



# The Registry

July 2021

# Peachtree MG Registry

The official monthly publication of the Peachtree MG Registry, Atlanta GA

Reach us by phone: (866) 279-9728

Check out our YouTube Channel and Subscribe

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzpUQ2q-HkGoLwwgqurewPw>

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## Up Coming Events

**PMGR July 5th-Dunwoody Parade with BBQ at Paul and Barbara's (see enclosed flyer)**

**PMGR August 14, Annual Picnic, Don Carter State Park**

Sept 4 - British Motor Car Day, Tellus Science Museum, Cartersville, GA

Sept 11-Atlanta British Motorcar Fayre, Norcross, GA

Sept 17, Brits on the Bluffs, Natchez, MS [msemc.org](http://msemc.org)

**PMGR Sept 23-26 Columbus, GA Brits in the Valley (see article)**

Oct.2 -Southern British Car Show-,Ooltowah, TN TENTATIVE

Oct 2 GSBCC Britfest at The Market Common Myrtle Beach, SC.

Oct 16 Cars on Kiawah, A Festival of Automobiles <https://www.carsonkiawah.com/>

Oct 15-16 Mecum Auction in Chattanooga

Oct 15-17 Chattanooga Motor Car Festival

**PMGR Oct 19-21 Fall Mountain Tour (see article)**

**PMGR is invited October 23, Triumph Picnic at Pooles Mill Park (see enclosed information)**

Oct 23 British Car Day Charleston, Palmetto Islands County Park,

[www.BritishCarClubCharleston.com](http://www.BritishCarClubCharleston.com)

Nov. 19-21, MG Jamboree 22 Safety Harbor, FL.

<http://www.fsmgcc.com/events.html>

April 22-24, 2022 Gathering of the Faithful South



# JULY 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 	5 Dunwoody Parade and BBQ at Paul/Barbara's	6 Men's Lunch	7	8	9	10
11 PMGR General Meeting	12	13 Men's Lunch	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Men's Lunch	21 ORF	22	23	24
25	26	27 Men's Lunch	28	29	30	31

[www.peachtreemg.com](http://www.peachtreemg.com)

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Committee Chairs**

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**Memberships expired Apr 1st.**

Go to [www.peachtreemg.com](http://www.peachtreemg.com) to renew.

If you prefer to renew by check, send \$25 payment to:

**Peachtree MG Registry**

**c/o Larry Norton**

**2515 Wild Iris Lane**

**Dacula, GA 30019-2098**

**Find Us on YouTube**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/  
UCzpUQ2q-HkGoLwwgqrewPw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzpUQ2q-HkGoLwwgqrewPw)

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**Call our Phone Number  
(866) 279-9728**

**Our 2021 Charity**

**Georgia Mountain Food Bank**

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**Want a car? Need parts?**

Check out

[www.peachtreemg.com](http://www.peachtreemg.com)  
for vehicles and parts for sale

**Welcome new members:**

Hayden Hutchison

John and Margo McMillan

Stanley Cryz and Susan Schrader

John and Sandra Cork

# Classy in my Classic

By Aviva Hoffmann, President, PMGR

I'm sorry we couldn't take all of you PMGR members with us to the MG International 2021. We Hoffmanns returned safely from our epic road trip to Atlantic City, N.J., and marked it in the history books for our family. But our journey is not yet complete! (I'll get back to that in a bit.)

This trip was by far the longest we all had ever dared undertake with our MGs. Oliver drove his MGA, I had "Emma," and Nigel commanded his 1973 MGB. We were fortunate to join a few other MG enthusiasts – like the Vogts and the Flexners – as we headed out of Georgia across five states to Atlantic City. Of course, there were a few rolling tech sessions



along the way, but nothing our group couldn't overcome.

We drove our MGs to our heart's content, saw beautiful landscapes, ate well, and enjoyed great fellowship along the way with other MG owners. This was our first real trip in more than 15 months, and we soaked in every minute. We picked up other British car lovers along the

way and eventually had a convoy of 11 MGs and another vehicle with a trailer! A definite highlight of the drive up north was navigating across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and taking the Cape May-Lewes Ferry with our MGs. That was a beautiful way to enter New Jersey.



For my two sons, staying at a Casino Resort was an adventure. There were so many sights and sounds to take in. The scheduled events surrounding the car show were well thought out and organized. We had decided early on to take some time on

the day before the actual car show and drive our MGs to the Simeone museum – so we'd be able to see a couple of additional sights while in Philadelphia (like the Liberty Bell, and an authentic Philly Cheesesteak Sandwich). That's when Emma decided to make trouble. Her clutch gave out on Interstate 76. After sending the boys, the Flexners and the Vogts onward to the Simeone museum, Oliver stayed with me as we baked in the hot June sun waiting for AAA to come to the rescue with a flatbed.



After a couple of hours and several calls helping the tow truck driver find us, we had Emma safely brought back to Harrah's in N.J. What happens when a car rolls into the parking lot of a casino resort filled

with hundreds of MG owners? Well, Emma was thoroughly examined by several very knowledgeable folks – including “the” John Twist! John confirmed our suspicions that the problem would not be fixed with a paperclip (Although we did end up using one to help Nigel’s MG on the return drive – no kidding!!!)



I was very disappointed to encounter car troubles, but as an MG owner, I also know that goes along with the territory and took it all in stride. What crushed me though was driving Emma more than 900 miles to the MG International 2021 and suddenly facing the possibility of not crossing the finish line to the actual show field. A lot of friendly leads presented an exciting possibility... Mr. Bob Bates from Maryland had trailered his MG-TD to the hotel but might actually drive the car to the show field! Oli and I grabbed a few beers and made a special delivery to the parking lot where Bob and fellow MG folks from Maryland were hanging out. Before I could even finish asking, Bob offered up the keys to his truck and trailer! We had solved how to get Emma to the big show (and would worry about her condition later). After some real man-power to help push my car onto the trailer and into place on the show field, it was more evident to me than ever how wonderful the MG community is. The show turnout was impacted by the pandemic, but it was still the biggest and friendliest show we had ever attended. The people and cars were beautiful.

During the show, we got some good suggestions about reliable local mechanics specializing in British cars. We got in touch with an experienced fellow nearby who opened his shop nearly 60 years ago. We left Emma in his trusting hands to nurse her back to health. Once she’s ready, we plan to fly back to N.J. and complete the return drive to GA – to properly finish our journey.

Now that summer is here, I look forward to attending more car shows and seeing more of you all... a little closer to home!





## Meeting Minutes



## VP Comments

It was great seeing our club members in person at our monthly meeting Sunday the 13th.

Thank you all so much for being so kind to me on my first stage performance! The audiovisual equipment seemed rather straightforward when our president, Aviva Hoffman was in the driver's seat, but I think I missed a few turns when I coursed what I was sure seemed the same route. And if it were not for our historian, Erich Starzinger, we would not have had a laptop!

The swap meet, gathering one hour before our monthly meeting seems to be a hit. Maybe we can plan on having one as a standard operating procedure! I'd like to put it to a vote as soon as possible.

Mr. Mike Cook presented a timely trivia contest which proved to be magnificent in its subject matter and gentle encouragement for us Yanks to know our history as well as this hardy Brit seems to!

Be sure to keep your eyes on the upcoming events, and use any reason you can, to get these wonderful little cars of ours out and about and breathing the fresh air.

There's a great reason coming up very soon, in the July 5th-Dunwoody Parade. During the parade, we, in our MG cars, would serve as conveyance, for a select group of Military Veterans, at the fore of the procession. And directly thereafter, we have what promises again to be a fine BBQ at Paul and Barbara Flexner's.

A sincere salute, tip of the hat, nod, or just a smile, for the poor souls that stepped forward and swore an oath, to face enemy fire to their death if required, is not something that a Combat Veteran doesn't recognize.

I'm tempted to go in uniform, but Karyn doesn't want me to cut my long hair, and I won't show up in uniform like that.

But I can go in my PMGR T-Shirt, Levi's and Chucks, and trade nods with a buddy I haven't met yet but might know better than some family.

Hope to see you there.

C. Blake Aasgaard  
Vice President, PMGR  
Colonel (RET) US Army  
Medical Specialist Corps

# Celebrate



- 7/1 Thomas M Kriwanek
- 7/2 Oliver Hoffmann
- 7/2 Ricky H Rich
- 7/4 Jeffrey Adams
- 7/10 Tim Gaffney
- 7/14 Matthew McDermott
- 7/17 Chris Lindh
- 7/20 Stephen "Trigger" H Williams
- 7/21 Brian L Crabtree
- 7/23 Frank Heckendorn
- 7/24 Richard Neale
- 7/28 Penny Scarpucci
- 7/31 Scott M Navin



We would love to recognize your birthday, anniversary, or other happy occasions.

Please email me at [newsletter@peachtreemg.com](mailto:newsletter@peachtreemg.com).

- 8/1 Rob Gray
- 8/6 Mike Moore
- 8/7 Cyndi Marble
- 8/7 Lynn Crump
- 8/7 Mark T Pilon
- 8/7 Oscar N Petree
- 8/10 Lyn Rushing
- 8/10 Matthew Rossi
- 8/11 Alex Fraser
- 8/11 Madell Dobrushin
- 8/11 Tom George
- 8/16 Mitzi Gil
- 8/18 Roy Oppedisano
- 8/19 Todd Reis
- 8/20 John W Gosling
- 8/21 Dan Weinberg
- 8/23 Mark Henderson
- 8/26 Claude Watts
- 8/27 Donna & Ed Stanfield Anniversary
- 8/28 Donald S Crump
- 8/28 Theresa Gaffney
- 8/30 Rick Fraser

Unfortunately, the birthday report is not always accurate. Please let me know if I've made a mistake or if your birthday is omitted.

# Peachtree News

**July 11  
4:00PM**

***PeachtreeMG Registry Monthly Meetings will be held at the Brimstone Tavern, 10595 Old Alabama Road Connector, #1, Alpharetta, GA 30022 Meeting begins at 4:00pm. Zoom connection will be available***



## **Atlantic City Winners**

1st place-MGB-GT-Abe Cheij

2nd place-1963 MGB-Aviva Hoffmann

2nd place-1960 –MGA– Henneke Vogt

2nd place-1972 Midget-Phil Burke



# DUNWOODY'S OWN AND GEORGIA'S LARGEST NOT 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE

WHEN: On **MONDAY, JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>** (WHY NOT?)

**PMGR Event**

WHERE: Meet in the Parking Lot of All Saints Catholic Church

2443 Mount Vernon Road

Dunwoody, GA 30338

(between Jett Ferry and N. Peachtree Road)

Congregate at 8:00 AM

(Parade begins at 9:00 AM)

MG's will transport **VFW WW II, Korean War, Viet Nam, Afghanistan, Iraq and other Vets** at the front of the parade – We already have about 10 Vets signed up

Led by many of our PMGR Registry.

Following the Parade

## **TRADITIONAL AMERICAN BBQ AT THE FLEXNER'S**

4930 N. Peachtree Road, Dunwoody, 30338

Beginning at High Noon or shortly thereafter

Featuring Atlanta's Best Burgers and Dogs

And

YOUR outstanding **Vegetarian and NON-Dairy Side Dishes**

(No Meat, Pork, Bacon, or Shellfish, please)

## **Reply to Paul for both the Parade and the BBQ**

(even if you only come to the Parade or the BBQ)

**770-833-0891 or [paf20@tc.columbia.edu](mailto:paf20@tc.columbia.edu)**

Burgers and Dogs with all the trimmings will be provided

Along with a Big Fat Watermelon

[More News](#)

***Save the Date***

***PMGB Event***

***Picnic at Don Carter State Park***

***August 14, 11:00-2:00***

5000 N Browning Bridge Rd, Gainesville, GA 30506-3327

Watch for details in email and next month's newsletter

**PMGR Charity**



Besides enjoying our super-cool classic British cars by way of meets, drives and shows, one of the other major functions of our club is supporting a specific charity on an annual basis. For 2021 Peachtree MG Registry has selected to partner with Georgia Mountain Food Bank. With offices and facilities located in Gainesville, GA, the GMFB operates in partnership with 70 other agencies to provide food needs to over 50,000 of our fellow Georgians living in Forsyth, Dawson, Hall, Lumpkin, and Union county.

GMFB has been led for the past 12 years by Executive Director Kay Blackstock. I have spoken with Kay and she indicated that GMFB would welcome any participation by PMGR. While monetary contributions are of course effective (amazingly they can provide five meals on just one dollar) there are other ways to help including food drives and assistance with sorting of food received at their 20,000 sq ft facility (this is currently on pause due to the pandemic).

We will be looking for opportunities to collect food and money donations for GMFB through our ORF drives, monthly club meetings (as we hopefully return to in-person meetings soon) and other club events. Additionally, we will be exploring the possibility to have a club drive to the GMFB distribution facility later in the summer to assist with food sorting if pandemic conditions have improved enough to allow this.

I would like to personally recognize Reinout Vogt for promoting GMFB on the Cecil Kimber Rally on April 17 and raising \$150! That's 750 meals for hungry Georgians! Way to go Reinout!

Please consider supporting GMFB through PMGR this year. Should you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to call me.

Abe Cheij  
770-825-3427

# Atlanta British Motorcar Day Tellus Science Museum September 4th 2021



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN: [www.AtlantaBritishMotorcarDay.org](http://www.AtlantaBritishMotorcarDay.org)

## Time to register

Registration is now open! All makes, models, and years of British cars and motorcycles are welcome. Online registration is \$20 for the first car or motorcycle and \$10 for each additional car or motorcycle, plus fees and taxes.

Online registrants are guaranteed a dash plaque, goody bag, \$2 coupon off admission to the Tellus Museum, and entry into a raffle for a prize basket. This is also the fastest way to get through the line and onto the show field.

Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/atlanta-british-motorcar-day-tickets-160058147227>

Here's the link to the Tellus Museum: <https://tellusmuseum.org/>

+++++

It is with heavy hearts that we bring you the news that Pete Olson passed away on May 20, 2021. He was our club president for many years, a car and motorcycle enthusiast who loved the rare and unusual, and a dear friend. He will be missed. We will honor him this year with a **Peter L. Olson Award** given to a car decided by a small panel of judges.

SATURDAY • SEPTEMBER 11, 2021 • 10 AM to 3 PM



For more information, go to: <https://www.atlantabritishcarfayre.com/>

## Tuesday Lunch Group

Paul Flexner



For nearly a year, the Tuesday Lunch group has met in Norcross via Zoom – sitting in our own man caves in front of the screen. Then came a beautiful and warm day in February and a few of us ventured out in our LBC's to actually meet in person in Thrasher Park across the tracks from the Crossing and Paizanos restaurants.

With Spring, and warmer weather, we are now meeting at the **Iron Horse Tavern at Noon**. These are informal gatherings where everything is discussed and examined thoroughly – even a few topics relating directly to our MG's.

Email Paul at [PAF20@TC.COLUMBIA.EDU](mailto:PAF20@TC.COLUMBIA.EDU) if you have questions.

## Iron Horse Tavern

29 Jones St NW #2505, Norcross, GA 30071

## Brits in the Valley



This is the new logo for Brits in the Valley, which is the Peachtree MG Registry weekend for British cars in Columbus, GA, Sept 23-26. It just so happens that the newsletter, and our activities are out of sync; we will soon have the registration details ready, but nothing to print yet. Because the next newsletter is one whole month away, we will probably send a club email to all members as well as an invitation to people in British car clubs in the surrounding states in a couple of weeks. So, for now, please keep the dates reserved in your calendars.

September is going to be a busy month: British Motor Car Day and British Car Fayre in the first half of the month. Then one week off before Columbus.

You will be able to sign up for just the car show on Saturday the 25th, or you can also join us for a day-time rally on Friday the 24th to make it a whole weekend. Brits in the Valley will be the premier Peachtree MG Registry event for 2021 and we hope to see y'all in Columbus.

If you need any information or are able to assist by offering a little bit of your time to staff on-site registration, please let me know. You can always reach me at [reinoutvogt@gmail.com](mailto:reinoutvogt@gmail.com) or by calling/texting to 847-342-9804.



# Brits in the Valley

Presented by Peachtree MG Registry

Columbus, GA - Sept. 23-26, 2021



Following the very successful first Columbus British Car Show in 2019, the Peachtree MG Register is getting ready for the 2021 edition. We have plans to make it bigger and better than before, with more space for social distancing and activities for all tastes during the whole weekend.

All of us hope that by the time September rolls around, Covid-19 will be manageable, and we can enjoy our British cars again. From our side we'll put everything in place to make Brits in the Valley happen safely.

**Preliminary Program** (details and registration to follow)

### **Thursday September 23**

Ice Breaker, drinks, and dinner to kick-off the weekend

There are several interesting museums in Columbus for early arrivals, incl. Ma Rainey Blues, Columbus Art, Civil War Navy, National Infantry, and several more.

### **Friday, September 24**

Driving Tour through Georgia and Alabama with a lunch stop

Dinner in downtown Columbus, just a block from the Marriott Hotel

Stroll over to Broadway and stop where you like or make reservations together with new or old friends.

### **Saturday, September 25**

Car wash at the hotel

Car Show at the Woodruff Park, along the Chattahoochee River

Explore Columbus, guided tour with a stop at the Ma Rainey House & Blues Museum

Banquet

Awards

### **Sunday, September 26**

Breakfast to go and departure.

Grab a complimentary juice, coffee, and some bakery goods before hitting the road early, finishing up with the museums, or joining a caravan back to Atlanta with a stop at Callaway Gardens.

Columbus, and the location of the Marriott hotel, is very family friendly with interesting and fun things to do for all ages, incl. the downtown Whitewater Express with kayaking, tubing, and a zipline across the river into Alabama. So, please bring children, grandchildren, teenagers, and friends of all ages.

Please know that you are welcome to join us at any time or just for one day or event, if you are not able to spend the whole weekend at Brits in the Valley in Columbus GA.



## ***The Fall Mountain Tour XXIX***

***October 19-21, 2021***

**Hosted by Rick and Marjorie Hartlein**

The 29<sup>th</sup> Peachtree MG Registry Fall Tour will be **October 19-21, 2021**. The destination is **Greenville, SC**. Greenville is an up-and-coming city with lots to do with fun places to eat and drink.

*And yes - this time we are holding the fall tour in the middle of the week, not a weekend.* The dates were selected to give us the best room rates and minimize traffic. Most of the club members are now retired and many fall tour veterans have told me that holding the event during the week is good for them. And holding it in the middle of October will hopefully provide for some fall leaf color.

We are staying at the **Hampton Inn & Suites, Greenville-Downtown-River Place**, which is right in the heart of things – in easy walking distance to shops, restaurants and bars.

You may book your reservation by clicking on the link below.

**Booking Link:** <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?&ctyhocn=GSPDTHX&groupCode=CHHMGC&arrival=20211019&departure=20211021&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK, en,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

**Or you may call: 864-271-8700**

**Group Name:** ATL MG Car Club

**Arrival Date:** 19-Oct-2021

**Departure Date:** 21-Oct-2021

Regular King Bed rooms are \$149/night + taxes (15 of these rooms are reserved)

King Bed Studio with Balcony are \$169/night + taxes (5 of these rooms are reserved)

Breakfast is included in the room rate.

There is a \$7/night parking fee.

**You must make your reservation by September 3, 2021.** You may cancel up to one day before arrival. Your credit card will not be charged until after your stay.

We also have a room reserved where we can gather for afternoon drinks, joke telling, etc.

I will reserve a restaurant for each night so we can dine together as a group.

If you would like to join us, please make reservations now and let me know if you plan to participate.

The general schedule for the Fall Tour is:

**Tuesday, October 19:** Meet in the morning at a location to be determined on the north side of Atlanta, then take a scenic drive to Greenville.

- Tuesday Night: Group Dinner

**Wednesday, October 20:** Multiple options:

- Chill out and enjoy Greenville
- Bar-hop
- Hit the shops (arts, crafts, etc.)
- Check out nearby attractions (BMW plant, etc.)
- Wednesday Night: Group Dinner

**Thursday, October 21:** Return home at your leisure.

Stay tuned for further details. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the trip, please give me a call at **404-310-9283** or send an email to [hartlein@bellsouth.net](mailto:hartlein@bellsouth.net).

**Please send me an email if you do plan to attend.**

See you in the Fall!

**PMGR is invited**

## **October Drive and Picnic**

### **Hosted by the Georgia Triumph Association**

### **October 23, 2021**

The Georgia Triumph Association invites you to our annual Pooles Mill drive and cookout in October.

We have reserved the pavilion at the Pooles Mill Park for the past several years. It has lots of picnic table seating and clean bathrooms.

Please mark your calendars for October 23<sup>rd</sup>, unless your club has another event planned for that date.

If you need to forward to someone else in your club to put on the calendar, feel free to do so. If officers or contacts have changed in your club, please let me know.

Details of the drive and cookout to follow, but I just wanted to get the date out there to Alfa, Healey, Jag and MG.

**RSVP will be required** as GTA provides the meats for the grill and soft beverages. We ask participants to bring a picnic style side or desert.

There is technically no alcohol permitted at the park. If anyone brings anything, they are asked to keep it discreet.

Talk soon,  
Mark Post  
GTA Activities Director

## PMGR Visits the Children at Aurora Day Camp



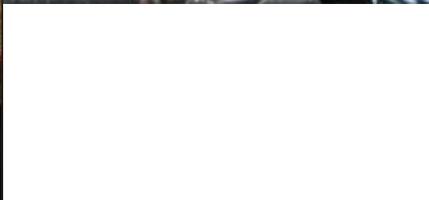
The 2020 PMGR charity was the Aurora Day Camp. Aurora Day Camp is a member of the Sunrise Association, a network of 8 similar day camps that brings back the joys of childhood to children with cancer and their siblings through Day Camp, Year-Round and In-Hospital Recreational programs, all offered free of charge.

With the camp going virtual during the summer of 2020, the PMGR was not able to visit with the children and share our beautiful MG's. This summer the camp is once again in session at their Sandy Springs location, and we were able to bring our MG's and a few Triumphs for a visit on Friday, June 18<sup>th</sup>. As they say, "better late than never"!

In attendance were 5 MGs and 2 Triumphs. About 30-40 kids and their counselors came to visit the cars in small groups and they (kids and counselors!) really enjoyed seeing and sitting in the cars. Also, as they say, "a good time was had by all"!

Many thanks to those who brought their cars and to those who helped support the camp.

Jack Orkin - Midget  
Mike Cook - MGB-V8  
Rick Hartlein - MGB-GT  
Bud Kruger - MG-TD  
Jay Levy - MGB  
Ken Yokelson - TR3  
John Gosling - TR4



## A Blast from the Past

87-09 Peachtree V\_2, No 5, Sept 87

### MISCELLANEOUS TECH TIPS

by Ken Christian

Two 3 and 1/2 inch stereo speakers can be easily installed in the pre-1968 speaker console. You can keep your early MGB authentic in appearance, and still have stereo.

By attaching a velco strip to the glove box key and to the tab below the dash under the glove box, the key can be readily available, but out of sight. This is especially useful, since the box cannot be opened without the key. (A particularly annoying design, especially if the engine is running, and your key is on a ring with the ignition key.)

The bolts attaching the flywheel to the crankshaft can easily be removed by using six point sockets, rather than 12 points, which tend to slip off the half thickness bolts. (I wish I knew this last month when Neal and I were replacing his rear seal! -ed)

## Get Out for a Drive

Here's this month's recommendation to get out of the house for a self-guided drive and if you are comfortable, a bit of sightseeing and dining!

July's City of the Month is Hiwassee, GA.

Quick Facts About Hiwassee, Georgia

- Settled *circa* 1820, Hiwassee was the designated seat of the newly formed Towns County in 1856. It was incorporated as a town in 1870 and as a city in 1916.
- Elevation: 1,972'
- Size: 2.077 Square Miles
- County: Towns
- Population: 880 (2020 census)

Official City Website: <https://hiwasseeega.gov/>

- Easy to get to via GPS services:

107 miles from Atlanta, GA  
39 miles from Blue Ridge, GA  
36 miles from Mineral Bluff, GA  
43 miles from Dahlonega, GA  
93 miles from Canton, GA  
86 miles from Dacula, GA

Hiwassee is an Appalachian Trail community. Its name is derived from the Cherokee—or perhaps Creek—word *Ayuhwasi*, which means meadow. There are several entrances to the Appalachian Trail at various locations in the area. The Southern Highroads Trail passes through Hiwassee and alongside Lake Chatuge, a TVA reservoir popular for swimming, boating, jet skiing, paddling, sport fishing, and other water sports.

The Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds hosts the Georgia Mountain Fair each summer. The Anderson Music Hall at the fairgrounds hosts great shows with top name stars each year. Hamilton Gardens at Lake Chatuge, bursts into bloom early April to late May and can almost take your breath away at the sight of more than 3,000 azaleas and rhododendrons. Local artists, inspired by their beautiful surroundings, create works of art on display at the Artworks Artisan Center, as well as for sale.

Hiwassee River is known as "the hidden jewel of trout fishing." Waterfalls dot the landscape and provide great hiking jaunts.

Places to Eat:

BBQ: Well at least they both spell pig the same!!!

The Happy Hawg - <https://thehappyhawg.shop/>

Hawg Wild BBQ & Catfish House - <https://thehappyhawg.shop/>

If BBQ isn't your thing you might want to try:

Hiawassee Seafood Bar & Grill - <https://www.facebook.com/freshseafoodinthemountains/>

Sightseeing and things to do:

Fred Hamilton Garden - The Fred Hamilton Rhododendron Garden is the only public [botanical garden](#) in the northeast Georgia mountains specializing in [Rhododendrons](#) and [Native Azaleas](#), located on the [Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds](#) property.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fred\\_Hamilton\\_Rhododendron\\_Garden](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fred_Hamilton_Rhododendron_Garden)

The Georgia Mountain Fairgrounds - is home to several popular events throughout the year including the Georgia Mountain Fair, Georgia Mountain Moonshine Cruiz-In, Georgia Mountain Fall Festival, Superstar concerts, and Georgia's Official State Fiddlers' Convention.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia\\_Mountain\\_Fairgrounds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia_Mountain_Fairgrounds)

Bell Mountain Park Historical Site and the observation deck. In addition to the Hal Herrin Scenic Overlook a 2nd platform rising to 3424 feet offers a 360-degree views of the surrounding lake and mountains.

<http://www.townscountyga.org/bell-mountain-park---historical-site.html>

Have Fun and Safe Travels!!!!

Tom

## July ORF

### **Mountain AirPark ORF** **Wednesday, July 21, 2021**

Meet at the Dawsonville IHOP. Then take some very interesting and scenic back roads through Dawson, Hall, White, Habersham, and Stephens counties. Our first stop will be at the fly/live-in community just south of Cleveland, GA named [Mountain AirPark](#). At Mountain AirPark we will visit Bennet Aiken. Bennet owns a hanger overflowing with interesting “stuff”. The “stuff” includes an antique Piper J3 airplane, an airplane upholstery business, a powder coating business, an Austin Healy 3000BJ8 undergoing restoration, and several radio controlled model airplanes. After spending some time with Bennet, we will head for Lunch at BJ’s restaurant in Toccoa, GA.

#### The Schedule:

8:00 am: Meet at the Dawsonville, [Dawsonville IHOP](#) for breakfast

9:00 am: Depart for Mountain AirPark

10:00 am: Arrive at Mountain Airpark

11:30 am: Depart for Toccoa

12:15 pm: Arrive at BJ’s for lunch, 51 Doyle St, Toccoa, 30577

Depart for home

Jim Doran

770-530-8241

jadlanier@gmail.com

## Our Stories



Jack and Kathy Orkin's midget was the FEATURE ARTICLE and COVER PAGE in this month's North American Classic MG Magazine.



Continued on next page

**T**his summer marks the 60th anniversary of the MG Midget, as most people know it -- the small and sporty two-seater that many consider the little brother or sister to the MGB.

However, the very first MG Midget was built decades before. We take a look at two wonderful examples of the Midget -- pre-war and post-war in this issue of Classic MG Magazine.

Jack Orkin bought his 1974 Midget when new. Since then, he and his wife, Kathy, have driven more than 180,000 miles traversing 20 states and Canada.

"Most of those miles are on backroads, not interstates," Jack explained. "Traveling the backroads at a slower

pace, with the wind in your hair and a wide-open view around you, is just so much more enjoyable. I like to say that you get to see what makes America the Beautiful -- beautiful.

But at one time, Orkin didn't know that MGs, yet Midgets, even existed.

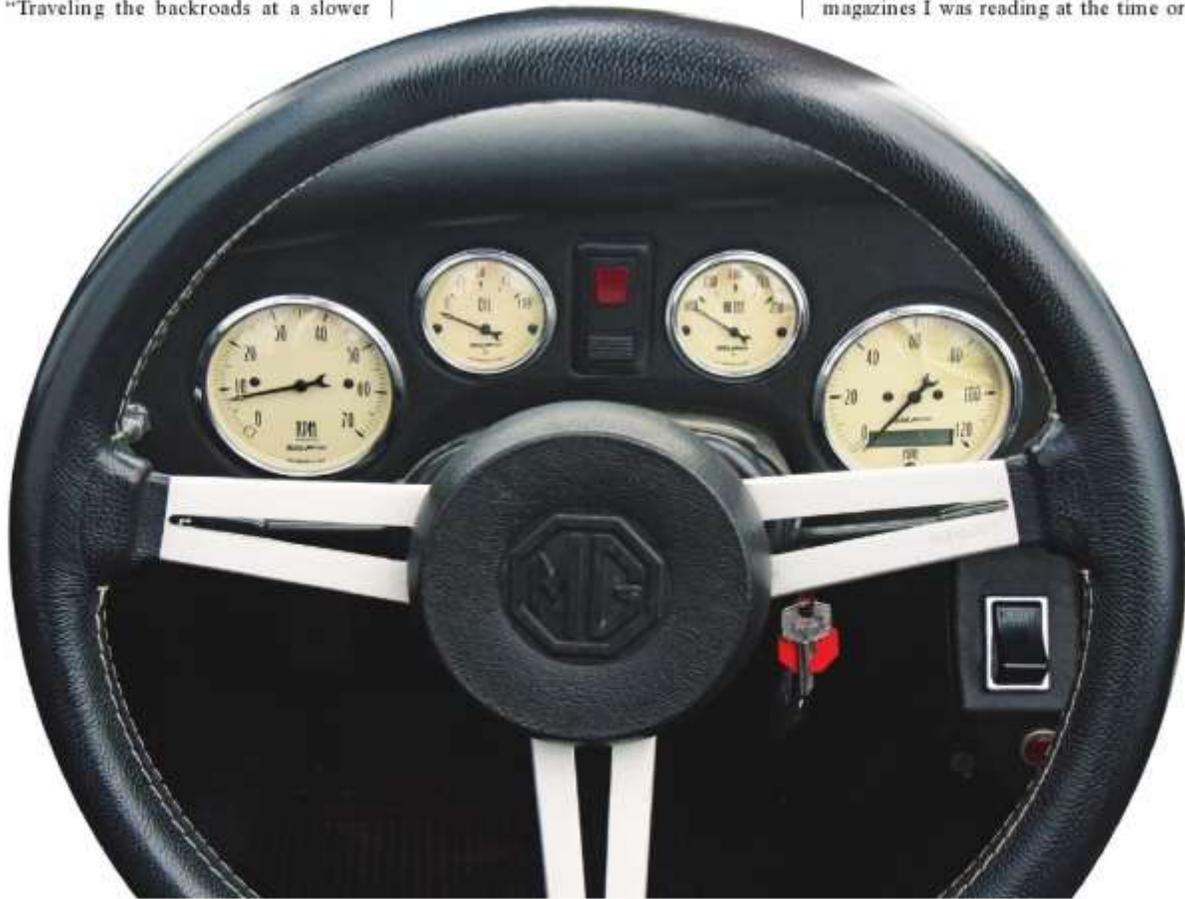
"As a kid growing up, I was always interested in cars, but at that time it was usually muscle cars, like the Chevelle SS 396, and, of course, the Corvette.

"The second car I owned was a 1968 Chevy Bel-Air with a 396 that I bought at auction from the Mississippi Highway Patrol. I drove that all through college."

*"I really cannot remember how I found out about MGs. Maybe I had seen some while in school, maybe in the car magazines I was reading at the time or maybe I was just passing the dealership and saw it."*

When Orkin graduated from college in 1973, he decided it was time for a new car. Of course, he wanted a Corvette. But he couldn't afford the almost \$6,000 price tag.

"I really cannot remember how I found out about MGs. Maybe I had seen some while in school, maybe in the car magazines I was reading at the time or





maybe I was just passing the dealership and saw it.”

“But, I learned that I could get a two-seat, convertible sports car for only \$3,300 and I could swing that. Dan McKinney Datsun-Volvo was a dealer in my hometown of Jackson, MS, that sold MGs and I went to take a look.”

“When I saw the Midget and drove it, I was hooked. That was my introduction to MGs. I know now that my wife and I could not have any more fun in

*“The car is special because it is just so much fun and because I have been able to enjoy it for 47 years...”*

a Corvette than we do in the Midget. Maybe we could get where we were going a little faster in a “Vette, but we couldn’t have any more fun.”

His wife of six months had no idea he bought the new MG Midget. She was in Shreveport, LA recovering from surgery.

“Arriving at the hospital, I parked the car, went up to see her and told her I had a get-well surprise for her. Since she had casts on both feet, I picked her up, carried her to the window and pointed out the car. I guess it went over OK since she is still with me.”

The Midget was his daily driver until moving to Atlanta, but he worried about the heavy traffic and potholes taking a toll on the little roadster. “Now, we use it to drive to play. And we do like to drive it.”

While he appreciates an original or concours, Jack Orkin prefers to personalize his Midget to his liking.

“Over the years, I’ve personalized it with items such as American Racing wheels, Fiero seats and a Datsun transmission.

And when the vinyl dash cracked, I stripped off the Abingdon pillow, painted it with a black, wrinkle finish and added AutoMeter gauges."

A smaller Momo steering wheel makes it easier for him to get in and out. The engine was rebuilt once and the car has repainted once in its original Citron color.

"The car is special because it is just so much fun and because I have been able to enjoy it for 47 years. During

our travels, we are always getting a thumbs up, a wave or a toot of the horn. Everyone loves to see the little car."

"The Spridget family also makes it special. That family is relatively small, with less than half as many Midgets made as MGBs, and there is a great camaraderie among us."

"MG is truly the Marque of Friendship." 

WORDS: LARRY SANATA  
PHOTOS: JACK ORKIN



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for up to date event  
information.**





**Episode #4 – Time to Let Go – “Widow”** is a 1980 Black MGB-LE roadster pictured on the left; and, on the right with a friendly 1975 MGB-V8 named “Warrior”. *“There is a time for everything under the sun.”* Kathy Crowl

***This story begins*** with a young couple living in Cleveland, Ohio. This couple had a bent toward business and a love for British cars. One day, they visited a dealership in their hometown that has just received a shipment of MGBs, one of which was an MGB-LE being displayed on the showroom floor. From the moment they saw it, they knew they had to buy it! And, buy it they did! In the course of the months that followed, they moved to Florida to start a sandwich shop business called Sobics Sandwich Shop. As astute business people, they quickly expanded from their first location in Brandon to a second location in Tampa. Things were good. The wife drove the LE every day from home to the shops. In time, they had to find a place to have their LE serviced and repaired as needed. She connected with Dan Newman who owns Newman’s MGB Service in Brandon, Florida. The lead mechanic there was Joe Shepherd who formerly owned Shepherd’s Import, and was known for his British car racing heritage. So, the LE received continual service to keep it on the road as a daily driver for this business owner.

***As life went on***, the wife’s husband was found un-expectedly with cancer and died within a year. So, Kathy Crowl was left a widow to operate the two business locations. Within a year, Kathy decided to sell their business and return home to Ohio to be closer to her family. During the few months that followed, she took the LE for a needed repair. It happened that I stopped by Newman’s that same day and noticed a “For Sale” sign laying on the front seat of the LE. Does Kathy want to sell the LE? I’m not sure; so, why don’t you call her? That very day, I called to get her answer. **She said “Yes, it’s for sale. It’s time to let it go.”** In respect for her widowhood, haggling a price was inappropriate. So decided to let her set a price; which if affordable, would be what I needed to pay her. The price was right, the cash exchanged, and the 1980 MGB-LE came home with me.

***Within the first year*** of ownership, the LE received a new interior including seats, headrests, carpet . . . the interior works. Thank you Moss Motors! In addition, rebuilt the front suspension, brakes, master and clutch cylinders, and carburetor. When buffed out and detailed, the LE received her new name: “Widow”. “Widow” became the MGB of choice when my wife traveled with me to car shows, family gatherings, and date nights at the movie theater. Not sure *why* it became the car of choice; but, always suspected that it was

the smell of the new upholstery! We had great times with this 1980 MGB-LE! **The picture below** is of “Widow” during **her first car show** travels to Dillard, Georgia which was **hosted by our very own PMGR!**



This MG experience was a reminder of life’s greatest lessons. ***You may wonder what life lessons we learned from this MGB rescue project?*** Here’s a few lessons that have encouraged us along the way: **(1) Face the unexpected**. When working on your MG project, you will discover things about its condition that you did not expect. But, like any faithful British car owner, you face it; get counsel for it; then, deal with it. Thank you John Twist, Glenn Lenard, and many others! ***Likewise***, life is filled with unexpected events. ***How will you face life’s unexpected events?*** For example, an unexpected cancer, the death of a loved one, a loss of the source of your income, the undesired need to turn to family for help, etc., etc. Resolve to face it by setting aside your fear of the unknown outcome, get counsel for it by conferring with wise professionals and godly people who are genuinely concerned for your wellbeing. The source of that counsel could be from the truth and principles recorded in the Bible or other books; and from counselors that present you with proven truths that address your specific situation. Then, deal with it by putting into practice the truth and principles you have learned!

**(2) Let it go**. With some MGs purchased, there came a time that they were “let go”. Sometime because they had outlived their usefulness, and, sometimes because their owner had lost interest in maintaining and absorbing those associated expenses. Whatever the reason, there came a time to “let it go”! ***Likewise***, life has seasons which require *letting go*. We can’t experience the next season of life without letting go of the prior season. It’s impossible to move forward into the future without letting go of the past. As recorded in ancient writings, there is a time and place for everything. So, what season of life are you in? Is it time to let go of the past? Even the multiple MGs you’ve owned or own? Can a person have too many MGs? I’m facing this question now! ***Just thinking out loud***.

***Oh, by the way***, many have found the best life coach/counselor to be professionals and people who seek God for wisdom. Makes sense since God knows everything; and, the life principles He recorded for our edification have proven reliable every time applied. Kathy Crowl courageously faced the unexpected, let go of the past, and is currently doing well! Her *resolve* and *faith* helped her move forward. We hope you are encouraged by this article. ***Thank you*** for letting us share our MG experience with you! Please ***stay well!*** And, ***Safety, Fast! Call, text, or email us as needed. We’re here to serve.***

# Our Travels

## Highlands Motoring Festival 2021

Highlands, NC

By

Jim Doran

[webmaster@gatriumph.com](mailto:webmaster@gatriumph.com)

770-530-8241



For the third time, this time as a spectator, my wife, Kathy, and I attended the [Highlands Motoring Festival](#) held on June 10-13, 2021. This is an ideal situation for me. Kathy and I love spending time in Highlands enjoying the many fine restaurants while experiencing some of the best roads for a driving enthusiast. And, to have a show of this caliber just 2 hours from home made it a slam dunk! Events included two “lap of the mountains” 160+ drives, one Thursday and the second on Friday, various parties, and charity events and then Saturday’s “cars in the park” car show. This year for the show, the organizers curated each potential entrant making a limited selection of cars, around 100. Others who did not make the show were welcomed on the drives and all the other events. Here’s an event [photo gallery](#). This was the show 14<sup>th</sup> year so plan to make the 15<sup>th</sup> in 2022 and book early.

Paul and Barbara participated in Cars and Coffee in Central New Jersey on Father's Day and made the banner on the Cars and Coffee Facebook page



**MG2021 International  
Atlantic City Addendum  
Paul Flexner**

There is always a story following the original story. Barbara and I did not return to Atlanta with the others – we drove north to Morristown to visit our kids and grandkids along with a short visit to New York City. Thus, we had the fun of driving home alone a week later. All went extremely well for a day and a half or about 300 miles of the trip. Then a clicking sound developed in the transmission area. Over the next few miles, it worsened, and we pulled over and contacted our tech team. The end result is that the car was towed to a local shop for repairs that we are awaiting word on at this moment. You see this all happened on Friday afternoon.



So, why am I sharing this with you? Following NAMGBR protocols, we immediately pulled out our Mutual Aid Directory where we discovered one member in the area. A quick call got us in touch with Peter Kareski who became our new best friend for the afternoon. Peter assisted us with finding a local mechanic to have the car towed and helped us connect with the rental car people and suggested a delightful local restaurant for a late lunch/early dinner.

Our MGB was towed to Luray Import Service Inc where they are starting the diagnostic work on it this week. The shop has been around for 25 years and has worked on many MG's. They were highly recommended by the locals we spoke to which gave us great confidence.

The follow-up story was finding a rental car and then finding a manager who would break the rules to get us in a vehicle for the long ride home. We found success and enjoyed a fine dinner at our favorite Dunwoody eatery on Saturday night – some 600+ miles later.



# We are Creative

## Willard 2021 MG Rodeo and Arts Festival

By Dave Peck 6/15/21

StayMGcation

Series 1: Episode 6 - Grande Prix

Recap: If you missed Episode 5 in the June newsletter, here's a quick summary. Three Club members (Harry Culpepper, Arthur Dankworth, and Oliver Wheelwright) and Oliver's 12-year-old granddaughter Priscilla "Pris" Wylde met at an Atlanta English pub to plan for the Willard 2021 car show. They decided to add a rodeo to this year's show. They received a message that someone purloined a bunch of very valuable pre-war MGs and may be planning to sell them to possibly obtain a nuclear bomb. The Peachtree MG Team's mission is to find out who stole the cars and recover them. They flew to Monaco. They successfully recovered Old Number One and three old MGs. Pris and Oliver had to appear in court on charges of reckless endangerment, driving without a license, underage driver, no insurance, failure to maintain lane, speeding inside an auction house, and terrorizing the peaceful citizens of Monaco. Pris, aka the Pink Princess, got a key to the city. The judge allowed them to enter the Monaco Grande Prix.

"What are we going to do now?" asked Arthur.

"We're going after the other stolen MGs," said Harry.

"Not before we drive in the Grande Prix," countered Oliver.

"Are you crazy? We're going to get killed trying to stay with race cars going 200 mph."

"We're not actually going to race our MGs, just get a few laps in, and get the camera crew to shoot some footage for our film 'MG vs. GM.'"

"You mean were not really going to be racing?" asked Pris.

"No, of course not. We just need enough footage to show the racecars behind the MGs. The race cars will actually be getting ready to lap the MGs, but with Photoshop we should be able to make it appear as if the Brits are ahead."

The Team headed off to the auto detail shop. They picked out some big numbers and had them pasted on the front and sides of the MGs. They rented some official looking crash helmets and stuck some Union Jacks between the seats.

The next day the Team showed up at the professional drivers' entrance ready to race. The security guard directed them to the parking area for spectators. Oliver and Harry informed the guard that they were here to race their cars. The guard informed them that they were not on the list of entrants. Pris stepped out of Oliver's car and waived the bright orange plastic key-to-the-city above her head. The security guard apologized profusely, opened the gate to the track, and hopped on a moped to lead them into the stadium. They lined up behind all the real racers and waited for the checkered flag to drop. Pris had been designated the "pit crew" and carried a bottle of window washer in case the windshields needed cleaning.

To be continued next month

I received an email from Barry Rynk, a gentleman from Allen, Texas who has read our PMGR newsletter and asked if we would be interested in publishing some of his poetry. He stated, "I'm writing poems about my youth and my first car, an old beat-up '71 BRG MGB. I bought that old car when I was 18 and now, I'm 59 years old. As I approach retirement, now an empty nester, I've been looking for another MG to enjoy all the activities and rallies with my local North Texas MG club. I'm just a new member of The Texas MG Register."

Barry Rynk

823 Apple Hill Dr.

Allen, TX 75013

(561)558-6947 (mobile)

### **A Rally of the Mind**

There'll always be an MG parked in the back of my mind,  
raring to explore a country road on a golden, sunlit morning.  
Always ready, idling at the start of an antique car rally,  
with green rolling hills extending all the way to the horizon.  
There's an imaginary gun shot— pop!— followed by a  
quick run to my BRG car: "Number 18" since a "B" was  
my first car in high school. I deftly leg over the roadster's  
low-slung doors and slide into the tan bucket seat, the shifter  
falling readily to hand. I'm smiling ear-to-ear as I  
adjust my goggles, pull out the choke, turn the ignition key.  
The simple, mechanical Smith's gauges spring to life. I  
goose the throttle and we're suddenly off down a country  
backroad, wind in my hair! An MGA takes the lead, but I don't  
care. I'm too busy enjoying the rapture of the twin SU carbs,  
the exhaust note singing, as we round our first apex in  
perfect harmony. The brilliance of the rack-and-pinion steering,  
the feedback from the road, the stiffness of the chassis, the  
perfect heel-and-toe position for a downshift into a tight corner!  
I'm right behind the swooping lines of the "A", enjoying the view,  
as we exit the turn onto a straightaway. I quickly down-shift and  
floor it to regain the lead, saluting the driver all the way!  
Swapping positions four times on the circuit, with the sun at  
high noon, I take the checkered flag, and keep right on going!  
Driving home, down a quiet country road, suddenly, a girl  
I knew years ago appears in the passenger seat, wearing dark  
shades and a summer dress. There's a tartan blanket and lunch  
neatly packed in a wicker picnic box, stowed right behind us—  
Ring! Ring! — Oh, no, the alarm clock! *Please don't wake me  
now from my dream of the perfect MG day!*

Barry Rynk 6-11-21

## Guest Articles

The [Atlanta Concours d'Elegance](#) organizers have created The Visionary Award to honor Don Panoz, an early and enthusiastic Atlanta Concours supporter who envisioned how the premier event would benefit Braselton, Ga. and Metro Atlanta area. Panoz passed away on Sept. 11, 2018. He was 83.



According to Bill Wallet, CEO of the Atlanta Concours, The Visionary Award will be presented to an entrant, sponsor or vendor that best exemplifies the futurist spirit that so defined Don Panoz. The award will be presented during Sunday's Atlanta Concours awards ceremony.

In 1961 Panoz, along with army buddy Milan "Mike" Puskar, founded Milan Pharmaceuticals in White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Milan Pharmaceuticals evolved into Mylan, a company that now sells an estimated 1,300 products to more than 140 countries and territories worldwide. In the 1970s Panoz founded Élan Corp. in Ireland and led a research team that created time-release medication delivered through a transdermal patch, commonly used today as the nicotine patch.

Panoz planted roots in Georgia and created Chateau Elan Winery and Resort in Braselton, a first-class wine, spa, and golf resort and conference center that helped put the small community on the map and stimulated the area's economic and residential growth. In the mid '90s he turned his entrepreneurial eye toward sports car racing, establishing the Panoz Motor Sports Group, Elan Motorsports Technologies, and acquiring the International Motor Sport Association. He founded the American Le Mans Series, invested in the iconic Road Atlanta, Sebring International Raceway, and Canadian Tire Motorsports Park racing circuits, and created Road Atlanta's annual Petit Le Mans 10-hour/1,000-mile endurance race. Panoz is widely credited with resurrecting sports car racing in North America and continued pursuing innovative automotive technologies until his death.

**Continued on the next page.**

The Atlanta Concours would not exist without Don Panoz. Very early on when co-founders Bill Walle and Harry Krix dreamed of an event for the area's lovers of automotive history, they met with Panoz and sought advice from the visionary with a knack for turning dreams into reality. He often shared his wisdom and jovially advising we should set aside time to dream every day, but understand that sometimes there will be nightmares.

It didn't take long for Panoz to envision how the Atlanta Concours could benefit the Metro Atlanta area and his beloved Braselton. He threw his full support behind the Atlanta Concours, directing his teams to do everything possible to ensure the new event's success.

"Don's ability to see untapped potential was uncanny," said Walle. "It was as if he had a 500-horsepower crystal ball in his head. I'm forever grateful for his advice and support, which ensured the success we've enjoyed since those early days."

Panoz, the high-performance and luxury sports car brand created by Don's son Dan Panoz in 1989, is a founding sponsor that brought numerous race cars examples from Don Panoz's 20-plus year racing history to the inaugural Atlanta Concours in 2016.

John Leverett, vice president of sales and marketing for Panoz, spoke about Don Panoz's involvement in the first Atlanta Concours' planning meetings.

*"Don would arrive at EVERY meeting with a unique idea,. He insisted that we try to see his vision and determine the viability of his idea. 'No' was not an acceptable answer. A day without an idea was a day lost!"*  
— John Leverett

Panoz debuted the Panoz Avezzano sports car at the event, alongside other Panoz sports cars and the many historic race cars. The next year, Panoz brought its new Avezzano race car and, soon after, Team Panoz Racing completed its first Pirelli World Challenge racing season. That year Team Panoz Racing and the Avezzano race car won the 2018 Pirelli World Challenge GTS Sprint/SprintX Manufacturers' Championship.

Panoz will once again be at the Atlanta Concours.

Custom – American Made – Luxury

Panoz, a truly American marque, motors into its fourth decade dedicated to exclusive sports car craftsmanship. Sleek, elegant luxurious automotive art, Panoz cars take on a European style with an American attitude.

Proven engineering, "dream car" customization and personal customer relationships; these are the Panoz hallmarks.

(Adapted from an article of unknown origin, originally published Sept 19, 2018.)





# A Postcard from Karel

July is vacation month and this postcard is from Nice on the French Mediterranean coast about midway between Monaco and the city of Cannes. There is an MG T-Series on the Promenade des Anglais (in the lower right hand corner).

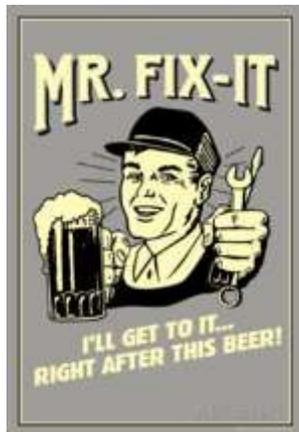


# A Greeting Card from Reinout

A greyscale painting of a 1949 MG TC by artist John Napier hill, published by AutoGraphic in Western Springs, IL, USA.



# Tech



Tech Article: July; 2021,

Want to keep your car running a long and healthy time? DO NOT LET IT RUN HOT!!!!

I have another overheated car in the shop. How many times over the past 47 years have I said if something goes wrong with your car while you are driving it, STOP!!! Low oil pressure; stop! Temp gauge showing high; stop! Amp or volt gauge showing no charge; stop! It may cause some inconvenience such as a tow home; but it could save a lot of money.

This car's problem could have been a very minor one but was allowed to escalate into a blown head gasket. So let us look at what could cause a car to run hot. Loss of coolant; radiator blocked (internal or external); fan belt broken; timing too high; compression too high; stuck thermostat; blown head gasket (could be the cause or caused by running hot) or carb mixture way off.

Most old British cars have a temp gauge so watch it, do not ignore it. If yours does not work, fix it. Some are cheap to fix needing only a new sending unit while others require a new gauge. A blown fuse could cause the gauge to not work but you should notice other things, such as turn signals, not working. On most of our LBCs, if your temp gauge and turn

signals don't work, neither do your brake lights so stop and check it out if the gauge quits while you are driving.

Now, back to the causes. A slow leak can be as bad as a blown hose as they both cause a coolant loss. On some of the LBCs, if a hose blows and you lose all your coolant rapidly, your temp gauge may spike toward hot and then return back to the normal range. MGBs are bad about this. And MGBs have a ridiculous lower hose with a small hose "spliced and glued" into it for the heater.

On a lot of the new hoses, this little hose can break off and lose all the water in seconds. Your gauge will go to hot and then drop back to normal as the sender does not read accurately off of steam. And steam does not cool an engine. If you get a new hose with this small attachment, grab the small hose, and shake like crazy for a few minutes. If it stays attached, you may be good to use it. I have had one break off after 10 minutes running time as it sat in the shop. What would have happened if it lasted 30 minutes and the car made it to the interstate? That would be Ok because my supplier would have given me another new \$18 dollar hose. No, they would not pay for any engine damage! None of them do.

You may have noticed and/or questioned why I did not mention a bad fan if your car has electric fans. Most cars do not need a fan while driving down the road, only at stops. They removed the engine driven fans from most cars to improve fuel mileage and emissions. Once a car reaches about 20 MPH, the air rushing thru the radiator is enough to keep the car in the normal range. If your temp increases at a stop and lowers once under way, all is normal. If the temp does not lower after driving a few minutes, there may be a problem. STOP if the temp continues to climb.

Continued on next page

If a fan belt breaks on most LBCs, your water pump will cease spinning and pumping water thru the engine. Notice, I said most of the cars, Triumph TR7 and Stags have a cam driven water pump (with its own list of problems). You should notice a bad fan belt when your amp or voltmeter shows no charge and/or your ignition light shows bright red. Again, STOP!

There used to be a problem with some aftermarket water pumps that were made with a plastic impeller. Water corrosion or electrolysis would slowly dissolve the impeller and the pump would still look good from the outside but push no water thru the engine. This took a little bit to discover at first but is something I always think about. Especially if you pump has an aluminum housing. I think most suppliers have stopped selling the plastic impeller pumps by now.

If you have watched any racing, you should know that a blocked radiator will cause an engine to run hot. In racing, the blockage is almost always something in front of the radiator opening or stuck to the core like a sheet of paper or plastic. If the car was running normal and you suddenly notice a rise in engine temp, you could have picked up some plastic bag from the road so; STOP and check it out.

An internal blockage is a little harder to detect. Most of our radiators have brass cooling tube and fins. I know some of you have gone to aluminum radiators, but those that haven't, your tubes become clogged from age, corrosion, or junk in the cooling system like rust. It has gotten harder to find a radiator shop that will "rod" out an old radiator, but they do still exist. You take the radiator to them, and they unsolder (why is there an L in this word?) the top and bottom and run a rod thru the tubes.

You could buy a new radiator for less, but a lot of the new "China" radiators have been known to not cool very well. Be cautious of where you buy one. And while on the topic of radiators, what about coolant? I like a 25% antifreeze mix. Water cools best. 25% will be enough to keep your engine from freezing in most southern states and it will keep the inside of the engine from rusting. Water pump lubrication is a myth in coolants. If any of the coolant got to

the seals and bearings, you would have a leak. And, as the impeller does not touch anything in the engine as it spins, it needs no lubrication.

Thermostats, a very misunderstood item, are prone to failure and most fail in the closed position. A thermostat is a small part that blocks the coolant flow thru the engine, on purpose. It allows the engine to warm up a little quicker and when at some optimum preselected temp, opens and lets the coolant flow. Unless it is extremely cold where you are driving, the thermostat does not regulate the temp of your engine. It does, however, provide some heat to the passengers.

Thermostats come in several temp ranges, 160, 180, 190, and a few more. Once your engine reaches the temp of the thermostat, it remains open until the engine cools down below that temp; usually after you shut it off and let it sit a few hours. If you have a 160 inserted in your engine, your engine will not run 160 degrees because of the thermostat. It will run warmer just because engines run hotter than 160. This is perfectly normal. A lot of times, I have had customers say their engine is running over 180 and they want a cooler thermostat. Sorry, once the temp passes 160, the thermostat has no effect of temp.

I like to take an old thermostat and cut out the center section leaving the outer ring. This is a blanking sleeve. It allows coolant to circulate but with a little resistance, so it does not circulate too fast. There is a huge science behind coolant circulating in engines, so I won't go into it very much.

But, if coolant circulates too fast, it may not pick up enough heat from the internals of the engine to cool things down. And when the coolant flows too fast, it can leave little pockets of coolant in tight corners (of which there are many in a cast block) that do not get circulated into the flow. These little pockets can become steam and cause overheating and cracked heads and blocks. Also, coolant needs to spend enough time in the radiator to dissipate its heat to the air. I install blanking sleeves in most of my engines, so they do not overheat, of which two has failed to follow my theory. But one was a bad thermostat in a car with a bad temp gauge.

**Continued on next page**

Now to what caused the other and my latest problem: timing way too high. A car seemed to stop running after traveling a long time running very well. There was no overheating or any problem that seemed obvious as to the cause of the stoppage. Several people stopped to help, and a determination was made the points had closed. Simple enough; get out a screwdriver and a feeler gauge and set the points.

No one had a feeler gauge, so they guessed at a gap and the car started. Unfortunately, the gap was way too big and upon testing at the shop, it advanced the timing 17 degrees. This is the difference between a .015" gap and a .035" gap. The car was set to run at 32 degrees BTDC at 3,000 rpm. Now, it was running at 49 degrees BTDC. This meant the fuel/air mixture was igniting way before the pistons reached the top of the cylinders. They were trying to compress the fuel mixture while it was trying to explode and expand.

The science behind this says it will make the car run hot. After driving just fine for 30 or 40 miles before it stopped, it ran hot in less than 3 miles. It was blowing water out of the overflow tank like crazy, lots of water. The engine could have been saved at this point if they had let it cool and added water and set the timing. But, no, they did none of that. They continued to drive it until it ran hot again and started making odd noises. Then they stopped it.

Upon arrival at the shop on a wrecker; after waiting several hours for said wrecker because the wrecker company has only 2 of its 5 trucks running due to no workers showing up to work because they said they made more money not working due to government handout, we found the head gasket blown and water in the oil pan. We replaced the gasket after checking the head and block for warpage of which none was found. We drained the water and oil from the pan and replaced the oil filter.

In this case, it was acting like a water filter as there was very little oil in the filter; it was all water. And we know water does not lubricate very well. I think the noise was only a dry rocker shaft squeaking and the engine ran quietly after oil pressure was returned. It had good oil pressure after only a few seconds of running. The small amount of water left throughout the engine will evaporate the first long drive and do no harm.

We cut open the filter and poured the old oil thru a paint filter to make sure there was no bearing material in them. All looked good, the owner dodged a big bullet. A compression check showed 2 cylinders a little low, 135 and 145 where the rest were around 155 to 160. I think the rings will seat themselves and be OK.

So, in summation, if your gauge shows the temp rising at an alarming rate, be alarmed and stop to check it out. This car will live to run many thousands of miles giving enjoyment to the owners. And maybe, just maybe, they will carry a feeler gauge and extra water in the future.

This turned into a much longer article than I intended so I stop now. As the pandemic I appears to be over, I really hope to see y'all somewhere soon.

Barry Rosenberg

British Car Service.

## Regalia & Tech

### No (Real) Regalia and Tech Articles for July

It is Summer and preparing for our trip to MG International 2021 in Atlantic City, NJ and the vacation itself took a lot of time. So much time that I didn't really get anything done on the Regalia and Tech Session fronts.

We sealed AvivA's windshield in our last Zoom Tech Session. Unfortunately, the video quality wasn't very good but hopefully it will still be useful on our YouTube channel. Even more unfortunate, was that AvivA's windshield still leaked when we ran into a little bit of rain on the first day of our convoy to New Jersey. Not from the seal between the window frame and the body, but through the rubber that hold the glass inside the window frame. And even more unfortunate than that, was that the windshield cracked the next day and will need to be replaced. Ah well, that will be the time to make sure that all rubbers are properly installed and sealed. During the summer months, we will pause the tech session program, as we all have other activities, with and without MGs, to keep us busy. And hopefully, Covid-19 is still under control in the Fall and we can resume in-person tech sessions.

A few members have ordered name tags and grill badges. I hope that you also looked at our new store front at Land's End. Our website links directly to it and you can order a 2021 PMGR hat and polo shirt in just a few clicks. I will also bring the badges, window stickers and pins to club meetings and driving events for you to check it out in person. We hope to offer a new item soon. If you have an idea of something you'd like to have with out PMGR logo on it, please let me know.

You can always contact me at [reinoutvogt@gmail.com](mailto:reinoutvogt@gmail.com) or by calling/texting to 847 342 9804



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