



MG Car Club—Florida

FLORIDA OCTAGON

#127

JANUARY 2012

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Kenny Gregory

It is my pleasure to wish you all a happy new year! As incoming president, I would like to offer thanks to our outgoing president, Dave Alexander, and secretary, Pat Ridgely, for their service as well as outgoing Directors Al Allen and Christian Havneraas and Directors at Large Norm Ridgely and Saul Klein. Thanks are also in order for Brian Mitchell, our incoming secretary, as well as Richard Jensen and Bob Webb, our new directors for stepping up. Thank you to Helen Kingston, Linda Knoblock-Raupp for their continued service. Congratulations are in order for the job Danica Perhacs and her staff did for Brit Bash, especially when considering conditions she and her staff endured that very wet Saturday.

I have two pressing issues to resolve: The club has an open director's chair we need to fill and we also need to find a volunteer to begin the process of assuming the newsletter editor's duties. Norm Ridgely has served for the last several years and done a great job and is willing to support the new editor. I sure hope one special member can step up and make this contribution. It should be someone familiar with the Club and its members.

Monday, January 16, is the first "Board of Directors Meeting" of the year. I would like to invite all members to attend and add your input. The board members will help the club plan a "schedule of activities" for the coming driving season. We will also be getting together Saturday, January 21, for a driving tour with lunch afterwards. Times and directions are listed below. I encourage all to attend.

Until then, Good Driving!

DECEMBER EVENT - HOLIDAY PARTY

On Saturday evening, the 17th, 25 of our members gathered at Al & Pat Allen's home in Viera for the Club's annual holiday party. There was a fantastic selection of food to choose from, along with great desserts. Those attending were Dave & Elizabeth Craig, Norm & Pat Ridgely, Linda & Mark Raupp, Patricia Gaffney (guest), Al & Pat Allen, Danica & Ben Stone, Ed & Pam Price, Leonard Coppold, Richard & Jo-Ann Jensen, Dave Alexander & Louise Husband, Kenny & Betty

Gregory, Brian & Ginny Mitchell, Bob Webb, and Mary & Ray Pollock. To those who didn't make it, we missed you.



JANUARY CLUB EVENTS

MONDAY, JANUARY 16TH – 6:30 pm – FIRST QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING OF 2012

The Board will be holding their first meeting of 2012 on this date. The general membership is welcome to attend. The meeting will be held at The Commodore Club Condominium, 995 N. Highway A1A, Indialantic. This condo is located on the beach about 3 miles south of Eau Gallie and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of SR 192. It is across the street from an ABC store and Dos Amigos – both well-lit. There are 2 driveways, so if you miss the first one, don't panic. Bob Webb's number is 480-1015 in case you get lost. From Eau Gallie, go south past 2 traffic lights. Get in left lane at Pizza Hut and in the center, turning lane at Wells Fargo. Turn left without hitting oncoming traffic or go to the next driveway, if you miss the first one. From SR 192, go north past one traffic light and turn right into the 4th driveway (or the 5th, if you miss the first one). The Club room is on the north side of the building, next to the pool. Parking shouldn't be a problem, but if the snowbirds have taken over, park at Hope, a store-front church across A1A next to Dos Amigos and be careful walking across A1A. The meeting will start at 6:30 pm.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21ST – DRIVING TOUR AND LUNCH

This will be an early morning driving event covering central Brevard County, from the barrier island to the western reaches, and luncheon. We will gather at the closed Ethan Allen Furniture Co. store at 2705 N. Hwy #1, just north of Lake Washington Road. This is the same meeting location when we went to dinner at Bonefish Willy's. We will meet at 9:30 AM with a departure between 9:45 and 10:00. Each car will then receive their driving instructions/questionnaire and leave at 2-minute intervals. Be sure you have fuel and an empty bladder. We have a nice restaurant selected and Ed Price and Norm Ridgely can vouch for it. And, who knows, this event might be one whereby someone will win a year's free membership or another great prize. We would like a head count, so please call

Norman (772-532-4265) TO LET US KNOW IF YOU WILL BE THERE. But, if you find you can make it at the last minute, just show up. And, if you can't make the tour, but can meet us for lunch, call Norman that morning to find out where we will be having lunch. See you there!!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28TH – PINE SCHOOL CAR SHOW

The Pine School in Hobe Sound is presenting their 5th Annual “100 years of Cars”. This is a great show, last year there had to have been at least 200+ cars on display from “true” antique & classics, plus military vehicles, race cars, American, British, and European cars. Expect to see lots of MGs, Triumphs, Healys, etc. Entry fee to show is \$35 per car if paid prior to January 23. There is also an entrance fee of \$10 for spectators. The show is from 10 to 4. This show is not to be missed. Lunch will be available on site. Go to **EVENTS at www.thepineschool.org.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 11 – McKee Botanical Gardens 3rd Annual Motor Car Exhibition – “Significant American Muscle Cars” will be located in the Gardens this year. This is, as always, an “invitation only” event as to the cars with a 30 car limit. Show hours at 10 am to 3 pm.

Norman Ridgely is a member of the show committee and is looking for volunteers to assist in the parking of the show cars in the Gardens. You must be on site at 7:30 am and the duties should be over by 9:30. The entrance fee to the Gardens will be waived for volunteers and they will be provided coffee and pastries. Call Norm at 772-532-4265, if interested.

February 19 – Gold Coast Car Show, Boca Raton

March 10-12 – 14th Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance

**March 17th – 1) AACA Southeast National Meet, Melbourne, FL
2) Sebring, 12 hours**

March 23rd-25th - GOF Orlando

March 24th – AACA Indian River Region Car Show, Riverside Park, Vero Beach

March 31st – All British Car Show, Winter Park

April 7th – “Wheels Across the Pond”, Jupiter

April 14th – All British Car Show, Davis Island, Tampa

April 23-27 – NAMGAR Key West

April 27-29 – Walter Mitty Races, Road Atlanta

April 28th – Moorings Wheels & Keels Show, Vero Beach

May 27-June 2 – British Car Awareness Week (drive ‘em) www.mg2012.com

June 6-10 – NAMGBR – MG 2012 – Dillard, GA - NOTE: A number of our members will be going to this. Plan to join them.

July 9-13 – NAMGAR – “GT37”, Dayton, Ohio

July 21-22 – 30th Annual Pittsburg Vintage Grand Prix (MG is the Marque of the Year) www.pvqp.org

September 7-9 – Brits on the Shoals, Rogersville, Alabama

November 1-3 – Southeast British Car Club, “Chattanooga Choo Choo”, Tennessee

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR NEEDED!!!!

Time for someone else to have the fun! It’s time to step up, serve your club, and share your skills. Anyone with any interest in this position should contact Norman Ridgely (772-532-4265).

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

**January 5 Brian Cervini
January 26 Althea Underwood**

Enjoy your special days – Celebrate!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

January 2 Frank & Marilyn Erion

May there be many more!

DUES – 2012 – TIME TO RENEW

Dues are still only \$15 and were due December 31st; if you've not sent your check yet for 2012, please do so without further delay and mail it to

**MG Car Club – Florida
P O Box 410471
Melbourne, FL 32941**

Thank you.

Please keep your eyes open for MGs in your area and leave the Club's business card if the owner is not available. You don't have any cards? Get some at the next function or call Helen Kingston at 321-773-1455.

WHAT DOES MOWOG MEAN? (Courtesy of St. Louis MG Car Club)

We have all seen the foundry mark on all the major components of BMC cars, but what in the world does it mean?

Here is the explanation according to David Doiron.

“MOWOG pre-dates the BMC merger. The Morris Garages in Oxford was the birthplace of the “Morris Garages Special”.

The name of the shop later became Morris-Wolseley Garages. The name “Morris-Wolseley Garages Special” was too awkward of a handle, so was the version “MOWOG Special”, so just the initials MG were kept and the word “Special” was dropped.

ALL parts boxes (as well as foundry marks) kept the MOWOG designation since parts went to far more cars than just MGs.

The foundry mark for Austins was the “flying A”.

When the BMC merger took place, there was an effort to use the BMC rosette as the new “marque”. It successfully replaced MOWOG on printed materials such as parts boxes, but it never really took hold as a foundry mark, and MOWOG remained the most common foundry mark on parts used for the Midget-Sprite series.”

David Doiron, ex BMC mechanic

2012 – THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MG “B”

The first production MGB rolled out of the factory May 22nd, 1962. That was 50 years ago, and the model is still going strong. Production ceased in October 1980 when the parent company shuttered MG. An 18 year run, quite remarkable.

The MG Car Club, U.K., and the MG Owners Club, U.K. are planning through a joint venture, many celebrations honoring the “B”, including a day-long 50th Birthday

Party at Blenheim Palace, at Oxford, England, on Sunday, September 23rd, 2012. The Palace was the venue used for many of the early MGB photo shoots.

Since many of us will not be in Oxford for that event, the MG Car Club-Florida will be celebrating the “B” throughout the year. We plan to provide articles of little know facts through the newsletter and will feature members and their cars through the same pages. If you’d like to volunteer, contact Norman. By the way, the name “MGB” was originally going to the car that was produced as the MGA Twin Cam.

Should you have any thoughts as to this project, contact your officers and directors.

CONGRESS ENDS 30-YEAR TAX SUBSIDY FOR CORN-BASED ETHANOL

On December 29, 2011, the Historic Vehicle Association announced that Congress did not extend the Federal subsidy for ethanol and “biofuel blenders”. This does not mean ethanol is going away but the annual \$6 BILLION cost to taxpayers is going away.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Members are invited to submit interesting articles about their MG or MG’s and themselves. We need as many articles written by members as we can get. Submit yours to Norm at normridge@yahoo.com or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965. Thanks for your help.

NOTE: Authors and creators of original material submitted to the Newsletter for publication do so with the understanding that Florida Octagon and the MG Car Club – Florida may use such material for any purpose the Board of Directors may decide is beneficial to the Club. Other MG Newsletters may reprint such material, provided a suitable reference is made to the source and to the author.

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:

For Sale - 1964 MGB pull-handle (rare) Roadster. This car is in very good condition and has not been modified in any way. It is rust-free and had a complete, frame-up restoration about 20 years ago (I have the documentation for this). Although not a show car, it is a fun car to own and drive and is Florida titled and registered. It was in the Vero Beach "Brit Bash" show this year. It features an overdrive transmission and Dayton chrome wire wheels. Call Jim at 860-682-2998 for more information (Fort Pierce, FL.) Best Reasonable Offer.



**For Sale - 1970 MGB - Excellent condition, many updated components. \$13,500
Len Coppold 321-752-0737 lcoppold@hotmail.com (Jul 11)**



For Sale - front seats from a 1967 MGB/GT, leather fair condition with sheepskin covers \$200 - Call Norm Ridgely Vero Beach 772-532-4265 (4/11)



For Sale - Complete Weber DGV downdraft carburetor setup for an MGB. Includes manifold and K&N chrome filter assembly. \$150. Call Bob Ross at 863-414-1001.

Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. The Editor reserves the right to edit the ad for space limitations. Send your ad to Norm 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.

Safety Fast!

Club Officials

Ken Gregory 772-633-0873 (President)

Linda Knoblock 321-544-4569 (Vice-President)

Brian Mitchell 321-254-9605 (Secretary)

Helen Kingston 321-773-1455 (Treasurer)

Richard Jensen 321-544-1467 (Director)

Bob Web TBA (Director)

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

Norm Ridgely 772-532-4265 (Newsletter Editor)

Saul Klein 321-269-0236 (Webmaster)

Dave Alexander 321-213-7051 (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 check out our website (above)

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Each subscriber from a Participating Club is also entitled to **one free classified** (up to 20 words) per issue. (This applies only to non-commercial ads, of course.) An additional 15¢ will be charged per word over the 20 word limit. Photos are also additional, at \$7.50 each.

Don't delay — Subscribe today!



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Form and cheque must be received by the 20th of the month to receive the next month's issue.



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www.namgbr.org