

# The Hoosier MG's e\_News

Newsletter of the Indiana MG Clubs



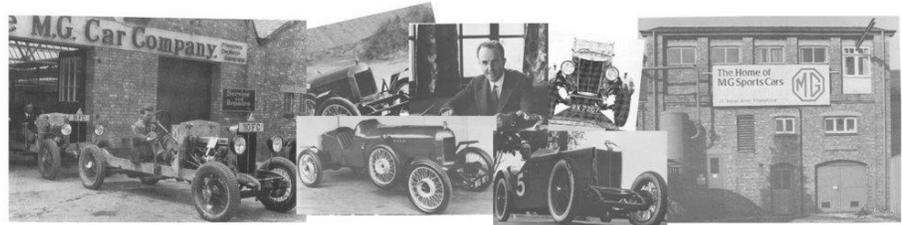
Olde Octagons of Indiana \*

Hoosier A's \*

Hoosier MGB Club

Jan - Feb 2017

(Click on photos to enlarge, or click on images below to go to website)



## FROM THE EDITOR

Although I may not have had as many MG's as some of you all out there but the ones I did have were lots of fun. A military career and moving around kind of stops those ambitions of multiple ownership. How can I forget my first MG that was a 1963 Black MG Midget? A truly fun car for a High School Senior which came to a tragic end before graduation. While a friend and I sat in the car, off the road, in front of his house, an oncoming car hit us head-on. The Midget was totaled but we were OK. Because we were not off the road far enough I was ticketed with an improper parking ticket that resulted in an accident. The person who ran off the road and hit us got a failure to avoid an accident, driving too fast for conditions and a driving under the influence. This, ended my driving career for many years. It seems Allstate canceled my policy because of the ticket and no one else would insure me without a raising my rates to an amount where I could not afford Insurance. I would have to wait at least three years for the ticket to go away. Within months I was obliged to enlist in the U.S. Army to avoid being drafted into the Marines, so it kind of worked out in a strange way.

After returning from Viet Nam, getting married, and being posted to Fort Jackson, in Columbia, S.C. I found my second MG. A red 1970, split bumper, MGBGT and only the second one registered in the area. So, I was told. Seems that foreign cars were not popular in this part of the country at that time. The car followed us to Florida where the next change in vehicles came, added by a growing family. The GT would not handle the current family needs so it was traded for a Nissan Station Wagon.

## HOOSIER MGs WEB



## EVENT CALENDAR

Date	Event	Where	Contact
Nov 11	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 12	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 13	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 14	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 15	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 16	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 17	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 18	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 19	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 20	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
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Nov 25	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
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Nov 27	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 28	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 29	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page
Nov 30	Hoosier A's Member Meet	Shelbyville, IN	See Website Page

## HOOSIER MGs

0001 Chairman:  
Greg Peterson  
[gpeterson@sprynet.com](mailto:gpeterson@sprynet.com)  
0001 Treasurer:  
Kathy Kubick  
[kkubick67@gmail.com](mailto:kkubick67@gmail.com)

Hoosier A's President:  
Steve Hully  
[srhully@att.net](mailto:srhully@att.net)

Hoosier A's Vice Pres:  
Jack Kurkowski  
[jlkmg@att.net](mailto:jlkmg@att.net)  
Hoosier A's Treasurer:  
Dave Walter  
[dwalter@indiana.edu](mailto:dwalter@indiana.edu)

HMGBC President:  
Tim Macsay  
[1966mgbgt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1966mgbgt@sbcglobal.net)  
HMGBC Treasurer:  
George Galyean  
[galyeangeorge@gmail.com](mailto:galyeangeorge@gmail.com)

Editor:  
Tim Macsay  
[1966mgbgt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:1966mgbgt@sbcglobal.net)  
Webmaster:  
[bil.tru@att.net](mailto:bil.tru@att.net)

After a long drought of no MG's and moving about the U.S. courtesy of the U.S. Navy I found my current 1966 MGBGT in Edinburg, IN. I had the car towed to my home, although it was drivable, I felt the car was not safe for the highway. At the time, we were living in Indianapolis at a rental house with a one car garage. Minor repairs were done due to space limitations. We were also in the process of buying a new home in Danville, IN and with that deal sealed the car was once again towed to a new two car garage workplace where I could begin the restoration in earnest.

After getting the MGB apart I found out the GT should have been badged the "Flintstone Mobile" because the floor boards were totally rusted away. Whew, I now realized it was

going to need a lot of work. The garage was named the "Curse Garage" by my kids. Whenever Chris, my lovely wife, could not find me the kids would cry out, "Dads in the Curse Garage." I had never attempted a project like this before but I was determined to turn this car into the MGBGT I had in North Carolina. I just had no idea the amount of work that would be required to achieve that. Seems that working under a car held up by jack stands did not afford a lot of room to work and rust, dirt, and oil found its way into your cloths, eyes or mouth. Also, nuts would snap off, due to their advanced rust, and putting the torch to those same rusted parts just caused hot items to fall on you.

OK, I may have slipped out a few, bad words, but in my defense, who says, "Oh Dingleblast," when a hot piece of metal falls on you, a bolt snaps off or bark your knuckles on the frame. I think the little buggers hid outside the garage door just so that they could run inside the house and tell Mom that Dad's cursing again. After three and a half years my GT was ready for the road.

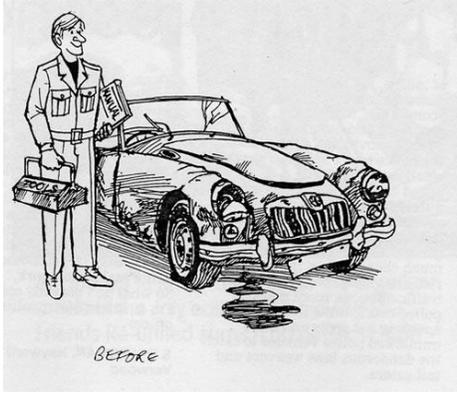
If you were wondering where all this was going you will have to read the story posted below by Susie Ulery in 2013 and the adventures of Dan & Heather Coyle. I'll let that stand and like the title says, "It's an Addiction." - *Tim Mascay*

### **IT'S AN ADDICTION: (The adventures of Dan & Heather Coyle)**

OK - The GT 38 is 19 months away - that's plenty of time to take my 1960 MGA apart, paint EVERYTHING, and get it back together for that show. I think I'll start right now, just so there is plenty of time.

OK - The GT 38 is 12 months away - Car is disassembled, parts are neatly labeled in bins or hanging from the ceiling. The temporary paint booth is constructed in the garage - now that all the other vehicles are sitting outside.





OK - The GT 38 is still 4 months away. I've only been working every minute, 6 days a week. I've enlisted the help of a very enthusiastic neighbor - even sent parts home with him to paint. I can do this.

**It's an Obsession:**

OK - the GT 38 is 1 week away. We have sent in our registration and our reservations are confirmed. The car is painted (4 times to get all the blemishes out), the doors are aligned (lost track of the time, that took 15 hours), the engine is in. All that is left is the

interior. Hmm, maybe I should just run it by the mechanic to check the carburetors. If I just put one seat in, I can drive it over.

OK - We're leaving in two days. The seat covers should be finished today, and I can put the carpet in tonight.

It's a - I don't know what it is anymore.

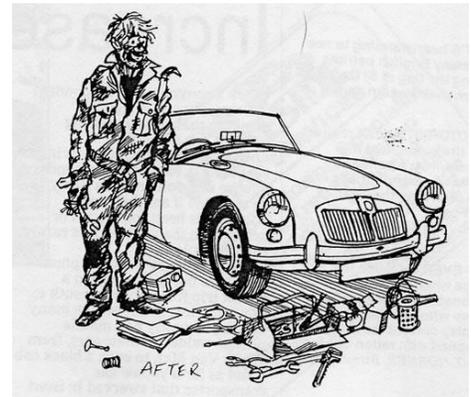
OK - We're leaving tomorrow. Just need to finish the interior door panels and.

OK - It's Saturday morning, 8:00 a.m. and we're off. Think we'll just stop under this overpass and let this TORRENTIAL rain pass. Uh Oh! Car won't start. Wife, Heather, and friend Fred, push and we're off again. Uh Oh! Car shut down, pull off, Heather & Fred push and we're off again. Uh Oh! Engine stops again. Call for tow. Only 1.5 hours from home. Check Battery, connections.

OK - It's Sunday morning. Here we go, go, go. Near Cincinnati, plug in GPS, engine stops! Heather Pushes, we get to O'Reilly's Autoparts. They check and check and check, and we're off again. Oh Man! Better pull off for more TORRENTIAL rain. Uh Oh! Lovely Heather pushes. We make it to Corbin, KY, and.

OK - It's Monday. We get to a technician's shop and get a true diagnosis. It's the regulator. It will take two days to get one ordered. Friends Jack & Steve, will bring one on their way through tonight.

OK - It's Tuesday and we think we can, we think we can, we, made it to Ashville, NC. Hello. GT 38!! 23 June 2013. - *Story by Susie Ulery and submitted to the MGA Magazine.*



**MEMBER PROFILE - Dan & Heather Coyle**

This issues member profile belongs to Dan Coyle. Dan is an 'A' member and a NAMGAR member. He is the proud owner of a 1959 Red MGA which was restored in his garage at home. He did the complete restoration, from a complete frame off, redone seat covers, required body work, new paint and much more. His hard work paid off with a first place in class at GT38, 2013, in Ashville, North Carolina.

Dan & his lovely wife Heather dated for 5 years before tying the knot. They have been married for 18 years and are looking forward too many more years together. Dan is a Hoosier native and has been in the local area the entire time. Dan is the owner of a Furniture Restoration Shop called 'Second Chance' which has been in business for 32 years. Dan and

Heather are responsible for the “Winter Retreat” for the Hoosier Club members in January when we all need a break from the winter doldrums. Dan & Heather have done this for as long as I can remember & every year is a different and unique event that brings smiles and laughter to all that attend.

Dan’s main interest is vehicles of any make and model. In fact, for a while he was thinking of purchasing a vintage Detroit Iron Monster. Oh Shudder! Meanwhile Heather was trying to decide on what to buy him for his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday and not having much success. Meanwhile Dan ran across the beautiful lines of the MGA, that sold him right then and there. They both agreed that was what he should get. He spent the next 6 months pouring over adds across the U.S. until he found the perfect ‘A’ in San Frisco, California. He had it shipped to his home and the rest is history. He is currently working on a Mazda Miata that he purchased at a local swap meet to bring it up to his standards.



Don’t forget to read the related story concerning Dan and Heather in this issue and their adventures on the way to Ashville, N.C. for GT38.

### **HOOSIER A’S 39<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTLY**

This year’s 39th anniversary of the Hoosier “A” was celebrated in Martinsville, IN. The 5<sup>th</sup> “A” Birthday Party on 19 November 26, 2016, was held at Bradford Woods. The party was held in Griffith Hall and was a different cabin from last year’s party. The cabin was a bit further in the woods and provided an outstanding view overlooking “The Old Swimming Hole Lake.” The interior of the cabin was also a treat with an Indiana Limestone fireplace that encompassed one entire wall. The back wall of the cabin was all sliding glass doors and provided an excellent view of the woods and lake. There was more than enough space to accommodate the 26 members that showed up. We had computer chairs at the tables rather than folding or stock wooden chairs. The computer chairs were indeed very comfortable and a pleasure to sit in.



The members were treated to fried chicken and one other meat dish, coffee and soft drinks provided by the “A” club. Side dishes and desserts were brought by the members and varied from store bought to home cooked. Everything was delicious and plentiful no matter what you picked. Some food items went faster than others but overall there was plenty for everyone. At least I don’t think anyone went home hungry. The day was overcast and chilly and some people had a bit of a walk to the cabin but on the other hand there was ample parking for all.

The 'A's Birthday Party is also the time they elect new officers, but due to the



President and Vice President being out on holiday, Fred Ulery took over the meeting and it was decided that the current officers would remain in their positions until the club planning meeting in March. It is hoped that new officers would be elected at that meeting. A special thanks to Dave Walters for securing the cabin and for his time and energy in making this Birthday Party a huge success. - *Tim Macsay*

### **MEMBER PROFILE - Bob Kindred**

Bob Kindred is this newsletter second member profile. Bob is what you may call the 'Quiet Man'. At our Wednesday breakfast get together Bob doesn't say a lot but one has got to wonder what he is thinking. Beneath that quiet exterior is an individual who most certainly knows his stuff. Bob owns a 1978 orange MGB Roadster and a 1958 red MGA powered by a Ford 289 cubic inch V8. Working out of his garage for 6 ½ years, he tucked this V8 engine under the bonnet, not giving the casual observer a clue what really lurks in his MGA. He stated that all the work was done by him alone and you must give him credit there. It is a beautiful job that recently assured him a win at MG2016 in Louisville, KY. His car took 1<sup>st</sup> overall in the altered class during the event, and considering the competition that was present he earned the award.

Bob is also a native Hoosier born in Bedford, Indiana and now resides in Indianapolis. In the past, he spent three years in the United States Air Force as an Air Policeman. After military service, he went to work for the Ford Motor Company in Indianapolis in Material Control. He is currently enjoying his retirement, and spends his time with his favorite hobby, cars.

Bob bought his first MGA in 2006 which was replaced by his current 58 MGA. His MGB he purchased at an auction, as he said, "just because," I guess he wanted another MG to play with. He has been an 'A' club member for about three years and a recent 'B' member within the past year. Bob is also a card-carrying member of NAMGAR.



## **THE LADIES CORNER - Carol Brown**

### **HAZELNUT CHOCOLATE CAKE**

1 1/4 Cups unsalted butter, softened (I used Land O Lakes)  
1 1/2 cups granulated sugar  
1/2 cup firmly packed brown sugar  
1 Tablespoon vanilla extract  
5 large eggs  
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder (buy the most expensive you can find)  
1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 1/2 cups buttermilk  
1/2 cup sour cream

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare 3 9-inch cake pans. Spray each pan with baking spray (I use Wilton), line with parchment paper, and finally spray with Pam (with flour for baking). Place bake even strips in warm water in a bowl.

In a large mixing bowl, beat butter, sugars, and vanilla at medium speed until fluffy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition.

In a medium bowl whisk together flour and the next 4 ingredients until no lumps appear to be present.

Gradually add flour mixture to butter mixture alternately with buttermilk, beginning and ending with flour mixture, beating until just combined after each addition.

Stir in sour cream.

Place approximately 2 1/2 cups batter into each pan. Squeeze water from bake even strips and place around each pan. Use t-pin that comes with each strip to hold strip in place.

Bake for 20 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Let cakes cool in pans for 10 minutes. Remove from pans, and let cool completely on wire racks.

### **CHOCOLATE HAZELNUT FROSTING**

1-8-ounce package regular cream cheese, softened  
1/2 cup unsalted butter, softened  
1 1/2 cups chocolate-hazelnut spread (Paula suggests Nutella)  
1/2 cup sour cream, regular  
5 cups confectioners' sugar  
2 Tablespoon meringue powder

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and butter with a mixer at medium speed until creamy.

Beat in chocolate-hazelnut spread and sour cream until combined.

Reduce speed to low and gradually add confectioners sugar, beating until smooth.

Add 2 Tablespoons meringue powder (helps frosting set).

Use immediately! Spread frosting between layers and on tops and sides of cake. I used a shell border around the top and base of the cake.

### OLD OCTAGONS OF INDIANA CHRISTMAS PARTY

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, the OOOI celebrated the Christmas season with their annual gathering at the home of Reed and Jan Tarwater for good food, a glass of wine (or two), and a lot of car talk. As has been the tradition in recent years, the afternoon meal was catered, and tables were set up in the dining area of Tarwater's beautiful home out in the woodlands of Greenfield. Major construction on I-70 caused a few people delays in getting there, but eventually everyone arrived before the food was served.

The OOOI once again expresses its gratitude to the Tarwaters for hosting a most excellent afternoon.



### NUTS 'n BOLTS

#### Electrical wiring tips

I thought this info might be useful for other members.

#### These are for solid color wires:

**Brown wire** - Un-switched (always hot) not fused

White - switched by ignition switch, not fused

**Purple** - always hot, fused

**Green** - switched by ignition, fused

**Red** - switched by headlight switch, fused

- *Bob Lewis*

### PARTING SHOT

#### Vintage driving regulations for Indiana:

- One may not back into a parking spot because it prevents police officers from seeing the license plate.
- Pedestrians crossing the highway at night are prohibited from wearing tail lights.
- Indianapolis: Hopefully, residents of the city have speedometers on their horses, for they cannot ride them in excess of ten miles per hour.
- On Main Street in Evansville, it is illegal for you to have vehicle lights on at any time.



**Common Tools:**

**Oxyacetylene Torch:** Used almost mainly for lighting various flammable objects in your garage on fire. Also, handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub you want the bearing race out of.

**Hydraulic Floor Jack:** Used for re-raising an automobile after you have installed your new disc brake pads, trapping the bumper jack and handle firmly under the bumper.

**Douglas Fir 2x4, eight-foot-long:** Used for levering an automobile upward off a hydraulic floor jack hopelessly wedged under the automobile.

**Cell Phone:** Used for calling your neighbors to see if one of them has another hydraulic floor jack.

