



MG Car Club—Florida

#95

MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Dave Alexander

This month our event was a little early due to necessary scheduling but we can use it as an example of how flexible the club events can be. This event was suggested by new member Ray Pollock and took us to Robert Shearer's private collection called the South 40's Classic Car Collection. No LBC's but with our interest in classic cars a visit worth every minute spent there. Our thanks to our host, Robert Shearer, for an outstanding event. There are lots of pictures on our website and a write up will be in next months newsletter.

Please keep club event suggestions coming.

LAST MONTH'S EVENT - THE PONCE INLET LIGHT STATION TOUR

On Saturday, April 18th, 2009, the club's tour to the Light Station at Ponce Inlet started at the McDonald's in the Rockledge Shopping Center with 10 cars and 18 members: Ben Stone, Al & Pat Allen, Ken Gregory, Rich & Pat Jablonski, Linda Knoblock & Mitch Senical, Kevin Hoffman & Carol Gradwell, Ed & Pam Price, Helen Kingston & Candy Gallagher, Pat & Norm Ridgely. We left Rockledge at 0920, going north on US 1. In Titusville, we took a break and Saul Klein joined the group. As we proceeded north, Art & Yvonne Floyd joined the caravan north of Mims. We arrived at the Light Station at 11:25, having travelled 71 miles in about 2 hours. And it was a delightful ride with sunny skies, light traffic, and cool temps. We were also



joined by two couples from the All British Car Club of Volusia County, Vic Hall & Sue Wright (in a Jag) and Ron & Mary Ellen Watz (in a Triumph).

The tour of the Station was very informative. All of the Station Keepers homes and outbuildings have been restored to their original condition of the late 1800's and early 1900's. There were many displays of historical items and histories, as well as many original furnishings. One new building displays two first-order Fresnel lenses, the rotating Cape Canaveral Lighthouse lens and the Ponce

Inlet's original fixed first-order lens. During the tour, some of us found out that one of our members grew up by the Light Station and his uncle was an Assistant Keeper. That member is Ben Stone, who talked of growing up adjacent to the Station and his days on the water in the area.

After the tour, the group drove to the nearby Inlet Harbour, a combination restaurant-marina, where we all enjoyed a wonderful lunch. About 3 in the afternoon, most everyone headed home, though a few drove north to an Assisted Living Facility to join a car show there. Everyone seemed very pleased with the activities of the day



and to those that missed this tour, we will hopefully see you on the next one.

MISCELLANEOUS

An article in June 2009 Road & Track Magazine entitled *American Graffiti Dream Vicariously, Through a Guy Named Lew* prompted some interesting e mails between Frank Kingston and Saul Klein. The story talked about the fabulous new cars (Impalas, Mustangs, GTO's) that were offered in the Fifties and Sixties, but beyond what a 14-17 year-old could own. However, those aged "18 to 25" who were relatives, friends or 'new acquaintances" were able to buy them new, and perhaps provide an avenue to "share a ride" or at least tell of their experiences back then.

Here are some of the experiences Saul & Frank shared:

Frank wrote: "I also was one of those guys that actually bought a new one. I bought a 1966 Mustang with a 289, 3 speed.....actually had to order it because of the three speed. I can't remember why I wanted the 3 speed. I think it was because you could get a 3 speed without a console.....and I did not want the console down the middle. I bought it when I was a senior in high school for \$2445.00 with \$72 a month payments. It was also maroon with a black interior like the car in the story. Helen and I had dated when we were in seventh grade (hand holding stuff) but had been nothing but friends for years after that. We were in last period study hall when I was a senior and she was a junior and she asked me for a ride home after school because her car was still being fixed and would not get it back until tomorrow. She later admitted she really wanted a ride in my new Mustang and there was nothing wrong with her car. We have been together since....." FK



Saul wrote: "What a great story Frank! I bought a new '66 GTO in April of 1966, ordered 3 speed also (should have ordered 4 speed), maroon with black interior, \$3200 .. we had been married 4 1/2 years, Ross was 3 1/2 .. Maureen used to drag all the "kids" who challenged her at stop lights .. Ross used to holler "make it growl!" Maureen has never forgiven me to this day for trading it on a new "square" 1967 Volvo 12 months later (worst car we ever owned!) I still dream of that '66 GTO...." Saul



Frank again: "Funny stuff. My friend Kenny bought a new 66 GTO convertiblewhat a beautiful car. Of all the cars I have owned, the Mustang is the only one I still have dreams about."

All British Car Show, Winter Park Saturday, April 4, 2009 –



Another outstanding Car Show hosted by clubs comprising the Central Florida British Car Breakfast Club members. Over 175 British cars, Door prizes, Silent Auction, terrific photograph of You and Your car (in a nice Shiny Metal Frame), and lots of Class Awards. Richard Jensen won an award



for his White MGA and Saul Klein won an award for his Black Tulip Midget. Lots of photos are on our club's website.

MORE MISCELLANY

CLUB BADGES, Ts, POLO SHIRTS, & NEW CAPS – Anyone interested in any of these items can purchase by contacting Al Allen at 321-259-6957 or patalallen@msn.com

For those members who wish to obtain a list of the current membership roster, please e-mail Helen Kingston (hjk@cfl.rr.com) and she will send it to you. We encourage our members to get together outside of our club events; that way they can contact one another for a casual drive or tour some place that interests them. Or plan to go together to another club's function, as they become known.

MGCC-F UPCOMING EVENTS

June 20th (3rd Saturday) – Dinner, tour, dessert, or something near that order will be planned. With the HOT days of summer, the club plans LATE afternoon and/or evening events so that it is cooler. This month will be centered on Cocoa Village. The details will be in the June newsletter.

July 18th (3rd Saturday) – A similar program as June will be planned – in the evening with food and a tour. We are anticipating this event will take place in southern Brevard County on the Barrier Island. Possibly a visit to the McLarty Treasure Museum, Sebastian Inlet Fishing Museum, and/or the Barrier Island Museum, followed by dinner. \

August 8th or 15th (Saturday) – We will all gather in the late afternoon at the Kingston's home on South Tropical Trail (Merritt Island) for dinner (club to furnish meat – members to bring sides and desserts), and viewing of two DVDs: "Inside the Octagon MG: 1921-1945" and "Inside the Octagon 2 MG: 1946-1980." These cover the history of the MG Car Company and are professionally produced by Roadster Productions, Inc. of Texas. They are very entertaining and informative and include many interviews with those who designed, built, and raced our cars. This should be a great evening.

September's event will possibly center around Downtown Historic Melbourne's Friday Fest. Details will follow.

October's event could be an overnigher and/or center on the Octoberfest theme.

November 7th, First Saturday, [2nd Annual Brit Bash at Wickham: A Celebration of British Motorcars](#), presented by us: the MG Car Club - Florida. Friday night we'll have a Meet & Greet at the host hotel with the car show on the following day. Contact Danica 772-770-0083, britbash@comcast.net

Saturday, November 21st – Third Saturday – This will be our club's Annual Meeting and Election of Officers and Directors. Details will follow.

December – A Holiday Party is in the planning phase. Should you have any ideas, please contact any officer or director.

OTHER EVENTS:

1st 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.

May 30th – June 7th – British Car Awareness Week – Drive your British Cars

June 24-28, 2009 - MG 2009 – MGs in Breckenridge – The annual national meet sponsored by the North American MGB Register, of which we are a chapter, will gather in Colorado: only 98 miles west of Denver in the Rocky Mountains, average daytime temperature is 70 and nights in the 50s, humidity about 30%. Elevation is 9,000 to 12,000 feet. Let's get a group together and caravan out there. It's only about 2,000 miles (one way) so that's about 4 days each way.

September 25th – 27th – Southeastern Fall GOF Mk XV – Hiawassee, GA – www.semgtr.org

October 16th – 18th – EuroFest 2009 – Greenville, SC

October 30th – November 1st – SBCC Annual Car Show – Chattanooga, TN

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

MEMBER PROFILES:

Members are invited to submit interesting articles about their cars 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:

WANTED: Ed Price is looking for a driver's side seat frame for a 1977 MGB. Contact him at 321-632-2207.

Weber 38 DGES "Outlaw" carburetor. Includes manifold for MGB installation. Used approximately 1000 miles. \$375 or best offer. Contact Ben Stone at 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 25th 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 or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965. Thanks for your help.

And now... a courteous reminder - Annual 2009 dues were due in January - 5 months later some of our 2008 members haven't sent in their \$15.00 to the Club's post office box. For those "2008" members, whether you are an email newsletter receiver or are a mailed newsletter, newsletters will stop as of the June newsletter.

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 & Director at Large) Al Allen (Director)

Ken Gregory (Director)

Christian Havneraas (Director)

Danica Perhacs 772-770-0083, britbash@comcast.net (Director, Show Chairperson)

Norm Ridgely (Director at Large)

Ed Price – Past president

Jerry Keuper Chairman Emeritus (In Memoriam)

MG Car Club – Florida www.mgcarclubflorida.org

**P.O. Box 410471
Melbourne, FL 32941
321-213-7051**

For Club Info- Please email Dave Alexander [email](#)



The only MEMBER RUN organization for MGB, Midget & 1100/1300 owners

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP fee is \$30 and INCLUDES

- Membership Card
- Six bi-monthly issues of the the MGB Driver Magazine
- Invitation to the Annual National Convention

North American MGB Register
P O Box 69; Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
Toll-free phone/fax: 800-NAMGBR1

An Invitation to Subscribe to

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We are a Participating Club of the *British Marque Car Club News*, a monthly tabloid newspaper featuring the news of our club and numerous other British car clubs as well.

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