



MG Car Club—Florida

FLORIDA OCTAGON

#119

MAY 2001

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Dave Alexander

Greetings to all.

Here we are going into May and I hope you all are doing well.

Due to the heat central Florida is blessed with, it is time to switch our events away from the midday sun. So with that in mind, please come out and join us for this month's event - dinner, a tour by our tour master, Ed Price, finishing off with ice cream. Details about this event can be found later in this newsletter.

Those of you that joined us for the photo shoot and picnic last month had such a good time that there was discussion about making this an annual event, possibly at the Suntree Rotary Park. Please let the board know your feelings about this.

Our esteemed editor decided to share with you, a story about my "simple" drive in the MGB GT, that turned into an adventure. As you can see, individual club members are not alone in having situations driving a LBC that turns into quite a bit more interesting adventure. Please don't be shy, write something up to share and send it to Norm, for the newsletter.

Believe it or not I got this "proverb" at lunch last week in a fortune cookie -
"Team work, makes the Dream work".

This is your club, so let us encourage each other to make it what we want it to be -FUN!

-Dave

APRIL PICNIC AND PHOTO SHOOT



On a beautiful Saturday, April 16th, 22 members of our club met at the Palm Bay Regional Park off the west end of Malabar Road for a photo shoot of our cars and a picnic. The club had reserved a large pavilion in the Boy Scout Campground, which had a large grassy area that worked nicely for our photo shoot. A total of thirteen cars were photographed individually and as a group. Those attending



were Frank & Helen Kingston, Ken & Betty Gregory, Pat & Diane Grassick, Ed & Pam Price, Jo-Ann & Richard Jensen, Brian & Ginny Mitchell, Ray & Mary Pollock, Linda (& Lola) Knoblock, Larry Dyal, Saul Klein, Dave Alexander & Louise Husband, Al Allen, and Norm & Pat Ridgely. It was a bright sunny day, with a nice northwest breeze, and made it very comfortable in the pavilion. As announced, there was a contest for the “most outstanding” picnic arrangement.

Pam & Ed had no competition with their lacy tablecloth, napkins with floral napkin rings, chilled bubbly, wine glasses, and “candelabra” and won the large jar of Grey Poupon. It was “outstanding”!! This, by the way, is now going to be an annual event. And you can also look forward to other activities such as possibly volleyball and/or croquet; let us hear from you as to your suggestions.

(you can view many members' cars on our new website section:

www.mgcarclubflorida.org (see “Members' Gallery”)



THIS MONTH'S EVENT – SATURDAY, MAY 21ST

This month's event will be in the evening due to the warmer weather. We will meet at the "old" Ethan Allen Furniture Store, 2705 N. Harbor City Blvd., at 5:30 pm, and then proceed to a restaurant now being sourced by our Tour Master, Ed Price, for dinner. After that, Ed has a nice driving tour planned and we will culminate the evening with ice cream treats at "historic" Del's Freez, 402 N. Harbor City Blvd. For information now or that evening call Norm at 772-532-4265. See y'all there, you hear?

27th ALL BRITISH CAR SHOW – MEAD GARDENS, WINTER PARK, FL

Saturday, April 2nd, found six of our members attending this show in Winter Park. If you haven't been, you need to put it on your calendar for 2012 (March 31st). All makes and types of LBCs show up each year and some not so "little"; how many have seen a Morgan 3-wheeler? Mead Gardens is a very



beautiful park with a lot of tree cover



and the show features good parts and food vendors. Those attending were Dave Alexander & Louise Husband, Brian Mitchell, Saul Klein, Linda Knoblock & Mark Raupp, and Norman & Pat Ridgely. Brian placed 2nd in his class with his TR3A and Pat placed 2nd with

her MGB/GT Spl. Unfortunately, Saul had fierce competition with his MG Midget against 3 Bug Eye Sprites; bummer.

45th Annual GOF/Gathering of the Faithful – April 8th – 10th, 2011, Weeki Wachee, FL

At 9 AM, Friday, April 8th, Ken & Betty Gregory, Ben Stone & Danica Perhacs, and Norm & Pat Ridgely headed west out of Vero Beach bound for Florida's west



coast and the 45th GOF. With a coffee break (and Perkin's 5,000 calorie muffins) in Lake Wales and lunch in Plant City, they arrived at



the host Motel 185 miles

and four hours later. Soon after they joined up with other club members, Frank & Helen Kingston, Saul Klein, Dave Alexander & Louise Husband, Tom & Ritva Bowman, Art & Yvonne Floyd, and John & Sharon Spadaro. The “First-Timers” Show was Friday afternoon, followed by a buffet style dinner at the High Point Community Center, prepared & served by members of the sponsoring clubs, the Sun Coast Classic MG Club and the Nature Coast English Car Club (one club with



two names). They even had an MG-TD in one corner of the room accompanied by a LIVE mermaid who attracted the many photographers. Music for dancing and enjoyment was provided by Cameron Decker, a very good singing DJ, who found himself joined by Glenn Lenhard. Who knew Glenn was such a talented trombonist? Saturday morning dawned bright and sunny for the showing of our LBCs on the motel’s grounds. There were over 85 cars in attendance, from pre-war

(WW II) through 1980. The GOF provided lunch (sandwiches, chips, & drinks) along with tables and chairs under a large tent along with music. There was also an opportunity to cross the highway in front of our motel to check out the Mermaids at Weeki Wachee for those who wished to see this historic Florida tourist attraction. In the afternoon, there were self-guided driving tours out to the Gulf of Mexico which we all participated in. The Saturday night banquet was



held at the Hernando Beach Club, overlooking the Gulf. Everyone joined in watching a beautiful sunset with a Champaign toast. The award’s ceremony was moved back to the Motel in the Hospitality Room due to a PA failure at the Beach Club.

Four of our members received trophies: Saul – 1st in Midgets; John & Sharon 3rd in Rubber Bumper B’s; Art & Yvonne MGC; and Norm & Pat 3rd in MGB/GT. Oh, and Helen had her MGB tourer returned to her by Glenn Lenhard of Glenn’s MGs (St. Petersburg) following extensive maintenance and installation of new wire wheels and a 5-speed transmission. Helen, welcome to fast motoring with low RPMs.



A LITTLE BIT OF GOF HISTORY – 16TH GOF 1982

(From the July 1981 Newsletter of the Southern “T” Series Classic MG Club)

GOF SOUTH GOES SUMMER FOR ‘82

That’s right, folks, Florida’s traditionally spring event will be held July 9-11, 1982, at the Florida Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Florida. Mark XVI will be hosted by Jerry Keuper with special guests from Australia and South Africa (MG nuts, of course).

Room rates will be a super bargain at \$7 single and \$10 double in a near-new apartment style complex but *free* to those from outside the U.S. or to those who drive a pre-’55 MG to the event from outside the state of Florida.



Tony Roth “Racing around the FIT campus” during the 1982 GOF event

Photo supplied by Tom Bowman

BRITISH CAR WEEK – STARTS MAY 28TH

British Car Week is an annual awareness week intended for owners of Classic British Cars to get their cars out of the garage and drive them. While doing so, all who are involved will help create awareness of the Classic British Car hobby in local communities wherever there is participation.

It doesn’t matter whether your car is in better than new condition, or perhaps it’s a less than perfect unrestored gem, but as long as it can be safely driven down the road, this is a great opportunity to show off your favorite car and take advantage of what British car motoring is all about.

OUR PRESIDENT – MASTER RECYCLER

From Dave to Norm back in February.

The Story Behind the Picture



Last Saturday evening I went to pick up Louise to go to the movies and decided to introduce her to “Raggedy Anne”. You might remember my ‘65, ‘73, ‘77, MGB GT from a year or so ago.

I had put her back on the road just before Brit Bash 2010, (planned on giving you some competition by entering her, but that is another story) but Louise had only seen Anne from outside and never ridden in her, so the introduction. So after the initial questions “Where is my seat belt?” (Haven’t got to that yet.) Why is the seat loose? (Haven’t bolted it down yet.) We set off for a tour of her neighborhood. I was early and we were going to take her car to the movies. I was not going to take her on the highway without seat belts.

Well, we were tooling down a side street and these scooters neatly parked on the side of the road caught our eye, first impression was na .. lets not bother to stop, so we continued for a couple blocks. Now you must understand that Louise is (for lack of a better term) a “treasure hunter”, and one of the best that I have had the pleasure of knowing. So, like I was saying we made it about a quarter mile and just had to go back and see what the story was. On the way back we commented it would be nice if we had the truck. We stopped and found they were out in the trash with some Christmas lawn ornaments. So we looked, and of course saw all sorts of possibilities. I opened the hatch and neatly stood the three of them side by each and we drove back to her house.

After the movie we tied them down and I took them to The Shoppe. I remembered to take the pictures after untying them.

Got MGB GT, don’t need no stinkin’ truck.

PS. Note the trailer hitch. Yes, I tow a 4 X 8 utility, and a 3 motorcycle trailer with her.

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS TO

**Art Floyd – 80th
Mike Euziere
Betty Gregory
Helen Kingston**

HAPPY MAY ANNIVERSARIES TO

**Kenneth & Marla Jock
Norman & Pat Ridgely**

ENLIGHTENMENT

When everything's coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.

The second mouse gets the cheese.

Law of Non-Functional Attributes: "All British sports cars, regardless of condition or age, shall always have at least one system or subsystem of components which is entirely non-function, and which cannot be repaired except on a semi-permanent or semi-functional basis." (Also known as the "Lucas Electrics Law")
Peachtree MG Register

NEW CLUB NAME BADGES

The new style name badges are ready to order. They are 1³/₄" x 3¹/₂" white plastic with red lettering (engraved) and feature our new club logo. You have a choice of magnetic or dual tie tack attachment. The price is \$11 and must be prepaid as they are being custom made (personalized) to your specifications. If you want an order form or additional information contact Danica Perhacs by e-mail at britbash@comcast.net or call 772-770-0083.

SCHEDULED CLUB EVENTS

May 21, 2011 – Driving tour and dinner – See above.

Please suggest events for June, July, August ..

September – Possible joint event with Orlando Classic MG Club in Indialantic

**October 28-29, 2011 – MGCCF Brit Bash – Vero Beach, FL - OUR BIG SHOW!!
Contact Danica Perhacs at britbash@comcast.net or 772-770-0083.**

OTHER EVENTS

May 28-June 5, 2011 – British Car Week, Drive Your British Car!!!

June 12-18, 2011 – MG 2011 North American Council of MG Registers – Reno/Tahoe, NV – there will be over 1000 MGs there www.mg2011.com

Sept. 17th, 2011 – British Invasion, Stowe, VT – www.britishinvasion.com

Oct. 14-16, 2011 – Euro 2011 – Greenville, SC

**Oct. 14-16, 2011 – Southeastern Fall GOF – Athens, GA (past years in Hiawassee).
Some club members "considering" attending this event .**

Oct. 28-29, 2011 – MGCCF Brit Bash – Vero Beach, FL - OUR BIG SHOW!! Contact Danica Perhacs at britbash@comcast.net or 772-770-0083.

June 6-10, 2012 NAMGBR "MG2012" – Dillard, GA

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

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 road-worthy with all components in working condition. It had a complete restoration about 15 years ago (documentation available). Although not a show car, it is a fun car to own and drive and is Florida-titled and registered. It features an overdrive transmission and Dayton chrome wire wheels. Call Jim at 860-682-2998 for more information (Ft. Pierce, FL) \$15,500 or make an offer. (6/11)



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 – Many parts for MGB and Midget: vent windows, carbs, oil cooler, CB, radio, manifolds, grills, etc. Call with your request. Larry Vero Beach 772-231-0315 day or eve. (4/11)

For Sale – 1952 MGTD – very good condition. In same family since 1962. Make offer. Car located in Vero Beach. Call 772-234-5033 (7/11)

For Sale – 1974 MGB - I have given up on my restoration of my 1974 Chrome bumper MGB. It is 98% complete and I don't have the time. I am asking \$3200.00 which includes many new parts and boxes of used parts, manuals etc. I can be contacted at 321-459-3691. John Conarro, Merritt Island, FL (8/11)

jlconarro@gmail.com



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



For Sale, Original 1966 MGB GT parts car with Original owners manual and clear title

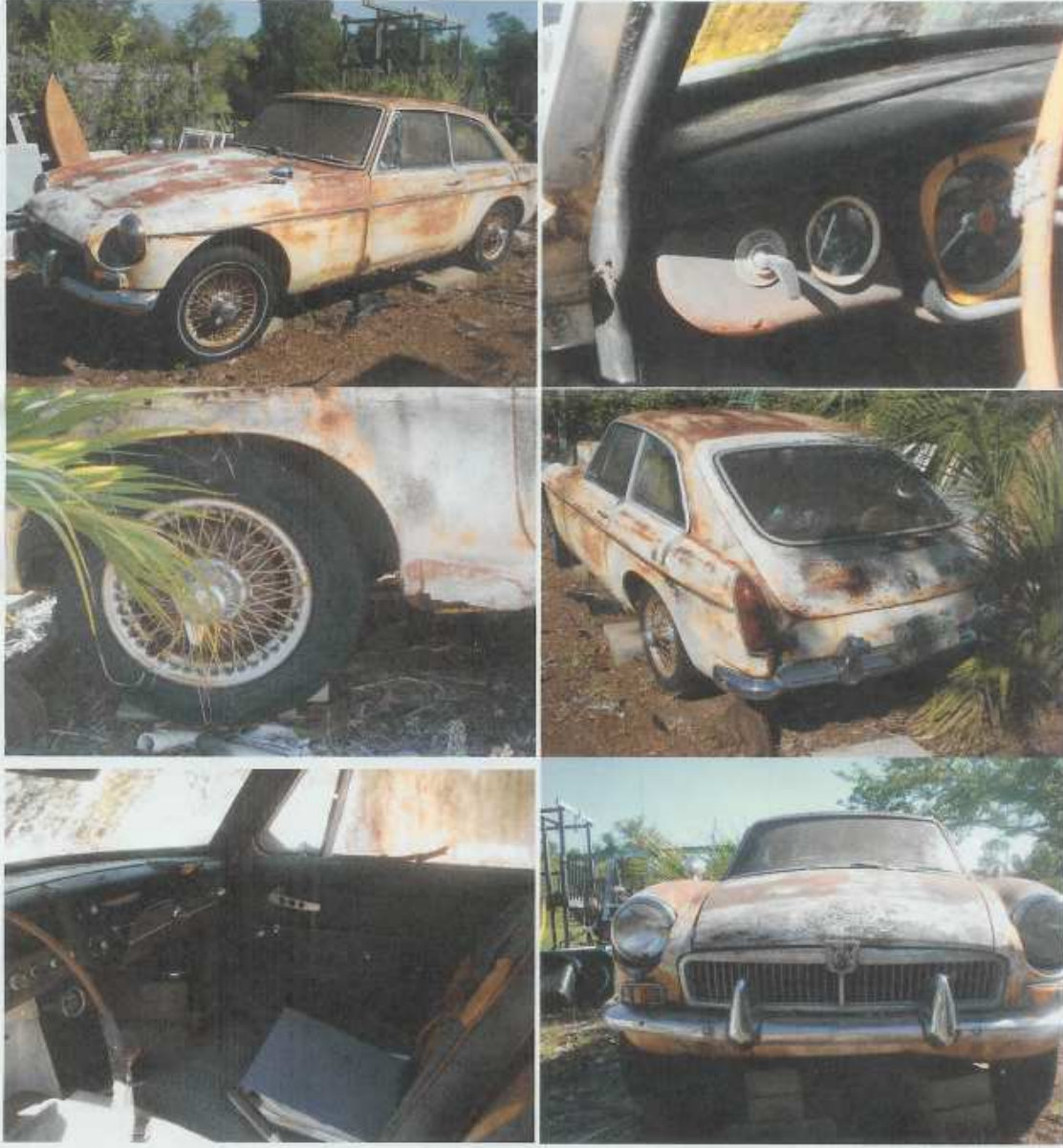
Body is rusted but some panels, hood, doors and rear hatch are salvageable?

Includes complete engine and drive train with overdrive transmission and spare rear end

Includes 6 wire wheels, car has been on blocks with no weight on wheels

Includes all chrome badges, bumpers, handles, mirrors, and trim

If interested call Harold Bates at 407-547-7544 would like to get \$400 but all offers are entertained!



Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. 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

David Alexander 321-213-7051 (President)

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

Pat Ridgely 772-567-2231 (Secretary)

Helen Kingston 321-773-1455 (Treasurer)

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 and Show Chairperson)

Norm Ridgely 772-532-4265 (Newsletter Editor, Director-At-Large)

Saul Klein 321-269-0236 (Webmaster, Director-At-Large)

Ed Price 321-632-2207 (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](mailto:davealexander@mgbr1.com)



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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP fee is \$30 and INCLUDES

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

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

AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE TO

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