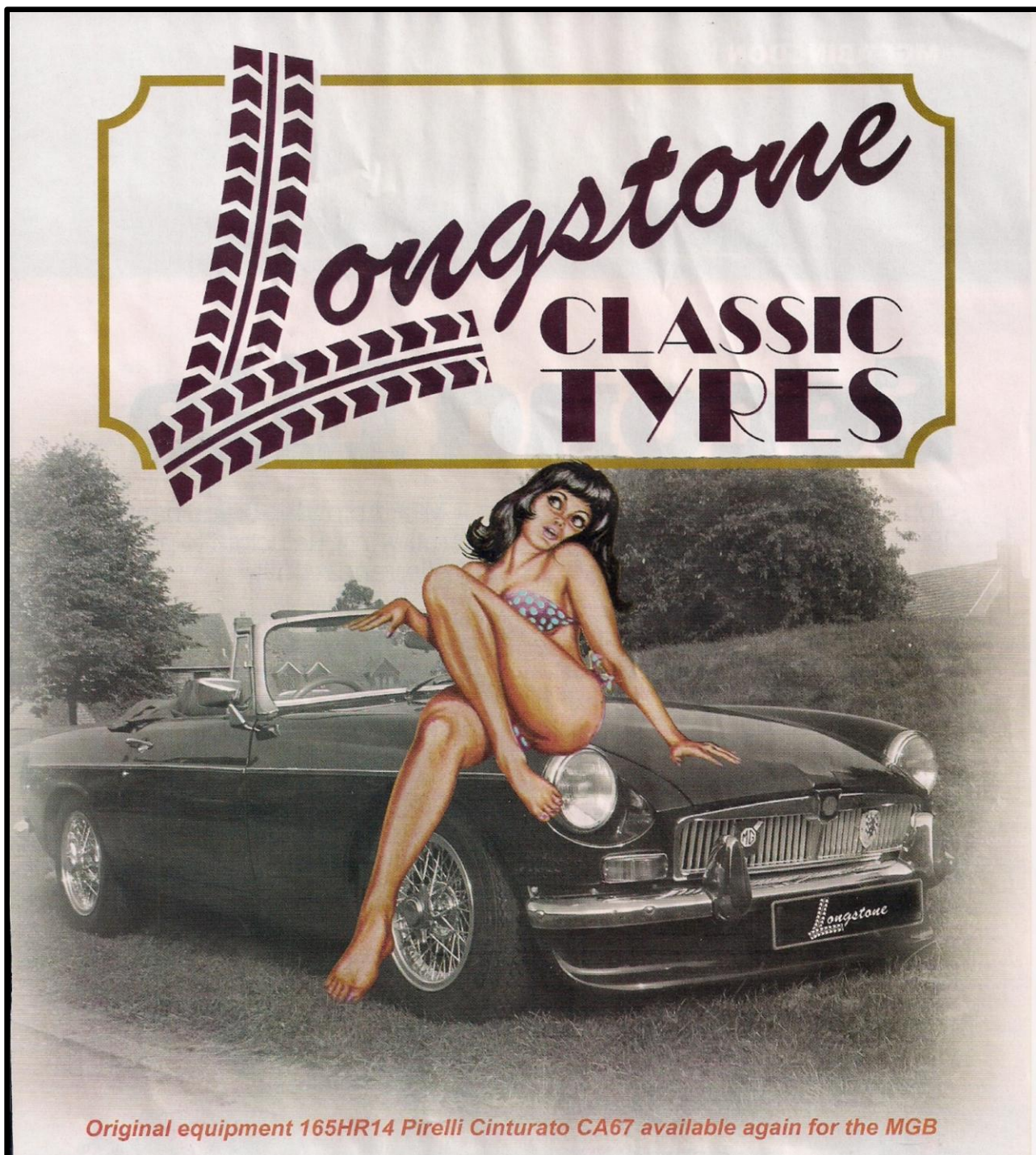


Keystone Region MG Club

On the web at: Keystonemg.com

MG Gazette

Newsletter, Volume 22, Issue 10, September 2013



Longstone
CLASSIC
TYRES

Original equipment 165HR14 Pirelli Cinturato CA67 available again for the MGB

The Steering Column - President Dick Horn

Hello Everyone!

Movie premiers! Last week a few of the members took in the new movie "**Rush**", the general consensus leaving the theater was "**great movie**"! In looking at the newspaper the next day I spied an article written about it which contained some excerpts by Mario Andretti saying he wasn't too thrilled by some of the action scenes. He thought the movie "Gran Prix" from years back was a more accurate depiction of racing. Well, the new movie was certainly entertaining and if you get a chance go and enjoy it, good racing movies are not that often made.



As some of you might know, my wife and I had a small vacation last month to Las Vegas with a road trip to California. While at Vegas we took in the Barrat Jackson auction at Mandalay Bay Resort, over 600 cars were going up for auction with 5 or 6 MGA's in the lot. Most cars were American big iron with a few high end foreign cars, Lamborghinis, Maserati's, etc. It was still great fun wondering around and gawking!

This coming week is the Fall Hershey Show and Flea Market, always a huge show that has something for everyone!

Cheers!

Dick

October 15th Meeting Agenda Widow's Tavern, Stockertown

- **Optional Dinner - Come Early. Order off menu**
- **"Green Table" Bring your stuff in to share!**
- **Meeting Starts - 7:00PM**
- **President's Welcome - Dick Horn**
- **Reports: Treasurer & Secretary**
- **Old Business**
- **New Business and Upcoming Events**
 - **Founder's Day Dinner January 18th**
 - **Holiday Party at Beck's Garage**
- **Guest Speaker Geoff Isabelle, Classic Motoring LLC**
- **November meeting at "Blue Monkey Sports Bar"**

Guest Speaker – October Meeting

Geoff Isabelle

Classic Motoring, LLC, Allentown

Geoff Isabelle is the owner of Classic Motoring, LLC, an Allentown based classic automobile consulting business. A recent transplant to the Lehigh Valley, Geoff spent 15 years working for two prestigious restoration shops in Connecticut: Automotive Restorations, Inc and Black Horse Garage. Learning the business of restoration from the ground up, his first tools of the trade were a broom and dustpan. Geoff eventually became parts manager and project manager for ARI, and a move to Black Horse Garage saw him learn the ins and outs of collector car sales. Having had the opportunity to work around everything from Pebble Beach winners to weekend warriors, Geoff's passion for old iron is broad. Geoff will be on hand to share stories from the world of restoration, talk about the challenges that even the best shops face when restoring cars, and about the services he now offers as an independent broker and consultant.

“Green Table”

A way to share with your MG buddies. Bring in to the meeting your unwanted “anything” that you are willing to give away for **“Free”**. Definitely “Car Stuff”, but anything else too! Put it on the “Green Table” for folks to take from. Plus if you see anything on the Green Table you’d like, please take it! Going **“British Green”**!

Welcome New Members

- **Scott Petersen, Springtown, PA, 1947 MG TC #1733**
- **Robert Hoover, Quakertown, PA, 1968 MGB**
- **Thomas Potts, Allentown, PA, 1974 MBG-GT**
- **Robert Walsh, Stroudsburg, PA, 1975 MG Midget**
- **Jim Hargrave, Bogota, NJ, 1975 MGB**
- **Steve & Marie Aicher, Easton, PA, 1976 Triumph TR6**
- **Michael Melinsky, Walnutport, PA, 1979 MGB**

Hello All,

Let me introduce ourselves, we are **Cindy & Steve Aicher**, we have lived in Palmer Township for 20+ years, we have owned our 1976 TR6 for 20 years. We love taking the car out for drives around the area stopping at local restaurants for a glass of wine and appetizers.

We also belong to the Coachman Camping Club, we have a 17ft Wildwood Travel Trailer and love to Glamp (Glamorous Camping), and we also have fun going to yard sales/flea markets, we enjoy gardening & bird watching, let us not forget about Fantasy Football! Go Ravens!!!

We have two children Derick who is married to our daughter-in-law Kim; they have our two beautiful grandchildren Austin & Evan, and our daughter Emily who is in her senior year at Kutztown University.

We have wanted to join the MG club for some time, and finally my husband who was subcontracting a job was working for Ed & Angie Haas, came home one night and was telling me about this couple he met and they love to do the same things we love to do and to make a long story short, I asked him their names and when he told me Angie & Ed Haas, I told him I have been lifelong friends with Angie, we met when her family moved here from Germany. What a small world we live in, we are very excited to make some new friends.



Sincerely,

Cindy & Steve Aicher

I purchased my 79 MGB this past June after wanting one for many years - probably since I was 16, this year I will be hitting the big 50. I rode my Harley for years and after a broken leg and one too many close calls I decided to trade two wheels for four, still being able to enjoy the wind and open roads on a brisk fall day, I'm married to Lori, live in Lehigh Township, love to fish, enjoy yearly trips to Canada and taking my MG for a cruise. I've been in Law Enforcement for 28 years and currently hold the rank of Det. Sgt. - sorry cant help with speeding ticket but looking forward to meeting all.

Mike Melinsky

[MG Car Club \(England\) On-Line Store](http://www.mgcc.co)

All kinds of good books, regalia, and cool MG stuff

www.mgcc.co



[Hemmings Cruise-In and Concourse d'Elegance](#)

Paul Morrisette

All of us enjoy visiting car shows on a pleasant afternoon. The ability to bring your MG makes the show even more appealing. But what if the event also included a rally through foliage-filled country roads? And a chance to visit 2 car museums? Have I tempted you to load up the luggage rack yet?

A few weeks ago, my MGA and I made the trek to upstate New York for a the Hemmings Cruise-In and Concours d'Elegance. Two-thirds of this annual event are open to all, while the Concours is reserved for invited cars (hence, my MGA was relegated to the spectator parking area). The weekend kicks off at the Hemmings headquarters in Bennington, where on Friday afternoon you park in the lot of their historic Sunoco station, and have a few hours to browse the Hemmings museum. The collection includes dozens of cars and countless signs, parts, and other automobilia.

The cars then lined up behind a police escort and made the 40 mile journey to Saratoga Springs, New York. The scenic route included a couple of quaint Vermont towns, a covered bridge, and a cruise through the twisty agricultural towns around the upper Hudson River area. We then parked outside the Saratoga Auto Museum and enjoyed a cocktail hour among the two-story collection of New York automobile history.

At this point, I felt like I had already had a great experience, but this exciting weekend was just beginning. Saturday featured a cruise-in open to cars of all ages, makes, and models. The beautiful sunny skies brought out well over 200 cars and the show field outside the bathhouses at Saratoga Spa State Park was packed. I met some fascinating MG owners, including Carl Meyer, a major MG collector whose Twin Cam won its class at GT-38 this year. There was an interesting TD on the field that appeared to be very original with minimal restoration, and several B's came out to the party as well.

The Sunday Concours was a sight to behold. The field was filled in grand fashion with cars that would be worthy of any grand event in the country. There weren't any MG's

invited to the party, but Jaguar, Aston-Martin, and a Devin fiberglass sports car with British roots all would have made the Queen proud.

Hemmings and the Saratoga Auto Museum made the event accessible to all- for \$40 you could enter your car into the Friday & Saturday events and also see Sunday's Concours d'Elegance. I drove my MGA round trip, enjoying a scenic drive up New York's Taconic Parkway. I probably traced a lot of the same roots as our pals who went to the Triathlon in August, and it was easy to see why everyone was so enthusiastic about the vistas.



Hemmings will be doing the event again in 2014, and I highly recommend the trip if you like the idea of combining leaf-peeping with tons of fellowship with car buffs. If you'd like to see some pictures, we've created an album at www.chubbcollectorcar.com under the "Photos & Videos" section of the site.

- Borrow Car Tools **- Used Engine oil – Old Car Batteries**

Who wants used oil and batteries? We do! AutoZone recycles used oil and batteries in most stores.

At AutoZone, we're dedicated to protecting the environment by providing drivers with a safe and easy way to dispose of used oil and batteries. Every AutoZone store accepts used batteries for recycling and 95% of our stores accept used motor oil. See your closest AutoZone store for details. Last year, AutoZone recycled millions of batteries and 9.5 million gallons of oil. That's more than any other retailer in America. Get in the Zone and recycle today.

There's nothing like having the right tool for the job. That's the idea behind AutoZone's Loan-A-Tool® service.

It's the most complete selection of seldom-used, expensive-to-own, specialty tools that will help you do the job right. We offer a wide variety of tools for all sorts of jobs - steering and suspension work, air conditioning jobs, engine repair, and more. Using our Loan-A-Tool® service is easy. Just leave a deposit at the store when you pick up the tool. When you're through, just bring it back, and we'll refund the deposit.

[Anonymous Club Member](#)

Some days I just hop in my MG and go for a ride by myself on back country roads, just to forget about the problems of life and the world, feel the breeze in my hair, listening to the music of my up-shifts and down-shifts, taking corners briskly, and for a few moments I'm at peace with the world. My MG and MG friends help keep me young,

[OKTOBERFEST - History](#)

(Now this is SOME KIND OF PARTY!)

Oktoberfest is the world's largest fair held annually in Munich, Bavaria, Germany. It is a **16-day festival** running from late September to the first weekend in October with more than **6 million people** from around the world attending the event every year. To the locals, it is not called Oktoberfest, but "die Wies'n", after the colloquial name of the fairgrounds (**Theresienwiese**) themselves. The Oktoberfest is an important part of **Bavarian** culture, having been held since 1810 in celebration of the marriage of Crown Prince Ludwig to Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. Other cities across the world also hold **Oktoberfest** celebrations, modeled after the original Munich event.

The Munich Oktoberfest originally took place during the sixteen days up to, and including, the first Sunday in October. The festival is now **17 days** when the first Sunday is October 2 and 18 days when it is October 1. The festival is held in an area named the **Theresienwiese** (field, or meadow, of **Therese**), often called *Wiesn* for short, located near Munich's center. Large quantities of **Oktoberfest Beer** are consumed, with **almost 7 million liters served during the 16 day festival in 2007**. Visitors may also enjoy a wide variety of traditional food such as **Hendl** (chicken), **Schweinebraten** (roast pork), **Schweinshaxe** (grilled ham hock), **Steckerlfisch** (grilled fish on a stick), **Würstl** (sausages) along with **Brezeln** (pretzel), **Knödel** (potato or bread dumplings), **Käsespätzle**(cheese noodles), **Reiberdatschi** (potato pancakes), **Sauerkraut** or **Rotkohl/Blaukraut** (red cabbage) along with such Bavarian delicacies as **Obatzda** (a spiced cheese-butter spread) and **Weisswurst** (a white sausage).

[Thinking of Alan and His TC](#)

Years ago, I was approached by Alan McQuery to restore his TC which had gone through three restorers and was left in as many parts as one could disassemble a T. Paralyzed from the waist down and confined to a wheel chair since he was young (motorcycle accident I think), it was my job to convert his MG to hand controls. A year or so later, he drove out the driveway with as much skill and pride as any client of forty years. But my learning experience did not end. Alan became a close friend who taught me the discipline of hope, the resourcefulness of the human spirit and the challenge to laugh in times of seeming despair.

I am now crippled with chronic pain, but every morning I swing my legs over the bed, wiggle my toes and think of Alan. (*anonymous MG friend*)

Get your official Keystone MG Club jacket! Now on sale!



NAVY BLUE all-weather nylon jacket shell with Keystone Region MG Club logo embroidered on left chest. Navy blue fleece lining. Nylon zipper with storm flap. Elastic cuffs with Velcro closures. Two zippered pockets. Double draw-cord waist. Men's and women's styles and sizes. Machine washable. *Navy blue only.*

\$50 each
Embroidered name,
\$3 extra.

MEN's	Chest	Back Length	Sleeve Length
S	47	27	35.38
M	51	27.5	36
L	55	28	36.58
XL	59	28.5	37.25
2XL	63	29	37.78
3XL	67	29.5	38.5

Chest measured 1-in. below armpole. Back length measured from center of the back. Sleeve length measured from center of the back.

WOMEN's	Chest	Back Length	Sleeve Length
S	42.5	26.5	32
M	45.5	27.5	33
L	48.5	28.5	34
XL	51.5	29.5	35
2XL	54.5	30.5	36

Women's style is princess-seamed front and back.

Chest measured 1-in. below armpole. Back length measured from center of the back. Sleeve length measured from 1/2 shoulder plus sleeve.

KEYSTONE MG CLUB JACKET ORDER FORM

Name _____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

I would like to order the following club jackets at \$50 each jacket:

MEN'S JACKET S M L XL 2XL 3XL

Embroidered name (Add \$3) Please print name clearly! _____

WOMEN'S JACKET S M L XL 2XL

Embroidered name (Add \$3) Please print name clearly! _____

Number of jackets: _____ x \$50 _____
 Number of embroidered names _____ x \$3 _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Identitees

Mail to: Dick Horn, 2313 Lone Cedar Dr., Easton, PA 18040



Fall Foliage Tour
Sunday
October 20, 2013
***** All British Cars Welcome *****

*Lunch in the "Canal Room" at the
Black Bass Inn (circa 1745)*
(on your own with separate checks for each table)

And a tour of
Historic Covered Bridges

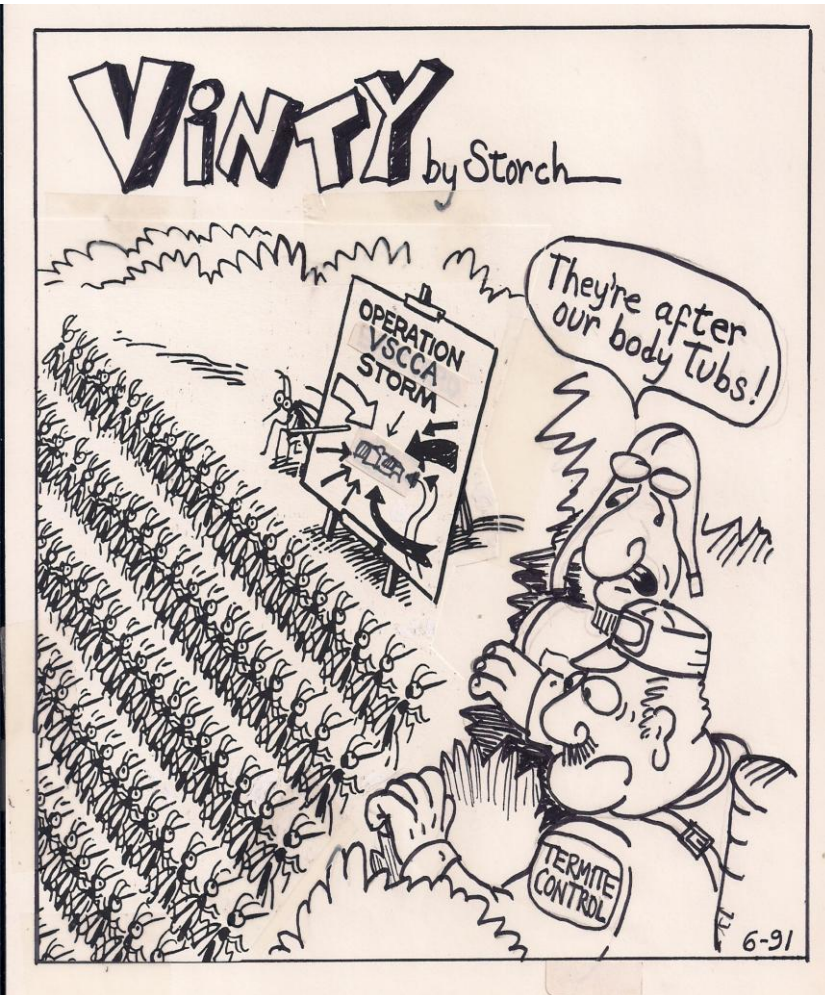
Meet at Oldwick General Store promptly at 10:30 AM
(Rt. 78 West to Exit #24, Right at bottom of ramp on Rt 523/517 approx. 1 mile to General Store)

Advance registration required by Wednesday, October 18 for restaurant count.

Email your:
1) Name, 2) Total # in Party, and 3) Cell Phone # to:
jaschaible@yahoo.com
908-627-2801



New Jersey MG 'T' Register



MG 'T' Series With Wooden Body Tubs -
BEWARE!

[US Vintage Grand Prix - 2014](#)

There is already a lot of interest in SVRA's "[US Vintage Grand Prix 2014](#)" ([SVRA.com](#)) where **MG will be featured in the racing, car shows, and street events!** It will also celebrate the **60th anniversary** of the "Collier Brothers MG Memorial Trophy MG Race", and will be the MG Vintage Racers "**Focus Event**" for 2014 ([MGVR.org](#)). ***It doesn't get much more MG than this!*** Below are a couple of resource that may be helpful to those who are considering going to this event next September 5-7 at Watkins Glen located in Schuyler County, New York - the "**Finger Lakes**" region!

[Schuyler County, New York](#)

<http://www.schuylercounty.us/>

-Click on "Explore Schuyler"

-Click on:

- Places to stay
- Click here for lodging availability search
- Places to eat
- Watkins Glen Area

[Also: Town of Watkins Glen:](#)

<http://www.watkinsglenchamber.com>

On their web site, click on:

-Request Information; -Things to do; -Places to stay; - Places to eat

[Non-Race Activities](#)

Also check out: grandprixfestival.com. for non-race activities.

Since 1993, the Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen presented by Chemung Canal Trust Company has celebrated our heritage of motor racing. Last year, an estimated 25,000 spectators helped us celebrate. As in previous years, a tribute to the Grand Prix races are featured in a variety of events during this all day festival. Events include the Walk of Fame award ceremony, a historical lecture called The Legends Speak, a pre-race Tech Inspection at Smalley's Garage, as well as several rolling events and two car shows known as the Stone Bridge Driver Events.

The featured highlight of the Festival is a tribute to the original Grand Prix races using the original 6.6 mile road course. Always a crowd pleaser, the Watkins Glen Grand Prix Tribute is designed to recreate the ambiance of the 1948-52 Watkins Glen street races. The race tribute is open to selected Sportscar Vintage Racing Association (SVRA) cars participating in the The Glenora Wine Cellars U.S. Vintage Grand Prix presented by Welliver races held at the nearby Watkins Glen International race course on the same weekend as the festival. This year MG is the Featured Marque.

In addition to the SVRA race participants mentioned above, if you own a qualifying automobile and would also like to participate in the festival, you are not alone. Nearly twelve hundred festival attendees will choose to participate in the Festival by registering, as driver/navigator teams, in one of seven Stone Bridge Driver events. Each of the participants in these events share two things in common: a passion for driving classic sports cars and a desire to relive some of the excitement of driving on the original 6.6 mile circuit during the festival. **Please Note:** Only 650 eligible sports and/or classic cars may register for these events and the slots fill very quickly. At the Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen, presented by Chemung Canal Trust, there is something for everyone! Parked along the main streets of the village you will find over 600 classic sports cars of all ages and marques for your enjoyment. In addition to live music, wine tasting, food courts, and assorted other family activities, a variety of vendors of racing items and related Merchandise are provided for your entertainment and pleasure. Oh, and did we mention the fantastic fireworks at dusk?

	<p><i>Return to the Streets!</i></p> <p>Friday, September 5, 2014</p> <p>Franklin Street, Watkins Glen</p>	
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1985 – MG Collier Cup - 2014

By Greg Prehodka

The “**Vintage Collier Cup**” all MG race was established in 1985, as a spark between SVRA and the Collier family, along with the support of the MG Vintage Racers. Only eight MG racers entered that inaugural race. But would it catch on?

Setting The Stage

Sam and Miles Collier were the earliest MG racers in North America. They started racing their MGs in the 1930’s while sports car racing was in its infancy, and MGs were almost unknown over here. They even raced one of their MG specials in the “24 hours of Le Mans” race in France in 1939. They continued to race MGs up through the 40’s and 50’s including the inaugural Watkins Glen street race in 1948. Then Sam died in a racing accident at Watkins Glen in 1950, and Miles passed away from polio in 1954.

To honor their memory, the Sports Car Club of America (SCCA) established the “**Collier Brothers Memorial Trophy**” in 1954 for what basically was an all MG race class at that time. But as the years rolled along, fewer MGs competed, and race classes changed. Winners of the trophy often were not MG racers. Then in 1980 MGs stopped being manufactured in England, and the MG marque began to fade from the racing scene.

“Vintage Collier Cup” Created

During the 1980’s “**vintage racing**” started to catch on and grow, as MGs began making a comeback, recapturing their former racing heritage. In 1985, as SVRA (*Sportscar Vintage Racing Association*) was expanding its vintage racing program into Watkins Glen, it was decided to “**Re-establish the original Collier Memorial concept - but for vintage MGs this time - while maintaining a consistent “MG” theme**”. The result was the first “**Vintage Collier Cup**” all MG race at Watkins Glen, in SVRA’s first full vintage race weekend there. This would be different from the SCCA concept, in that only MGs were invited to compete, and the cup’s winner would not necessarily be the race winner. Rather it would be a MG racer, voted by their fellow racers, as best demonstrating the “**Spirit of MG Vintage Racing**”. Criteria would include: car preparation to being period correct; the car’s appearance; the driver’s racing skill; and overall “MG spirit”. The first race in 1985 saw only eight MGs entered (*including this author’s MGTD*), and the Collier Cup was awarded to MGTD racer Bob Colaizzi. SVRA stayed with the Collier Cup MG race as the number of MG entries grew in following years. Benchmark years included 60 MGs in 1994; 72 MGs in 1998 for the 50th anniversary of the Watkins Glen races; and in 2004, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of SCCA’s “*Collier Brothers Memorial Trophy*”, an incredible record-breaking **143 MGs** showed up to compete – a North American MG record!

Collier Cup Matures

As the race has grown in stature, other awards have been added to it by various sponsors, increasing the race's prestige! It now also includes the "**Denver Cornett Jr. Trophy**" for first **MG overall**; the "**Jack Archibald T Cup**" for first **MG 'T'**; the "**Bucher-Decker Trophy**" for the first **MGA**; and the "**Bill Glanville Memorial Cup**" for the first **MG Midget**. And for *the historic 25th running of the Collier Cup* – "all the **MG race entrants**" in the Collier Cup were declared as "**Collier Cup Winners**", with each receiving their own personal Collier Cup, thanks to the gracious Collier family. MG will again be featured on and off the track in 2014, as plans for it are already under way.

The MG Vintage Racers

MGs are British sports cars. "Most" are 2 seat convertibles, with modest four cylinder engines, manufactured between 1945 to 1980. This includes MG-T's, MGA's, MGB's, and MG Midgets, although you may see a few Pre-War MGs, MG specials, and MGB-GT V8's. Vintage rules limit the modifications and updating allowed to these cars. In a general sense they have to be prepared similarly to the way they were originally raced when they were new, have original components, and meet current safety requirements. Most of the MGs you will see racing are street production cars with some modifications for racing. Period appearance is strongly encouraged and you will not see sponsorship decals on them. This is pure amateur racing! This mix of many MGs is very unequal in their performance, and we can almost tell you the winners before the race, so why do they keep coming back for more? What is to be won in vintage racing MGs? There is no money. At best, a token trophy. They are here for the fun and enjoyment of racing a piece of MG history, and sharing that enjoyment with other MG enthusiasts - both racers and spectators. They compete on the track, and then be helping each other out with working on their cars back in the paddock! And the glue that helps bond them together is their **MG Vintage Racers' Newsletter**, with over 250 subscribers who race MGs in North America. Their slogan (*taken from Shakespeare*): "**We few, we happy few, we band of brothers...**" There's great camaraderie among this group! Plus their "crews" are mostly family and friends. Some of them have even been vintage racing their MGs for over 25 years! They are most proud of their steeds and take a very personal interest in them and MG history.

2013 Autumn Wine Run and Tasting

Last year about 30 of us made our first visit at Blair Vineyards (Kutztown, Pa.) for wine tasting and picnic; which, it seems was thoroughly enjoyed by all. So Gini and I have arranged with the winery to schedule it again this year on Saturday, October 12th. Rain date, Sunday the 13th. We will be at the high tables on the covered patio with heaters if cool. As before the winery charges \$5.00 for a tasting which is credited towards a wine purchase. You are welcome to bring your own picnics or purchase cheese and crackers there. (For any who might be interested, Blair Vineyards are holding a Structured Cupcake and Wine Pairing at



1:30 Saturday, also Sunday, including 3 cupcakes and 6 wines for a charge of \$10:00. This is strictly optional, but let us know if you think you would like to participate.)

As before, we will gather at the Schnecksville Diner, about 11:00 AM on the north side of the parking lot and depart by 11:15 AM. We will travel over some new roads and expect to arrive at the winery shortly after noon.

Please let us know if you expect to join us, provided the weather is decent, so we can let the winery have a count. e-mail mgb19744@verizon.net or call 610 435 7201

Bill and Gini Miers

Police Officer Presentation to MG Club

Introduction by Denis (*Kevin's dad*)

Even before Kevin had a license, he had a Pontiac Le Mans. He fixed it up and made a real nice driver out of it. A long list of cars followed, including a 1981 Dodge Omni, several former police cars, GTO's, '70 black GTO coupe, '87 IROC Z, '69 Le Mans convertible, '66 GTO Coupe, '70 GTO convertible, '87 Regal Turbo T, and now he has a '69 GTX car. Kevin graduated from Montclair University in 1994. He went to the Morris County Police Academy and joined the XXXX Police Department in 1996. He's served in the traffic bureau, detective bureau, patrol division, and accident investigation.

Police Officer Kevin XXX

After his presentation to our MG club, Kevin then opened the floor to questions. He said he'd answers our questions as best he could, but his answers were just "*his opinions*", and answers could easily vary with different officers and situations. Here are some of the questions and Kevin's answers.

Q: When a shift change occurs, does it happen all at the same time?

K: We do it 7 to 7, day or night. Shifts are 7AM to 7 PM, or 7PM to 7AM. But some officer is always ready to go. Some departments do stagger it.

Q: Cell phones while driving cause many problems. Do you enforce the law on them?

K: One problem with cell phones, is that people see us coming and then hide their cell phones from our view. We do enforce the law. Hands free cell phones are OK.

Q: If we have a car problem and have to stop roadside, what advice can you give us?

K: We'll always stop to make sure everything is all right and that they have help coming. If it is night time, we'll put flares out or sit behind them with the lights on.

Q: What kind of excuses do you get from drivers you pull over?

K: The most popular excuse with women is "*I have to go to the bathroom*" And the excuses for being on the cell phones. People always say they had an emergency call. No one ever says they were just BS'n with a friend! Then there is the "*I'm in a hurry to get to the hospital because.....*" and we never know if it is true or not.

Q: How can you best persuade an officer from giving you a ticket, or at least downgrading it?

K: First off, be nice and courteous to the officer. Tell the truth. Apologize. Don't give attitude. "Please" and "Yes Sir/Mam" PBA or FOP cards do work to a point, but they are not a "*Get out of jail Free*" card. Even cops get arrested or ticketed sometimes.

Q: If a cop car pulls me over, what is it best for me to do?

K: First, pull over to the side as far as you reasonably can. It is probably best to just sit there with your hands on the steering wheel until the cop comes up to talk to you. Stay in your car. Plus if you get out, you could get hit by a passing car. Don't get out and walk to the cop car – officers don't like to be approached that way. Remember, the officer does not know who you are, and if you might pose a threat to him. And don't annoy the officer - like being on your cell phone when he walks up to you. Officers often will park the cop car at an angle behind the pulled over car. That way the cop car acts as a safety block against oncoming traffic.

Q: What kind of driver training do police officers get?

K: Not enough! I got some in the police academy 14 years ago, and nothing since. Back then we had the old Chevy Caprices, and a few Crown Victorias. We did some obstacle courses with cones, how fast can you negotiate this and that, etc. Other than that, they just give you the keys and tell you not to kill yourself.

Q: What recording devices are in the police cars?

K: We have a camera hanging off the rear-view mirror, and it goes on when the roof lights are turned on. It has video and sound from pocket mikes we carry. And we have cameras that shoot in the back when we have prisoners. This can be given out in "discovery" for court cases.

Q: Are adults in the rear seats required to wear seat belts?

K: No, I just looked that up. Cars built after July 1, 1966 should have seat belts in the front. No mention of seat belts in rear seats. I always wear a seat belt.

Q: What are the rules on police pursuit chases?

K: Pursuit policies in New Jersey are very strict. It depends what the pursuit is about. For just motor vehicle offense, they make you break it off much sooner. But if there is a bank robbery, homicide, or kid napping, you'll have more liberty to pursue, but there are some very strict regulations about that.

Q: How do you deal with drinkers?

K: I start with some questions, like say the alphabet from A to Z. If the person has problems with that then I ask them to step out and then there is a whole series of standardized tests, that all cops give. Mistakes are counted against you. And if then we judge you're over the limit, we arrest you.

Q: I have a five point harness and a roll bar in my street car. Is that legal?

K: Yes. Any safety improvement above the required items is fine.

Q: Should we carry a copy of NJ's vintage car regulations with us in our vintage cars, which lays out special conditions and rules for our old cars? (*like historic cars only being required to have a rear plate*)

K: It's not a bad idea. But if you need to show them to an officer, don't just say "You're wrong and here's why." Do it nicely. We don't get any training in specialty vehicle kind of stuff – street rods; historic; vintage cars.

Q: How strictly enforced is the driving of cars with QQ (NJ Historic) plates?

K: On paper it makes it sound like you can rarely drive a QQ plated car – parades, events, exhibitions. But it is tough to enforce though. How can an officer verify where you're going or coming from. You could be taking the car out for a "road test". I've never heard of any officer enforcing the use of a QQ plated car.

Q: How do cop cars differ from regular cars?

K: I don't think they differ much any more. The older ones use to be pretty high performance – the old Mopar ones were really hard core cop cars. Now a days, we have a whole lot of extra gear, but that's installed by us. Cars have high performance tires; heavy duty battery and alternator, oil cooler – like the kind of stuff you'd find in a towing package. We get air-conditioning and a radio now. Ford makes a pretty good police car now. I always use to like the old police Chevy's from the 80's and the 90's.

Q: Cop cars seem to be going to black and white now. What is the trend?

K: I don't think cop car color is standardized. It is just department by department. Somehow B&W is coming back into popularity. And of course the state police have white cars. Some decisions are probably due to expense. Simple white cars are the cheapest, instead of custom paint jobs. That's why NY PD changed from blue cars to white cars. Ford now offers a B&W paint option.

Q: Are patrols under the gun now, because of the financial situation, to give out more tickets?

K: You know what, surprisingly we haven't been.

Q: How fast are you allowed to pursue a car?

K: It is a consideration of the "Totality of the Circumstances". Depends on your location, time of day, the situation and other stuff. On Rt 287 at night, we probably could open it up if needed. But what they teach us about chasing people – is basically don't chase them because it is not worth it. Be careful – it all depends.

Q: What's your opinion about being a police officer as a career?

K: It has been good for me. There are hard times and frustrating times – the legal system is frustrating. But I'm in a small town. It is very safe. My family grew up there. I don't want to be dodging bullets. I can stop home when I'm working, and check on my kids or have a meal with everybody. I've got 14 years now and 11 to go to retirement. Good benefits and pay. It's a young man's job. You work two weeks of nights, and then two weeks of days. You'll never be rich, but you can earn a good living. I've loved it so far.

MG Gazette Newsletter

Please send you stories, information, good stuff into the editor. Got something for sale? Know of an interesting web site. Need a part for your MG? Know of an event members might have interest in? Have an old MG story to share? Tell about an event you went to.

Editor, Greg Prehodka, e-mail: MGracer53@aol.com

'63 Ferrari GTO Sets New Top

At \$52 Million in Private Sale

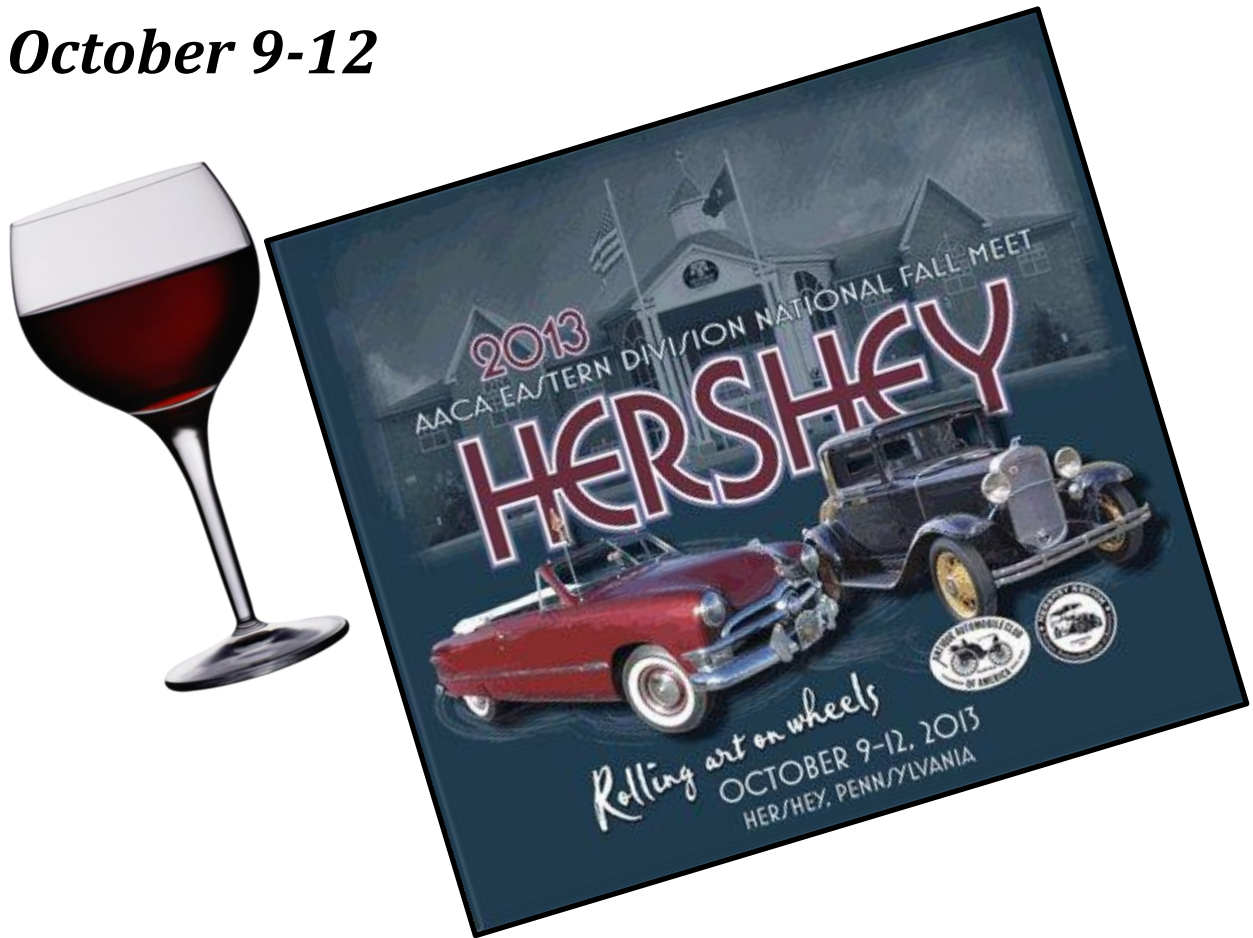
Ferrari 250 GTO s/n 5111GT in a quiet moment, currently the world's most expensive car



British Car Club – Lehigh Valley, Autumn Leaf Festival Moraiivan Academy , Bethlehem October 5th (M. Chamberlain Photo)



October 9-12



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Keystone Region MG Club - Founded 1977

The Keystone region MG Club, Inc. is a club affiliated with both the North American MGA Register and the North American MGB Register. The club meets on the third Tuesday of most months. New members and guests are always welcome. Club information is available online at www.keystonemg.com. The club is incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



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