

**January 2008**

▲ **Chairman's Outlook** ▲

As we begin another new year, I would like to take this time to reflect on the past year and to offer our outlook for 2008. We enjoyed a nice blend of social events including our traditional Winter Chili Party, Fourth of July fireworks viewing and our most popular summer event, the annual 'Ool Party. We had long distance *Drives to Lunch* to such destinations as Fredericksburg and Winchester, local drives for our Pub Nights and our very popular Project Car Tour. One overnight outing was hosted by the Renkenbergers on Maryland's Eastern Shore and our Chapter was represented at the NAMGAR Regional GT in Key West Florida. The Mid-Atlantic Chapter was also well shown at local British car shows with awards spread out among a number of our members. With all these activities, a few Tech Sessions were also required from time to time to help keep our busy MGAs on the road.

Our Chapter gained new members from both Maryland and Virginia, and we were somehow able to entice all our previous members to renew their memberships for another season! Overall, I would say 2007 was a very productive year and we saw many new-yet-somehow-familiar-faces-of-old participating in many of our events. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that hosted a Pub Night or other social event, took their time to plan and lead us on a *Drive to Lunch* or contributed an article to the *Distributor* for our reading pleasure. Active involvement from our members is what will continue to make this Chapter successful in the future.

This brings us to our goals for 2008. As every chairman of every organization around the world has stated at some point during their tenure, ***this is your club!*** While we plan a similar mix of social and driving events for the upcoming year, we still want and need your input as to what types of activities most appeal to you. For those of you that made events last year, expect more of the same with some new twists thrown in. For those of you that went the year *without* participating in *something*, we need to know what we can do to entice you to join us. A running MGA is not a prerequisite to participate in any of our events.

I should also note we have rededicated our efforts to keeping our web site up-to-date and current throughout the year. We are in the process of revising the way we submit articles and pictures to be posted so Amy does not incur the full burden of gathering, editing, posting and maintenance on her shoulders alone. Contributions should continue to be sent to [web@mga-midatlantic.org](mailto:web@mga-midatlantic.org).

We also welcome contributions to the *Distributor* with your tales of MG life past and present. Each MGA out there has a history or a story that reflects on your life. There are many wise sages of MG experience among us that can enlighten our newer members or perhaps bring groans of remembrance from our more seasoned members. Also, this newsletter is not simply about the dispersal of news regarding Chapter events, but also serves as our “gossip rag” to keep each of us in touch with the comings and goings of our extended MGA family.

On a side note, I have made it my personal challenge to meet each and every member of the Chapter I have not yet met at some point during this year. You can help me achieve this goal by participating in our Mid-Atlantic Chapter events or local British car shows and introducing yourself. If not, perhaps one day when least expected, I’ll be standing on your front porch ringing the doorbell!

*Safety Fast!*

Bill Marshall

## ▲ **GT-33 in Seven Springs, PA** ▲

We are very fortunate the national NAMGAR GT for 2008 will be held nearly in our backyard at the Seven Springs Resort in Seven Springs, PA. A mere 4 hours driving time away for modern vehicles, Seven Springs provides an easy one day MG drive or lazy overnight trip for most of our Chapter members.

GT-33 begins on Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup> with arrival and registration and the featured event of the day is a Twin Cam Press Day Reenactment at noon. Tuesday is an on-your-own day for which the Chapter will make plans to visit Frank Lloyd Wright’s famous architectural masterpiece *Fallingwater* in nearby Mill Run, PA. The car show is scheduled for Wednesday on the grounds of the Resort with a road rally and NAMGAR banquet scheduled for Thursday. Friday morning we say our farewells and begin the journey home.

Vintage car racing will book-end our week in Seven Springs with the Historic Races at BeaveRun, north of Pittsburgh, on July 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> and the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix the following weekend, with British Car Day at Schenley Park and Grand Prix qualifying races on Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. The featured races will be held Sunday afternoon showcasing the nation’s only vintage automobile race held on public streets

It is not too early to make your hotel reservations with the Seven Springs Resort via their toll-free 866-437-1300 number. Be sure to mention you are with NAMGAR for their special rate of \$130.00 per night. For those than can’t commit to the full week, consider a day trip or overnight visit to attend the car show on Wednesday.

GT-33 will be our big event for the year and we will have updates and reminders in the *Distributor* throughout the upcoming months. Let us know if you plan to attend so we can plan Chapter activities based those coming. The Chapter will also act as a clearinghouse if desired for those wanting to arrange or participate in caravans to and from Seven Springs.

## ▲ Dues are Due ▲

Please find attached a Membership Renewal form for 2008. Dues are once again \$20.00 for the year and checks should be payable to NAMGAR Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Please mail your check to our treasurer:

Martha Ludtke  
114 Wickham Terrace  
Winchester, VA 22602

It is our goal to have all dues collected by our March Annual Meeting – which of course is also our annual Chili Party.

As a part of our association with NAMGAR as an affiliated chapter, we are required to provide NAMGAR with our membership numbers as well as the number of chapter members that also hold NAMGAR membership. If you are a member of NAMGAR, please indicate this and if possible, include your car's NAMGAR registration number.

## ▲ From the Past! ▲

Reprinted from The Chairman's Forum section of the January/February 1977 NAMGAR MGA newsletter, Vol. 2, No. 4.

*By Mac Spears*

*Every-once-in-awhile a good story comes along and this may be one. Dick Embick is the author of this piece that appeared in the newsletter of the Chesapeake Chapter of the New England MG 'T' Register. I've been trying to find the moral in this story, but I'm not quite sure which one is it ...*

*"The Lost MGA"*

*The other day Mac Spears invited me to accompany him to somewhere in Maryland to look at an MGA parts car which was for sale. After we found the car, we tried every trick in the book to get this sad car running (owners always say they had it running last week!) But Mac said he saw enough spares to justify the purchase; and not only that, but the owner would throw in an old foot pump Singer sewing machine Mac took a fancy to. Our plans were to go back to Virginia and get a tow truck driver to come back for pick up when up pulled a tow truck driver from a previous job! Now this driver's name was "Charlie" and after we flagged him down, he seemed quite receptive to most anything. (He must be an ex-junk dealer). After hooking up the car Charlie permitted us to load an MGA hardtop and one sewing machine on the back of the truck. Then, Charlie said he had to go back to his station for gas after which we were to lead the way home. Needless to say, Mac and I got left behind at an intersection stoplight and here is where it all turns into good news, bad joke. Mac said he thought Charlie was driving an "Esso" tow truck so we drove five miles up the road like a couple of Keystone cops. Finally, we stopped at a Shell station and asked the attendant if he saw Charlie with a "tatty" MGA in tow. He directed us down a side road. Now, if you can imagine, here I am sitting next to the Chairman of the North American MGA Register who has lost a car he purchased ten*

*minutes earlier and he kept reconciling to himself saying, "Well, I still have the title". We eventually found Charlie putting gas in his tow truck with one hand and casually eating a sandwich with the other, and he wasn't even concerned about losing us as though it were an everyday occurrence. I got elected to ride back to Virginia with Charlie to keep track of him, and as we drove around the Beltway people kept staring at us as they went by: one MGA hardtop, one car with flopping fenders and one pump sewing machine. The rest of the trip was uneventful with me sharing my potato chips with Charlie and listening to war stories.*

*Mac's Addendum: The return trip wasn't uneventful to me; I followed the towing circus in an MGA in the event it became necessary to pick up or clear the highway of MGA or Singer pieces.*

Editor's Note: This was from a time when NAMGAR was both the national organization and also acted as the local Washington DC chapter – prior to our Mid-Atlantic Chapter being formally organized in 1978.

## ▲ **Miscellaneous Information** ▲

**CHAPTER WEBSITE:** [www.mga-midatlantic.org](http://www.mga-midatlantic.org) Don't forget to check out our website and send a picture of your car to Amy so it can be posted in the gallery. Check our website for recently posted pictures of past outings.

### **"FOR SALE"**

New MGB dog-leg repair panels L/H & R/H (Moss #457-585 \$36.95 and Moss #457-580 \$36.95) My price is \$32.00 each. My '67 MGB GT is in the shop and they said they didn't need to be replaced. Hope somebody can use them. Butch Smith 703-569-1508 or [bjmga@verizon.net](mailto:bjmga@verizon.net)

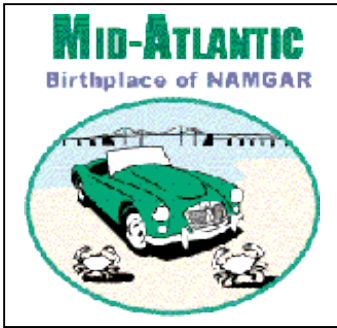
### **"FOR SALE"**

My '67 BGT is in the paint shop. I am re-chroming her. Many items from the car are actually in pretty good shape. I really don't want to donate them to the Fairfax County recycle center. All are "best offer". If interested, contact me for the list. Butch Smith 703-569-1508 or [bjmga@verizon.net](mailto:bjmga@verizon.net)

### **"DRY STORAGE"**

Dry garage storage facility for runners or future projects located on Route 50 in Middleburg, VA is available. Short, long term or just winter storage is available according to your needs. Current rates are \$85/month long term (4 months or more) or \$100/month short term (less than 4 months). For more information or to arrange a visit please contact Michael Eaton at 703-242-1768 or via e-mail at [mg.carma@verizon.net](mailto:mg.carma@verizon.net)

*Please forward articles, classifieds, or any information for the **Distributor** to Liz Ten Eyck, 11101 Rich Meadow Dr., Great Falls, VA 22066 or e-mail to [bytheoak@msn.com](mailto:bytheoak@msn.com).*



**Membership Application/Renewal Form**  
for the North American MGA Register  
**Mid-Atlantic Chapter**  
Washington DC - Maryland - Virginia

New Member       Renewal

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

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Car Information** (please complete to the best of your ability)

1<sup>st</sup> car

2<sup>nd</sup> car (if applicable)

Style (coupe or roadster): \_\_\_\_\_

Style (coupe or roadster): \_\_\_\_\_

Model: \_\_\_\_\_

Model: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Color : \_\_\_\_\_

Color: \_\_\_\_\_

Chassis (VIN): \_\_\_\_\_

Chassis (VIN): \_\_\_\_\_

Body Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Body Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Engine Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Engine Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently a national NAMGAR member? : Yes  No

Dues are \$20.00 per year.

Please make checks payable to "NAMGAR, Mid-Atlantic Chapter"

Print this form and send to: Martha Ludtke  
114 Wickham Terrace  
Winchester, VA 22602