Spokes

Volume 55 No 2 Issue No. 647 February 2013 EVENTS TO PASS TIME DURING THE WINTER

MG CAR CLUB WESTERN NEW YORK CENTRE

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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. Alternatively, mail to Don McConnell, 45 Eileen Circle, Rochester, N.Y. 14616 or deliver by hand at the meeting.

Meetings

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, except December at the Knights of Columbus, 70 Barrett Drive, Webster N.Y. Board meetings are held the First Thursday of every odd numbered month and are open to members. Contact the chairman for the location of the next board meeting and to request your item on the agenda.

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Eighth Page 3.6 x 2.3	\$11.00	\$ 44.00

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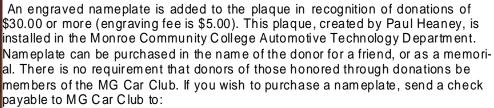


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* Members Emeritus

Add Your Name to the MGCC Endowed Scholarship Plaque



Frank Stepanik 13 Fiora Drive Fairport, NY 14450

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



Chairman's Corner

Dave Chase

Hi all,

Well our first location meeting is behind us. I think all went well and I appreciate Gil Landsuger giving a short talk on restoration. Coming up for February we'll have a talk on the Mini. Doug Scribner will start off talking about the original Mini and the service manager at Rochester Mini will finish the talk with the new Mini Cooper. I think you will enjoy this. Plan to attend.

After February we are wide open for ideas. One suggestion that came up at the meeting to see if some of our Spokes advertisers would be interested to talk about their product.

By the time you get this we would have had our valve cover races. That is always a fun time. Next is the steak roast and auction in March.

Please remember to pick up some of the new business cards at the next meeting. They will come in handy if you meet someone that doesn't know about our club.

Most folks decided to go to Bill Grays for eats before the meeting. I guess the 3rd Thursday is the same night Bill Grays has kid's night, with lots of noise and screaming. Go where you like but my nerves are going to have to find another place. Unless maybe we can get the small room to the left as you enter the restaurant.

I'm told we have 2/3 membership using the e-mail format for Spokes. The remaining members will soon have the option of paying for the printing and postage to mail a hard copy to your home. We will have to do this to get our budget in the black.

Thanks to all who have donated items for the door prize table. This wraps up the meeting in a fun way. I want to give a Big Thank You to Sue Harrison for taking over the vacancy on the Sunshine page. We are still looking for a volunteer to take Jim Priestly's job on membership. Please consider stepping up to help your club.

Take Care, Dave

MG Bruce

Don McConnell

It is February we have a new year, a new meeting location and a new size of the printed/ mailed Spokes. The layout and placement of material is just like it has been. I hope all who receive the mailed version enjoy the sameness.

I do have to ask. Who thought those warm days in January was spring? Raise your hand if you did. My hand is high don't be bashful get them up. I had a memory flash of me driving Bruce down the street. Well it was short lived; back to the real world my MGB is not close to being on the road. Well it's fun to dream of what is to come. Gil's talk about restorations at the last meeting helped get me going. I have lots of metal parts; it is just getting to it. While it is still snowy, time to get those projects done so you are ready for the good weather.

One last thing I took a couple of minutes to catch some of the Barrett -Jackson auction from Scottsdale. I enjoy seeing the cars and hearing the price sold. As a British owner/collector there didn't seem to be many European cars, come across the block. I was not

about to sit for 8 to 10 hrs watching for European cars. Enough ranting. See ya at the next meeting.

Happy Top Down

Don

Activities

By Desi Benet

Hi everyone, hope you are keeping warm enough!! Now, weather will never get in the way of the MG car club activities—by the time you read this column, we should have already had our Valve Cover Racesmany thanks to Ted Hershey again for organizing this event. Our next event is our annual STEAK ROAST and Auction, to be held on Sunday March 24 at Eyer Lodge in East Rochester (the same location as last vear). See the flver in this issue of SPOKES. We have kept the cost down to \$7.50 per steak, but if you prefer a chicken breast, please let me know. Remember to go through your garage, cupboards and closets to find something to bring to the auction. RSVP and check is due by March 16 to Desi Benet, 84 Brunswick St Rochester NY 14607. You can email me at or phone at 271-8178. This event is always a good time. Upcoming Spring Events: Save the Date! Swing into Spring is once again on the schedule for April 21 again at the Mulconry's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 17 Liftbridge Lane, Fairport NY. Once again hosted by Lori Scribner and Dick Powers. A new event this year is a **Hammondsport Overnight** on May 11, hosted by Dick Powers and Doug Scribner. We will be attending the firing up of the engines at the Curtis Museum, which is only done

once a year, and having dinner. Check out the flier in this Spokes. A picnic is being scheduled in June, more information when that is available. **Other Events** Its nice to know that there are a number of car related events during the winter. Check out the Finger Lakes Ice Racers and Central New York Ice Racers IdeasIf you have any ideas for an activity, a gourmet club, hooking up with another club activities or any other ideas, give me a line at or call at 271-8178 Take care and see you at our meeting. Desi and Dan Suter (who is helping out with Activities this year)

MGCC Minutes of the Meeting

By Mary Murray

January 17, 2013

Call to Order-By Chairman Dave Chase at 7:30pm

.Acceptance of November minutes was unanimous.

New Members-Bill Dexter (1951 TD)

Returning Member-Doris Britt (1952 TD)

Chairman Report-Announced new board. New business cards made, see Betty for them. Please show the Hand of Friendship at meetings for new members to welcome them in. Introduce yourself. Susan Harrison volunteered to take over Sunshine Page starting February. The club is looking for a speaker for each meeting. Gil Langswager will give talk tonight on restoration. Doug Scribner will be speaking next month on Minis.

Activities-Feb. 3rd. valve cover races at Bushman Cabin in Henrietta Town Park. \$2.00 donation per person, bring dish to pass, own table service and your favorite wine and cheese. Feb. 3rd. WNY's largest swap meet in Buffalo. March 24th- steak roasts and auction. Details will be in next Spokes.

March 9&10-Finger Lakes ice racers. Look on UTUBE for pictures. April 21st is the 10th annual Swing into spring with Laurie and Dick at Connery's in Pittsford. Signup sheets at meetings. Desi would like to resurrect the gourmet club for Sunday dinner. May 11th, Hammondsport, day or overnight trip? Lunch at Bully Hill. Contact Dick Powers. ASAP. Multi-club picnic will be at Tuscany Park (on our side, same as last year) Leon will keep us informed.

Treasurer-Board is very serious about cost cutting. Membership-99 renewed, 66 didn't. Jim Priestley gave history on how he joined the club.

Regalia-Color calendars \$12.00. Hats, magnets, mugs, shirts, etc., more grease available, just by \$4.00 worth of goods

Spokes-Beginning with February, you will only receive a hard copy if you haven't opted out.

England-Dues have been paid.

Library-check website, we have a lot in the library.

Truste e-no report.

Web-checkout line at top.

Old Business-John Murray is to give John Baum name of Porsche member that was interested in sharing show. Tim Rizzo is still in Hospital. Keep in prayers. His phone is 585-275-7575 ext. 15058. Room 614 Strong Memorial.

New Business-file car show.

Cars and Parts for sale-1964 Volvo at Amazon-2 Liter motor.4 chunky summer 15" tires, 1972 midget (school bus yellow), 1959Austin Healy Sprite, 1967 TR 4A contact Al Costich. 4- 15"Blizzack alloy rimscontact Tony MakepeaceSpeakers and PA system will be kept by Art Salo

Door Prizes were given out.

Gil gave a very interesting talk on how George Haynes and he have restored cars.

Adjournment-8:55pm

Meeting Attendance

January 17 2013 _____

Returning member-	Harriette Hokenson	Art Salo
Doris Britt	Leroy Hokenson	Pat Sangster
Guest- Bill Dexter	Betty Langswager	Steve Sangster
	Gil Langswager	Jerri Schiff
Bruce Austin	Tom LeStrange	Scott Schipper
Bill Baldwin	Eileen Makepeace	Brooks Schneider
Cheryl Baldwin	Tony Makepeace	Doug Scribner
Chris Baum	Don McConnell	Laurie Scribner
John Baum	Darcie Murray	Rob Shrader
Desi Benet	John Murray	Jessica Seeley
Willard Brown	Mary Murray	Sean Seeley
Dave Chase	Tim Murray	Frank Stepanik
Alan Costich	Paul Naintre	Dan Suter
Johnny Fahner-Vihtelic	Paul Osborne	Annabelle Tescione
Al Fink	Ned Paulsen	Bob Tescione
Dan Goodwin	Dick Powers	John Thompson
Mike Goodwin	Dawn Priestley	Allyn Wagner
Hollis Hames	Jim Priestley	Bob Welch
Mike Harrison	Chris Russell	Barb Wild
Sue Harrison	Rory Raymond	Dave Wild
Bruce T. Henry	Dick Rzepkowski	Nancy Wilder
George Herschell	Marlene Rzepkowski	Leon Zak





If you need Help, Dan Goodwin and Hollis Hames are coordinating a "Helpline" for members in need of assistance with car projects. Volunteers are asked to contact them with information on availability and areas of expertise. Dan and Hollis will try to match frustrated mechanics to one or more members from the pool of those with experience

Contact Dan: (585) 223-9584 e-mail dlgipk@rit.edu

Hollis: (585) 271-7754





Hammondsport NY
Coolest Small Town in America

MGCC

Tour & Overnight to Hammondsport May 11, 2013



Back Roads Tour from Rochester to Lunch at

Bully Hill Winery

Then to the



for their annual Engine Starting event

Dinner Saturday night in Hammondsport



16 newly renovated rooms are reserved at the **Keuka Lakeside Inn**. 9 rooms with a lake view @ \$99 and 7 rooms @ \$89.

Rooms are being held till the end of February.

Possible meet with the Twin Tiers Sports Car Club





Dick Powers mgahmogca@rpa.net (585) 323-2687

Doug Scribner MiniCityUS@aol.com (585) 872-5133









Wine & Cheese Party

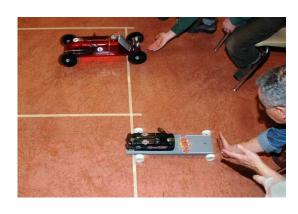
&

Valve Cover Racing

February 3, 2013

Bushman Cabin in Henrietta Town Park \$2.00 donation per person, bring dish to pass, own table service and your favorite wine and cheese.

See Rules on page 20



From The Technical Side (Starting the '65 "B")

By Willard Brown

John, when it is cold or when my MGB has not been started for a week or two, it takes me a bit of time to get it going, much turning over of the engine via the starter. The warmer the weather the less time it takes. During winter weather/low temperatures, it may take me 2 - 5 minutes to get it started. I have been told by some other "B" owners that they get, almost, instantaneous starting regardless of the weather temperature or how long their cars have been standing. Hard for me to believe particularly when I can hear the fuel pump going strong when I turn on my ignition. I can also hear it clicking once or twice during engagements of the starter. I do have a heavy duty starter. The choke is pulled out full and I do pump the accelerator while trying to get the engine going. I also hold down the clutch when engaging the starter.

Question: Is what I am experiencing starting the car normal and if not, what should be taking place?

Thanks much, Willard Brown

Willard,

While the choke may be pulled all the way out of the dash, it's not dropping the jets far enough. Do a physical examination. Pull the choke cable all the way out, then open the bonnet and look at the jets. There should be at least 1/4" of brass jet showing between the plastic jet base and the bottom of the adjuster nut. There are a number of reasons the jets may not be dropping – they might be frozen, the lever on the interconnecting link may be positioned too high in its normal position (it should be 45 degrees below horizontal); the choke cable may be worn or the inner cable balled up. I assure you that if the jets drop 1/4 ro 3/8" the engine will fire immediately.

Your beautiful MGB still graces our website from time to time.

John

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John Fitch 1917 – 2012 He Started In An MG

By Dick Powers

By now, many racing enthusiasts know of the death of the great driver John Fitch, on October 31, 2012. He passed away at his Connecticut home, not far from the Lime Rock track. Lime Rock was a place near and dear to his heart. After his professional racing career ended, Fitch regularly attended races there and you often would see his one off Fitch Phoenix (Corvair power and mechanicals) in the paddock.

John Fitch was born in Indianapolis. His stepfather was an executive with the Stutz Motor Company, so he was a car guy from the start. In 1939 he toured the British Isles in an MG and saw the last race at Brooklands before the start of WWII. In '41, he volunteered for the Army Air Force and was assigned to the 15th Bomber Squadron, flying 50 missions. By '44, he was flying P-51 Mustangs.

In 1948, he opened an MG shop in a Willys dealership in White Plaines, NY. In October he entered his TC at the Glen and continued to race it till early



1950, many times finishing 1st in class. His ability was being noticed and soon he was offered rides in much faster cars like Cadillac Allards, Cunninghams, Ferrari and Jag 120s. In 1951, he was honored as the first SCCA National Champion. In '52 among other races, he drove a Jag "C" type to first overall in the Glen Seneca Cup race and artist Robert Gillespie captured that moment perfectly showing Fitch flying through the state park just after Stone Bridge.

From 1952 to 1966, Fitch competed in many national and international races. Among them was a 1st overall, with Phil Walters, at the 1953 Sebring 12 Hour driving a Cunningham C4R. In '55, he was on the powerful Mercedes factory racing team. Driving a 300SL, he was 1st in the GT class and 5th overall in the Mille Miglia. In a 300SLR, he and Moss were 1st overall in the Tourist Trophy on the Northern Ireland Dundrod circuit. In '56 he was team manager and one of the drivers for the new GM Corvette team. In a Corvette, he set a class land speed record at Daytona

Beach and at Sebring, he shared the Corvette that won Class B. Corvette also won Class C and took the '56 Sebring Team Prize.'57 was a busy racing year, but Fitch was also involved in the promotion of the new Lime Rock track and became Circuit Director. '60 saw Fitch back with the Cunningham Team racing at Sebring and LeMans. Teamed with Bob Grossman, they took their Corvette to 1st in GT and 8th overall at LeMans.

In the early to mid 60's he was still racing, but also developing the Fitch Sprint package that transformed production Corvairs into sports cars. At this time, Fitch was also working on safety improvements for road, track and driver safety. Something many may have seen on highways is the Fitch Inertial Barrier System. This is composed of a number of plastic barrels partially filled with sand and is credited with saving 20,000 lives so far.

His last race was Sebring in'66. He and Cunningham raced a Porsche 904 and when a valve broke, that was the end of both their professional racing careers.

I last saw John Fitch at the 2011 Lime Rock Vintage Festival. This was also the 30th Anniversary of the MG Vintage Racers and Fitch was our guest speaker. His mind was clear as a bell as he related his many racing experiences to the MGVR gang. We knew we were in the presence of "Racing Royalty" and that he started in an MG.



December 6th was the annual Holiday Party. Here are a few photos from the night.









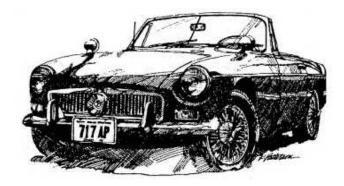




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MGCC Steak roast

AUCTION March 24th, 2013 Sunday 12:30-4:30

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Bring Bour Own

- ★Other beverages
- ★ Place service
- ★Dish to pass, based on last name
- A-G salad or veggles
- H-R desserts
- S-Z appetizers

\$7.50 includes steak, coffee or tea If you prefer chicken, let me know



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FOR SALE: Triumph TR6 New steering lock & ignition switch retails for \$160 thru Moss asking \$55 each or best

offer Call Joe Fazio @585-248-8117

Store your car, boat, or RV for the winter. Put it in storage before November 30, 2011 and take it out of storage before May 31, 2012. I charge \$15/foot with a minimum charge of \$225 for the season, equivalent to a 15 foot long item. Discount for MGCC members. Storage facility is a pole barn with a cement floor and 12 foot high doors. Unheated storage space, dry, protected from the elements, and locked. You are responsible for your own winterizing and insurance. I must also collect 8% sales tax as well.

Call Ziprrrz Paddock at 585-415-5370.

WANTED: All books relating to MG TC cars.

Call Larry Rausch 455-1147 or stonywoods840@rochester.rr.com

Please inform the Editor when ads should be removed.

Ads will run for 3 issues then removed unless you want it to remain.

Gasoline for Your Vintage Automoble

These Stations are selling Regular Gas 91 Octane Non-Ethanol If you know of more locations let the Editor know and we can add it.

Cook's Valero, 335 Westfall Rd. corner of East Henrietta Rd.

Cook's Valero, Avon, Rte. 39 approx 1 mile south of village

Cook's Valero, York, corner Rte. 63 & Rte. 36.

Pittsford Auto Service Center 58 Monroe Ave. (Rte. 31)

just south of the canal & RR crossing.

Sunoco station in Sodus Point 8463 Bay St, Sodus Point, NY

Valero southwest comer of Lake Ave & Denise Rd. has 89 & 91 octane

Thanks Rob Shrader & Brooks Schneider for the updates

From Bob Tescione a website listing ethanol free stations around NY state http://pure-gas.org/index.jsp?stateprov=NY

Fastrac gas stations are now carrying the 91 octane gas no ethanol.

In the Rochester area Fastracs stations on Jefferson Rd. in Henrietta, Browncroft Blvd. in Penfield,
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Additional locations can be found at www.fastracmarkets.com.

Click on "Participating location near you" at the bottom of the left column on their home page. John Murray



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The Cars:

- •1 The cars shall have no power source. All motive force is provided by gravity.
- •2 Cars shall be based on actual rocker box (cover) or cam cover from an MG or British made automobile engine.
- •3 Wheelbase shall be no more than 24 inches. Note: The staging lane is only 24 inches long.
- •4 Wheel Track shall be no more than 14 inches.
- •5 Cars must have 4 wheels each no more than 6 inches in diameter.
- •6 Cars shall weigh 12 pounds or less
- •7 Car design should allow the front wheels to touch a 2 inch high starting gate.
- •8 Any car changed during the race is subject to inspection
 - Big Bore Cars that have the Valve Cover mounted to a platform and the wheel attached to the platform itself. The platform is larger then the dimensions of the valve cover.
- Small Bore Cars which have the wheels attached directly to the valve cover or a frame that is no larger then the dimensions of the valve cover.

The Course:

- •1 The course shall consist of a launch incline 8 feet long, followed by a level run of 20 feet.
- •2 Two lanes shall divide the launch in cline, each 2 feet wide. The incline shall be 2 feet high at the rear-most part and level with the course at the front edge. The front edge shall be mitered to provide a smooth transition from the incline to the run-out area.
- •3 The official "Starting Line" shall be 2 feet from the rear edge of the of the incline. A mechanized starting gate, which is 2 inches high, shall be provided.
- •4 The Run out section of the course shall consist of 2 lanes, each 3 feet wide. The lanes shall be clearly marked.
- •5 The finish line shall be marked 20 feet from the front edge of the launch incline.

! The Races:

- •1 Cars will run in heats of 2 cars each.
- •2 The cars are to be launched with their front wheels on the starting line. If your car design does not allow for this, it is at a disadvantage. The first car to have its front wheels cross the finish line is the winner. If neither car reaches the finish line, the car going further within its lane wins.
- •3 If the wheels of a car should touch a lane marker, or cross over a lane marker, the car shall be disqualified. The competing car immediately becomes the winner.
- •1 The winner of the round is the first car to win 2 races.
- •2 Lanes are alternated between races.
- •3 Winning cars will advance to the n ext round until all are eliminated but 1 car. Scoring is double-elimination to the finals.

A car is eliminated after losing 2 rounds

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Lindsey Short
- 8 Mary Ellen Suter
- 9 Willard Brown, Jr.
- 11 Douglas Jack
- 11 Barb Wild
- 12 Allen Hess
- 12 Sandra Barkley
- 12 Nancy Wilder
- 16 Ed Haefner
- 17 Cheryl Baldwin
- 21 Gil Langswager
- 22 Scott Schipper
- 23 Bill Baldwin
- 27 Jeff Zorn

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE!!

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 14 Dave & Nancy Chase
- 19 Dennis & MaryCostich

CONGRATULATIONS!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Lyn Smith
- 4 Bill DeVos
- 5 Richard Powers
- 10 Al Fink
- 11 Lane Boughton
- 12 John Cook
- 13 Mike Harrison
- 14 Terry Welch
- 15 John Feligno, Sr.
- 15 Vincent Monaco
- 17 Dave Chase
- 18 Patricia Reinhardt
- 20 Bruce Austin
- 20 Gene Faust
- 20 Robert Keppeler
- 22 Laurie Scribner
- 23 Kathy Boughton
- 25 Dennis Costich
- 27 Susan Kath
- 31 Sue Harrison

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EVERYONE!!

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 9 Jim & Dawn Priestley
- 14 John & Laura Feligno, Sr.
- 17 Elton & Patti Schulz

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

** *** ** *** *** *** **

CONGRATULATIONS!

Doris Brit 392 Oklahoma Beach Webster, NY 14580 585-323-1727 1952 MG TD



Mg Car Club Western NY Centre

Sticker, Black/Silver	\$1.50
50th Anniversary Sticker	\$1.50
MGCC Mug	
Car Badge	
Badge Clip	
Patch embroidered	
Key Fob, large leather	\$4.00
Pin, cloisonné	
Dash Plaque, 40th Anniv	
Sticker, front adhesive	
Sign, magnetic (10")	\$15.00
Bumper Sticker	\$1.00
Name Badge w/MG	
Vehicle Log Book	
Fire Extinguisher	\$15.00
_	



Car Badge Sticker Patch

Also available is a wide selection of clothing items (shirts, jackets, ect.) embroidered with the club logo. Prices shown are for members only.

All items are available for purchase at our monthly Meeting, or delivery can be arranged.

Contact: Laurie Scribner 585-8725133 (weekdays).

MG Car Club Western New York Centre, Inc.

Membership Application

Annual Family Membership Dues \$30.00 — All memberships expire December 31st.

Name						Birthday	у	
Spouse		Friend		Birthday				
Home Phone		Work Phone		Wedding Anniversary				
Address					City			
State	Zip+4		Today	's Date	New	or Renev	wal 🗖	
Cars owned & ?	Year							
Club Interests:	Racing	Gymkhana 🗖	Rallye 🗖	Restoration	Car Show 🗖	Social 🗖	Touring \Box	Other \Box
Other hobbies,	etc							
Occupation				E-mail address				
Available for Ro	oadside Help	? No □ Yes □	Days [☐ Evenings ☐	Nights 🗖	Weekends 🗆	1	

Make checks payable to MGCC of Western NY, Inc. Mail form and payment to:
Jim Priestley
3326 County Road 40
Bloomfield, NY 14469



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

MG Car Club Western New York Centre -- Calendar of Events 2013

For the Latest information visit our Web site mgcarclub.com

January	February	March	April
3 Board Meeting 17 MGCC Meeting	3 Wine & Cheese/ Valve Cover Races 21 MGCC Meeting	7 Board Meeting 8-10 Amelia Island Concours 21 MGCC Meeting 24 Steak Roast & Auction	18 MGCC Meeting/ Basket Auction 12-14 Kimber Festival 21 Swing into Spring
May 2 Board Meeting 4 Tune Up Clinic 11 Curtis Museum Tour TBD Garage Party 23 MGCC Meeting	June TBD Club Picnic 10-14 NAMGBR MG 2013 20 MGCC Meeting	July 4 Board Meeting 17-21 NAMGAR GT 38 18 MGCC Meeting 21 Collector Car App Day TBD Multi Club Picnic TBD Laps & Lunch TBD Pultneyville Parade	August 4 GVAC Show 15 MGCC Meeting 18 UK Car Day TBD Cars for Cancer
September 5 Board Meeting 6-8 Watkins Glen 13-15Brit Invasion Stowe 15 Bronte Park show 19 MGCC Meeting	October TBD Fall Foliage Tour 17 MGCC Meeting TBD Garage Tour	November 1 Board meeting 3 Yacht Club Brunch 21 MGCC Meeting	December Holiday Party No Meeting

Next Meeting February 21 2012 7:30 PM Knights of Columbus 70 Barrett Dr, Webster, New York

