

OCTAGRAM

AUG. 1, 2017

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MGs OF BALTIMORE, MD

AUGUST 19th 2:00 PM
MGOB Summer Party
Duff & Barbara Fowler's Home.
Bring Food, Bathing Suit, Appetite.
913 Saint Anne Drive, Street, MD
RSVP
1 (410) 399-0070
bkf88@aol.com

CLUB INFORMATION

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MGs of Baltimore Affiliations

North American MGB Register North American MGA Register American MGB Association MG Car Club UK MG Owner's Club UK

MEMBERSHIP

Submit changes in address etc to Kathy McHenry 5237 Glen Arm Road E. Glen Arm, MD 21057 410-817-6862 themgbabe@comcast.net

TECH SESSION

NO MEETING SO NO SESSION

New Members

Scott Stedman - 1978 MGB

DISCLAIMER

The OCTAGRAM is published monthly by the MGs of Baltimore car club. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Club, Club officers, or the newsletter staff. Technical information is believed to be accurate. However, any repairs or mechanical advice is attempted at the readers own risk. The Club, officers, or staff will not be responsible for any misinterpreted or incorrect technical information.

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From El Presidente

O.K. are you tired of all of this heat and humidity yet? I am. Maine is calling me right about now. Here's a little update on things and there are a lot of events going on in August and beyond.

First off planning for MG 2018, "A Gettysburg Address" is in full swing; the website is now live for information only at MG2018.NAMGBR.ORG Registration will go live after October 28. At this point the site is 99% complete and with the exception of a couple of possible added things to do we are good to go. Save the date. June 17 - 22, 2018.

The Pennypacker Mill Show is Saturday, August 5th, see the show flier in this issue of the Octagram. I'm going up if anybody wants to tag along.

The MGOB Summer Party is Saturday, August 19th at Duff & Barbara Fowler's starting at 2:00 p.m. Bring a dish and swimsuit. See this issue for more info.

LANCO's Taste of Britain Gathering and Polo Match is Sunday, August 27th in Rothsville, PA

Vintage Restorations has an "Open House" on Saturday, September 9th at their shop in Union Bridge, MD.

British Car Club of Delaware's Annual show is Saturday, September 16th in Delaware City. Nice show, hope to see you there.

38th Annual "MGs On the Rocks" British Car Show. Saturday, September 30th at Rocks State Park 4-H Camp. Pre-registration end 9/1/17. Volunteers are needed, so contact Jack Long at <u>unionjackparts@gmail.com</u> if you want to help.

North American MGB Register's AGM (Annual General Meeting) hosted by MGOB, October 27th - 28th at the Gettysburg Wyndham Hotel. For more info contact me.

MG 2017 - "MGs at the Bay" -

has come and gone, and was an event to remember. Thanks to the San Diego MG Club, who did a superb job of organizing and conducting the event. The venue was great; how could you not enjoy a private island resort in the middle of Mission Bay, San Diego? The socials and beach parties were fun and well attended, the tech sessions were informative (I actually got to help re-skin an MGC door) and the car show venue at the Embarcadero along the ocean in downtown San Diego was a perfect setting. We even had a US Navy destroyer drop by for a look. There were some exceptional cars in attendance, with a bumper crop of V8 cars, both factory and home-built, and an amazingly well-done conversion of a steel-dash MGB with a Honda S2000 engine that looked like a factory installation. Thanks to all for sharing their beautiful MGs with us. I also got to make many new friends since this was my first West Coast NAMGBR event, and really appreciated the hospitality and enthusiasm of everyone I met. **Photos and Article by Jack Long**



These were taken last week in St Michaels. A trip with Randy and Sheila, Ned and Patty,and Mike and Mary Lutz with Carol and Richard Jefferson also Barb and Duff. Photos from Ken and Sharon Olszewski.





SOMETHING DIFFERENT



Fifteen Borgwards will land in New Jersey from Europe on the 9th of September for a Coast to Coast tour across the US to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the introduction of the Isabella Coupé model.

The Isabella sedan was introduced in 1954, the Isabella Coupé in 1957. The Borgwards, all Isabella models, will include eight Coupés, one Cabrio (convertible), two Combis (Station Wagons) and four sedans. The teams will be comprised of four from Belgium, three from the UK, one from Luxemburg, and seven from Germany – thirty-one people in all. Cris Guns of the Borgward Club of Belgium and John Wallis of the UK Borgward Owners' Club have spearheaded the tour. The Coast to Coast tour will visit all the sights along Route 66 including jaunts to Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, and Phoenix.

Following the meet, the European Borgwards will drive to the harbor in Long Beach, CA, where the cars will be loaded in containers and shipped back to Europe. The total cost for two people, including lodging, transportation of the vehicle, insurance, etc., is estimated at about 12,000

continued on next page. from intermarque.org

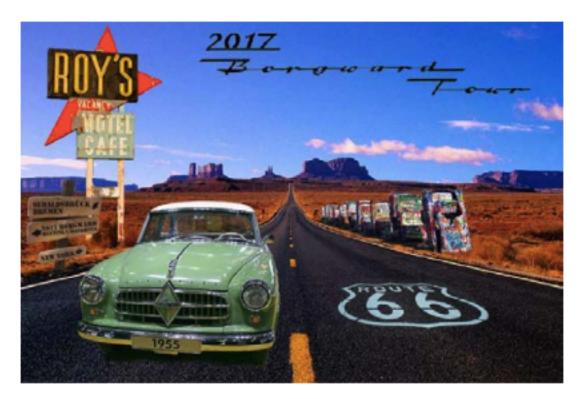
One of our US Borgward Club members will meet the tour in Chicago with a pickup and trailer and follow them out to Santa Barbara. A good selection of Borgward parts from AutoDus, a Borgward parts dealer in Düsseldorf, Germany, will accompany the tour as well as John Wallis, who has volunteered to perform technical interventions, aka roadside repairs.

My wife, Barbara, and I will drive our 1960 Borgward Isabella Coupé and join the tour in Springfield, Missouri. It will be great fun to look under the hoods of so many Borgwards and share camaraderie with Borgward owners and friends. This is something a Minnesota Borgward owner misses very much. of the open road.

Borgward introduced the Isabella model in 1954, at that time Germany's fourth largest auto manufacturer and by 1957 they were the second largest auto manufacturer celebrating that year the 500,000th Borgward off the assembly line since 1948. Carl F.W. Borgward personally designed the new Isabella model and the Isabella Coupé in 1957. The tour will celebrate the 60th anniversary of that event and raise awareness of the Borgward legacy. In 1959, Borgward sold 7,629 Isabellas and 3,478 Lloyds in the United States. What a great opportunity for these Europeans to experience America and the joy of the open road.

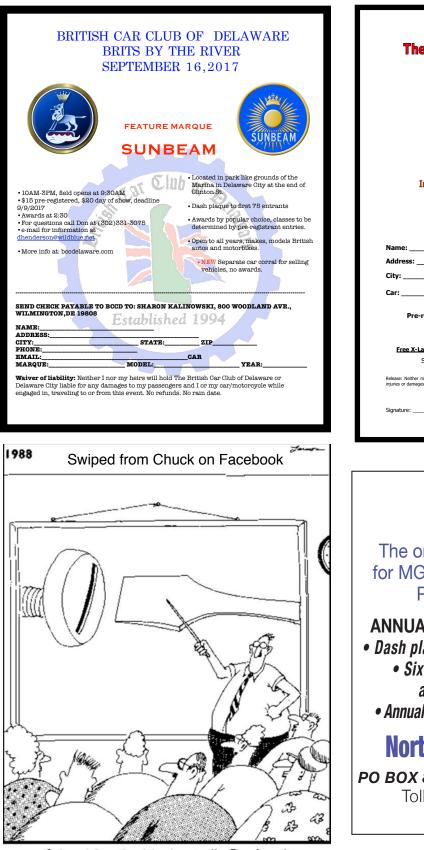
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The tour will begin in New Jersey, rally to Chicago, and then follow as best possible old Route 66 across the US to Santa Barbara, California, where the US Borgward Owners' Club will host the group at their annual meeting. Along the way Canadian Borgward owners will meet and greet the group. Some US Borgward owners will join the tour in Arizona and accompany them to Santa Barbara. The turnout for this meet should be one of the largest in many years.



This is from the promotional material issued by the tour organizers, showing a 1955 Borgward Isabella sedan model. Courtesy Cris Guns of the Borgward Club of Belgium.

Editor - See more at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/



School for the Mechanically Declined





North American MGB Register

The only MEMBER-RUN organization for MGB, MGC, Midget,1100/1300 and Post Abingdon Car owners.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$30 (\$45 overseas)

- Dash plaque Membership card Window decal
 - Six bi-monthly issues of The MG Driver, a 68-page informative magazine.
 - Annual national convention a four-day MG party!

North American MGB Register

PO BOX 876 · Downers Grove, IL 60515-0876 Toll-free phone: 800-NAMGBR-1 www.namgbr.org

HOW TO WASH YOUR CAR

Don't...use household cleaning agents like hand soap, dishwashing detergent, or glass cleaner on the paint. These aren't formulated for use on a car's paint and may strip off the protective wax.
Do... use a dedicated car-wash product, which is milder and specifically designed for use on automotive paint. Apply the suds with a large, soft natural sponge or a lamb's-wool mitt. Grease, rubber, and road-tar deposits picked up from the road often accumulate around the wheel wells and along the lower edge of the body. These can be stubborn to remove and may require a stronger product, such as a bug-and-tar remover. Use a soft, nonabrasive cloth to remove these deposits, as they can quickly blacken your sponge.

Do... use a separate sponge to clean the wheels and tires, which may be coated with sand, brake dust, and other debris that could mar the car's finish. Mild soap and water may work here; if not, a dedicated wheel cleaner may be required. Be sure the cleaner is compatible with the type of finish (paint, clear-coat, chrome, etc.) used on the wheels. A strong formula intended for mag wheels, for instance, can damage the clear coat that's used on the wheels that come on today's cars. To be on the safe side, choose a cleaner that's labeled as safe for use on all wheels.

Are There Any General Guidelines I Should Follow When Washing a Car?

Don't... wash your car when the body is hot, such as immediately after driving it or after it has been parked in direct sunlight for awhile. Heat speeds the drying of soap and water, making washing more difficult and increasing the chances that spots or deposits will form.

Don't... move the sponge in circles. This can create light, but noticeable scratches called swirl marks. Instead, move the sponge lengthwise across the hood and other body panels. And don't continue using a sponge that's dropped on the ground without thoroughly rinsing it out. The sponge can pick up dirt particles that can scratch the paint.

Do... rinse all surfaces thoroughly with water before you begin washing to remove loose dirt and debris that could cause scratching. Once you begin, concentrate on one section at a time, washing and rinsing each area completely before moving on to the next one. This ensures that you have plenty of time to rinse before the soap dries. Start at the top, and then work your way around the car. Use a hose without a nozzle and let the water flow over the car from top to bottom. This creates a sheeting action that helps minimize pooling of water.

Do... work the car-wash solution into a lather with plenty of suds that provide lots of lubrication on the paint surface. And rinse the sponge often. Using a separate bucket to rinse the sponge keeps dirt from getting mixed into the sudsy wash water.

How Should I Dry the Car When I'm Done?

Don't... let the car air dry, and don't expect a drive around the block to do an effective job. Either will leave watermarks caused by minerals in hard water. In addition, don't use an abrasive towel or other material that can leave hairline scratches in the paint.

Do... use a chamois (natural or synthetic) or soft terry towels. If you choose towels, you may need several. It's best to blot the water up instead of dragging the towel or chamois over the paint. The drying process can be speeded up by using a soft squeegee to remove most of the water on the body, but be sure the rubber is pliable and that it doesn't pick up bits of dirt that can cause scratches.

Keystone Region MG Club

SAVE THE DATE

MG 2018

"A Gettysburg Address"



June 17 - 22, 2018 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania MG2018.NAMGBR.ORG

Morgan Runabout Deluxe.1912

->>>>>



Bug Spray Melts Car Paint

adapted from the Internet

It is summertime, and you are working on your car in the driveway. Suddenly a swarm of no-seeums decides to dine on you, so you grab the insect repellant and coat your arms and legs to save



your flesh. But the next morning, you find that you have made a grievous mistake! Overspray from your repellant has left tiny white spots, or worse ... large blotches, on the paintwork of nearby cars. The DEET used in bug spray has melted the paint!

Wiping down overspray may remove white residue the next day, but may also find that the paint has discolored, bubbled, and



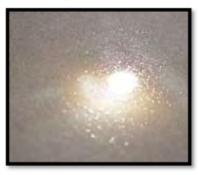
the clear coat has removed entirely. This photo show the results after hours of buffing and waxing. Not good enough! What causes the marks? The DEET in bug spray is an oily liquid known to destroy the varnish on wooden tables, melt plastics, and even permanently mark TV screens.

An internet auto expert said that "If a woman wanted to remove her nail polish, she'd use acetone." DEET is a solvent similar to acetone, but unlike acetone, it keeps on dissolving the material that it touches. "It's very difficult to neutralize using normal household products — soapy water doesn't work, alcohol doesn't work, nothing really works."

SC Johnson, the company that makes OFF!, issues a warning on its website: "Do not apply on or near: acetate, rayon, spandex or other synthetics (other than nylon), furniture, plastics, watch crystals, leather and painted or varnished surfaces including automobiles."

There are numerous cases online where people have inadvertently wrecked their

vehicles fighting mosquitos. A BMW owner sprayed himself in bug spray and the next day found a large portion of his paint ruined, requiring it to be



completely refinished. That owner described the marks as being like "chickenpox." "The actual paint has bubbled up and the clear coat has been destroyed!" the owner reports. "I spent hours buffing, waxing, claybar — didn't do a damn thing!!!"

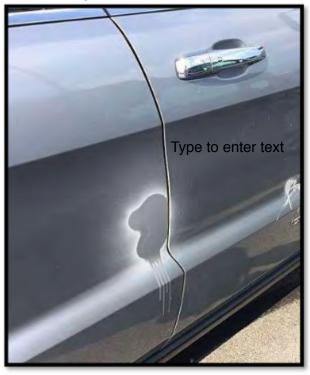
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1930's Lagonda LG6 or LG45 ->>>



www.mgsofbaltimore.org

In the photo below, OFF! bug spray contained only 15% DEET while may other sprays contain 30% with some as much as 98%! So don't assume that because your bug spray is low on DEET you won't face this same issue.



Be careful spraying yourself or children near automobiles or other painted objects prior to playing in the yard. If you do use bug spray containing DEET, make sure you do so at a safe distance from your vehicle. And if an accident does occur, whether to a car or other painted, varnished or plastic surfaces, clean it as quickly and thoroughly as possible using soapy water to minimize the damage. It doesn't take much for a few drops to land on the wrong surface, and by the following morning, you'll awaken to a nasty surprise.

And never let children run amok mischievously spraying as performing an aerial fogging of the neighborhood with your Deep Woods OFF!

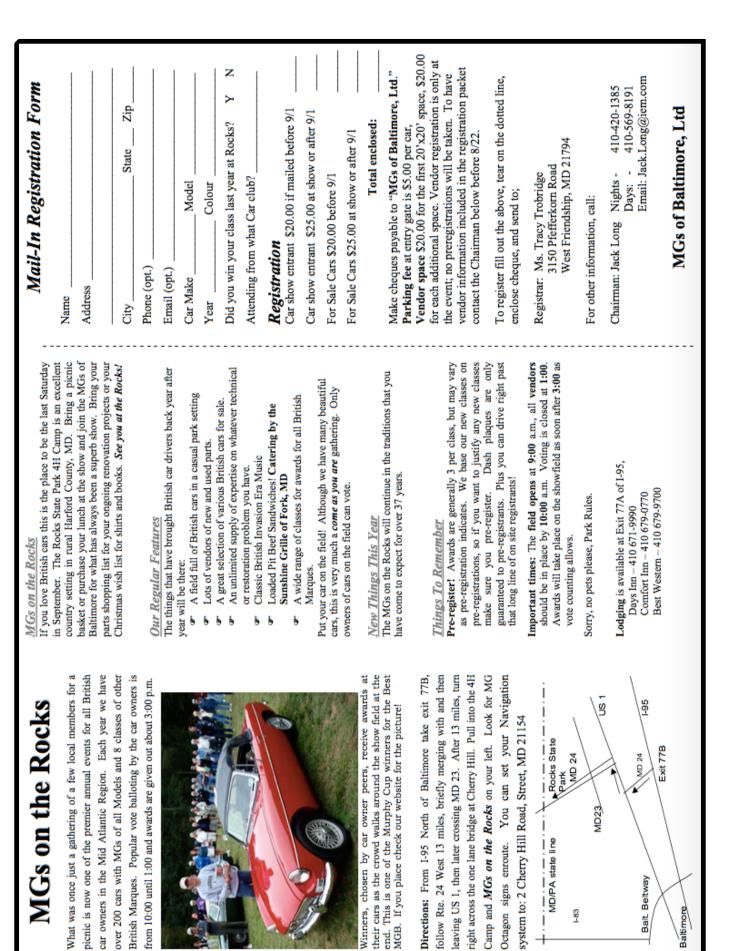
End of article from The Journal of loose nuts and broken spokes. Grand Strand British Car Club.



We're waiting for YOUR article.







www.mgsofbaltimore.org

8

Balt. Beltway

Baltimore

MGOB CLUB CALENDAR

- AUG. 1st MGOB meeting. 5th, PennyPacker Mills British Car Day <u>19th MGOB Summer Party, Duff & Barbara Fowler's</u>
- SEPT. 5th MGOB meeting,

<u>30th - MGs On The Rocks</u>

- OCT. 3rd MGOB meeting.
- NOV. 7th MGOB meeting.
- DEC. 5TH MGOB meeting.



Safety issue – Working with gasoline: Gasoline vapor generated by draining the tank is a hazard and reacts to an igntion source. The source could be static electricity which is an imbalance of electric charges within or on the surface of a material. Not to get technical but Static discharge is more prevalent with low humidity (there is a hint – Arizona). Another source of igntion is a hot wire (power on condition) that could touch any metal part of the car and spark. I am sure many believe that common sense would be sufficient to control this hazard. The problem is that common sense can be different from one person to another. Safety sense is what is required. That means there is a clear and under- standable step(s) that must be followed to control a hazard. So let's take a look at the steps necessary to stay safe while working with gasoline".

Steps prior to working with gasoline:

- Maintain good ventilation (air flow) when working with gasoline to prevent a buildup of vapors that could ignite or cause breathing problems.
- Dissipate static discharge from your body by touching metal anywhere on your car before you begin to work with gasoline.
- Always disconnect the battery when working with gasoline the down side of an electric fuel pump is it is always pumping fuel when the ignition switch is in the on positon. Okay, turn the key to the off position. Good plan right? What if there is a malfunction of the switch and it becomes stuck in the on poisitioni (continuous fuel flow). Unless there is a separate cutoff switch to the fuel pump the only way to stop the flow is to disconnect the battery and hope the terminal doesn't spark when you aempt this. Solution? Disconnect the battery before you start work.
- Have immediate access to a fire extinguisher that is designed to extinguish a gas fire. An ABC rang would be adequate. Make sure the gauge on the extinguisher is in the green range.
- Keep an ample supply of rags or products that absorb liquids in case of a spill (don't store gas soaked rags or other materials inside).
- Store gasoline in approved containers.
- If possible, let someone know what you are doing and to check on you periodically.
- Make sure all your connections and hoses are tight before you re-connect the battery to test your system
 Dave AZ MG Club

(I hope I fixed all the spelling errors that occurred in copy paste. It was all correct in the original article. RM)

MGOB Tools For Member's To Borrow

Engine Stand (2)

Engine lift with tilt device (2)

Whitworth wrenches

Whitworth sockets

Whitworth thread file

MGB Kingpin Reamer

Sandblaster (Suction from a bucket type)

Rostyle Wheel Paint Mask (MGB)

Midget Kingpin reamer

SU Carb Throttle shaft reamer for MG T,A, B carbs

SU Carb Throttle shaft reamer for Midget carbs

Click Type Torque Wrench 0-150 ft-lb. Standard 1/2" Socket set

Hub Puller

Rear Hub sockets for MGA and early and late MGB

Harmonic balancer puller

Camshaft Degree wheel with TDC finder, etc.

Timing light

Dwell/Tach Meter

Differential flange removal tool

Brake line bender – tubing cutter – bubble type flaring tools

Slide Hammer for bushings, bearing caps, and axle extraction

Lift-A-Dot Upholstery punch tool

SU Carb Synchronizer

Pickle Fork for Tie Rod ends

MGB Clutch Alignment Tool

Front Suspension Toe-In Adjustment Tool