

Official Publication of the MG Car Club Western New York Centre

Volume 64 No. 3 Issue No. 756 April 2022



MG Car Club Western New York ~ 2022 Valve Cover Races ~

#### MG CAR CLUB WESTERN NEW YORK CENTRE

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

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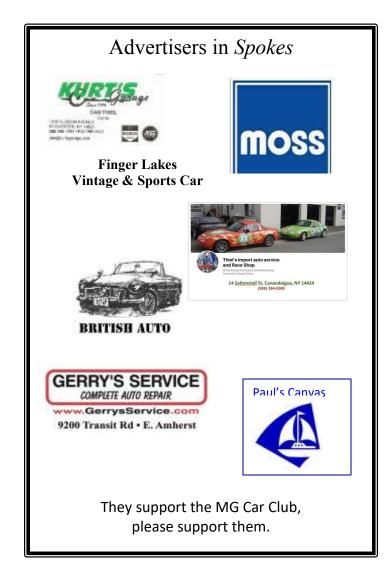
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COVER: Winners at the 2022 Valve Cover Races held March 27, 2022 at Henrietta Memorial Park. Photo by Robert Welch.

#### SUBMISSIONS ARE WELCOME

Deadline: One week and a day after a general meeting. Contact the editor for additional information. Send all correspondence and material via email to spokes@mgcarclub.com. **MEETINGS** – Held the third Thursday of each month, except December, at the American Legion, 260 Middle Rd., Henrietta, NY 14467. Board Meetings are held in oddnumbered months and are open to all members. Contact the chairman regarding the scheduling of the next board meeting and to request your item to be added to the agenda, for either the general meeting or Board meeting.

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#### **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 Fiora Drive Fairport, NY 14450

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

#### MG's Corner

#### By Spokes editor, Michael Goodwin

Welcome to April! It's April 1st, widely known (since at least sometime in the 1500s) as April Fools' Day. So, on this day, I could be writing about the new MG factory being built near Albion in Orleans County, NY that will begin production of fully-U.S.-approved MG Cybersters in early 2023. Or I could be writing about the newly available (from Victoria British) full line of modern engines designed as drop-in replacements for the MGB 1800 (including both the hybrid and plug-in fully electric options).

But instead, you'll see in this issue of Spokes, there are enough real items of interest to fill the digital pages. Along with the usual informative and entertaining entries from the Chair and Vice-Chair, you'll find that the always-excellent meeting minutes this month include a full array of upcoming events laid out by Mike Robinson, Activities Coordinator. We're happy to include an update on Dan Suter's B GT restoration, and Dick Powers has given us a new installment of *Notes From the Home Club*. Of course, we have a big section on the recent Valve

Cover Races, and Susan Goodwin has given us all we need to know (so far!) regarding the

2022 MGCC WNY Motoring Challenge.

Two reminders are worthy of special note – foremost, the signup deadline for Swing Into Spring is April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and Seneca Lodge room requests for the September Vintage Racing weekend at Watkins Glen may in fact be overdue! (Uh-oh! I haven't spoken with him, but maybe Dan Suter can still get you in – see page 28)

Regalia-meister Joe Bellizia has sent in updated info on all the Club regalia available – you'll find that toward the back of the issue, just after the *now more fully reported* Sunshine Page, and just before the Classified Ads (which don't seem to have ever been actually *classified*). There are a couple of new items there this month.

And finally, don't miss the back page!

Safety Fast! § MG



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#### Chairman's Corner

#### By Bob Welch

Happy Spring everybody! The season implies our sports cars are coming out of their long winter hibernation. We've had some pretty useful rainstorms, cleansing the roads of salt and winter muck so now it's time to drive! In a very real sense, our MG Car Club is also revitalized after two years of a pandemic.

Take a look at our events calendar. We are getting on track for what could pass as a normal year. Considering our Club is essentially a social club all tied together around the theme of motoring and sports cars (with emphasis on British sports cars), we all have the opportunity to be very sociable once again in 2022. We have many of our fellow members to thank for this - those who champion the event and all those who help out. Having an activities director again has made a huge difference and we can't thank Mike Robinson enough for stepping into that role.

Valve cover races are coming back, as is Swing into Spring and the Motoring Challenge, this year led by Susan Goodwin. Our annual steak roast and auction is planned for June 12, provided we have at least 30 commitments to attend. The Fall Foliage Tour is scheduled for October 22nd. Steps are being taken right now to organize our annual Christmas party after a two-year hiatus.

Last week Mike and I met with the events manager at Eagle Vale Golf Club and went away impressed with the facility and menu options. Here's a photo of the Stratford Room, which we are considering. It seems well suited for the expected turnout. Stay tuned, but we may very well have a special guest speaker in the person of John Twist, MG expert and long-time owner of University Motors in Michigan.

Some changes are coming to our extensive Club library, which has been housed in a storage facility in Avon for a few years. Longtime librarian Al Costich is retiring from the role and we thank him for many years of service. Paul Osborne is our new librarian and will be moving the materials to his home in



Stratford Room at Eagle Vale – photo by R. Welch

Lima. Each month he will bring selections from the library to the monthly meetings, thereby making them more accessible to members.

Our membership tally is strong and we have welcomed quite a good number of new members. If you have forgotten to renew your membership please do so ASAP as you risk being cut off from activities by insurance stipulations.

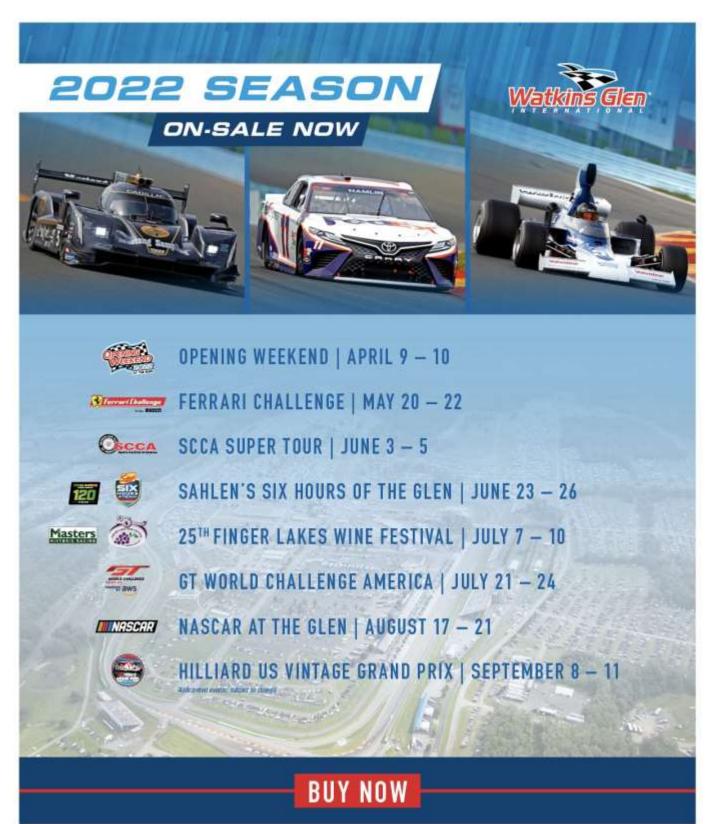
This year "Swing Into Spring" has special meaning indeed.

Safety Fast!









#### Vice Chairman's Corner

#### By George Heissenberger

Happy Motoring everyone! By the time you read this the 2022 Valve Cover Races / Wine and Cheese party will have already taken place. I am

hoping for good turnout and some exciting Valve Cover racing! [Look for a report in this issue of Spokes as the editor managed to squeeze it in after the deadline for the April publication.] In other news recently I received a certificate

North American MGB Register

100,000 MILE REGISTER

George Heissenberger

is hereby recognized

as the event-operator of a
1973 MGB
that has
successfully completed 100,000 miles

Successfully completed 100,000 miles

and dash plague from NAMGBR, the National MGB Registry, for adding our MGB to their 100,000 + mile registry. OUR MG actually rolled over 100,000 miles several years ago, but I hadn't bothered to send the documentation in to NAMGBR to get my certificate until after I retired for a second time in December. If you have an MGB, Midget, 1100 or Post Abingdon MG, you should consider joining NAMGBR. They put out a great full color publication monthly, including a handy Mutual Aid Directory listing MG friendly service centers State by State as well as phone numbers for locals in towns across the USA who will be willing to help out if your MG should break down in anywhere USA. They also host large gatherings of MGs each year, and some of our members have attended their gatherings at Gettysburg, and Atlantic City in the past. This year's gathering is in Peterborough Ontario, Canada. Other than that it's just like our club with tech sessions, members talking about their rides and interesting people, just that it is national and mostly virtual, except for the annual gatherings. Getting back to the 100,000 mile registry, I don't

remember the exact moment when the MGB hit the 100,000 mark, but I do recall taking the requisite photo of the odometer to document the

occasion. Shortly after I burned a valve and pulled the head for Mark Voelckers at **British Auto** to rebuild. I had told myself for vears that I would get the whole engine rebuilt after it hit that 100,000 milestone

but in fact I waited until something like 105,000 or 110,000 miles more before biting the bullet and having the engine pulled and rebuilt along with a new clutch and throw out bearing. Now I've got something like 135,000 miles or so on the old girl and it runs better than ever. One of those "might as wells" that I was going to do but put off was to have the leaking heater core replaced while the engine was out of the car. The heater core has leaked as long as I have owned the car and that's going on 39 years! When I first got this MGB I dumped in some stop leak and that's it. I heard it's a real bear to wrestle in and out, so I procrastinated on that job while I sorted out other issues over the years. One of these days I will get to it. Meanwhile I enjoy just driving the MG as much as I can! I look forward to seeing you at meetings and social gatherings such as the upcoming Swing into Spring as the weather warms up!

Safety Fast! George GH



# Minutes for MGCC Meeting



– March 17, 2022

Recorded and submitted by Annabelle Tescione, MGCC Secretary



Meeting called to order 7:34

**CHAIRMAN**, Bob Welch welcomed everyone, and it was widely agreed it was good to be back to an inperson meeting after months of Covid-cautious, virtual ZOOM meets. Leon Zak still made Zoom available for those who couldn't attend in person and John Baum in Florida took part as well as John Schwelm and Eric Mehserle.

We congratulated people who had birthdays or anniversaries recently. It was Dave Chase's actual birthday, so he got a big cheer from the crowd.

We welcomed some new or returning members, Carl Burkhardt, who has an MGA that was on the cover of Spokes back in the 1990s and Joe Pagano who also has an MGA, recently purchased.

The February Minutes were amended and then accepted, with a correction to the car show that Frank DeMarzo previously mentioned, it is in Saratoga, not Syracuse.

**TREASURY/MEMBERSHIP**, Frank Stepanik reported that the treasury is stable and in good standing with a healthy balance after recent bills were paid. We have 2022 dues steadily coming in with a good response to the reminders that were sent out. The new, online membership system is now working well, and Frank apologized for any errors that were made while we were getting the system smoothed out. Bob Welch mentioned that it's critical for members to keep up with dues as only members in good standing are covered by the Club's insurance policy. If dues are not paid by the end of March, you will be considered a non-member, except for non-paying Brudno award winners.

**ACTIVITIES,** Mike Robinson has put together a full calendar of events for the year, as listed below. He discussed several of the events and the group was very pleased with the lineup. He asked for a volunteer to host the steak roast and auction in June.

Member Rob Lillis gave us some information about the Canandaigua Car show on May 14, which will even include British food. See link under May events.

Susan Goodwin discussed the 2022 Driving Challenge. She will select all the destinations this year and coordinate the several-month event. The Goodwins will be out of town for much of the event but Susan will coordinate it remotely with the first destinations available very soon on the Club website and in Spokes. Mike Goodwin, last year's coordinator, is looking forward to being a participant this year and will see the destinations at the same time as other participants.

(Continued from previous page)

Bob Welch confirmed that there would not be a 2022 MGCC Car Show this year. Joe Bellizia was hoping to pull one together but, after talking to several people about the requirements, timelines and details, it was determined to be impossible for 2022. Instead, the efforts will go toward a great show for 2023 which Dave Wild reminded us will be the 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY for our Vintage Car Show and Festival.

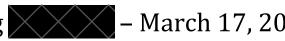
- March
  - o 27<sup>th</sup>, Valve Cover Races and Wine/Cheese Tasting. 1:00 to 4:00 PM, Veterans Park in Henrietta. See Event Calendar on website for info and cabin directions. George and Peggi Heissenberger
- April
  - Swing Into Spring. April 10th. Mulconry's Irish Pub in Fairport. Dick Powers has a sign-up sheet and you can contact him directly for meal choice and number attending.
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Kimber Festival, Buffalo NY. Not an official club event but info is on the website if you wish to go. Also see Kimber Festival Info (nemgtr.org)
  - o 24<sup>th</sup> Cars And Coffee Mumford. 9:00 AM 12;00. Kick off C&C for 2022, weather permitting. Freestyle Mercantile, North Street in Mumford. See Activities Calendar on website for info.
- May-
  - Tune up Clinic. Hollis Hames Sponsor. More info coming as we receive it from Edison Tech.
  - May 14<sup>th</sup>. Classic British Car Show, Onanda Park Canandaigua. (Not a Club Event, but attendance is encouraged.) MGCC member Rob Lillis gave additional information about this event. A link for registration can be found at OCHS Classic British Car Show at Onanda Park « Ontario County **Historical Society**
  - 29th Cars and Coffee Mumford, 9:00 12:00.

#### Looking ahead.

- June Open
  - o Talk of a Steak Roast/Auction. Needs a sponsor, location and date/time. Nothing confirmed as of yet.
  - o Invited to Eagle Vale Golf Course in Fairport for a cars and coffee type event. Date and time to be announced.
  - 26<sup>th</sup> Cars and Coffee Mumford, 9:00 12:00
- July
  - o Summer Tour Dan Suter and George Haynes. Dates and location to be announced.
  - 31st Cars and Coffee Mumford. 9:00 12:00
- August
  - o Potential Gymkhana Event. More info to come.
  - 28<sup>th</sup> Cars and Coffee Mumford. 9:00 12:00
- September-
  - WGI Grand Prix Festival 7<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup>. Not an official club activity but many members attend.
  - 25th Cars and Coffee Mumford. 9:00 12:00
- October
  - o 22<sup>nd</sup> Fall Foliage Tour "Homage to the Little Lakes". More info will be provided as we get closer to
  - 30<sup>th</sup> Cars and Coffee Mumford. 9:00 12:00

# Minutes for MGCC Meeting —— March 17, 2022

(Continued from previous page)



- November
  - o Possible Garage Tour
  - o 27<sup>th</sup> Cars and Coffee Mumford. 9:00 12:00 (weather dependent)
  - December
    - o 17<sup>th</sup> Christmas Party at Eagle Vale Golf Club, Rt. 250 Fairport. 5:00 PM Drinks, Dinner at 6:00.
      - Special Guest Speaker this year. There is a good possibility we will have John Twist as Guest Speaker. More info and confirmation will be made available as I receive it.

**REGALIA**, Joe Bellizia discussed what is available in Club regalia and displayed some Club-logo embroidered jackets, shirts and hats. He said much more is available by order, either on an individual item basis or possibly a group order for some articles, to reduce the price. See many items in Spokes or contact Joe for ordering or information at blitz7711@gmail.com.

**SPOKES**, Mike Goodwin asked for articles and photos to be submitted by April 1<sup>st</sup>, per our usual weekafter meeting deadline. Send those photos and articles to spokes@mgcarclub.com.

LIBRARY, The Board has been investigating ways to make the Club library items more accessible to members. It is currently stored in our rented Avon-area storage garage. Upon agreement from the Board and longtime librarian AL COSTICH, Paul Osborne will take over that duty and store the material in his secure barn. He will bring a rotating dozen or so books and other material to the meetings so members can review them and sign them out, if they are interested. Thanks was given to Al Costich for his longtime position as librarian.

WATKINS GLEN REPORT. Dave Wild announced that the International Motor Racing Research Center has two new directions and information about them is available on the IMRRC website International Motor Racing Research Center | IMRRC (racingarchives.org). It was noted that the Mustang will be the 2022 featured car for the Watkins Glen Vintage Weekend in September and the first Mustang, the V4 made in Germany and driven by Stirling Moss when it was released, will be at the Vintage Weekend. The IMRRC also has a 2022 IMSA GTLM Championship Corvette Convertible C8.R as the fund raiser raffle car this year, tickets available from their website.

Dave Wild also brought up that next year will be THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE MG CAR! This will surely be a special year of events and tributes to the MG margues that we all love.

Dan Suter updated us that he is taking Seneca Lodge room reservations for the Vintage Weekend and has 11 of the 17 available rooms booked. Contact Dan for information or reservations dmesuter@rochester.rr.com.

WEBSITE, Leon Zak reported that the website is running well, including the new online membership component.

# Minutes for MGCC Meeting — March 17, 2022



(Continued from previous page)

**OLD BUSINESS**, Dan Suter told us that he had spoken with Dave Asmuth, a longtime member who is no longer able to get to meetings and he is doing well except for mobility issues. Dave was very pleased with the framed vintage photo of him with his new Austin Healey that the Club sent for Christmas. Dan also spoke with the Langswagers, and they are still not able to get to meetings but are hopeful that they may improve and will be able to attend as the weather improves.

Al Fink discussed issues with our advertisers. We have lost a couple and he hopes they will return. Moss Motors was of particular note as many members order from them. Bob Welch said he will contact them directly about the ad as Al Fink did not get any response from them. Al questioned how the different priced ads are displayed in Spokes and on the website. Dan Suter offered to coordinate the information between Al, who contacts the businesses, treasurer Frank Stepanik who gets the payments, Mike Goodwin who places the ads in Spokes and Leon Zak who puts the ads on the website.

**NEW BUSINESS,** Tom LeStrange informed us he and Al Costich will be part of the upcoming Rochester HONOR FLIGHT Mission 70 visit to Washington DC Veteran Memorials on April 2-3. This was postponed from 2021 because of COVID. Dave Wild will travel with the Mission 71 team on May 21-22.

CARS & PARTS FOR SALE, Al Wagner offered a free MG-TD wiper assembly to anyone who has a use for it.

Doug Scribner provided many valve covers for anyone who wants to make a valve cover racer for our upcoming event on March 27.

**PROJECTS**, Al Costich reported that he had drained the radiator on his race car.

Mike Robinson told us he had some engine work done and highly recommended Carl McQuillen's machine shop on Route 5 in LeRoy. Carl does a lot of racing engine work and is familiar with MGs as well, website https://mcquilleninc.webs.com/

Door prizes that were donated by past MGCC member Chuck Biss were distributed to ticket winners.

Meeting end: 9:00





## Attendance for March17 2022 MGCC WNY Meeting

Submitted by Annabelle Tescione, MGCC Secretary

Robin	Allen	Don	McConnell
Dan	Asbury	Eric	Mehserle (via ZOOM)
Bill	Baldwin	Paul	Osborne
Cheryl	Baldwin	Joe	Pagano
John	Baum (via ZOOM)	Dick	Powers
Joe	Bellizia	Mike	Robinson
Karl	Burkhardt	John	Schwelm (via ZOOM)
Dave	Chase	Doug	Scribner
Al	Costich	Frank	Stepanik
Frank	DeMarzo	Dan	Suter
Bill	DeVos	Annabelle	Tescione
Al	Fink	Allyn	Wagner
Mike	Goodwin	Bob	Welch
Susan	Goodwin	Barb	Wild
Hollis	Hames	Dave	Wild
Tom	LeStrange	Barb	Zak
Rob	Lillis	Leon	Zak



## Update on the B GT V8 Restoration – April 2022

By Dan Suter (with photos by the author)

I last wrote about the lengthy restoration of my B GT V8 in Spokes May 2021. I thought this might be a good time to provide an update on what got done last year, and what some of the plans are for Spring 2022.

The car only has 68,300 miles on it. I had at one point installed my very low mileage spare Rover V8 (identical to the original engine) but since the engine had to come back out anyway for other reasons, I decided I really wanted the original to be the one to go

back in. Since the original had been sitting, I took it to a local engine builder who has much experience building a wide variety of engines. We tore it down together in the late Fall 2020 in his workshop. Of course, the bore wear was \*iust\* outside the guidance limits, the camshaft and lifters were 'toast' which is a common problem with the Buick and Rover aluminum V8 engines. He also

recommended new timing gears and an uprated oil pump as this is a common upgrade. The heads were good and only got new valve springs and keepers and the original valves lapped in. For the most part, I went shopping online at Rimmer Bros in the UK and was astounded at how many original supplier components I could get, and what reasonable prices they were. Parts were well packed, great quality, and arrived quickly. The two deviations we made from 'pure stock' was to buy later spec Rover V8 pistons which have raised the net compression ratio from the original (silly) 8.25:1 up to 9.0:1. We also used the higher quality composite head gaskets rather than the original cheapie tin ones.

For the camshaft, I was adamant to find an NOS, original-spec Rover V8 camshaft. This fairly large engine in the small MG already has great performance and I wanted to preserve the smooth idle, and effortless performance of the car in its original

state. There are many aftermarket cams for these engines but many sacrifice driveability and there have been many reports of greater valvetrain noise – no thanks. I found a Rover parts vendor in London (via the very helpful Rover online club—those guys have been great) who sold me the NOS cam and lifters, and he also was great to deal with.

The engine came back together between August and October 2021 and I brought it home around early

> November- verv pleased with the rebuild!

Also completed in 2021: the rear axle came out (thanks to Ted, Mike, and Al) and Ben at British Auto installed a new RH differential thrust washer which cured the mild clunk that was developing (no, it certainly wasn't me enjoying all that performance when I first imported the car!) and the lash is now back in spec. All the other bearings and





View of a 1974 BGT V8 showing the factory V8 wheels, UK directional lights and no side marker lights

thrust washers were good. I was delighted to learn that the rare 3.07:1 ratio gears were in there as well (well, you don't know until you check?). The rear leaf springs were sagging, with the left side much worse. I had purchased new springs sometime before 1990 and pulled them out of the garage. Since there has been much discussion over the years on excessive arch in leaf springs, I measured my 'new' (~1990) springs and sure enough they were too arched. A member of the MGCC UK V8 Register shared a website that had determined all the spring arch dimensions for every version of B: chrome and rubber bumper MGB, chrome and rubber bumper BGT, MGC and C GT, and factory V8 chrome bumper (me) and factory V8 rubber bumper. Seriously! Thruway Springs on Mt Read re-arched them for me and they came out right to the correct dimensions. Rear axle and springs are now back under the car.

## Update on the B GT V8 Restoration – April 2022

(continued from previous page)

Ben also opened up the close-ratio factory V8 gearbox and overdrive and declared they are both in excellent order. The gearbox had required a rebuild a few years before I took it off the road for laygear and laygear bearings, so probably only had 5-8,000 miles on it since. It received new front and rear main seals at Ben's as well. I also had the driveshaft rebuilt with new u-joints and then balanced. All in all, I was not

pleased with the service and approach of the shop I used, so will be looking for another for any future driveshaft work.

Ben also rebuilt the factory HIF-6 carbs which I had purchased rebuild kits and needles from Burlen Fuel Supply in the UK. Also, I had World Wide Auto Parts rebuild the original rear shocks (which for some reason

A look at the engine compartment of a factory 1974 BGT V8. Note the unusual air filter/carbs/intake arrangement to keep most of that hardware towards the back of the engine and avoid the need for a bonnet bulge.

have a different part number than the regular MGB ones and I never learned why). Radiator is re-cored; the weird AC-Delco (UK) alternator and starter are rebuilt—both at Pro Rebuilders on Adelaide St; clutch, pressure plate and flywheel resurfacing were completed at Rochester Clutch and Brake; and the original cast-iron exhaust manifolds were cera-coated (ceramic powder coating) at Modern Coatings in Palmyra. I have been pleased with all of these vendors so am happy to mention them here! That rounds out most of the 2021 activities.

By mid-April, I am going to pull the car out of the corner and resume work. I think my plan this Spring is going to switch to a 'systems' concept and try to get full systems functioning again. For instance, the 'fuel

system': hang the gas tank, reinstall the rebuilt fuel pump, bend and install the stainless-steel fuel line, and basically re-establish the car's ability to accept fuel and pump it to the engine. Similarly, I have to get the brake and clutch hydraulics and wiring finished. We will obviously be looking to reassemble the engine/clutch/gearbox and reinstall them. Over the next several weeks I am going to paint the gloss black

relief sections of the factory composite alloy/steel wheels and finally after all these years mate up my NOS wheel centers and also get new tires mounted on them! With progress, I will continue updates.

I've saved the best for last. In June 2021, Sue Keppeler and I took our MGA MKII Deluxes to the MG2021 meet which gathered cars from all the MG Registers. Anthony D from the Baltimore area

brought his damask red factory BGT V8 and agreed to take me out for a ride in the countryside following the show. After about 10 miles he pulled over and declared I needed to drive, and I did not argue. I discovered his factory V8, built about 1000 cars after mine, felt \*exactly\* the same as my car – handling, brakes, the feel of the gearbox, the subtle noises and sounds. It was a great morale booster and reminder of what I hope to have when the car is back on the road.



#### Notes From the Home Club

By Dick Powers (photos provided by the author)

As our WNYMGCC contact with the MGCC UK or "Home Club" as I like to call them, I thought I'd pass on a few more things that are happing across the pond at the beginning of this year.

As you would expect, the COVID pandemic altered the activity schedule of the Home Club, like it did our Western NY Centre. For a while, things were so bad in Abingdon, they had to close **Kimber House**, the



Kimber House – Headquarters of the MGCC UK

Cemetery Rd. adjacent to where the MG factory Administration Building was. Kimber House was opened in 1990 and **George Haynes**, the **Fausts** and the **Powers**, from our Centre, were there for the grand opening. MG Centres from all over the world made



MGs driving to Kimber House on Grand Opening Day from just down the road at the old MG factory

headquarters of the MGCC UK. It's open now and things are back to normal. For those who haven't been to Abingdon, Kimber House (named for Cecil Kimber the founder of the MG Car Company) is located on



Kimber House Grand Opening - 1990

donations to purchase Kimber House and I had the honor of presenting a check for £100, from our Centre. Along with the administrative offices, there's also an MGCC museum and a few cars on display. If you are in England and haven't visited Abingdon, it might be well worth the drive to visit Kimber House and the place where your MG was made.



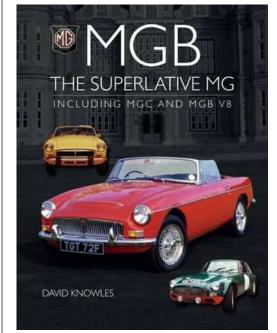
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#### Notes From The Home Club

By Dick Powers (continued from previous page)

Given that the problems caused by the pandemic have lessened in the UK, this past March, a major gathering of car clubs again took place to select the <u>National Car Club of the Year</u>. Among the judges were the editors of *Classic Car Weekly* and *Practical Classics* magazine. Our home MGCC-UK along with the TR Register and TR Sports Six clubs were jointly awarded National Car Club of the Year. This came about because the three clubs did such a good job working together on the Triumph & MG Weekend last year. This is a major honor and nice our Home Club can share in it, but I wonder if the late John Thornley (founder of the MGCC and later Director of the MG works) is rolling in his grave?

This month, the Home Club sent along information about two books you may be interested in. One is: MGB



Cover: *MGB The Superlative MG* 

*The Superlative MG - Including MGC and MGB V8*. David Knowles is the author. According to the description by the Home Club, this may be the best book ever written about the MGB as it

contains more detail and new insights into why this car is still so well loved by enthusiast around the world!

The other book is: *The Cars of BMC* by Graham Robson.
This book gives the complete history of BMC and all the cars, from the 1952
Austin/Morris merger to the end of BMC when it became part of British Leyland in 1968.

For those interested in **podcasts**, the Home Club has

Cover: The Cars of BMC

them on a regular basis. The present one is: For the Love of an

MGA with Tony Brown. If interested, go to: www.mgpodcast.uk.

Well, that's about it for **Notes From The Home Club** this time. **Safety Fast!** RP



#### Valve Cover Races – March 27th

By George Heissenberger (with photos by the author)

Sunday March 27 the MG Car Club Western New York Centre held the 2022 Valve cover

races/wine and cheese party. The event was hosted by George and Peggi Heissenberger with the assistance of Ted Hershey setting up the track with Activities chairman Mike and Maggie Robinson and Mike Goodwin who set up



the brackets with Ted Hershey. Forty members of the club attended, and we had twenty valve cover racers entered.

The event started officially at 1:00 pm but a number of participants had arrived early so that they could test run their cars on the course. There was a wide variety of food provided by members from salads, meatballs, cookies, cakes, donuts, brownies appetizers, cheese and crackers, chips, snacks and much more. The club provided coffee and hot water for tea and hot chocolate.

After a few minutes to set up the brackets for the racers during which time the members snacked

and talked excitedly, the races began in earnest. There is a double elimination system to the races meaning



every racer gets to run their car twice, once on each side of the track, two heats, so the winners advance to the winning column and losers move to the losing column. Then there is a final race for overall winners. The racers are divided into two classes, big-bore, meaning a larger, longer chassis up to the maximum length of the starting gate and a smaller, small-bore class, meaning the cars are

confined to the length of the valve cover/rocker box cover itself. Total weight cannot exceed 12

pounds per car.

We had a large number of big-bore cars and many small-bore, so the racing was exciting! Some very competitive racing was had by all. It was fun too, especially with grandkids and children of members present in the form of Quincy and Amalya, grandkids of Barb and Leon Zak, Alex Wagner, grandson of Al and Phyllis Wagner, Alec Briggs, son of Bud and Kristi Briggs and Cooper D'Angelo, daughter of Chad and Lisa D'Angelo.

Most cars went straight and true down the track, but there was the occasional crash and lane



veering by some cars. NASCAR says, "If you ain't tradin' paint, you ain't racin'!" Ask Mike Robinson about his ankle due to a crash from an errant

racer veering off the track! Several members brought new cars including Mike Robinson, Tom LeStrange, Robin Allen and

After much eating, talking and racing the winners



emerged. We had a vote for "People's Choice" which went to Mike Robinson and his new "Blue Flame" dragster.

#### Valve Cover Races – March 27th

#### By George Heissenberger (continued from previous page)

Top prize big-bore went to Bill Baldwin 1st place,



Mike Goodwin 2nd place, Bill Dexter 3rd place. Top prize smallbore to Ted Hershey 1st place, Chad D'Angelo 2nd place, Alex Wagner 3rd

place. (See the cover photo of this Spokes issue for all the winners.) Many thanks to Mike Goodwin for making the wooden trophies for the winners!

So, after all the racing and eating and drinking was over, the members cleaned up and we drew

the 2022 Valve Cover Races to a close around 5:00 pm. Thanks also to Doug



Scribner who brought a half dozen valve covers donated to members to build cars for next year. See you next year? I hope so! GH

## More Valve Cover Race Photos - (by Susan Goodwin)













# More Valve Cover Race Photos - (by Bob Welch)

















- 20 -

#### SAVE the DATE May 14

Several People's Choice Awards including favorite MGB in honor of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Dash plaques for all entries.

Food will be available.

Register early space is limited.

<a href="https://www.ochs.org/event/ochs-classic-british-car-show-at-onanda-park/">https://www.ochs.org/event/ochs-classic-british-car-show-at-onanda-park/</a>

Or scan the QR Code





## KIMBER FESTIVAL 2022



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# APRIL 22-23, 2022 BUFFALO TRANSPORTATION PIERCE-ARROW MUSEUM, BUFFALO, NY

The Kimber Festival brings together enthusiasts who have a keen interest in M.G. history. Organized as an academic conference, the program consists of presentations about all M.G.s with topics that may include design and production, technical discussions, competitors, and competitions. You do not need to be a NEMGTR member to present or attend. All MG enthusiasts are welcome!

Come join the fun and drive yourself and your teammate to this year's MGCC Motoring Challenge destinations. Every time you get out in your little car, drive to just one or two destinations or make a full day of it, finding all the interesting places and things on the list. You have until November 1st to complete the challenge. A few of you have already started, so let's get more involved in the fun - we all love driving our cars!

Every month the destination list and instructions will be posted in Spokes. This month, you'll find them in the following few pages. If you have any questions contact me, Susan Goodwin, at <a href="mailto:challenge@mgcarclub.com">challenge@mgcarclub.com</a>.

#### Here are a few pictures so far:



Maggie & Mike Robinson's '54 MGTF



Mike Goodwin's '78 MGB



Hollis & Doreena Hames's '70 MGB



George & Peggi Heissenberger's '73 MGB

#### **HOW TO ENTER**

- -Send your first photos or photos to <a href="mailto:Challenge@mgcarclub.com">Challenge@mgcarclub.com</a>
- -With your name
- -With the year, make and model of your car or cars you intend to use for the challenge
- -Attach your photos, identified with the destination numbers

#### **PARTICIPATION CHALLENGE DETAILS**

- -Find the completed list of destinations in *Spokes* monthly *(see the following two pages)*
- -Drive to the listed destinations
- -Snap a picture of your car at the destination preferably with yourself or teammate in the photo
- -Send the photos by email with the destination numbers as you complete them to: Challenge@mgcarclub.com
- -You can do the destinations in any order except the ones with cut off dates
- -All photos due on or before November 1st 2022
- -Enjoy monthly updates in *Spokes* where you'll see yours and other competitors' photos and get updates on the scoring

You will score 1 or more points for each destination. Points vary depending on the difficulty or the creativity required. Additional bonus points are given for some of the destinations, so get the most points possible.

#### Remember

- -All photos are due on or before November 1st 2022
- -Have fun!

**Special Note:** Out of state members can participate. Gear destinations to your state. If you have any questions,

contact me, Susan Goodwin at <a href="mailto:Challenge@mgcarclub.com">Challenge@mgcarclub.com</a>.





<b>√</b>	#	Destination	Base Pts.	Due Date	Bonus Description	Bonus Pts.	My Score
	1	With snow (this is Western NY)	1	05/15/22	new pictures of old snowpiles are okay		
	2	Yard with Easter decorations not own yard	1	04/15/22			
	3	April Showers (must be in the rain)	1	04/30/22			
	4	Tree in spring bloom	2	05/30/22			
	5	Tree/Trees with fall colors	1	10/25/22	with splendid fall color	1	
	6	Alongside a sunflower field	2				
	7	Alongside an apple orchard	1		with apple farm stand	2	
	8	Maple syrup business/sign	1				
	9	Beehive boxes	2				_
	10	Honey roadside stand	2		buy a jar of honey, include it in photo	1	
	11	Farmstand	1		show purchased produce	1	
	12	Dairy farm	1		with cows in barn	2	
	13	Horses in a field	1				
	14	Winery on Keuka Lake Wine Trail	1		winery sign and lake in background	2	
	15	Winery on Seneca Lake Wine Trail	1		buy a bottle hold it up standing next to car	2	
	16	Winery on Cayuga Lake Wine Trail	1		picture of grapevines and winery with sign together	2	
	17	Oldest Winery in the Finger Lakes/ Sign	2				
	18	Irish pub	1				
	19	Ethnic restaurant	1				
	20	Burger stand	1				
	21	Coffee shop with sign	1		w/friend or relative other than partner, both standing next to car - coffee in hand	2	
	22	Town/County park named after someone	1				
	23	State park or site with sign	1				
	24	Village square	1		with a village sign in the square and car in view	2	
	25	Village sign with the letter H	1				
	26	" " " Р	1				
	27	" " " В	1				

<b>√</b>	#	Destination	Base Pts.	Due Date	Bonus Description	Bonus Pts.	My Score
	28	Town sign with the letter M	1				
	29	" " " S	1				
	30	" " " " P	1				
	31	Out of New York State: State Sign	3				
	32	Historical place/site with sign	2				
	33	Roadside oddity/attraction	3				
	34	Motor raceway	1				
	35	Your car in a parade	1	08/01/22			
	36	Cruise night	1		with 2 car friends, all 3 cars in a row, one picture showing 3 cars and each person behind their own car	2	
	37	Yellow very curvy road warning sign	1				
	38	Roundabout	1		driving around it	2	
	39	Antique shop	1				
	40	Train station used as atrain station	1				
	41	Train station used as something else	1				
	42	Cobblestone house/building	2				
	43	Medina Sandstone building	2				
	44	Speciality/Special Interest Museum	2				
	45	Stained glass art studio or window	1				
	46	Old cemetery	1		established before 1900 - show sign	2	
	47	Stone arched bridge	2				
	48	Railroad bridge	1		trestle railroad bridge	2	
	49	Windmill farm (show 3 or more windmills)	2			_	
	50	Old movie theater with marquee	2				
	51	Prominent/famous person's house with sign	2				
	52	Monastery/abbey	2				
	53	If you capture 3 or more destinations (from the list above) in a single photo you will receive not only the stated points for those 3, but also you will receive an additional 5 bonus points				5	
	54						



## PRESENTS

Classic European Car & Motorbike Show

# EUROCAR 2022

AT LAFAYETTE APPLE FESTIVAL GROUNDS

SAVE THE DATE: FATHER'S DAY JUNE 19 9AM-3PM



Corner of Rt 20 & Rowl and Rd, La Fayette, NY

Classic Car Show, Buropean Cars, Motor BKEs
And the newest in Buropean technology

SPECTATORS FREE!

Majority of Proceeds go to Charity

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Mehttps://europeanmotord/ub.com/

For MoreInfo contact: eurocar chair men@gmeil.com

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## Seneca Lodge Room Requests for 2022 Vintage Race Weekend

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. Please e-mail to dmesuter – at – Rochester.rr.com.

Please include any special requests you have. Examples include:

- extra nights needed (please specify which night 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;
- if you wish to bring a pet, please note these are only allowed in the cabins and might be subject to a cleaning charge equal to one night's stay.

I will do my best to address these requests. It gets to be a bit like assembling a puzzle with the various pieces, but usually always works out!

#### Please include:

- your contact information: name
- address, phone number
- e-mail address.

There is a 3-night minimum as in previous years. There is also a 1-night penalty for cancellations 7 days or less from check-in date.

We have 17 rooms available, the same as last year. All are on my credit card at the moment!

UPDATE: As of March 17th, 11 of the 17 have been requested so far! Don't delay too long!

I will gather all the requests between now and March 30. You must be a current 2022 MGCC member to participate in this first round of room selection. With your request, expect a confirmation note from me within 2 days (and if you don't happen to receive a note from me within a few days of e-mailing me, please chase me—I want to be absolutely certain we connect when you make a request).

A few weeks after March 30, 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.

We will also accept requests for rooms from non-club members starting now, along this same timeline, but those requests won't be addressed until after the MGCC member requests received through March 30 are met. A good comment: the last several years, we've had a few rooms available after meeting all our needs, and several MG vintage racers from other areas have been able to use them within our block of rooms. To a person these MG vintage racers have been helpful, friendly, and great guests.

Thank you for your help in making this run smoothly.

Thanks,

Dan







# MG2022 - from Jeremy Holdsworth - MG2022 Vice Chair

\*\*\* MG2022 Update - March 2022 \*\*\*

The organizing committee of MG2022 is pleased at the overwhelming response we have received thus far. As of now, we have roughly 200 participants registered. Our discounted rooms at the Holiday Inn have all sold out and we are down to less than 5 at the Best Western. We have provided a list of other accommodations on the online MG2022 registration form. If you haven't already registered, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible, some of our activities are capacity limited on a first come, first served basis and they have started to sell out. This includes our awards banquet. The main banquet room is now fully sold out, however we have just secured access to another room offering an additional 35 seats. We hope to be able to hook up a live video feed to this room, so you don't miss any of the action, including our special guest speaker, former MG employee Dr. Ian Pogson. If you want to ensure access to the activities of your choice, don't keep waiting and miss out! Register now at www.MG2022.org.

Since our last update was released, we have launched our online regalia and commemorative MGB60 beer sales. Those can be found by visiting the MG2022 website. We are very excited to feature the ability to have an MG of your choice, in the colour of your choice, stitched onto your MG2022 shirts. There is a wide array of MGs to choose from and the colour possibilities are endless. Perfect for those unique 1970s MGB colours like Limeflower or Aconite. Our MGB60 commemorative beer cans are also sure to be a hit. We have partnered with Henderson Brewing Co in Toronto to come up with a very limited edition 8 pack of MGB themed tall cans. Each can represent an iconic MGB variant and inside you will find Henderson's easy drinking Food Truck Lagered Blonde, perfect for those June temps in Southern Ontario.

Our activities calendar is jammed full of events that should satisfy MG enthusiasts of all ages and backgrounds. Whilst there are several activities that are ticketed and require an additional fee, your MG2022 registration allows you access to many non-ticketed activities such as the Meet & Greet, Tech Sessions, Rallye & Funkhana, Hagerty Driving Experience, Parking Lot Party, Car Show and more. Our ticketed activities include bus trips to local sites of interest such as Petroglyphs Provincial Park and Bobcaygeon, Lift Lock Cruises, Scottish Afternoon Teas and an off-site Barbecue dinner at Lang Pioneer Village. We really do hope that there will be something for everyone who attends MG2022.

Finally, it has now been a few years of planning and organizing but to see everything coming to fruition makes the effort all worthwhile. We are still dealing with some restrictions from COVID, but it looks like things are indeed opening back up. For our American friends, please make sure your passports are up to date and review the latest Government of Canada Travel Guidelines at (http://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid). Please check these requirements often as they are constantly changing.

Registration for MG2022 closes May 31st and you will not want to miss out so do not delay, register today!

Safety Fast! Jeremy Holdsworth MG2022 Vice Chair







CAR SHOW

TECH SESSIONS

FUNKHANA

VALVE COVER RACING

MODEL COMPETITION

PHOTO CONTEST



LIFT LOCK TOURS

LOCAL RALLY

SELF-DIRECTED DRIVES

PARKING LOT PARTY

SPECIAL GUEST

SPEAKER

uring the summer of 1992, hundreds of MGs converged on scenic Peterborough, in the Kawartha Lakes region of Ontario, for the inaugural convention of the North American MGB Register. Thirty years later, we are going back to where it all began. Come join us June 19th to 23rd to honour our history and celebrate the future. We will have a slew of activities for enthusiasts of all ages including a car show, tech sessions, lift lock tours, funkhana, local rally, self-directed drives, a parking lot party and an awards banquet with a very special guest speaker. We look forward to seeing you in Peterborough at THE MG event of 2022!

WWW.MG2022.DRG

JUNE 19 - 23, 2022







# April Sunshine Page



# April Birthdays

2	Donna Papandrea
6	Penny Heusler
7	John Schwelm
7	John Thompson
10	Kelly Allen
10	Elton Schulz
11	John North
12	Janice North
13	Jane Hamilton
14	Phyllis Wagner
17	Steve Melcher
17	Marsha Osborne
20	Maggie Robinson
21	George Haynes
21	Dawn Priestley
21	Frank Stepanik
26	Todd Black
27	Gail Smithers



Happy Birthday, everyone!

# **April Anniversaries**

3	Latty & Dan Goodwin
19	Rosemarie & Frank Stepanik
21	Kelly & Robin Allen
22	Karen Rapp & Bill Clicquennoi
30	Barb & Al Fink
30	Suzanne & Robert Keppeler



Congratulations!



If you think you've been mistakenly left off either list above, check to see if you've paid your dues.

If you <u>still</u> think it's a mistake, send a note to the editor at <u>spokes@mgcarclub.com</u>.



# MG Car Club of Western NY Available Regalia 2022 Catalog



## MG Car Club of Western NY Centre Pins



Note: Key is just to show size



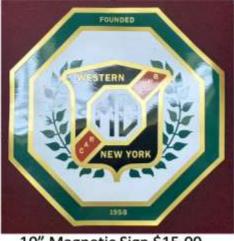
50th Ann. Badge \$20.00



Car Badge \$20.00







10" Magnetic Sign \$15.00



# MG Car Club of Western NY Centre Bumper Sticker & Coffee Mugs



Coffee Mug \$5.00

In between meetings feel free contacting Joe B at blitz7711@gmail.com

#### MG Car Club of Western NY Centre

Port Authority Shirts \$25.00 embroidered





Color Choice: Not all colors may be available do to supply chain shortages. Feel Free in emailing me if you have a color you want me to check on at blitz7711@gmail.com

#### MG Car Club of Western NY Centre

New Era Hats \$25.00 embroidered

(price will go down if we order over a dozen)



Color Choice: Not all colors may be available do to supply chain shortages. Feel Free in emailing me if you have a color you want me to check on at blitz7711@gmail.com

# Jackets with our Logo Embroidered

As seen at our March Meeting!!!!





\$65 Delivered



Team 365 Tag RN108030 / CA 05155

\$75 Delivered



Tri-Mountain W/fleece lining & no hood Tag: RN 88051365

\$85 Delivered

Color Choice: Not all colors may be available do to supply chain shortages.

Feel Free in emailing me if you have a color you want me to check on at blitz7711@gmail.com



## Join/Renew

New Membership	MG Car Club Western New
Renewal	York Centre
Last Name - Primary Member *	Membership Application
First Name - Primary Member *	
Email - Primary Member	Annual family membership dues \$30
Birth Month/Day - Primary Member	dues \$30
Last name - Partner	Make checks payable to:
First name - Partner	MGCC of Western NY
Email Address	
Birth Month/Day - Partner	Print and mail form and
impromptu cruises, that are only ann	t - but there are many announcements, especially
	lounced by way of the list.
Phone 1 (member or primary) *	lounced by way of the list.
	lounced by way of the list.
Phone 1 (member or primary) *	lounced by way of the list.
Phone 1 (member or primary) *  Phone 2 (partner or secondary)	lounced by way of the list.
Phone 1 (member or primary) *  Phone 2 (partner or secondary)  Anniversary month/day (mm/dd)	lounced by way of the list.
Phone 1 (member or primary) *  Phone 2 (partner or secondary)  Anniversary month/day (mm/dd)  Street Address *	lounced by way of the list.
Phone 1 (member or primary) *  Phone 2 (partner or secondary)  Anniversary month/day (mm/dd)  Street Address *  City *	lounced by way of the list.
Phone 1 (member or primary) *  Phone 2 (partner or secondary)  Anniversary month/day (mm/dd)  Street Address *  City *  State *	Omit phone/email on distribution list
Phone 1 (member or primary) *  Phone 2 (partner or secondary)  Anniversary month/day (mm/dd)  Street Address *  City *  State *  Zip *	



#### Classified Ads

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

**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 its seats and front bumper. Inexpensive starter project for \$1000.

Call George at 585-872-6536

**For Sale:** Miscellaneous XPAG engine parts and 2 hubcaps 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

Hubcaps are original/not replacement. - \$30 Contact 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: 1976 & 1977 MGBs, both need work to start

them

Contact Claude Fedele @ <u>sfedele@rochester.rr.com</u> or 585-899-9388

**For Sale**: Edelbrock 4025 Uni-Syn Carburetor Balancing Instrument



\$15.00 or BO. Contact Bill Clicquennoi, Magnolia La, Webster, NY 585-202-

5992 wjc@rochester.rr.com

FOR SALE: MG Steering Wheel, Excellent Condition. From 1979 MGB switchout.



\$45 or BO. Contact Bill Clicquennoi, Magnolia La in Webster 585-202-5992 wjc@rochester.rr.com

For Sale: MGB 3-main short block - asking \$250

If interested, contact Dick Powers: <a href="mgahmogca@rpa.net">mgahmogca@rpa.net</a> or at 585-410-4500.

**For Sale:** Color Wiring Diagrams 11x17 size; many cars to choose from \$17.95. Further details at <a href="https://www.colorwiringdiagrams.com">www.colorwiringdiagrams.com</a>

For Sale: Four (4) spoked wheel rims for an MG (no other information given)
9580 Big Tree Road, Hemlock NY.

Please call Rhonda at 585-919-9719

**For Sale**: Exhaust Header – Peco - for MGB Moss Part # 459-045 (no longer available) –used for a few low mileage years – very solid, great shape (I have replaced the whole system with stainless, so I no longer need this). \$50 --- PRICE LOWERED!



Call Mike Goodwin at 585-360-6885

#### **Classified Ads – (continued)**

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

**FREE:** A nearly complete set of *Spokes* from 1996 – 2016. I have been working on collecting a complete set of Spokes and these are now duplicates to me. Dan Suter,

dmesuter@rochester.rr.com, 585-645-5645

**WANTED:** Any *Spokes* issues from the mid-1970s and earlier. Dan Suter, dmesuter@rochester.rr.com, 585-645-5645

I am a member of the Grand Strand British Car Club, and the owner of a 1953 MG TD. It has become necessary for me to offer this beautiful car for sale, so I am reaching out to other Club members with this opportunity, before attempting to sell the vehicle on the open market.

The previous owner of my car purchased the TD in 1953 new and had kept this car in his collection of antique vehicles. He had been offered several collectable cars and needed room in his facility to accept these new antique vehicles. He therefore found a high-end seller to purchase a part of his available collection. This dealer put the MG TD for sale in its showroom, and I purchased it.

Last important note concerning the 1953 TD is the car offered has been completely gone over and given an A+. This is a complete vehicle with no modifications. Original mileage is listed at 4,808 original miles verified by the previous owner.

Asking price for this 1953 MG TD is \$29,900. Please contact me with any questions or to request additional information.

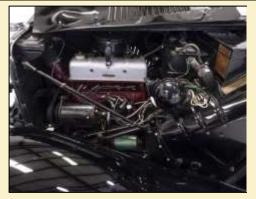
Phone 610-209-9916 or kfishlinger@gmail.com

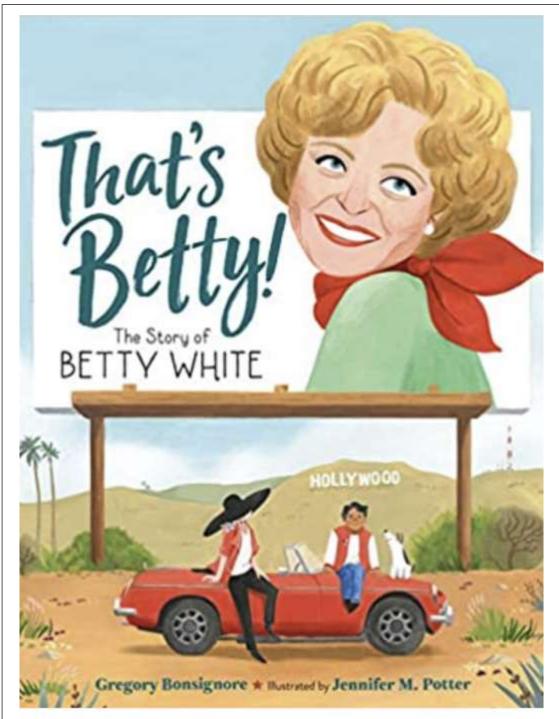
Keith Fishlinger











Just when you think Betty White couldn't have been any cooler, here she is pictured in a kid's book with an MGB!

(submitted by Annabelle Tescione – This book is on sale wherever books are sold, especially wherever they sell books about Betty White)