

Pack Light, We're Going to Indiana



by shari pelic



Our GOF Central 2015 adventure started at 8:43 am July 15th as I picked up my sister and she installed the event tire cover on my TC. Judging by our past experiences (between the two of us - we have over 100 years of MG experience), we weren't sure we would make it there, but we knew we would have a good time no matter what happens.



A couple of stops for lunch (subs & fried pickles at 12:13 pm), gas & oil (1:33 pm) and we entered into Indiana (2:50 pm). A couple of more stops for food (Burger King) & gas - we arrived in Indianapolis (8:49 pm)! It only took us

12 fun filled hours. Sandy saw lots of cows so she was very happy.

Check in at the host hotel was like a family reunion - lots of hugs from MG'ers that we hadn't seen in awhile. Then it was off to find out luggage carrier. I had sent my luggage with Lee Jacobsen & Gene Ledbetter, who were trailering Lee's 1938 SA. (Two women - one TC - five days, do I have to say more?)

With a long day of traveling and now fresh clothing for the event, Sandy & I settled in for the night.

Thursday morning we headed out to the host hotel, The Renaissance, where most of the activities were happening. The hotel allowed the Indiana Club to bring in a MG for display in the lobby. They changed to cars out every couple of hours. They also had a projection on the wall above check in.



After breakfast, I pulled my car up to the wash station, where for \$5 you got men to wash your MG as you sat back and watched. My car has never been so clean.



Ran into Roger & Beverley Melton with their 1951 Red TD and Jim & Linda Northrup with their 1950 Cream TD at the car wash.

The Drivers Meeting went over all the rules for the drive on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway later that afternoon. Because of the number of cars going there (124) they told us to sort of follow the car in front of you. What I haven't mentioned here is that the whole area was under construction. The GPS would tell you to turn on a road that was no longer there. It was a nightmare getting around the area. Early afternoon we all started up our cars to head towards the track. Sandy & I got in line. Now as we followed the cars thru the construction, wouldn't you know we got stopped by a red light. Massive trucks and machinery around everywhere, we couldn't even tell which way the little cars went. Did they turn left, right or go straight? Ok so let's guess left as we went thru the intersection with two other MGT's behind us. Wrong. Next thing you know we are on the expressway with tons of traffic going 65+ miles an hour. Now the reason I know how fast I was going was not from my broken speedometer, it was from the two followers went I found an exit to get off. What were they yelling at me for? They were the ones that followed me. Now it was time to get the GPS out and find the track. Indianapolis is not a great city for traveling in a T Car - lots of traffic. And then, of course, the road GPS told us to go on was closed for construction. We finally did find the track and went down into the tunnel.



All (124) MG's lined up to enter the track was quite the sight. They were everywhere as far as you could see.



On the track! Lee Jacobsen & Gene Ledbetter in Lee's 1938 SA, Sandy & I in my 1949 TC, Linda & Jim Northrup in their 1950 TD, Roger & Beverley Melton in their 1951 TD and Art Lewis & Bill Hirsch in Art's 1948 TC. Rumor has it that Lee can in 6th - but I believe that was only because he was 6th out on the track and we were not allowed to pass.



After all the excitement of the race track, we rested most of the day on Friday (except when we went shopping and for an ice cream). The First Timers Show was held that night so we all followed like ducks under threatening skies the American Legion Hall. A large tent with tables & chairs was set up and a band for our entertainment. And then all of a sudden,



everyone's cell phone alarm when off with a weather alert. We all made a mad scramble for the building. The dinner buffet was excellent - lots of Indiana home cooking. Seriously good food. And the phone alarms keep going off. Back to the hotel for the Auction. Mr. Dave Zyp did a fantastic job at the auction. His wit had everyone laughing and spending lots of money.



What's this?
Lee with a
beer?

Pack Light, We're Going to Indiana (continued)

Car Show Saturday Hot. Cars lined up at the Airport to get there pictures taken with bi-wing planes. Some of us thought it was just too hot and parked our MG's on the tarmac (tarmac is short for tarmacadam, a type of road surfacing material patented by Edgar Purnell Hooley in 1901 - although it is a commonly incorrect term used to describe airport aprons, ramps and runways) for the show.



The Valve Cover Car Racing was also held at the Airport that day. We found Jim Pesta amongst the crowds all waiting to see the racers go. Also it was the only place at the airport in the shade. Northrups and Lee Jacobsen brought cars along with our beloved Cha-Cha-Cha Chia Pothead. All racers gave their all, but alas no trophies for the Michigan Club.



A short jaunt back to our hotel to get 'prettied up' for the Banquet. The Banquet Room was nicely decorated with sunflower centerpieces. The large screens played images from the event in the background. Food was served and speeches were given.



And on to the Awards. Our club didn't do so well in the Awards. Our Valve Cover Car Racer won the Presentation Award (Yay, her first award). And Art Lewis' TC won 3rd Place.



Lots & lots of hugs and goodbye's the next morning as the GOF Central 2015 was coming to an end. Sandy and I had a hardy breakfast (you never know when the TC is going to breakdown & if there will be any food nearby).

The trip back to Michigan was quite pleasant. We traveled ahead of the rain the whole time. Driving through northern Indiana on a Sunday morning did pose a few driving challenges. Amish Country and lots of buggies on the road leaving "piles" to drive around. Here's a picture of the parking lot at a local grocery store.



At 3:50pm we spotted the Pure Michigan sign and realized that the TC had successfully gone to Indiana and back. No calls to AAA this trip!



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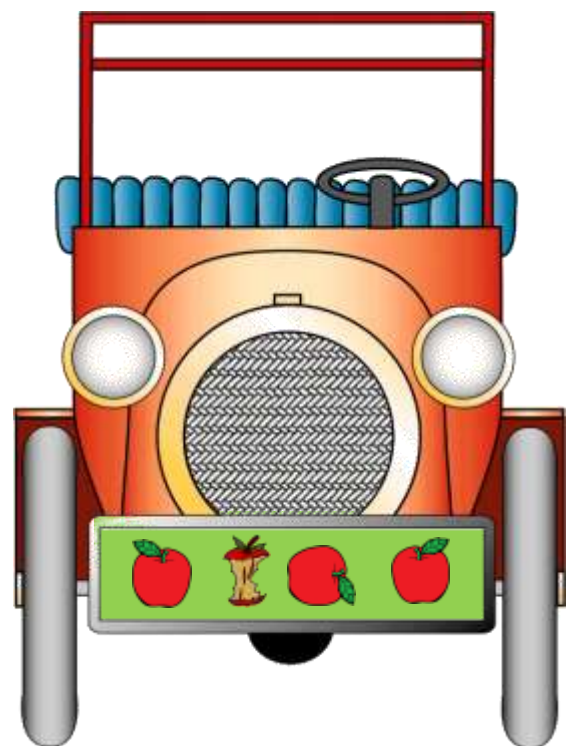
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THE BRITISH FLAG KEEPS ON

Alden Classic Sports Car Show August 9th, 2015



KLEMMERS 1957 MGA



PELIC'S 1949 TC



LEDBETTER'S 1957 MGA



RUSSELL'S RED 1953 TD



BARNES 1951 TD



LEDBETTER ADMIRING



ALKEMA'S 1951 TD

AND NOW FOR SOME “NOT SO KNOWN FACTS” ABOUT THE ALDEN TRIP FROM SHARI & SANDY

Fact #1: The following people won awards at the Alden Car Show:

British Category:

Bud Alkema took first place with his 1951 TD

Gene Ledbetter took fourth place with his 1957 MGA

Ken & Melody Klemmer took fifth place with their 1957 MGA

Valve Cover Racing: Under 12 lbs. Bernie Thompson took first place

Valve Cover Racing: Over 12 lbs. Jim Northrup took first place

Valve Cover Racing: Overall Winner: Jim Northrup took home the traveling trophy

Cha Cha Cha Chi Pothead valve cover racer did not win anything. So sad but we all ate chips.



Fact #2: Lee Jacobsen trailered Gene Ledbetter's MGA and followed Shari in her 1949 TC on the way to Alden and she lead him down roads that he could not turn the trailer around.

Fact #3: Gene Ledbetter accidentally locked his dog in the basement on the first day and everyone thought it had run away for hours until it was discovered later that same day, drama.

Fact #4: Shari drove her TC on Route 66 and was proud of that fact.

Fact #5: The Alden Bar still serves the Southwest Turkey Warp and it is excellent. An eating “must” when visiting Alden.



Fact #6: Gene Ledbetter made corn for everyone Saturday night by leaving it in the husk, microwaving it for four minutes, then removing the husks and served it with spray butter. Thanks Gene!

Fact #7: Shari discovered that when you drive your car that far, you get nasty looking bugs on it. No one wanted to clean that booger off of the headlight.



Fact #8: Even with the over-powering smell of the chorine in the pool, it was not enough to get a certain person into the water. Bodily fluids were the reason we were given.

Fact #9: Behind every big fish in Kalkaska, there is a little TC.

Fact #10: With no highway driving, it is 251 miles to Alden, one very long way there.

Fact #11: Live animals that were seen along the way to and from Alden: chickens (it actually ran out in front of the TC on the road trying to cross - true story - witnessed by others), ducks, cows, pigs, horses, sheep, goats, donkeys, and a zebra. No bull!



Fact #12: There was rumor of Melody Klemmer streaking all the way from her Bed & Breakfast in town to Torch Lake one evening to go skinny dipping.

Actual photo of Mel running...

Fact #13: Other unexplained photos from the trip below:



REMEMBER JOAN NATIONS' 1953 RED TD?

She has been in the paint booth with Gene Ledbetter at Complete Auto Restoration for a little work. She will be undergoing a bit of help as all ladies do need from time to time and even a new color shade for this year's driving season, lucky girl! Looking forward to the finished vehicle.



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The way this works is you order your own items and pay EmbroidMe directly. The club is not stocking any items.

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SAVE THE DATES

OCTOBER 3rd (Rain Day October 4th)
FALL COLOR TOUR 2015 (Ann Arbor Area) presented
by Ken & Melody Klemmer. Details to be emailed out.



JANUARY 23rd
HIBERNATION PARTY / ANNUAL MEETING

Invitations to be mailed out in November.

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MICHIGAN CHAPTER EVENTS



Sept 1st	Monthly Meeting - Leather Bottle, Livonia
Sept 13th	Battle of the Brits, Milford
Sept 19th & 20th	Apple of Your Eye Car Showcase - Linden
CXL	Speckled Hen's Corn Maze, Caledonia
Oct 3th	Fall Color Tour (Ann Arbor area)
Oct 6th	Monthly Meeting - Leather Bottle, Livonia
Nov 3rd	Monthly Meeting - Leather Bottle, Livonia
Dec 1st	Monthly Meeting - Leather Bottle, Livonia
Jan 23rd	Hibernation Party



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