



OCTAGRAM

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MGs of BALTIMORE MD

May 2021

www.mgsofbaltimore.org

From El Presidente:

MGOB's Rallye Master, Eric Salminen has laid out a fun and scenic route for the 32nd Annual "Get the Dust Off" Rallye is set for Sunday, May 2nd, 2021. See the registration flier in this issue of the Octagram to register and for more info.

Brightview/Avondell Spring Fling Festival & Car Show, Saturday, May 8, 2021 10:00 a.m. til 2:00 p.m. 128 W. Ring Factory Rd, 21014 for info call Karen @410-638-8100

Monument City Brewing Company's "British Invasion Festival" will be on Sunday, May 23rd, 2021 from Noon until 4 p.m. at their brewery/pub located at 1 N. Haven St. Baltimore, MD 21224. See the event flier in this issue of the Octagram. Also, checkout their website at <http://www.monumentcitybrewing.com/> for more info.

MG International 2021 Atlantic City, every five year All Register MG event is continuing to attract MG owner from far and wide. Come join the MMM Register, NEMGTR, NAMGAR and the NAMGBR for this mega event. Registration is now open at: ac2021.regfox.com/mg-international-2021

The host hotel is Harrah's Convention Center and Resort. Room rates are \$99.00 per night with parking and resort fees waived. To get this price you must first register for the event and a link will be provided to book your rooms. Don't delay register today.

The Chesapeake Chapter of the New England MGT Register is planning on holding the Original British Car Day on Sunday, June 6th, 2021 at Serra Farms near Mt. Airy, MD for more info go to <http://www.chesapeakechaptermgtclub.com/OBCD.main.htm>

Mark your calendars, The MGs of Baltimore, Ltd. Car Club has missed out on our Annual "After the Holidays" Party and we also missed out on our 24th Annual "Chilly Run" so now with the Covid-19 shots flowing it's time to make up for the missed parties starting with the 1st Annual MGOB "Christmas in June" Poolside Party.

Thanks go out to Clint & Beth Davis for volunteering to host this event. MGOB will supply the drinks and main course and we ask you to bring a salad or dessert along with your bathing suit.

When: Saturday, June 26, 2021

Where: Clint & Beth Davis'
300 Reeves Ct.
Forest Hill, MD 21050

Phone: 412-736-0060 (yes the area code is 412)

E-mail: cdavis3405@hotmail.com

Time: 2:00 p.m. til ???

Please R.V.S.P. Clint & Beth and let them know you're going to attend and what you will be bringing.

TRAC's "Brits By the Bay" will another new location this year. The event is planned for Sunday, June 27, 2021 at DeJon Vineyards in Hydes, MD from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for more info go to www.tracltd.org

Here's our membership update for 2021 thus far, we currently have 129 members. 17 members did not re-new their 2021 dues and have been removed from the Club Roster. A few of those not renewing their membership were long-time members that I hope will realized that they're not getting the club e-mails anymore and contact me or Randy to find out why. Numerous e-mail notices and a final written notice were sent out, so it's not for lack of trying.



The poster features a yellow background with a red and white curved border at the bottom. In the top left corner is a logo for the Atlantic City 2021 event, featuring a lighthouse and the MG logo. The main title "JOIN US FOR THE SIXTH ALL MG GATHERING" is in large, bold, white letters. Below the title are four classic MG cars: a silver MG TC, a red MG TC, a green MG TC, and a white MG TC. Below the cars, text reads "sponsored by the North American Council of MG Registers with your friends from the MMM, MGT, MGA and MGB Registers." At the bottom, a blue section contains event details: "TECH SESSIONS | COACH TOURS TO THE SIMEONE AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM | HISTORIC PHILADELPHIA | AND THE SEASIDE RESORT OF CAPE MAY | SELF-GUIDED DRIVING TOURS | COOKING CLASSES | WINE AND BEER TASTING SESSIONS | THESE ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE MANY EVENTS PLANNED". The dates "14-17 JUNE 2021" and location "ATLANTIC CITY, NJ" are prominently displayed. At the bottom left, it says "REGISTRATION WEBSITE AVAILABLE DECEMBER 2020". In the center, the phrase "Come join the fun" is written in a cursive font. On the bottom right, there are several small logos, including the MG logo and others.

**JOIN US FOR THE SIXTH
ALL MG GATHERING**

sponsored by the
North American Council of MG Registers
with your friends from the MMM, MGT, MGA
and MGB Registers.

TECH SESSIONS | COACH TOURS TO THE SIMEONE AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM | HISTORIC PHILADELPHIA |
AND THE SEASIDE RESORT OF CAPE MAY | SELF-GUIDED DRIVING TOURS | COOKING CLASSES |
WINE AND BEER TASTING SESSIONS | THESE ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE MANY EVENTS PLANNED

14-17 JUNE 2021 **ATLANTIC CITY, NJ**

REGISTRATION WEBSITE AVAILABLE
DECEMBER 2020

Come join the fun

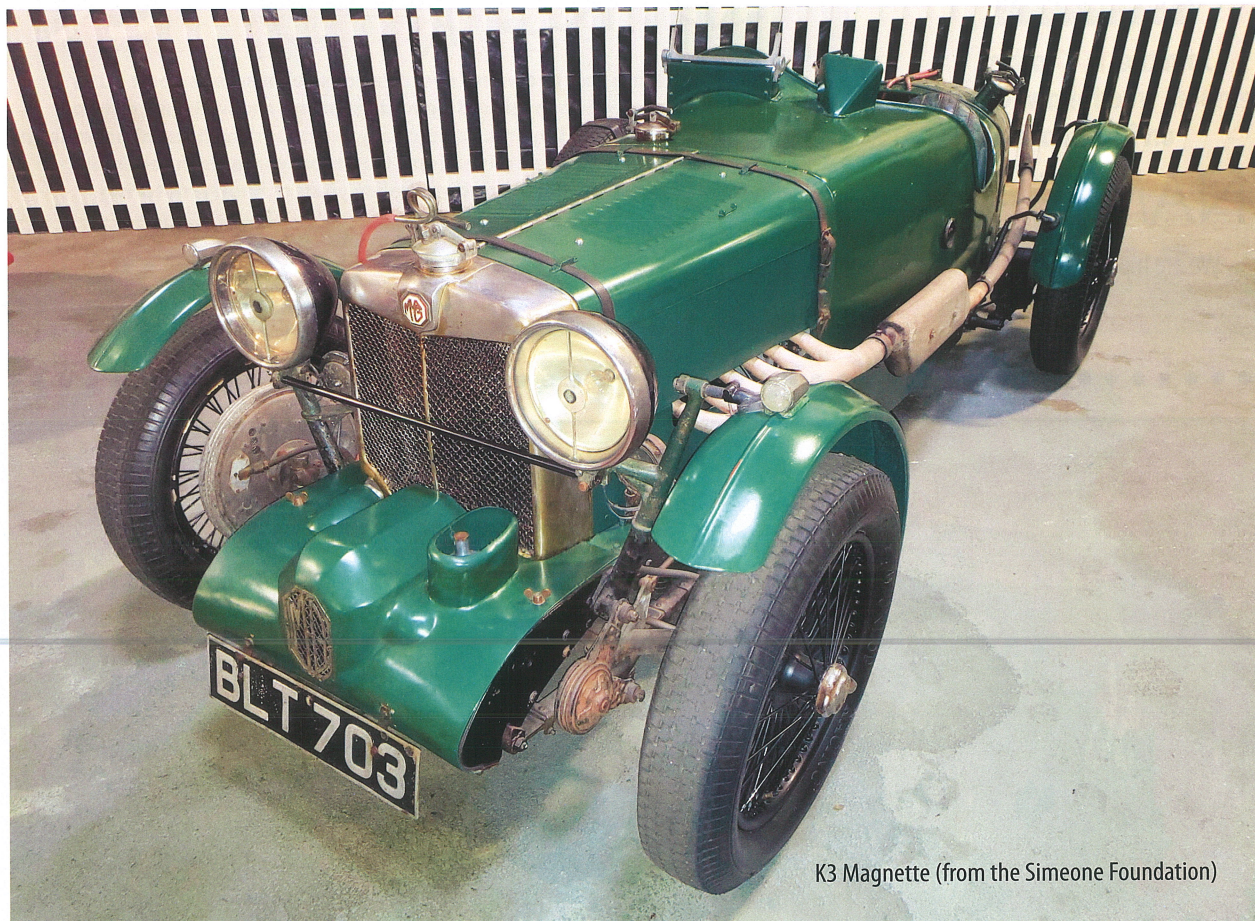
MG INTERNATIONAL
MGT
MGA
MGB
MMM

The Best Thing to Hit Atlantic City Since Salt Water Taffy!

Rick Ingram, Executive Director, North American Council of MG Registers

In only a few months, MG enthusiasts from across the continent as well as from overseas will arrive in Atlantic City, NJ to participate in MG International – Atlantic City 2021!

gatherings and try to improve on them in with an “encore performance.” We use an event planner (Sandy Graves of Helms-Briscoe) for selecting a city and hotel complex



K3 Magnette (from the Simeone Foundation)

It seems like only yesterday that we put the wraps on our Louisville meet; how can 2016 be almost five years ago?!

The Council members typically take a break for about a year before thinking about the next event (and five years seems so far away!) and post-2016 was no different. The event is always on our mind...what did we do right, what did we do wrong, what can we do to make the next event even better than before? We don't attempt to “cookie cutter” the show each time, but we do incorporate ideas and concepts that work well and are well received by the registrants at previous

to use for these events. We've had Sandy onboard since we began planning MG2006 in Gatlinburg and are quite pleased with her efforts. Sandy knows our likes and needs and works with Convention and Visitors Centers as well as hotel properties in getting the best deal possible for us.

By the way, we hold a “mid-week” event as room rates are typically better for those days than during a weekend and a mid-week event also provides a weekend on either end for travel, meaning that those in the work force will usually need to take only one week of vacation in order to attend.

Our requirements for 2021 were that the event be east of the Mississippi and in a region that the Council had not been to before. It was Sandy's task to find cities that had a hotel (or a hotel complex similar to Louisville) that had about 1000 rooms with availability during peak vacation/travel times, as well as having a reasonable "rack rate including all fees and taxes." We started in 2017 with about a dozen cities/properties and narrowed that down to three (Baltimore, the Poconos, and Atlantic City). We went to each of these areas on a whirlwind site-visit that fall. When we returned home, and after "sleeping on it" for a bit, we took a vote and Atlantic City came out on top. The Council has been working hard over the past three+ years and we believe that we have a program for MG International

Atlantic City 2021 that will have something for everyone. Historic tours of Philadelphia along with visits to the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum and both Cape May and nearby Smithville await our registrants. (I would be remiss if I did not mention Lucy the Elephant in nearby Margate!)

Please enjoy our promotional video of MG International Atlantic City 2021: https://youtu.be/_BcbC6_oGWA?fbclid=IwAR2-2DvHjrAQf2hf2Rg4c-3QJSimIngDDuW7u21-FGksWpyytzROAmebSyyu0. If you are on Facebook, please join our group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/3336095969744088/> To register for the event go to: <http://www.mg2021.org>. •



A Word About Salt Water Taffy- While the origins of Salt Water Taffy remain a mystery, one thing is for certain. No one did more to promote this popular confection than Joseph Fralinger. A former glassblower and fish merchant, Joseph returned from Philadelphia to his Atlantic City roots in the mid-1880s. After taking a job with a bricklayer, he earned enough money to open a small concession on the Atlantic City Boardwalk from which he sold fruit, soda, and the latest summer sensation, "lemonade." By 1884, Joseph was approached to take over a taffy stand on Applegate Pier. He agreed and began to perfect his own recipe for Salt Water Taffy, introducing his first batch of molasses taffy in 1885. Throughout the years, he developed a number of new flavors, eventually offering Atlantic City's largest selection with 25. As Fralinger's grew to six locations, he decided that Salt Water Taffy should return home with resort visitors. Using experience from his fish merchant days, he packed one pound oyster boxes with Salt Water Taffy, making it the first "Atlantic City Souvenir." The one-pound box still remains the most popular souvenir over 125 years later. And by 1899 Salt Water Taffy had become a household word across America! •

MG International 2021- All Kinds of MGs!

From Tom Metcalf, Council Representative of the NAMMMR:

The North American MMM Register welcomes all owners of 1930s OHC Midgets, Magnettes, and Magnas to the five-year all-register event next June in Atlantic City. We are featuring the incredible Airline Coupé, built on P-Type and N-Type chassis, and among the many tech sessions will be one featuring the history of these beautiful small MGs, with an NA Airline under restoration for visual reference.

Our NAMMMR will have three classes - Early Midgets, Late Midgets, Magnas/Magnettes..... and a special bonus fourth class for the Airline Coupé. In addition to all the great Triple-M cars and owners, the Atlantic City and coastal NJ area make a superb vacation spot with scenic seaside towns, beaches, and lighthouses to explore. Come and join your friends - bring your car, or just get inspiration to finish your project. See you there!

From Blair Weiss, Council Representative of the NEMGTR:

The New England MG T Register is bringing our own special GOF touch to this event. Our register dinner will have a bit of what made GOFs in the past the place to be. For me a gathering like this is an opportunity to connect with old friends and make new friends.

We promise no karaoke, but you never know what kind of contest we might dream up. We'll have our Regalia sales set up in the flea market area along with the selection of books that the Register offers. We will also have a hang-out room for Register members to use when they need a place to get away from it all or to get reacquainted with old friends.

The car show will be something else, MGs for as far as the eye can see and of course our T-series cars are the best looking of them all!

From Tom Medeen, Council Representative of the NAMGAR:

Here's a thought. How about traveling to Atlantic City this coming June to attend the MG International Atlantic City 2021?! Just imagine standing with your feet firmly planted

on the Boardwalk. You'll be smelling clean salt air, seeing the beautiful blue Atlantic Ocean, listening to Mother Nature's sounds of creatures and surf...plus the overall freedom to partake in absolute ecstasy. Your vintage British fetish for small quick and nimble cars will be sated with a plethora of activities.

You'll meet new friends and reacquaint with former chums with like-minded passions. Plus, you will be out of the house...for God's sake!

So, lets go! Registration has already begun! Reserve your fun! "Be there or be square!"

From Richard Liddick, Council Representative of the NAMGBR:

Come one, come all, whether you are a North American MGB Register member or not, it doesn't matter if you own an MG Midget, Post Abingdon MG TF, perhaps a modified MGB V-8 or V-6, even a MG 1100/1300 or maybe a MGC GT, there is only one place to be the week of June 14th to the 17th, 2021 and that's MG International Atlantic City 2021.

Join one of the largest All-Register MG events in North America at Harrah's Convention Center and Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey and spend some time at the Jersey shore with your MG and fellow enthusiasts for four days of fun and sun at the beach. You can take a day trip down to historic Cape May, either by a chartered bus or as a self-driving tour, walk or take a rickshaw ride along Atlantic City's boardwalk. There are numerous nearby wineries and we will offer a bus trip to a couple of these along with shopping at the historic village of Smithville.

One of my favorite nearby attractions is Lucy the Elephant in Margate, NJ. Margate is just south of Atlantic City and is a cute old-time beach town. If this isn't enough, we will have motorcoach day trips to historic Philadelphia and the Simeone Automotive Museum.

So mark your calendars for what will be one of the fastest and fun filled weeks of your life. The pace is up to you, you can attend any one of the many tech sessions, take a self-driving tour, hang out at the beach, enjoy the night life of the casinos, or chow down at any of the many fine dining establishments. Meet me in Atlantic City.

Join one of the largest All-Register MG events in North America at Harrah's Convention Center and Resort in Atlantic City, New Jersey!

From Tony Burgess, the Council's Operations and Financial Director:

The All-MG gatherings, like MG International Atlantic City 2021, offer a rare opportunity to see MGs from the 1930s right up through the 2000s displayed all on one show field. Each of the four National MG Registers (North American MMM Register, New England MG T Register, North American MGA Register and North American MGB Register) spend three plus years planning these events so we, in North America, can enjoy seeing a Triple M Airline Coupe within eyesight of the newest MG TF.

From a "behind the scenes" perspective, the six members of The North American Council of MG Registers spend time looking over a list of usually six to ten prospective locations, then whittle them down to two or three, then finally one. The criteria are pretty strict, but usually one of the biggest concerns is finding a host hotel with more than one thousand rooms to accommodate the participants, especially during "prime" tourist season. Then comes local attractions, restaurants, and all the other "bits and bobs" needed to host an event of this size and complexity. Once all of the hundreds of pieces come together and the show

opens, you see all the participants in their beloved cars from all parts of North America (and farther) filling the roads around the hotel, you are happy to see all these friends together. And that is probably the most enjoyable part – connecting friends who may have not seen each other in several years, picking up their conversation where they left off last time, without missing a beat.

And a final thought from Rick:

So there you have it....the "skinny" on MG International Atlantic City 2021. Online registration will soon be available (if it's not already live by the time you read this.) We encourage you to register early as some of the events are limited in size (motorcoach tours) and will be available on a first-come/first-serve basis.

The web address is: <http://www.mg2021.org>

Once you are registered for the event you will be able to reserve a room at Harrah's. Complete information will be found on the MG International website. We hope to see you in Atlantic City from June 14-17, 2021 where you will find "MGs by the Sea!" •

The Gang of Six (l-r):

Tony Burgess
*Operations and
Financial Director*

Rick Ingram
*Executive Director of
the North American
Council of MG Registers*

Tom Metcalf
NAMMMR

Hank Rippert*
NEMGTR

Tom Medeen
NAMGAR

Richard Liddick-
NAMGBR

** Replaced with
Blair Weiss following
Hank's passing.*



Inflation!

By Richard Jefferson – MGOB Member

A short and rememberable definition of inflation is simply: ***Too much money chasing too few goods***. Think of two drunk billionaires at a Barrett Jackson auction going after that one of a kind 59 Caddy. (*You know the one that was reported to have the exact backseat where Elvis first defiled Lisa Marie.*) To these two guys money has no value and of course it's Elvis. OK, got the concept?

Why am I writing about inflation in a car mag? Well, it started when a friend and I were, of course, discussing the prices of cars new and old. He was lamenting/dreaming of a car he had in the long ago past that he was considering adding back to the stable. The car, a 66 GTO (*Ok you may now all sing a chorus of Jan & Dean's classic tribute to 3 duces and a four speed- now it will be stuck in your mind for the rest of the day, enjoy*) was the car of choice. I just so happened to hear of one possibly on the market the very next day. I had no idea what a car like that be worth, so I headed to my favorite site to view rare garage candy [Bring A Trailer](#). I checked out the completed auctions list for GTO's and **POW** I saw inflation captured in one graphic.

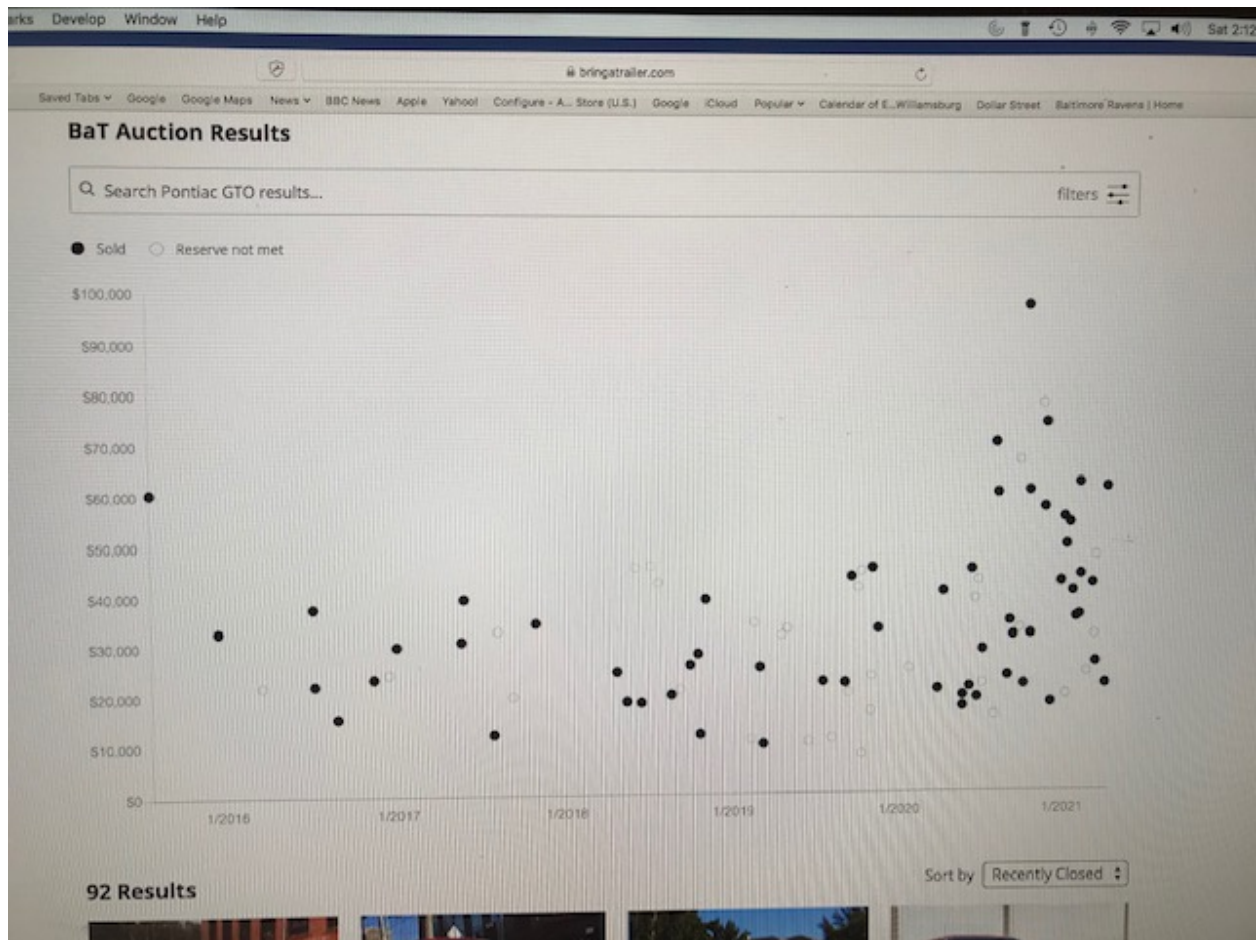
Now I can make a case that the GTO is not that rare a car. GM pumped out a lot of these for years. The value is pretty good and face it, as muscle cars go, the Goat was a car of note. So, I bet lots of those are being pulled from salvage yards and being restored. Remember also that a GTO was just a Pontiac LeMans with a few extra goodies and different badges oh and Red Line Tiger Paws, right? CJ even had a LeMans as her first car (*Sold to her by her brother for \$50 Bucks- OK they may be worth more than that now*) Hell, my Mom even had a LeMans.

Do a search on the Bring A Trailer site for GTO's then go to the completed auctions page and search GTO's or your favorite classic and look at the graph. Notice anything. What you will see is that beginning in 2021 prices have gone through the roof. Why? There's been soooooo much money pumped into this economy to a populous being imprisoned for the last year by the current plague. Hey, the virus made us all appreciate life more. Can you blame people saying what the heck: **"Life is short let's spend it before something else hits the fan"**!

Now the question is, did the GTO get more valuable or did the desire/lust, combined with cash, escalate? It's hard to put a value on our dreams, much less an exact price. (*I find this is especially true of girls and cars*). You may find that waiting for that discount dream is a day too far. **(Dreams, ah there's the rub)**

May I suggest that while you are pondering this, you work with the only inflation I'm comfortable with. Go to the garage and make sure your classic's tires are inflated to the proper pressure, then go and take a drive. This will improve your thinking on this inflation question and put a smile on your face.

PS: My friend and I also discussed the value of a new versus a classic car. The solution we both liked was simple. Would you really drive your new Ferrari to Walmart? (*Admit it we all shop there*) You know it's going to be keyed by some disgruntled Gen X-Y-Zer. On the other hand, your classic GTO can go to Walmart and only be admired and respected by the shoppers.



THE MINI CLUBMAN THROUGH THE YEARS

The Mini Clubman was first conceived in 1969 as a replacement for the Wolsely and Riley upmarket variants of the Classic 1959 Mini. It featured a longer, squarer nose and better interior quality than its older sister and in 1972 the 1275 GT model and Clubman Estate replaced the Mini Cooper S model and Mini Traveler respectively.



Although safer, had better engine access and was better equipped than the Classic Mini, it was more expensive to produce and sell and has worse fuel consumption as it was less aerodynamic. As a result sales were fewer than



expected and it was replaced by a completely new design, the Mini Metro, in 1980, after 583,000 had been produced. The Classic Mini remained on sale until 2000, when it too was replaced. There was no Clubman in the new MINI model range until 2007 when an entirely new model, with the signature twin opening “barn doors” of the previous Mini Traveler was introduced.



The new “first generation” MINI Clubman was sold between 2007 and 2014 and was distinguished by its single rear “suicide” door on the passenger side (USA models). It did not sell well in the UK, MINI’s largest market, because the rear door opened into traffic, cars driving on the left there of course. So in 2015 the Clubman was redesigned to be larger to accommodate three adults in the rear, with two larger rear side passenger doors and a more upmarket interior than other contemporary MINIs.

It is still on sale in this design and still with its rear “barn doors”.

Mike always sent his articles to me a month in advance.
He actually wrote this in early March.
I also have a TechTalk from him that I will post next month. May he RIP.your editor, Brenda Collins

MG Marque by Mike Salzman

The MG Tractor



MG produced a tractor from 1948 to 1964. They made two different models. A four wheel (M4) and a three-wheel version (M3) used for row crops. A Morris 4-cylinder side valve engine powered the original tractors models. Later models used BMC diesel engines.

Actually Morris Motors produced a tractor called the Nuffield Universal not MG. The name came from William Richard Morris being ennobled as the 1st Viscount of Nuffield in 1938. Nuffield was a village in Oxfordshire where he lived. His business experience started at the age of 15 as a bicycle seller and repairer. At 16 he started his own bicycle business in his parents garage when his employer refused him a pay increase. He started working on motorcycles in 1901 and produced a motorcycle called the Morris Motor Cycle. William then started selling and repairing cars and later owned a car dealership called the Oxford Motor Garage which he later changed the name to The Morris Garage. In 1912 he designed a car called the "bullnose" using bought-in components that included engines and axles from the US.

Most of William Morris' success was due to his ability to acquire car companies that were failing, manufacturing companies of motorcar parts, and joint ventures with other companies to supply parts for his car production. William Morris was the English equivalent to Henry Ford. He was the first car producer in England to use the assembly line. William Morris died August 22 1963.

To me this article feels a little like an April Fools joke. I ran across this information on an Internet search. I had never heard of this tractor.

Cheers and Safety Fast - Mike



Empire Marque by Jim Peckham

Don Healey Strikes Again Jim Clark came to my rescue again on this well researched article on another Little British Car that didn't quite make it into the modern era. Thanks again Jim for all your help.

The Jensen Healey Story

When the British Motor Company (BMC) decided to discontinue building the Austin-Healey 3000 in 1967, Donald Healey was not ready to get completely out of the car business. He was anxious to build another sports car with his name attached. The Jensen Healey was the result of a collaboration between Kjell (pronounced Shell) Qvale and Donald Healey.

Kjell Qvale was a very successful business man who owned a California-based import car distribution network. In the late 1960's, the Jensen Motor Company was in bankruptcy so Mr. Qvale bought 80% of the company to ensure production of this new car.



The car used a newly developed Lotus twin cam 16-valve 4 cylinder engine that produced 140 BHP. The transmission was a Chrysler four speed unit from the Sunbeam Rapier. The suspension was from Vauxhall. So, as you can see, parts and components from several different manufacturers were placed into service all surrounded by a sporty two seat body produced by Jensen.

The MK1 Jensen Healey was produced in 1972 and 1973 at a volume of 3,356. The MK2 version incorporating a number of changes was produced in 1974 and 1975 at a volume of 6,438.



By all measures this car should have been a resounding success. It had the Healey name on the car and a Lotus engine under the bonnet. So, what happened? The new Lotus twin cam engine turned out to be both a blessing and a curse. A blessing because this all aluminum power plant was dynamic and innovative for the time. A curse because the first production year cars had severe problems with rubber timing belts breaking and killing the engine. There were numerous oil leaks that exceeded those normally experienced with British cars (i.e. really bad oil leaks). The Dellorto carburetors were unable to withstand gravity pressure when the car was parked on a hill. The result was gasoline being dumped into the oil and numerous bearing failures resulted. Stromberg carburetor equipped cars had a tendency for some internal plastic parts to break and gasoline would overflow the unit. This resulted in the gas being deposited on a hot exhaust manifold and many disastrous car fires. All of this resulted in numerous warranty claims, unhappy customers and a significant drop in profitability. The damage was done. Potential customers were made aware of the problems through the media, word of mouth, automotive magazines, car club discussions and sales dropped off significantly.

The MK2 version of the car addressed many of the initial complaints. The timing belt was strengthened, oil leaks (mostly) resolved and a Getrag five speed transmission installed in the final 700 cars for better drivability. But it was too late to save the long term future of the car and the company. In 1975, with over 1,000 unsold Jensen Healey's in stock, Qvale decided that the Jensen Company was insolvent and ended production of the car.

Today, the surviving Jensen Healey's are starting to gain the respect they so deserve. The cars are a joy to drive. Most, if not all, of the initial problems have been resolved and solutions found to the reliability issues. If you can find a nice example, go for it. You will have a rare part of British automotive history and a car that provides a classic and unique driving experience. *(Pictures are of Garry Jeffries' car)*



Air Conditioning your MG (Part II) by Andy Preston

These are follow up questions from Tom Doyle regarding my article in last months Octagon.

1. *Where did you buy the kit and what parts did it contain?*

I bought the kit from RetroAir (Classic Auto Air) and it contained all the parts required for the complete installation. The radiator was extra. All parts can be sourced separately from other vendors such as Vintage Air or you could have a Hot Rod shop install one for you.



2. *How much did it cost?*

Total cost of the AC kit plus aluminum cross flow radiator was \$2050 (2014).

3. *How long did it take to install?*

About 3 weeks off and on, approx. 100 man hours (I'm not as fast as Ant Amstead)!

4. *Did it require any special tools?*

I only had to buy a couple of step drill bits to drill the holes in the firewall.

5. *What is the performance of the system?*

You get cold air at 40°F from the outlets on a hot day. It does not cool you down like a modern AC due to hot air infiltrating the car.

6. *Does it impact performance?*

Yes, but only noticeable climbing steep grades. On really hot days you might have to turn it off in stop and go traffic if the engine gets too hot.

7. *Does it require servicing?*

I had 2 AC hoses leak when first installed which were replaced by RetroAir. Since then it's been trouble free. I expect some loss of refrigerant over time which will need recharging.

8. *What are the advantages/disadvantages?*

Advantages are a cooler car and more comfortable driving on hot days. Disadvantages are slight loss of power and a little more cluttered engine compartment and under dash making access to some areas more difficult.

9. *Would you recommend this system to other MGB owners?*

That really depends on how much you drive your car on long journeys and in hot weather. If you only drive your MG on short weekend drives I probably wouldn't bother, but if you drive cross country and on long drives I'd say it's a must have and worth the money.

10. *Would you do it again or install it in another car?*

Yes I would, in fact I'd love to install AC in my MGA Coupe but presently I'm waiting for Dan Shockey to install AC in his Coupe and will be pleased to help him once Covid is over.

New Members

Louis Novak & Valerie Cochran with a MGB LE

Kamil & Rajiha Ismail with a 1978 MGB

Glenn & Nancy Wrigley with a 1978 MGB

~~~~~  
**Articles in this newsletter are compliments of:**

**Richard Jefferson – DJ & Article Contributor Deluxe**

**Bits & Spares – The Newsletter of the British Motoring Club of Arkansas**

**The Octagon 4/2021 – The Newsletter of the MG Owner's Club/  
The Northern California Centre of the MG Car Club**

**MGA! – The Official Magazine of the North American MGA Register**

**(The following was contributed by Jim Danielson of the Kansas City MG Car Club  
They are lyrics to a tune that has a standard Blues melody.)**

### **The MG Road Trip**

**"I am going on a road trip,  
Going to make that MG fly.  
I am leaving in the early morning,  
Going 500 miles by night.  
Got to keep that GT rolling,  
All day I am burning light.  
The motor's making music,  
Fourth gear in overdrive.  
It's the sound that gives me spirit,  
That sound keeps me alive.  
Got to keep that GT rolling,  
All day I am burning light.**

## Tools Available for Club Members

### Contact Randy Kegg to Borrow

- Engine Stand (2)
- Engine lift with tilt device (2)
- Whitworth wrenches & sockets
- Whitworth thread file
- MGB Kingpin Reamer
- Sandblaster (Suction from a bucket type)
- Rostyle Wheel Paint Mask (MGB)
- Midget King pin reamer
- SU Carb throttle shaft reamer for MG T, A, B carbs
- SU Carb throttle shaft reamer
- Midget carbs
- Torque Wrench Click Type 0-150 ft lbs
- Standard 12" socket set
- Hub Puller
- Compression tester
- Harmonic balancer puller
- Camshaft Degree Wheel with TDC finder.
- 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 tool
- Lift-A-Dot Upholstery Punch tool
- SU Carb Synchronizer
- Pickle Fork for Tie Rod Ends
- Mob Clutch Alignment tool
- Front Suspension Toe-In adj tool
- Rear Hub Sockets for MGA and early and late MGB.
- Cylinder Leak Down tester



# OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS

|                                |                               |              |                                                                          |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| President                      | Richard Liddick               | 410-817-6862 | <a href="mailto:rgl2mgbgt@aol.com">rgl2mgbgt@aol.com</a>                 |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President | Eric Reitz                    | 410-207-7548 | <a href="mailto:reitz1@aol.com">reitz1@aol.com</a>                       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President | Ken Olszewski                 | 443-299-6591 | <a href="mailto:kenmgob@comcast.net">kenmgob@comcast.net</a>             |
| Treasurer                      | Randy Kegg                    | 410-592-3733 | <a href="mailto:randell_kegg@msn.com">randell_kegg@msn.com</a>           |
| Secretary                      | Tracy Trobridge               | 410-489-7444 | <a href="mailto:tracy21794@yahoo.com">tracy21794@yahoo.com</a>           |
| Newsletter                     | Kathy Liddick                 | 410-817-6862 | <a href="mailto:themgbabe@comcast.net">themgbabe@comcast.net</a>         |
| Membership                     | Kathy Liddick                 | 410-817-6862 | <a href="mailto:themgbabe@comcast.net">themgbabe@comcast.net</a>         |
| Rallye Master                  | Eric Salminen                 | 443-463-3071 | <a href="mailto:mgobrallymaster@gmail.com">mgobrallymaster@gmail.com</a> |
| MGs on the Rocks               | Richard Liddick<br>Eric Reitz | 410-817-6862 | <a href="mailto:rgl2mgbgt@aol.com">rgl2mgbgt@aol.com</a>                 |
| Tool Meister                   | Randy Kegg                    | 410-592-3733 | <a href="mailto:randell_kegg@msn.com">randell_kegg@msn.com</a>           |
| Web Master                     | Richard Liddick               | 410-817-6862 | <a href="mailto:rgl2mgbgt@aol.com">rgl2mgbgt@aol.com</a>                 |
| Regalia                        | Cheryl Reitz                  | 410-336-2584 | <a href="mailto:creitz@dap.com">creitz@dap.com</a>                       |

## 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 car clubs or organization in their own newsletters, providing appropriate credit and recognition of the source is given.

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 marque. 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 club's 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.

# CALENDAR

## MAY

- 1<sup>st</sup> 25th Annual Lewes British Motorcar Show**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Get The Dust Off Rallye**
- 4<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting**
- 23<sup>rd</sup> British Invasion Festival**

## JUNE

- 1<sup>st</sup> Club Meeting**
- 6<sup>th</sup> Original British Car Day – Serra Valley Farms**
- 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> MG International 2021 Atlantic City, NJ**
- 26<sup>th</sup> MGOB Christmas in June Pool Party**
- 27<sup>th</sup> Brits by the Bay**

## JULY

- 6<sup>th</sup> Club Meeting**

### MGs of Baltimore Affiliations

North American MGB Register  
North American MGA Register  
American MGB Association  
MG Car Club UK  
MG Owners Club UK



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!*

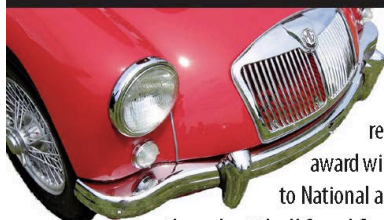
**North American MGB Register**

**PO BOX 876 • Downers Grove, IL 60515-0876**

Toll-free phone: 800-NAMGBR-1

[www.namgbr.org](http://www.namgbr.org)

### Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!



Join over 2,000 enthusiastic owners in the restoration, preservation, and sheer enjoyment of driving an MGA, Magnette, or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive six bi-monthly issues of *MGA!*, our full-color,

award winning magazine, invitations

to National and Regional Get-Togethers throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus a knowledge base

and support group second to none. All this for just \$37.50 per year

(North America), or \$52.50 (International). **Get more information at**

<http://www.namgar.com>, or contact [registrar@namgar.com](mailto:registrar@namgar.com).





# DELAWARE VALLEY JAGUAR CLUB

## 25th Annual Lewes British Motorcar Show 2021

### May 1, 2021 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

While not spearheading a British rebellion, it is a great opportunity for owners and admirers of classic British cars to enjoy an afternoon on the grounds of the Lewes Ferry Terminal for the Cape May-Lewes Ferry, overlooking the Delaware Bay.

As you know the event is cosponsored by the Lewes Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the British Car Club of Delaware. Last year was scheduled to celebrate the silver anniversary (Queens silver of course), but alas was postponed because of COVID-19. Many details relating to the show are dependent upon current state of the pandemic and social distancing requirements. Any updates will be sent to those registered and posted on the club's Facebook page <https://tinyurl.com/4o9beu7h>.

The field is limited to the first 100 cars. Since space is limited, only **vehicles model year 2000 or older are eligible to register. Everyone is encouraged to drive their British car to the show regardless.** This is a *"Rain or Shine"* event; registration fees are non-refundable. However, in the event the show is cancelled due to COVID-19, registration fees will be automatically refunded. That means there is no risk to register early, and the benefit is that you can secure your spot on the show field.

All those attending with a British Car or as spectators agree to honor applicable social distancing and mask requirements. On show day **Food and beverages will be available for purchase on site, courtesy of Grain on the Rocks**, the new chic dining spot within the Ferry Terminal. Grain has graciously agreed to offer \$1.00 off drinks for show car registrants.

**Class trophies**, awarded based on popular vote by spectators, will be presented at the conclusion of the show.

#### **Show details:**

- **Field opens at 8:30 am, with entry no later than 10:30** for the show field. Since this is a high pedestrian traffic area, please be aware that *for everyone's safety, vehicles may not leave the field during the official show hours, from 11:00a-3:00p.*
- **Car registration is \$25.00 in advance, \$35.00 on site.** There is a small convenience fee added by eventbrite for online registration. Since space is limited on the show field, advanced registration is highly recommended. In the event the show is cancelled due to COVID-19, registration fees will be automatically refunded.
- **Registration includes admission for driver and passengers (based upon the number of seats in the vehicle).** Spectator admission for the show is \$5.00. Kids 12 and under are free.
- **Popular vote winners will be announced at 2:15 pm.**
- **Winners must be present to receive their awards.**
- Please remember **"For Sale" signs are not permitted in or on show cars.**
- Since space is limited, only **vehicles model year 2000 or older are eligible to register. Everyone is encouraged to drive their British car to the show regardless.**

**TO REGISTER CLICK, LINK BELOW:**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/25th-annual-lewes-british-motorcar-show-2021-registration-139533962839>



# Washington D.C. Region SCCA The MGs of Baltimore, Ltd.

## Present the 32nd Running of the GET THE DUST OFF RALLYE

**Sunday, May 2, 2021**  
**First car off at 11:31 a.m.**



**Dedicated to the memory of Richard W. Murphy**

**\$30 per car to April 21st - \$35 per car afterwards**

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](mailto: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 & FINISH:** Dejon Vineyards, 5300 Hydes Rd., Hydes, MD. [www.dejonvineyard.com](http://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 11:15. Please plan to arrive early.

**Contact Rallymaster Eric Salminen at (443-463-3071) or [mgobrallymaster@gmail.com](mailto: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. Due to Covid-19 we require all participants have masks and to wear them if proper social distancing cannot be maintained.*

**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/Branded Rally?** \_\_\_\_ **Other:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Class: Select one** \_\_\_\_\_ **Historic** \_\_\_\_\_ **Modern** \_\_\_\_\_

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:** \_\_\_\_\_





**MONUMENT**  
CITY BREWING COMPANY

# BRITISH INVASION

## CAR SHOW + LIVE MUSIC

SUNDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> | 12:00 - 4:00 PM

The MG's of Baltimore  
Local British Car Club



Third Shift  
British Cover Band



All Things UK  
Goods & Merch



Emmas Tea Spot  
British Desserts & Tea

Monument City Brewing Company • 1 N Haven St, Baltimore, MD



# The Original British Car Day

## 43<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Meet

Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Rain or Shine!**

New Location

**Serra Valley Farms**

**5601 Ridge Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771**

**Featuring**

**Antique, Classic & New British Cars and Motorcycles plus Flea Market**

**This year the marque is the Sunbeam**

Show field opens 8:00 a.m. ~ Voting & registration closes at 12:30 p.m.

Ballot box located at Chesapeake Chapter Hospitality Tent

Food and beverages are for sale or bring your own picnic lunch.

**Sponsored by:**

The Chesapeake Chapter New England MG T Register

For more information: call 410-804-7017

email [thomasdrenda@gmail.com](mailto:thomasdrenda@gmail.com)

**Mail before May 15, 2021 to preregister  
and qualify for \$100 drawing.**

**The Original British Car Day**

**P.O. Box 82**

**Union Bridge, MD 21791**

**One vehicle per Registration Form**

**(Fees listed below)**

**Make checks payable to:**

**Chesapeake Chapter, NEMGTR**

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Marque \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

(See listing of classes on page 3, Example: 1967 MG BGT 30a)

Name (owner) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY (MUST BE SIGNED TO ENTER)** NEITHER I, NOR MY HEIRS  
WILL HOLD THE CHESAPEAKE CHAPTER OF THE NEMGTR, OR SERRA VALLEY  
FARMS, LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES DONE TO ME, MY GUESTS, MY PROPERTY,  
OR MY VEHICLE, WHILE ENGAGED IN OR TRAVELING TO OR FROM THIS EVENT.

**PAYMENT ENCLOSED (before May 15<sup>th</sup>)**

|                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| ___ Vehicle Entrant  | \$20.00 |
| ___ Vehicle for Sale | \$30.00 |
| ___ Vendor           | \$35.00 |
| ___ Advertiser       | \$30.00 |

Entrance fees after May 15<sup>th</sup> or at the gate: Vehicle Entrant (\$30), Vehicle for Sale (\$40), Vendor (\$45) Register early and save!

SIGNATURE (Driver) \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE (Passenger) \_\_\_\_\_



### **AWARDS:**

|                                                            |                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Place:                                     | Pewter for each class with at least <b>2</b> vehicles registered |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place:                   | Pewter for each class with at least <b>3</b> vehicles registered |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place: | Pewter for each class with at least <b>6</b> vehicles registered |
| Honorable Mention:                                         | Ribbon for each class with at least <b>7</b> vehicles registered |
| Featured Marque:                                           | A special award will be presented!                               |

### **Winner notification will be around 2:30 pm at the Chesapeake Chapter Hospitality Tent**

*If you are not present to accept your award in person, please contact the Chairman Tom Renda at [thomsdrenda@gmail.com](mailto:thomsdrenda@gmail.com) or 410-804-7017 to arrange for pick up or shipping at recipient's expense.*

### **SHOW VEHICLE INFORMATION**

~ A dash plaque will be given to all show car and motorcycle registrants!

~ Every car or motorcycle will be placed in a class for popular choice judging and award purposes. **Vehicles must be parked in the assigned class to be eligible for awards.**

~ Name recognition in our Show Program is guaranteed for all pre-registered! **Pre-registrations must be postmarked by May 15<sup>th</sup> to qualify for the \$20.00 rate and \$100 drawing.** Entrants ARE accepted at the gate for the \$30.00 rate. You do not need to be Pre-Registered to attend our show!

~ Vehicle classes have been predetermined and are posted at [www.chesapeakechaptermgtclub.com](http://www.chesapeakechaptermgtclub.com) and shown on page 3.

~ Trailer parking will be in a designated area only. **Show cars must be driven onto the show field.**

~ Clubs are encouraged to set up tents and displays on the show field!

### **"FOR SALE" & VENDOR SPACES:**

**"For Sale" Vehicles:** \$30.00 pre-registered or \$40.00 at the gate.

**Vendor Spaces:** \$35.00 pre-registered or \$45.00 at the gate for a 12ft x 20ft space. Vendors may arrive as early as 7AM. If more than one vehicle is displayed, an additional vendor space will be charged.

### **COMMERCIAL ADVERTISERS:**

Send 300 inserts before May 15<sup>th</sup> along with \$30.00 and we will put one in each registration packet.

***Commercial inserts, flyers and other pamphlets may only be distributed from a vendor space.***

**SPECTATORS:** \$10.00 per car. Leashed pets are welcome, thanks for your cooperation!

# ORIGINAL BRITISH CAR DAY

## 2021 CAR CLASSES

| Class | Class Name                                  | Class | Class Name                         |
|-------|---------------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| 01    | Aston Martin                                | 29    | MGB 1962 through 1967              |
| 02    | Austin-Healey 100-4/6                       | 29a   | MGB 1968 to 1974                   |
| 03    | Austin-Healey 3000 MK I/II/III              | 30    | MGB from 1974 1/2                  |
| 04    | Austin-Healey Bug Eye Sprite                | 30a   | MGB GT                             |
| 04a   | Austin-Healey Square Body Sprite            | 31    | MGC Roadster and GT                |
| 07    | Jaguar XK 120/140/150                       | 32    | MG Midget                          |
| 08    | Jaguar Saloon/Coupe to 1968                 | 33    | Classic Mini (Austin & Morris)     |
| 09    | Jaguar XKE 6/12 Cylinder<br>Series I/II/III | 34    | MINI from 2002                     |
|       |                                             | 35    | Morgan                             |
| 11    | Jaguar XJ6/12 Series I/II/III               | 36    | Morris Minor                       |
| 12    | Jaguar XJS                                  | 37    | Motorcycles through 1980           |
| 15    | Jaguar Coupe & Convertible<br>From 1997     | 37a   | Motorcycles 1981 to Present        |
|       |                                             | 38    | All Other British Marques & Racing |
| 16    | Jaguar Sedan from 1988                      | 39    | Rolls Royce & Bentley              |
| 17    | Jensen Healey, Jensen GT<br>& Interceptor   | 40    | Sunbeam Alpine                     |
|       |                                             | 41    | Sunbeam Tiger                      |
| 19    | Land Rover, All                             | 42    | Triumph Pre-war or Variant         |
| 23    | Lotus Classic through 1980                  | 43    | Triumph TR2 & TR3/TR3A/TR3B        |
| 23a   | Lotus 1981 to Present                       | 44    | Triumph TR4/TR4A & TR250           |
| 24    | MG Pre-war or Variant                       | 45    | Triumph Spitfire & GT6             |
| 25    | MGTC                                        | 46    | Triumph TR6 through 1973           |
| 26    | MGTD                                        | 47    | Triumph TR6 1974 to 1976           |
| 27    | MGTF                                        | 48    | Triumph TR7 & TR8                  |
| 28    | MGA                                         | 50    | TVR                                |

**2021 Featured Marque**  
**Sunbeam (Class #40 & #41)**





**“Brits By The Bay”**  
**2021**  
**Modern & Classic**  
**British Car & Motorcycle Show**

**Open to ALL British Cars & Motorcycles**

\*\*\*\*\* **NEW LOCATION** \*\*\*\*\*

**Dejon Vineyards, 5300 Hydes Rd. Hydes, Md. 21082**

**www.Dejonvineyard.com NO PETS PLEASE!!**

**Sunday, June 27th at 11am – 3 pm Gates open 10:30am Rain Or Shine**

**Pre-Register by May 20 to Receive a Free Show T-Shirt & Dash Plaque**

**Door Prizes, Music, & Good Ole Car Talk**

**Food, Snacks & Beverages Available On Site**

**NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL ALLOWED**

**For up-to-date info go to: [www.facebook.com/britsbythebay](http://www.facebook.com/britsbythebay)**

**Credit 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](mailto: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: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Registered T-Shirt Size: Small \_\_\_\_\_ Medium \_\_\_\_\_ Large \_\_\_\_\_ X-Large \_\_\_\_\_

2 XL (\$2extra) \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Registration (Entries postmarked by May 19<sup>th</sup>) \$20 per car \_\_\_\_\_

Registration (Registration postmarked after May 20<sup>th</sup>) \$25 per car \_\_\_\_\_

Neither I, nor my heirs, will hold TRIumphs Around the Chesapeake, Ltd. or the Dejon Vineyard liable for any personal or vehicle loss, damages, liability or injury occurring during or as a consequence of being involved in or traveling to or from this show. Owners attending this show do so voluntarily and agree to assume all risks of any kind to their person or their vehicle.

Attendee use of shade canopies will be at the discretion of TRAC.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_