



A-Antics



Quinn's Man-Cave July 15, 2023



Rowdie Birthday Party at Quinn's

GOF Central Meet in South Bend, IN

Birthday Party at Quinn's!

Waterford Races

Tom Fant's Rowdie Beach Party



MICHIGAN CHAPTER OF NORTH AMERICAN MGA REGISTER

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History: The Chapter was established August 14, 1976. It was NAMGAR's first chapter. We are a low-key club, dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of our MGA's/ Anyone is welcome to join our chapter and they are asked to join NAMGAR as well.

Chapter Dues: \$25 annually (\$40 for printed newsletter)

Nickname: **Rowdies**

Motto: **People First!**

Rowdies Site:
<http://www.mg-cars.org.uk/michiganrowdies/>

MG Car Council Site: <http://www.mg-cars.org.uk/mgscouncil/>

NAMGAR Web Site: www.namgar.com

Past Chapter Chairpersons:

1976-1980	Bruce Nichols
1981-1982	Tom Latta
1983-1984	Dick Feight
1985-1988	Dave Smith
1989-1990	Dave Quinn
1991-1994	Mark Barnhart
1995-1995	Herb Maier
1996-1996	Tom Knoy
1997-1998	Neil Griffin
1999-2002	Bruce Nichols
2003-2004	Bob Sutton
2005-2008	Gordie Bird
2009-2015	Dave Quinn
2016-	Bill Weakley

Rowdies Website: **Larry Pittman, Webmaster**

<http://www.mg-cars.org.uk/michiganrowdies/>

Larry Pitman's Database Report: 67 Active and Paid-Up Members

Deadline for submitting material for the next issue is: October 20, 2023

Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!



Join over 2,000 enthusiastic owners in the restoration, preservation, and sheer enjoyment of driving an MGA, Magnette, or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive six bi-monthly issues of *MGA!*, our full-color, award winning magazine, invitations to National and Regional Get-Togethers throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus a knowledge base and support group second to none. All this for just \$37.50 per year (North America), or \$52.50 (International). **Get more information at <http://www.namgar.com>, or contact registrar@namgar.com.**





MEMBERS PAGE

Welcome New Members

First name: **Jim**
 Last name: **Fry**
 Spouse or Significant Other: **Jan**
 Address: 701 Cumberland Dr.
 Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827
 Cell ph: 517-749-2959
 Email: frytravel@sbcglobal.net
 Type of MG: 1980 MGB Roadster Limited
 I have had my MGB-Limited for 12 years now, am a member of the Mad Dogs & Englishmen. You have a terrific, informative newsletter that I am looking forward to receiving on a regular basis!

For Sale

FOR SALE Dove Grey 1962 Mark II Roadster, total restoration in 1996 - well traveled (we have driven it to 15 GTs) and carefully maintained and upgraded with safety and reliability features. For photos and a copy of the maintenance/parts-replacement log since 2017, drop me an email at bil.tru@att.net. **Bill Gallihugh**, Kalamazoo, MI. Asking \$25k.

Letters

100 Years Of MG!



Our 100 year badge makes it all the way to France. I sent it to the owner of the MGA over there. Nice grill shot!
Bruce Mann

Watkin's Glen Races

Hey Dave Smith,
 Deb and I are planning our September activities, and thought it would be fun to watch you race and be

honored at Watkins Glen this year. What are the dates of the ceremony, and days you will be racing and practicing?
Jeff & Deb Smith

Jeff & Debby:

I appreciate your desire to see # 49 on the track. Here are our plans at this time. We will be at Lime Rock Park in Connecticut racing on Sept 1 thru 4-2023. On Sunday, this track cannot run races, so there will be a Fantastic Street Car show. The number of MG registered so far is over 40 cars, so there will be MG Races only for part of the schedule. There will be other races when MGs can race with other Marques. I have put Dick and Bethel Powers on my crew list, but there are Rowdie Racing Crew passes that are available. I will check into that cost, vs Gate tickets.

The 5th & 6th will be travel days from LRP to Watkins Glen. The 7th is Track Registration. On Friday the 8th there will be the IMRRC Walk of Fame induction around noon On Main Street (Franklin) at the Old Court House. Then Rowdie Racing Friends will walk down Franklin Street to unveil the Granite Block in the sidewalk, across from the US Post Office. (about a 4 city block walk).

Picture to the right is from Put In Bay Races in 2022. After 5 years lapse in track time, #49 Finished 1st in class in the Feature Race. Remember that Old Age, treachery & persistence can often defeat youth and enthusiasm. Pic below is the Robert Gillespie Print of #49 battling #029 in the 2006 Collier Cup Race.



David T. Smith



Suggested Tech Tip



Dave Quinn sends in this innovative tech tip from TV's **Red-Green Show** for motorists who think 'outside the box' when their car has battery trouble (see picture). Don't spend \$5.99 at AutoZone for a new battery clamp when you can do this repair at home yourself with items commonly found in anyone's junk drawer.

GT-50 Co-Chairmen Announced

At the Rowdies Business Meeting in February it was decided that the Rowdies would once again carry on in their 'once every decade' tradition of hosting a GT. This time around GT-50 will be in Traverse City, MI and we will have 2 Co-Hosts (not Co-Vids) to organize and lead our plucky and fearless team of volunteers (***you ARE of course planning to volunteer to assist these lads aren't you?***) make GT-50 another success for NAMGAR's first and best Chapter. Our Co-Hosts for this fabulous event are none other than Larry Pittman and Bruce Mann, so congratulate them when you see them and offer your services to make it a great event!



Bruce and Larry

Mad Dogs?

I was not surprised to see several dogs at the MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN event at the Gilmore Museum on July 9. I enjoyed interacting with some of them and not one of them seemed to be "MAD" at anyone. Here are two of them:

This Welsh Corgi (left) has a Welsh girl's name, "Arwen". A character in Lord of the Rings has the same name.



This little Welsh Terrier (right) is named, "Roxy". She looks like a smaller version of an Airedale Terrier, "Jake" who grew up with our two sons. ***Mary Ellen Weakley***



Birthday Party Thank You Note

Bruce Mann says: Dave, very nice get together yesterday. Everything was well done, including your vast collection of memorabilia in your garage. Lots of history there for sure. Enjoyed the day. Thanks to you and Donna. A good time was had by all, and you and Donna were the perfect hosts!

Bruce & Willie Mann



Lynne Comb and Dave Quinn in front of just a portion of Dave's amazing garage memorabilia. Notice the floor is clean enough to eat off!

(See page 7 for more news about members)

ROWDIES 2023 EVENTS

AUGUST

- 5** **Rowdies Beach Party-Tom
Fant's at Portage Lake**
- 12-13** **Alden Car Show & Antrim
Co. Drive- Alden, MI**
- 19** **John Twist's Summer MG
Party- Grand Rapids, MI**

SEPTEMBER

- 1-4** **MG 100th Anniversary &
Historic Races- Lime Rock
Park, CONN**
- 10** **Battle of the Brits- Camp
Dearborn- Milford, MI**
- 17** **Orphan Car Show- Ypsilanti,
MI**
- 19-21** **Put-in-Bay Vintage Races-
Put-in-Bay, OH**

OCTOBER

- ???** **Rowdies Colour Tour-TBA**
- ???** **Larry's Day In Garage-
Fenton, MI**

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

- 3** **Christmas Party- Chelsea, MI**

OTHER POSSIBILITIES

- Day In Garage
- Spontaneous Drives in Country
- Canoe Trip
- Bar Hopping Like It Was 1958



Worst Knock-Knock Joke Ever

submitted by Dave Quinn

Dear Rowdies,

We have successfully launched our new **Michigan Rowdies Regalia website** and it is up and running.

This website is: <https://rowdies.itemorder.com/> .
The website is active and you can order both men and women's clothing with our logo. The clothing has the Michigan Rowdie logo, however, currently embroidered at a size that is too large @ 3.250 inches. We are reducing the size to 2.250 inches and adding the Michigan Rowdies script which is also an added bonus and looks really nice.

The timing for making this logo size change is currently not available as the owner of the store has

some medical issues to deal with. Expectations are we should have that change made shortly In the meantime please browse the website as it is very user friendly and provide any feedback you have for suggested changes.

We will be eliminating our current regalia order format on the rowdies website and replacing with a link that will connect to the website mentioned above. Timing to completely eliminate the current regalia items for ordering should be in a couple of months.

Just FYI, we do have some items that will continue to be for sale such as Rowdie Key fob, Rowdie Logo badge bars and some misc. shirts. If you would like some of these items please contact Bruce Mann-Rowdie Regalia Chairman. ***Bruce Mann***



Chairman's Chatter

Wow! It's been a busy two months since our last A-Antics. I didn't make it to the GOF or the Michiana Brits show, which were the week after the GT. But then we had the Mad Dogs show, the Rowdie Birthday Party, the Waterford Hills vintage races, Tom Fant's beach party, the Alden show and the

Twist party. There were also numerous cruise night opportunities and other events in every part of the state. We had unusually nice weather for the Mad Dogs show. It's usually uncomfortably hot the second weekend in July. This time it was very pleasant. Our son, Adam, and his friend, Ko, drove our Midget. I decided to take the MGC. After the trip to Memphis, I thought the MGA could use a rest. We had a nice group of Rowdies at the show.

The MGA got to go to the Rowdie birthday party at Dave and Donna Quinn's house. Again, we lucked out with the weather. After a nice lunch, we conducted an auction, which netted the club \$286. The A also went to Waterford Hills. I picked up Phil Lyon, who had never been to a road track. We enjoyed six or seven trips around the track, a track-side lunch and friendly conversation. The weather cooperated just long enough for me to make it home before the rain. Last year, the beach party got doused with a rain shower but not this year. Tom made several boat tours around Portage Lake, then cooked burgers and brats that were enjoyed by all.

We took the MGC to Alden, along with two MGB couples from the Windsor-Detroit club. Our trip up was slowed by a heavy rainstorm. As it turned out, this was the same storm that sent a tornado through Perry. Heavy rain is bad enough to deal with using the less-than-optimal wipers in the MG and dealing with various leaks. A tornado would be more than uncomfortable. We stayed at the same older hotel in Central Lake, which is not a lake but a small town next to a string of lakes. Tom and Lynn were at the show in Tom's MGA, and we met up with former Rowdies Dennis and Erika Ferguson and Ken and Melody Klemmer.

I took my MGA to the Twist party (officially the "University Motors 2023 MG Summer Party Reunion").

I only attended the Saturday car show. There were a number of Rowdies in attendance and many nice cars. I think almost all of the people there were veterans of past Twist parties. There were about 100 cars on the show field. That compares with a peak of 548 in 1993 and 1999. There was no voting or awards. I have come to realize that I don't enjoy voting. I would rather spend my time talking to people and looking at their cars. Then there is always the long wait for the awards to be announced, when I am only interested in a few of the classes. Because MGs are almost always the biggest marque in attendance, dividing them fairly is always a hassle. Besides, what does one do with a bunch of plaques and trophies. I don't have all that many, but they just take up room and are of no interest to anyone else. Okay, I am off my soap box now.

As you have probably noticed, we are all getting older. We have seen folks age out of driving MGs, not to mention aging out of life. Most of you are probably aware that Todd Clarke died not too long ago. He was the only supplier I knew of providing some specialty items for MGAs. I found out today that Robert Kirk, a specialty supplier and source of information for MGCs also has passed. In both cases, it is not likely that anyone will completely fill their shoes.

I hope you have all been busy driving your MGAs. Our driving season here in Michigan is pretty short, so we have to make the most of it. We have at least a couple months of good driving weather ahead. Enjoy your MGAs while you can.

Chairman Bill



Tom Fant, Lynn Combs



Aldén Car Show



Of the three cars in the photo, two C2 Corvettes and a Crosley Super Sport, one of these marques won the first Sebring endurance race. Can you guess which one?

More Letters and News About Members-continued from page 4

Tribute To Neil-July 27

The **Bellville Area Council Of The Arts** made a presentation award dedicated to Neil Griffin in the form of a plaque and a renaming of the art project as **The Neil Griffin Community Art Project**. The BACA Board thanked the Rowdies for their contribution in the name of Neil Griffin and had a dedication on July 27th in Belleville at Horizon Park. A plaque engraved with Neil's portrait was presented to the Griffin family and friends and will be installed with the Community Fish Project renamed in his honor. Neil and Thelma put in tireless hours implementing the first school of fish that strikingly swim the shore at Horizon Park. Each year since 2018 the community continues to add their fish flare to the project.

Jim Fry, BACA Board



And...who can forget Neil?

Dave Quinn Reporting



Nice turnout of Rowdies and family for the event. Some of the Rowdies who attended - Debbie & Jeff Smith, Donna & Dave Quinn, past members Debbie & Mike Tyler, Steph & Curt Smith. Matt & Lisa Wigent were there as well.



Pics by Dave Quinn

Another Road Story

There are some really great people in the world, and it is wonderful to meet one. I was on my way to a sports car track event. After a half-hour of driving I pulled into a parking spot in a small town to get mints from the passenger door. Got back in to go and nothing. The battery was dead. A stranger asked if I needed help. Jumper cables would be good. When he returned we took voltage readings and confirmed the low voltage. He was a retired service manager from a local car dealership and knew his stuff. There was enough life in the battery to restart the car but not enough to risk the drive home.

I followed him to his house and put it on a battery charger. Very likely I had a bad generator or bad voltage regulator. I mentioned I carry a backup generator and fan belt. It's the world of Lucas and old British cars.



(continued from page 7) ...

He decided he would change it for me. Because I'm having issues with my shoulder (surgery is a must), I wasn't much help. After removing the original generator, he installed the new rebuilt generator. It screamed so loud we knew it was worse than the other. It was no surprise to learn later the local shop I bought it from is now permanently closed. He then reinstalled the original. By that time the battery had a full charge and we felt it could get me home if I didn't use any unnecessary electrical drain like the headlights.

Four and half-hours after meeting him I started heading home. At that very second the sky opened up and it rained so hard I could barely see the road. Of course my top was down. Then I noticed the temperature gauge climbing and within 3 miles it was at 230°. I pulled into an American Legion parking lot. While getting drenched I realized the fan belt had slipped off. It was time to call it a day. The wife picked me up, the club said the car would be ok in their lot, and my newest friend agreed.

At 7:30 AM the next day I received a text that he had fixed the belt and tested it using the car's remote starter since he didn't have the key!! Good Lord how lucky I was to find someone that was willing to help a stranger and how can you thank them? We drove back to the lot, picked up the MG, and got home safe and sound. I took a new battery as backup but thankfully didn't need to install it. I plan to run a series of tests to see why it was not charging. My new friend deserves an Award and all my thanks.

Dave Quinn

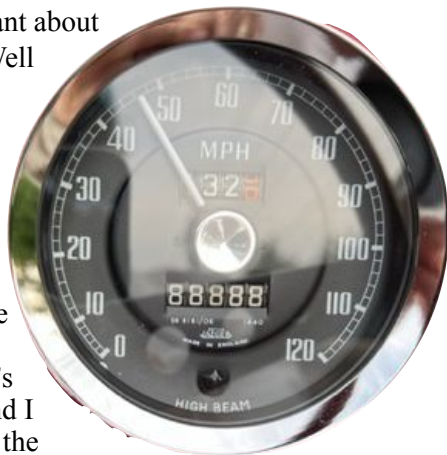
Good Miles With Good Friends

What is significant about these photos you ask? Well for some of us not too much, but for me it represents 62 years of ownership of my 1960 MGA roadster from 17 years young to 80 years on this earth.

Willie and I were driving to the Michigan Rowdies, Tom and Lynn's beach party on 8-5-23 and I said to her take a look at the mileage on little red. I'm sure on the way back we will hit all 8's on the odometer. We will have to get a picture.

Sure enough one mile from home on Williams Lake Road in White Lake it turned to 88888. So we shot the photos.

Those miles are all original. I never rolled it back. When I bought the car in 1961 it had 9000 miles



and now almost 90000. Overhauled, restored, and cared for, for many years.

For me it has represented many great years remembering all the wonderful people we have met along the way. Some tough times and some really great times. But at the end of the day a conduit throughout my life.

I can tell you it brings a tear to my eye, thinking how wonderful all the Rowdies have been throughout the years helping me understand and lending a hand in making little red (A 1960 MGA roadster) a great running car. Thanks to all the Rowdies past and present.



Bruce and Willie Mann



Dave Smith's Watkins Glen 'Walk of Fame' stone to be installed September 8, 2023

Mad Dogs Meet At Gilmore-July 9, 2023



The weather was great... for a day at the Gilmore Museum viewing British Cars and Mad Dogs. At least 12 MGAs showed up with one MGB GTV8 and an MGC from the Rowdies. Among the attending were Bill & Mary Ellen Weakley, Phil Wiltshire, John Alexander (3rd place winner MGA), Tom Fant, Ken Nelson, Tony Dellicolli, John Flannery & daughter, Forrest & Leslie Johnson, Todd & Connie Binsz, Larry Pittman, Mac McDonnell, Janice Herring, Ken & Melody Klemmer, Bruce Mann, Guy St. John, Rod Johnson, and others. John Alexander gives his winning secret as follows: "5 hours of 'wax on-wax off' paid off on a beautiful day in West Michigan. I forgot how difficult it is to apply and polish carnuba paste wax! Seems to be worth the effort." The Rootes Group cars were featured and Forrest Johnson drove his "Rusty Moose Garage" 1960 Hillman Husky Estate Car to the show. "Twas a great day for both Dogs and Brits!"



John Alexander's prize winning "Carnauba Special" MGA

Ken Nelson



Forrest Johnson's 1960 Hillman Husky Estate Car



Mary Ellen Weakley



Janice Herring & Big Mac

Rowdie Birthday Party at Quinn's-July 15, 2023



Donna Quinn

July 15 2023 was the date of our Rowdie birthday Party and Auction that Dave & Donna Quinn graciously volunteered to host at their house starting at noon. The temp was in the low 70's, but the prediction was for scattered thundershowers throughout the day so many members chose to leave their MGAs at home. But we had a good turnout of members and one red MGA. and MGB-GT and a Rover P5. Regardless of which car you drove though, we had a good time, and only one brief period of 20 minutes light shower during the event (some members did get hit harder on the way to and from the event however). As you can see from the pictures included below though, all was smiles in Dave and Donna's house as well as in Dave's incredible 'Man-Cave' of a



Dave Quinn

garage. The attendance was also good with a total of 30 Rowdies showing up. The list included Curt & Steph Smith, Bruce & Willie Mann, Mac & Joni McDonnell, Jim & Pam Neal, Tom Borden, Al Lockwood, Tom Fant & Lynne, Bill & Mary Ellen Weakley, John Alexander & Carolyn, Ken & Kathy Nelson, Tony & Anita Dellicolli, Dave & Chari Smith, Larry & Bonnie Murray, Steve Holliday, Kevin & Norma Peck, Jeff Smith, and Dave & Donna Quinn. Larry and Bonnie Murray are new members from last year and this is the first meet they have been to, and we look forward to seeing them at many future events. The food was great with pulled pork and chicken supplied by the club (and sides to pass from members) and the socializing was even better. Bill Weakley ran the traditional auction and reported that although it didn't seem that we had very much to auction, we did take in \$286. Jeff Smith was especially generous with his donated items.



Jim Neal, and Alan Lockwood



Bill Weakley & Jeff Smith



Dave, Kevin, Norma, & Steve



Larry & Bonnie Murray



Curt came in on the Arctic Cat



Mary Ellen Weakley

Pictures by Willie Mann, Ken Nelson, Dave Quinn



Steve, Tom, Bruce, & Willie



Just part of Dave's Treasure Trove of Memorabilia displayed in his garage



Kevin, John, Tony, Tom, Ken, and Dave



Curt and Steve



'Doc' Holliday



***Waterford Day At The Races
July 22, 2023***

Here are a few photos from last Saturday. The weather was perfect, and we had a nice turnout of Rowdies. From memory, Rowdie attendees were: John Alexander, Tom Fant, Phil Lyon, Dave Smith, Gordie Bird, Bob and Mary Jane Shafto, Bob and Linda Shafto, Tom Borden, Alan Lockwood, and me. There were several BMC members who came in a caravan with Dave Smith, or should I say that Dave Smith hitched a ride with them.

Bill Weakley



Pictures by Bill Weakley



Rowdies Day At The Beach August 5, 2023



Here are some photos from the beach party at Tom Fant's house on Portage Lake. Attending above were, Left to Right: Larry Pittman, Tony and Anita Dellicolli, Bob Shafto, Gary and Diana Cunningham, Jerry Jesion, Bruce and Willie Mann, hosts Tom Fant & Lynn Combs, Curt and Stephanie Smith, Jeff (and Debbie) Smith, Carolyn King and John Alexander, Dave and Donna Quinn, (Bill) and Mary Ellen Weakley, and our hosts Tom Fant and Lynn Combs. Tom made several excursions around the lake in his pontoon boat for all to enjoy, Hamburgers and brats were provided by the hosts, and a variety of salads and deserts were provided by other participants. The very pleasant weather was enjoyed by all. In addition to a nice selection of MGAs, Jerry brought his beautiful restomod 1957 Ford, on which he placed a magnetic MG hood ornament to make sure it was an honorary MG for the day. Several guys got to push Bob Shafto's A to get it started after he apparently left something on to drain the battery (see picture below).

Bill Weakley



Attended the Michigan Rowdies MGA Club's "Beach Party Blast" Good folks, good food and a boat ride around Portage lake. My '57 Ford was an MGA for a day! **Jerry Jesion**



Bob Shafto & Larry Pittman



(Continued next page)

Hello Ken, you and Kathy were missed yesterday! Here are a few pictures, Steph has a few also that she is sending. Bill Weakley's cell was used to capture the group photo he'll be sending those as well.

Great brats, salads, fruits and desserts. Oh yeah the boat rides and the friends were great.

Willie Mann



Jerry Jesion & Bill Weakley



Jeff Smith, Gary Cunningham, Tony Dellicotti



Hosts Tom Fant & Lynn Combs

Sand in the shoes report from Meets Chairman John Alexander!

There can't be any better sight at a beach party than seeing the bulging thigh muscles of a bunch of Rowdies pushing an MGA up to starting speed. Quicker than retrieving the crank! Faster than changing the Spark Plugs! Smoother than the oil dripping out underneath the car!

Featured from passenger door to driver's door: Larry Pittman, Gary Cunningham, Jeff Smith, Tom Fant, and Bruce Mann. Bob Shafto as the driver with Curt Smith as the 12 mph supervisor. As reported by the Meets Chair with Gin 'n' Tonic - how 'veddy British, don't you know! Cheers!

John Alexander



"Man"ually Starting An MGA



Just chilli' with da' gang

GOF Central & MMM Meet-South Bend, IN June19-23

This year the NEMGT Register organized their annual midwest meet in South Bend, IN and timed it for the week after NAMGAR's GT-48 in Memphis, TN. They combined their meet with the MMM (Midget, Magnette, and Magna) cars from 1923 through 1939. Additionally MGAs and MGBs, were invited, so it was a chance to meet with old friends and new, as well as see many rare pre-war MGs that you don't often see at the average British car show.

Kathy and I took this opportunity to attend, and decided to drive our 1954 Riley RME saloon car which had been off the road for an engine rebuild. This was a chance to put about 300 miles on the car over the 5 day event, which meant relaxed easy driving at 55-65 mph on 2-lane shaded roads and no interstate highways. MUCH nicer in an almost 70 year old car with a 1496 cc engine to push its 4-door body around.

Fortunately the car ran perfectly there and back except for a case of severe vapor-lock half-way down the first day. The outside temperature was 85°, the car was hot, and I parked it in the sun as we got gas and a potty break. We took long enough for the temp gauge to creep well over 212° while parked in the sun and it didn't want to run on vapor only. So we took a lunch break, but even 45 minutes later it didn't want to run long enough to pump cooler gas through the carburetor. Luckily I had some spray ether with me, and that finally got us going. Once back on the road it cooled down and ran fine the rest of the trip.

We knew there would be some other Rowdies attending this meet, and soon found Bruce and Willie Mann and Larry Pittman with their MG-TDs. They had both driven home from Memphis in their MGAs and then loaded their TDs on trailers to bring down to Indiana. We saw Reinhout Vogt and his wife, as well as Ken and Melody Klemmer. Each of them brought their 1932 MG Midget boat-tail car. Dave Anderson and Doug Kniff were there, and Doug brought his 1949 EXU MG-TC which was built for the American export market. Tim Scheerhorn brought his show-winning 1949 MG-TC complete with a Midge radiator mascot. A K3/N type racing MG was present, and one of the stars of the event was Joe and Cathy Gunderson's 1958 EX186 MG. Both these last cars had also been brought to GT-47 in Colorado Springs, so I got another look at them. Joe and Cathy told the story of their rescue of EX186.

Otherwise there were J-types, N-types, P types, an Airline Coupe, a rare D-type, and MG-SA and VA and WA Tickford Coupes. Of course, there were plenty of MG-T types including TA, along with post-war T-Types. Our own Rowdies Bruce and Willie Mann won first place with their shiny black MG-TD. Congrats to them both!



Congrats To Bruce & Willie Mann For Winning 1st Place With Their MG TD!



John Libbert & his MGA



M-Type Midgets



T-Types





*"Other British"
Kathy Nelson &
Her Stunning Riley*



*Doug Kniff & his
1949 EXU MG-TC*



*Willie
Mann
& her
TD*



*1935 PA
Airline
Coupe*



*Larry
Pittman &
his TD*



*"Supercharged
1932 J2 Special"*



*"Super-
charged 1932
J2 Special"*



1949 YT Tourer

FOR SALE

I have 2 project cars for sale due to my age catching up with me.

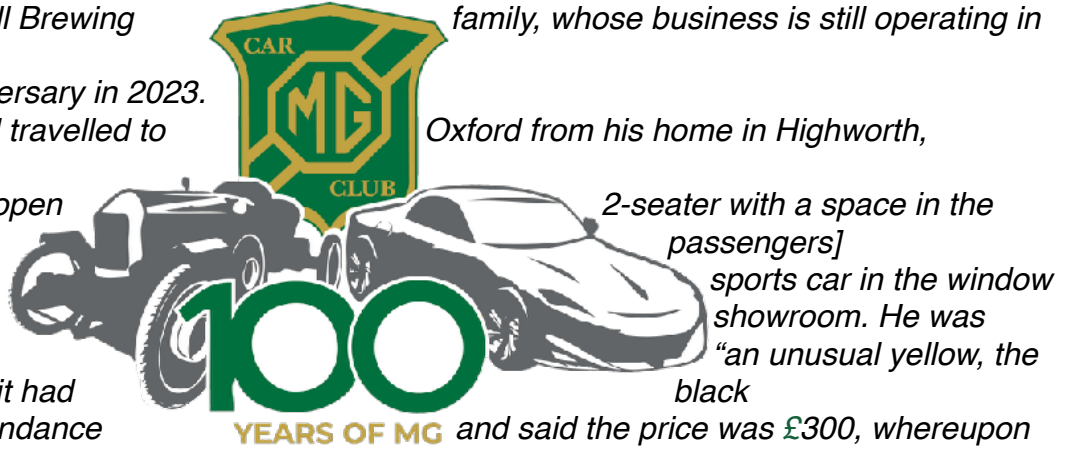
1. A rust free disassembled complete MGA body and frame with lift off fiberglass top. Asking \$1,000

2. An MGB with stock motor with sills and floors repaired. I also have all necessary fiberglass body parts to make this car into a tribute replica of a Sebring race car, Front and rear spoilers, front and rear flared fenders, Fiber glass top, and roll bar. Asking \$1,000

3 A race ready MGA or MGB motor is available for \$2,000.
Located in Prudenville MI 989-366-8980 **Mark Barnhart**

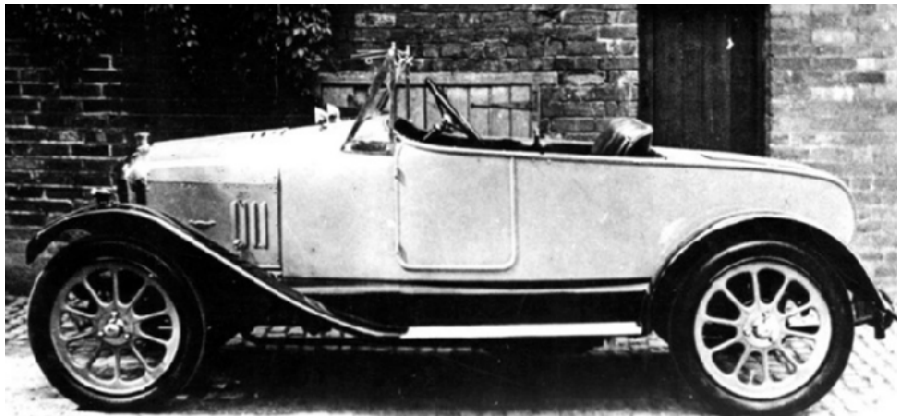
M.G.'s First Customer

In 1923, a young man named Oliver Arkell purchased a yellow Raworth-bodied Morris Garages Super Sports, registered FC 5855, directly from Cecil Kimber at the Queen St. Oxford showrooms. Arkell's car is said to be the earliest properly documented sale of an M.G. Arkell was a member of the Arkell Brewing family, whose business is still operating in full vigor today, celebrating its 180th anniversary in 2023. On August 11, 1923, Arkell travelled to Wiltshire to buy a Morris Chummy [a Morris open back for occasional when he noticed a yellow of the Queen Street much taken with the color colour of good butter, and it had wings." Kimber was in attendance Arkell agreed to buy it, on the basis that it wasn't much more expensive than a basic Chummy. Arkell's Raworth was registered FC 5855 in Oxford on 16th August and was delivered on 5th September.



Arkell's was one of six cars carrying Raworth coachwork on specially modified Morris Cowley chassis. Cec Cousins, who was responsible for building them at the time, considered these six to be the first sports cars of the M.G. marque.

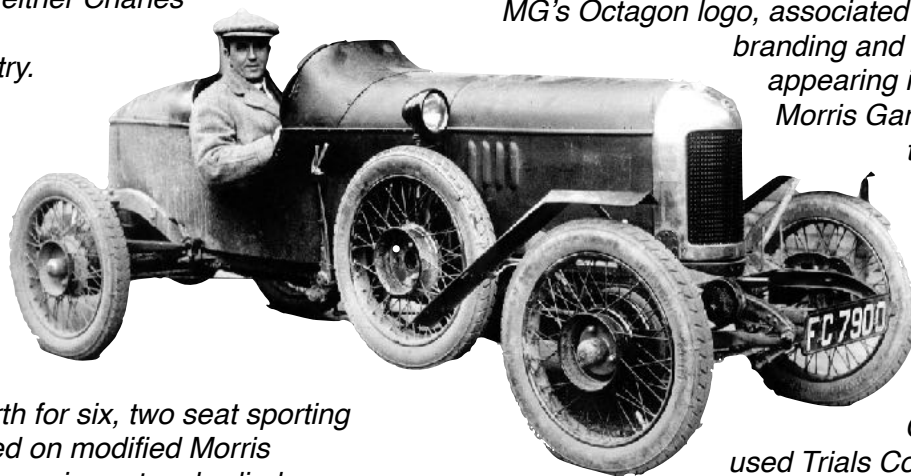
Some claim that the first M.G. was sold to CK himself, but in 1925. "Old Number One," FC7900, was a "special MG" built for Cecil Kimber by Morris Garages and registered at the Oxford Records Office to "Kimber Cecil, Woodstock Rd, Oxford, Morris Cowley Sports Grey 11.9 HP on 27/3/25". It turns out the Old Number One was Kimber's first M.G., not the first car commercially sold as an M.G.



Content courtesy - The Early M.G. Society, The MG Car Club of England.
This material shared by Alan Magnuson, North American Liaison, MGCC, UK.

“Old Number One”

Cecil Kimber is acknowledged as the person who dreamed of and achieved the production of the MG brand of sports cars while working for Morris Motors. Cecil came to Oxford's Morris Garages in 1921 and began the process of evolving Morris standard offerings into sportier cars with better handling and sleeker lines. While managing Morris Garages, Kimber had been servicing vehicles of well to do students and Oxonians who desired improved performance in their automobiles. Morris Garages, as the Morris Motors Oxfordshire distributor, used Morris Motors as their source for chassis and drive trains. Morris Garages sources for custom bodies were initially either Charles Raworth or Carbodies in Coventry. Kimber had been modifying and offering for sale the sportier Morris Garages version of the Morris Motors Chummy. In 1923, Kimber placed an order with Raworth for six, two seat sporting bodies to be mounted on modified Morris Cowley chassis. These six custom bodied cars had modifications made to change the suspension, lower the ride height, and rake the steering column back to improve driving characteristics. The Raworth bodies were unique, with Dickey seats, painted in bright colors, and were expensive in comparison to other Morris Motors cars on the market, priced at 350 Pounds Sterling. The six Raworth cars took one year to sell. Kimber knew he needed to refine his ideas of what a sporting car should be and sell for. Kimber developed multiple other sporting car design concepts until he hit upon the M.G. 14/28 introduced in May 1924.



The Morris Garages 14/28 is a lowered suspension, bullnosed Morris Motors Oxford chassis with a 13.9 h.p. engine and a raked steering column to improve driving characteristics. The body was brushed aluminum with seating for four.

Kimber made the first M.G. 14/28 for Jack Gardiner, an employee receiving an inheritance when he turned 21. The second went to Billy Cooper, who was a starter for Brooklands and other races. Cooper's car gained marketing recognition for MG as it was frequently parked at racing venues. William Morris supported the 1924 Morris Garages success in car sales and supported expansion. MG was now making four models of two and four passenger open and closed sports vehicles.

MG's Octagon logo, associated with MG branding and marketing, begins appearing in Morris Garages advertising in the Oxford University Student newspaper in December 1923 and the Morris Owner publication in May 1924.

CK had successfully used Trials Competitions in 1923 and 1924 as M.G. marketing

opportunities.

In 1924 he started modifying a Morris Cowley chassis in the Longwall garage. He had the frame curved over the rear axle, installed semi elliptic springs, a Hotchkiss OHV 11.9 h.p. engine, four-wheel drum brakes from the Oxford chassis, and a narrow two-seater body from Carbodies of Coventry. The car was licensed as FC7900 at the end of March 1925 and once again, Kimber won a gold medal in the Land's End Trials on April 12th. You know this car to be “Old Number One”.

Blasts From The Past

Ken, I trust your excursion to South Bend was uneventful. We hear that the GoF Central went well. What'd you think? (Ed: *Yep, A great time was had by all!*) Obviously, we're sorry we couldn't make it, but my back just wouldn't stand another nine days on the road. As it is, after numerous chiropractic visits, I am just returning to normal.

Now that time has become available to us, we're starting to clear, rearrange and downsize our place. We're going through unscanned photos, some from Bruce Nichols' collection. I've attached one that may be of interest to the Rowdies. It is from a 1993 gathering at the Feight's cottage. (Ed: *Rowdies Dick and Shirley Feight used to hold an annual "Chili Meet" at their cottage near Remus, MI every fall. Dick would mow a slalom course through the weeds for us to test our driving skills amongst the woods.*) I have managed to identify the folks in the three left most MGAs: Dave & Chari Smith, Dave and Donna Quinn, Neil, and Thelma Griffin. The other two neither Diane nor I can ID (Ed: *far right are Bob and Shirley Noetzold*). If other images of interest show-up I'll pass them along.

Cheers, Steve

(Steven P Mazurek)



Red Cars Rule!

Attached in another old Rowdie image from July of 1977 at the right.

This was a meeting in Bad Axe, but I don't think this was a Michigan Bad Axe NAMGAR Regional, per se. We can ID some of the people: Woman in foreground with the two kids is Kathy Latta. Two children to the right are Latta's children. Woman with hand to face is Joyce Hart. Man in striped shirt is Herb Hasenclever's son - name forgotten. At picnic table is Tom Latta, Steve Mazurek (Wight Power T-shirt) and Kitty (John McMullin's squeeze at the time). Standing w/white shirt is Rob McKenzie. Yellow shirt is probably Doug Kniff.

Steve Mazurek



(PS Ed note: Picture on the left is of two of the MGA 'Bobsy Twins' at GT-10 in Plymouth, MI 1985. Ken Nelson and Rob Notier. Boy were we thin back then!)

Save The Date!! GT-49 IN WELCHES, OREGON

Greetings North American MGA Register members
and all British car enthusiasts!

This is coming to you from the Columbia Gorge MG Club centered in Portland, Oregon, hosts of
the 2024 GT.

This is the first in a series of messages we'll send between now and GT-49 next summer. For this
first one we just want to ask you to save the dates. We'll provide lots more details as the event
dates approach, but for now here are the basics:

July 15-19, 2024

Mt. Hood Oregon Resort,
Welches, Oregon

We'll notify you as soon as the registration form is available,
but for those questions that absolutely cannot wait,
just respond to this email.

We're looking forward to welcoming you to GT-49
in northwestern Oregon with all of the fabulous scenery
and spectacular touring roads
we enjoy in this sports car haven.

