

## President's Message

We are finally into winter and have already had a lot of cold, ice and snow. A number of members have headed south for the winter and others are taking short, warmer weather vacations to get a reprieve from our local weather. We just returned from a week on the west coast for our annual escape – I fully understand how the weather does get to be “old” at this time of year. As our club becomes more “mature”, I anticipate more members being absent each winter.

By now everyone has had their LBC in storage for about two months, if not longer. Our local storage facility around the corner seems to be more fully occupied each year. No surprise that vehicle storage facilities are doing well.

We continue to have our monthly meetings/breakfasts at various locations so our club members can attend. This Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> is at the new Top Notch Restaurant near the entrance to the South Bend airport, February 18<sup>th</sup> is east in Granger at the Copper Creek Café, and March 18<sup>th</sup> is being set up for Jennie Rae's Restaurant at the intersection of US 20 & SR 2, near La Porte. Jennie Rae's is on the west side of the timeline so we meet at 8:30 CST/9:30 EST, a good opportunity for our western members to attend a monthly meeting.

Start thinking about reserving June 25<sup>th</sup> for our annual Car Show at Saint Mary's College. I start the planning now by revising our media notice and sending it out, plus getting the show date on various website calendars. The Board has selected the MG Midget/AH Sprite as the 2017 Featured Marque. Odds are in our favor that we will have better weather than last year's 10:30 – 11 AM rain storm. But then again, it is a British Car Show! With that in mind, check out the British humor on page 6.

**January 3, 2017**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

- **Financial – David reports we have sufficient funds in our bank account to start off the new year**
- **January Newsletter – Mary will be working on it and has Roger’s Tech Tips article**
- **Fall Tour follow-up – no report; Keith and family are in Florida, as are several club members**
- **Board Positions for 2017 – President – Larry, Membership – Kai, Communications – Herm, Activities – Bob. Appointed positions – Secretary – Larry, Treasurer for Life – David**
- **2017 Car Show Featured Marque – after much discussion and a review of past Featured Marques, the MG Midget/AH Sprite were selected**
- **Monthly Meeting/Breakfast – Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> – Top Notch Restaurant, SBN, February 18<sup>th</sup> – Copper Creek Café in Granger, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Larry to contact Jennie Rae’s at intersection of US20 & SR 2, La Porte**
- **Board Meetings – January 31<sup>st</sup> – Kai’s residence, March 7<sup>th</sup> – Larry’s residence; April 7<sup>th</sup> – Petersen’s residence**

## Loss of a Club Founder

By Randy Glanders

On a sunny Sunday in July of 1994, a group of British car enthusiasts met at the Tea at the Vickerage car rally to form a new car club that would become Michiana Brits. On Sunday, January 8th, 2017, we lost one of those individuals. Long time former club member Linda Carpenter passed away. For over a decade Linda and her husband Ken were very active members in the club's early years. They were a fixture at most club events in there BRG '74 TR6 nicknamed Emily. Ken was the club's second president.

For the full obituary go

to; <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/southbendtribune/obituary.aspx?n=linda-f-carpenter&pid=183552798>

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## STAGMAN'S TECH TIPS

By Roger Deacon

Part II of the carbs rebuild story: I received the carbs back for the third time for the 1972 MGB. The weather by this time had turned bad and I kept wondering what the hell was I doing by still being here in this miserable weather. I installed the front carb and it started right up like it should have done the first time. I tuned the carbs in the garage with the warmth from the gas heater. I wasn't able to take the car for a test drive due to the bad weather. A couple of weeks went by and the owner was able to drive the car to Edwardsburg for storage. I told the owner that I wanted the car back as soon as I returned home to take it for a test drive and finish tuning it.

The story about Deb Loper's Singer started the day she was to drive it to our car show. The Singer died a couple of blocks east of Randy and Bev Glanders

house. Deb called me at the car show and I went to help her get the Singer running. Due to the approaching rain it was decided to drive the Singer back home.

Deb drove the Singer all around for the rest of the summer on short trips. I decided it needed a new set of points and condenser. Do you know how hard it is to get points for an orphan car? An orphan car is a car that didn't have many cars shipped to the States, plus not many made in England. There is a place in Texas that deals in orphan cars but they have to make or try to get parts from England.

I went to Advanced Auto to try to get points for the Singer but the Singer wasn't in the books any more. I asked Bob, who works there, to let me go through the parts book on points. After flipping through several pages I said, "Stop, I think that those look like what I need." I asked Bob what car they fit and he said 1952 to 1955 Dodge. I didn't get a chance to install the points due to Deb's and my schedules.

I went to Deb's house late November on a warm night. Pulled the distributor to install the points. I don't like to try and reinstall the tiny screws that hold the points in because to drop one at a 45% angle they seem to disappear into never-never land never to be found again. I installed the distributor and asked Deb to start the car. It tried firing but it never started. I reset the points and with the cap off. I had Deb turn it over but I only saw a weak spark.

I pulled the distributor and just happened to spin the shaft and it sounded like gravel in the shaft. I gave the distributor to Deb and had her spin the shaft and asked her what she thought? She said that doesn't sound good, also that the bearing wasn't any good. It let the shaft wobble and that was why I couldn't get the points set so they would fire right. I told Deb that we were going to send it to Advanced Distributors in Minnesota. So now we wait for it to get rebuilt.

A few weeks after sending it to Advanced Distributors, I received a call from Jeff and wanted to know if he could only put one set of points in the distributor? He told me that it would run better on one set verses 2 sets of points. Putting that distributor back in come spring is first thing on my bucket list.

By the time you read this letter Ruth and I will be back at our home in Sebring, Florida by way of Pensacola, Florida, after visiting our son who had just returned home from Germany and his 17th tour overseas.

If there is anyone wanting to write a letter for the Brits newsletter about your experiences with your British car, please do as this is how we all learn how to keep our cars running. Send your letter to Larry Palguta and Mary Petersen.

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### A Little British Humor

Q: Do you know why the British don't make computers?

A: They couldn't figure out how to make them leak oil.

Q: What do you call an MG with dual exhaust?

A: A wheelbarrow

Q: How do you double the value of a Triumph?

A: Fill it up with gas?

Q: Why do the British drink warm beer?

A: Because they all have Lucas refrigerators.

**New Date...  
Same Location!**

**Chicago's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual  
All British Car**

# Swap Meet and Autojumble



sponsored by the Chicagoland MG Club

**Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:00am - 2:00pm**

at the DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton IL  
( $\frac{1}{2}$  mile north of IL Rt 38 on County Farm Rd at Manchester Rd)

[www.britishcarswap.info](http://www.britishcarswap.info)

Indoors

Free Parking

General Admission: \$5.00

Vendor Space Available



Check the Chicago area Craigslist for Swap Meet vendor postings under 'Auto Parts'.

Hosted By:

Chicagoland MG Club, PO Box 455, Addison IL 60101

Info: Jim Evans 630-858-8192 or Victor L'Heureux 815-893-6535

FOR SALE BY CLUB MEMBER





My 78 Spitfire developed a low end rod knock shortly after the Michiana Brits Car Show at Saint Mary's. I'm 21 and I've invested 7 years into two overlapping spitfires... and spent countless dollars. I love the car but I want to move on to my other projects. The car is completely restored top to bottom, the paint job is 60% orange peel, everything mechanical and all of the engine components are brand new.

Jeffrey Scott Wiseman  
574-274-9481  
Call or text  
[triumphbronco96@gmail.com](mailto:triumphbronco96@gmail.com)

UNIVERSITY MOTORS FINAL BIRTHDAY PARTY, JANUARY 21ST – GRAND RAPIDS, MI  
John Twist

Dear Fellow Enthusiast!

I write to remind you of our 42nd and final birthday party this coming Saturday at University Motors (now Rusty Moose Garage). As in years past, we'll have chili, potato soup, treats, beverages, and a birthday cake. We'll be selling raffle tickets for a 50/50 to benefit the West Michigan MG Society (that's myasthenia gravis). Raffle and cake cutting at 2:00 pm.

WHO: All MG Enthusiasts  
WHAT: UML 42nd and Final Birthday Party  
WHERE: 4571 Patterson Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49512  
WHEN: Saturday, January 21, 2017, Noon to 4:00 pm  
COST: None

UPCOMING TECHNICAL WORKSHOPS:

Gearbox Workshop (MGB 4 synchro) -	Monday/Tuesday, February 20/21	SOLD OUT
Gearbox Seminar (MGA/MGB 3 Synchro) -	Monday/Tuesday, February 27/28	SOLD OUT
Gearbox Seminar (TD/TF) -	Monday/Tuesday, March 13/14	
Carburettor Workshop -	Monday/Tuesday, March 20/21	

All workshops are limited to five participants. Cost for the two days is \$400. Email me for the registration and hotel information. I can schedule an additional date if more than five people wish to attend.

2017 TRAVEL CALENDAR

BMTA Conference, Charlotte, NC <a href="http://www.britcar.org/2017-bmta-conference">http://www.britcar.org/2017-bmta-conference</a>	Thu-Sat Mar 2-4
Chicagoland Swap Meet, DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL <a href="http://www.chicagolandmgclub.com/swapmeet/">http://www.chicagolandmgclub.com/swapmeet/</a>	Sun Mar 19
Quality Coaches Tech Seminar, Minneapolis, MN <a href="http://quality-coaches.com/">http://quality-coaches.com/</a>	Sat-Sun Apr 1-2
Shimek Auto Technical Seminar, Austin TX (not yet confirmed) <a href="http://www.shimekauto.com/wb/pages/index.php">http://www.shimekauto.com/wb/pages/index.php</a>	Sat-Sun Apr22/23?
Toronto MGCC Tech Seminar, GTA, Toronto, Canada	Sat-Sun May 6-7

<http://www.mgtoronto.com/>

Carlisle Import Show, Carlisle, PA Fri-Sat May 19-20  
<http://www.carlisleevents.com/carlisle-events/carlisle-import-and-performance-nationals/default.aspx>

British Sportscar Hall of Fame, Richmond, VA Fri Jun 3  
<http://www.britishtsportscarhall.org/>

Solvang Tech Seminar, Solvang, CA (details TBA) Sat?Sun? Jun 17?18?  
NAMGAR GT-42, Solvang, CA Mon-Fri Jun 19-23  
[http://www.namgar.com/events/calendar\\_details/gt-42/](http://www.namgar.com/events/calendar_details/gt-42/)

NAMGBR MG2017, San Diego, CA Mon-Thu Jun 26-29  
<https://mg2017.namgbr.org/>

GOF Central, Akron, OH Mon-Fri Jul 10-14  
<http://ohiomgt.wixsite.com/ohiomgt/gof-central-2017>

Altoona Tech Seminar, Altoona, PA Thu-Fri Aug 24-25  
23rd Annual British Car Festival, Altoona, PA Sat-Sun Aug 26-27  
<http://pabritishcar.com/>

MG Owners' Club Technical Seminar, Swavesey, Cambs, Eng (not yet confirmed) Sep  
<http://www.mgownersclub.co.uk/>

Wroxall Abbey Technical Seminar, Warwick, England (not yet confirmed) Sep  
<http://www.wroxall.com/>

22nd Hunt Country Classic, Washington DC MGCC (not yet confirmed) Sun Oct 8  
[http://mgcarclubdc.com/hcc/hcc\\_main.html](http://mgcarclubdc.com/hcc/hcc_main.html)

I am still pleased to take technical calls!  
Watch for our "new" publications!

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