



# The Octagon

*NEWSLETTER OF THE CLASSIC  
OF ORLANDO*



*CLUB*

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MAINTAINING THE BREED FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

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**MEETING LOCATION:** We will return for our April 19<sup>th</sup> meeting to our fall-back location, the **ACE CAFÉ**, located at 100 West Livingston, Orlando, FL 32801 (on the corner of Livingston and Garland). We couldn't book Carrabba's this month but plan to in the future. We will follow our regular meeting times, with a gathering/assembly at 6:30 P.M. and the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Dinner will be ordered from the menu and served after the meeting. Besides our April event, we will discuss the GOF and ideas from the annual planning session and summit. These will be ongoing since there won't be enough time to cover this in one meeting!

**FEBRUARY EVENT:** For those who may have missed the last newsletter, there are pictures posted that you can access of the "**North meets the South**" picnic. Thanks again to John and Sharon Spadaro and to Saul Klein, our good friend from the MG Car Club Florida. As he often does, Saul took excellent photos to document the event. They can be viewed at the web site: [www.mgcarclubflorida.org](http://www.mgcarclubflorida.org) under the heading "CLUB PHOTOS/VIDEOS".

**REPORT ON MARCH EVENT:** On **March 17, 2018** we had The Annual St. Patrick's Day party and planning session at the Cook's home. Of course, we had the traditional corned beef and cabbage, provided by the club and bounteous sides provided by members. We had lots of ideas and appreciate the members stepping up to organize different events. In addition to our regular monthly events that are being planned, we hope to have a lift day, but no date has been set.

## **APRIL EVENTS**

**April's monthly event** is set for **Saturday, April 21, at 11:30 a.m.** We will enjoy lunch at the Mt. Dora Brewing Company, located at 405 S. Highland Street (Old Highway 441). Pete & Sherry Rogers are making arrangements. Please RSVP Sherry by Thursday, April 19th at 352 343 1855 or sharonlr9@mail.com. See attachments for optional adventures after lunch.

Also on April 21 at noon the All British Car Club holds its Spring Fling at the home of Gary & Sylvia Thomas, 1690 Alanson Drive, Deland, FL 32724. Food will be provided by Tijuana Flats. RSVP Gary n/l/t Wednesday, April 18th at 386 738 1250 or jag65@cfl.rr.com.

## **MAY EVENTS**

On **May 12<sup>th</sup>** Ceres Motorsports will kick off its Cars and Caffeine at 8:00 a.m. with donuts, bagels and coffee. They are hosting their first British car part swap meet. If you have some parts you'd like to sell, this is the event for you.

**May's monthly event** is scheduled for Saturday, **May 19<sup>th</sup>**. Jim McSweeney will plan for us a trip around "The Loop". Details next newsletter.

## **GOF-SOUTH UPDATE:**

The GOF was a tremendous success. Thank you to all the people who helped out and joined in the events. It was truly in keeping with our theme: "MGs and Friends Forever". Other than parking and parking lot hassles, the one comment I heard was that there were too many things going on at the same time, so they couldn't participate in them all!

**Here is a brief recap:**

### **SPECIAL COLLECTOR CAR TOUR:**

We were presented an opportunity so wonderful that we cancelled the shop tour that was scheduled on Thursday. We drove to a guided tour of Majors Motors, a gallery of one of the most unique concours-quality car collections in Central Florida.

**SEMINARS:** These were such a success that it was standing room only. People left with more information and hopefully cars that will run better. Thanks to Barrie Jones who did the LUCAS, SU, MG HISTORY; Glenn Lenard who did the walk-around tech session on Saturday; Jim Hall of MG Five Speed Company who spoke about 5-speed gearboxes, a popular upgrade for MGs; Ann Corenblum, who spoke on women's health and breast cancer awareness; Brian and Jack Collins who own Ceres Motorsports and Hap Waldrop who owns Acme Speed Shop who together gave a highly informative talk about MG performance upgrades; and George Pardee, Nick Pardee, Jeff Brown, and Manley Ford, who had a lively discussion on MG Vintage Racing.

**WINTER PARK EXCURSION:** The Winter Park Excursion on Friday Morning was a tremendous success, and no one was left behind. We had approximately 17 people including volunteers. Sun Rail works even if it doesn't operate often. Most people went on the boat ride and had lunch downtown, some saw the Morse Museum. This event received glowing reviews.

**BRITISH TEA:** The tea was a fun and festive opportunity to meet with others. Marcia Geraci won the prize for the best hat with her classic accessories. We also enjoyed jewelry from Trades of Hope which offered participants an opportunity to purchase items from around the world.

**RAFFLE / AUCTION ITEMS/HOSPITALITY ROOM :** Thanks go out to Carol McCormick and her crew. I heard people had plenty of beverages and snacks. The raffle items are always popular. This year Sherri Rogers made a quilt from old GOF shirts. What a trip down memory lane!

**PHOTO CONTEST:** Thanks to Ann Plasschaert, we had an assortment of photos entered.

**KITCHEN TOOLS CONTEST:** Thanks to Elyn Pardee. This is a fun contest and display!

**OLD FRIENDS:** We had MG owners who came to the GOF who haven't attended for years. They enjoyed seeing old friends and making new ones.

**SUMMIT:** Beth Lowy led an excellent discussion to fuel ideas for successful clubs. On the whole, our club is doing well but there is always room for improvement and new ideas. We are sure we will discuss them over the next several months. There were many good ideas, but it takes everyone in the club to make them happen.

**HOTEL:** The hotel was full which led to quite a few surprises, but the food was good, and everyone had a good time except for parking.

**TRIBUTE TO WILL BOWDEN:** Several people gave tributes to Will Bowden. His presence was felt, but his persona was missed at the GOF.

**Attached is the Winners list**

**FUTURE EVENTS:**

We try to do a driving event on the weekend after the meeting. This of course is subject to availability and changes. Events planned for the next year include the following:

June - Bob and Pat Moore trip to Deleon Springs.

July - Carol McCormick will Coordinate our excursion to Fiddler's Green Pub including the annual Dart Challenge.

August - Paul Plasschaert will do a trip to Sanford's Hollerbach's German Restaurant.

September - Nancy and Richard Payne will do a trip to Proper Pie Company in Davenport.

October - Dodie Beach will coordinate a trip and overnighiter to Cross Creek.

November - Camille Flankey will host the Annual Picnic and Car Show.

December - Paul P. will do the Tour of Lights.

Richard and Nancy Payne will host the Holiday Party, December 15th, 2018.

January - Kathy Cook will coordinate a drive and lunch to the Lone Cabbage Fish Camp.

February - Carol and Mike McCormick will plan an overnighiter to Vero Beach, possibly to the Historic Driftwood Resort.

March - Al and Kathy Cook will host the St. Patrick's Meeting.

April - 53rd GOF at a location to be announced, hosted by MG Classics of Jacksonville.

**FOR SALE ITEMS** none submitted

