his music.

No memory of George would ever be complete without the mention of the New England Mountain Adventures he and Nancy organized. If you were on one or all ten, you'll never forget the fun we had with "Mom and Dad". George and Nancy had traveled to the New England states many times, so they knew the area well. At one point, they asked folks in the club if they'd like to go on a ten-day tour in their MGs? I think there was a maximum number of ten cars on that first NEMA and all the slots were quickly filled. When you traveled on one of these trips, it was like signing up with the Herschell "AAA". The ten days were nicely planned with specific stops, room reservations, a few meals together, free time for exploring and the very important Best Ice Cream Stops. Each car had a complete tour book with the itinerary, maps, our motel reservations, good area restaurant of different price levels and extra tour information about local places of interest you might want to explore on your own. The AAA could take a few lessons from Mom and Dad.

There were two things that didn't change on any NEMA. The official starting place was always the Herschell home on Mill Creek Run in Webster. You could start from a different location if you wanted, but the Herschell home was where most of us met to start the trip. The other thing that didn't change, no matter where the tour went, was staying at Art Devlin's Olympic Motor Inn in Lake Placid for the first and last night on the tour. George and Nancy had stayed there so many times that Art was like family to them and

to the MGCC folks on the New England Mountain Adventures. We had tons of fun on those trips and I'm sure those ice cream stops are still with many of us.

George is known worldwide for his outstanding pen and ink MG drawings, but he was also our spokesperson with the MGCC in England. He did a very good job of letting them know that our Western NY Centre was alive and well and I'm sure George's efforts helped us win the Nuffield Cup for North America in 2014. Elsewhere in this *Spokes*, you will find a remembrance of George by Brian Woodhams, MGCC UK North American Manager. Brian and George became good pen pal friends over the last 15 years and the last time they had a chance to talk was at our MGCC 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018.



*George's efforts helped us win the Nuffield Cup for North America in 2014. – photo by Dick Powers*

With these few words, I've only skimmed the surface of our friend George Herschell. We were blessed to have George and Nancy in our MG lives. When MGCC member, Bob Philip, passed away, George wrote a very touching remembrance of him. The last line George used was by W. G. Charnok. I think those words again say it all.

"We who remember raise our glasses to you. For you deserve more than our tears. And if he sleeps, then somewhere may he wake, and find a wheel to hold and a road to take."

*Safety Fast* old friend.



## More George Herschell Memories

*Photos by Dick Powers, posters from MGCC scrapbook*



*George Herschell (center) with son Jim Herschell (left) and grandson Alex Herschell (right) at Watkins Glen Grand Prix Festival, September 9, 2016.*



*Friends visiting George and his 1966 MGB, October 26, 2018.*



*Friends visiting George, October 26, 2018*

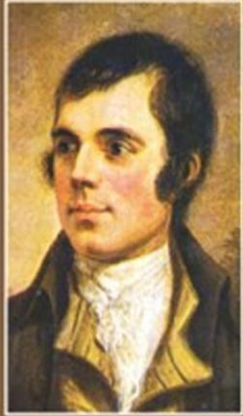




Sunday, Jan 26

**MGCC**

Celebrates



**Robert  
Burns'  
Birthday**

**MacGregor's  
Grill & Tap Room**



We had a great group of about 30 people at the Annual MGCC Robbie Burns Lunch at MacGregor's Grill & Tap Room on Empire Blvd, Penfield. Good food, fine service, the 24 Hours of Daytona car race on the TVs, cooperative weather and lots of friends and car talk...

*what could be nicer?!?*









# Valve Cover Racing and Wine & Cheese Party

**Bushman Cabin, Memorial Park**

**(same location as last year)**

**595 Calkins Road Rochester, New York**

**Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> 1 PM - 5 PM**

Bring hors d'oeuvres or a dessert to pass, your own wine or beverage of choice and your own place setting. Coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be provided. Gravity (not horsepower) is the key so it's time to tune up your Valve Cover Racer or maybe build something new. Rocker Box Racing is fun to watch and even more fun to participate. For more information contact: ([allyn@mgcarclub.com](mailto:allyn@mgcarclub.com)) or 585-924-5251



## **Seneca Lodge room requests for 2020 Vintage Race Weekend**

(email from Dan Suter)

---

Hello everyone,

I am writing to let you all know that I will be coordinating room reservations for Seneca Lodge for the September vintage race weekend. I am now accepting room requests. E-mail to 'dmesuter – at – [rochester.rr.com](mailto:dmesuter@rochester.rr.com) is preferred.

Please include any special requests you have. Examples include: extra nights needed (please specify which nights such as Wed-Sat, etc.), 2 beds in a room vs. queen bed (there are only 3 rooms out of 17 with 2 beds); need to be in the main hotel maybe due to mobility issues; desire to be on college row; specific room desired. I will do my best to address these requests. It gets to be a bit like assembling a puzzle with the various pieces.

Please include your contact information: name, address, phone number, e-mail address. There is a 3-night minimum per previous years. There is also a 1-night penalty for cancellations –it was not clear from my last communication how far in advance this applied (was either 1-week or 5-weeks depending on how one interpreted our group of rooms—I will find out and advise!

We have 17 rooms available, the same as last year.

I will gather all the requests between now and February 23. You must be a current 2020 MGCC member to participate in this first round of room selection. With your request, expect a confirmation note from me (and if you don't happen to get one within a few days of e-mailing me, please chase me).

A few weeks after Feb 23, I will evaluate to see how supply and demand match up. We will do a drawing if demand exceeds supply, although in the past several years it has been pretty well in balance. Al Costich will attend the drawing if it is needed, and he is buying dinner.

We will also accept requests for rooms from non-club members anywhere along this same timeline, but those requests won't be addressed until after the MGCC member requests through Feb 23 are met.

Thank you for your help in making this run smoothly.

Best regards,

Dan

# Sunshine Page



## February Birthdays

	Donald O'Brien
4	David Cleveland
6	Lowell "Bud" Briggs
8	Mary Ellen Suter
11	Bruce Brownfield
11	Douglas Jack
11	Barb Wild
12	Sandra Barkley
12	Allen Hess
17	Cheryl Baldwin
18	Michael Rudin
18	Susan Wegman
21	Gil Langswager
22	Rob Lillis
22	Scott Schipper
23	Bill Baldwin

## February Anniversaries

7	Colleen & Walter Genter
14	Nancy & Dave Chase
20	Paulette & Joseph Schultz
26	Mary & Jeff Walker



*Happy Birthday, everyone!*

*Congratulations!*



## Driving to Reno

*By Michael Goodwin, photos by Susan Goodwin*

After a few days of settling in and getting reacquainted with west coast life, Susan and I set out from Tiny House Land near Mendocino, California around nine AM on January 13th. We were bound for Reno, Nevada to meet our new grandson, Elijah, in our 2013 Mini Cooper S Countryman. This misnamed maxi of a Mini was new to us last year. This would be our first road trip in the vehicle, and I was looking forward to seeing how it handled on the variety of roads we'd encounter. We knew that crossing the Sierra Nevada in January could be treacherous, so we purchased a set of tire chains ahead of time, taking our son's advice not to gamble and end up paying an exorbitant price on the road in the mountains. Yes, our son in Reno advised us not to gamble. Go figure.

We wind our way south along the coast from Mendocino on California Highway 1 for about 15 miles. This stretch is quite twisty; anyone with a sports car would love it, climbing, dropping, swerving left and right – that is, you'd love it unless you're gawking at the ocean view and trying simultaneously to stay on the road. No gawking allowed – casual fleeting glances only!



We turn off of the Coast Highway just before the bridge over the Navarro River; heading east now on California 128. We've driven this stretch before, but never in the Mini. We're facing almost 60 miles of curvy goodness, first through the coastal redwoods and over the Outer Northern Coast Range, where newbies should

pay heed to their rearview mirrors, and pull over into the turnouts to let the experienced drivers zoom through.



I particularly like having a big GPS display on this stretch; I can get a preview of the next curve before I can see it through the windshield. I also really like the thumbshifters for quickly dropping down a gear or two. I never felt very comfortable downshifting an automatic transmission before, but these handy little paddles make downshifting simple – it feels completely natural and right. This big Mini might look like an SUV, but I'm happily surprised that it drives like a sports car.

We wind our way out of the forested hills and into the Anderson Valley, passing through the little towns of Navarro and Philo, and on into Boonville and Cloverdale. We're in the northern part of wine country; anyone slightly familiar

with California wines has heard of Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino counties.



We drive out of Mendocino into Sonoma County and after another fun stretch of twisty-turnies, we cut across just a little corner of Napa County as we're getting onto Interstate 80, still north of San Francisco, and we head east through Sacramento toward Nevada.

This is the ho-hum bit of the six-hour trip between Tiny House Land and Tiny Baby Land. The driving is dull for a while, but we're getting closer to meeting our three-and-a-half weeks old baby boy bundle; the newest of the newest generation of future MG drivers. With our tire chains stowed in the boot, we're happy there is no snow forecast for the mountain passes.



Snow can pile up rather quickly and the road can become impassable here without much notice. We're reminded of this as we continue uphill, and start seeing signs for Donner Pass, Donner Lake and Donner Summit.



All the Donner signs remind us that we've packed a few snacks for this road trip, but not nearly enough to take us through a winter stuck in the mountains. The morbid thoughts of the Donner family pass as we crest the mountains, and begin the downhill though Truckee and into Nevada.



Reno sits in a bit of a bowl east of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and as we descend into the bowl, we see less and less snow along the roadside. The sky finally shows some patches of blue, and we're in the clear for a short time in Reno. Our son, Phillip, tells us that the snow never stays around long here; it might snow overnight but is usually gone before noon. Snow fell overnight, but it wasn't gone before noon.

At this point in our trip, our attention turns away from driving, to our wee little grandson, Elijah Joseph, but that's an article for *Grandparents Weekly*, not for *Spokes*. Apart from parking next to our Mini's twin, there is nothing *Spokes-*



worthy in any of the many drives we take between our AirB&B and the kids' house, out to the grocery, or over to the big-box home-improvement store that we don't have near Tiny House Land.



Driving in Reno is like driving in any other city. There won't be any more fun twisty-turnies until we're back in California, and we're happy to learn that the 18 or so inches of snow that fell in the high mountains while we were here in Reno has all been plowed away and won't be a problem on our drive back to the coast. The tire chains can stay in the boot.

We kiss the tiny baby goodbye for now and head out for the lengthy drive back to Tiny House Land in our not-so-tiny Mini.



**KURTIS** Garage  
Since 1946

**DAN THIEL**

Owner

1315 HUDSON AVENUE  
ROCHESTER, NY 14621  
585-266-4992 • FAX 266-0942

[dan@kurtsgarage.com](mailto:dan@kurtsgarage.com)



# Finger Lakes Vintage & Sports Car LLC

Maintenance, Repair, Restoration



Brake Systems – Suspensions  
Engine Service – Exhaust – Oil Changes  
Cooling Systems – Fuel Systems - Tires  
Batteries – Electric Systems - Restoration

[www.FLKVSC.com](http://www.FLKVSC.com)

54 W Main St Shortsville NY 14548 – 585.750.8091

## MG Car Club Western New York Centre Membership Application

Annual family membership dues \$30  
All memberships run calendar year January – December

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse / Friend: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: MGCC of Western NY

Mail form and payment to:

Paul Osbourne 7379 E Main St Lima NY 14485



## Classified Ads

*(Please inform the editor when your ad should be removed)*

---

**For Sale:** 1994 Morgan Plus 8 5-speed V8 approximately 5,000 miles, two-tone color Bordeaux & Beige. Asking \$65,000

2012 American Hauler Trailer, 8.5 x20 ft. ,all aluminum, steel frame, twin extra-heavy axle, top all one piece of aluminum, headliner & walls all finished off. 2-12 volt lights inside. Ramp on stern. Asking \$5,000

Contact Ginny Fowler 315-945-4390 or  
JD Fowler 315-945-4197

**For Sale:** 4 MGA 15" wire wheels, the wheels are powder coated the correct warm silver and still in good shape. Three of the wire wheels are mounted on Kuhmo 16580R15 tires that have tread left. One wheel is mounted on a Michelin XZX 16515R tire. The matching Kuhmo tire is available. Asking \$40.00 for each wheel/tire combination. **Price Reduced to 20.00 for each wire wheel/tire combination.**

Please contact Jeff Langswager:  
cell: 585 727 7129 or  
[mgamaniac@gmail.com](mailto:mgamaniac@gmail.com).

**For Sale:** 1969 Spitfire Mark III roadster. Barn find after 25 years. Clean title. 1300cc engine runs; Solid body, with some work needed to repaint. Will need the usual brake hoses and hydraulic work. Has wire wheels. Missing ts seats and front bumper. Inexpensive starter project for \$1000.

Call George at 585-872-6536

**For Sale:** 1952 MGTD, it does run repainted white; Estate of past member Charlie Elam.

Call Doug Elam at 319-654-4007  
If unable to reach Doug, call Charlies's wife  
Norma at 585-346-5044

**For Sale:** Miscellaneous XPAG engine parts and 2 hub caps for MGTD. Intake and Exhaust manifolds. Both cleaned and painted. - \$20

Starter motor. Working but could use a rebuild. Moss Motors gets a \$200 core charge for a new motor. - \$100

Hub caps are original/not replacement. - \$30

Contact [allyn@mgcarclub.com](mailto:allyn@mgcarclub.com) 585-924-5251

**For Sale:** 1973 MGBGT  
Solid car with overdrive. In storage for 20+ years

Call Gary: (585) 464-9482

**For Sale:** 1967 MGB GT. Overhauled engine and body. 4-year old restoration. Runs better than new. Headliner is all that's left to repair. Dennis Gaebel.com"

**For Sale:** 1976 & 1977 MGBs, both need work to start them

Contact Claude Fedele @ [sfedele@rochester.rr.com](mailto:sfedele@rochester.rr.com)  
or 585-899-9388

**For Sale:** 1974 6 JENSEN HEALEY, California car, 53,000. Mi.



Runs great, no rust, never seen salt, undercoated, Recent tires and tonneau cover. As is \$6,000.00, Located in Clayton, NY 13624. We have lots of pictures

Contact: [my3crows@hughes.net](mailto:my3crows@hughes.net)  
or 1-315-408-1836

**For Sale:** Special frame designed for all MGB components. This frame was originally designed for the TF 1800 that was made in Farmington. All MGB mechanical components fit the frame and I was going to make a "Special" with all the extra MGB parts I have and fabricate a Lotus 7 type body around it. Asking \$150.

Contact Dick Powers: [mgahmogca@rpa.net](mailto:mgahmogca@rpa.net) or at  
585-410-4500.

**For Sale:** Completely restored 1973 MGB Tourer. Black Tulip exterior with light grey interior and top. This MG has a Borg-Warner automatic transmission like the factory produced in the 1972-1974 period.

Call Bill Rampe at 330-1661 or [wrampe@yahoo.com](mailto:wrampe@yahoo.com)

**For Sale:** Color Wiring Diagrams 11x17 size; many cars to choose from \$17.95. Further details at  
[www.colorwiringdiagrams.com](http://www.colorwiringdiagrams.com)

**For Sale** 1979 MGB convertible, British Racing Green, 4cyl/4speed. New tires and brakes last season. Runs good an drives good. Solid, tight car.

Asking \$6,500 or Best Offer. I have owned it for 17 years and live 1/2 mile from British Auto so they took good care of it. 120,000 miles. I can be reached at  
[kester05@aol.com](mailto:kester05@aol.com) or 585.784.0072.

and live in West Walworth, Macedon NY

**For Sale:** 1962 MGA 1600 Mark II  
This car is in very good condition located in VA.. Verona Red with tan top and interior, no rust, original 1622 motor, good tires, mechanically sound. Asking \$25K.

Contact: Dick Powers 585-410-4500 or  
[mgahmogca@rpa.net](mailto:mgahmogca@rpa.net)



## North American MGB Register

We are now affiliated with NAMGBR.

North American  
**CLASSIC**   
Magazine

A bimonthly magazine  
dedicated to the magic  
of MG cars and the  
people who love them.

### British Car Parts & Service All Makes and Models

New parts used parts NOS and rebuild  
Parts and Parts Cars wanted We take  
parts and cars for credit or trade



600 Penfield Road  
Just 5 miles east of Route 250  
on route 441 in West Walworth  
(315) 986-3097  
**British Auto**

## imparts

[www.impartsol.com](http://www.impartsol.com)

295 Central Ave  
Rochester, New York  
585-232-5904  
Toll-Free 877-671-9998  
[Impartsol@yahoo.com](mailto:Impartsol@yahoo.com)

Stuart Mills

Austin and Morris Parts in Stock  
MG - Triumph - Spridget Parts from Major Supplier

**Discount for MGCC Members**

E-Mail: [minicityus@aol.com](mailto:minicityus@aol.com)  
Website: [www.minicityltd.com](http://www.minicityltd.com)  
Tel 585-434-3492  
Fax 585-872-4094



## MINI CITY LTD.

PO Box 20883 Rochester NY 14602  
/ 22 EGLI HALL • SYRACUSE, NEW YORK 13200





## ***“Safety Fast, old friend!”***

George Herschell and Brian Woodhams at the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the MG Car Club,  
Western New York Centre – August 12, 2018 – *Photo by Dick Powers*

# 2020 Calendar of Events

For the latest information and details visit  
<https://mgcarclub.com/calendar> or  
 see elsewhere in *Spokes*.

<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>
16 - Meeting 26 - Robbie Burns Day	16 - Wine & Cheese and Valve Cover Races 20 - Meeting	15 - Pancake Bkfst. 19 - Meeting 22 - Steak Roast and Auction 26 - Board Mtg.	16 - Meeting 25 - Tune-up Clinic
<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>August</u>
3 - Swing Into Spring 9 - Hammondsport Tour 10 - Garage Tour 14 - Board Mtg. 21 - Meeting	18 - Meeting	9 - Board Mtg. 16 - Meeting 19 - MGCC Sports Car Festival	16 - American Legion Car Show and Chicken BBQ 20 - Meeting
<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	<u>November</u>	<u>December</u>
3 - Board Mtg. 11 - 13 Grand Prix Festival and Racing at Watkins Glen 17 - Meeting	15 - Meeting 24 - Fall Foliage Tour	12 - Board Mtg. 15 - Garage Tour 19 - Meeting	T.B.A. - Holiday Party