

Keystone Region MG Club

On the web at: Keystonemg.com

MG Gazette

Newsletter, Volume 26, Issue 4, April 2017



Some Presidential Chat - - -



Steering Column

Bob Pilat, President

Spring has now arrived! I hope everyone enjoyed our last storm! Glad that's now over! Moving to our March meeting and April events, I am asking our members again to step up and sign up for hosting a club BBQ. We still have some open dates. Our club event calendar is posted in our newsletter and passed around at each meeting.

Is your MG ready? Every spring I pull my wife's MGA out and wait to see how many mice run out of it! Our dog Vixi will follow them wondering what to do with them! Yes it's true! It looked like I may need a fuel pump repair about a month ago. It started sputtering on our drive to a winery! So we had to turn back for our daily driver!

I'll be changing all my rubber fuel lines also. Every spring I go through some kind of MG problem, but that's how I learn about the cars!

Just to let you know, our club has some excellent mechanics who are almost always at our meetings so come out and we can try to help with your problems! Get that car out and feel free to add your event to our calendar. One day drives are always welcome.

Plus our April dinner meeting's "theme" is British Attire Night" where you could win a \$25 Moss Certificate – see details in newsletter. And best wishes to Dick Horn who plans to have a knee operations May 2nd, which might sideline his MG driving for a while.

Get her out!
Lots to see and do



News Flash !

14 members have already signed up for our club's trip to the **Simeone Car Museum in Philly on August 12th.**

(April 1st) Great morning out! Ed Haas and I ventured out this past Saturday to Baley, Pa to the "**Triumph Rescue**" at Matt Bate's Shop! His best mechanic gave a two hour talk about how to keep your "**Little British Cars**" on the road, with less problems. He gave an excellent talk about where to lube the important components and what to look for! One of the many great points was to look at your garage floor for oil stains after you roll your car out! Oil, anti-freeze, or brake fluid will show up if leaking. Another often over-looked point is rubber hoses and bushings! Today's rubber is less durable and doesn't hold up as well as rubber of years ago!

His talk on brakes was the most important and many of the 40 or 50 attendees agreed that today's master cylinders don't last long and have some problems! So be careful!

As always, it was an excellent talk and the lunch was great – thank you again – everyone at Triumph Rescue – including his wife Beth and daughter.

The only bad part of that trip was that Ed Hass won the \$65 crimping tool in their raffle which I wanted to win! But Ed said he would rent it to me!

Special Note – My Garage Sale – June 3-4

I will be offering **free lunch** to all MG and LBC club members who stop by my garage sale. Tools and literature will be on a table dedicated to our club. Donate to it today!!! I can pick up our donation. Please call me!! 484-892-1138

Bob Pilat
5335 Main St., Whitehall, Pa 18052

Keystone Region MG Club - 1977 – 2017

40th Anniversary Celebration

Bus Trip on Saturday August 12th to Philly:

Simeone Car Museum & Bartram's Garden

Sign up today – before all bus seats are sold out!

Keystone Region MG Club

March 21, 2017 Minutes

By Kim de Bourbon, Secretary

President Bob Pilat opened the March 21, 2017 meeting, held at Rudy's Diner in Bethlehem, at 7 p.m.

— **Treasurer's report:** Treasurer Marybeth Chamberlain was not able to attend, but reported the current balance at \$5,693.96 as of March 16.

Expenses year-to-date include \$1,433.83 as the club's share of the annual banquet costs, \$267 to reorder club pins, \$146.22 for web hosting expenses, \$685.65 for Hellertown show expenses (poster, fliers, dash plaques, park permit), \$236 to reserve a tent at the Carlisle Import show in May, and \$120 for 40th anniversary patches for the club.

Dennis Nash has again agreed to audit the club books for the year past, as required in our bylaws.

— **New members:** Bob asked newsletter editor Greg Predhodka to make sure information about new club members is included in the newsletter, and Greg assured him he does so.

— **Guest speakers:** Bob discussed having guest speakers at club meetings, and suggested having two of them per year. He asked for a vote for the club to pay the dinner costs for meeting speakers. Sunny Sonnenrein made the motion, and Tom Brobst seconded, and the club voted unanimously to approve this by voice vote.

— **40th anniversary:** A meeting of the club's 40th anniversary committee will be held Saturday, May 13. Anyone interested in help making plans, please attend. Location and time to be announced — watch the club's online calendar, or call Bob for information.

Bob reminded members to get their reservations and money in for the August 12 bus trip to the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum in Philadelphia. The bus will also drop people off at nearby Bartram Gardens, for those not wishing to tour the auto museum. Tickets are \$10 per member or member guest. The club is paying the rest of the bus cost (about \$20 per person).

Bob urged people not to wait to sign up, since seating is limited.

— **April events:** Bob ran through a busy list of events for April (see the online calendar), including two club events:

• *Sunday, April 23:* [**PLEASE NOTE CORRECT DATE** — *Early reports of the event had it wrong.*]

Cruise to the Casino Theatre in Mount Pocono for free movie and popcorn, followed by lunch and/or ice cream in the malt shoppe. "The Fate of the Furious" will be one of the two movies playing; watch the online calendar for the second choice of movie. Kim de Bourbon will lead a caravan leaving from Schoch's Sunoco off the Snydersville exit of Route 33 north, leaving at 10:15 a.m. Or go on your own, but plan to be there by 11 a.m. if you want to see a movie at 11:30. Or plan to come around 1:30 if you want to join the group for lunch or ice cream. *See details on the club calendar.*

• *Saturday, April 29:* "**Two Toms, Bill & Bob Garage Tour**" in Allentown, hosted by the British Car Club of the Lehigh Valley. The garages of four British car enthusiasts will be visited, including that of Keystone MG member Tom Brobst. Those attending must RSVP to Allen Hess at 484-515-0076 or

(Meeting Minutes Continued)

— **Clambake next year:** Dick Horn said Bady's Grove was requesting a \$200 deposit if the club wants to hold a clambake there again this summer. Bob said the club is already subsidizing the bus trip to the Simeone in August, and may want to have some other anniversary event, and suggested perhaps we should discuss it again for next year. Angie Haas made a motion to not have a clambake this year, and Kim de Bourbon second, and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

— **Hellertown show:** Show chairman Mike Jones updated members on plans for the 24th annual British Motorcar Gathering in Hellertown on Sunday, June 11. He passed around a signup sheet for volunteers to work the day of the show.

Charles de Bourbon has again designed registration fliers and a show poster, which were shown to members at the meeting. Charles passed out fliers — it was cheaper this year to print more than we usually get, so members were encouraged to distribute them. Bill Webb will get them in the mail to past registrants at the end of March.

Contact Mike if you'd like to buy a poster ahead of the show. It may be seen on the club website, on the show page, and is also reproduced in the flier. The poster is a limited edition of 30 — cost to members is \$20, including the frame. Cost the public at the show is \$20 for poster alone, and \$25 for poster and frame. Mike has sent out letters to business supporting the door prize drawing, and also soliciting for class sponsorships, which at \$50 each helps offset the club's expenses for the show.

It was agreed that we would purchase the same slate octagon awards for this year's show, and that next year we might look at a different design for the 25th anniversary show.

Mike tentatively set **Tuesday, May 30** as the date for the "walk through" at Fritchman Reservoir Park, when we take a look at the facility and see if we need to bring anything to the borough's attention before the show.

Bob said we should set a date soon for the "bag stuffing" party, where the club gathers to insert materials into the registration packets and bags. Usually this is held on an evening during the week before the show. He will ask Marty & Marybeth Chamberlain if they are interested in hosting this again.

British Car Club of Lehigh Valley

"Two Toms, Bill & Bob Garage Tour"

Saturday **April 29th** 2017 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Starting at **Bob Snyder's** 1392 Devon Circle, Allentown 18104. From Rt. 22, take Cedar Crest exit going North. After the North side exit ramp, take the first Left at traffic light onto Winchester Rd. Proceed to the 5th Left and 4 way Stop sign. Turn Left onto Springhouse Rd. and next Left onto Manchester Rd. Make next Right onto Devon Circle. Park on Devon Circle with remaining cars parked on Manchester Rd.

From Bob's we will visit **Tom Brobst** on Walnut St., **Bill Petro** also on Walnut St. and Thomas Potts on Riverbend Rd. From there a sporting drive to an optional lunch at the Spinnerstown Hotel.

Please sign up by Sunday April 23rd so that we may advise the restaurant of the size of our group. Please e-mail or phone Allen Hess, allenhess@mgcarclub.com 484-515-0076. Include the number in your party and lunch or no lunch. Route instructions will be e-mailed or mailed upon request a few days before the tour. Parking may be tight at one location and for those who may be driving alone, I can help you to "car pool" if you wish.

April 18th Club Dinner Meeting

Win a \$25 Moss Gift Certificate!

Also, April 18th club meeting has a **"theme"**: President Bob Pilate has declared April's meeting as:

"English Attire Night"

And whoever is judged as wearing the best **"English Attire"** to the meeting will receive a \$25 Moss Motors Gift Certificate! No bad! Plus - weather permitting - why not drive your MG to the meeting if you can.

Just the Tip - No.10

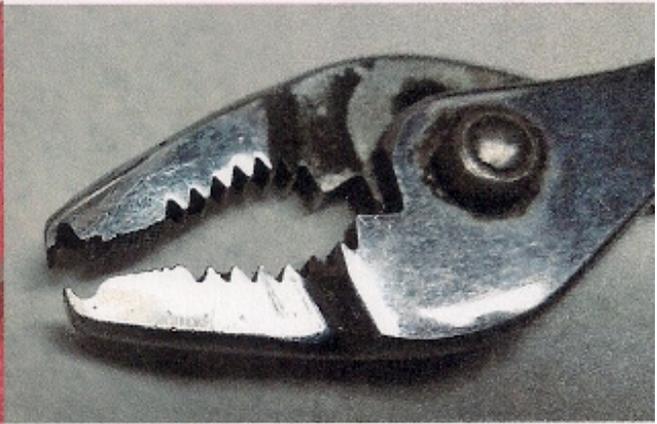
By Tom Brobst

Hello again my avid readers and welcome to another hair-raising episode of Just the Tip! In our last episode we...um...we...ah, who cares what I talked about last month, right? It's not like I'm writing a serial here. Hah! This month I'm going to talk about a general conundrum involved with working on old cars....especially old British cars. Actually, most cars, old or new, domestic or imported! The thing is, you see, the engineers that design these automotive beauties work toward specifications that are written by the marketing department. Marketing people worry about what their customers want, not what the service technicians want.



So what we end up with are cars that are very often not easy to repair. By that I mean components are crammed into places that are hard to reach with human hands, let alone human hands holding tools....and, oh, what? you want to be able to actually see what the hands and tools are doing in there? Good luck with that! This is why there are so many specialty tools on the market. But what's a poor slob to do when he's in a tight situation on a Sunday evening and his wife's car is up on jacks and he can't get a wrench on that one g\$%damn bolt that's obstructed by that f&#king bracket? Well, in my case, over the years, I have bent, cut, grinded (ground?) heated, welded, chiseled, sawed and whatever else it took to customize tools to reach those hard-to-reach fasteners. It's amazing the art one can create with a bench vise, oxy-acetylene torch and a 3-lb sledgehammer. I took pics of some of my creepy-looking tools for this article a few weeks ago when I was looking through my toolbox but the real impetus to write it came when I was helping club member Jeff Rohrbach replace a clutch slave cylinder in his MGB last weekend. Wouldn't you know, I had to hit my stash of Frankenstein tools just to remove the slave cylinder flex line from the hard line. All that room under that car and this particular hose connection was shoe-horned twixt the frame rail and the starter. There was no way to get any kind of wrench on the big nut at the top. Yes, a crow's foot may have worked but who has one in that size? I still don't know what size it was...but I happened to have a custom bizarro-socketed crow's foot welded up and ready to go. Haha. I wonder what I was working on years before that necessitated that monstrosity? Might it have been a similar car?! Anyhoo, the *Tip* this month is don't be afraid to customize your own tools. It's easy, fun, inexpensive and will get the job done! Plus, you never know when one of them will come in handy in the future!

Just the Tip – No. 10



Upcoming Nearby Car Events

7 Bravo Charlie Rally Saturday April 22. Start at Sky Manor Airport, 48 Sky Manor road, Pittstown, NJ. First cars off at 10 AM. A casual drive through Hunterdon and Bucks counties. Rain or shine. All marques welcome. Finish at Clinton Elks Lodge in Pittstown, NJ NJ MG T Register Kathy Senkow – Katbrg7@gmail.com

May 6 BRITFEST 2017 - British Car Show MG Car Club Central Jersey at Horseshoe Lake Park, Succasunna, NJ. For Info: ctregidgolaw@gmail.com

May 19 - 21 CARLISLE IMPORT & PERFORMANCE NATIONALS - British Car Show, Carlisle Fairgrounds, PA. For Info: www.carlisleevents.com

June 4 30th BRITISH BY THE SEA GATHERING - Connecticut MG Club, Harkness State Park, Waterford, CT For Info: www.ctmgclub.com

June 4 CARS & MOTORCYCLES OF ENGLAND - British Car Show, Delaware Valley Triumphs & Jaguar Club, Oakbourne Mansion, Westtown, PA For Info: www.dvtr.org

June 4 22nd RED MILL BRITISH CAR DAY - British Car Show, Austin Healey Sport & Touring Club, Clinton, NJ. For Info, email: Steve Feld stevenrgy@optonline.net

June 9 -11 THE ELEGANCE AT HERSHEY / THE GRAND ASCENT - Car show & Vintage Car Hill Climb, Hotel Hershey, Hershey, PA For Info: www.theeleganceathershey.com

June 10 A TOUCH OF ENGLAND - British car & motorcycle show, NJ Triumph Assoc, The Hermitage, HoHoKus, NJ For Info: www.njtriumphs.org

June 11 24th BRITISH MOTORCAR GATHERING - Hosted by Keystone Region MG Club, Fritchman Reservoir Park, Hellertown, PA For Info: www.keystonemg.com

June 25 –28 MG2017 MGB CONVENTION - Hosted by the North American MGB Register, San Diego, CA For Info: www.namgbr.org

June 27– July 2 GATHERING OF THE FAITHFUL Mk101 - New England MG”T” Register Gathering, Wolfville, NS Canada (Also a stretch.) For Info: www.nemgtr.org

MORE LISTINGS OF BRITISH CAR EVENTS IN OUR REGION CAN BE FOUND AT: www://keystonemg.com/britcarcalendar.html

LISTINGS OF NATIONAL BRITISH CAR EVENTS CAN BE FOUND AT: www://justbritish.com/calendar/

Sunday, April 23 **CRUISE TO THE** **CASINO THEATRE.**

Don & Karen Struckle again invite British car owners to a **free movie, free popcorn and free drink** at their movie theater and malt shoppe in Mount Pocono.

One of the two movies playing will be **The Fate of the Furious** — So if you were planning to go see it after it opens tomorrow, you can wait and see it at the Casino for free. The other movie is YTBD (yet to be determined), but will be posted on the calendar as soon as we know.

There will be a **caravan from Schoch's Exxon**, Snyder'sville exit of Route 33, leaving 10:30 a.m. Or plan to arrive at The Casino Theatre by 11 a.m. for the 11:30 a.m. show. After the movie, stick around for lunch and/or ice cream in the malt shoppe at reserved tables. Email Kim de Bourbon at **kimdeb@ptd.net** if you plan to join the caravan, so she knows to expect you.



Welcome New Members for 2017!!

Bilotti	Dominick	Brodheadville, PA	1978 MGB
Carr	Sarah	Tunkhannock, PA	1951 MGTD, 1971 MGB/GT 194 A-H 100
Cox	George	Hamburg, PA	
Horton	Greg	Shoemakersville, PA	1970 MGB
Wanko	William & Pete	Breinigsville, PA	

24th BRITISH MOTORCAR GATHERING

JUNE 11TH 2017

Mike Jones

As I write this, I am looking forward to our club meeting on Tuesday April 18th. We had a great kick-off meeting in March at Rudy's restaurant. I am happy to report that Bill Webb, our show registrar has mailed 574 show fliers to past participants. This is not an easy task, but Bill has been doing this for many years and is an expert. Also, you can register online again this year. I would recommend it to anyone who is at ease with online transactions and who has a Pay Pal account.

The show posters and frames for 2017 will again be available at the meeting for anyone interested in purchasing one. Remember, as a club member, you receive the poster and frame for just \$20. Charles de'Bourbon did a great job on the poster this year and the supply is limited to 30 posters. Six were sold at our last meeting and the remaining 24 will be sold to members and show participants on a "first come – first serve" basis. I am glad that I have been able to acquire one poster for each year of production. They greatly enhance the appearance of any garage, den or man cave.

Our request for sponsorships and door prizes were mailed at the end of March. I have already received several class sponsorships. I have also heard from our door prize suppliers and they are happy to participate in our show again this year. That being said, we are still looking to increase the number of door prizes available to our show participants. Any ideas as to how we might make such an improvement will be welcomed. We can talk about that at our April meeting.

I am also happy to report that Marty and Marybeth Chamberlain have graciously offered to host our bag stuffing "party" (as it has come to be known) again this year. The tentative date is June 6th. We will firm up that date at our upcoming meeting. We need to keep in mind that this is more of a work session than a party. We do have fun; thanks to Marty and Marybeth for their hospitality.

We hope to make this year's show better than ever. Let's look forward to a bright sunny day on the 11th of June!



1960 MGA For Sale

1960 MGA, black w/tan leather interior, black stayfast top, side curtains, original tonneau cover, 60 spoke wire wheels, 1800cc rebuilt "B" engine with 1976 miles 60 Lbs. oil pressure, amp gauge, custom wooden steering wheel. Car also has a carpeted trunk, wind wings, 3 position seat belts and an electric fan for the engine. A 3.9 MGB rear has also been installed for better highway running, everything on the car works, even the windshield washer, there is a small crack in the right corner of the windshield that has been there for years.

\$24,900 - O.B.O.

Cell #610-248-9906,
email Richard Horn
rhorn4733@hotmail.com.



Just British – On-Line Newsletter

*Here is **a free** weekly on-line British Car newsletter that you might be interested in. It carries all the latest news about British cars and British car events.*

Check it out!

<http://justbritish.com/>

Our Club WEBSITE & OTHER DIGITAL THINGS

By **Kim de Bourbon**

Webmaster

At long last, the Keystone Region MG Club website — www.keystonemg.com — has received a major update and redesign.

Aside from getting a fresh new look, the new site is enhanced to be what they call “responsive,” which means it adjusts itself to look good and perform well on any kind of device: desktop PC, tablet or smartphone.

(Call up the site on your desktop and make your browser window narrower to see how this works. When it gets to a certain width, the top navigation menu is replaced by a mobile navigation square that you click to access the menu. Make it even narrower, and the club logo disappears.)

This has involved a big upgrade in the software I use to build the site — something I have been putting off and putting off, because it seems every major upgrade comes with gremlins and headaches and new things to learn. Plus I manage 15 other websites — some of them for clients who actually pay me — so it is no small undertaking to get them all updated and converted to the new system.

Anyway, the new club website is now up — but there are still lots tweaks and improvements I want to do, such as putting different photos in each page banner, as we had before, and adding photo albums from club events.

Meanwhile, other improvements on the horizon —

— I’m looking into getting a new mail list system for the club, to replace the antiquated we are now using. (That’s the “members@keystonemg.com” list that members only can use to email everyone else in the club.)

It’s been infiltrated by ne’er-do-wells once or twice recently, so we need something that is both more up-to-date and more secure. I’ve found another system we might be able to use ... but haven’t had time to explore it thoroughly it yet.

— I also need to update the system that runs the online classified ad page that we share with three other clubs. What we have still works, but it is old and clunky, and it also needs to be more secure. We regularly get click-bait fake ad posts on there that I have to delete.

So I’m also looking into a new classified system. The free system we are using now is no longer supported (the guy stopped working on it), but there’s another outfit that bought him out, so I’m looking into them.

It’s all just a matter of time ... So please be patient, and if you have ideas for how to improve the website, please let me know.

NAMGAR “Ocean to Ocean” Drive

The Mid Atlantic Chapter is organizing a **drive to Solvang, California to attend GT-42**. We are calling our trip ***Ocean to Ocean*** as our plan is to start on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean in Virginia Beach, VA and travel to the shores of the Pacific Ocean after reaching Solvang.

We are **inviting all east coast NAMGAR members** that are interested in making the drive to join us – as well as those living ‘mid-country’ that would like to join us en-route to Solvang. Travel will be an ‘at your own pace’ as was enjoyed during the Rallye to Reno in 2011, with hotels for each night predetermined. We will also have some planned attractions along the route while allowing for freedom to explore other sights that may capture your interest. We also welcome fellow MGA owners to travel with us for a portion of our day as we pass through your area. Most of our journey will travel smaller roads in proximity to Interstate 40, with some stretches on I-40 as time and roads dictate. At this time we are exploring options to have the cars shipped back to the east coast, but have not finalized any details at this time.

Our basic itinerary will be:

June 8th – an early morning group photo in Virginia Beach, VA then travel to Mount Airy, NC – also known as ‘Mayberry’ for Andy Griffith fans – for our evening stop.

June 9th – travel from Mount Airy to Maryville, TN – running the Tail of the Dragon on the way.

June 10th – travel from Maryville to Lynchburg, TN for a tour of the Jack Daniels Distillery then overnighing in Fayetteville, TN.

June 11th – travel from Fayetteville – just rolling miles - to Searcy, Arkansas.

June 12th – travel from Searcy, AR to Shawnee, OK. We will start picking up bits of the old Route 66 in this area.

June 13th – travel from Shawnee to Amarillo, TX – visiting the Cadillac Ranch and dinner at the Big Texan.

June 14th – travel from Amarillo to Gallup, NM – passing the mid-point of Route 66 and crossing the Rio Grande.

June 15th – travel from Gallup to Flagstaff, AZ – with a driving tour of the Petrified Forest and of course we will be standing on the corner in Winslow Arizona on our way to Flagstaff.

June 16th – travel from Flagstaff to Seligman, AZ – incorporating a drive through portions of the South Rim of the Grand Canyon National Park, with plenty of scenic vistas to view the Canyon from.

June 17th – travel from Seligman to Barstow, CA – following an historic loop on Route 66 much of the way.

June 18th – travel from Barstow to Solvang – just rolling miles to reach the site of GT-42.

If you are interested in joining us please email **Bill Marshall**.

William Shamonsky, 1950-2017

For those who may not have heard, the British Car Club of Northeastern Pennsylvania has lost another of its founding members.

Bill Shamonsky died March 24 in Florida, where he and his wife, Carol, enjoyed their British cars in the winter. Bill and Carol were very involved in the North American MGA Register, and often joined as at the Cruise to the Casino Theatre in Mount Pocono.

Kim de Bourbon

In Memory of Bill Shamonsky, - one of the Founding Members of the British Car Club of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Bill was a true people person with charisma & charm being his unique qualities. Bill & Carol gave Memorial Day a special meaning by hosting picnics for the club for many years. His favorite marque was MGA. He had all the favors couple, roadster & sedan. He was a great supporter of NAMGAR(North American MGA Register). He will truly be missed. — Norm Bouchier, BCCNEPA

**Memorial Service. May 11, 2017. at 11:00 AM
First Presbyterian Church of Clarks Summit
300 School Street, Clarks Summit, Pa.**

Obituary

William Shamonsky (1950-2017) of North Abington Twp. and Mt. Dora, FL passed away Friday, March 24, 2017 in Tavares, Fl., the result of progressive illnesses over many years. He fought a good battle with them. His wife is the former Carol Meranti Morris.

Born in Scranton, Pa. April 11, 1950, he was the son of the late Anthony G. and Kathryn Fedorka Shamonsky. Bill grew up in Clarks Summit, PA and graduated from Abington Heights High School, Class of 1968, and attended Penn State University.

An outstanding tennis player in his youth, he was a member of his high school's original tennis team. Bill's career was in Information Technology. He was employed at the MetLife Information Systems Centers in both Clarks Summit and Troy, New York for almost 38 years prior to retiring in 2009.

Bill had a lifelong interest in British sports cars, particularly the MGA. Well known in British car circles, he was a member of the North American MGA Register, North American MGB Register, All British Car Club of Central Fl. and was a founding member of the British Car Club of Northeastern PA and Key West BritishCar Club. He was also a licensed private pilot and former airplane owner and O-gauge model train enthusiast. He will be missed by many.

Per his instructions, he was cremated. Interment will be private and at the convenience of the family. Memorial gifts may be made to the American Diabetes Association or either church.

MGTD For Sale

A nut & bolt restoration done aprox 12 years ago & still shows & drives nice. Engine is bored out 060" over, has been rebuilt, and is a strong running car .I have all the receipts for work that was done on it. This was a body off complete restoration. I have many photos of the restoration. It has been a 1st, 2nd & 3d Place winner at the Hellertown, Pa. British car show. I have owned it for 11 years. My lack of use of it, plus downsizing, are my reasons for selling my "Baby".

Only one photo on my Facebook cover, but I can post more the beginning of April. Asking \$20,500 for it. If there are any questions, I can be reached at: C-570-269-5743. After the first week of April at: 570-215-4125



Thanks Hans J Hassinger

Metal Lathe For Sale

HJORTH Lathe & Tool Company, Boston Massachusetts
(*I do not know how old it is, but it is in good working condition*)

Belt driven by a Browning DC variable speed electric 1/2 hp motor. Input power 110 volts, converted to DC. Can handle up to about 8 inch diameter and 18 inch long material. Comes with a 3 jaw chuck and 15 collets of various fractional sizes, holding up to 3/4 inch diameter stock. Lathe and motor mounted on shop bench on wheels. A shop bench light too if you want it. All for only \$450. Come take a look at it if you want. Just contact me in advance if you want to come. I can send photos of it on request.

(Made in USA – not Harbor Freight Chinese junk)

Greg Prehodka, e-mail: MGracer53@aol.com or cell: 862-686-5273.

Calling all foodies! New Jersey Motorsports Park is hosting a Food Truck Festival Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 11:00am - 6:00pm. This event is FREE and open to the public!

**15 - 20 Food Trucks
Live Music
Beer Gardens
Yard Games
On-track Action
Monster Truck Rides
RC Cars
Inflatables
Craft Vendors
& More**





Join us for the Festival of Speed - Blue Angels Millville Air Show Premier Viewing!

Memorial Day Weekend - May 27 & 28

Gates open at 9:00am with Flying at 10:30am!

Featuring on track action from WERA Motorcycle Roadracing, stunt shows, VIP Experiences, Monster Truck rides, and more!

Adults: \$15, Children 12 and under are free!



Importance of Your Tires

On the issue of tires, I just recently replaced the rubber on my '78 911 Porsche Targa, and boy let me tell that it made one hell of a difference on both wet and dry road conditions.

As you know, Porsches can be a handful in the wet or dry if you over step yourself in a corner. Mine was so finicky that when we toiled around on our usual Saturday mornings after breakfast with our RockingChairMotors.com group I was constantly on pins and needles, and often I would take the MGBGT instead. So I pulled the trigger and had all four done with an alignment and balancing. Apparently the camber was off quite a bit as well. The difference in how the car felt with thicker rubber and having new compliant material on the road instead of 15 year old hard stuff was just a revelation. My advice to all the sports car folks out there is to take the time to have it done any time after 5 years whether the rubber looks used or not. This is coming from a guy who has driven everything from my '74 Lotus élan +2, a '60 AH Sprite, and previously a '73 914. I believe the hardening of the rubber coupled with misalignment from hitting various potholes and rough pavement now and then really upset the ability of the car to track correctly.

By the way, I've found Kuhmo tires to be more that up to the task on my family cars as well and the price and ratings are often better than tires costing twice as much.

If you care, you can post this testimonial if for no other reason than to help keep someone out of the weeds next time exuberance exacts its toll....

Bill Petro, secretary RCM

Grandpa Buys A New Car

An elderly couple return to a Mercedes dealership to find the salesman had just sold the car they were interested in to a beautiful, leggy, busty blonde. ***"I thought you said you would hold that car till we raised the \$75,000 asking price," said the man. "Yet I just heard you closed the deal for \$65,000 to that lovely young lady there. You insisted there could be no discount on this model."*** ***"Well, what can I tell you? She had the ready cash, and just look at her, how could I resist?"*** replied the grinning salesman!

Just then the young woman approached the old folks and handed them the keys. ***"There you go,"*** she said. ***"I told you I could get this joker to drop the price. See you later, grandpa."***

Never mess with the elderly!

(thanks to Gary Meier for this humor)

In Search Of ...

“Stuff” for the Next Newsletter !!!! -Your Editor!

Articles – For Sale- Upcoming Events –
Your car – Tech Tips – Humor –
Sources, - yada, yada

Updating YOUR Club Membership

If anything concerning your club membership changes, or if you have any questions about your membership, **it is up to you** to contact the responsible person in the club to update, or correct your information. Such as:

- Change in e-mail address
- Change in postal address
- Change in MGs you own
- Leaving the club for some reason (i.e. retire to Florida)

Please contact:

Marybeth Chamberlain, marybc_52@yahoo.com, or 610-746-3748

Free Movies **at Casino Theater April 30th**

Karen Struckle just gave me a date for the **annual club “Cruise to the Casino Theatre”** in Mount Pocono, Sunday, April 30.

Same deal as always: Free movie, free popcorn, free drink at the 11:30 am show (choice of two — names of movies will be announced when they are booked). Then lunch and/or ice cream with the group afterward (on your own dime.)

If the weather cooperates, maybe a mini-golf tournament (if they have the course open by April 30.) Details on the club event calendar online.

SIMEONE FOUNDATION AUTOMOTIVE MUSEUM

National Poll Votes Simeone Museum Most Popular Auto Museum in America



Philadelphia, PA - USA Today conducts popularity campaigns among best places to see and things to do throughout the country in their national 10Best series. After a month of online voting under the category of Best Transportation Museums, the Simeone Foundation Automotive Museum was the most popular car Museum, and the second most popular among all types of transportation museums.

Recently honored three times by the International Historic Motoring Awards in London, the Academy Awards of the automobile history community, The Simeone Foundation Museum enjoys popularity because of a selection of special sports racing automobiles set in dioramas reliving the race tracks. Regularly, these cars are taken out on a small track at the South West Philadelphia Museum and demonstrated for the public in a historical context. Regular educational lectures and young driver safety programs are part of the mission of the charitable foundation.

The museum's underlying inspirational theme, the spirit of competition, is demonstrated by the serial, chronological display of the world's most important race cars and how they evolved stimulated by the desire to win.

For Sale: Low Profile Enclosed Car Hauler - 2011

All-aluminum, double-axle, 7000lbs GVW capacity

Price: \$10,000.

- Custom-made by Montrose Trailers; aerodynamic design with smooth white aluminum skin
- Suitable for MG T, A, B; Triumph Spitfire; Mini; Sunbeam Tiger & other similar-sized cars
- Overall outside dimensions: 8' 7" (including side fenders) x 19' x 6'6" high
 - Enclosed bed: 6'6" x 15' x 4'8" high w/ 4 HD flush mount D-rings
- Doors - Piston lifts (side doors: 65" wide x 46" high, above fenders)
 - Front/rear doors "clamshell"
 - All w/ 2 lockable padlock latches (5 padlocks included, keyed identically)
- Boxed-aluminum ramps; stainless side vent on each side, fully framed
- Sliding tongue system minimizes storage length
- Lockable hitch (padlock for on/off hitch use, keyed with door locks)
- Tires (6-ply trailer tires, 14" rims)
 - Low mileage
 - Wheel locks, common key (5)
- Electrical
 - One standard plug to vehicle for lights (all LEDs)
 - 12 v winch, 2500 lb capacity to load car
 - 12 v battery on-board charges when vehicle motor on
 - Electric brakes w/ e-break-away

Contact: Art King, art.king@lehigh.edu, cell 610-704-2286



MGTC

IN

Trailer

MG Car Club Central Jersey Centre, Inc. Presents

Britfest 2017 – New Jersey

www.mgccnj.org

When:

Saturday, May 6th, 2017

9am-3pm Rain or Shine!

Pre-registration before 4/15/17: \$15

After 4/15/17 & at the gate: \$20

Spectator Admission: \$3

All British marques welcome.

Voting 9am-12 Noon- Prizes awarded at 2pm

Dash plaques to first 100 registered cars!

Contact: ejganek@yahoo.com

Location:

Horseshoe Lake Park, NJ

Roxbury Twp. Recreation and

Municipal Complex,

72 Eyland Avenue, Succasunna,

973.762.8116

Keystone MG 40th Anniversary Planning

Your club's 40th Anniversary Planning committee has been hard at work looking for special ways to celebrate the club anniversary. Their "suggestions" will be presented to the membership at our February club meeting at Rudy's Diner in Bethlehem on Tuesday the 21st. Some of their suggestions at this time include:

- **A one day bus trip to the world famous Simeone Car Museum in Philly**
 - o **Gather in the morning at a diner in the area, breakfast optional for those wanting it, then load up and go on the bus to the museum**
 - o **Optionals drop off at Bartram's Garden (for non-car folks)**
 - o **Club will subsidize buss cost "for members"**
 - o **Return late afternoon**
 - o **A nice chartered bus (54 capacity)**
 - o **Members get first priority. If not full then non-members**
- **Drive to Jim Thorpe, Pa**
- **Drive to Woodstock, NJ**
- **40th Anniversary patches for all members**
- **Drive to vintage races in Millville, NJ in September**
- **MG featured marque for the races weekend**
- **Possible tour of a manufacturing operation making car batteries**
- **What else can you suggest?**

Bob Pilat (chairman), Dick Horn, Ed Haas, Greg Prehodka, Gary Meier, Jeff Rohrbach

Keystone MG Club - On the Web

Keystonemg.com

- *Upcoming Events*
- *Regalia*
- *Club History*
- *Club Info*
- *Classified ads*
- *British Car Event Cendar*
- *Links to other sources*
- *Newsletters*
- *Club Library*
- *And MORE!*

OFFICERS & Positions

President, Bob Pilat

Rap33mthead@gmail.com

484-892-1138

Vice President, Jeff Rohrbach

Rohrbach319@gmail.com

610-682-6503

Treasurer, Marybeth

Chamberlain

marybc_52@yahoo.com

610-746-3748

Secretary

Kim de Bourbon

kimdeb@ptd.net

570-4246259

Alternate Secretary

Sunny Sonnenrein

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610-346-9624

Newsletter, (MG Gazette)

Greg Prehodka

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862-686-5273

Technical, Ken Beck

kenbeck@rcn.com

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Regalia, Selma Griffin

Antoniaselma68@gmail.com

484-273-8121

Keystone Region MG Club - Founded 1977

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



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.**



North American MGB Register

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

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$30

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!

PO Box 876, Downers Grove,

IL 60515-0876

www.namgbr.org



North American MGB Register

M.G. Drivers Club of North America

Would you please be kind enough to list the following 2017 events in the coming issue of your publication.

Many thanks, in advance

Richard Miller

Richard Miller, Managing Director

May 6, 2017 Morris County, NJ "Britfest 2017" Join us for the first British car show of the new driving season in the Mid Atlantic area. Featured: For 2017 the featured marques for Britfest are: The Mini & MINI.. Held at beautiful Horseshoe Lake Park 72 Eyland Ave Succasunna, NJ 07876. Vendors \$25 per space. Cars \$15 thru 4/15 and \$ 20 after. Info: Charles Tregidgo 201-791-6675 or e-mail: tregidgolaw@gmail.com www.mgccnj.org

June 4, 2017 Clinton, NJ "Twenty Second Red Mill British Car Day" Sponsored by the Austin Healey Sport & Touring Club to benefit the Red Mill Museum Village 56 Main Street Clinton, NJ 08809 site of the show. Info and application: Steve Feld e-mail: stevenergy@optonline.net

June 9, 10 & 11, 2017 Bristol, RI "The Drive-In", Twentieth anniversary gathering of the M.G. Drivers Club of North America. For 2017 held in conjunction with the British Motorcar Festival weekend in Bristol, RI! Car tours, car show, street party, concours and so much more. Info: 908-713-6251, mgdriversclub@hotmail.com.
Registration: www.britishmotorcarfestival.com

October 22, 2017 "North American Cecil Kimber Run. A British car tour thru the beautiful Skylands region of northwest New Jersey at peak foliage season with lunch and few surprises on route. Celebrating the founder of the MG marque but open to all British cars classic and modern. Info:

Richard Miller 908-713-6251 or mgdriversclub@hotmail.com

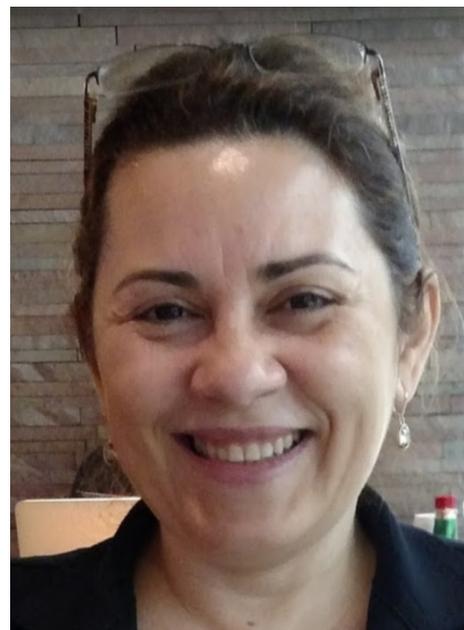
Club Regalia

By Selma Griffin

Hi, I'm Selma Griffin and I am the new Regalia Officer for our club. As I understand it my job is to maintain and distribute (aka sell) the club regalia in order to raise funds for the club and to emanate the club brand and vision. Sounds lofty, right? Well, my first step was to figure out what regalia is. I'm a native born Brazilian and English is still a strange and exotic language for me so I looked it up. According to Merriam-Webster the definition of regalia is: "the emblems, symbols, or paraphernalia indicative of royalty". Whoa! This must be a pretty important club! But then I read definition number two which was "decorations or insignia indicative of an office or membership". Whew! That's a little more realistic, right? So that's what our regalia is; decorations and insignias that represent our relationship to the Keystone Region MG Club and all that comes with it. I get that!

To help me get started Bob Pilat, our new President, and former Regalia Officer, dropped off a box that represents our physical regalia inventory. With that I think I'm ready to go. Our current physical inventory consists of three items; a lapel pin with the club logo for \$5, a flag pin with the American and British flags for \$5 and a key fob with the club logo for \$12. If you would like to order any of these items please email me at antoniaselma68@gmail.com or call me at 484-273-8121. In addition to that we have an online, made-to-order, merchandise presence. Senior club member Marty Chamberlain explained to me how this works. Our club partnered with an online merchant who provides a large selection of sportswear, hats, backpacks, blankets and such with the KRMGC logo. The nice part is that the selection is much larger than we could possibly keep on hand and it's all logo'd to order. It's a win-win arrangement. It's very easy to order from. Just go to the club website, www.keystonemg.com, then click on the *Club Info* tab at the top left, then click on *Regalia Store* at the bottom of the pop-up menu. From there you can shop to your heart's content. The club will automatically get a share of the profits.

I think that sums it up. Feel free to contact me if you have questions or would like to place an order. All the proceeds go to the club treasury which is used for club events and charities.



Written by **Tim Suddard**

Reprinted from the March 2017 issue of *Classic Motorsports Magazine*

Tips on Selling Your Classic Car

It seems to be easier than ever to sell your stuff, thanks to a plethora of options that make the yard signs and local classified ads of old look positively primitive.

Today's venues for turning a classic car into cash—from traditional auction houses to aggregate sites like Bring a Trailer, Barn Finds and Search Tempest—allow sellers to get their vehicles in front of more people than ever before. However, they can also cut down the amount of time people have to exhibit and ponder these purchases. This means it's easy to make mistakes. And these mistakes are costing people money.

The problems can be found on both sides of the sale. Sellers offer weak descriptions and even weaker photos; buyers make snap decisions, sometimes late at night or after a few drinks. Misinformation is bandied about.

In the end, these snafus almost always cost someone: Sellers aren't always getting a fair price, while buyers are sometimes paying way too much.

We recently had some experience with these problems when someone offered us a poorly presented 1965 Sunbeam Tiger.

We were on vacation far from home when we heard about this car. In the seller's defense, he wasn't really prepared to sell the Tiger; and in our defense, we weren't out to steal it. However, it was offered for what we saw as half its value. (Once we get into the details of that deal, you'll better understand why the Tiger was priced the way it was.) So although we already had a Tiger in the fleet, we're not exactly the kind of folks who pass up a super deal. Of course we bought it. That transaction offered some great observations on how to—and how not to—sell a classic car. We'll break them down here.

1. Research Sale Prices

Few home sellers would put their property on the market without a market analysis, but we see this happen all the time with classic cars. Just recently, in fact, we saw a 1965 Shelby Mustang advertised on Barn Finds with an asking price that was half of what it should have been.

We called on the car—as did many others. The seller was so overwhelmed by the response, in fact, that he did some overdue homework and realized his pricing mistake.

If you're selling your classic, start with a trusted price guide. The Hagerty Classic Car Valuation Tool is a great starting point; you can access it online for free, even if you don't have Hagerty insurance. This guide would have told our Tiger's seller in just a minute or two that today's values for that car range from about \$44,000 (poor condition) to \$129,000 (concours-correct). The seller would have also seen that prices are trending upward.

2. Correctly Evaluate the Condition

Since values range according to condition, it is just as important to understand where the specific car you are selling fits along this spectrum. It's hard to be impartial about your own vehicle, and since you want to get the best opinion possible in order to price your car right, we recommend bringing in an impartial expert for this evaluation.

Don't know any experts? There are services for this. Every marque has recognized experts, and marque club members are often willing to help as well. Some appraisers charge for their opinion, but do realize that they're offering you their experience and reputation, two things that carry real value.

Have your car appraised in a well-lit place and, ideally, up on a lift. A proper look beneath the coachwork will reveal the true story about accident damage, rust repair and worn-out components. Telling yourself you don't want to know about any defects is false economy, because the truth will come out if you've oversold your car's condition. Better to go into a sale with clear knowledge of what you do and do not have. Buyers respond positively to positive knowledge.

Speaking of buyers, if you're considering a car at auction, get yourself underneath it to gain a similar advantage. If you are truly interested, you'll find a way to get there early enough.

3. Be Realistic

Most people often don't understand what it costs to put a car right. The seller of our Tiger, for example, seemed to genuinely believe that just \$5000 would get the car back on the road. Truth be told, that sum wouldn't even have restored the chassis, never mind paid for the \$15,000 to \$20,000 worth of bodywork that needed to be done.

Again, the appraiser is your friend here. You are looking for much more than a number from the expert who evaluates your prize; ideally you will also come away with a 10,000-foot overview of what needs to be done to put the car right, along with ballpark estimates of what it'll cost.

As a buyer, dealing with sellers who don't understand the restoration process can be frustrating, but be patient and never insult them. Keep moving the discussion to middle ground. Bring along a parts catalog or bills from restoration shops showing the costs involved; this should help explain what the car needs in terms of dollars.

Both buyers and sellers should beware being unduly influenced by today's TV auction coverage. A new auction record for a car that was restored by one of the top shops in the country doesn't mean that a bent, non-running example is worth something similar. Restoring a car to top standards takes money—lots of it.

4. Describe it Accurately

The modern sales environment can get your car in front of more buyers than ever thanks to internet sales sites, dedicated auction houses, and marque club forums (a vital, and often-overlooked resource). It's important to understand, however, that most of these venues allow you to get only the idea of your car in front of those buyers. The days of putting a sign on a vehicle and letting prospective owners literally kick the tires are rapidly fading. Nowadays people often buy photos and a description, then pick up a car later. So make those pictures and words count.

This is where you earn back the time and money you spent learning all about your car and prices for similar ones. Write a clear description detailing everything you know. Include well-lit, sharp photos that back up your description, including close-ups of any defects you've mentioned.

Buyers can handle the fact that classic cars are not new, but unseen problems almost always loom larger than those that can be seen. So let them see. Sure, it may affect the price, but it will also save the sale.

Make sure you list your car with its proper year and spelling (you'd be surprised) and include the full name of the model ("Edsel Villager station wagon" versus "Edsel Wagon" or just "Edsel"). Companies spend thousands analyzing the keywords they use in their website descriptions to optimize their rankings in online searches, so don't overlook the opportunity to help your sale in a similar manner.

5. Make the Deal

Whether buying or selling, once you arrive at a price, finish the deal. Any introductory course in business law will tell you that a binding contract needs offer, acceptance and consideration. So once you settle on that price, write up a bill of sale and make sure the seller has a deposit.

A proper bill of sale lists the names and addresses of both the buyer and seller. It will include the date of the sale, the selling price and the car's serial number—and, ideally, the engine number as well.

The bill of sale will also include when the balance is due, any warranties offered, and anything else that could impact the sale. For example, does the car come with any spare parts? Besides the parties involved, obtain a signature from a witness, too.

Pay any balance and get the car out of the seller's possession as soon as possible. This eliminates the chances of missing hardware, seller's remorse or a broken contract because the seller got a better offer from another party. If you cannot collect the car yourself, either find a safe haven or have a shipping company move it. In case of our Tiger, we had friends at nearby MFD Classics hold the car until we could arrange shipping.

"The seller of our Tiger seemed to genuinely believe that just \$5000 would get the car back on the road." "Buyers can handle the fact that classic cars are not new but unseen problems almost always loom larger than those that can be seen. So let them see."

Might MG be "Reborn" as an "Electric Car"?

(From "Just British - On Line Motoring Magazine April 14th)

According to Auto Express, after a lengthy absence and years of rumours, it appears MG will finally be returning to the sportscar market. Hazy teaser images of what looks to be a new concept car have appeared online, with reports suggesting the car could be called the MG E-Motion. As the name suggests it will be a pure electric sportscar, which could potentially preview a spiritual successor to the MG TF – axed from production in 2011. The concept could be unveiled as early as next week at the Shanghai Motor Show – the home show for MG parent company SAIC. Details are limited but reports indicate a 0-62mph time of under 4 seconds and a range of over 300 miles. The teaser images show a shape and design unlike anything we've previously seen from MG; only the ZS-inspired headlamps are recognisable. Clearly a sleek two-door coupe, the size of the concept is difficult to gauge, but given the body style, it's likely to share a similar footprint to a BMW 4 series. Note: Text and images are via to Auto Express via The MG Owner's Club

Lost INDY 500 Track History

Constructed in 1909, it is the original speedway, the first racing facility so named. It has a permanent [seating capacity](#) estimated at 235,000^[1] with infield seating raising capacity to an approximate 400,000.^[5] It is the [highest-capacity sports venue in the world](#).^[6] Considered relatively flat by American standards, the track is a two-and-a-half-mile, nearly rectangular oval with dimensions that have remained essentially unchanged since its inception: four 1/4-mile (400 m) banked turns, two 5/8-mile-long (1,000 m) straightaways between the fourth and first turns and the second and third turns, and two 1/8-mile (200 m) short straightaways, termed "short chutes", between the first and second, and third and fourth turns.

I was intrigued by the fact of the **track's corner banking of 9 Degrees and 12 minutes**. This is very well known. Why would the track architect specify such an unusual amount of banking - why not simply 9 degrees, 10 degrees, or 15 degrees? Someone did not fall out of bed one morning with this specification. There had to be a "design intent" for such an unusual specification. And remember that in 1909 the primary purpose of the track was as a testing facility of the burgeoning car industry - the concept of the INDY 500 becoming an institution was years away !

As you know, there are centripetal and centrifugal forces - IE, the force IN and the force OUT that balance the cornering dynamics of a vehicle. If the corners at INDY were at 0 Degrees banking (flat) and a driver took their hands off of the steering wheel, the car would steer off to the outside of the turn. If the corner was at 90 degrees banking (a vertical wall), speed could be infinite but if they slowed down they would fall to the inside of the turn. OK, so what happens at 9'12"??

For every angle in between there is a balance speed between centripetal and centrifugal forces -where there is zero lateral load on the vehicle - neither making the car go UP or DOWN the angled track; ie - "hands-off driving", natural tracking, the full load of the car going directly into the racing surface neither being pushed up or down the track !! Or to picture it another way, if one were to throw a bowling ball down the center of the track in a corner, what speed would be required for the ball to neither push up or down, and follow the true centerline of the corner's pavement?

Doing some basic physics and math:

centripetal force component parallel to track is $(m \cdot v^2 / r) \cdot \cos(9.2 \text{ degrees}) = mg \sin(9.2 \text{ degrees})$ which is parallel force due to gravity, solve for v. $V = \sqrt{r \cdot g \cdot \tan(9.2)}$. M drops out and $(\sin/\cos = \tan)$.

This works out to be exactly **66 ft./sec or or exactly 45 mph**.

The design intent of banking at 9 Degrees 12 minutes is a track that is perfectly neutral at 45 miles per hour. Remember, in 1909 horseless buggy testing envisioned by car companies (Fisher et al) may have wanted a "neutral" speed for endurance tests to allow their cars to do many test miles without lateral loading. And street cars that could run continually at 60 mph were still a few years away.

AND - FYR 200mph works out to just about 3 g's !!

The banking angle is too obscure and the speed result so exact that I believe this is a "lost" bit of INDY history !!

Keystone Region MG Club - 1977 - 2017

40th Anniversary Celebration

Bus Trip on Saturday August 12th to Philly:

Simeone Car Museum & Bartram's Garden

Sign up today - before all bus seats are sold out!

