

For Members in Good Standing With The MG Club Of St. Louis



Newsletter Highlights

HERE'S A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE NEWS IN THIS ISSUE.
 MORE DETAILS ON THESE TOPICS BEGIN ON PAGE 2.

Election Results

Club officers for the next year were selected over a few beers at Growlers. Check out the results in the meeting minutes on **page 9**.

The All British Cars Show Deemed a Great Success

The financial results for the All British Car Show were outstanding. Janel Demick gives a warm thank you to all that made it possible on **page 7**. The financial results can be seen on **page 10**.

Two Fall Car Shows Reviewed

Our club members did attend more shows than our All British Cars Show.

There is a review of the All British Car and Cycle Show over Labor Day in Kansas City on **page 4**. Both Robert Rushing and Simon Dix won awards for their MG's.

Turn to **page 3** for a review of the Memphis 2009 Euro Auto Fest. Kathy Kresler writes an article describing all the fascinating marquees at this show.

The First of a Series of Articles on T-car Weather Gear Installation

We just don't seem to find very many articles on MG's other than the "B". Mike Bond of The Southeastern MG T Register, Ltd. in Macon Georgia is writing a nice series on side curtain installation. The first installment begins on **page 5**.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Chairman's Message	2
KC All British Car Show Report	3
Stories About Those Little British Cars	4
Trying to Keep the Rain Out-Part 1	5
Countless Thank You s	7
October Meeting Minutes	8
General Account Financial Report	10





The Chairman's Motorcycle

Chairman's Message

Bob Bentzinger

As I write this chairman's message, the realization is starting to sink in that I am once again at the helm of the St. Louis MG Club...how did that happen!

I want to thank the outgoing chairman, Don Gatheman, and all the officers and committee members who guided us through the last two years. They have been good successful years and I will do my best to continue that success on my watch.

The 2009 All British Car and Cycle Show is behind us but we will be discussing the lessons learned from this year's show and starting the preliminary planning for next year.

There have been discussions about such things as a change of venue, different classes, voting procedures, etc. This is your club and if you feel that you have any ideas about the show or other aspects of club operations, my door is always open.

As winter approaches, I know many will prepare to store their LBC's for a while. I am a driver and I will try to drive my MGBGT as much as possible over the winter months although I am risking a lot less than many of you! This will be the season for our great tech sessions and of course the annual Christmakah Party. I also enjoy our "British Invasions" and I encourage all to try and attend these as they represent a way for club members to become better acquainted without a large time commitment. I have also heard some people talk about the possibility of more meetings like the just completed (and very well attended) October meeting at Growlers Pub. There are pro's and con's about holding a meeting in a pub and I hope to have some discussions with many of you about this in the near future.

My primary goal is to maximize FUN at all club activities. This is a car club and we should be having fun. We do have business to conduct but I think that the executive committee can be useful in reducing the amount of business conducted at our monthly meetings so that we all have more time to talk about the cars and our enjoyment of them. In the past, I have tried occasionally to bring a speaker to talk to us about a subject of common interest such as tires, lubricants, etc. This would be easier to do if the monthly meetings were less cluttered with club business. Let me know what you think!

Finally I want to say that many of you have heard the phrase "MG - The Marque of Friendship". I have come to realize the truth expressed in that phrase. I have made many valued friendships in the MG Club of St. Louis and in the greater British car hobby in general and I encourage you all to reflect on the value of your LBC friends and foster that spirit of friendship. You and our club can only be the better for it.



KC All British Car Show Report

By Simon Dix

So, for those that may not be aware our friends up the interstate in Kansas City have two nice shows per year. In June there's the Heartland Regional which is MG specific/only (but often 1 guest marque) and the All British Car and Cycle Show (ABCS) that's been on Labor day weekend. I enjoy both shows but

Heartland tends to be very close to the national NAMGBR events and so makes for 2 trips quite close together. As such I haven't made it for a couple of years.

Anyway, the KC ABCS has been located at the airport Marriott for the past few years I have attended and it was the case again this year. The show field is immediately adjacent to the hotel, which is very convenient; however, the space used is wide open with shade only available remotely at the far end of the field. Given some very hot previous shows, you needed to move the car to shade for a while before you could sit on the seats, there was a big change this year and the show was moved to be under the trees at the far end of the field. This worked extremely well and there was much more room under there than I had expected. It could easily accommodate the number of cars there without the layout getting too crazy, which is always a challenge relative to on the day registrations versus preregistration.

The St. Louis contingent making the trip was a little lighter than previous years, just myself and Robert Rushing and two very tolerant, of our MG affliction, wives. Still we broke up the journey by using I-70 part way and having lunch at the intriguing old town of Arrow Rock. We then did somewhat back roads up to the airport and checked in at the Marriott and later found somewhere interesting for dinner. The show location works well because the "owners" can get up as early as required to wash and spiff up the cars while the tolerant passengers can be more leisurely about the activities and start of the day. Everyone is happy and the onsite hose etc. makes for easier clean up of 200 miles of bugs.

As usual my quick clean up took way longer than it should because the cleaning addiction kicks in and "might as wells" seems to apply to cleaning for me as well as projects on the car itself. Once on the field it was time to look around and there was a pretty good turnout. Some regular attendees/cars and for a change there was a guest marque, Scion. Quite interesting cars and the mods people do are pretty impressive. You have to admire the work even if the end result isn't quite "your cup of tea".



A V8 conversion with a DVD in the back

and I had "Tigger" the 77 B Roadster.

So all in all a good trip. There's a good split of classes for the MGs so something to perhaps consider for your 2010 labor day weekend plans?



1st Robert in Chrome B , 2nd Simon in Red B

The weather was remarkably cool as it turned out and so a sweat shirt was required when the sun was not out. This made consuming complimentary Blue Bunny ice cream a little harder but I managed to persevere and I wasn't the only one, however, I did perhaps do more than my share of work in this regard! :-) I also came across an interesting vendor that had original magazine advertisements from period magazines. I picked up 2 items relating to my 77 which is fun to have.

The awards are always interesting at the KC ABCS and this year's were no exception and in keeping with the Austin Healey theme/ featured marque. They are sponsored by Victoria British which is very nice support to receive. Fortunately both Robert and my cars were recognized and we collected a 1st and 2nd place respectively in our separate classes which was very pleasing. Robert had his 71B Roadster



Stories About Those Little British Cars

By Kathy
Kresser

A group of MG, Triumph and Healey owners trekked to the Memphis 2009 Euro Auto Fest on October 1-3, 2009. Over half of the trekkers encountered car problems over the weekend, just part of the experience of owning a small British car.



On a near perfect weather day, set in the shaded, manicured lawns of the Youth Villages Facility, the show field exhibited fine British cars. One in particular caught my attention, a 1954 Sunbeam Alpine Roadster owned by Woody Woodliff. The blazing black exterior with gray leather interior gave this automobile a rich appeal. The supple leather bag nestled in the front seat added another rich aspect. But, the tool kit in the boot was the best. The original, miniature-size whisk broom and equally small drop light were the ultimate. Okay, the basket filled with wine, cheese and spotted dick and the offer to share the goodies later in the day had its own lure.

In talking with Woody, he told me it was purchased in 1993. After an engine and transmission rebuild and a new paint job, the car was ready to drive. Woody said "Being a photographer, just the looks of the car, its sculpture and tactility made it a must have car. A blind person could polish this car and understand the beauty of its curves." The three different measure standards -- Metric, American Standard and Whitworth -- still surprise him each time he works on the car.

I find the irony of the dated reverse polarity on the car and the modern day blackberry phone on the dash a funny technological connection.

The featured marque of the Fest was the Classic Mini. The Mini celebrates its 50th birthday this year. The Minis donned black balloons and pointed birthday hats. Happy Birthday to the Mini!

I love to take snapshots of the future owners of these autos. William enjoys a seat behind the wheel of his dad's Morgan. He is very young, but one can sort of see that excitement of owning a classic.

Show after show, one sees cars that are staged with appropriate items. This Memphis show was no different. Bob and Darla Bridges had a shrine dedicated to the Queen Mum, others had bottles of wine and glasses on the back seat drop down table, others had cheese, Grey Poupon and biscuits, and Simon Dix had a bottle of oil positioned next to the front tire. I guess since the car uses oil like gasoline, it was appropriate. Chris Kresser should have a gasoline can next to his car – an inside joke.



Thanks to the Memphis team for a great day and for the Hagerty bag filled with Autozone products – something attendees now expect at the Memphis show. The Euro Auto Fest schedule of events included the hospitality dinner under the Main Tent at the Youth Villages, a rally after the show followed by the banquet. The Fest benefits the children of Memphis through the Youth Villages. A good job by everyone!



Trying to Keep the Rain Out - Part 1



Mike Bond

Macon, Georgia

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Register, Ltd.

www.semgr.org

This is a job I've been putting off, literally, for years. The car weather gear installation is neither an easy nor a quick job based on my experiences outfitting our TD, several years ago. With the hood up, most rain seems to spill over, especially when the car is moving. However, in a heavy storm, it's nice to have a little more protection for the Driver and Passenger as well as the gear stored in back. With winter coming on, I decided to bite the bullet and install new side curtains in our TC prior to our next GOF to be held in North Georgia this fall.

The weather equipment that came with our TC 7425 was custom sewn from cotton canvas that had long ago shrunken down to half of its original dimensions. Meanwhile, the frames, painted a metallic gold color, were of dubious size with the near side pair not matching the offside pair. After the old canvas was removed, I found that the driver's side frames were, indeed, home made versions that were too rusty to be used and they did not really fit the car anyway. So, a new off side frame set was ordered and the passenger's side frames were sent to the local sand-blaster.

When the new frames arrived, I found that they were slightly smaller than the originals I owned and the steel stock used in their construction was much thinner, as well. The steel peg that is intended to fit the socket in the door had a diameter that was 1/16" too large and required a good deal of filing to make it fit. Never the less, I decided to move forward with these new parts to save time, but, I would strongly consider fabricating my own frame set out of thicker steel, on any future projects.

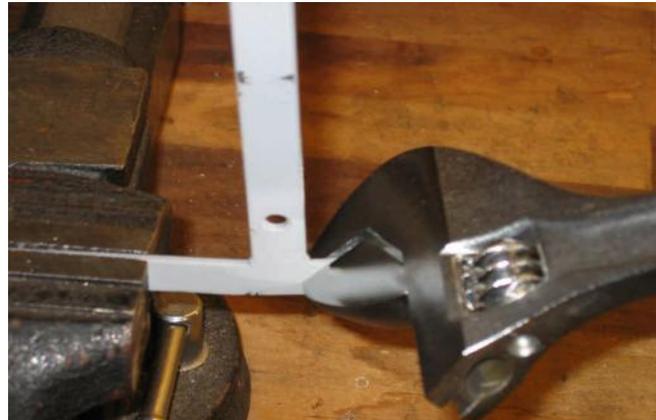


The next step will be to bend the new frames to conform to the shape of the car because they arrive welded-up in dead-flat geometry. Starting on one side of the car, fit the rear frame and adjust the attachment plate with stud, if necessary, to provide a good, preliminary fit. I slipped on a short length of 3/4" electrical shrink tubing to take up a little of the space at the rear slot.



The bottom rail must curve slightly to match the tub and the vertical sections must be bent inward to match the top lip of the hood. Many trial installations and removals were performed to get this right. The new frames are made of mild steel that can be easily bent, however, I find that a 12" adjustable wrench and a bench vise helped with this task

For appearance sake, try to develop a series of very small bends vs. one or two large new kinks. When I was happy with the shape of the steel frame, it was painted the correct color. I mixed a batch of enamel starting with brown tinted with green, yellow and a trace of white.



series of
kinks.
new
color.
brown
white.

Now, I offered up the rear side curtain, so that the stitching is hidden by the steel frame, when viewed from inside of the car. Out of the box, the curtains are made up as a "sandwich" of two layers of heavy fabric with clear plastic in between.

Stitching holds the composition together, more or less. The goal is to get as snug a fit as possible without having the stitching appear inside of the frame. If the stitching resides inside of the frame, it will appear as a series of holes and will not be very attractive. Re-adjust the chrome-plated mounting plate with stud, if necessary, to get a good compromise and make sure that there is no gap at the bottom of the curtain, between the fabric and the body of the car. I say compromise because I found it was impossible to obtain a "perfect" fit given all of the variations in hood height, stitching, body tub shape, etc. A pair of 3" spring clamps allow you to do this job of matching parts on your



own. Now use a chalk pencil to trace around the inside of the frame, marking the fabric cover, while it is on the car. Next issue, we will look at punching the cover, cutting out the fabric and choosing/installing the outer frame pieces. Who knows, maybe we will finish this project before the next dry spell!



COUNTLESS THANK YOUs

From Janel Demick

Special Events Chairperson

The 2009 All British Car Show is in the books. But I'd like to thank everyone ONE last time for all the help this year. It takes a village - and the success of this year's show is proof of that. There will be several articles on the show, but right now, the important part. Thank you.

- First, to my *Car Show Committee,* who gave countless hours of hard work, beginning 10 months ago, way back in November, to put this show on. Without them, this show would have never come together. A special thanks for all the new ideas and for thinking outside the box. Committee members are: John & Carol Mangles, Mike & Stefanie Barnes, Simon & Tara Dix, Chris & Kathy Kresser, Robert Rushing, Ranney Dohogne, Bob Bentzinger and Bill Fox.
- A thank you everyone that came out early the morning of the show, some as early as 6am, help with whatever needed done!
- Thanks to all our sponsors & vendors – a separate list will be included.
- Moocho grazzy Don Gathemann, MG Club Chairman and our Master of Ceremonies. Another year well done. (I still don't think you need a PA system)
- A huge thanks to the Triumph Club for handling concessions. That is a big responsibility that we appreciate more than you know.
- A thank you to Officer Jeff Silkwood, who provides our security on show day, and who works for free because he donates his fee to Backstoppers.
- John & Carol Mangles, our registrars. Who offered up their home for our monthly meetings when meeting at the food court became too distracting. For all their work, all the mailings, fielding phone calls and for the AWESOME Parking Lot Party On Show Day Eve! Thanks!
- Mike Barnes for doing the artwork for the awards and tee-shirts, for the printing of our flyers and registration forms. And for handling a little issue we had that kept us from having to hand out awards with a purple and orange Union Jack on them!
- Thanks to Stefanie Barnes, who was just so much help, including designing the flyer and registration brochure. Always there to do whatever anyone needed her to do!
- Simon Dix, there with his laptop, crunching numbers. For the brilliant idea of our show-dedicated website, for all our tech support. The All British Car Show even twitters now!
- Chris & Kathy Kresser, our Triumph liaison. Particular thanks to Kathy, who has a knack for keeping me calm and who, not so successfully, tries to organize me!
- Bob Bentzinger, our club webmaster, for running the swap meet and providing our PA system.
- Bill Fox, for the painful and thankless job of setting up the show field!

Cont pg 10



October Meeting Minutes

By Carol Mangles

Club Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Don Gatheman at Growler's Pub... Officers in attendance were Carol Mangles, Janel Demick, and Greg Quigley. Members present were John Mangles, Bob Bentzinger, Mike and Stef Barnes, Bob Horzmann, Simon Dix, Fred Houser, Todd Brown, Bruce Hamper, Chuck Demick, Ranney Dohogne, Mike Tutass, Lee Fox, John Rau, Tom Kohnen, Robert Rushing, Bill Patterson, Mike Fishman, Eric Hardesty, Robert Berfanger, Rich Griffin, Chris and Kathy Kresser, Bud Colvin, Ryan Taylor, Steve Taylor, Rich Berger, Fred Zarf, Floyd Jochimsen, Hal Pearlman, Greg Horn, Patrick Horn, Pat Downey, Stephen Heaney. (38 in attendance).

New Members:

Ryan Taylor has a 78 MGB and is interested in doing the annual Endurance Rallye.

Hal Pearlman has a 74 MGB is just retired and lives in southern Illinois.

Fred Zarf has a 58 MGA, used to have a TR3 and is looking forward to our club activities.

Previous Minutes:

Previous minutes were approved.

Financial Report:

The general fund has a balance of \$2390.26. The special events fund has a balance of \$4320.74. Motion made and approved to accept treasurer's report.

Projects:

Members discussed their recent projects.

Upcoming Events:

See the events section of this newsletter or visit our website (www.stlouismgclub.com) for more up to date events and information!

Old Business:

2009 All British Car Show Report:

Stef and Mike Barnes were recognized for their wonderful design and printing of our 2009 All British Car Show registration brochure. Awesome and very professional!

Janel was acknowledged and thanked for her fantastic leadership in organizing our annual show.

Show had a profit of \$2148.45.

Other Old Business:

Report given of the Gathering of the Faithful event in Sheboygan Wisconsin.

Janel reported that 7 cars attended the Memphis show and 3 cars received awards- the Bridges, the Kressers and the Hampers.

The St. Louis County Main Library has been reserved for our monthly club meetings for the first 6 months in 2010 by Bob Bentzinger.



October Meeting Minutes (cont)

New Business:

Upcoming car events were discussed. See website for details.

Bob Horzmann reported that the 2 signs donated by Mark Hyman and auctioned off at our annual car show in September netted a \$515 profit. Bob reports that Mark Hyman has asked him to decide how the money should be distributed. Bob requested that the proceeds be given to the MG Car Club as well as the Lotus and Triumph Car Clubs. A discussion on how to divide the profits took place. Fred Houser made a motion to give \$150 to the MG Club and divide the remaining amount between the Triumph and Lotus clubs. Club members voted to approve the motion.

Election Results for 2010 club officers and registrars are as follows-

Registrars:

Prewar- Bob Horzmann

T Series- Charlie Key

MGA/ Midgette- John Mangles

MGB/MG- Simon Dix

Spridget- Bruce Hamper

Cars in Boxes- Stef Barnes

Other Marques- Ranney Dohogne

Historian- Bob Bentzinger

Club Officers and Support Roles:

Events chairperson- Janel Demick

Secretary- Stef Barnes

Treasurer- Byron Golfin

Chairman- Bob Bentzinger

Congratulations and thank you for volunteering your time, talent and efforts!

Don Gatheman was acknowledged and thanked for his service as our chairman for the last 2 years.

Open Discussion:

Thanks to Simon Dix for his work in making our club newsletter so awesome over the last few years. Todd Brown is now our newsletter editor. Thank you Todd!

Attendance prizes were awarded.

A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting.

For Sale or Wanted:

Looking for: 79 MGB dashboard and left sided front molding trim- contact Bob Berfanger 314-264-8843.

Looking for: Ryan Taylor needs a black top with or without a zip back window for a 77-78 MGB. Please call 314-825-5951.

Looking for: Greg Horn is looking for a front shock for a 70 MGB. Please call 636-544-8015.

For Sale: MGB Roadster 1977 - Red - 45954 Original Miles - \$10000 (Highland, IL) <http://stlouis.craigslist.org/cto/1416808882.html>



General Account Financial Report

By Greg Quigley
Treasurer

MG Club of St. Louis
Statement of Income and Expense
General Account
September 2009 vs. September 2008

	2009	September 2008	Year-over Year Change
Beginning cash	\$1,013.61	\$1,037.39	(\$23.78)
Income			
Dues deposits	900	970	-70
Other	-	-	-
Total Income	\$900.00	970	(\$70.00)
Expenses			
Newsletter	51.65	51.72	-0.07
	\$25.52	24.36	1.16
Meeting Room	10	10	-
Cash box for dues rec. at Show	\$23.62	-	23.62
Meeting attendance prizes	<u>12.56</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2.56</u>
Total expenses	\$123.35	96.08	\$27.27
Transfer to activity fund (car show)	(\$600.00)	-	-600
Prior year (2008) T-shirt receipts	\$ -	-248	248
Ending cash	\$2,390.26	\$2,159.31	\$230.95
Change in cash	\$1,376.65	1,121.92	\$254.73

COUNTLESS THANK YOUs (cont from pg. 7)

- Robert Rushing. Whose most important function was my sounding board and whipping boy. Sorry about all that Robert!
- Ranney Dohogne, who took played a crucial part in the procurement of the majority of our packet stuffers and attendance prizes. Ranney pleaded, begged and may have even bribed people to support our show.
- And Ranney & The Vote Counters for once again taking care of the most important part of the show! The VOTE COUNTING!

I know I'm forgetting so much, but hopefully I'm not forgetting too many people. These are just some of the people that made the 28th All British Car Show possible and more importantly, a big success.

Last but not least – thank every one of you, because without your participation, there would have been a dozen of us sitting under the pavilion on show day, twiddling our thumbs and watching Don play with his microphone!!!

Thanks again and Safety Fast!



Club Officers & Support Roles

Name	Address	Phone	E-Mail
Bob Bentzinger Chairman	1129 Hudson Road St. Louis MO 63135-1424	(314) 524-6128	chairman@stlouismgclub.com
Byron Golfin Treasurer	152 Seabrook Drive Chesterfield MO 63017-3616	(314) 469-7146	treasurer@stlouismgclub.com
Stef Barnes Secretary	4657 Varrelmann Ave. St. Louis MO 63116-2417	(314) 752-3869	secretary@stlouismgclub.com
Janel Demick Events Chairperson	1028 Lexington Dr Columbia IL 62236	(618) 401-5872	events@stlouismgclub.com
Fred Houser Membership Coordinator	544 Winding Trail Drive St. Louis MO 63131	(314) 965-9320	membership@stlouismgclub.com
Todd Brown Newsletter Editor	673 Augustine Rd. Eureka, MO 63025	(314) 681-5597	editor@stlouismgclub.com

Registrars	Name	Phone	E-Mail
Pre-war	Bob Horzmann	(636) 227-3449	Pre-war@stlouismgclub.com
T-Series	Charlie Key	(314) 428-9335	TSeries@stlouismgclub.com
MGA/Magnette	John Mangles	(636) 939-9338	mga-magnette@stlouismgclub.com
MGB/MGC	Simon Dix	(636) 240-6739	mgb-mgc@stlouismgclub.com
Spridget	Bruce Hamper	(314) 822-4831	spridget@stlouismgclub.com
Cars In Boxes	Stef Barnes	(314) 752-3869	carsinboxes@stlouismgclub.com
Other Marques	Ranney Dohogne	(314) 878-7766	othermarques@stlouismgclub.com
Historian	Bob Bentzinger	(314) 524-6128	historian@stlouismgclub.com



Schedule of Events—Check www.stlouismgclub.com for Latest Info



- Oct 31—Halloween Rally, Mike & Stefanie Barnes
- Nov 1—British Invasion, Renault Wurstmart, 1pm Renault IL -- MUST RSVP / tickets in advance
- Nov 14 or 21—Lucas Night Rally, Bill Fox
- Dec 12 or 16—Holiday Lights Tour, Stefanie Barnes

The MG Club of St. Louis

c/o Fred Houser—Membership
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*An Australian product now available in the
UK. We could use it here this winter.*

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