

# Spokes

Official Publication of the MG Car Club Western New York Centre

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*The Marque of Friendship*

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## MG CAR CLUB WESTERN NEW YORK CENTRE

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Spokes is published and distributed monthly by the MG Car Club Western New York Centre as a benefit to its members. Please go to our web site [www.mgcarclub.com](http://www.mgcarclub.com) for a membership form. Current and past issues of SPOKES are also available in Adobe PDF format on our 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](mailto:Spokes@mgcarclub.com). Alternatively, mail to Don McConnell, 45 Eileen Circle, Rochester, N.Y. 14616 or deliver by hand at the meeting.

#### Meetings

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, except December at the Knights of Columbus, 70 Barrett Drive, Webster N.Y. Board meetings are held the First Tuesday 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 1,2009

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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## 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. 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.

## Chairman's Corner

Dave Chase

---

Holiday greetings,

I'm hoping that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and are getting ready for the Christmas holidays.

Seeing that this is my last column for 2013 I want to say that I appreciate all the help that members have given me throughout this year. I believe that we had a great year and hoping that next year will be the same. My appreciation to Desi for putting together a fun filled activities year. Desi will be going off the board as activities and also Mary Murray will be retiring from secretary. Thank you both for doing such a fine job. Our new activities chair will be Sue and Mike Harrison. Our new secretary will be Doris Brit, a long time member.

I hope that you all will be able to go to the Christmas party on 28 December. The board is planning on some special surprises that I think you will all enjoy.

For those who missed the November meeting, The club sold the TD on eBay for a some of \$1200. We now have a new donation, a 73 midget that will be sold off to the highest bid from our members. Any interest please contact a board member.

I failed to mention at the meeting that we lost two members in this past November. They are Eva Goodwin and Peter Pegoni. Their names will be added to the MG car club Endowed Scholarship plaque at MCC.

May you all have very Merry upcoming holidays,  
Dave

## MGBruce

Don McConnell

---

December has arrived, everyone is thinking of holidays and gathering with friends and family to enjoy those holidays.

Might I suggest that British car (gear heads, geeks, enthusiasts) are not 100% thinking about the holidays, but are subconsciously thinking about fixing their cars and enjoying a drive, with the top down no less. You know the thought of a top down drive in December around here sounds like fun. Talk about a lot of double takes from others.

As the year ends we can reflect on the events our club members attended and had a great time enjoying friends. We all look forward to another year filled with some great events.

I look forward to continuing as editor of Spokes. The objective is to bring news about the club and its members. Thanks again to all who contributed articles and stories over the past year. Enjoy the holiday's see you at the January meeting.

Happy top down  
Don

As a quick post note The MG Car Club lost another good friend recently in Pete Pegoni to all who knew he was a good friend and a joy to be around.



## Activities

By Desi Benet

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### Activities Column

December 2013

I am ending my term as Activities Chair and I have loved every minute of it! But it wasn't just me—I had so much help throughout my term. The Activities Chair provides an overall strategy and structure, but the **real work** comes from our wonderful club members who run and support the events.

I would especially like to give a special “shout out” to Dan Suter who stepped forward to help out when I had surgery and follow up treatment. He stepped in and picked up the pieces when I was too ill. (Not to worry, I am just fine now!) So kudos to Dan, who kept things running smoothly.

I am so pleased that the Harrisons have stepped up to the plate, and will take over activities for the next term. They are really creative and engaged club members, committed to the fact that activities are the heart and soul of our club.

So, thanks to everyone for your support and see you at our 2014 events!

Take care

Desi Benet

**MAKE A NOTE NOW!**

**DUES ARE DUE**

**FOR 2014!**

# MGCC Minutes of the Meeting

By Mary Murray

---

November 21 2013

7:45P.M.

Call To Order by the Chairman Dave Chase

October minutes accepted after changes. Desi is not running for Chairman and Dick Powers did not win the collier cup again.

No new members or guests.

Doug and Cindy Jack are having a 53<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary. Barb Zak, Chris Baum and Al Costich are having birthdays.

Activities-Holiday party at Rick's Prime Rib . Gloves and mittens for inner city children are again requested and given to them by the Tesciones. Other trophies such as the mileage trophy will be given out.

Treasury-we have a healthy balance.

Membership-53 memberships were paid tonight.

Regalia-the clothing rack was here tonight with some new clothing items. Another new item was here, rear window stickers. Also 1- 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary auto badge and car magnets. Will be back again in January with rack.

England-absent

Librarian-saved for later tonight

Web-9,700 hits for October

Spokes-Absent

Election-slate of officers running for office are Chairman-Dave Chase

Vice Chairman-John Baum, Secretary-Doris Britt and Treasurer-Rob Shrader. Motion was made by Leon Zak to accept and it was seconded by Bob Welch.

Old Business- the TD was sold for \$1237.12. We would like to thank Dan Suter, John Baum, Gil Langswager and especially George Leopard for storing it and making this sale available. Leon Zak made a motion to send a \$50.00 Visa Card to the man that donated the TD. Motion carried.

New Business-A 1973 MG Midget was donated to the club. It is first to be offered to a club member to purchase. If not purchased by a member of the club it will be put on E-Bay to sell.

Door prizes were then given out.

Al Costich gave the presentation tonight with the trip he and Penny took to the Circuit of the Americas raceway in Texas. Al first showed some slides he had taken and then showed some of the actual race he was in. By mounting a camera on the car, we felt we were in the car racing with him. It was a very exciting show. Thank you Al Costich.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14P.M.

## Meeting Attendance

November 21, 2013

Gil Langswager  
 Dave Wild  
 Alan Costich  
 Tim Rizzo  
 Rhonda Rizzo  
 Paul Osborne  
 Carl Prouty  
 Art Salo  
 Allyn Wagner  
 Chris Russell  
 Hollis Hames  
 Gene Faust  
 Anne Faust  
 Cynthia Jack  
 Doug Jack  
 Bob Tescione  
 Annabelle Tescione  
 Frank Stepanik  
 Suzie Keppler  
 Tom LeStrange

Doug Scribner  
 Laurie Scribner  
 Bruce Austin  
 Paul Brown  
 Cindy Austin  
 Mike Goodwin  
 Susan Goodwin  
 Brian Schirano  
 Rob Shrader  
 Mary Murray  
 Darcie Murray  
 Tim Murray  
 Dick Giambra  
 Al Fink  
 Desi Benet  
 Doris Britt  
 George Haynes  
 Bill Dexter  
 Dave Chase  
 Dick Powers

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

Contact Dan: (585) 223-9584 e-mail [dlgipk@rit.edu](mailto:dlgipk@rit.edu)  
 Hollis: (585) 271-7754

## Tazio Nuvolari, His Life and Times

Photo by Dick Powers



On November 2 at the IMRRC in Watkins Glen,  
Joe Tierno gave a presentation titled:  
Tazio Nuvolari, His Life and Times

The presentation was well received by more than 100  
racing enthusiasts. A reception with light refreshments  
followed the presentation.



The valve cover races will be  
coming in February. Watch  
Here for further details. See  
Page 15 for the rules to help  
you build your car



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## DISTANCE AWARD FOR 2013

It is sign up time for the Steve Fitch Distance Award for 2013.

This circulating award is presented to the club member each year who drives the most distance in their Vintage British Car.

To register in the competition for this award, please see Desi Benet at the April club meeting to record your milage or send along a digital photo of your odometer by no later than May 1 to to be eligible for this award.

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## Popular British Sports Car Production

Fall 2002 British Motoring

Here is some interesting information from British Motoring, The Fall of 2002 issue. It shows Popular British Sports Car Production. This is the third of the series, showing MG.

MG	TC	45-49	10,000
MG	TD	50-53	29,664
MG	TF	53-55	12,400
MG	A	55-62	101,081
MG	B	62-80	665,000
MG	C	67-69	13,448
MG	Midget	71-79	110,000

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# Yacht Club Brunch

Photos By Dick Powers & Gene Faust

November the 5th was the Car Clubs Annual Brunch at the Rochester Yacht Club . This event is hosted Gene and Anne Faust. This year there was an added element to the brunch. There was a Concours for min-nature cars . There were a lot of good looking cars on display even outdoors.



## Where is My Flying Car? Or Things that have or have not changed in my lifetime.

By Allyn Wagner

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Even from an early age I was interested in transportation. I grew up in a farming community in the north country of New York so the variety of automobiles I came across was somewhat limited. In fact, it was mostly tractors and older cars from the big three automakers. There was an active Army base 25 or so miles from my home so there were a few military planes that flew over our home. One of them even made a forced landing in a field near our house.

My interest in air and land transport was supplemented by TV and the one publication that my father bought, "Mechanix Illustrated". Each month I would go through that magazine looking at pictures of the fantastic cars that Tom McCahill would do a report on. They would also do articles on jet planes, rockets and what we would be using for travel in the future. On TV I would watch shows like Buck Rogers, The Flying Doctor, Sky King, and commercials with Dina Shore singing "See the USA in Your Chevrolet" while driving along in a brightly colored Chevy convertible. Alright, there were the Roy Rogers and Hoot Gibson westerns but that was only to show us the way we traveled 100 years ago.

If you think about it, around the turn of the last century, we were flying around in wood and fabric airplanes powered by a 12hp internal combustion engine and driving "horseless carriages" that were not much better. In just 65 years, we improved on that areoplane up to the point of putting men on the moon riding on top of a rocket. Within 20 years of that feat, we were flying humans into space on a regular basis in a rocket powered plane.

The automobile however has not progressed on a similar level. Yes we have more powerful and efficient cars now but they are still using the very same power plant with the same limitations. Early on they experimented with electric, steam, and diesel. There was even a gas turbine for a number of years (I got a chance to see one of those at the Worlds Fair in NYC). Now we have dropped development on the gas turbine and steam but a 2013 electric car can't go much farther than a far heavier 1913 electric car.

There have been many different makes of cars that have come and gone through the years. Some were considered, at the time, futuristic looking but for the most part we are now plagued with mostly "cookie cutter" cars. Don't get me wrong, I like driving old cars but at times I would like to see some of the predictions of the 1950's for next century come true. Remember, they told us that by 1999 we would all be buzzing around in flying cars!

## What have I done???

by Joe De B/sere

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### *From April 1998*

I bought a basket case. That is, I bought a 53 MGTD that came in boxes like a jigsaw puzzle. It is apart. It is a rolling chassis with tires, engine, tranny and the body tub but the rest is in pieces and parts packed in boxes. I brought it home on a trailer and the rest filled the back of the van. When I excitedly tell people of my deed they don't know whether to congratulate me or share condolences. I'm excited.

This is likely to be the first quarterly report on my progress. I'm guessing this is a 3 year project to get it back on the road. Why did I do it? To save an old MG from the scrap yard and just the dream of driving her again. I'm targeting the Halloween Rally 2001 for her debut (yeah right!). At the moment, the only parts it seems to be missing are the keys, hand crank, spare tire and steering wheel. The rest appears to be there somewhere in different states of disrepair. Fools rush in.

Joeanna has informed me we now own his and her MG's. Hers is the white 74 MGB, you know the one that runs. Mine is the other thing taking up the rest of the garage I just introduced you to.

My plans are to start with the frame, then coachwork, then engine, then interior. Sounds easy enough.

I've never had a TD before so I'm going to need lots of help. That is where this club really shines, in sharing their expertise. One of the first things I've been suggested to do is have an inventory party, to tag and bag all the various parts. I'll miss the next meeting being in Florida on vaco but I'll call around and set a date for it soon. If you'd like to help let me know.

Sooooo here we go starting on an exciting journey.

Who knows where it might lead. That is what life is all about. Only 11 more quarterly reports and I should be finished (yeah, right!).

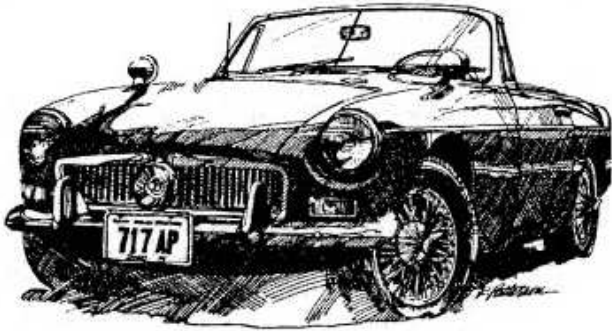
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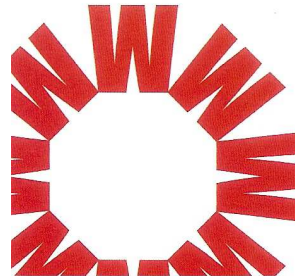
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# MG

## Holiday Party

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Evening Program to include Year's Activities, Long Distance  
Award, Retiring Board Members, New Board Members



# Valve Cover Rules

By Ted Hershey

---

## Valve Cover Rules

### The Cars:

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

**Big Bore - Cars that have the Valve Cover mounted to a platform and the wheel attached to the platform itself. The platform is larger than the dimensions of the valve cover.**

**Small Bore - Cars which have the wheels attached directly to the valve cover or a frame that is no larger than the dimensions of the valve cover.**

### The Course:

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

### The Races:

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

## CLASSIFIED ADS

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**For Sale:** 1970 MGB. green convertible, 4spd, wire wheels, black interior, and luggage rack. licensed and inspected. While it is very fun to drive, I don't have the time to drive it and use her the way it deserves. I inherited the MG from my Dad around 7 years ago. If interested contact.  
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### SEMA Action Network (SAN)

#### **Target: Ethanol Fuel**

Witnesses representing oil, fuel and petrochemical, livestock, automotive, food, biofuel and environmental organizations testified before a U.S. House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on whether the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) should be repealed or scaled-back. The RFS mandates that an increasing amount of biofuels be blended into gasoline each year. It is the driving force behind the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's decision to permit sales of 15% ethanol in gasoline (E15) in order to achieve the RFS mandates. Federal Committee leaders have stated that full repeal of the RFS is unlikely but reform is a viable option. The SEMA Action Network (SAN) supports reducing the RFS mandates and banning the sale of E15.

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## Mg Car Club Western NY Centre

Sticker, Black/Silver .....	\$1.50
50th Anniversary Sticker .....	\$1.50
50th Anniversary Pin .....	\$3.00
MGCC Mug.....	\$5.00
Badge Clip .....	\$5.00
Patch embroidered .....	\$2.50
Key Fob, large leather.....	\$4.00
Pin, cloisonné.....	\$3.00
Dash Plaque, 40th Anniv.....	\$2.00
Sticker, front adhesive.....	\$1.50
Sign, magnetic (10").....	\$15.00
Bumper Sticker .....	\$1.00
Name Badge w/MG.....	\$15.00



Sticker



Patch

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

All items are available for purchase at our monthly Meeting, or delivery can be arranged.  
**Contact: Laurie Scribner 585-8725133 (weekdays).**

## MG Car Club Western New York Centre, Inc. Membership Application

Annual Family Membership Dues \$30.00 — All memberships expire December 31<sup>st</sup>.

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

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding Anniversary \_\_\_\_\_

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

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:  
Bruce & Cindy Austin  
166 W Church St.  
Fairport, NY 14450





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

For the Latest information visit our Web site [mgcarclub.com](http://mgcarclub.com)

<b>January</b>  3 Board Meeting 17 MGCC Meeting	<b>February</b>  3 Wine & Cheese/ Valve Cover Races 21 MGCC Meeting	<b>March</b>  7 Board Meeting 8-10 Amelia Island Concours 21 MGCC Meeting 24 Steak Roast & Auction	<b>April</b>  18 MGCC Meeting/ Basket Auction 12-14 Kimber Festival 20 British Auto Day 21 Swing into Spring
<b>May</b>  7 Board Meeting 4 Tune Up Clinic 11 Curtis Museum Tour 16 MGCC Meeting 17-19 Carlisle Import /Kit 26 Garage Party	<b>June</b>  2 MG Club Picnic 9 Laps & Lunch 10-14 NAMGBR MG 2013 20 MGCC Meeting	<b>July</b>  2 Board Meeting 17-21 NAMGAR GT 38 18 MGCC Meeting 20 Pultneyville Parade 21 MGCC Sports Car Show 28 Multi Club Picnic	<b>August</b>  4 GVAC Show 15 MGCC Meeting 18 UK Car Day TBD Cars for Cancer
<b>September</b>  3 Board Meeting 6-8 Watkins Glen 15 Bronte Park Show 19 MGCC Meeting 20-22 Brit Invasion Stowe	<b>October</b>  9-12 Hershey AACA East 13 0 Fall Foliage Tour 17 MGCC Meeting TBD Garage Tour	<b>November</b>  5 Board meeting 3 Yacht Club Brunch 21 MGCC Meeting	<b>December</b>  28 Holiday Party at Ricks Prime Rib  No Meeting

Next Meeting  
January 16, 2014 7:30 PM  
Knights of Columbus  
70 Barrett Dr, Webster, New York



**I'D RATHER BE DRIVING  
MY SPORTS CAR!**