

**The Chesapeake Chapter of the New
England MG "T" Register, Ltd.**



*The Square Rigger
January
2004
V2 Edition 1*

Chairman's Comments

Happy New Year to all!

2003 was a year of many accomplishments for the Chesapeake Chapter. I would like to highlight some of them and commend the members of our Board for a job well done!

The New Year begins with a strong membership base of 109 current members and it is still growing. Through recruiting efforts over the last year, we managed to attract 20 new members! It does not take much effort to encourage people to join, and we are continually looking for exciting new ways to make membership in our club an enjoyable experience. If you know someone that owns or is thinking of purchasing an MG "T" series car, have them contact Charley Howard and get signed up! It is important to continue reaching out to fellow British car enthusiasts to make our club grow. We are always looking for new people with new ideas.

Charley also spent considerable time and effort updating our membership list and

publishing a new membership directory for 2004. We are now on a calendar year membership renewal cycle, beginning in January 2004. This allows for improved management of membership dues and personal information, as well as making it easier for members to know when it is time to renew their membership.

Steve and Nancy Woodall have done a fine job on our Newsletter and we expect additional regular features to be appearing soon. We are always looking for inputs and welcome short stories and other automotive trivia that would be of interest to our members. We would like to hear from you and learn how you first began your love affair with MG's. Look in the next issue of our Newsletter to learn how Ginny and I became involved in our first MG and how the car sealed our marriage!

We now have a new set of By Laws and we thank Mike Hughes and the By Laws Committee for all their hard work in making this a reality. The By Laws have been approved by the general membership and will now be our road map to follow.

We have an exciting year planned for the Chesapeake Chapter in 2004, and look forward to increased member participation in all club events. Check out Lin and Jane Snider's events section for the details. We hope that you will try to participate in as many club events as possible.

Plans for British Car Day 2004 are moving along nicely (see BCD update) and we expect to have more information available on our website soon. Mark your calendars for June 27th. Lilypons Water Gardens offers many new challenges and opportunities as a new location for BCD. We encourage members to join us in organizing the event. Currently, we can use assistance with the field layout, vendor registration & setup, and with designing a map and a program hand out. See me and we will find a job for you!

I look forward to an exiting year ahead and encourage you to drive your MGT's often!

Sincerely,

John M. Tokar

**Chesapeake Chapter of the New
England MG-T Register, Ltd.**

Club Officers as of January 2004

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Chairmen Emeriti

Len and Ruth Renkenberger
8245 Ingleton Circle
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410 822-6061

renk@goeaston.net

Help Wanted ---

We Are Looking for a Tech Person!

Tech Advisor Vacancy

The Technical Advisor position in our Chapter is currently vacant. This is an important position and I am encouraging anyone with some basic technical knowledge that is willing to serve in this capacity to step forward (don't worry, it is not necessary that you know someone that worked in Abingdon!). The Tech Advisor serves as the person who can be consulted

on technical matters relating to the general "care and feeding" of our MG"T" series cars. He or she should be prepared to write brief tech articles for the Square-Rigger and plan to organize and run one tech session per year. Interested members should contact the Chairman directly and make your interest known. The board will review the applicants and make a selection. We would like to see that this position is filled as soon as possible.

The Original British Car Day Planning Up-Date

As mentioned in our last issue of The Square Rigger, BCD will be held at a new location and on a new date, Sunday June 27, 2004. Arrangements to relocate BCD to Lilypons Water Gardens are well underway with future meetings planned.

Discussions with the Lilypons staff have been very productive. The owner, Margaret Koogle, has been in close contact with me and looks forward to hosting our event. She has been working on ways to assist us with advertising and has made arrangements for a number of public service announcements including a listing in the events section of the Lilypons Water Gardens main catalog, as well as a number of ads in the local newspapers. In addition, radio spots will be aired on a local station and their affiliates a week before the show.

If you want to get an early look at our new BCD venue, Lilypons Water Gardens is located in Buckeystown, Maryland and can be accessed easily from the North off I70 or I270 via route 85, or from the South via Route 28. For more information, please visit www.lilypons.com.

A show flyer and registration form will be appearing later this month on our club's web site:

<http://www.chesapeakechaptermgtclub.com>

Another update will be published in the next edition of The Square Rigger, and additional information will be found on our web site.

**BCD Chairman
John M. Tokar**

Editor's Comments By Stephen R. Woodall

This is fifth edition of our "new" The Square Rigger newsletter, beginning the year of 2004.

In the last edition, we included as an attachment the new By Laws for our Chesapeake Chapter, with a ballot for voting for approval or disapproval. You will be happy to know that 100% of the responses to the voting were affirmative --- thus, we can happily report that the new By Laws have been accepted by the membership of the club, and are now in effect. The complete version of our new By Laws will be posted on the Club web site this month.

Go to our club web site to find full color versions of the Square Rigger, and more! In recent weeks, our WebMaster, John Woodall, has added on on-line membership sign up form, electronic version of past Square Riggers, MGT Pictures, and the pictures from BCD 2003. Over the next year, expect many exciting and useful new things to be made available on our web site!

<http://www.chesapeakechaptermgtclub.com>

Editorially Yours,

**Steve Woodall
Newsletter Editor**

Membership News

Who's New?

- **Jonathan Cosin 1951 MGTD**
- **Bob & Judi Eicher 1948 MGTC**

Changes of Address:

Bill & Martha Ludtke

401 Banbury Terr
Winchester, VA 22601
540-723-0866

Ray Johns
19211 Woodhaven Drive
Hagerstown, MD 21742

Other Membership Activities:

This past December I sent out the membership renewal request/form including the latest Membership Directory. We try to have this as accurate as possible so if there is an error, please let me know any required correction(s) or recent changes.

We have, as of 7 January 2004, 36 members that have renewed their membership. This totals \$720.00 so far, with more than half of us re-upping for three years.

We have added several new members to the chapter this year and I want to be sure that we offer "chapter" items to recognize this membership. An example is the local chapter logo on a "badge" for the car(s) (see below) and hopefully things like baseball caps, MG-T coasters, etc. This will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

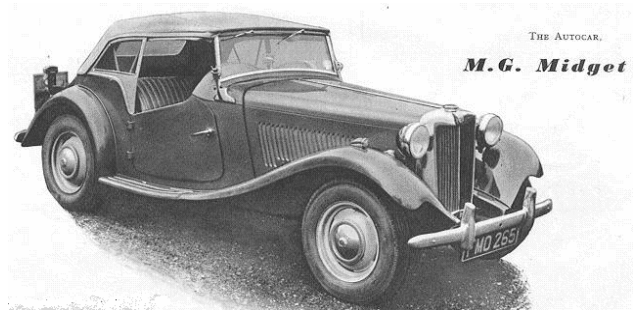
We are working with "National" to coordinate acquisition of new members. Ideally, when someone joins the NEMGTR within our perceived geographic area we should be



notified so that we can be sure to gain his or her local representation and participation.

We really need to have participation in our events and we try to offer enough opportunities to gather that you may at least participate in one event. With that said, I

look forward to seeing you at the February 8th brunch at Gabriel's to kick-off the New Year.



Yours in Membership,

Charley Howard
Membership Chairman

From the Historian's Desk
By Nancy Woodall

I have included a picture, sent to me by Mike Hughes, of the four MG-Ts, which participated in the Fall Foliage Weekend for your enjoyment!

Historically Yours,

Nancy Woodall
Historian

Fall Foliage Weekend 2003

Here is a photo of the four MG-T cars that participated in the Fall Foliage Weekend 2003: one TC (Tucker's), one TD (Prokuski's), and two TFs (Drewyer's and Hughes'). Participants for the weekend included Bill and Martha Ludtke, Mike & Mary Lutz and their neighbors, Pete & Pat Loercher, Ron & Gwenn Holmlund, Richard & Christine Drewyer, Bron & Linda Prokuski, and Paul and Louise Tucker.



**A Letter from Pets on Wheels of
Delmarva, Inc.**

The following very nice letter was received in late October from our Club's charity selected by the Board for the year 2003, Pets on Wheels of Delmarva, Inc.:

Pets on Wheels of Delmarva, Inc.
PO Box 3413
Easton, MD 21601

31 October 2003

Dear Members of the Chesapeake Chapter,

Thank you for your gift to help expand the reach of Pets on Wheels of Delmarva, Inc. The mission of Pets on Wheels of Delmarva, Inc. is "To provide companionship and comfort by sharing our pets with residents of nursing homes and other facilities." Pets on Wheels was organized in 1993 and Pets on Wheels volunteer-pet teams carry out that mission every day in facilities on the Eastern Shore, and in most counties in Maryland. While our all-volunteer run program helps keep costs to a minimum, recruiting and training new teams, and supporting and nurturing experienced ones means unavoidable expenses. In most counties, we have a waiting list of facilities because we lack the resources to sustain an effective recruiting campaign in those areas.

A recent study by the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene confirmed that volunteers are indispensable to programs like ours. If you could see how the eyes of residents light up when we arrive with our pets, you would be very proud of your donation to our program. Activities Directors tell us that many residents only respond to pets. Also, those working in the facilities enjoy a pleasant break in a sometimes difficult day by interaction with a visiting pet-volunteer team.

Speaking for the Board of Directors, let me once again express our thanks for your support and encouragement.

Sincerely Yours,

Ruth Renkenberger

The Board of Directors
Pets on Wheels of Delmarva, Inc.

**An Article From a
Fellow British Car Club**

The following is a excerpt from an article that was reprinted with the kind permission of George Marshall, President of the MG Car Club, Washington DC Centre. It recently appeared in the January issue of the MGCC's newsletter "The Spark" in a section entitled "The Distributor". We thought that our members might be interested in some possible new legislation that might affect our car hobby.

THE DISTRIBUTOR

*By George Marshall,
President*

I was reading the Chrysler Product Owners Club newsletter, and was disturbed to read the following, written by their Vice President, Joe Coyle:

“As the next federal, state, and local legislative season approaches, a new round of assaults on cars in general, and old cars in particular is approaching, especially in automobile-hostile states like Maryland. Most likely, we shall first feel the effects of the new round of automotive-related legislation in our pocketbooks. Gasoline taxes are almost certain to rise – by five to ten cents a gallon in federal taxes, to be compounded by much more at the state level, at least in Maryland, where an *additional* twenty-five cents a gallon is being discussed! Moreover, a popular proposal in Maryland is that gas tax proceeds now fund general expenses, not strictly transportation spending. Automotive registration fees are also likely to rise, and Montgomery County Maryland already has been seeking authority to levy a surcharge on both gas taxes and vehicle registrations.

On the environmental front, many states looking to reduce total pollution from all sources, including smokestack industries are planning to target “old cars” anew, primarily because we are an easy target. By declaring all old vehicles gross polluters without regard to condition or miles driven, actions as extreme as banning registrations for cars over a certain age come into discussion. As always, no distinction is made between 500,000 Caprice taxicabs, grandma’s pristine ’69 Buick with 17,000 miles, or your prize show car, even though the latter two may be driven a few hundred miles a year. These are “demonstration actions” designed to feign true effort by politicians, and we, as car collectors, need every friend we can muster in the political arena. One small way in which we, as old-car owners/collectors can carry-on our own education campaign (hopefully to forestall old-car hostile regulations) is by actually putting our collector cars out in public more often – for parades, community and charitable events, etc.”

These are scary words for us, but Joe is right. We need to have our cars as visible as possible to dispel the myth that they are horrible polluters...especially in Maryland! If you hear of some unfavorable potential legislation, please let us know so we can mount a vigorous campaign to keep it from becoming a reality. I sure would hate to see a bunch of bureaucrats kill the enjoyment of

our hobby. But you know what? It could happen if we aren’t careful.

Sent in to your Editor by John Tokar!

Starting Them in MGs Early

:)



Advertisements

This Advertising Section is for the use of our members. All members are encouraged to submit classified ads to the Editor, at e-mail address swoodall@exploit-the-future.com. Or, mail them to the Editor at:

Steve Woodall
Editor, The Square Rigger
8180 Cottage Rose Court
Fairfax Station, VA 22039-2515

Classified ads will be published free of charge, in each issue of The Square Rigger. Please send ads in early! We publish roughly once per quarter. If you have pictures you would like included, please send as .gif files, rather than photographs!

Available: Free junked TR-6: call Robert Oliver at 703-971-7277, in Woodbridge, VA

For Sale: 1950 MG-TD car number 8427 with engine 21439. Needs restoration, has

run in the last year. Have owned the car since 1969. Engine turns. Has most parts. Asking \$5,000. Contact Cliff Routh at 703-329-8581 (home) or 202-833-6440 (office)

For Sale: 1980 MGB: My name is Ben Pastor and I am brand new to the NoVA/DC area. I am writing with the hope that you might know someone interested in a good restoration 1980 MGB. The body is in pretty good shape, with a few rust spots in the hind legs sections, but overall pretty good. It could be a good restoration car, or surely good for parts. I am looking to unload it for very cheap and would accept pretty much any legit offer on it. It's British Racing Green, with I think 90K and the engine is very savable (good compression, etc.). I also have a brand new canvas top (in box)...a new carpet set (all from Moss/Vic. Brit), new sun visors in box, and a new walnut logo shift knob that I would gladly throw in if the price is right...or separately. Contact Ben Pastor at 203-464-2378.



ad, Unit 25
Mt. Airy, Maryland 21771
www.vintagerestorationsltd.com



Lin M. Tokar
karj@erols.com

Phone: (301) 831-5300
Fax: (301) 831-5200

Upcoming Chapter Events

8 February: Chesapeake Chapter MG-T Club Board Meeting, be at Gabriel's Inn at 11:30 AM, for a brief Board Meeting prior to the 2004 Winter Eat Out.

8 February: Annual Winter Eat Out 2004, once again at Gabriel's Inn, Ijamsville, MD, starting at 1:00 PM. Contact Lin or Jane Snider at 301-845-2567 for more info.

17 April: Tech Session, held at Vintage Restorations LTD, Mt. Airy, Maryland

starting at 9:30 am. Subject will be an MGTF that needs a few things. Don't miss it!

30 April - 2 May: Annual Chesapeake Chapter Club Mini-GoF, Lewes, Delaware, planned by Mike & Mary Lutz and Steve & Nancy Woodall; **see attached flyer** for more details, including the agenda. In the Lewes area, there is beautiful scenery, the Atlantic Ocean, (tax-free) shopping galore, and the Cape May ferry --- which will be open, for trips across the mouth of the Delaware River to see historic homes, more antique shops, and much more beautiful scenery!

27 June: The Original British Car Day, in its new location --- Lilypons Water Gardens, Buckeystown, Maryland --- don't miss!

A British Car Tale

Once upon a time, there were two young men who were very much alike. One was named Ernie and the other named Hugo. Even though they were a lot alike, they had never met one another. They lived in separate towns in different parts of the Country, but they did share a lot of common ground. Like many people, they both liked tinkering in the garage, spending quality time outdoors on a beautiful day, sightseeing while traveling, and enjoyed doing exciting things with their friends and loved ones. But unfortunately, there was something missing in each of their lives. You see, they had slipped into the deep, dark doldrums of life, and had become boring. As a result, they were spending a lot of their spare time on the living room sofa flipping television channels and watching others having a good time. This seemed to be their way of coping.

One afternoon while Ernie was driving home from work in his daily run-of-the-mill family car, he began to think about what he might do once he got home. He thought and he thought, but he became saddened when he realized that he couldn't think of anything. So he decided that he'd settle for eating an early supper, then watch television until he couldn't stand it any longer, and then go to

bed. The next day he'd do the same all over again.

While keeping his focus on the road ahead he spotted an eye-catching little sports car heading toward him. He could see the driver of the car was wearing a baseball style cap turned backwards, and he appeared as though he was having a great time driving his fun little car. He took a closer look at the car, and realized it was a little British car that he hadn't seen on the road in many years. "Wow" he thought to himself, "That guy looks as though he's having the time of his life. What a wonderful way to spend a beautiful afternoon unwinding after a hard days work. I could sure have a lot of fun with a car like that!!" Ernie waved to the driver of the car, then gave him the thumbs-up sign, and the driver waved back with a big smile.

Ernie was right, the expression on the guys' face was unmistakable. He was surely having the best time of his life. As a matter of fact, it was something he did on a regular basis because he knew the best time of his life was now. Driving his British car every day was essential. During that entire week, Ernie spotted more and more little British cars driving around his town that he hadn't seen in many years. Some of the cars he had almost totally forgotten about. He later discovered why they seemed to be suddenly making a comeback in his town. The entire week was a special honorary week for all classic British cars. It was called British Car Week. He learned that British Car Week is an annual awareness week intended to encourage British car owners to drive their cars regularly and provide them with increased exposure for the people in their community to appreciate. It's a week for enjoying them, but also for remembering the pleasures they have brought to the many lives over the years, especially those who have been fortunate to become familiar with them during the past and present.

By now Ernie was getting very curious, and decided that he'd like to become more familiar with them. He wanted to know all sorts of things like, "Where can I buy one? How can I find a good one? Are parts available? If so, then where do I buy them? Are there local clubs that provide helpful support? Do they still publish books and

magazines about these cars? Where do I begin!?"

Fortunately Ernie was able to talk to some of the car owners during the week, and within a few months he had joined several British car clubs. As a result, he met some great new friends, located books to read, and subscribed to magazines that enabled him to learn as much about British cars as he needed. He located a car that he found for sale in a club magazine, and is now the proud owner. He also bought another car that needed to be restored, and is now buying parts for it. There was no longer any doubt what he would find to do after work, and in many cases he didn't return home immediately after work. Instead, he was taking the long way home because he was driving his enjoyable little British car.....

Be sure to mark your calendars and tell all of your friends and British car club officials about the 8th Annual British Car Week! May 22 - 30, 2004

Oh, I almost forgot! You're probably wondering whatever happened to Hugo? Well, he's at home sitting on the sofa watching television. Unfortunately his British car clubs didn't celebrate British Car Week.

Story, courtesy of Scott Helms, Curator
BritishCarWeek@arczip.com

<http://users.arczip.com/zntech/britishcarweek.html>

Sent in to your Editor by Mike Hughes!

That's all for this edition, MG-T lovers! Comments, articles, tech info, pictures, ads, and other inputs are always welcome (Microsoft Office Word format is best!)

☺, Ed.

