

**The Chesapeake Chapter of the New  
England MG "T" Register, Ltd.**

*The Square Rigger*  
*Feb 2003*

**Chairman's Comments**  
**John M. Tokar**

I am pleased that the members of the Chesapeake Chapter of the New England MG "T" Register have elected me as your new Chairman. I sincerely appreciate your support and will work diligently with the very capable new board to ensure that our club grows and prospers. My main focus will be dedicated to making the MG "T" experience more enjoyable for all of our members, and to explore ways to increase our membership base.

During my term in office, I will ensure that The Chesapeake Chapter remains a viable and healthy organization. To accomplish this, I plan to explore exciting new ventures and activities within our organization and community. One of these will include developing a closer relationship with our parent organization, the NEMGTR, by possibly hosting a National GOF in the future. I will also explore ways to attract new members to join our club. In addition, I will build upon the past success and promote the future growth of The Original British Car Day.

We have recently organized a committee headed by Mike Hughes that will be working on the revision of the club's by-laws. This very important project will result in an updated and tailored set of by-laws that will meet the needs of our club now, and into the future.

Under the guidance of our new newsletter Editor, Steve Woodall, we will be exploring new ways to get the information out to our club members through an electronic newsletter and a greatly enhanced and expanded website. This project also holds exciting promise as a new means to reach

other fellow MG "T" enthusiasts and tell them about the benefits of joining The Chesapeake Chapter.

We have a number of exciting activities planned for this year by Our Events Co-Chairmen, Lin and Jane Snider. These include our Winter Eat-Out, Mini GOF, British Car Day, and the Fall Foliage Tour, to name a few. Please take a minute to look over our events section and mark your calendar. Member activities make up a very important part of any car club and we encourage everyone to participate where they can.

I congratulate the members of our new board and thank them for agreeing to share their time and pledge their commitment to the tasks ahead. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the departing board members for serving. Remember that this is your club and your thoughts and ideas are always welcome. Feel free to express your views to our editor or to me directly. With your help, all things are possible.

I look forward to an exiting year ahead! Stay tuned.

**Sincerely,**

**John Tokar**  
**Chairman**

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**Editor's Comments**  
**Stephen R. Woodall**

As your newly elected Editor, this is my first attempt at producing "The Square Rigger." Paddy Lynch has gracefully and enthusiastically borne this burden for many years, and has done a super job for the club, so I understand that I have big shoes to fill in this regard! Thanks, Paddy! When I told Mike Lutz last Fall that I would possibly maybe perhaps be willing to take over as Editor, it was with a vision of re-creating our newsletter in digital form, so that it could be always available via our own, high quality web site. I have come to recognize that there are still among us members who are not regularly "on the web," and thus that

there will still be a need, in the immediate future, for the occasional "mailed" version of the news letter. I am happy to report that the effort to create a new web site for the club has begun, with the help of my son, John (known MG driver!). The web site address of our new site is:

<http://www.chesapeakechaptermgclub.com>

If you go to the site, you can see the shell we are building, which will become a place to go to find out, via a frequently updated Calendar, what events are available in the near term, and what's new in the club. We plan to add archives for all the past Square Rigger editions, as well as all the pictures and lists of winners from British Car Day, to the extent we can recreate them. Another feature we hope you will enjoy will be a "password-protected" area for our club members only, where you can find the most up-to-date membership, address, phone number, and e-mail address listings.

Other features we plan for the web site include:

- Membership Application
- Past Newsletters
- Technical Articles and Tips
- MG Picture Library
- British Car Day Winners and Pictures
- Links to Other MG Sites
- Home Page
- BCD On-Line Registration

I look forward to making The Square Rigger something you continue to look forward to receiving (for now, I plan on every two months), and to making the web site a place you'll want to check every week for new info on our club, club activities, and other events of interest!

Sincerely,

**Steve Woodall**  
**Newsletter Editor**

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**Chesapeake Chapter Board of**  
**Directors**

As you know, we held a club election last Fall, which resulted in a new slate of Club Officers. We offer our congratulations to all those new members, and offer our thanks for the service of all past club officers, who gave much of themselves and their time to make the club what it is today!

The new Board, reflecting several changes since the election, is as follows:

**Chairman:**

John Tokar  
301-831-6975  
[tokarj@erols.com](mailto:tokarj@erols.com)

**Vice Chairman:**

Mike Hughes  
703-768-3582  
[Hughes.c.m@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Hughes.c.m@worldnet.att.net)

**Secretary / Treasurer:**

Martha Ludtke  
703-323-1260  
[billnmartha@webtv.net](mailto:billnmartha@webtv.net)

**Regalia:**

John Van Over  
804-725-5815  
[jvanover@ccsinc.com](mailto:jvanover@ccsinc.com)

**Events:**

Lin and Jane Snider  
301-845-2367  
[snidelf@aol.com](mailto:snidelf@aol.com)

**Membership Chairman:**

Charlie Howard  
410-412-1749  
[jayhawher@aol.com](mailto:jayhawher@aol.com)

**Technical Advisor:**

Glenn Abbott  
410-494-8597  
[abbottgs@aol.com](mailto:abbottgs@aol.com)

**Newsletter Editor:**

Stephen R. Woodall  
703-495-0228  
[swoodall@exploit-the-future.com](mailto:swoodall@exploit-the-future.com)

**Historian:**

Nancy Woodall  
703-690-0907  
[nansbees@aol.com](mailto:nansbees@aol.com)

**Chairmen Emeriti:**

Len & Ruth Renkenberger  
410-822-6061  
[renk@goeaston.net](mailto:renk@goeaston.net)

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**Chesapeake Chapter  
Board Meeting Minutes  
January 26, 2003**

The Chesapeake Chapter Board Meeting with the new board was held at Brick Ridge Inn in Mt. Airy, Maryland. John Tokar called the meeting to order and welcomed all the officers and said he felt we had a good group and that we would be able to work together. We hope to make BCD the best yet, and we will cooperate with other clubs.

Board members present included: John Tokar, Mike Hughes, Bill and Martha Ludtke, John Van Over, Ruth and Len Renkenberger, Nancy and Steve Woodall, and Lin and Jane Snider.

Our New Officers are:

Chairman	John Tokar
Vice Chairman	Mike Hughes
Secy./Treasurer	Martha Ludtke
Regalia	John Van Over
Events Co-Chairmen	Lin and Jane Snider
Membership Chairman	James Orrell
(Ed. Note: now Charlie Howard)	
Tech Advisor	Glenn Abbott
Newsletter Editor	Steve Woodall
Historian	Nancy Woodall

There was a discussion about the Tech Advisor position since Randy Kegg had resigned. Since Glenn Abbott was the remaining person on the ballot, it was decided that he would be appointed our new Tech Advisor.

**New Business**

By-Laws – a committee was established to revise the By-Laws. Mike Hughes was appointed Chairman of the committee. Committee members are John Van Over,

Jane Snider, Steve Woodall, and Ralph Cattaneo. Mike Hughes indicated that he would ask Randy Kegg to be on the committee. John provided copies of the by-laws from three other car clubs to use as reference material. The committee will develop a new set of by-laws that will be tailored to meet the needs of our club. They will try to have the by-laws ready by Mini GOF.

By Board decision, British Car Day will be held again this year at Smokey Glen Farm. John Tokar and Lin Snider met with senior management at Smokey Glen Farm and they assured us that the food problem would be corrected. There will be more lines; more cashiers and desserts will be in a separate line. Also, early morning snacks and coffee will be made available. They will furnish extra staff to help with car parking, spectator parking and traffic flow. SGF will not charge extra for this help. It was suggested that we try to get help from a high school band booster group or some other school organization that would be interested in earning some money. It was mentioned that a set dollar guaranteed donation could be provided to the charity in return for help with various BCD activities.

It was brought up about paying SGF \$6,000 and the Chesapeake Chapter only cleared \$245.95. A projected income analysis, which included raising the registration fees, was presented showing how we could make more money this year. The first year we didn't expect to clear much because of the new location and date change. Some other places for BCD were suggested.

Montgomery Fair Grounds would need an environmental study and \$3,750 to \$4,750. Little Seneca Lodge has 20 acres and they charge \$1,000 for four hours and they cannot guarantee that we would be the only group using the facilities. Ft. Smallwood charges \$2,000 but it was not an acceptable place. When SGF rents to private parties they charge \$16,000 for the day. Since we scheduled our event on Father's Day, we are renting the facility at a discounted rate. We have received letters from other clubs stating what a nice show it was at SGF. Three clubs offered to help us with BCD as needed.

Club Newsletter – Steve Woodall is the new Newsletter Editor and he wants the newsletter to be available on the computer web site. He will put out one newsletter with the Internet address and web site and update information weekly. BCD information and registration forms, as well as and club membership applications will also be available on the web. It was discussed that some people do not have computers and some would like to have a hard copy mailed. Nancy and Steve will work at getting hard copy newsletters to those not on the Internet. It was mentioned that other clubs send their Newsletters out and post them on their web sites.

### Schedule of Chapter Events

Winter Eat Out - will be on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at Gabriel's and it was discussed the club should not subsidize the cost of the Brunch. It was mentioned that the Brunch is subsidized because most of the people that attend are the BCD workers and that it is a thank you to them. It was decided that the amount the members will pay would be \$20.00 each. Therefore the amount the club subsidizes will be less. This will save the club money.

Mini GOF - will be in Strasburg, Virginia on May 2-4. Martha read the brochure that will be in the Newsletter (see expanded article at the end of this newsletter!) . Lots to see and do in Strasburg. After the car show we will go to Billy Thompson's White Post Restoration Shop. Hotel rates are \$79.00. You must register at the hotel by April 1<sup>st</sup> to get the Chesapeake Chapter rate.

British Car Day: - will be held at Smokey Glen Farm on Father's Day June 15, 2003. The same venue at last year will be followed, with a major improvement in food and drink service.

Fall Foliage Tour: - will be held at the Hughes' cabin in Monterey, Virginia on October 10-12. Highland Inn reservations are to be made ASAP (by March 1). Call 540-468-2143 and mention the Chesapeake Chapter. (see details below: Ed.)

We hope to have another board meeting soon. Since it was snowing, the meeting was adjourned because the roads were becoming snow covered.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Martha Ludtke  
Secretary**

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### More On Events in 2003 !

8 March: Panama City, Fl, Bay British Car Club is hosting an all British Show in conjunction with the Scottish Festival Visit <http://www.baybritishcars.com/2003show/2003showflyer.PDF> for details

15 March:

**4th Annual CVBCC Show**  
**March 15, 2003**  
**"On the Green"**  
**at Walsingham Academy**

**The Colonial Vintage British Car Club will host its' 4th Annual Car Show on Saturday, March 15, 2003 at Walsingham Academy in Historic Williamsburg, Va.**

**Awards and classes determined by registrants. (Help us by registering early)**

**Food and beverages available, door prizes and silent auctions. Dash Plaques to first 100 registrants.**

**Save \$5 by registering by March 1st.  
This year's show is held in conjunction with Walsingham's Spring Garden Expo! Something for everyone!**

To register, send email to [ColonialVintage@aol.com](mailto:ColonialVintage@aol.com) to request a registration form. Or send **Name, (including your signature) Address, Phone #, Email, Make, Model, Year of Car and \$15 (\$20 after March 1st) to:**

**CVBCC  
102 Fernwood  
Williamsburg, VA 23185**

For additional information you may email:

**President, Rob Mann at**  
[manns@mindspring.com](mailto:manns@mindspring.com) or  
**Alan Scott at** [akscott@global.net](mailto:akscott@global.net)

25-26 April: Pensacola Beach, FL, 11th Annual Pensacola Beach British Car Show hosted by Panhandle British Car Association. Contact Tom Schmitz at [tschmitz@ametro.net](mailto:tschmitz@ametro.net) or call 251-961-7171 or visit [www.pbca1.com](http://www.pbca1.com) for info and pre-registration forms.

3 May: Succasunna, NJ, Britfest 2003 hosted by MG Car Club - Central Jersey Centre, Info: Charles Tregidgo, 201-796-8648

16-18 May: Carlisle, PA, Carlisle Import / Replicar Nationals.  
[www.carsatcarlisle.com/Import/import.htm](http://www.carsatcarlisle.com/Import/import.htm)

24 May: Tallahassee, FL, 4th Annual Big Bend MGs British Car & Bike Day - Start British Car Week off right.  
[www.bigbendmgs.com/](http://www.bigbendmgs.com/) for updated details

1 June: The Second Annual celebration of British Car Week in Southern Maryland will take place at Little Cove Farm in Saint Leonard, MD. on Sunday, June 1st, 2003. We again invite the entire British Car community to take a pleasant drive in the lovely Southern Maryland countryside and join us for a relaxed, free-form picnic with other LBC (Little British Car) owners and their families. And on your way down you're also welcome to participate in "**The Great Patuxent Valley Rallye**" which will start that morning near Upper Marlboro, MD. and end at the farm front gate.

The main event is a picnic at the farm, and all are invited to pack family and/or pets aboard, bring whatever they may want to eat, drink and play with, and come out for a day of fun and fellowship with others who enjoy driving and owning vintage vehicles. We learned a lot from last year's inaugural event, and this year we will be setting up large tents and picnic tables to provide shade and comfortable seating. We'll also have more to do and enjoy: Live music, hayrides, nature walks, etc. If you're coming directly to the picnic, arrive anytime after 10:00 A.M.

The rallye will be of the "Observation" type--there are no distances to measure, average speeds to maintain or the like. Rather, you'll be given a set of simple driving instructions and asked to supply answers to questions relating to what you will see along the 50-mile course. All you need to bring is a pencil and a sense of humor--you can even run it without a navigator, but having someone to help you find the answers will be more fun. The rallye starts at 10:00 AM SHARP and will take about 1-1/2 hours to run on rural roads along the shores of the Patuxent River in Southern Maryland's lovely countryside. The course ends at our farm and awards will be presented at the picnic during the afternoon.

Last year we had about 65 cars--This year we are expecting many more, and you can help make it so: Pass the word along to your friends and fellow car-club members, and have this event placed on your club's calendar and in its newsletter: The web address for this page is:  
[www.chesapeake.net/~oritt/](http://www.chesapeake.net/~oritt/)

**TO REACH THE PICNIC:** Saint Leonard, MD. is about midway between Prince Frederick and Solomons Island on Route 4 (Less than an hour from the Capital Beltway or Annapolis). Turn west off of Route 4 at Parran Road, go about 1 mile to a T-intersection at Mackall Road, turn left and go 2 miles to Garrity Road, turn left and go 1/4 mile to 2455 Garrity Road--**just follow the British flags!**

**TO REACH THE RALLYE:** From Route 4 and US 301 (Near Upper Marlboro) go south on 301 about 1/10 mile and enter the Giant Supermarket parking lot (east side of 301). The Driver's Meeting will commence at 10:00 AM and cars will start immediately thereafter. Driving the rallye will take about an hour and a half and the course ends at the farm--**we guarantee that you can't get lost!**

We look forward to seeing you--Michael and Mary Oritt. For further information email us at: [awgertoo@aol.com](mailto:awgertoo@aol.com)

June 1: Waterford, CT, Connecticut MG Car presents British by the Sea at Harkness

Park. More details as date draws nearer

June 8: Great River, Long Island, NY, MG Car Club - Long Island Centre Presents The 10th Annual "The British are Coming !!! Event. More Details as date draws nearer

15 June: our own Original British Car Day, Smokey Glen Farm in Gaithersburg, Maryland !

19-22 June: St. Louis, MO, MG 2003, The North American MGB Register's Annual Convention hosted by The MG Club of St Louis. Host Hotel will be the Sheraton Westport Inn. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!! Details available at [www.mg2003.com](http://www.mg2003.com)

August 22nd - 24th - Stratton Mountain, VT, British Marque Car Club News Triathlon V. [www.britishmarque.com](http://www.britishmarque.com) for details  
September

11-12 October: Mike Hughes has blocked out 8 rooms at the Highland Inn for the second weekend in October, 2003 (Friday the 11th and Saturday the 12th) for our bi-annual Fall Foliage Weekend. Two of the rooms are suites, so two couples can share - or a family can bring children. The other 6 rooms will sleep two. This also happens to be the weekend of the Highland County Harvest Festival so there will be a lot to do and see. They are holding the blocked rooms for me only until March 1 so we need to get the word out and register early. I may be able to wrangle a couple more rooms if we use up the block right away, and I am hoping to find space in some of the B&Bs in town if we get a big response. Many people book their rooms a year in advance for the Harvest Festival which is why we need to be thinking about this now.

The phone # for the Highland Inn is 540 468-2143 and the blocked rooms are in the name of "Chesapeake Chapter." Please, please let Mike Hughes know after you have made your reservation so he can keep track of the bookings and know if he needs to make the arrangements for additional rooms!!

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## Letter of Support from a Fellow MG Club



January 25, 2003

Mr. John Tokar  
Chairman  
Chesapeake Chapter  
New England MG "T" Register  
4935 Tall Oaks Drive  
Monrovia, MD 21770

Dear John,

For the British Car owners, with the new year comes the promise better weather, and car shows starting in the early spring.

For the Washington, DC MG Club, aside from our own show in October, the one that is most significant is British Car Day. Last year there was some concern that leaving Allen Pond Park for a new venue would make the show less desirable. I am glad to say that those fears were dispelled when the show came off with great success at Smokey Glen Farm. The location is

very convenient, and with the room to expand that exists there, plus the availability of good food at a good price, makes Smokey Glen Farm a near-perfect place for the show.

John, I hope you are able to continue at Smokey Glen Farm. By using Smokey Glen Farm, I see the opportunity to have British Car Day grow to be larger than it ever has been, and the MG Car Club Washington DC Centre is pleased to be a part of it. If there is some way I, or the club can help you this year, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*George Marshall*

George Marshall  
President

MG Car Club, Washington, DC Centre –  
PO Box 6321 Arlington, VA 22206

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**Chesapeake Chapter**  
**Technical Talk**

**Winter "T" Storage**

There are T. V. shows about Backyard Mechanic, Shade Tree Mechanic, tune-up specialists, Classic Car Mechanics, all sharing special tools and equipment of the latest design. On November 17, 2002 we had 10 members of our club members attend a Tech Session at Ralphie's Garage on Winter "T" Storage.

Those in attendance were treated to presentations from Ralph Cattanio and John Tokar on suggested steps to take as we put our "T" cars to bed for the winter. Refreshments were also served.



Below are the suggested steps that can be used to store your "T" for the winter. These suggestions can be applied to many vehicles that need winter storage.

Things you will need to buy are oil & filter, Marvel Mystery Oil, fuel stabilizer, WD-40, antifreeze, cooling system flush and cooling system treatment, mothballs and Beer!!!

1. Pour the coolant flush into your radiator. Take the fuel stabilizer and a rag with you to the gas station. Drive your "T" for about two to three miles and stop at your local gas station. Before topping off with 93 octane, pour in the fuel stabilizer.
2. Drive back home and change the oil and filter first.
3. You are ready to flush the cooling system. Drain the radiator and engine block. Fill the radiator with water and run the engine for about five minutes. Drain the radiator and block again. Install the proper mix of antifreeze and water along with the coolant treatment.
4. Drain the transmission and refill.
5. Drain the differential and refill.
6. Lube the front end, steering rack, drive shaft distributor shaft and water pump.

7. Remove the air filters. With your oil can spray into the carburetor the Marvel Mystery Oil to fog the engine. You will need help to hold the idle up @1500 RPM'S as you do this. Let the engine run for about one minute and turn the engine off. Remove the spark plugs and shoot Marvel Mystery Oil into each cylinder. Reinstall the plugs to proper torque.

8. Loosen the generator and back off the fan belt.

9. Remove the battery from the car. Put the battery on a slow charge for about six hours. Store on a block of wood and recharge the battery in about two months.

10. Spray the distributor cap and ignition wires with WD-40. Also spray the fuse box.

items are very corrosive and will play havoc on your body and electrical system.



#### Body Prep:

Be sure to wash and wax your car body (and chrome) to ensure a protective coat for the winter. Buff all wax off now and use only soft 100% cotton rags.

#### Interior Prep:

Clean and vacuum the interior carpets. Treat your leather seats with leather conditioner and vinyl trim with vinyl protector. Ensure that the hood is in the upright position and that the side curtains are in place. This will keep these components in the open air to prevent mold and mildew as well as keep unwelcome rodents from nesting in your car over the winter. Mothballs in small plastic dishes will also prevent rodents and other critters from taking up residence. Silica gel drying agent (purchased from a hardware store) set in a plastic pan will aid in controlling any moisture buildup that may occur during storage.

#### Tires:

If you have the original bias-ply tires, please take note: Your sidewalls will probably be cracked from dry rot. This condition can be

#### Other General Storage Notes:

If possible, store your car in a garage with a dry concrete floor. Dirt floors are bad because they will emit water vapor that will collect under your car and will cause condensation damage leading to rust. If your only alternative is a barn, use a plastic tarp to serve as a vapor barrier between the earth and your car! Use a soft cotton car cover for inside storage. Blue tarps are a no-no! Also be sure and store your car away from fertilizer and other chemicals. These

a dangerous situation that could cause your tires to fail without warning leading to catastrophic results. Replace them ASAP! Over inflate your tires by 5 PSI because when your car sits idle your tires will loose air. There is no need to block your car if you have recently purchased radial tires because they are made from modern rubber materials (flat spots will not develop).

#### Suspension:

If you block your car do so under the suspension (springs or A-Arms) not the chassis. Allowing the suspension to hang loose puts it in an un-natural position that could lead to problems later. Set the gearbox in 1st. gear and block the rear wheels. Do not set the hand brake as it could cause the brake shoes to rust to the drums making Spring start-up rather challenging!

#### Misc Items:

Plug the end of the exhaust pipe using a wood dowel or duct tape to prevent infestation. It is also a good idea to seal the engine air intakes. Don't use rags because they make ideal nesting materials for your rodent friends!

One last thing is to make a list of what you've done, and what should be un-done when you awaken your car in the Spring. This will help make the experience all the more enjoyable!

We hope that this exercise has been helpful to all. If you have any questions, Ralph and John would be glad to answer them. For those of you who missed the Tech Session you missed the free containers of Meguiar's Quik Detailer and Meguiar's Gold Class Rich Leather/Conditioner, products that can be used in the suggested steps for getting your car ready for winter storage.

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### **Interesting Press Release**

The new Classic Autosport website, [Classicautosport.net](http://Classicautosport.net), is up and running. We welcome your comments on the bulletin board.

We will continue to support your car meets and shows as we have done in the past. Requests should be mailed to: Classic Autosport, PO Box 1568, Ormond Beach, FL 32175. Requests received to date here in Los Altos will be fulfilled from here.

The 800 # will remain the same, and will transfer to the Florida office of Motorsport Marketing on Monday, March 3.

#### PRESS RELEASE - BRITISH CAR MAGAZINE CHANGES OWNERSHIP, GARY ANDERSON TO BE EDITOR OF NEW PUBLICATION

Ormond Beach, Florida, January 31, 2003 Motorsport Marketing, Inc., Publishers of Grassroots Motorsports, has announced their purchase of British Car Magazine on January 30. British Car will be relaunched this spring as Classic Autosport, with British Car's Gary Anderson as editor.

Classic Autosport magazine will offer classic car enthusiasts more depth in its technical coverage and a wider range of classic performance automobile coverage – British, as well as European, American, and others. Classic Autosport will be all-color, perfect-bound and will start with at least 100 pages.

In making the announcement, Tim Suddard, president of Motorsport Marketing and publisher of Grassroots Motorsports, said "As classic car enthusiasts ourselves, we have had a dream for over ten years of adding a classic car magazine to our activities. With the acquisition of British Car, we have the core around which to create the kind of magazine we have always wanted ourselves, in the same way we have built Grassroots Motorsports."

From his office in Los Altos, California, Gary Anderson, editor and publisher of British Car Magazine since 1996 said "I'm really looking forward to editing the new magazine. With the strong technical and publishing resources of Motorsport Marketing, we'll be able to provide more detailed information on our favorite British cars while covering the other marques that were so much a part of the sports car hobby as we knew it in the fifties, sixties, and seventies."

The expanded magazine will give British Car readers more tech features, emphasizing ways to improve reliability, safety, and performance of classic cars. In addition, Classic Autosport will be building its own project cars like those that Grassroots Motorsports is famous for building. Classic car meet and vintage racing coverage will be expanded. All of this will be added while the magazine will still maintain the enthusiasm for classic cars that British Car readers have come to expect.

The first project cars planned for the new publication include an MG Midget and Porsche 911, while the magazine will also campaign a pair of vintage racers: Publisher Tim Suddard will continue to run his Triumph TR3 at East Coast events, while Editor Gary Anderson will campaign an MGA on the West Coast.

The April/May issue of British Car will be the last one to carry the old name and logo. British Car readers will see no interruption of service, as they will be the first to receive this new and expanded publication. The first issue of Classic Autosport will be mailed in late May and on the newsstands by 3 June.

The readers' services number will remain the same: 1 800 520 8292.

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### ***Five Speed Conversions***

If you have ever undertaken a long trip in your classic MG, you will agree that on modern roads the comparatively low overall gearing can be a major drawback. At 70 MPH the engine is turning about 4100 rpm which causes excessive engine wear, noise, and driver fatigue from unwanted vibration. With the Five-Speed kit you can cruise at 70 MPH at a more relaxing 3300 rpm. Less engine wear, better gas mileage, and full synchronized shifting are some of the benefits.

The conversion adapts a Ford Sierra Type 9 five-speed gearbox which has been fully reconditioned and tested. The conversion is non intrusive to the MGA & MGB with only

slight modification to the TD & TF models. The car can be returned to original condition very easily.

The standard ratios for the Ford Sierra gearbox are perfect for the MG models, with a 10% higher second gear for better overtaking. Fourth gear is exactly the same as the MGs and fifth gear matches the MGB overdrive exactly.

The bell housing is cast in high strength LM25TF heat-treated aluminum alloy and is robustly constructed. The standard clutch cover, release lever and slave cylinder are all reused. A suitable clutch plate is provided if needed. The kit comes with everything you need to complete the conversion. With different models there are different needs for the kits. Each kit is made specific for the individual's needs.

For those who wish to have a little better performing car, especially in the mountains, there is a close ratio gearbox available that closes up the gap between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> gears. Also available is a shifter using a PTFE bearing which gives a smooth shorter shift than the standard Sierra gearbox. The conversion kits can be fitted to the MGA, MGB, ZA & ZB Magnette, MGTD, and the MGTF.

For more information:

- visit [www.mgfivespeed.com](http://www.mgfivespeed.com)
- Call Butch White at 864-376-6701
- E-Mail at [mowogwhite@aol.com](mailto:mowogwhite@aol.com)



**Mini GOF 2003**  
**Strasburg, Virginia on May 2-4**

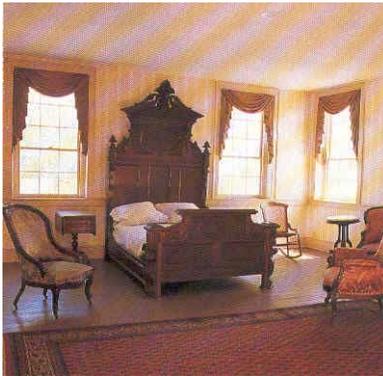
**SHENANDOAH SPRING**  
**MINI-GOF 2003**



**HOTEL STRASBURG**  
**STRASBURG, VIRGINIA**

**MAY 2-4, 2003**

2003 Mini-GoF will be held on May 2<sup>nd</sup> through May 4<sup>th</sup> in Strasburg, Virginia. Strasburg is the gateway to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley. We will stay at the Strasburg Hotel, a Victorian Experience of the 1890's. Rooms are decorated with period pieces. We have 15 rooms reserved for the Chesapeake Chapter. Room rates are very reasonable, starting at \$71.52 plus tax.



There is lots to do and see. Strasburg is known as the Antique Capital of Virginia. The Emporium has 90,000 square feet of antiques under one roof. And, there is the Strasburg Museum, Belle Grove Plantation,

Hupps Hill Battlefield Park, with the Stonewall Jackson Museum, Crystal Caverns, and a self-guided walking tour.

We plan to go to White Post and tour Billy Thompson's Restoration Shop after the car show Saturday morning. Then, free time until the banquet at the Strasburg Hotel beginning at 6:00 pm.

For reservations: call the hotel at 1-888-763-8327. Our rooms will be held until April the 1<sup>st</sup>. You must mention that you are with the Chesapeake MG-T Club for our rate, and to receive a room location near the other members. Don't miss!

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**Registration Form**

Please send to:

Martha Ludtke  
 4040 Olley Lane  
 Fairfax, VA 22032

Registration Fee: \$25.00

Dinner # \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$30.00 each person  
 Indicate Choice(s):  
 \_\_\_\_\_ London Broil  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Herb Roasted Chicken  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Broiled Trout  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Total

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I will be bringing an MG TC \_\_\_ TD \_\_\_ TF  
 \_\_\_ Vintage \_\_\_ Other MG \_\_\_

I will attend the tour of Bill Thompson's  
 Restoration Shop on Saturday  
 Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

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 \_\_\_\_\_

That's all for this first Edition; comments, articles and inputs (MS Office Word format is best!) most welcome ! ☺, Ed.