

Spokes

Official Publication of the MG Car Club Western New York Centre

Volume 49 No. 2

February 2007



New Members Ken and Barbie In Their Amphicar



Founded 1958

Meeting
February 15th 7:30 PM
Burgundy Basin Inn
1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford, NY

The Marque of Friendship

MG CAR CLUB WESTERN NEW YORK CENTRE

PO Box 831, Webster, New York 14580-0831

Web Site: www.mgcarclub.com

The SPOKES is published and distributed 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. Current and past issues of SPOKES are also available in Adobe PDF format on the web site.

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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 Allen Hess, 17 Sandpiper Lane, Pittsford, NY 14534 or deliver by hand at a meeting.

MEETINGS

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, except December, at the Burgundy Basin Inn, 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford, NY 14534. 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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ADVERTISING RATES as of January 1, 2007

Copy ready business advertising:

Size		Single Issue	One Year
Half Page	7.5" x 4.8"	\$27.00	\$110.00
Quarter Page	3.6" x 4.8"	\$16.00	\$65.00
Eighth Page	3.6" x 2.3"	\$11.00	\$44.00

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*Members Emeritus



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 \$5.00). This plaque, created by Paul Heaney, is installed in the Monroe Community College Automotive Technology Department. Nameplates 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:

Joanna De Blaere, Treasurer
8607 North Shore Drive
Honeoye, NY 14471

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

From the Chairman

Leon Zak

IT FINALLY HAPPENED—WINTER, BUT THE MG IS IN THE garage. Along with electricity and most of the insulation. I just had this flash that my building this garage is somewhat like a ride in an unrestored MG—a few stops and delays here and there for repairs/adjustments but a nice ride and very rewarding at the end. And a small sigh of relief that you actually made it.

I've got this list of things to do the MG but I'm really working hard not to start anything before the garage is finished, it isn't that easy—put the fuel injection back on and fuss with it OR put plugs in the north wall? Clean up that wiring that got caught pulling something out of the trunk OR put the switches in for the fans and outdoor light? Decisions, decisions. BUT coming back from a visit to Florida and seeing less than 20° temps has made the decision much easier —work on the MG or finish the insulation so you can heat the garage? It became an easy one. So I'm off to get propane for the temporary heater to warm the garage so I can put the rest of the electric in so I can get it inspected so I can finish the insulation so I can get that inspected so I can get the drywall done so I can do the floor so I can turn the heat on so I can work on the MG.

On another note, C# for those musically inclined, the web site stats show us up 40% to 80% in our visits to the web site. Seems the classifieds is a popular one along with events, past Spokes and the links page. Just for your information we get requests to be added to the link pages by all kinds of places and unless they have to do with our type of cars I don't keep them. I think we've got a good place to start for those looking for information or products having to do with our cars of interest.

So Doug—how many days till spring?

The Herald

Allen Hess

Starting with a joke seems to be in favor so here's one. At the January 18th MGCC meeting Tim Rizzo and I discussed the pros and cons of replacing the “run flat” tires on the New Mini with regular tires that won't run when they are flat. (The New Mini doesn't have room for a spare—even though the original Mini, which is much smaller, did have a spare.) Tim said that he was using regular tires and asked “So when was the last time you had a flat?” I couldn't give him an answer then, but now I can. “Last Thursday, the 25th about 11:45 AM.” (the currently installed snow tires are not “run flats”) Luckily a Firestone dealer was close enough so as not to really ruin my day.

Clif Jenney sent some photos of his TD restoration a while back and they have been patiently awaiting for space in the Spokes. A selection of before and after pictures are in this issue—an impressive accomplishment. Now would be a good time to send in pictures and stories of winter projects. Some that I've heard about are a Riley with cement in the door; a Herald convertible being refurbished; a complete rebuild of a TR3; an MGB with properly fitted doors. All of these cars are in Webster! Could there be something in the water? Let us hear from you.

AN HOMAGE TO FORMER SPOKES EDITOR DAVE WILD

There is a rumor from the Fens that a wife is requesting moderation as she exhibits toleration for the multiplication of their current collection through the addition of a younger variation of the marque of her spouse's infatuation.

—TRIUMPH!

News from the Internet

PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR BRUCE MCLAREN FILM

Plans have been announced for the filming of a Bruce McLaren feature in New Zealand. During the A1 Grand Prix event running at the Taupo circuit this weekend, McLaren's widow and daughter announced the plans flanked by government minister Jim Anderton and Emerson Fittipaldi, Sir Jack Brabham and some former McLaren Racing directors.

The film will be produced by the same man who produced the Lord of the Rings films. The script is currently being completed and casting has yet to be decided. The film premiere is being pencilled in for early 2009 and it has apparently received the blessing of Bernie Ecclestone.

The film makers have escaped paying through the nose for footage as all the film to be used is from before 1980 - before the FOM imposed its current rules. New Zealand studios are set to be used for production and special effects and filming is expected to commence by the end of the year.

— V8



Activities

Brooks Schneider

WE OFFICIALLY BEGAN THE 2007 ACTIVITIES SEASON with the Wine and Cheese party and Valve Cover races at Finn Park in Webster. The event was well-attended, the food was plentiful, and the racing was very close and competitive. There is a report elsewhere in this issue and photos on the website.

On Sunday, February 11, we will be making a return visit to the Inside Track Speedway on Elmgrove Road for some additional competition, in the form of battery-powered go-karts and, of course, more food. If you haven't tried it, you owe it to yourself to do so.

We have two events scheduled for March so far. The Annual Steak Roast and Auction will be on Sunday, March 4th at Eyer Park in East Rochester. This is a perennial favorite and promises to be as interesting as ever, with our seasoned auctioneers manning the microphones again this year. One request as you are gathering items for auction. Should those things you brought not be sold, please be prepared to take them back home with you. This is especially important for items that are considered hazardous waste (eg. electronics, computers, monitors, televisions, tires), as we have no good way to deal with them. The last people to leave typically have vehicles that are already loaded to

capacity, so leftovers can cause a real dilemma.

On Sunday, March 25th, we will welcome the return of Spring in the traditional way with the Swing Into Spring at the Old Toad. Mark your calendars and plan to join us. Details can be found in this issue.

At this time, we have no events planned for April, so we need your help. ◀



Seneca Lodge Rooms

Joeanna DeBlaere

IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR ALREADY, TIME TO THINK ABOUT the Vintage Weekend at Watkins Glen. As we did for the last few years, we will be having a lottery for the rooms. Seneca Lodge still requires a 3 night stay. This year the deadline to submit your name and room preference is February 13th. You must be a current club member to apply.

If you would like a room I need your request in writing on or before the 13th of February. You can send it by e-mail to deblaere@frontiernet.net or by regular mail to Joeanna DeBlaere, 8607 North Shore Drive, Honeoye, NY 14471.

We will need a few people to volunteer to do the party on Saturday night at the Log Cabin. There is always plenty of people to help with getting this party organized, if you have not hosted the party in the past you might consider doing it this year.



This is the ONLY NOTICE!
Requests due by February 13th.

Minutes of the Meeting

Marlene Rzepkowski

January 18, 2007

Call to order-7:31 PM

New members and guests- The following people were guests to this meeting: Paul Deturck- 1966 Austin Healey 3000, Tony Makepeace- 1985 MR2 and 1995 BMW 325IS, George Greene- all original 1966 VW Beetle.

Treasurer Report- Accounts are doing well. Specific details can be obtained from Joanna DeBlaere, our treasurer.

Membership- Dues for 2007 are now due. A reminder that dues can be paid through Pay Pal on the club's website or to Jim Priestley.

Librarian- Al Costich reports that tapes have been lent out and returned.

SPOKES- Articles for the next issue are due next Thursday, January 25, 2007.

Regalia- Many new styled clothing articles are now available. These include fleece wear, light weight jackets, sweatshirts, and hats all embroidered with the MGCC logo. This will be the last of the winter clothing for sale.

England- George Herschell reports that we will have a new contact person with the MGCC of England. He was also informed that the Nuffield Trophy will be awarded this year to a club in the United States.

Trustee Report- No report

Activities- Brooks started the report with a list of "Ten Rules to Live By". If you missed it see him for details. Read the Activities report in SPOKES for a detailed list of future events.

Car Show- Dick Powers reported that the Town of Farmington is happy with the car show and wants us to continue to have it there. Mark Gibson is looking for advertisers for the car show program and already has at least six new advertisers lined up. See Mark if you can help.

Web Site- Gary Sandusky reported that photos from the Christmas party are now on the site. Non club event pictures related to car activities can also be submitted by the membership.

Vice Chair- Dan Suter stated that the NAMGAR and MGCC proposal is still being worked on by the committee. Also plans for the 50th MGCC anniversary are still being worked

on and a report will be given in the near future.

Old Business- No report

New Business- Leon announced that the Board of Directors voted to make two changes to the MGCC By-Laws. In order to have these take effect the changes must be read at 2 consecutive MGCC meetings and published once in SPOKES with the vote by the membership at the MGCC March meeting. The two proposals are as follows:

- Combine the language of Article II number 6 into Article II number 1 of the MGCC by-laws for clarification and continuity. Article II number 1 will be written as follows if voted and approved by the membership: The elected Officers of this Club shall consist of: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Director, and two Trustees, one to be elected by a majority of the membership at the annual election. A second Trustee shall be the immediate past Chairman of the Club. If the immediate past Chairman declines the position, the second Trustee position will be elected by a majority of the membership at the annual election. The balloting shall be secret.
- Rewrite the wording for the duties of vice-chairman. The wording will be as follows if approved by the membership: It shall be the duty of the vice-chairman to perform all the duties of the chairman in his absence and to be a liaison between the board and committee chairpersons.

Leon also stated that a new member from Belgium, that joined the MGCC using the website, wanted to be a member for a year in order to get a car club badge. Due to financial considerations a motion was made and seconded, to make him a member for a year, send him a MGCC badge, and as he already received the January issue of SPOKES (calendar) he should now view subsequent issues on the web. The motion was passed by unanimous vote of the membership present. A suggestion was also made to ask him to write an article on being an MG enthusiast.

Cars and Parts For Sale:

1962- Austin Mini 857 Deluxe powered by a 1275 engine. Contact Al Costich

Die cut, adhesive backed masks for painting MGB rostyle wheels. Also available, heat shield material for MGB. Contact Dave Engdahl

1979 MGB roadster-has engine problems, California car. See ad in SPOKES or contact Joe DeBlaere

Attendance

January 18, 2007

Betty Langswager
Gil Langswager
Bob Tescione
Gary Sandusky
John Zoltner
Dave Wild
Barb Wild
Carl Prouty
Valerie Zoltner
Dave Asmuth
Chuck Swarts
Joeanna DeBlaere
George Herschell
Joe DeBlaere
Beverly Swarts
Jim Priestley
Doug Jack
Cheryl Baldwin
Bill Baldwin

Laurie Scribner
Doug Scribner
George Haynes
Beverly Haynes
Cindy Jack
Gayle Schneider
Brooks Schneider
Alan Costich
Tom LeStrange
Allen Hess
Vivienne Rizzo
Tim Rizzo
Rhonda Rizzo
Dan Suter
Dave Engdahl
Brian Fallon
Dick Giambra
John MacDonald
Ted Hershey

John Thompson
Mike Goodwin
Steve Sangster
Pat Sangster
Steve Stewart
Mark Gibson
Lane Boughton
Jeff Kath
Leon Zak
Hollis Hames
Carl Baxter
Nick Zuck
Wally Roworth
Chris Baum
John Baum
Linda Fazio
Joe Fazio
Marlene Rzepkowski
Dick Rzepkowski

Jim Davis
Don McConnell
Lindsey Short
Frank Stepanik
Gene Dinkel
Dick Powers
Phil Parisi
Sue Keppler

Guests
Paul Deturck
George H. Greene
Tony Makepeace

minutes continued—

Miscellaneous Comments-

Full color versions of 2007 MGCC calendar are available for \$12 each and can be purchased at the regalia table.

Seneca Lodge Rooms for the Vintage Race Weekend at Watkins Glen in September will again be done by lottery. Send email or snail mail requests with room preference (3 nights minimum) to Joeanna DeBlaere by February 12, 2007.

Leon would like any information that members have as to the usage of the term "steering committee" instead of Board of Directors in Article IV of the By-Laws.

Door Prizes – Awarded

Motion to adjourn and seconded at 8:29PM.

—MG TF

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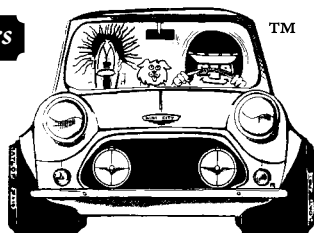
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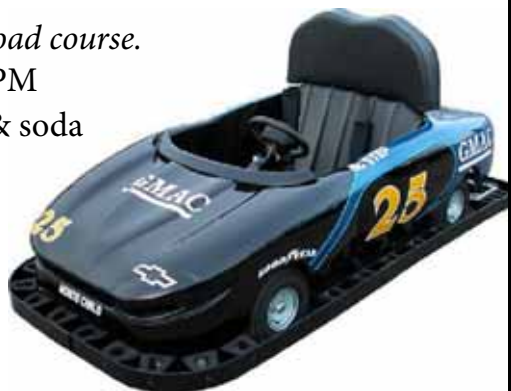
It's Winter – So What? Let's Go Racing

Indoor Go Karts

Battery powered go-karts on an indoor road course.

Sunday February 11, 2007 1:30 PM

\$13 per person — two rides, pizza & soda



**Inside Track Speedway
775 Elmgrove Road**

Rochester Technology Park (Kodak Elmgrove)

1st entrance South of Rt. 531, at the traffic light, left after the median.

For more details about Inside Track see www.insidetrackspeedway.com

Brooks and Gayle 225-5251

ANNUAL STEAK ROAST & AUCTION

Sunday, March 4, 2007 – Noon until ??

Eyer Park in East Rochester

☞ Take Lincoln Rd. off Fairport Rd. (Rt. 31F)

Turn right on Chestnut St. E., just before the overpass & follow it to the park

Price: \$7 per Steak, \$1 per Hot Dog

Don't miss it! That special item you've been dreaming of owning for years may be waiting for you! ☺

Please bring a dish to pass, your table service, and drinks. The club will provide coffee. Please don't bring dishes that need to be plugged in.

✍ Advance sign-up is required so we know how much to buy. Sign up at the January or February meeting or send a check payable to "MG Car Club" to:

Brooks Schneider

463 Drumcliff Way

Rochester, NY 14612-3117

☎ Any questions, please contact us at 225-5251 or
E-mail at bjsbrooks@aol.com



Motion to Revise the Bylaws

Leon Zak & Board of MGCC

Article IX, Amendments, Revisions, and Alterations, section 1 in regards to changes in the MGCC bylaws states that any proposed revisions be read at two consecutive meetings and a copy sent to each member at least seven days before a vote is taken on the proposed revisions. The following is being published in the Spokes to fulfill the required copy being sent to each member. The revisions below were read at the January 18, 2007 meeting. They will be read at the February 15, 2007 meeting. There will be a vote at the March 15, 2007 meeting.

There are currently two active proposals approved by and recommended by the MGCC Board to revise the bylaws of the MG Car Club Western New York Centre.

The first proposal is to move/merge the language of Article II, section 6 into Article II, section 1. The purpose of this change is for clarification and continuity.

Currently Article II, section 1 reads:

The elected Officers of this Club shall consist of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Activities Director, and one Trustee, each to be elected by a majority of the membership annually. The balloting shall be secret.

Currently Article II, section 6 reads:

A second Trustee shall be the immediate past Chairman of the Club. If the immediate past Chairman declines the position, the second Trustee position will be elected by a majority of the membership. The balloting shall be secret.

After combining them there will be NO Article II, section 6.

After combining them Article II, section 1 would read:

The elected Officers of this Club shall consist of: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Director, and two Trustees, one to be elected by a majority of the membership at the annual election. The second Trustee shall be the immediate past Chairman of the Club. In the case of the immediate past Chairman declining the position, the second Trustee position will be elected by a majority of the membership at the annual election. The balloting shall be secret.

The second proposal is to change Article II, section 2 regarding the duties of the Vice-Chairman.

Currently Article II, section 2 reads:

It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairman to perform all the duties of the Chairman in his absence, and be the head of all committees.

With the proposed change Article II, section 2 would read:

It shall be the duty of the Vice-Chairman to perform all the duties of the Chairman in his absence, and be the to be a liaison between the board and committee chairpersons.

The current bylaws of the MG Car Club in their entirety are available for viewing on the MG Car Club web site at <http://www.mgcarclub.com/wny/mgccbylaws.htm>

If you have any questions or comments you may e-mail or phone me at the addresses in the front of the Spokes.

Leon Zak, Chairman
MG Car Club Western New York Centre



Flags, Flags, Flags!

Betty Langswager

The MG Car Club Honors All Race Car Drivers, Past, Present, and Future 1958–2006

Last January Gayle and Brooks asked me if I had any ideas for centerpieces for the 2006 Christmas party. At first I said no – then later called them and said yes I had an idea. Going through my MG jewelry box I ran across a pair of earrings I bought at the Indianapolis International Race Track Museum. They had the seven flags that are used at all sports car races. I showed them the earrings, told them my idea, “go for it” they said. I said I’d make the centerpieces, when I looked at the work ahead I said to myself –oh my! I thought seven flags each plus 19 sets of flags—you do the math—that’s 133 flags. I thought I could just cut out flags, glue them on sticks, and be done. Wrong! They looked terrible. I had to hem all the flags – Yikes!

Next came the blocks to mount the flags. I priced wooden blocks that I’d have to finish, they were \$29.99 apiece! That’s why I chose Styrofoam blocks. Next was the brass plaques to mount on the blocks. They were going to cost an arm and a leg. So I called George Herschell and he said he’d do them on his computer. Thanks, George, for saving the Club big bucks! So what you see here is what I came up with.

We’re honoring race car drivers, past, present and future. We’ve been in the club since the beginning and knew all the race car drivers in our club. I came up with most of the drivers and Gil remembered the cars they drove. Back in the 50’s & 60’s there were quite a few drivers, 17 in all. Three of the racers back then are members here today in our club, Dave Asmuth, Mike Harrison, & Dave Wild! Here are the 17 Past race car drivers:

- 1 – Bill Baller – MGA
- 2 – Dick Coleman – MGA
- 3 – Barry Budlong – Alfa Romeo
- 4 – Norm Webb – Alfa Romeo (deceased)
- 5 – Dave Elder – Alfa Romeo
- 6 – Doris Britt – MGA & TD
- 7 – Bruce Norton – MGA & Alfa Romeo
- 8 – Chuck Heindl – Triumph TR3
- 9 – Chuck Kruger – MGA, Lotus, etc.
- 10 – Bob Burns – MGA (this is the same car that Dick Powers drives today #222 and still going strong)
- 11 – Jack Sheldon – MGA (deceased)
- 12 – Bill McGovern – MGA
- 13 – Eben DeGrasse – Alfa Romeo (deceased)
- 14 – Dave Wild – MG TD & Elva Courier
- 15 – Dave Asmuth – Austin Healey
- 16 – Mike Harrison – MG TD
- 17 – Doug Scribner – VW & Mini (Doug wasn’t a member of the club then but was a very active racer, so I made a set of flags for him.)



Some raced with SCCA a few years before joining the MG Car Club and some continued to race a few years after our Club Races. Ours were all MG races held at Watkins Glen in 1959 & 1960. The race tracks active in the area back then were Lime Rock, Mosport, Dunkirk, & Watkins Glen. Those that raced back then and are members today will receive a set of flags.

There are 11 Present drivers that are racing now. They are:

1. – Brian Fallon – Porsche
2. – Bill Glanville – MG Midget (deceased)
3. – Tom Glanville – MG Midget
4. – Ted Hershey – MG Midget
5. – Al Costich – MGB GT
6. – Dick Powers – MGA
7. – Joe Tierno – MGA
8. – Dick Rzepkowski – MG Midget
9. – Chuck Woodward – Alfa Romeo
10. – Dick Giambra – Alfa Romeo
11. – Denver Cornett – MG TC (deceased)

Our Future race car driver is:

12. – John McDonald – Bugeye Sprite

In the Past category was Gene Dinkle that started racing and had a great future but because of car problems and the birth of twins he gave up racing. So he was presented a set of flags at the January meeting. Also, a special presentation of the meatball flag to Al Costich. Seems he gets to see the meatball flag flashed at him at every race so he thought that flag belonged in his set of flags. So I surprised him and made a meatball flag just for him. Al got up and explained to us all why he always got the meatball flag.

Thank you, Race Car Drivers, for all your racing abilities, keeping us thrilled and excited and letting the rest of us be your “groupies”. We get in your way, eat your food, offer advice whether it’s needed or not. We’re all big supporters for you. Keep up the fun. Stay safe!

Safety Fast,
Betty Langswager

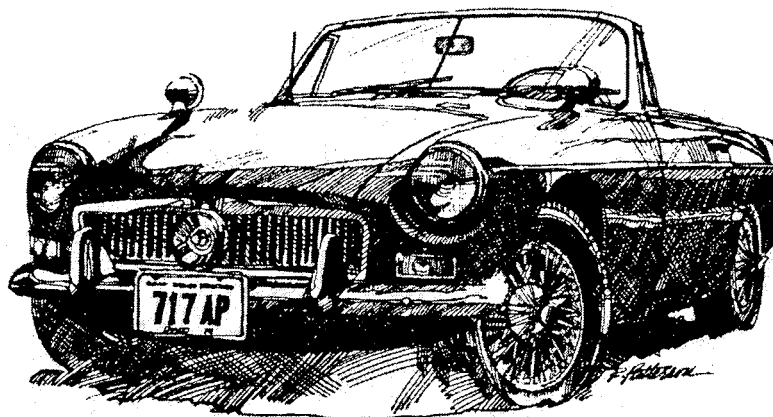
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Wine & Cheese and Valve Cover Races

Brooks and Gayle Schneider

The 2007 activities season was officially kicked off on January 20th with the traditional first event, the Wine and Cheese Party. Once again this year it was held at the Liberty Lodge at Finn Park in Webster. It was a great place to be on a cold winter day.

The food was plentiful, delicious, and a nasty trick for anyone who decided to start the new year by dieting. As always, the highlight of the event was the valve cover races. There were only 12 entries this year, but the competition was closer than ever. When the dust settled, the final results were:

1st place - Hollis Hames and Dan Goodwin (Road Kill)

2nd place - Carolyn Avery (Team Avery)

3rd place - Alicia Schneider (Eat My Smoke)

People's Choice - Susan Goodwin (Love Boat)

Many thanks to those who helped make the first event of 2007 a success, including, but not limited to:

Bill and Kathy Rampe - reservations and handling the details for the lodge

Pete Pegoni - the official starter and keeper of the race track

Dan Suter - registration

Mike and Sue Goodwin - double-elimination scoring

At the end of the day, everyone pitched in for the clean up and we left no evidence we had ever been there. It was another great afternoon with the MG Car Club.

Thinking ahead, we are looking for ideas to entice some of our previous valve cover competitors back from retirement. Since the more recently-built, long wheelbase cars appear to have a significant advantage; one thought is to create separate classes for long and short-wheelbase cars. Another is a vintage class, although it might be a bit difficult to define "vintage", as the rules haven't changed over time, plus most of the racers receive subtle tweaks annually. Anyway, we would appreciate any input on how to make this event even bigger and more fun. ◀



Ready for the races



Esteemed Activities Directors Brooks and Gayle Schneider



Bill Baldwin does some last minute tuning

—Allen Hess



Al Fink's racer—notice the resemblance?

—Al Fink



Dan Goodwin, Hollis Hames, Elizabeth Avery, Caroline Avery, Alicia Schneider, Susan Goodwin

—Mike Goodwin



John Thompson, Dan Goodwin, Pete Pegoni, Alicia Schneider



Susan and Mike Goodwin

—Doug Jack



Darrell Waltrip's favorite song, "You picked a fine time to leave me loose wheel . . ." (and now Bill's)



—Allen Hess / Doug Jack



"But Ken, I thought you were the designated driver." —M. Goodwin

But Betty, it was just one of those racin' deals . . . —A. Hess / Al Fink



Road Kill versus the Love Boat

—Al Fink

Brooks Schneider versus Don McConnell

—Al Fink

Rocket Automoti ve

THE WIRE WHEEL

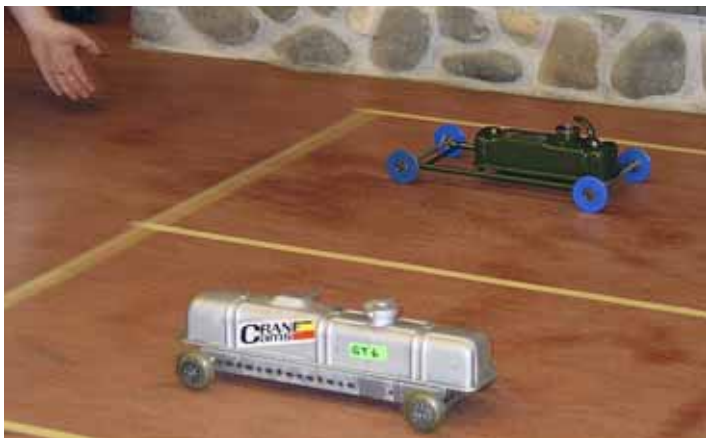
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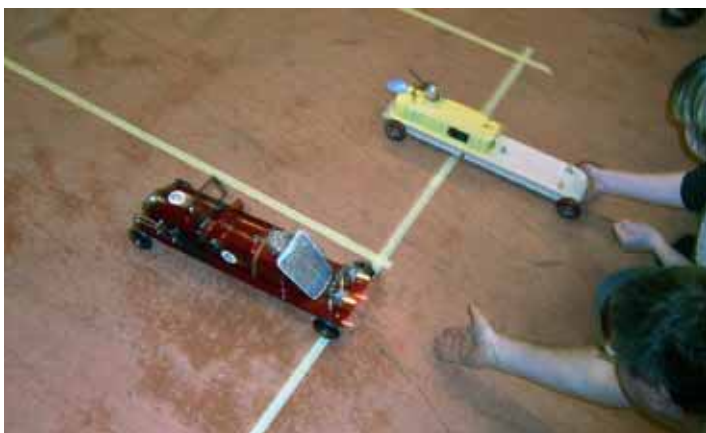
George Haynes' GT6 versus Bill Baldwin

—Allen Hess



Hames/Goodwin versus Mike Goodwin

—Al Fink



Third and Fourth Place finish




—Al Fink



First and Second Place finish

—Al Fink

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MG (S)Miles a Look Back and a Glance Forward Part LXVIII (68)

George Herschell

WELL, ANOTHER YEAR IS IN THE BOOKS AND FROM ALL accounts it was a very good year for the MG Car Club Western NY Centre. Our membership holds strong at just under 200 family memberships for a total of 349 members. Our monthly meetings see an average of 70 members attending, and our social events are still occurring at a rate of at least one per month. The treasury is solid, and we continue to fund two yearly scholarships to Monroe Community College in memory of one of our departed members and have almost completed our \$10,000.00 endowment to that same College. We are still affiliated with the MG Car Club of England, and have been since 1958. We still publish our monthly newsletter Spokes, and have been since the beginning. It is now a 24 page magazine that this year was honored with an award from a national motor magazine as best newsletter of the month for the entire US. Our web site www.mgcarclub.com/wny/ is well known and regularly gets requests for information from around the world. In 2008 just one year away we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. 50 years and still going strong. That has to say something about the club, the cars, which are the reason for the club, and the membership that continues to grow and hold this club together. One member is one of the original group that started the club in 1958, one member joined a year later, and another has held his membership continually for the past 40+ years. That I would say is commitment.

Let's take a look at this past year and what we have accomplished as a club. Our activities chairpersons (Brooks and Gayle Schneider) have done an excellent job and are to be complimented for the wonderful events they have planned and executed this past year.

January was our annual Wine and Cheese Party and Valve Cover Races. The lodge was full and the races were highly contested but in the end the best cars won and everyone had a great time. What better way to spend a winter afternoon than racing (little pseudo MG's) indoors?

February saw our group at the indoor Go Kart Track for racing. A fun time and some wonderful dicing was to be witnessed. No red flags and no one disqualified for unsportsmanlike like conduct. A real fun afternoon for all who attended.

March was the Annual Steak Roast and Auction. Over 70 people showed up for that afternoon of eating, and bidding on some very rare (?) and wonderful (???) MG related items. Things you just can't live without but will probably be brought back and auctioned off again next year. Great fun and funds generated go to our Endowment Fund. Also in March was our annual Swing into Spring at the Old Toad. Dinner a few pints and conversation at an authentic English Pub right here in Rochester. It has become a tradition for our club to do this at least once or twice a year.

April took us again back to the indoor Go Kart track and also to the Essenshaus for a brunch and wine tour. This was the "coming out" spring drive for many of our cars after their winter hibernation. Beautiful day, great roads, wonderful food and marvelous camaraderie with our members.

May was the first of our Tune Up clinics at Monroe Community College and the site for getting our cars ready for the season ahead. The autocrosses will be starting soon so this was also the time to get ready for those events.

JUNE and the Sports Car and Vintage Auto Festival. This was our 35th Annual Auto Festival and it just keeps getting better and better. We were in a bit of a bind the previous year and we had to cancel the show due to losing the site but we were back again this year at a new venue and hoped for a good day and good weather. Well apparently the weatherman didn't heed our pleas because the day was slightly less than perfect. In fact it was terrible. Cold and raining in the morning and as a result we didn't get the turn out of cars we had hoped. BUT we still had 450 cars on the filed and all in all it was a success. We are looking forward to next year and a much better day with much better weather and a show of the usual 700 to 800 cars we usually get. 800 cars for a one day show is not too be taken lightly, especially seeing that this is a judged show and three trophies are awarded in each of the 70 classes of cars being judged.

June also saw the start of the racing season and we have at least 7 members racing and of that number 5 are racing MG's now and another MG is in the works by another member. The first race was at Watkins Glen on June 16-18. June also began the tours to other car shows. A group of 10 cars of our members went to the big show at Hildene in Vermont, and after that show three of those cars did a tour of the New England area for another week. Those three cars covered bout 1000+ miles on that trip. June also saw the first autocross of the season which is always well attended and held on the grounds of Monroe Community College. At the end of June two of our ladies hosted our annual Garden Tour. Wonderful trip and glorious gardens were visited.

July was our second autocross and the clubs tour to Nova Scotia. Eleven couples covered about 2500 miles per car on that 13 day trip. According to the faces all had a good time but they did find out that some were not the best sailors when it came to crossing on the ferry on a particularly rough day. A good time was NOT had by all that day.

August started with our annual pig roast and rallye. This was after some of the members attended the Rochester Institute of Technology Show held the same day. Great turn out and wonderful weather. The food was fantastic once again and if anyone goes home hungry it's no ones fault but their own. Also this month was the third autocross of the year.

September. This is the month that really gets busy for the club. The first weekend is the annual Vintage Weekend at Watkins Glen. The club is heavily involved in this event in organizing and judging the Concours de Elegance as well as our members racing in the Zippo Vintage Grand Prix Races. We had at least 10 couples involved in the Concours and 7 members racing. A busy and fun weekend for all with beautiful weather. Then the following weekend are two large shows that our members attend. One is at Bronte Creek in Canada, and the other is the British Invasion in Stowe Vermont. The difficulty is deciding which event to attend. Both are wonderful but personally I prefer Stowe. That weekend is roughly an 800 mile drive regardless of which event you attend. We had eight couples attend Stowe with their cars and a number of awards were captured by those cars. The end of September is the last Autocross of the season and again it was well turned attended.

October is the famous Fall Foliage Tour once again hosted by Tim and Rhonda Rizzo. I can't begin to imagine how much work must go into the planning of one of these 100 plus mile tours but every year they get better. We started out this year with a breakfast brunch and headed out from there. We visited a number of Alpaca farms and found them most interesting. Also visited the new Culinary institute near Rochester and were amazed that a facility of that caliber was so close to home. Another beautiful day and a wonderful drive. I don't know where they find those roads but the scenery is absolutely gorgeous. This is the one time I envy the passengers because they do not have to concentrate on driving but can just enjoy the beautiful fall colors. The following weekend was our annual garage tour where we "poke" around folks garages to see the projects they have in the works. Interesting to say the least, and we always are thankful that people will be a part of this and open their garages for our pleasure. The final event of October was our costume Halloween Rallye. A fun drive (at night) with all the ghosts and goblins that can be mustered up by the rallye masters. The costumes are not to be missed. This is usually when most of the cars are being readied for winter storage but this year the weather was so good many of them stayed out much longer than usual.

November had only one social event and that was the annual Yacht Club Brunch hosted by two of our members who are also members of the yacht club. This is one of the highlights of the year with some great food and wonderful views of the lake and river.

December was our annual Year End Holiday Party which serves as our December meeting. Wonderful evening at a new location this year and a fun filled evening. There were awards given out to members for their services to the club this past year. The theme was to honor the MG Racers,

past present and future, and the table centerpieces (made by Betty Langswager) each contained miniature replicas of all the "race flags" used during the races. Very nicely done and they gave a tip of the MG hat to those that race their MG's.

For more info and photos of these events click on our web site mentioned earlier in this article and then click on Pictures of Our Events. It's not the same as being there but it is nice to see what a wonderful time we are having with our cars. The reason for the club in the first place is to have fun with your MG.

To look ahead I'm sure the schedule for this year will have most or all of these events and whatever else the Schneider's can dream up. BUT one thing is certain this is the final before our 50th year. 2008 will be:

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WANTED: 2 or 3 MGCC members to share a road trip to **Bonneville Speed Week** (August 11th thru 18th). Approx. 3-4 days each way and 3-4 days there, watching speed runs on the salt flats. Current plan is for 4 to 6 to travel in one (air conditioned!) van, sharing driving and expenses, but other possibilities would be considered; more vans if more want to go. Let me know if you're interested.

George Haynes 872-6536

FOR SALE: 1977 Corvette. 42,000 original miles, red with white interior, T-tops, 350/automatic. \$9,800.

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FOR SALE: 1952 MGTD project car. Many new parts but the car is still apart and I ran out of time/money. \$6000 or B.O. Call Allyn at 585-924-5251

FOR SALE: TR6 Factory original hardtop. Like New! \$1,000. Contact Valerie (585) 388-1113

FOR SALE: Wire wheels & tires. Set of 4 (15 inch, 48 spoke, 4 inch wide) with like new Pirelli 155R X15 tires. VGC silver wire wheels (not chrome). 3 other wheels, same size, in average condition included. Fit TD & TF's, MGA's and early Healeys. New lower price \$300 OBO.

Call Joe at 585-229-2230.

FOR SALE: MGB 1977ish, rubber bumper, red roadster. California car, not much rust. Good top & Interior. Paint fair. Engine block cracked. Make offer. Call Jim Moran. 585-747-2273. Tell him Joe sent you.

FOR SALE: 1963 MGB tourer. In a barn for 26 years. Has wire wheels, overdrive and factory hardtop. Needs floors and general restoration. \$1,500.00.

1971 MGB. Orange paint needs redone. Fresh engine with a Weber carb and SU's come with it. \$2,000.00.

Call Vince at 865-2410 or VMC166@aol.com

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Three National Triumph Meets in New York and Pennsylvania

MOST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MGCC have attended at least one National Meet in the years since they have become owners of a British car. In 2005, Douglas & I attended our first TRA (*Triumph Registry of America*) meet in Branson, Missouri.

We learned that the TRA had been wanting to hold an annual meet in the Finger Lakes region of Western New York for years and we have since agreed to chair such an event. Headquarters will be the Ramada Inn in Geneva, NY from June 12-17th. TRA is an organization for TR2, TR3 and TR4 owners primarily but welcomes any Triumph/British car owners. On Thursday June 14th from 9 AM-1 PM, there will be a Concours/Participant's choice show at the Ramada Inn. We invite everyone to check it out.

—Cindy Jack



THE 6-PACK IS A NATIONAL CLUB for owners of TR6 and TR250 Triumphs. Please consider joining this club. Contact membership chairman:

Todd Bermudez

6-Pack

P.O. Box 30064

Cincinnati, OH 45230

or membership@6-pack.org

Dues are \$25 and the next annual show is in Hershey, Pennsylvania September 20, 2007.

The Vintage Triumph Register is a national club for owners of all Triumph models. Membership dues are \$30. Membership secretary:

Bill Lynn

100 Pine Tree Lane

Riverwoods, IL 60015

or triumphtr2@aol.com

The VTR convention is in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania July 17-21, 2007

—Joe Fazio

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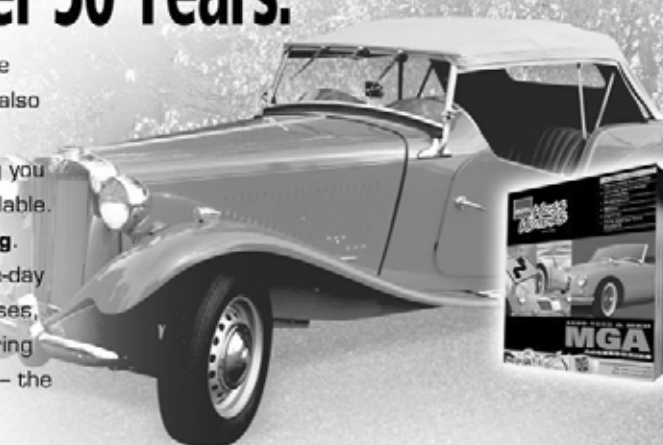
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Automobile Electrical Theory or A Treatise on the Importance of Smoke

Joseph Lucas

Positive ground depends on proper circuit functioning, which is the transmission of negative ions by retention of the visible spectral manifestation known as "smoke". Smoke is the thing that makes electrical circuits work. We know this to be true because every time one lets the smoke out of an electrical circuit, it stops working. This can be verified repeatedly through empirical testing. For example, if one places a copper bar across the terminals of a battery, prodigious quantities of smoke are liberated and the battery shortly ceases to function. In addition, if one observes smoke escaping from an electrical component such as a Lucas voltage regulator, it will also be observed that the component no longer functions. The logic is elementary and inescapable!

The function of the wiring harness is to conduct the smoke from one device to another. When the wiring springs a leak and lets all the smoke out of the system, nothing works afterward.

Starter motors were considered unsuitable for British motorcycles for some time largely because they consumed large quantities of smoke, requiring very unsightly large wires.

It has been reported that Lucas electrical components are possibly more prone to electrical leakage than their Bosch,

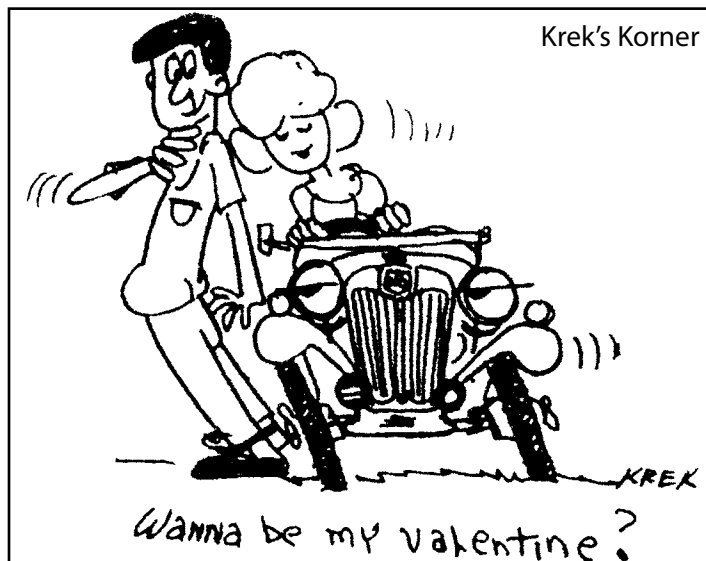
Japanese or American counterparts. Experts point out that this is because Lucas is British, and all things British leak. British engines leak oil, British shock absorbers, hydraulic forks and disk brake systems leak fluid, British tires leak air and British Intelligence leaks national defense secrets. Therefore, it follows that British electrical systems must leak smoke. Once again, the logic is clear and inescapable.

In conclusion, the basic concept of transmission of electrical energy in the form of smoke provides a logical explanation of the mysteries of electrical components - especially British units manufactured by Joseph Lucas, Ltd.

"A gentleman does not motor about after dark."

—Joseph Lucas 1842–1903

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Bury Me In An Old Mowog Parts Box

Jay Lockrow



There has probably been more written about the MG TC than any other sports car. Pick up most any book on Sports Cars and more than likely the MG TC will be one of the first included if not the first. With the TCs reputation of being the Sports Car that America Loved First, the car that started the whole sports car movement, or any of a number of these titles, it is pretty much expected to be within the pages of such a volume. There have probably been an equal number of myths about the same car for example, MG stands for Morgan Garages. They look like a casket riding on four harps, leaky, hard riding bad handling and so forth. Who knows how many others. Mostly these are pure rubbish as so many writers are ill informed but want to lead you to believe they are knowledgeable. Even yours truly has made a few errors over the years but at least I will admit it and have tried to correct myself. Certainly I am not an automotive engineer or pretend to be one for I know better. I am, however always interested in any improvement that can be made to the car that will make it more reliable or safer. One of the beauties of the MG TC is its basic simplicity. A person with limited knowledge of auto mechanics can keep a TC operable with very little effort and few tools. By reading the numerous manuals and publications written about the vehicle the process of this endeavor is really quite straight forward. Keep things well lubricated, adjusted and petrol in the tank and away you go.

There are those however that do re-engineer and make these improvements so that we owners of the MG TC can keep these old chargers running and safe. In this realm I would like to mention a good friend of mine Bob Grunau that lives over the border in Mississauga, Ontario. Bob has several TCs as well as two or three TAs, a J2 and a PA. He is also looking at another pre war car but I won't mention what it is here. Bob is my age and a retired engineer from Ontario Hydro. Already you can understand that he is knowledgeable about things mechanical. Bob has owned a whole batch of cars like an Elva, Jaguar etc. Of late he has decided to concentrate on the TC and its predecessors. All the better for us because he is the sort of character we need to keep these old buckets on the road and he is a character. Recently I made a trip to his home in Mississauga to pick up a better engineered replacement part for Cecil. After knocking on the door you heard a "That you damn

Yankees?" We had originally made plans to go before Christmas but had to scrub the mission because we had some lousy weather. When I called Bob to say we had to scrub he said that means his wife won't be getting a Christmas present. I asked him about this when we did arrive and he confided that she was taken care of.

On they way back from this sojourn (We also went up to Barrie to pick up a Douglas motorcycle frame and engine) it dawned on me that this was the third such item I had purchased from Bob to update Cecil and keep him reliable and easy to maintain. The first of these items was a modern spin oil filter adapter that bolts right in. One bolt and two oil lines and you are in business. The real beauty is that you cannot even notice the difference between this and the old one unless your\ really look. Modern spin on filters are also several bucks cheaper and available at NAPA or wherever you go. Several years back I also purchased a reproduction of the famous Tompkins steering kit that he makes. Beautifully made it also is installed with three bolts and a new adjustment and you are on your way.

Yours truly has been accused several times as being the MG TC guru in the area but I can't begin to compete with someone like Bob. I have seen him quote a thread size from most anywhere on the TC be it BSF, whitworth, metric or SAE licence plate bolts as well as the proper adjustment of some item as well as what little idiosyncrasies to look for if your TC is acting strange. A truly fascinating gentleman with a great sense of humor and tons of great stories to boot.

Bob also makes several other re-engineered pieces for the TC that require a little more fitting. But enough of that lets look at his cars. Upon arriving at his house you can tell you are there because the family grinders are sitting outside. Open the garage and there are TCs in almost every state. Several done to a very high quality and some in stages. I particularly liked the PA he was working on. You seldom see pre war MGs unless you go to a VSCCA meet or a GOF. This is a treat because he also has a J2 and the TAs as mentioned. He has enough projects to keep him busy in retirement and out of trouble. On the other hand isn't one TC enough trouble for anyone person to get into...? and he has several. ◀

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

4 Lindsey Short
 5 Robin Christ
 6 Phil Parisi
 8 Jeff Miller
 8 Liz Colquhoun
 8 Mary Ellen Suter
 9 Willard Brown, Jr.
 11 Douglas Jack
 11 Barb Wild
 12 Nick Dosch
 12 Allen Hess
 12 Sandra Kimmel
 13 Ned Paulsen
 13 Vickie Odegard
 14 Fran Calkins
 15 Michael Palermo
 16 Ed Haefner
 17 James Franzen
 17 Cheryl Baldwin
 21 Henry Kron
 21 Gil Langswager
 21 Sue Quackenbush
 22 Stephanie Haynes
 22 Scott Schipper
 23 Bill Baldwin
 23 Steve Behlke
 25 Krystyna Todaro
 26 Steve Philip
 27 Jeff Zorn
 28 Teresa Alba

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FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

14 Dave & Nancy Chase
 19 Dennis & Mary Costich
 20 Tom & Ann Lenweaver
 20 Joseph & Paulette Schultz

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 15 Irving & Bernice Black
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 2 Lyn Smith
 5 Richard Powers
 5 Sue Pittenger
 5 Stacey Van Denburgh
 6 Marlene Bartasevich
 8 Karna Palermo
 10 Al Fink
 11 Lane Boughton
 12 John Cook
 12 Thomas Glanville
 13 Mike Harrison
 13 Audrey Davis
 14 Terry Welch
 15 Vincent Monaco
 17 Dave Chase
 17 Gail Borycki
 18 Don Moodie
 20 Gene Faust
 20 Robert Keppeler
 21 Jennifer Hall
 22 Laurie Scribner
 23 Kathy Boughton
 24 Carl Baxter
 25 Dennis Costich
 27 Jim Walsh
 27 Susan Kath
 29 Joseph DeBlaere
 30 Karen Paul
 31 Sue Harrison

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MG Car Club Western New York Centre, Inc.

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

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Spouse _____ Friend _____ Birthday _____

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State _____ Zip+4 _____ Today's Date _____ New ☐ or Renewal ☐

Cars owned & Year _____

Club Interests: Racing ☐ Gymkhana ☐ Rallye ☐ Restoration ☐ Car Show ☐ Social ☐ Touring ☐ Other ☐

Other hobbies, etc. _____

Occupation _____ E-mail address _____

Available for Roadside Help? No ☐ Yes ☐ Days ☐ Evenings ☐ Nights ☐ Weekends ☐

Make checks payable to MGCC of Western NY, Inc. Mail form and payment to:

Jim Priestley
3326 County Road 40
Bloomfield, NY 14669

MG Car Club Western New York Centre — Calendar of Events 2007

For the latest information visit our web site mgcarclub.com

January 4 Board Meeting 18 Meeting 20 Wine & Cheese, Valve Cover Races	February 11 Go Kart Races 15 Meeting	March 1 Board Meeting 4 Steak Roast & Auction 15 Meeting 25 Swing Into Spring	April 19 Meeting
May 3 Board Meeting 12 Tune-up Clinic 17 Meeting / Carlisle 30 Stuffing Party	June 3 Vintage Auto Festival 10 Autocross & Novice Sch. 9-10 Hildene Car Show 21 Meeting	July 5 Board Meeting 8 Autocross 2 19 Meeting 20-22 1000 Islands Weekend — GVACS Car Show (RIT)	August 5 Steak Roast and Rallye 12 Autocross 3 16 Meeting
September 6 Board Meeting 7-9 Watkins Glen 16 Autocross 4 21 Meeting	October 7 Fall Foliage Tour 15 Garage Tour 18 Meeting 27 Halloween Rallye	November 1 Board Meeting — Yacht Club Brunch 15 Meeting — Elections	December 8 Holiday Party No Meeting

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