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June/August 2015 Edition

The Michigan Chapter was established on March 30, 1971, to provide local activates for the NEMGTR members in the Great Lakes area. In addition to driving events, membership meetings are held regularly. Board meetings are scheduled intermittently (generally monthly) throughout the year. An annual business meeting, which includes the election of officers, is held in the last guarter of each year.

Membership dues are \$25.00 (\$35.00 with newsletter mailed to you) per year, payable by April 1st. Michigan Chapter members are required to be members of the New England MGT Register, Ltd.

The T Times is the official publication of the Michigan Chapter. Generally any member may submit articles and may advertise for cars, part and related items free of charge. Permission is hereby granted for use of any written material in the T Times, provided the author is credited.

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### <u>MALCOLM C. CASTLE</u> <u>March 11, 1935 - July 11th, 2015</u>

### Lifetime T-Club Member, Chairman and MG Enthusiast

When writing about Malcolm in connection to the T-Club, he was one of the original 15 members back in 1969. He held positions of Vice Chairman, Chairman for 8 years (and held Club Board Meetings when there was no internet), Midwest MG"T" Steering Committee Chapter Representative, events host, and so much more. He oversaw Mini GOFs (starting with first one to Petoskey, Michigan in 1972) and GOF Centrals. He was credited for growing membership of the club to 138 in 1975 to make Michigan one of the largest Chapters of the New England MGT Register. He organized caravans to events, help repair cars along the way, and brought home the Beaulieu Cup for Michigan too!

He logged many miles on his T-car, like back in 1973 when he put on over 7,000 miles in one year (3,000 miles of which was driving to the GOF West in Santa Barbara, CA). He drove his car over the Golden Gate Bridge, and from coast to coast in a one year.

Malcolm often traveled with his "adopted son" Craig Faulk back in the day and the stories are too many to relate, but they definitely had their fair share of exciting adventures together.

Malcolm was truly one of the great MG enthusiast and will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and the T-Club. If you ever had the pleasure of meeting this man, you can understand his outstanding personality and the loss we now all share.

## Chairman's Corner

Did you ever wonder how racing fuel was delivered to the pits at a NHRA event? Now you know, so cute!



Anyway, I have done a little bit of following and riding in Shari's 1949 TC since I last wrote.

Followed the TC to Frankenmuth and back for the NAMGAR event, rode in it to Carmel, Indiana for the GOF Central, followed it to and from Alden for the British Car Show but did drive my own 1951 TD to the Champagne Brunch.

As you can see from this edition of the T-Times, the T -cars have been out and about during the driving season. They have been driving to meetings, car shows, club events and just plain cruisin'. Love when that happens. Keep up the good work, the season is not over yet and our cars have plenty of life still in them or so we would like to believe.

-Sandy Kuivenhoven-Chairman

### WELCOME BACK BRIDGET!

So pleased to announce that this 1953 TD has rejoined the T-Club along with her owner Tom Sorensen. Bridget drew quite a crowd as she attended the June Meeting. Thanks Tom for sharing her!



Flashback: Bridget's former look a few years ago, she might have had some work done. Oh dear!





### **TWO WINS FOR THE CLUB MEMBERS IN 2015**



Edmund & Chris Szelap <u>Best in Show</u> at Davisburg Car Show



Edmund & Chris Szelap <u>Best in Show</u> Baker's Car Show in Milford





Edmund & Chris Szelap Just havin' fun!



### ATTENTION: T-CLUB MEMBERS ONLY SPECIAL MG TC, TD, TF - "THE DRIP CATCHER"

T-Club Member **John Gervasi** has created an oil drip catcher for under your T-Car. Made out of genuine U.S. steel, this Drip Catcher is for MGT cars that drip oil from the rear main. One bolt installation on the bellhousing. It has a petcock to drain oil from the pan. This part is very easy to install and so you can drain the oil out of it from time to time with no driveway spot clean-up.

John is offering these to club members only for the mire price of <u>\$45.00</u> each. He is selling them on EBay for an increased price so if you are interested in purchasing one of these your T-Car, now if the time!

You can contact John Gervasi with questions to see if this product is right for your car and your order at www.jagervasi@yahoo.com





## Visit to Stahl's Museum - May 2nd - 11am

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NHU











Everyone enjoyed lunch at Rosie's afterward, nice!















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### SPRING BRITISH CAR GATHERING & PICNIC Sunday, May 17th, 2015 Camp Dearborn, Milford, MI

The Spring British Car Gathering & Picnic hosted by Windsor-Detroit MG Club required no registration, no formal car show or class parking, and no awards; just an opportunity to share our passion with fellow British car owners and clubs, and to get to know one another and better understand our MGs.

There were T-Club members Bruce & Willie Mann, Edmund & Chris Szelap, Shari Pelic, Gene Ledbetter, Sandy Kuivenhoven, Dave & Jean Miller, Larry & Mitzi Pittman, former T-Club Chairman Tom Fant, Ted Height and rumor had it Lee Jacobsen was on his way as we departed, maybe others too. Nice show of cars, very pleasant event for a spring drive. Thank you WDMGC!





What a smashing 2015 Champagne Brunch we had at Oakewood Cottage. Several people mentioned it should become the official venue. The weather couldn't have been better and we loved being able to host this great event.

Gorgeous cars and fun loving members were arrayed around the lawn under the fluttering Union Jack and even the cars behaved well; only one tiny patch of dead grass! Judging by the lack of leftovers everyone enjoyed the food and drink as well.

And Delta Airlines, if you find a balloon shaped like a champagne glass stuck in one of your engines, we know nothing about it.

We look forward to another event in the near future with lots of ideas to make future events even better.



#### Ken & Melody Klemmer



































Photos by Marc Stump, thank you, great job as always.







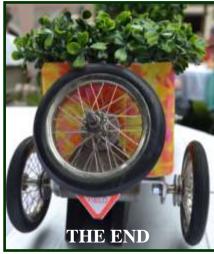












And lastly, a very special thank you to Ken and Melody for hosting another awesome Champagne Brunch. The entire club appreciates all your time and effort. We loved the location, weather (which I am sure you had ordered ahead of time), food, champagne, valve cover racing and excellent conversation with fellow MGers. The club is very fortunate to have members like the two of you!



**Motor Muster 2015**, celebrates the iconic Pontiac GTO and the rise of the muscle car. By 1965, the American pony car had made its glorious debut in the form of the <u>Ford Mustang</u>. Though technically not a totally new concept, a whole new breed of American -made two-door coupes equipped with "power plants" designed for "straight line" speed began to make their debut; the rise of the American muscle car. <u>General Motors</u> lead this change with the Pontiac GTO, yet their competitors at <u>Ford</u> and Chrysler were not far behind. This <u>need</u> for speed raced its way through the rest of the 1960s and into the early 1970s when a combination of regulations and a fuel embargo put a screeching halt to the heyday of American muscle.

T-Club, we were there to just have fun!





















Mad Dogs & Englishmen's Car Show at Gilmore Car Museum on Sunday, July 12th was another great event. Those in attendance: Lee Jacobsen with his 1939 TA Tickford (driven into place by Sandy Kuivenhoven who looks very good driving that vehicle, just sayin'), Shari Pelic, Gene Ledbetter, Larry and Mitzi Pittman with their 1958 Awarding Winning (Award of Excellence) that day MGA, John Russell, Ken and Melody Klemmer with their 1957 MGA, Roger and Beverley Melton with their 1935 PA, former member Andy Hanzel and his Austin Healey, former member Bud Alkema and his 1951 TD who walked away with 3rd place in MG Pre-1956, former member Terry Frisch with his `934 Vauxhall BX Roadster, former member



Guy St. John, former member Bill Hirsh, and was Art Lewis there, anybody see him? Did we miss anyone else we may have known from the club? If we did and you were there, apologies!

### 4TH ANNUAL CONCOURS d'ELEGANCE PREVIEW EVENT SATURDAY, JULY 25TH, 2015 DOWNTOWN NORTHVILLE, MI

Car enthusiasts enjoyed a rare, vintage car exhibition featuring 30 pre-war vehicles, along with music throughout the day and evening. The Boogie Woogie Kid performed as did the Dave Bennett Quartet to add atmosphere to this event. People strolled the streets being able to view Concours quality automobiles.

T-Club members Lee Jacobsen's 1938 SA Tickford and Roger Melton's 1935 MG PA Roadster were invited to display their cars.





## JUNE 15-19, 2015 FRANKENMUTH, MI



The Michigan Rowdies, headed by our own Larry Pittman, hosted the best NAMGAR GT that I have ever been to (of course it was my first, but I am still certain that it was the best ever).

I arrived on Monday to perfect weather after a short 63 mile run. This was the start to my



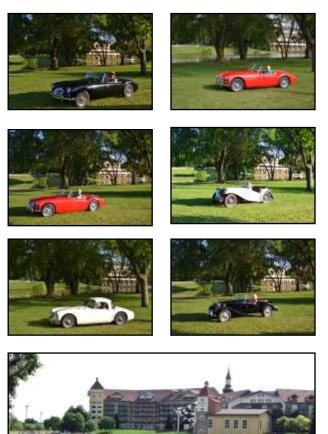
year of going for the most mileage driven award. My hopes were quickly smashed as John Deikis showed up with 'Marianne' in his TD. He was on his way back from the 'Jaunt Around The Lakes' tour. I had 115 miles so far to his 1000 plus miles.

Monday evening we attended the 'First Timers Car Show' followed by a reception and Pizza Party.

Tuesday was a full day full of activities. There was classes on Pretzel & Strudel Making, Tech Sessions, Car Washing and Bavarian Belle Riverboat Cruises.

Article by Shari Pelic

Wednesday was the big day - the Car Show. And still perfect weather. I'm not sure exactly how many cars were registered, but it was around 150 - at least that's how many cars pulled thru the path by the river getting their pictures taken by photographer, Marc Stump. T Club members attending the show were Larry & Mitzi Pittman in their Black 1958 MGA, Bruce Mann in his Red 1960 MGA, Wilma Mann in her Black 1952 TD, Ken and Melody Klemmer in their 1957 White MGA, Jeffery and Jan Zorn in their Red 1959 MGA and myself in my White 1949 TC.







(The two T Cars participated in the 'Other British' Class.)

The show drew a big crowd including visiting T Club members, Gene Ledbetter, Lou VanKoningsveld and John Russell who came to play Valve Cover Car Racing.







John's smokin' Valve Cover Car is always a crowd favorite.

So what would be better after a full day of Car Show - yes, you got it. When you're in Frankenmuth you have to go to the Frankenmuth Brewery for a beer (or many) and dinner. The Brewery supplied us with a buffet of hamburgers, dogs, brats, salads and more. Just look at the smile on the Chairman's face as he's about to dig in.



Not sure what happened after the Brewery, maybe some drinks back at the Hospitality Room at the hotel with friends - what happens in Frankenmuth stays in Frankenmuth.



Friday morning found us (and the sky) a bit overcast as we set out for the Ralley. After a driver's meeting the little British cars set out on their journey thru the covered bridge and off to who knows where. I went with the











photographer in his modern car to catch up with the Ralleyers on the winding roads for some pictures. (My TC was still covered up from the night - remember the Brewery?) We found an amazing spot to snap the cars as they made their way on the curvy road.

# **NAMGAR GT-40 (continued)**



I believe all of the Ralleyers returned eventually.

My plan for that afternoon was a nap, however it ended up with frantic picture uploading to get all the last minute pictures ready for the Banquet presentation. The final hand-off of the zip drive was performed with an hour to 'get pretty'.

The Banquet. The owner of the Bavarian Inn come in and spoke about how wonderful the week had been. She especially loved seeing all the British cars driving around town. And then it was time for food - and what do you think we had? A Buffet of the famous Chicken and all the fixings that we all come to Frankenmuth for.



Award Time!

Premier Class Award goes to Bruce & Wilma Mann for their 1960 MGA.

4th Place MGA 1600 Wire Wheels - Jeff & Jan Zorn for their 1959 MGA.

2nd Place Other British - Bruce & Wilma Mann for their 1952 TD.

And of course, the NAMGAR Abingdon Award for hosting a National 'Get Together' (who knew that's what GT stood for? - really, raise your hand if you knew.) - to the Michigan Rowdies, excepting the award - Larry Pittman.









Really nice event - Michigan Rowdies, special Thank You's to Larry & Mitzi Pittman and Bruce & Wilma Mann - without you promoting this event, I would have never gone to a 'Get Together'. (I still can't get over that's what it stands for.) And thanks to our own, Marc Stump for taking the photos to remember the event by.

For more pictures from this event, please visit the Michigan Rowdies website.



In closing, I just wanted to add some fashion statements from the week. Who got a deal on lime green?



Jeffery makes a friend.

### TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE CAR COLLECTOR

- I. Thou shalt not store thy car out-of-doors, except for thy wife's modern iron.
- *II.* Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's car, nor his garage, nor his battery charger.
- III. Thou shalt not love thy car more than thy wife and children, as much, but not more.
- IV. Thou shalt not read thy Hemmings on company time, lest thy employer make it impossible to continue thy car payment.
- V. Thou shalt not despise thy neighbor's Edsel, nor his DeSoto, nor even his 1947 Plymouth.
- VI. Thou shalt not allow thy daughters nor thy sons to get married during the holy days of Hershey.
- VII. Thou shalt not deceive thy wife into thinking that thee is taking her for a romantic Sunday drive when, indeed, thou are going out to look at another car.
- VIII. Thou shalt not tell thy spouse the entire cost of thy latest restoration, at least not all at the same time.
- IX. Thou shalt not promise thy wife a new addition to the house and then use it to store cars; thou shalt not store cars in the attic.
- X. Thou shalt not buy thy wife a floor-jack for Christmas.

Some articles from past T-Times still bring a smile to our faces; T-Times, Spring 1984

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