

OCTAGRAM

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MGs OF BALTIMORE, MD

MAY 1, 2019

https://www.mgsofbaltimore.org

From El Presidente:

The 30th Annual "Get the Dust-Off" Rallye is scheduled for Sunday, May 5. For 30 years now, MGOB has been putting on the "Get the Dust-Off". We will be back at Dejon Winery this year. Our Rallye Master, Eric Salminen and his assistant Chris Horant have a fun route planned and it will be a little less complicated than previous events. Look for an event flier in this issue of the Octagram and please plan on attending. If you can't run the rallye, you can show up at Dejon Winery and enjoy the wines, cars and MGOB friendship.

MG 2019 update, on line registration is now open at: <u>www.MG2019.org</u> The 28th Annual North American MGB Register Convention being held in Traverse City, Michigan this June 23 - 26. Registration is currently at 255 cars, the host hotel is almost sold out of discounted rooms, but does have rooms available at their regular price, the awards banquet is sold out, but doors will open once the food portion is over so that others can see the awards presentation.

The Carlisle Import Show is May 17th - 19^{th,} in the past MGs of Baltimore, Ltd., Keystone MG Club and the North AmericanMGB Register would share the cost of a tent on the show field and the Keystone Club would provide drinks and lunch, but this year Chaz deBourbon has too much on his plate bring lunch, so **we are skipping it this year**. To learn more about the event go to <u>www.carlisleevents.com</u>

The 42nd Original British Car Day has a new location: Serra Valley Farms is located at 5601 Ridge Road, Mount Airy, Maryland 21771. It is accessed easily via I70 from the south or Maryland Route 27 from the north. Please visit their website at <u>www.serravalleyfarms.com</u> for directions and more information. The Show is scheduled for Sunday, June 2nd.

26th Annual British Motorcar Gathering, hosted by the Keystone Region MG Club in Hellertown, PA at Alfred J. Fritchman Reservoir Park on Sunday, June 9th - 3400 Reservoir Rd. <u>www.keystonemg.com</u>

TRAC's Annual "Brits By the Bay" - Sunday, June 23 at Harford Vineyards, 1311 West Jarrettsville Rd. Forest Hill, MD 21050 for a registration flier and info go to: <u>WWW.TRACLTD.ORG</u>

Finally, we currently have 122 members in good standing. Thanks to all of you for maintaining your membership.

Safety Fast!

Richard

Officers and Chairpersons

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1st Vice Presi - Ken Olszewski	410-893-1661	KENMGOB@comcast.net
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Tool Meister - Randy Kegg	410-592-3733	RANDELL_KEGG@msn.com
Web Master - Richard Liddick	410-817-6862	RGL2MGBGT@aol.com

RANDY'S TECH SESSION

This month Randy discussed the things that can improve performance of the engines. Next month he will continue this subject with rubber-bumper Bs

New Members

Christopher Bartlett - 2008 'S' Type Jag -

British Sports Cars, Soul and Spirit By Dan Shockey

We are at a stage in this hobby/sport when we are losing many long-time

members. Having them die "in the saddle" is one thing but, like cowboys, more often they just fade away. Older members get rid of their cars or stop driving them. They often drop out of the clubs at that point. It is a loss without mourning or closure. It makes me wonder what will become of me and mine. My back and knees are not what they were.

I greatly admire those who change from a T-series MG to an MGB then get an automatic transmission in the MGB in order to keep going. And I am happy to see them come in their other car.

Can we not still love the cars despite infirmity, or inability to bend our knees anymore? Do we even need to own one to be part of the hobby? I say 'hobby," but it was more of a movement back in the 1950s and 1960s. And we were true believers.

Christians talk about the trinity of God and also the trinity of persons, body, soul and spirit. I think there is a trinity to most things. Consider a book. Its body is the binding, the paper, the ink on the paper, even the words themselves. It has a feel, a smell, a history, perhaps pictures, an attraction by itself. But a book also has a soul, the story and thoughts conveyed. It evokes emotions and ideas. Those continue even without the body of the book. Beyond the soul a book also has a spirit, the meanings, beings, aspirations and inspirations beyond the story and the expressed thoughts.

As an aside, I wonder if that is why vinyl albums and covers have resurged. We miss the 'body' of the recorded music.

British sports cars also have that trinity, all tied up together of course. The body is obvious and is a big part of the attraction to us. The colors, the sounds, the chrome, the folding top, the feel of the leather. Even the "bad" things contribute, the oil smells, the mold in that leather and wool carpet, the physical discomforts. Sometimes I think it is smells more than anything that I love about British roadsters.

Do they also have a soul and spirit? Are they like the Velveteen Rabbit in that we have given them life? Their soul is the new thing created by the designers and leaders of this movement that we follow. Their spirit is the connection to the times, of a new heady freedom of the road, of a connection to the famous race drivers and races. Remember how the car mags were once filled with discussions about what is a real sports car? That was about soul and spirit as much as body. All three were being lost during those days.

We lament the loss of British sports cars but Jaguar and others still make lovely 2-seater cars. Used ones are affordable. What has been lost? How? Why? It must be a soul and spirit loss, perhaps more related to the times than to the cars and their designers. The new sports cars are more like re-creations of the past, meeting modern requirements, than the once pioneering and adventuresome thing we seek and love. There are still cars that come along and inspire. I think of the New Mini, of the Miata, even of the PT Cruiser. I once heard of an enthusiastic tour of 300 PT Cruisers to Big Sur. Of course, each of these examples is itself partly a re-creation. Is it us who have spoiled the ever-marching movement by clinging to past victories and achievements? Hot rod folks still make cars like those of the 1940s and 1950s but are always changing to create new things on new "canvases." They honor the old and create the shining new, sustaining their hobby, for now at least.

For me, I unashamedly cling to the past with regard to British sports cars. I love the old cars, their foibles and great simplicity, the old tech, their connection to my youth and what we perceive as "simpler" times. That is not dependent upon me owning even the most modest of one of these cars. I may become blind and crippled but the spirit of these cars will always live on in me. I hope it also lives in those others who have given up their participation with the cars and clubs. Amen.

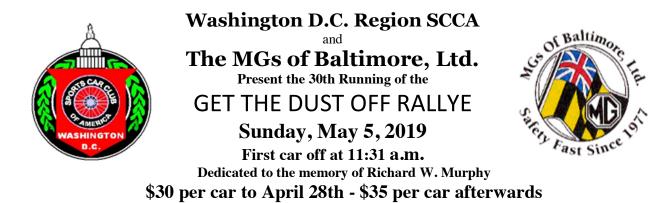
from The Octagon, M.G. Owners Club, The Northern California Center of the M. G Car Club

MGOB sleep-over - July 11 - 12
Total drive time is around 2 1/4 - 2 1/2 hours; a good starter trip. Isn't it time you took it out of your zip code? This should be an easy trip.
Bring your Teddy Bear or blankie and a quart of oil.
We leave my house at 9 AM on July 11, (Thursday)
Larry Heaps
816 Chance Ct. Street, MD
410 452-5349
443 966-0659
arrive at the Ballpark Restaurant for breakfast around 9:15, leave the Ballpark around 10:00 or when ready
http://ballparkrestaurant.com/index.html#&panel1-1
arrive at the Firehouse Antique shop 11:00
Firehouse Antiques 102 North Main Street, Galena, MD.
https://www.yelp.com/biz/firehouse-antiques-center-galena
depart around 11:30
Hey, It's something to do and they have a restroom, then on to
Betterton Beach for lunch at Barbara's on the Bay, out on the deck
12 Ericsson Ave, Betterton, MD 21610-9725
http://www.barbarasonthebay.com and there's more
Chestertown, do the town, shopping, ice cream, etc.
arrive in Easton sometime later, who knows?
Spend the night in Easton,
Holiday Inn Express around\$115. <u>https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/</u>
hotels/us/en/easton/
The 'Quality Inn' is next door and about the same money. I liked the Holiday Inn more
with a better breakfast.
The 'Econo Lodge' is down the street and less money at around \$90, but it struck me as the type of place that you have reservations about, more than make reservations.
Dinner in Easton Possibilities:
Banning's Tavern
Portofino Ristorante Italiano
Plaza Jalisco (Mexican)
Washington Street Pub
OR who knows? to be decided
Friday, 7/12
Steam show in Easton around 9AM or so
https://www.tuckahoesteam.org
I figure we'll spend a couple of hours there, maybe 3 or so.
Still waiting for the return call about 'preferred parking'. They asked about putting our cars on
display while we attend the show. Still up in the air, I think it will happen. Not sure if they will
waive the entrance fee, but it's a 5-6 buck donation to help the museum. To my mind, not a deal
breaker. They need it.
continued on next page

Start home on popular vote Home 2-2 1/4 drive, you can save about 15-30 min if you use the Bay Bridge, I'm using the northern route on return, much nicer roads.
<u>IMPORTANT NOTE</u>, <u>Make your reservations NOW. This is the 'in season' and there are several large events in the area, one being the county fair. They will fill up fast.</u> <u>You can always cancel if your situation changes.</u>

After you make your reservations, drop me a line and I'll add your cell phone number to the contact list of participants. Regards, Larry LHeaps4@gmail.com





To register complete the entry form below and mail it with a check payable to "MGs of Baltimore, Ltd." **SEND TO: Eric Salminen, 12321 Jerusalem Road, Kingsville, MD 21087 (mgobrallymaster@gmail.com)**

This will be a GTA (Game, Tour, Adventure) style rally of approximately 60 competitive miles. No unpaved sections. **All vehicles welcome**. Classes will be provided for Historic up to 1981 and modern 1982 and later.

START: Park and Ride at Gunpowder Lodge, 10092 Bel Air Rd. (US 1), Kingsville, MD 21087.

FINISH: Dejon Vineyards, 5300 Hydes Rd., Hydes, MD. **www.dejonvineyard.com**. Bring along your picnic basket lunch and tailgating supplies. Food truck will be available on site. Wine tasting will be provided for entrants (MGOB hand stamp required).

REGISTRATION: Opens at 10:30 am. Drivers' meeting at 11:00. Please plan to arrive early.

Contact Rallymaster Eric Salminen at (443-463-3071) or mgobrallymaster@gmail.com for additional rally information

All vehicles must have no more than 2 people in the car. If a minor (less than 18 years old) is to participate you must contact us in advance to secure a minor release form which requires the signature of both parents.

Driver:	Navigator:		
Address:	Address:		
City/St/Zip	City/St/Zip		
Phone:	Phone:		
e-mail:	e-mail:		
SCCA region: Member#	SCCA region	_Member #_	
Vehicle information: Make:	_Model:	_Year:	_Color:
Member: MGOB? TRAC? SCCA/Bra	nded Rally? Other:		
Class: Select one: HistoricModern			

I hereby warrant that the entered vehicle is on the road legally, is being used by the entrant with the owner's permission and is covered by liability insurance of not less than \$20,000/\$40,000/\$15,000 or the minimum requirements in the state of registry, whichever is higher.

Driver Signature: _____ Navigator Signature: ____

The Lewe	es Chamber of Comn	nerce Presents
The Twenty-	fourth Annual	
_	British Motorcar Sho	γ_{M}
The Br	ritish are Comir	ng! Again!
	<u>y, MAY 4, 2019*</u>	ATA
11.00 =	a.m. Till 3:00 p.m.	a contraction
	*No rain date	
Cono Mo		
Cape Ma	y-Lewes Ferry Terminal	Nash announced in October of 1952
Prizes in 8 (Categories & "Best of Show"	that two companies based in Birming- ham, England would build its new Met-
	-Up to 1956	ropolitan sub-compact economy car.
		Fisher & Ludlow would produce the bodywork, and the Austin Motor Com-
	A −1957-1962	pany the mechanicals and final assem- bly. This was the first time an American-
	III —1963-1968	designed car, to be exclusively market- ed in North America, would be entirely
	🔨 IV –1969-1974	built in Europe. The Metropolitan came in convertible and hardtop. Several
	▶ V −1975-1980	standard features, optional on most cars of the era, were a map light, electric
	VI –1981-2000	windshield wipers, cigar lighter, and a "continental-type" covered rear-mount-
	tropoliton Fostured manage	ed spare tire. Some 95,000 Metropoli- tans were sold in the United States and
	etropolitan <i>—Featured marque</i>	Canada from 1953 to 1961, making it
	lass- For last year's First	one of the top-selling cars to be import- ed into both countries at the time. Its
Place & E	Best of Show winners	sales in 1959 spurred the introduction of new compact models from GM, Ford &
Winners' Circle	Awards Parade 🛛 📲 Merchant's Sidewalk Sale	Chrysler. Registration forms available on line or at Chamber Office
through downto	Commemorative Dash Plaques	Free shuttle to downtown Lewes
Name	Phone[day/evening]	Otata Zia
Car Club Affiliation	Citye-mail	
Please com	plete and mail with check payable to Lewe	s Chamber of Commerce
for a	appropriate amount, Car registration \$20 (\$	30 after May 3), to
	ber of Commerce British Motorcar Show, P Only Original British-made vehicles 2000 model year or	
accepted):		
	II–1957-1962 □ III–1963-1968 □ IV–196	
	Metropolitan (<i>Featured Marque</i>) Premier (L	
	Model mber of Commerce is proud to sponsor the Lewes I	
	ar Club of Delaware. Phone: 302-645-8073. E-mai	

Brit	The Original ish Car Pay Anniversary Meet
_	2 nd , 2019 ~ 8:00 am until 3:00 pm OR SHINE EVENT!
NEW LOCAT	ION! ~ Serra Valley Farms Road, Mount Airy, MD 21771
Antique, Classic & <u>This yea</u> Show field opens The Ballot Box will	FEATURING: New British Car & Motorcycle Displays & Flea Market <u>r's Featured Marque is the Classic Mini!</u> ~~~ at 8:00 am; Registration & Voting close at 12:30 pm be located at the Chesapeake Chapter Hospitality Tent. s will be for sale, or bring a picnic lunch!
Sponsored by: The Chesapeake Chapter of the New England MG "T" Register	For more information: call 410-804-7017 email thomasdrenda@gmail.com visit <u>www.chesapeakechaptermgtclub.com</u>
The Original British Car Day PO Box 82 Pleas	hicle per Registration Form (Fees listed below) se make check payable to: sapeake Chapter, NEMGTR ENTRY NO: (OBCD will assign)
YEAR MARQUE	MODEL
(Example: 1968 MG BGT 30a)	CLASS (see next page)
NAME (owner)	
PHONE	EMAIL
ADDRESS	CITY STATE ZIP
WAIVER OF LIABILITY (MUST BE SIGNED TO ENTER) NEITHER I, WILL HOLD THE CHESAPEAKE CHAPTER OF THE NEMGTR, OR FARMS, LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES DONE TO ME, MY GUESTS, OR MY VEHICLE, WHILE ENGAGED IN OR TRAVELING TO OR FR	SERRA VALLEY Vehicle Entrant \$20.00 MY PROPERTY, Vehicle for Sale \$30.00
Entrance fees after May 15 th or at the gate: Vehicle E	Intrant (\$30), Vehicle for Sale (\$40), Vendor (\$45) Register early and save!
SIGNATURE (Driver)	SIGNATURE (Passenger)

Brandywine Motorsport Club's Spring Tour to Crow Winery Saturday May 11th, 2019



Start: Greenville Shopping Center, Rt. 52, Wilmington, DE (Kennett Pike and Buck Rd.)

Registration Opens: 12:30 First car off: 1:01

 Finish Location:
 Crow Vineyard & Winery, Kennedyville MD (302-304-0551)

 http://crowvineyardandwinery.com

- About the Rally: This will be an easy Tour "Rally" with no average speed, and no checkpoints. There will be questions about things you may see along the route to keep your interest, but answering them is optional. Official rally mileage will be given where you need to turn, so you just follow the route instructions and get to the finish at Crow Vineyard. There will be trophies for the best answers to the questions along the route.
- About the Finish:Judy Crow will meet us at the finish with a drink of their
sparkling wine, followed with a tasting of 4 wines, a tour of the
winery, and a grilled buffet. The buffet will feature Grass Fed
Angus burgers with all the fixings, Potato Salad, Cole Slaw,
cookies, iced tea and water.
- *Cost for the event:* \$ 31.00 per person, covers the rally, wine tasting, tour and grilled buffet, and includes taxes and gratuity.



RSVP before May 4th

How to sign up:	Best way:	https://www.motorsportreg.com/
	Better:	GAlderman32@comcast.net
	Good:	Call George 302-373-2111
	Or Mail:	BMC Registrar c/o George Alderman 805 Ramsey Road
		Hockessin, DE 19707



"Brits By The Bay" 2019 Modern & Classic British Car & Motorcycle Show

Open to <u>ALL</u> British Cars & Motorcycles ***** GREAT LOCATION *****

Harford Vineyards & Winery 1311 W. Jarrettsville Rd. Forest Hill, Md. 21050 <u>www.harfordvineyard.com</u> NO PETS PLEASE!!

Sunday, June 23rd 10am – 3 pm Gates open 9:00am Rain Or Shine

Pre-Register by May 19 to Receive a Free Show T-Shirt & Dash Plaque

Door Prizes, Music, & Good Ole Car Talk Food, Snacks, Wine Tasting & Beverages Available On Site <u>NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL ALLOWED</u>

Please Contact: Britsbythebay@gmail.com For up to date info Go to www.facebook.com/britsbythebay

Credit & Debit Card Payments Accepted Securely Online!

For More Information, Online Registration or Directions Visit: WWW.TRACLTD.ORG

or contact

Steven Horant @ 443-827-6116 Email Us at: BritsByTheBay@gmail.com

Detach coupon below and send it with your check made payable to TRAC. Mail to: TRAC, 902 A Cedar Crest Ct., Edgewood, Md. 21040

Name:		Address:	
City:		State:	Zip Code:
Car Year:	Make:	Мо	del:
Email Address: _			
Club Affiliation:			
Pre-Registered T	-Shirt Size: Small	_ Medium	Large X-Large
2 XL (\$2extra)			
Pre-Registration	(Entries postmarked b	y May 19)	\$20 per car
Registration	(Registration postmark	ked after May 19)	\$25 per car
vehicle loss, damages, l	ability or injury occurring during the how do so voluntarily and agree to	or as a consequence of be	ord Vineyard & Winery liable for any personal o eing involved in or traveling to or from this show ind to their person or their vehicle. Shade
Sign	ature:		

MGS OF BALTIMORE. OCTAGRAM



DC BRITISH RELIABILTY RUN

40 vintage British cars, driving 650 miles in three days exploring the scenic back roads of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, West Virginia and Maryland, while raising money for children's charity.

OCTOBER 18-20, 2019

Cloverleaf routing in and out of historic and charming Shenandoah Valley, West Virginia and Maryland, with accommodations at the Winchester Courtyard Marriott.

SIGN UP AT @ www.DCBRITISHRELIABILTY.org QUESTIONS? INFO@DCBRITISHRELIABILITY.org FOLLOW US @

dc.brr

dcbritishreliabilityrun

MGS OF BALTIMORE. OCTAGRAM

What is a British Reliability Run?

For decades, the British have held "reliability runs" designed to subject various classes of automobiles to a series of fairly grueling road tests, including back roads, dirt roads, woodland trails, fording streams and the like. Other than breaking cars, the primary goal of British reliability runs is to raise money for children's charities.

About a decade ago, a group of British sports car enthusiasts centered in the Detroit area decided to emulate (at least to a degree) their British cousins by starting America's British Reliability Run (ABRR) for classic British cars covering 600+ miles over back roads, run over the course of three days, while retaining its British counterparts' primary goal of raising money for a children's charity. At present, ABRRs are run in Pennsylvania, Colorado, New England and the Washington, DC area. All hew to the same basic theme: exercise old British cars over the course of three days in order to raise money for a children's charity.



The DC Run

In the prior two DC ABRR runs the teams raised over \$83K for our children's charity. The 2019 version is limited to 50 teams driving cars that are at least 25 years old. It will run October 18 - 20 (Friday morning through Sunday noon), rain or shine, covering around 650 miles of back roads through Maryland, West Virginia and Virginia. It is neither a race nor a TDS rally. It is a tour driven at each driver's own selected pace.

The DC event will be run "clover leaf" style, starting and finishing each day at a hotel near Winchester, VA. There will be a prearranged lunch stop on the road the first two days and a group dinner Saturday night. The third day, Sunday, the route will be shorter, ending up around noon near Middleburg, VA for a celebratory brunch. Go to www.dcbritishreliability.org for further details, including photos of prior year's cars.



The Shenandoah Valley British Car Club is having its 38th annual British Car Festival in Waynesboro, VA October 4 and 5. It will be held in the Riverview Park, which is just minutes away from the Blue Ridge Parkway and Skyline Drive.

There will be a reception Friday night from 6pm to 9pm. The show field will open at 9am Saturday morning, with door prizes and class trophies awarded at 3pm. Last year we had about 130 cars. All British cars and motorcycles are welcome, as well as some other marques with British connections.

Could you publish this on the club calendar on your web page and/or your club newsletter? Much appreciated!

Steve Fox

Here's the link to the festival web page. It has information on accommodations, directions, categories, and registration, as well as photos from past shows.

http://www.svbcc.net/carshow.html

CALENDAR

MAY 5th MGOB 30th annual *DUST OFF* https://www.mgsofbaltimore.org/30th-annual-get-dust-off-rallye/ 7th <u>MGOB MEETING</u>

JUNE 2 ORIGINAL BRITISH CAR DAY Serras Valley Farms, Mt. Airy, MD <u>https://www.chesapeakechaptermgtclub.com/OBCD_main.htm</u> <u>7th MGOB MEETING</u>

23 - 36 MG 2019 Traverse City Michigan https://mg2019.regfox.com/mg-2019-traverse-city

JULY 2nd MGOB MEETING

AUGUST

3rd 15th Annual Pennypacker Mills British Car show http://www.dvcmg.com/events/car-show-info/6TH MGOB MEETING

SEPTEMBER 28 th <u>MGOB 40th MGs On The Rocks</u>

OCTOBER

4th 5th 38th annual British Car Festival in Waynesboro, VA **13TH** Hunt Country Classic https://www.mgcarclubdc.com/hcc/hcc_main.html

https://www.mgsofbaltimore.org

MGs of Baltimore Affiliations

North American MGB Register North American MGA Register American MGB Association MG Car 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

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. Articles appearing herein may be used by other other car clubs or organization in their own newsletters,providing appropriate credit and recognition of the source is given.*



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

The MGs of Baltimore, Ltd. Car club was established in 1977. The club represents over 150 members in the Metro Baltimore area. As the name implies, the club centers its activities around the preservation and enjoyment of the cars that bear the classic MG margue. The club is affiliated with the following national organizations: The North American MGA Register, The North American MGB Register, and The American MGB association. Internationally, the club is affiliated with the MG Car Club and The MG Owners Club. The clubs activities include sponsorship of the nationally known "MGs on the Rocks" car show, a series of challenging (and FUN) historic car rallies, as well as numerous fun gatherings all through the year.

The club membership meets at 7:30 PM the first Tuesday of every month at Johnny Dee's Lounge. Johnny Dee's is located at 1705 Amuskai Rd; Baltimore, Md, just off of Loch Raven Blvd at Joan Ave. From I-695 Take the Loch Raven Blvd. Exit south. Go about 1 mile, turn left onto Joan Ave. Park in the upper lot. For more info go to their website at <u>www.JohnnyDeesLounge.com</u> Come early and have diner. We start arriving between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m.

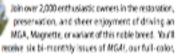
The meetings are about sharing experiences, taking care of club business and normally include a monthly tech session provided by our MG "technical guru" Randy Kegg.

More than just MGs

Many members of MGOB are owners of the other classic British marques and all are welcomed to join the club.

The Octogram, the club's newsletter is published monthly by the MG's of Baltimore Car Club.

Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!



award winning magazine, invitations to National and Regional Set-Togethers throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus a knowledge base and support group second to none. All this for just 537.50 per year (North Americal, or 552.50 (International). Get more information at http://www.namgar.com, or contact registraripnamgar.com.

