



The Octagon

*NEWSLETTER OF THE CLASSIC
OF ORLANDO*



CLUB

Vol. 57

No.5

Issue 665

February 2019

MAINTAINING THE BREED FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

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MEETING LOCATION: **AS USUAL! The February 21st MEETING AND DINNER WILL START AT 7:00 P.M. and tire kicking at 6:30 at CARRABBA'S**, near the corner of Red Bug Road and Tuskawilla Road, in their meeting room, where we had dinner last month. The specific address is 5820 RED BUG LAKE RD, WINTER SPRINGS, FL 32708-5082. We will have a limited menu but still many choices.

A couple of members are still negotiating for the 2020 GOF; we will have updates at the meeting. We will be planning our drive to the upcoming GOF at the next couple of meetings. There will also be a discussion of meeting points for the February Driving Event to St. John's River Grille. See below for more information.

Update on Bok Tower Adventure by John Camichos. See attached PDF

FEBRUARY EVENTS:

DRIVING EVENT: February is a great time for motoring. Sharon Spadaro has arranged a boat ride and lunch along the St. Johns River on **February 23**. We will go to the St. Johns River Grill, 2997 St. Rd. 44 W. (where SR 44 crosses the St. Johns river). Everyone should be there at about 11:15 for lunch. Blue Heron River Tours is offering our group a two-hour tour down the St. Johns for \$20.00 if we have at least 10 people (if not, it's \$24.00). The boat has cover as well as restrooms, the boat leaves at 1:00. If people present their tour ticket at the restaurant, they will receive 10% off their lunch bill!

We need to let the restaurant know how many people to expect, so everyone needs to **contact Sharon to let her know they are coming. We need the count by Friday, Feb. 22.** Lake County or people from the north end will meet at the Publix in Sorrento at 10:30 for those who choose to caravan as a group. For those who don't choose to go as a group, be there at 11:15. For the Orlando area people, we can discuss that at the meeting on Thursday.

For More information contact Sharon and **RSVP by February 22** at:

Phone: 352-357-8812

Cell Sharon 305-322-5556

E-mail SAS852@aol.com

TOPS OR BOTTOMS: CERES MOTORSPORTS is having a MG Tech session on February 16 on replacing the top of your MGB! If the weather gets bad, they will tackle another MGB issue – the dreaded rear end clunk. They will change out the shims, washers and seals to make an MGB rear differential silent and leak free. The event is from 8:00 until around noon. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the MGB and a great tradition of the club!

MARCH EVENT: On **March 16, 2018** we will have The Annual St. Patrick's Day party and planning session at the Cook's home 8554 Amber Oak Drive, Orlando, starting at 11:30 A.M. Of course, we will have the traditional corned beef and cabbage, provided by the club. We will have soft drinks and water available, also. We ask that you provide your favorite beverages (if you don't want tea, sodas, or water) and a side dish. **Please call Kathy Cook, (407-678-6814)** or email kathy.cookucf@gmail.com so that we can coordinate all the items necessary for a true Irish Feast. At some point we will conduct our annual planning meeting where we will plan out the driving events for the next year and assign the Action Officers to organize those events, so **BRING YOUR IDEAS! Write them down on a piece of paper with your name and we will put them in a hat for a prize drawing** at the beginning of the meeting.

REPORT ON THE JANUARY EVENT: Kathy Cook arranged for a trip to Lone Cabbage Fish Camp in Cocoa, FL (also known at Hwy 520). After meeting at the Cook's home, we caravanned to our location meeting up with others who drove there directly. Some of us took airboat rides and the rest were able to kick back, enjoy the beautiful weather, and drink some beer. The gators were hiding, although one did hiss at us when we got too near. The only Gator some of us saw was on our plates!





PLEASE TAKE PICTURES AT THE EVENTS SO KATHY CAN PUT THEM IN THE NEWSLETTER!!!!

OTHER EVENTS:

The All British Breakfast Club: The All British Club is planning a road trip on Sunday February 17th to the Yalaha German themed bakery in a lovely quiet country setting in Yalaha, Florida. They plan to meet at the Publix shopping center located at 1545 Rock Springs Road (at the intersection of Rock Springs Road and Welch Road) in Apopka at 11 am with a departure time of 11:15 am. Please park at the front of the parking lot next to Rock Springs Road where there's normally a lot of empty spaces. The trip will take about 40 minutes taking some excellent curvy back roads which will allow you to test your driving skills and push your car to its outer limits (as Rod Serling would say). The bakery has a German themed hot lunch menu as shown below, but they also have deli sandwiches as well as pretzels and pizza. Beer and wine are also available. Some weekends live music is presented by local musicians. Outside tables and chairs are available but they can fill up quickly at the weekend so it might be a good idea to bring a couple of your own chairs.

Car Show Opportunity: The Lake Nona Sound of the Lions is sponsoring a car show in hopes of raising money to go to the New Years Day Parade in London. See the attached flyer. Unfortunately, this event is the same day as our St. Patrick's Day Party.

Jacksonville MG Club Meet and Greet at Ft. Mose: The Jacksonville MG Club is going to have a meet & greet for the Winter Tour Group, on the 3rd of March @ 12 noon. The group driving down are from Virginia Beach, Tidewater MG Classics. Richard Gross said he has attended several of these meets at Mt. Dora which was organized by John Spadaro. Our members are invited to attend this as well. Please go on their website <https://www.mgclassics.org> to RSVP in order get a food count. Their club is funding for the meal but are asking for a donation of \$5.00 to the Ft. Mose Historic Society. They will have a militia demonstration & a speaker

just for the event. This sounds like an excellent opportunity for many of us to get out and drive our own classic MGs!

GOF 2019: Information and registration forms are available on the Jacksonville club's website, <https://www.mgclassics.org/gofsouth>. For those of you who may have missed it, it's official that we are having the GOF in Daytona Beach next year. It will be held at the Plaza Resort & Spa on the beach. **Save the date: 11th thru 14th of April.** The main feature will be taking a drive on the road course around the race track. There will also have a few driving MG's road events in the Daytona area. They are starting on a Thursday for the early birds with something for them to do, a meet & greet as well as a driving tour. **Be sure to get your reservations into the hotel and register for the GOF!** Sign-up early. You are encouraged to stay at the Plaza Resort during your visit. The GOF cost is defrayed based on the number of guest nights. We encourage all guests to sign-up for the Racetrack drive on a Friday evening. Also, if anyone is bringing a trailer, the host club will need to know because space is limited. Any overflow of trailers not registered there might incur an additional charge to park in spaces in the area. We believe this GOF will be unique & a fun place to gather together.

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS:

We try to do a driving event on the weekend after the meeting (local drives during the summer). This of course is subject to availability and changes. Events planned for the next few months include the following:

March – Al and Kathy Cook will host the St. Patrick's Day Party and planning meeting on March 16th at 11:30. Plan to bring a dish to share. Information above.

April – GOF

May – The trip to the Sea Spray in which is coordinated by Carol McCormick and Dodie Beach has been moved to May 18th.

FOR SALE AND WANTED ITEMS:

If you would like to list any items for sale, please send the information to the editor for inclusion in the newsletter.

For Sale: 1955 TF-1500 restored. Owner George Haldane passed away and family is looking for new home for the TF. George was active in the Atlanta MG club for many years. Contact: Craig Haldane chaldane@hnmec.com



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