



# MG Car Club—Florida

#84

JUNE 2008 NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Dave Alexander

Yes, it's HOT!! (but not as hot as New York City..). Accordingly, June 21 will be our club's first 2008 summer evening event, a "cool" visit to Barrier Island Sanctuary Management & Education Center, near Sebastian Inlet, followed by dinner at the Long Point Café. In July and August other evening events, include touring and a possible nighttime "Lucas, Prince of Darkness" rally.

Final planning for our November 1, 2008 annual club show, "Brit Bash at Wickham" is almost complete and details will be announced and distributed soon. Thanks to our Show Committee and all you "soon to be volunteers' members..

A Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9th, so if anyone has suggestions for future events or any other subject, please contact any of your club officers or board members. Your input will be most appreciated.

Hope to see all of you on June 21, and at all the upcoming club events.

## CAR SHOW NOTICE

As you know, our annual car show at Fox Lake in Titusville in September has been cancelled. The location, date, and name have been changed. This was done to avoid the height of hurricane season and heat and to more centrally locate the show field. The new name is

### **BRIT BASH AT WICKHAM** *A Celebration of British Motorcars*

**The new location is Wickham Park in Melbourne, Florida. Save the date – the new date is November 1, 2008.**

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW**  
Danica Perhacs (Director, Show Chairperson 772-770-0083)

## JUNE EVENT – AN EVENING OUTING

On Saturday, June 21, we will meet at 4 PM at the new Barrier Island Sanctuary Management & Education Center, 8385 South Highway A1A, Melbourne Beach. This is a brand new facility of the Brevard County Parks & Recreation Department and is specifically devoted to the coastal marine environment. It opened May 10, 2008. The central exhibit highlights the five habitats from the Indian River Lagoon to the Atlantic Ocean, featured in detailed and accurate murals. There are also two aquariums, one salt and the other fresh water. The sea turtle is also a featured item. There are



many exhibits pertaining to the sea that are very interesting. There is a large outside deck on the ocean side where you can sit and enjoy the view and the sea breeze. If you desire, there is a hiking trail on the west side of A1A going down to the Indian River, which contains all five of the habitats mentioned earlier. It is about a mile or so, therefore, if you wish to hike the trail, arrive about 3 PM. The building closes at 5 PM. The center is 14.5 miles south on A1A from the intersection of SR 192 & A1A in Indian River. Allow about 30 minutes drive time, as the speed limit is mostly 45 mph. From the south, it is about 3.5 miles north of the Sebastian Inlet Bridge.

At 5 PM, we shall drive south 1.6 miles +/- to the Long Point Café (a great restaurant) for dinner. They have a varied menu, with beer and wine. (Visit [www.longpointcafe.com](http://www.longpointcafe.com) to see their full menu and they do have specials.) They only seat about 50 but they do accept reservations. So, if you are planning to attend, PLEASE call me by noon Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, at 772-532-4265, or e mail [normridge@yahoo.com](mailto:normridge@yahoo.com) so I can call to alert them how many will be coming for dinner. If you decide to come at the last minute, we can handle that also.

So plan to attend our first evening event of the summer! And, if, for some reason, you cannot drive your LBC, drive what you have but do come. This is an opportunity to see where your Environmentally Endangered Lands Program funds are going, enjoy a great meal, and get to socialize with your fellow British car lovers. You probably will be home before dark even if you stop for ice cream.

## MAY EVENT

Our first ever “Timed” Rally was a GREAT event. Thanks go out to Bill & Joyce Emmons and Ed & Pam Price for laying out an outstanding and challenging rally.



We had five entrants, one of which was a solo, Ken Gregory. The others were (driver first) Helen & Frank Kingston, Gail Gilbert & Dave Alexander, Dave & Jody Dude (new members), and Norm & Pat Ridgely. Much to



their surprise, the Ridgelys won the event! Their prize was an LED mini flashlight (torch, in Brit terms). They ran the course in about 1 hour & 45 minutes and



covered about 43 miles, which included getting lost/confused three times and having to back track. The rally was great fun and a learning experience. After the rally, which ended at Wickham Park, where Saul Klein joined us, we retired to a pavilion for judging of the picnic



baskets and lunch. Dave & Gail won that contest hands down with a beautiful basket and elegant table setting including flowers.

After lunch, Helen took us to the park's area where our **"Brit Bash at Wickham, a Celebration of British Motorcars,"** will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup>. We talked about the use of the three pavilions we will have and the layout of the show field. It looks to be a great event.

After that, we said our goodbyes and headed for home. Those who did not attend this event missed a great time. Bill and Ed plan to set up another rally this coming winter so plan to be there. Again, thanks to Bill, Joyce, Ed and Pam for a wonderful event.



### **ETHANOL & LBCs by Norm Ridgely**

Numerous questions have arisen regarding the use of ethanol and from recent research, I'll pass along what I learned. (1) Any pump dispensing ethanol fuel in Florida must be labeled. (2) Florida does not require state-mandated use of ethanol by a date certain (or uncertain). (3) Ethanol is not mixed with all fuel sold by one brand of fuel. One XYZ station may sell E-fuel but an XYZ station down the road may sell E-free fuel. (4) If you find any violations as to labeling, call the Florida Bureau of Petroleum Inspection at 800-435-7352. (5) A recent article quoted a California MG garage owner that E-10 or less has not had any effect on LBCs that he has seen. (6) Stay tuned for further details.

### **MGCC-F UPCOMING EVENTS:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> – This will kick off our summer evening events – see first page.

July 19, 2008 – We are going to meet at Island Pasta Co. restaurant, 903 East New Haven Ave (downtown Melbourne) at 6:30 pm for dinner, followed by a twilight drive and possible dessert stop. Parking is available one block west and south (around the corner). We will need RSVPs so we can reserve a table. We had dinner here last year and everybody attending had a great time. Good food and much storytelling and laughter. Get your LBC and get out in the cool of the evening. RSVP to Ed at [cbcs1@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbcs1@bellsouth.net) or at 321-632-2207 by 7/15/08.

August – To be announced

November 1, 2008 – Brit Bash, our club's BIG show at Wickham Park, Melbourne

### **OTHER EVENTS:**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month: British Car Breakfast Club 9:00 a.m. at the Golden Corral in Altamonte Springs. It is just south of SR 434's intersection with SR 436 on the east side between Costco and Robb & Stucky.

June 25/29, 2008 – MG 2008, Valley Forge, PA hosted by NAMGBR.

July 14-18, 2008 – NAMGAR GT-33 will be held at the Seven Springs Resort in Champion, PA. For reservations call the resort at 866-437-1300, room rate is \$130.00. Additional info can be found at [www.7springs.com](http://www.7springs.com). The featured car is the Twin Cam.

October 17-19, 2008 – Euro-Fest 2008 at the BMW plant in Greer, SC.

November 7/9, 2008 – MG Jamboree, St. Pete, FL – Details to follow

For questions on any of the above, call Norm Ridgely (772) 567-2231.

### **MEMBER PROFILES:**

Members are invited to submit interesting articles about their MG or MGs and themselves.

### **FEEDBACK:**

The Officers and Board members would like to hear from members concerning their views on current functions and events (likes, dislikes, etc.) and any ideas for the future. This is your club and we want everyone to participate and enjoy. So, please contact anyone on the list on the last page to have your voice heard. Thanks!

### **CLASSIFIED ADS:**

(5) Tires on rims with trim rings. Firestone FR380, P175/70R14. (2) excellent, (2) decent, (1) spare. \$200 OBO. Please call Ben Stone @ (772) 770-0083.

Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. Send your ad to Pat Ridgely at the link below or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965 by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter. In your e mail, please reference MGCC-F ad so it's not considered spam.

We need as many articles written by members as we can get. Submit yours to Pat Ridgely at [pridgely83@yahoo.com](mailto:pridgely83@yahoo.com) or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965. Thanks for your help.

***Safety Fast !***

#### **Club Officials**

**David Alexander 321-213-7051 (President)**

**Frank Kingston (Vice-President)**

**Pat Ridgely 772-567-2231 (Secretary & Newsletter Editor)**

**Helen Kingston 321-773-1455 (Treasurer)**

**Saul Klein 321-269-0236 (Webmaster)**

**Al Allen (Director)**

**Ken Gregory (Director)**

**Christian Havneraas (Director)**

**Danica Perhacs (Director, Show Chairperson 772-770-0083)**

**Saul Klein (Director at Large)**

**Norm Ridgely (Director at Large)**

Ed Price – Past president

Jerry Keuper Chairman Emeritus (In Memoriam)

MG Car Club - Florida

[www.mgcarclubflorida.org](http://www.mgcarclubflorida.org)

P.O. Box 410471

Melbourne, FL 32941

321-213-7051



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[www.britishmarque.com](http://www.britishmarque.com) MGCCF Participating Club Price = \$14 per year