

## Bay State MGA Club Goes to the British Invasion 2014

On Thursday, September 18, 2014 group from the Bay State MGA club met at Mike's Corner Mini-Mart in Fitzwilliam, NH to caravan to Stowe, VT for the British Invasion. The group included Jim and Ellie Guyot, Dick and Nancy Fabrizio, Steve Fabrizio, Tom and Deb Duffy, and me. We made our way over to VT 100 and headed north to Stowe with a stop in Ludlow, VT for lunch. Jim had an intermittent issue with the ignition cutting out which we think is linked to his ignition switch, but it has not been sorted out yet. We all made it safely to the condo that the group had rented on Mountain Road (VT 108). As the group relaxed I went to the grocery and picked up supplies. When I returned I got the hot tub going and after it had warmed up I hopped in and relaxed the road weariness from my bones. Some of our favorite places have gone out of business, so, we had to look around for places to eat. We headed over to the Cactus Cafe across the road for dinner.

On Friday we had a leisurely breakfast and after noon headed over to the show field at the Stowe Special Events Field to explore the vendors and pick up our registration packets. Members Geoff and Andrea Rogers were vending their wares with their daughter, Fiona. The Reception consisted of beer and wine and very little else. There was a good soup being served but only a small sample. The reception was very poorly attended and therefore there was plenty of seating. After the reception we made our way downtown for the Main Street event. Jim and Ellie left early enough to get their car on the street but the rest of us parked up the road and walked down. We saw and talked with members Steve Mackay and Don and MaryJane Tremblay. It was very cold, so, after looking at the cars and listening to the band we made our way back to the condo.

On Saturday we had our breakfast and got the cars ready for the show early so that we could get on the field by 9:30. We headed over and were quickly passed through onto the show field to our respective classes. Jim and Ellie were in the MGA 1500 class, Tom and Deb and I were in the MGA 1600 class, Steve was in the TR6 class, and Dick and Nancy were in the Rubber Bumper MGB class. We spent the day talking with friends and looking at the cars and vendor offerings. We met for lunch at a new pub within walking distance of the field. I was talking with Boston Area MG Club member Steve Devine when the awards were being announced and to my surprise my MGA took third place in class! Steve had to coax me to go get it in the middle of some of the other announcements. Also, Phil Roy took first place with his Twin Cam MGA and Chuck O'Neal took second with his red MKII. I think the reason my car took a prize was because I was next to the ballot box, or perhaps it was the glacier blue color. Member Roy and Jane Crane were in the same class with their beautiful white MGA 1600, but they did not place for a prize. The winners list has not been posted yet on the British Invasion web site: <http://www.britishinvasion.com> but they should be posted soon. I don't know which cars won in the MGA 1500 class, but our members did not indicate that they had won an award. Both the 1500 and 1600 classes were well represented with about 15 and 10 cars respectively. Members Joe Castellano and Gail Carrigan, who just moved to Montpelier, VT came late and left early, but were next to Steve with his yellow MGA 1500. The club offered all members in good standing a steak (and vegetarian for those

who don't eat steak) to anyone who wanted to come to the condo for dinner. We had a great meal and enjoyed plenty of libations after the awards ceremony.

Sunday was supposed to have some rain, but it held off and after a nice breakfast were we finished off the food we had bought we headed out of town for the trip home. The Duffys had left early since they had a long drive home. We took the same route back and since no one was hungry did not stop for lunch in Ludlow, only a short break. We split up in Fitzwilliam, NH where Steve headed down RT 12 and the rest of us down Rt 119. We all arrived home safely. Steve had a problem with his running lights, but I diagnosed it as a corroded fuse in the fuse block, which we fixed by cleaning the fuse. Dick had a problem where his started did not turn sometimes and thought it might be the solenoid, but the late model MGBs have two relays, one for the ignition and one for the starter and I suspect that it is the starter relay acting up. He has not had a problem since, but will diagnose more if it happens again.

There are still plenty of good driving days left this year. The leaves are turning and it is Leaf Peeper Season, so, get out there in you LBCs and enjoy the remaining days of this driving season. Unlike some regions we only get to enjoy our cars part of the year!

Safety Fast,

Jack Horner  
President, Bay State MGA Club

The cars in the caravan at Ludlow, VT for lunch







