



# GAZETTE

**Inside this issue:**

Presidents Comments	2
Member Profile	4
Intermarque Banquet	6
<i>Blast</i> Car Show	7
New Gathering Spot	8
Tech Tips	10
Calendar of Events	12
Club Equipment	14
Kinda Classified Ads	15
MMGG Application	16

## It's Show Time May 24th!

*Submitted by MMGG Members Shelia and Bob Figenskau*

It is a British tradition to attend the theater while in London. Theater is also a tradition in Minnesota and, although we are not in London, I am sure that the parking lot at the Old Log Theater would be greatly enhanced if it were full of MG's. We have booked a block of seats for the evening of **May 24<sup>th</sup>** to see the comedy "Moon Over Buffalo".

Hilarious misunderstandings, mixed up costumes, and a performance gone haywire reign as a couple, down on their luck, await a chance to impress Frank Capra during a tour performance in Buffalo. A great cast insures that this will be a fun evenings entertainment.

*(Theater Continued on page 9)*

## Tour/Drive/Eat on May 24, 2003

*Submitted by MMGG Members Tom and June Moerke*

You are invited to tour Hudson, Wisconsin's historic Octagon House May 24, 2003. Following the tour, a scenic drive will take place, ending with a picnic. This will be a great way to spend part of your Memorial Day weekend.

First, meet for breakfast at the Perkins Restaurant in Hudson, Wisconsin.

*(Octagon Continued on page 5)*

## Intermarque Banquet May 18th

New location for the Intermarque Banquet this year. Please turn to **page 6** of this issue of the *Gazette* for more information. Send your email note to Andy Lindberg to help the committee come up with a good headcount.

*The Gazette is the official publication of the Minnesota MG Group. It is published monthly except for December. Deadline for contributions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Submissions should be sent to the editor.*

# The Oil on the Dipstick

By MMGG President Alan Kelsey

**M**any of us have been driving around in our MGs for years now, taking so much for granted. While getting there and home again without something going wrong with the car might not be one of them, we still assume most of the car will remain in working order. Well, it's time to consider some of the least appreciated parts of an MG, unless they fail or you're over 50, the springs.

Springs really are remarkable inventions. For the most part, the force returned by the spring when it is compressed or stretched is fairly constant over the entire distance of compression or stretching. I think this means it doesn't matter to a spring what

we weigh, it will do the same job. Anything that tells me it doesn't matter if I stick to my diet or not, is a great piece of engineering.

High school physics tells us that the force of a spring ( $k\Delta x$  using Hooke's Law) is exactly opposite to the force of gravity ( $mg$ ). This really is intuitively obvious because we all know that the less Spring we have (meaning more summer), the more we use our MGs. Any question at this point why most of my high school teachers quit within a year after I took their class?

Speaking of Spring, it's time to tighten down the various nuts and bolts, including the spring holder-ners (a highly technical term). Last year was the

*(The Oil on the Dipstick Continued on page 3)*

The Minnesota MG Group was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of the MG Marque. Correspondence can be addressed to: **Minnesota MG Group, 15942 Harmony Way Ct., Apple Valley, Mn. 55124.** Visit us on the web at **WWW.MMGG.ORG.**

## 2003 Club Officers

### President

Alan Kelsey  
15942 Harmony Way Ct.  
Apple Valley, Mn. 55124  
Alan@rarehome.com

### Vice President

Elena Pierce  
2460 Skillman Ave. E.  
North St. Paul, Mn. 55109  
empierce1@mmm.com

### Treasurer & Membership

Joe Olson  
651-523-2142  
jolson@gw.hamline.edu

### Secretary

Phyllis Galberth  
612-823-5441  
kgalberth@mn.rr.com

### Intermarque Rep

Keith Galbreth  
612-823-5441  
kgalberth@mm.rr.com

### Newsletter

Jon Masley-Editor  
651/779-8605  
jdmasley@yahoo.com

### Newsletter

Chris Sorenson-Asst. Editor  
320/259-1919  
chrissorenson@cloudnet.com

### Publisher

Ken Malm  
651/208-2804  
krmalm@msn.com

### Webmaster

Jim Pennoyer  
763/536-5472  
jpennoyer@mediaone.net

### Regalia

Rich Leslie  
763-754-2965  
richdebathome@aol.com

### New Member Coordinator

Open

### Past President

Dan Shidla  
952-831-0291  
ddpss@worldnet.att.net

*(The Oil on the Dipstick Continued from page 2)*

first time I inspected all of the various connection points under the car. It was amazing how many needed a half turn or more of a wrench.

We've all waited long enough. It's time to start driving and thank goodness more and more events are showing up on our club's calendar. Remember, if you get to Wednesday or Thursday some week and want to go on a short drive on the weekend, just call Elena. She has a number of destinations within easy driving distance of the Twin Cities. You could call a few friends and go for a few hours or plan a route to one of the Bed and Breakfasts nearby. One excellent way to find out if anyone has something scheduled is to go to our newly formed chat room. Just surf on over to <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/MMGG>

Every May, a select few of our members eagerly head to Brainerd to try their hand at getting one side of the car off the ground without using a jack. On more than one occasion, it's worked. You might really want to consider going this year just to see if Randy can beat his old record. Watching Cindy's face is another great pastime. Then there's coming up with the stories that will be told to the spouses who don't attend. They go something like, "If you tell my wife I didn't go out on the track, I'll tell your's you got that dent in the car in the parking lot." You will notice that, according to the information we've received, camping is available at the track. It would seem logical that tenting equipment will have to be removed from the track area before the races begin.

For the past several years, more and more of us have found what a fun time we can have with our neighbors to the north-a. Last year we went "over the rainbow" to Judy Garland's hometown of Grand Rapids. This year we will go a bit further to the Canadian answer to Cannes, Thunder Bay. Well, at least they're both situated near water. Whatever the temperature or prevalent weather conditions, the hospitality is warm and friendly.

As a final thought, I'd like to remark as to how fantastic an invention the thermos bottle is. Many of us carry one on MG excursions. It keeps hot liquids hot and cold liquids cold. But how does it know the difference?

Alan

## **GOF Central Plans**

*Submitted by MMGG Member Bob Figenskau*

It's spring, the cars are coming out and the G O F trip planning is in high gear. So far I have nine cars signed up, all T types. Where are the A's and B's? We are still hoping to recapture the Paul Johnson Memorial Driving Award and are looking for more cars to join us. T's, A's, B's and some Detroit iron to help carry the spare luggage, parts and the all important refreshment needed along the way. If the MG is not up to the trip this year, come along anyway, it's about the people and the camaraderie that make it such a good time.

So far the plan is this. An overnight stay in La Crosse on Monday and a leisurely drive to the G O F in Delavan, Wisconsin at the Lake Lawn Resort beginning on Tuesday with the First Timers Car Show that afternoon. I suggest that we meet in La Crosse at the Guest House Motel and try to get together for dinner that night. Many of you will want to drive down and spend the day in La Crosse and not have to "follow the leader". This will give the "leader" a smaller group to travel with and will make the trip a lot easier for all. I will try to depart the Perkins parking lot in Hastings around 4:00 pm and travel south on Hwy 61 crossing the river into La Crosse, south of the Freeway, on Hwy 61 and 14 driving directly to the Motel. That way, if there are any cars along the route in need of help, we will find them.

We have a block of rooms set aside for us at the Guest House Motel. They are located at 810 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street in La Crosse, which is on Hwy 61 and 14 but on the one way going north near State Street.

*(GOF Central Continued on page 5)*

## Member Profile

Submitted by MMGG Members Glenn and Annette Fisher

### *Kathryn and Jack Schneider*

October 26, 1932, Mr. E. A. Eastwood completed a transaction that would connect his life with those of Kathryn and Jack Schneider. On that day, Mr. Eastwood purchased a car with serial number J2023 from Newsham Motor Company in Islington, Liverpool. This J2 model - the 23rd of its lineage of 2083 cars from the MG Car Company - was about to embark on a journey that would include a stop in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The story of this J2's Minnesota connection begins thirty-some years later when Jack Schneider's dad bought another MG - a black 1956 MGA as - a second "family" car to commute to his job at Univac. Something about we, being a family of *nine*.

Jack was only seven years old at the time but was completely enthralled with the roadster. Even though this was a "daily driver" car, he and his dad shared many memorable experiences through it. Jack fondly remembers straining to see over the car's dashboard while acting as navigator on many road rallies. Like so many of us who treasure these classic cars, his interest in MGs was firmly established very early in life.

Eventually the MGA was replaced by a red 1964 MGB that served the family until 1970. The car was sold soon before Jack obtained his own driver's license. Jack, who claims to have suffered British-car-withdrawal from that sad event, would eventually have his own car.

In 1997, Jack, who was now married to Kathryn, purchased a 1978 MGB Roadster. He and Kathryn (who had always thought sports cars were "cool") enjoyed their rubber-bumper B but had a desire for the more classic look of chrome bumpers - either an MGB or and MGA.

When a friend directed him to an ad in a street rod

newsletter for a 1958 MGA Roadster, Jack followed up right away. That meant driving up to Minnesota's North Shore in December where he took a test drive (fortunately with the top up!) in 20-below weather. Cash from the sale of the '78 B changed hands and in March, 2000, Jack and his brother brought the A home on a flat bed trailer.

While Jack enjoys doing trim and detail work on his cars, he has always left the major repairs to others. The body was in good shape, but a lot of work went into bringing their newly acquired MGA back to peak mechanical condition. It needed major engine and transmission overhaul. New chrome wire wheels, tires, tonneau, gauge rebuilds and numerous other detail goodies, completed the package - for now.

The MG Odyssey 2001 piqued the Schneider's interest in pre-war MGs. At the same time, Jack was making many trips to Quality Coaches where his MGA was under re-construction. He may have gone to check on the progress more than necessary because he wanted to look at a J2 that was also being brought back to life in the shop.

But one day, the J2 was gone and Jack's heart sank. He still hoped though that, some day, he would find one for himself.

That day came just six months ago at the MMGG Annual Meeting at the Fort Snelling Officers' Club. Lew Palmer had set up his table of custom-design MG items and Jack had spied a cap he wanted. When he went to Lew's web site to order the cap, he noticed that there were also cars for sale. One said "1932 MG. Very early J2". The picture looked like the one that he had been surreptitiously visiting over the past months.

Jack and Kathryn decided they were going to own this car. They went to test drive the car (on a cold November day, of course, top down this time.) But

*(Member Profile Continued on page 5)*

*(Member Profile Continued from page 4)*

the price!!! A call went out to their mortgage broker; an offer was made to the seller; and they brought the J2 home in December.

In the process of this complete restoration, non-authentic parts were replaced. This car is "as original as a J2 can get." It still has its original UK license plate number, LV1162 (Liverpool) and has been re-registered with the MG Car Club UK Triple-M Register. With Register #634, this J2 has been on the list since probably the 1930's.

Other original and copied documentation that came with this car demonstrates that we are, perhaps,



only temporary caretakers of increasingly rare and important pieces of history. Our responsibility is to assure that they become our legacies for future generations.

In addition to the connection that an MG has made between Mr. E. A. Eastwood and Jack Schneider, there is another waiting to be realized. A few years ago, Jack followed up on an ad for a 1964 MGB from a seller in Newport, MN. The car he went to see was white, but clearly had originally been red - even the top was red. On the rear view mirror, there was a Univac parking sticker. Could this have been his dad's car from thirty years ago?

*(Octagon Continued from page 1)*

sin at 8:45 a.m. Take I-94 to Wisc. No. 2 and double back on the frontage road to Perkins. It is on the south side of the freeway.

Second, we'll go on a private tour of the 1855 Octagon House located at 1004 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Hudson, Wisconsin, 715-386-2654. There is a \$5.00 charge per person, payable by cash or check (but not by credit card). The tour will take about an hour.

Third, we will take a scenic drive through the bucolic countryside on roads designed for vintage English sports cars. We will drive about 40 miles; taking about 90 minutes to complete the loop.

Finally, we will picnic at the beautiful Lakefront Park in Hudson. In case of rain (unlikely!!), there are lots of good eateries nearby. Pack a lunch or buy takeout at one of the above eateries. Bring a dish to pass.

For further information, contact your hosts, Tom and June Moerke at 715-386-5341.

*(GOF Central Continued from page 3)*

Make your reservations now to take advantage of the \$54.00 rate, which includes tax. Reservations should be made before July 1<sup>st</sup>. Call 1-800-274-6873 and tell them you are a part of the MG Tour or mention the name Bob Figenskau to get the rate.

So, it's time to put your planning hat and carry out the following instructions:

Fill out and mail your G O F registration to the MG MG MG-See April's Gazette issue for the form.

Call Bob Figenskau (952-935-7909-) to tell him you are going, and if you plan to travel with him or independently to La Crosse

Call the Guest House Motel and make your reservations for July 21<sup>st</sup>. Get your cars and yourselves ready for a grand time.

See you on the road, Cheers! **Fig**

# Inter Marque Car Show & Banquet



for vintage foreign cars in the cities & beyond

**May 18**

**Car Show 1:00 p.m., Banquet 3:00 p.m.**

**Radisson Hotel and Conference Center  
I-494 & Hwy 55, Plymouth**

**Come and bring your car! Come and see the cars!  
Come and have some fun!**

**Frequently Asked Questions & Frequently Questioned Answers**

- Q1. Who is the host for this event?  
A1. The Inter Marque Council, a rag-tag group of some foreign car clubs in the Upper Midwest.
- Q2. My car barely makes it from one side of the garage to the other. Should I bring it?  
A2. Absolutely! We love restoration projects as much as concours vehicles. (Just ask our spouses.) And if it has trouble running, you're going to find more help here than anyplace else in the five-state area.
- Q3. Can I win a prize?  
A3. Maybe. The rules are pretty loosey-goosey right now but we'll get them together by the 18th.

- Q4. What'll it cost?  
A4. The car show is free. The 3-course banquet is \$13.35/person. Pay your server.
- Q5. Can I pre-register?  
A5. Certainly! And you should to get a low car show number. Plus, the club with the most pre-registrants gets an award.
- Q6. My car doesn't have its logo around the border and there isn't any club for it around here. Can I still come?  
A6. Yah shoor, you betcha. Say where's that Volvo logo? And will there be a Saab 93? And how about a Sunbeam Alpine? And a Simca? And . . .

**RSVP: To reserve a seat at the banquet and to get your advance car show registration number, please send name(s) and car marque, model and year to [andy lindberg@earthlink.net](mailto:andy lindberg@earthlink.net).**



## HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE“ORIGINAL” BLAST FROM THE PAST CAR SHOW IN CHETEK, WISCONSIN JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2003

*Submitted by MMGG Members Steve and Diane Rindt*

The Vintage Voyagers Car Club since 1978 has been having their annual car show in Chetek, Wisconsin. It's held at the Chetek Airport with refreshments, food, music, crafts and near by, a beach with picnic area.

Park your car in the Foreign Car Class, look for the British Flag & come join us for some hospitality!!

Entry Fee \$5.00 –Includes driver and 1 passenger-Spectator Admission \$1.00.

It starts at 9:00am; Dash Plaques are given out to the first 200 cars.

The Trophies are awarded for “Best in Class” at 3:00pm.

Following the Car Show we will be taking a scenic drive through North Western Wisconsin to our super destination “Foster’s River View Inn”. They have all you can eat Prime Rib and Seafood buffet for \$15.99. (It’s delicious!!) Following supper join us at the “Country Inn & Suites” for Natter ‘n’ Noggin in the parking lot. (Bring your own beverages.)

If you want to spend the night at the Country Inn &

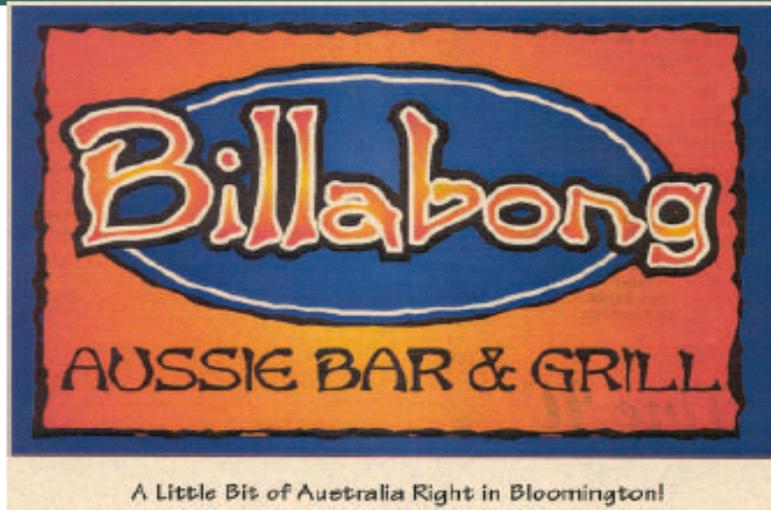


Suites (715-720-1414), make your reservations by June 5<sup>th</sup>. Tell them you're with the MMGG for the special room rate of \$72.00.

Please contact Steve & Diane for more information at ([sdrindt@msn.com](mailto:sdrindt@msn.com)) or call (715-832-8316)

*If you plan to come we would love to know so we can give Foster's a head count for supper.*

# News FLASH News FLASH



## InterMarque British Built Cars

Informal car show every Sunday

April 13 through October 5:00—7:00 p.m.

**NEW LOCATION**—Billabong Aussie Bar & Grill

5001 west 80th Street Bloomington

Billabong's phone # 952-844-0655

Located on the south frontage road of 494 between  
Highway 100 and France Ave.

Come on out and bring your: MG, TRIUMPH, MINI, CITROLEN,  
JENSEN, JAGUAR, MORGAN, ALPHA, AUSTIN, DELORIAN,  
MERCEDES, TVR, RILEY, FERARRI, BENTLEY, ROLLS ROYCE,  
LAND ROVER, VW, FIAT, LOTUS, ALVIS, ETC.....

*(Theater Continued from page 1)*

Make your reservations **NOW** by calling Shelia or Bob Figenskau at 952-935-7909 so we can make plans. The cost is \$26.00 and must be paid through the club, as the Old Log will not take credit cards or checks the night of the performance. If you would like to have dinner before hand, you should call for reservations directly at 952-474-5951. Dinner selections are Prime Rib, Walleye, or a Vegetarian Platte for \$19.00 including tax and gratuity. The bar opens at 5:30, dinner is served at 6:30 and curtain time is 8:00.

We are hoping for a grand turnout and the Old Log parking lot full of MG's. Call now. Reservations **MUST** be in by calling the Figenskau's before May 10<sup>th</sup>.

## MMGG Now Has Message Group on Yahoo

*Submitted by MMGG Member Joe Olson*

A message group has been opened for the MMGG at <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/MMGG/>.

What's that? It's a way for MMGG members to communicate with other members of the group about matters of general interest. You post a message and anyone who visits the site can read it. Members of the site can post responses to your post. And so forth. It's a great communication tool. Because communication is widespread and quick, the board can be used to enhance informal activities. If you decide on Tuesday that you want to go touring through the byways of Wisconsin on Saturday but prefer to do so in the company of other LBS's, you can post a message to that effect on the Board. Anyone who visits the Board can contact you and bingo, you've got an outing going.

<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/MMGG/>

## Another Tech Tip

*Submitted by MMGG Member Bob Figenskau*

*Taken from Email correspondence among the T Club members*

**Question:** To all, I have a light tan duck canvas top and tonneau and have picked up a stain or two over the years from folding and weather. Does anyone know of a method or product that works effectively to clean this material?

I have tried scrubbing with soap and water, etc. I even came across an old car detailing article about using a gum rubber eraser that has worked the best so far. I would like to get the tonneau as clean as possible and perhaps treat it with something to repel stains.

Any ideas?

My best, Ben Cordsen, TC 4260

**Reply:**

Good morning, Ben:

I had the same thing happen with my brand-new stayfast top from Moss: Bird poop....everything I tried just made it worse and worse. I was sure I'd ruined it, as I ended up with a huge discolored stain. I got a hold of Robbins, the company that makes those tops Moss sells, and they said use **ONLY** Ivory liquid soap and a soft brush! **NO** other liquid or powdered soap will work. Ivory, it turns out, does not have a certain ingredient all other soaps do, and that's the difference that counts on these. Other soaps just don't cut it.

It was wonderful. Took the stain right out, (along with a grease-stain that I'd gotten) like magic.

You can confirm this at Robbin's page on cleaning their tops, here:

<http://www.robbinsautotopco.com/care.htm>

Best of luck,

Sam

## Tech Tip!

### Belts by Doctor Ernie

Rhea actually is the one that thinks up what I should write about. Hey, how about belts and hoses? Yeah. I know. They come in two sizes, too long and too short, too big or too small. But the fact is you've got to do it right. First off. Start with the pulleys. The pulleys have to be in good shape. One small nick, one sharp edge, one cracked side can turn an \$8.00 to \$20.00 belt into a fuzzy rope (remember, there are no \$3.00 belts anymore). The pulleys need to have a true V profile. Worn pulleys many times have a U-shaped groove. Next the belt should set down in the groove with the top of the belt somewhere close to flush with the outer diameter of the pulley. Under no circumstances should the belt touch the bottom of the pulley groove. The belt gets all of its pulling power from its V sides. If the bottom of the belt touches the bottom of the pulley almost all of the belts grip is lost. And it doesn't make any difference which pulley it is either. Next, belt length should be correct too. Some car engineers see to it that there is adequate adjustment to put belts on. (I suspect they're promptly fired). Because many cars almost call for partially removing one of the units having a pulley to get the belt on. At any rate don't pry the belt on with a screwdriver. To do so almost always damages the belt, leading to short life. If you have a standard transmission car, sometimes it's easiest to put the car in high gear and slowly push the car, rolling the belt on as the motor turns over slowly. It's extremely risky to do this with the starter motor though.

If you have a choice, pick a belt that leaves some adjustment left. After a short break in, approximately 50 miles, you should readjust the belt. As far as adjustment goes, correct belt tension varies considerably from application to application. In general, thick belts (back in to 30's, 40's and 50's) don't need to be too tight. In fact, short generator and water pump bearing life will result every time with over tightened thick belts. With thin belts the opposite is true. They have to be quite tight (it's

critical that a new belt be readjusted after a few miles, maybe even twice). Any looseness will result in very rapid wear. High power requirements sometimes require twin belts. Always insist on a matched pair (boxed together) for those applications. Oil is an enemy of belts so unless you like changing belts, fix any oil leaks that might contaminate belts or pulleys.

This is a very general tech tip. There are some extremes of course, considering all the possibilities there are out there from 1910 to 1980. Since 1980 it's even more variable. Enough, I'll cover hoses next month.

### Doctor Ernie

*Tech Tips are provided by Ernie and Rhea West, proprietors of Dead Lake Motors. Dead Lake Motors is located 13 miles southwest of Perham, Minnesota. Ernie and Rhea can be reached at [erwest@arvig.net](mailto:erwest@arvig.net) or by calling 218-758-3344. If using email, identify yourself on the subject line of your note or it may get deleted as junk mail.*

## Some Questions About Cooling

Submitted by MMGG Member Jon Masley with comments from Doctor Ernie

I have a great MGB-GT. Runs great, looks sharp, even has a cool air conditioner, which I enjoy. And I do not have a cooling problem, which is a testament to the great work done by the previous owner. Yet, I wondered if a higher-pressure radiator cap would help cooling, especially if I was driving in some very hot weather. The 74 B's had a 10-pound cap. I asked Doctor Ernie if I should consider changing to a 13-pound radiator cap. This is what the good Doctor had to say. His comments go well beyond my question, to cover cooling issues in general.

Jon, I would think that a 10-pound cap would be adequate if everything else is in order. Many things add a minor effect, but added up they can make a big difference. First off, make sure the cap is holding pressure (are the bigger hoses hard, indicating a pressure build up, when the engine is warmed up). Next what fan do you have on the engine? Various available fans vary a lot as far as effectiveness. Next, and very important, is ignition

*(Cooling Continued on page 11)*

*(Cooling Continued from page 10)*

timing and distributor advance correct. The vacuum advance is particularly important: In round figures, most engines need about 20 degrees total advance at 2000 engine RPM's and 30 degrees by 3500 RPM. This is actual advance with everything working right using a regular timing light. Make sure the belt is tight enough and not riding on the bottom of the pulley grooves. Don't over tighten the belt. You should be able to make the belt slip by turning the fan by hand without turning the engine, but it should take a hard pull to make it slip. If the belt is worn so much that it's rubbing the bottom of the pulley, change it. Don't put a front license plate on that deflects air either over or under the bumper.

Next run a weaker solution of coolant. Water cools much better than antifreeze. There are several products on the market that claim to increase coolant efficiency too (additives). And last, check if your gauge is reading correctly by comparing the gauge with an actual reading using a candy thermometer stuck in the radiator cap opening (not possible on later MGB's). Some cautions: On late MGB cars make sure the electric fan ON/OFF thermostat is secured by a clip so it doesn't blow out. Also, if you still have the plastic filler plug on the thermostat housing replace it with the new factory brass plug (expensive) or just get a tapered pipe plug at any hardware store for fifty cents. If you use the latter, don't over tighten it. If you have a 76 or newer MBG, carburetor malfunctions can cause extreme catalytic converter temperatures. Along with adding lots of under hood temperatures, it can cause rapid failure of the left front motor mount, and is an extreme fire hazard if you still have the old style plastic plug in the bottom of the carburetor. Removing the air pump belt will reduce the catalytic converter temperature considerably, and of course replacing the catalytic converter with a 75 exhaust pipe removes all of the heat. If you replace the catalytic converter replace the lifter side cover gaskets at the same time, cause they'll be cooked, and leaking too. On late Midgets, using the 1500 engine, make sure the fan clutch engages when hot. This fan clutch is pressed on over the water pump

pulley with a sleeve. Never reuse an old sleeve. This late Midget is the most heat sensitive of all MG cars. Since its introduction in 1975 many factory modifications were tried. Up to 85 degrees F the later fan works some better. And the cupped heat shield under the carburetor helps hot starting some. I'll address these problems and how to correct them in another tech tip later. Of course regular cooling system precautions must be observed: Never remove the radiator cap on a hot engine, and never leave antifreeze in an open container around kids or pets.

*Doctor Ernie*

## Just A Reminder

So you're planning to head to Thunder Bay this June. Great! Do you have proof you adequately carry insurance? The following is taken from a travel booklet supplied by MMGG Members Tom and June Moerke.

"In cases of accident involving death, injury or property damage the Canadian provinces and territories require evidence of financial responsibility. In some provinces, you may be asked to show this evidence at any time."

**"U.S. motorists should obtain from their own U.S. insurance companies a yellow *Non-Resident Inter-Province Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance Card*, which is accepted as evidence of financial responsibility throughout Canada."**

It is recommended you have this card.

Beside having those spare parts, a cell phone, and food snacks for the road trip, make sure you do not overlook your insurance needs.

*Safety Fast!*

# Calendar of Events

Let's have some fun!

Editors comments: This calendar will be continually modified and updated. The MMGG club is working closely with other British car clubs on a variety of activities. You are encouraged to attend any car club event.

- May 16-18, 2003 **Donnybrooke Vintage Revival.** Sponsored by Vintage Sports Car Racing (VSCR) in Brainerd, Mn. Contact Rich or Liz Stadther at 651-698-1981 or [www.vscr.org](http://www.vscr.org). See further information in the March issue of the Gazette.
- May 18, 2003 **Intermarque Spring Banquet and Car Show.** Hosted by the Intermarque Council. Details to follow.
- May 24, 2003 **Drive, Picnic, and Tour of Historic Octagon House** in Hudson, Wisc. More details next month. Hosts Tom and June Moerke 715-386-5341.
- May 24 to June 1, 2003 **British Car Week.** You are suppose to drive your car everyday this week. Just do it!
- June 5-8, 2003 **The Lake Superior Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous.** Annual rendezvous will be held in Thunder Bay, Ontario. Canada. The 2002 event was great! Plan on attending. More information as it becomes available. For now contact Roger Rickards, 807-473-4882, email [miniowners@sympatico.ca](mailto:miniowners@sympatico.ca) or visit the web site at [www.tbvscc.ca](http://www.tbvscc.ca).
- June 19-22, 2003 **MG2003** North American MGB Register, St. Louis, MO. More information at [www.british-cars.org.uk/kimber/nambr](http://www.british-cars.org.uk/kimber/nambr).
- June 19-22, 2003 **MSRA Back to the 50's.** Held at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, Falcon Heights, Mn. Mostly American cars and street rods, but some British. Good show! For more information [www.msra.com](http://www.msra.com).
- July 5, 2003 **Vintage Voyagers "Original" Blast from the Past Car Show.** Held in Chetek, Wisconsin (73.0 miles from Hudson). Hosted by Steve and Diane Rindt. Starts at 9:00 am and you can enjoy food, crafts, music and a great car show with a foreign car class! Following the car show join Steve and Diane for a scenic drive through North Western Wisconsin to the supper destination, "Foster's River View Inn" for a Prime Rib and Seafood buffet. Head home from there or stay the night at Country Inn & Suites in Chippewa Falls (715-720-1414). Tell them you are with the MMGG for the special room rate of \$72.00. Make your reservations by June 5th. Contact Steve and Diane for more information. 715-832-8316 or [sdrindt@msn.com](mailto:sdrindt@msn.com).
- July 14-18, 2003 **GT28** North American MGA Register Get Together, Welches, Oregon. Hosted by the Columbia Gorge MGA Club. Info: Pat & Kenny Snyder 360-263-4047; Mark Hadley 503-771-7576 or [markhadley@aol.com](mailto:markhadley@aol.com), or [www.british-cars.org.uk/kimber/namgar](http://www.british-cars.org.uk/kimber/namgar).
- July 22-24, 2003 **GOF Central** hosted by the Milwaukee & Greatlakes MG Motorcar Group (MGMGMG) in Delavan, Wi. (SE corner of Wisc.). The 25th year Gathering Of the Faithful. Host hotel is the newly renovated Lake Lawn Resort. For more information call Kristi Mirocha at 262-786-6763 or email her at [mirocha@execpc.com](mailto:mirocha@execpc.com).
- July 26, 2003 **Rally in the Valley**, a.k.a. Chippewa Falls Road Trip. Kicks off in Chippewa Falls Wisconsin (72.0 miles from Hudson). Hosted by Steve and Diane Rindt. Join us in a tour of the Legendary Leinenkugel Brewery. Then enjoy a good old-fashioned Poker Run as we twist and turn our way through the beautiful back roads of Wisconsin to our dinner destination. Prizes will be awarded. (Continued on page 13).

- July 26, 2003 (continued from page 12) Head home from there or stay the night for Natter & Nogg-ing at the AmericInn Motel in Chippewa Falls (715-723-5711) or Indianhead Motel (715-723-9171). Tell them you are with the MMGG for the special room rate of \$89.10 & make your reservations by June 26<sup>th</sup>. Contact Steve & Diane for more information ([sdrindt@msn.com](mailto:sdrindt@msn.com)) or call (715-832-8316). Also see the following web site address: <http://www.chicagolandmgclub.com/guests/ritv/ritv2003.html>
- August 9, 2003 **Ellingson's Swap Meet and Car Show.** Ellingson;s Auto Museum, I-94 and highway 101 in Rogers, Minnesota. Hosted by MMGG members Phil and Darcy Vanner; Jim and Cindy Pennoyer; Brian and Jennifer McCullough. This might become an Intermarque event. More detail as it becomes available.
- August 14 -17, 2003 **Abingdon Summer Party.** Galesburg, Il. 630-858-8192
- August 16 & 17, 2003 **Heartland British Autofest** in Iowa. Anyone have information on this event?
- August 23, 2003 **3M Woodbury Days Car Show** at Ojibway Park, Woodbury. \$5.00 per vehicle from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Drawings and door prizes. FFI contact Jim Warner at 651-777-7854. Sponsored by the 3M Club Rod and Custom Car Club.
- August 21-24, 2003 **Road America 500, the American Le Mans Series.** At Elkhart Lakes, Wisconsin. See their web site at [www.roadamerica.com](http://www.roadamerica.com).
- September 6, 2003 **Wheels and Wings.** Osceola, Wisconsin. Hosted by Jerry and Nancy Strand. Always a good time. Plan to attend. Call Jerry at 715-386-5930 for more info.
- September 12, 2003 **North St. Paul Car Show** and "Pierce's" Bar and Grill. Meet in downtown North St. Paul anytime after 5 P.M. Plenty of food vendors on the street, plus local restaurants. Bring your lawn chair. Later continue the gathering at Elena Pierce's home. Call Elena for information at 651-777-8088.
- September 19-21, 2003 **Elkhart Lake Vintage Fall Festival** presented by VSCDA (Vintage Sports Car Drivers Association). Featured marque not available at this time. See the VSCDA web site for more information ([www.vscda.org](http://www.vscda.org)).
- September 26-28, 2003 **British Automobile Owners Association of Albuquerque** Rendezvous in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Host hotel is the historic Plaza Hotel (800-328-1882). Call now to reserve your room. For further information and registration for contact Kevin Kittle at 505-345-4207
- October 4, 2003 **Fall Colour Tour.**
- November 15, 2003 **Annual Business Meeting.**
- January 24, 2004 **Annual Holiday Party and MG Bucks Auction.** Hosted by Phyllis and Keith Galberth and Jim and Cindy Pennoyer. More details later.
- July 23 & 24, 2004 **Ralley in the Valley, 2004.** Hosted by Steve and Diane Rindt, stay two days at Paradise Shores, enjoying the resort, driving beautiful country roads, visiting Al Capone's Hide Out in Hayward, Wisconsin and of course, enjoying good food and friends. **Call NOW** to make your reseverations at Paradise Shores, 1-800-657-4512. Let them know you are with the MMGG for July 23 and 24, 2004. Sneak preview of Paradise Shores at [www.paradiseshores.com](http://www.paradiseshores.com) and Al Capone's Hideout at [www.alcaponehideout.com](http://www.alcaponehideout.com). Contact Steve or Diane at [sdrindt@msn.com](mailto:sdrindt@msn.com)) or call (715-832-8316) for more information. Also see the following web site: <http://www.chicagolandmgclub.com/guests/ritv/ritv2003.html>.

# This and That

Foreign

Domestic

## Midwest Motor Sports, Inc.

26 South 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
 Sauk Rapids, Mn. 56379  
 Ph. 320-251-0676, Email: danielmms@aol.com

DAN, MIKE, RICK, DOUG, DUSTIN  
**Call and inquire about our free pickup  
 and delivery of your car.**

## MMGG Technical Advisors

The following people have expressed a willingness to answer questions and offer advice about these cars. Take them up on their offer.

**Triple-M** - Lew Palmer 651/436-7401

**T-types** - Bob Figenskau 952/935-7909

**MGA** - Mike Hirschman 763/391-5769

**MGB** - Randy Byboth 952/936-9335

**Midgets** - Brian McCullough 651/462-0145

**Bodywork** - Open

**For Sale:** 1966 MGB-GT, white, 60,000 miles, no rest car from Arizona. No OD, wire wheels. Call Bruce Johnson at 218-247-0131.

*May, 2003*

## Quality Coaches, Inc.

20 West 38<sup>th</sup> St. (38<sup>th</sup> & Nicollet)  
 Minneapolis, Mn. 55409  
 Ph. 612-824-4155, Fax 612-824-4460 Email:  
 qcoaches@uslink.net

**MOSS Distributor-STOCKING PARTS TO KEEP  
 YOUR MG-TRIUMPH-AUSTIN HEALY RUN-  
 NING. 30 YEARS SERVICE FOR BRITISH  
 CARS, FOREIGN & DOMESTIC REPAIR.**

## REGALIA

We now have a web site to view all the merchandise available for our club to purchase. The web site address is **amaril.com**. We are currently looking at polo shirts, including some special requests for different colors to match owners' cars. If you have any questions please call me.

Rich Leslie at **763-754-2965**

## BMC British Auto

Austin-MG-Mini-all types of pre and post War British Automobiles. Mechanical Services and Restorations of both.

**Brian McCullough**

Ph. 651-462-0145 or  
 Email: bmcMcC@mnautox.com  
 Just north of Forest Lake, Minnesota.

## Club Equipment Available

Our MG club has some excellent equipment for club member use. Dick Wallrich at Park Bus/Columbia Transit Company in St. Paul keeps our welders, engine hoist, pressure washer and tent. His telephone number is 651/644-1100. Our bullhorns, overhead projector and microphones/amps are available through Jerry Strand at 715/386-5930. For specifics, please refer to previous newsletters, our website or call for details.

## For Sale.....Wanted.....Misc.

Kind of classified rules: Minnesota MG Group members ads will run free for three months, unless you tell the editor to drop them earlier or run them longer. The month/year the ad was placed is in italics below the ad. Commercial Ads as follows: Business Card—\$10.00 issue; 1/4 page—\$20.00 issue; 1/2 page—\$30.00 issue; full page—N/A. All commercial ads must run a minimum of 6 months and must be paid in advance. Send to Jon Masley, 3599 Gershwin Court North, Oakdale, Mn. 55128-3044 or [jdmasley@yahoo.com](mailto:jdmasley@yahoo.com). Make checks payable to the MMGG.

**Wanted:** To ride as navigator as you drive up to Thunder Bay June 5 to 8, 2003 and attend "Rendezvous 2003, Back to the Bay". Please call Wayne Soderbeck, at 715-425-5032.

*May, 2003*

**For Sale:** 1971 MGB Roadster, 20+ year owner, flame red, driven 10,000 miles since 1982, wire wheels, very good condition, solid body, reliable and well above average mechanically. \$6150.

Dave at 763-546-2173

*February, 2003*

**FOR SALE:** 1957 MGA Roadster Excellent driver or resto candidate. 1200 miles on complete major engine overhaul by Quality Coaches. Approx 10,000 miles on new transmission, brakes. Red Paint is faded. Frame not rusty. No visible body rust-through. I have owned and driven this car for 9 years, but won't get around to restoring it. It comes with all parts to convert to wires plus a set of new interior panels and carpets, plus some other small spares. \$8249. Tony Lowe Home 952-922-7843 or Work 952-937-4529

*February, 2003*

**For Sale:** 1970 MGB Roadster. Completely restored and ready to drive. Dependable, fast, over-drive. All new or rebuilt. Bronze yellow with a black top. \$7,000.

Chris Sorenson at 320-259-1919

*April, 2003*

**For Sale:** 1959 MGA Roadster. I purchased this car 20 years ago and it has been sitting ever since. It is in rough shape but one piece. I also have a 1800 MGB engine that I picked up along the way. \$2,000 for the MGA. Make me an offer on the MGB engine. Mike Guthrie in Red Wing, Minnesota. 1-651-388-8118 or email at [guthrie@redwing.net](mailto:guthrie@redwing.net).

*March, 2003*

**For Sale:** 1952 MGTD, Red w/tax top and red interior. Frame off restoration in 1995, with engine rebuilt at the same time. Only 6700 miles since. Numbers match. Includes full set of side curtains in excellent shape. Top, upholstery, floor mats all in excellent shape. Includes tan cab cover with a zipper down the middle that snaps on when car is parked and the top is down. All restoration work done by British Sportcar Center in Cameron Park, California. Asking \$18,500.

Bob Crose at 763-754-3091 *May, 2003*

**For Sale:** 1964 MGB Roadster, green w/black seats, 144,000 miles, bought in California, no rust, chrome wire wheels, luggage rack, needs some work. \$5,300 or BO.

Darla Vashro 952-832-0140

*April, 2003*

**For Sale:** 1979 MGB Roadster, maroon w/tan seats, 97,000 miles, bought in Arizona, no rust, good mechanicals. \$5,600 or BO.

Darla Vashro 952-832-0140

*April, 2003*

**For Sale:** 1974 MGB-GT with usual rust, a good interior, not run for 8 years and burned oil then. A parts car or for restoring. \$300.

Call Dale Paterson 715-549-6067

*March, 2002*

**For Sale:** 1974 MGB-GT. 77K miles. Much work done on body, engine, brakes and exhaust system. Good tires and battery. Runs ok and minimum rust but needs finishing and painting. Some manuals and calibration equipment available.

\$1500 or best reasonable offer.

Dave Coslett 651-738-1421

*May, 2003*

# Minnesota MG Group Membership Application

The Minnesota MG Group was founded in 1987 and is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, maintenance and enjoyment of all MG cars. MG car ownership is not necessary to be a member of the Minnesota MG Group. Membership is \$30.00. The membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st. New members joining after August 31st of any given year shall be granted membership for the remainder of that year and the next year as well. Use this form to join or renew your membership.

Please complete this form, write out a check for \$30.00 and mail to:

**Minnesota MG Group**  
**2247 W. Roselawn Avenue**  
**Roseville, Minnesota 55113-5347**

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

Name of spouse/partner/significant other: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, & Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone w/area code: (\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_) (\_\_\_\_)

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

MG(s) Owned: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Minnesota MG Group  
3599 Gershwin Court North  
Oakdale, Minnesota 55128-3044

## Safety Fast

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.mmgg.org](http://www.mmgg.org)**