



OCTAGRAM

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MGs of BALTIMORE MD

March 2024

www.mgsofbaltimore.org

From EI Presidente:

A big **thank you** goes to Steve & Tina Sharpe for hosting the **27th Annual Chilly Run**. The event was well attended with approximately forty members present along with about 14 various chili dishes entered, numerous non-chili items and a plethora of desserts. The winners of this year's Chilly Run are:

1. Hunka, Hunka Burning Love Award for the Hottest Chili - Kamil Ismail
2. Best Overall Chili - Mary Lutz
3. No Meat Vegetarian Chili- Bridget McCarron
4. Best Chicken Chili - Steve & Tina Sharpe
5. Sweetest Chili - Richard Polan
6. Best Side Dish - Cornbread - Barbara Flower
7. Best Appetizer - Roasted Jalapenos with Cheese and bacon - Ben Perricone
8. Best Dessert - Rum Cake - Tracy Trowbridge

Joe Clark's Celebration of Life has been scheduled for **Saturday, March 30th, 2024**, at the Harford County 4-H Camp (Home of MGs on the Rocks) from 1 – 5 p.m. Joe's wife (Sue) has asked us to drive our MGs if possible. You **MUST R.S.V.P.** at 410-598-5579 or sclark@0712@verizon.net

Bridget McCarron is looking to organize a MGOB group to caravan to Watkins Glen, NY for the Grand Prix Festival 2024 - Sept. 5 - 8, 2024. MG is the featured marque this year. Leaving on Thursday September 5th, and to attend sanctioned activities on Friday September 6th and Saturday September 7th as an MGOB group. For more information is available in this issue and at <http://www.grandprixfestival.com/>. Bridget can be reached at: bridgetmccarron@yahoo.com

Larry Heaps will be hosting the **MGOB Rolling Tech Session** on **Saturday, May 4th** Starting at: 9:00 a.m. at 816 Chance Ct., Street, MD 21154 Please RSVP by calling 410 452-5349 home or 443 966-0659 cell

The 35th Annual "Get the Dust-Off" Rallye will be held on **Sunday, May 5th**. See the event flier in this issue of the Octagram.

Finally, 2024 **MGOB Club dues are due** starting in January. There will be a list published in this issue of the Octagram, **if your name** is on the list, you **Owe 2024 Dues**. Please send your \$20.00 cheque payable to MGs of Baltimore, Ltd. to:

MGOB
5237 Glen Arm Road East
Glen Arm, MD 21057-9456

Or you can pay at the meeting. If you are **not receiving meeting notices**, etc. please make sure we have your **current and correct e-mail address**.

Safety Fast!

Richard

MGOB 2024 Dues List

If your name is on this list, you OWE dues at this time

Shane & Megan Absher	Jack & Liz Long
Christopher Bartlett	Joseph Mallia
Ahmet & Miriam Baschat	Bob & Missy McKenna
Bob Bates	Michael & Camille Medinger
Daniel & Marilyn Bederka	Dale & Wallis Meeks
Bill & Cindy Bollinger	Jim & Mary Miller
David Botzler	Tom & Maria Miner
Randy & Barbara Bruns	Bill & Pam Minor
John Buell	George Moore
Tom Burnham	Chuck Moreland
Peter Carroll	Richard & Janet Moure
Peter & Ann Charles	Kurt & Susan Nagle
Mark Conley	Roger & Lara Nicolson
Marc Daemen	Alex Ollerman
Jack & Joanna Dagilas	David Orbock
Bruce & Barbara Darsch	Jim & Jane Orrell
Philip De-Bodene	Jim & Susan Pallace
Johan & Britney DeVicq	Mike & Cathy Pavese
Cliff Essman	Brent & Nicka Pohl
Rick & Cynthia George	Robert & Dana Reisse

Ron Gillis	William Riley
Charles Givre	Seth & Amy Rochette
Michael & Michelle Groves	Neil Shovlin
Leo & Terry Handerhan	Rick Smith
Paul Hanley	Ed & Laura Spada
Craig E. & Lesley Harriman	Wendy & Robb Stahl
Paul & Sandy Hohne	Jim Strickler
Bob Keefer	Loren Mark Walker
John & Marylyn King	Alice Whitehair
Andrew & Dina Kulp	Al & Val Zoellner



Got to pay your dues if you want to sing the blues

And you know it don't come easy.

(Ringo Starr)

izquotes.com

Exhausted Time

rj

Well, we've about exhausted Winter and looking forward to Spring when we can go outside and play. It is curious to me how many comments I hear about how sick everyone is with Winter and can't wait for it to be gone. Personally, I like winter and all the true four seasons we get up here north of the Mason-Dixon. I even like the snow and can stare out on my backyard for hours watching it snow. The curious point is how folks wish away the only thing that is finite, TIME. This leads me to a recent Epiphany.

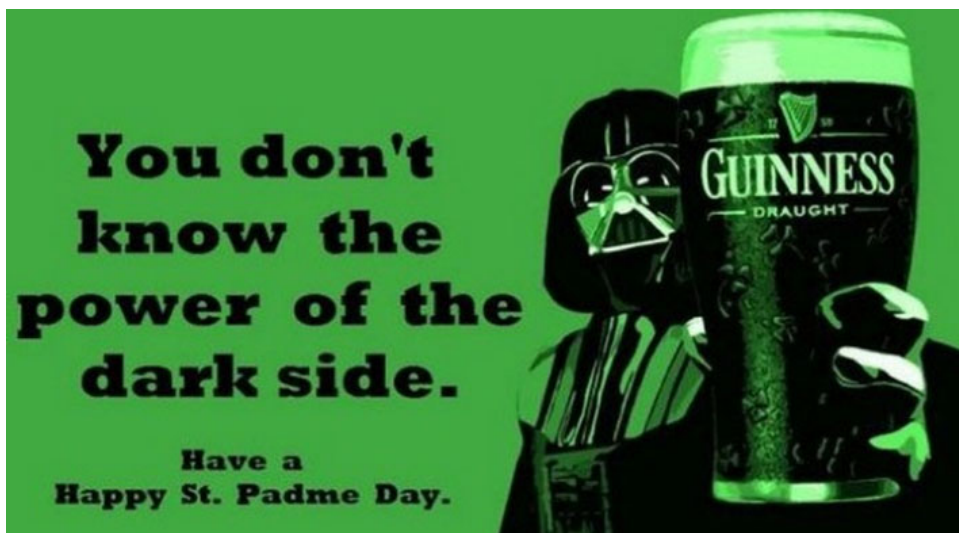
It was a puzzle that led me to this Epiphany. You know those Christmas presents you get that you appreciate, but really would you have spent your own money on them? In our family it seemed puzzle gifting became a thing; and we have a large family. Sure, CJ and I can spend a few winter hours having cocktails and putting a puzzle together. But things have changed in the puzzle industry.

With the development of CAD systems and laser cutters the possibility to create more and more complicated puzzles has boomed. We now have puzzles where the puzzle has no resemblance to the picture on the box or no picture at all. Puzzles can also have a mystery story that you must solve to understand the puzzle. The shapes of the pieces can be diabolical. We received one where every piece was exactly the same shape and the latest one had pieces all shaped like animals. It is here where I will point out that my acumen for assembling puzzles has not progressed much from my younger days. Also, face it, my eyesight, patience, and other mental skills (*as you can tell from my writing*) may be in a declining state. So how does this match up with what Carole and I use to consider a relaxing pastime?

Hence the puzzle epiphany! Why are we wasting precious time doing something we don't enjoy? We will leave it to you to expand your analysis to other things in your life that may fit into the puzzle category. Perhaps it's watching the same news, which you have no control of. If you find yourself talking back to the one-eyed mind eraser maybe this time-sucking habit should be analyzed. Analysis of time spent on social media engagement may also yield you some extra time doing something that you may enjoy more. Which of course leads me right to LBCs. (You knew I would get there didn't you?)

I find solving the puzzle of British motoring is not only relaxing but rewarding. I hope you spent the winter garage months doing some little improvement to your British steel. Hope you kept the battery charged and even took it out for a spin on no salt days. Now that's time well spent.

Now exhausted so go enjoy the tune I imbedded in the title.



Adapting MGB front anti sway bar for MGA

By Glenn Monrad

Background: I've owned my 1962 MGA Mk II since 1988, and did a total, ground up, chassis-on restoration on a rust-free car then. I recently rebuilt the 1622 engine due to piston problems, upgraded to 5 speed transmission, and installed Minilite knock-off wheels and new tires. I was looking for a minor project that would improve handling.

I consulted www.mgaguru.com for ideas and suggestions, but did not want to buy the expensive aftermarket kit from Moss, Summit Racing or ADDCO.

I found an article on www.Britishcarforum.com titled "An alternative sway bar link for MGA with MGB sway bar" and I liked the design. I had a used MGB 9/16" front anti sway bar, used MGB sway bar links, and bought the following:

Moss Motors 280-920 sway bar rubber bushings

Moss Motors 263-430 sway bar mounting brackets

Moss Motors 280-910 sway bar end bushings

Zoro.com G4426265 Female Rod End right-hand 1/2" bore, 1/2 - 20 thread Heim joints

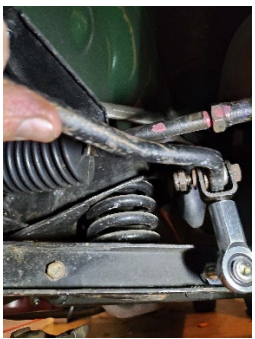
I installed the anti sway bar with bushings and brackets to the underside of the front frame using C-clamps. I did some trial measurements and decided the MGB anti sway bar attachment below the steering rack would avoid interference.

I then used the initial sway bar link measurements from the Britishcarforum article (length 3 3/4") (Fig 1), and cut the link using an air-powered cut off tool. Using a 1/2" -20 die I threaded the end that would ultimately attach to the anti sway bar (Fig 2). I attached the Heim link (Fig 3) and trial-fit to anti sway bar, but the length was too long (Fig 4). I decided 1 1/2" needed to be cut off the threaded section to get the fit correct. So, I disassembled the Heim link from the threaded sway bar link, cut off the section and rethreaded. Once reassembled and trial fit, I confirmed the length was good (Fig 5). Next was drilling 1/2" hole into the lower wishbone. I removed the bolt on the spring pan closest to the swing axle for front wheel. There was a 1/2" pre-cut hole in the spring pan in the proper location, so I needed the new hole in the wishbone to align. The wishbone was not hardened steel, so drilling was relatively easy. (Note. The 1/2" bolt replaced the smaller bolt that I previously removed.)

Last was to drill and attached the sway bar bracket to the car's frame. I adjusted the position fore and back until the new sway bar links were vertical, had adequate clearances, and had no other conflicts (Fig 6 and 7).

I drilled and bolted the brackets into place and adjusted the clamps that limit left-to-right movement of the sway bar.

Last was a test drive to confirm there were no odd suspension noises, no parts rubbed together during full wheel turns, and normal suspension travel without interference. All was good, and I was pleased with the inexpensive installation of anti sway bar.





We invite you to join the largest club in the area dedicated to British car enthusiasts.

Your membership benefits include:

- ***You get invited to all club events. Including these three great parties:***
 - ***The after Christmas celebration***
 - ***The “Chilly Run”***
 - ***The summer pool party***
- ***You get the club’s newsletter***
- ***You get access to the club’s extensive tool chest***
- ***Our monthly meeting is held at very nice restaurant and each meeting includes a tech session. Johnny Dees Lounge 1705 Amuskai Rd Loch Raven, MD (First Tuesday of the month)***
- ***We also host an annual tech session Saturday hosted by the club’s tech guru.***
- ***MGOB sponsors the annual “Get the Dust-Off Rallye” the first Sunday in May.***
- ***You can join us at MG’s on the Rocks. This is the oldest continuously running British car show in the world! Celebrating our 42 year in 2021!***

All this for \$20 per year!

Visit us on the web: MGsofBaltimore.org or Find us on

Facebook Please complete the form on the next page and mail it with a cheque made payable to MGOB to:

**Kathy Liddick
5237 Glen Arm Road
Glen Arm, MD 21057**



MGs of Baltimore Ltd. Membership Registration

Please fill out the registration form.

You'll want to enjoy all the benefits of membership as listed on the previous page!

Your Name (MGing is a family activity, Please include those of family members)	
Address	
City/State/Zip	
Contact Number	
e-mail Address	
MG's or Other British Cars Owned	
Areas of interest: Technical, Rallyes, Social, Restoration	

Dues for MGOB are a blazing \$20 Bucks a year. (January through December)

Mail your check made out to: MG's of Baltimore Ltd.

To: Kathy Liddick: 5237 Glen Arm Road, Glen Arm, MD 21057



**NORTH AMERICAN
MGA REGISTER**

Tools Available for Club Members Contact Eric Salminen to Borrow

- Engine Stand
- 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	rgl2mgbgt@aol.com
1 st Vice President	Rich Polan	410-727-5588	richardpolan@yahoo.com
2 nd Vice President	Ken Olszewski	410-459-9202	kenmgob@comcast.net
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Tech Advisor	Chris Horant	410-679-1378	cshmk3S3@verizon.net

DISCLAIMER

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

Articles appearing herein may be used by other 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 and The North American MGB Register. 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. The MGs of Baltimore is a 501 (c) 7 Not-For-Profit Corporation.

CALENDAR

MARCH

5th
30th

Club Meeting
Joe Clark Celebration of Life

APRIL

2nd
13th
21st to 24th
28th

Club Meeting
Clustered Spires Car Show
32nd Annual NAMGBR Convention
Britian on the Green

MAY

5th
7th
19th

Get the Dust Off Rallye
Club Meeting
Brits by the Bay

JUNE

4th

Club Meeting

JULY

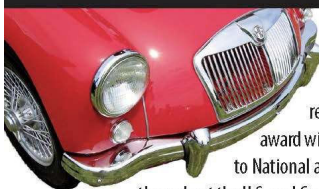
2nd
15th to 19th

Club Meeting
NAMGR Convention

MGs of Baltimore Affiliations

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

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 (\$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



PLEASE JOIN US IN

- Celebrating the life of -

JOE CLARK

August 1, 1944 - December 5, 2023

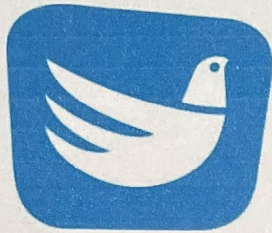
SATURDAY, MARCH 30th | 1:00pm to 5:00pm

DEER CREEK OVERLOOK

4H Camp - Rocks State Park

2 Cherry Hill Road, Street, MD 21154

Please RSVP by March 20th to 410-598-5579 or sclark0712@verizon.net



Frederick
Church of the Brethren

&



invites you to
Car Cruise-In and Food Drive
April 13, 2024 8am-1pm

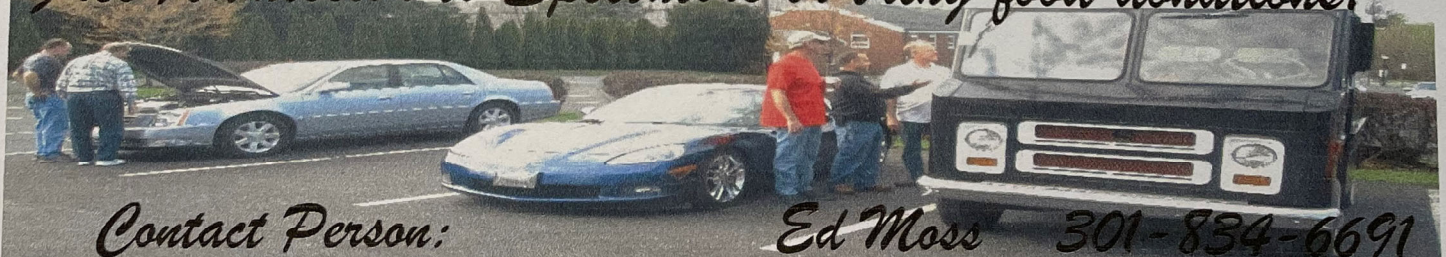
**Come and show off your ride!
Cars, Trucks, and Motorcycles Welcome!**



**Where: Church Parking Lot
201 Fairview Avenue
Frederick, MD 21701**

Entry Fee: \$5.00 or Non-Perishable Food

Free Admission to Spectators or bring food donations!



Contact Person:

Ed Moss 301-834-6691

emoss42856@yahoo.com

Benefits FCOB Deacons' Food Bank

Save the Date
NAMGBR 32nd Annual Convention
April 21st to 24th, 2024

TRAIN YOUR SIGHTS
ON KATY-2024



North American MGB Register



26th Annual Britain on the Green
April 28, 2024

The Capital Triumph Register is proud to announce that the 26th annual Britain on the Green (BOG) will be held at historic Gunston Hall, the colonial home of George Mason, in Lorton, VA, on Sunday, April 28, 2024. BOG, which welcomes all British cars and motorcycles, is well-established as one of the premier all-British shows in the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area.

Participant's Choice honors will be awarded in 25 or more classes of British cars and motorcycles. There will also be a number of special awards including Best Resto-Mod, Best Survivor, Best Display and, of course, Best of Show. Additionally, the Nation's Capital Jaguar Owners Club will again hold their Concours d'Elegance at Britain on the Green.

Please plan on joining us on April 28th for the 26th annual Britain on the Green. It is a great day to bring out your car and celebrate the British car show and driving season with friends, family, and fellow enthusiasts.

Further information on Britain on the Green can be found at:

<https://www.britainonthegreen.org/>

Early registration for Britain on the Green 2024 began in January and is available on the website.

Date/Time:

April 28, 2024

9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Location:

Gunston Hall

10709 Gunston Road

Lorton, VA 22079

<http://www.gunstonhall.org/>

Sponsored by:

Capital Triumph Register

<https://www.capitaltriumphregister.org/>

Britain on the Green website:

<https://www.britainonthegreen.org/>

Capital Triumph Register contact:

John Buescher

703-475-5609

bog@capitaltriumphregister.org





The MGs of Baltimore, Ltd.

Present the 35th Annual Running of the

GET THE DUST OFF RALLYE

Sunday, May 5th, 2024

First car off at 10:01 a.m.

Dedicated to the memory of Richard W. Murphy

\$20 per car to April 21st - \$25 per car afterwards

Register by completing the entry form below and mail it with a check payable to "MGs of Baltimore, Ltd."

OR Scan the QR code to the for online registration (a small fee will be accessed by UBMe)

<https://www.ubmeevents.com/event/5aa79111-b1d4-4f1d-a52d-823fbcf1ec06>



SEND TO: MGOB C/O Chris Horant, 2 Gunpowder Dr; Joppa, MD 21085

This will be a GTA (Game, Tour, Adventure) style rallye 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. 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 9:00 am. Drivers' meeting at 9:45. Please plan to arrive early. First car off at 10:01 a.m. **Contact Rallymaster Eric Salminen at (443-463-3071) or mgobrallymaster@gmail.com for additional rallye information**

All vehicles must have at least 2 people in the car. *If a minor (less than 18 years old) is to participate you must contact us in advance to secure a minor release form which requires the signature of both parents.*

Driver: _____
Address: _____
City/St/Zip _____
Phone: _____
e-mail: _____

Navigator: _____
Address: _____
City/St/Zip _____
Phone: _____
e-mail: _____

Vehicle information: Make: _____ **Model:** _____ **Year:** _____ **Color:** _____

Member: MGOB? _____ **TRAC ?** _____ **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: _____

Sorry, but NO PETS or OUTSIDE ALCOHOL ITEMS are allowed at the winery!!!!

BRITS BY THE BAY 2024



Modern & Classic British Car & Motorcycle Show

Open to ALL British Cars & Motorcycles

Come enjoy the beautiful country setting in Mt. Airy and see some great cars, while helping us promote and preserve the old British classic and the newer British "future" classics.

We'll have 24 marques from manufacturers including Triumph, MG, Jaguar, Jensen, Austin Healey, Mini, Range Rover with some open classes., too. We even hope to see some British motorcycles.

Each year since 2002, BBTB has invited all British marques, and the cars that come range from quality show cars to daily drivers....and we welcome them all. Let's get the British car enthusiasts and people who love these cars together for an afternoon of fun. This year we've found a great new location at Linganore Winecellars. After you've shown and seen some cars, we're certain you'll find a good reason to stay and enjoy the winery.

When:

Sunday, May 19, 2024

11am to 3pm

Gates for show participants
open at 10:30am

Rain or Shine

Where:

Linganore Winecellars
13601 Glissans Mill Road, Mt. Airy,
MD 21771
www.linganorewines.com

For more information and online registration for those wishing to bring their British Motor Car, please visit: www.tracltd.org



Save the Date
NAMGAR Annual Convention

GT-49

*Resort reservations
are now open*

Mt. Hood Oregon Resort
Welches, Oregon

(503) 622-3101 x 0

Event name: GT-49

Event code: 2407GT49

Event dates: July 15-19, 2024

*100 rooms are blocked for us
and expected to sell out early!*





2024 Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen invites all MGs as the Featured Marque – September 6, 2024

- 2024 Grand Prix Festival of Watkins Glen featuring ALL MG makes and models and years!
- **“Return to the Streets” of Watkins Glen** as one of the final celebrations of the 100th Centenary of MG Cars.
- **Two Stone Bridge Driver events make MG the star in September 2024!**
- ❖ **Thursday, September 5 the FLX MG Journey** – includes a car show in Lafayette Park from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., followed by a rallye/tour with a stop at sponsor Lakewood Vineyards for wine-tasting/tours & a complimentary bottle of Lakewood wine. The Journey enjoys dinner at the Main Deck Restaurant in Penn Yan on beautiful Keuka Lake.
- ❖ **Friday, September 6 - Grand Prix Festival Tour de Marque featuring MG** – begin at Chateau Lafayette Reneau Winery. This restructured event includes rallying on the area’s best sportscar roads, lunch at Watkins Glen State Park, two laps of the 6.6-mile Old Course & display parking in Lafayette Park.
- More weekend events are being developed and will be shared as details firm up!
- ❖ **Consider making Watkins Glen a destination for your MG Car Club(s) to hold a 100th Centenary Event** on Saturday or Sunday; please reach out to us before scheduling for suggestions and assistance we may be able to offer.
- **Reserve your place NOW in the FLX MG Journey and the Tour de Marque featuring MG;** they will fill soon.

Contact Watkins Glen Promotions to register now. Use the form on the website for both events: www.grandprixfestival.com (contact Michaela at 607-535-3003 for registration assistance, or me TDM Chair Bruce Coulombe at 607-793-3426 or BCoulombe@geiconsultants.com for details/info.

Also, the SVRA race usually held the weekend of the Grand Prix Festival has been moved to August 21-25. Check www.SVRA.com for details on the 2024 SVRA Watkins Glen SpeedTour.