



# MG Car Club—Florida

#97

JULY 2009 NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Dave Alexander

**HOT! HOT! HOT! ..This summer is so hot, the “evening” driving events have been cancelled, and replaced with a Breakfast Gathering for July and a terrific “Indoor” afternoon event at the Kingston’s home for August (see details below) ..**

**We are very fortunate to drive our LBC’s year-round, but sometimes even “Mad Dogs and Englishmen” have to “stay cool” ... and we never have to “Winterize” our LBC’s between October and April!! In fact, that’s the time for us to really go top-down cruising !!**

**Hope to see Y’all at the upcoming July Breakfast Gathering and at the Kingston’s in August ..”**

## THIS MONTH’S EVENT – JULY 18<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> SATURDAY)

**To beat the heat, a breakfast meeting is planned for Saturday, the 18<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at the Harbour City Diner, 1630 S. Wickham Road, West Melbourne. The diner is located just north of New Haven Ave. (SR 192) on the west side of Wickham. The time to arrive will be 9:00 am or as soon thereafter as you can. If you can’t or do not desire to drive your LBC, drive whatever but join us for good food and better company. But do join us. This will also offer everyone an opportunity to discuss club business; something that is hard to do on a tour.**

## A HOT!! AFFAIR – THE JUNE TOUR & DINNER by Ed Price

**We had a small number of participants for the evening tour and dinner, probably due to the heat. We started at 6:30 pm but it was still very warm, and some members had to start earlier due to travel time to Rockledge. Those stalwarts who showed up were Dave Alexander and friend Sandy, Linda Knoblock and friend Mark, Al Allen (sans Pat due to heat), Kathleen Lillqwist in her midget and her two sons in her MGB, and Ed and Pam Price in their MG support vehicle. (Our MG is in a state of partial disassembly). We took a tour of Cocoa back roads , interrupted by Kathleens’ midget conking out at a stop sign, and after pushing it into the library parking lot to cool off from possible vapor lock , Kat caught a ride with Al Allen. Linda and Mark had to detour to Cocoa Beach, (again due to the heat) and the rest of us arrived at Kelseys without incident and had a nice dinner with lots of good conversation. We adjourned about 8:30 and found the evening much cooler and after taking Kat back to her Midget, which started right up, every one headed for home. Perhaps it is time for a Lucas, Prince of Darkness tour that begins after full dark, when things are somewhat cooler?**

## SPECIAL NOTICE !! AUGUST EVENT - Date Changed to Saturday, August 15 !!

**In the last newsletter, it was announced that the August event would be held at the Kingston’s home on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Due to a recent request by the Brevard County Commission, the Suntree Viera Youth Football League (which the Kingston’s are involved in) will be hosting the**

Annual County Youth Football Jamboree on: you guessed it, August 8<sup>th</sup>. Therefore, the Club's meet will now be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>!!

## PLEASE TAKE NOTE

This will be a great get together. Please plan to attend. See the MGCC-F Upcoming Events Section.

### DRESS CODE

Overheard at a local shopping center: One lady to another, "I like to shop at the Dollar Store because it's convenient and casual. I don't have to get all dressed up like I'm going to Wal-Mart."

### IT IS YOUR CLUB by Norm Ridgely

MG (and other LBC) enthusiasts join a local club not to pay their dues and attend a monthly meeting. One joins because the club offers opportunities for tours, shows, tech sessions, and other events centered on the hobby. And, a most important and little mentioned ingredient is meeting a lot of friendly people and forging lasting friendships. I had been out of MGs since 1957 when I purchased a 1964 B in 1985. In 1989, Pat and I joined the MG Car Club-Miami Centre. One of those friendships was forged from involvement in that club with John and Sharon Spadaro, who are now members of this club also and live in Eustis. Over the years, the four of us (and sometimes with others) have traveled to many MG events both here in Florida and out of state. And from those travels, we have all forged close friendships with many fine people that, were it not for the MG, we would have never met. So, please become more active in our events. Give the officers and directors your ideas for future events. New ideas are always welcome. Thanks.

### MISCELLANEOUS

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](mailto:patalallen@msn.com) (also items can be seen on our website)

For those members who wish to obtain a list of the current membership roster, please e-mail Helen Kingston ([hjk@cfl.rr.com](mailto: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 contract with one another for a casual drive or tour some place that interests them. Or plan to go together to another club's function, such as was done for this year's GOF in Crystal River.

### MGCC-F UPCOMING EVENTS

August 15th (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday) – We will all gather at Frank & Helen Kingston's home at 10590 South Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, for a social evening of conversation, dining, tire-kicking, and the viewing of 2 DVDs: "Inside the Octagon MG: 1921-1945" and "Inside the Octagon 2 MG: 1946-1980." The time of arrival should be at 4 PM. The first DVD will start at 4:30, to be followed by dinner, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> DVD following dinner. Frank will be barbecuing his famous "Bone-In Chicken Breasts." You can have them mild or spicy. The guests are expected to bring veggies, salads, or desserts. (Please call or e mail Helen to coordinate what you're bringing so we do not just have chicken and 50 lbs of potato salad – thanks.) Sodas, tea, or coffee will be provided.

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

October's event could be an overnigher and involve two events. The club has been invited by the Timeless Wings and Wheels Museum at the New Smyrna Beach Airport to their first All British Car Show on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9-2. There are three "NOs" involved in this show: No smoking, no coolers, and No REGISTRATION FEE. They will be selling food and drinks to benefit their museum. Peoples' Choice Awards will be given. (You can find information and show details at [www.timelesswingsandwheels.com](http://www.timelesswingsandwheels.com).) After that show breaks up, those that wish to return home may. HOWEVER, those who wish to overnight it will drive north to Daytona Beach where we will enjoy dinner together at a nice restaurant and retire to a hotel/motel near the Daytona International Speedway. The next morning after a good breakfast, we plan to visit the Daytona 500 Experience adjacent to the track, which offers a chronological look at racing history. There are also interactive displays and an IMAX theater related to racing. We also might have the opportunity of doing a lap or two on the track in our MGs. One of our members is exploring the possible opportunity of obtaining passes for some or all of the speedway events for those members of our club who wish to participate. Therefore, if you have an interest in this overnight event, please inform Dave Alexander or Norm Ridgely before August 5<sup>th</sup>. We need to know if enough people have an interest in this so as to pursue it further. Any questions, call Dave or Norm. We do not yet have a restaurant or hotel selected so therefore have no prices yet.

Also, we are considering the possibility of a tour to Stuart to visit two performance shops, Scuderia Silvestri and MacDonald Motorsports. Ben Stone and Norm Ridgely met with Chris Silvestri at his shop in south Stuart on Thursday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. Chris is well-known for his expertise in race-preping everything from MGs to Ferraris, specializing in accurately preparing under 2 liter vintage sports and race cars. He also services typically driven street cars such as the majority of us drive. When we left Chris, we drove across the street to Bruce MacDonald's shop. He has a Dynoject 248H Chassis Dynamometer that is awesome. It is what many refer to a "rolling road." Ben put his '74 B roadster on it for two tests (called pulls) to analyze his engine's performance and horsepower. Very impressive, the machine and Ben's car's performance. We have in mind putting members' cars on the Dyno during the day for a maximum of 3 pulls each. We should be able to do about 8 to 10 cars, providing no tuning while on the Dyno. If tuning is desired by everyone on the machine, it cuts the number of cars down to about 5 to 6. Chris' shop can supply the mechanic or you can do it yourself, if you want. Those using the Dyno would share the cost, in the neighborhood of about \$55 per car without tuning or \$95 with tuning, plus the mechanic. We are planning this for a Saturday in late October as it should be much cooler then. If you are interested, please call Norman (772-532-4265) for more information or to let him know. This is not a commitment at this time, but only to let us know if there's enough interest to pursue this further. Ben and I were both impressed by both shops. And Ben was pleased with the Dyno runs.

**November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Brit Bash at Wickham: A Celebration of British Motorcars. This is our annual car show. To volunteer, call Danica Perhacs at 772-770-0083, or [britbash@comcast.net](mailto:britbash@comcast.net)**

**Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> – 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:**

**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.**

**September 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – Southeastern Fall GOF Mk XV – Hiawassee, GA – [www.semgtr.org](http://www.semgtr.org)**

October 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> – EuroFest 2009 – Greenville, SC

October 30<sup>th</sup> – November 1<sup>st</sup> – 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 MG or MGs and themselves.

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

### **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:**

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 Norm 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.

Scott Ekberg of Ocala requested we insert the following ad, as he is helping a widow friend settle her late husband's estate.





1956 MGA for sale  
Ground up restoration in 2004  
Optional 1600cc engine  
All original verifying documentation  
Many extra parts go with this car  
Asking \$19,900 but will consider all reasonable offers  
Call Jeff@352-274-5026 or email  
[Chevyman34491@aol.com](mailto:Chevyman34491@aol.com)

---

**Safety Fast !**

**Club Officials:**

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

**Frank Kingston (Vice-President)**

**Pat Ridgely 772-567-2231 (Secretary)**

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

**Saul Klein 321-269-0236 (Webmaster & Director at Large)**

**Al Allen 321-259-6957 (Director)**

**Ken Gregory 772-633-0873 (Director)**

**Christian Havneraas 321-543-0453 (Director)**

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

**Norm Ridgely 772-532-4265 (Director at Large, Newspaper Editor)**

**Ed Price – 321-632-2207 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**

**For Club Info- Please email Dave Alexander [email](mailto:davealexander@mgcarclubflorida.org)**



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*

## **British Marque CAR CLUB NEWS**

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.

Members of Participating Clubs can subscribe to the *Marque* at a **36% discount**. Use the form below to subscribe and begin receiving 11 issues a year full of information about British car events, tech tips, special features, parts suppliers and classifieds.

### **Free Classified Privilege**

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

### **SUBSCRIPTION RATES For PARTICIPATING CLUB MEMBERS**

**U.S. Participating Club members are only \$14.00/year.**

**Canadian Participating Club members are only \$17.00 (U.S.)/year.**

**U.K. and elsewhere overseas Participating Club Member are only \$22.00 (U.S.)/year.**

Regular Subscriptions are \$22.00 U.S., \$26.00 Canadian, and \$31.00 U.K./year.

*Don't delay — Subscribe today!*



## **CAR CLUB NEWS**

c/o Enthusiast Publications, LLC  
5 Old Nasonville Road  
Harrisville, RI 02830 USA

### **PARTICIPATING CLUB SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Optional) (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Attach cheque or money order payable in U.S. funds to Enthusiast Publications, LLC, and send to address above.  
Form and cheque must be received by the 20th of the month to receive the next month's issue.