



The Octagon



NEWSLETTER OF THE CLASSIC CLUB OF ORLANDO

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MAINTAINING THE BREED FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

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MEETING LOCATION: The November 15th 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.

Fall is a very busy season. With the weather turning cooler we are anxious to get our cars out for a spin. Fall also ushers in various car shows and the holidays. We enjoy combining friends and MGs and look forward to seeing you all!

REPORT ON THE OCTOBER DRIVING EVENT:

Who would have believed that algae could mess up a weekend! Well, the red tide made Vero Beach unlivable, so we had to cancel at the last moment. Carol McCormick and Dodie Beach worked hard to coordinate the overnigher and they as well as the group were disappointed. The good news: Dodie quickly set up a driving event to Cross Creek for Sunday! We couldn't have asked for a better day to drive our English cars on Sunday October 21st up to Marjorie Kennan Rawlins House. The weather was perfect, and we took all the back roads. We got to the park a little before noon and decided to have lunch at The Yearling restaurant not far from the park. The food was great. After lunch we went back to the park and took a tour of the house. It was close to 3pm by then so we headed home, the weather was still perfect. For those who did not make it this time, we certainly could do this trip again!



NICE CARS!



GREAT FOOD



PERFECT DRIVING WEATHER

NOVEMBER EVENT: Our next big activity will be on **SUNDAY**, November 18, 2018. The Annual Jim Flankey Memorial Picnic and Car Showing at its original location: the Flankey Horse Farm located at 8098 Gillam Road, Apopka 32703. Directions: Turn East off Apopka-Vineland Rd. at Gilliam Rd, 1 mile North of the intersection of Apopka Vineland Road and Clarcona-Ocoee Rd. The time will be from 12:00 Noon until approximately 4:00. We will have some fun **bring a main dish, or a salad, dessert, or appetizer to feed 6-8 people**. It will be BYOC with C standing for folding Chairs. The club will provide nonalcoholic beverages. We ask that you telephone Kathy Cook to let her know that you are coming and so that we can avoid having too many 3-bean pickled salads. Her telephone #s are 407-678-6814 (home) or 407-963-5349 (cell). The email is kathy.cookucf@gmail.com . As we have in the past, we will extend the invitation to the rest of the English Car Nation. See the attached flyer too!

We need a few members to coordinate set up on Sunday Morning. Dodie Beach, 407-695-2981, will coordinate this part so please contact her.

Camille will present the special awards for cars, and all I can say is may the best car lose!



NEW MEMBERS:

We want to extend a warm Florida welcome to our newest members! Hope to see you at future meetings and events!

Bryan Corkal recently moved to Winter Garden from Minneapolis. He has a 1971 MGB. Kathy and Al were in Minneapolis last Christmas and will be there for Thanksgiving. We all can sympathize with his trying to drive his car with such cold weather! If it gets below 60 we shiver! Welcome and particularly warm thoughts!

Bob Mason recently moved to Ocala with his MGA and Magnette hot rod. He loves MGs and has had T types, MGAs, and MGBs. It has been reported that he has or had other British cars as well. Bob is a member of NAMGAR, NEMGTR, AACA and the Virginia Tidewater MG Club. We look forward to meeting Bob and his cars!

Bruce Barton has contacted us after being referred by Ken DeLeeuw. Bruce lives in Ormond Beach and drives a 1975 MGB. I hope he joins us on some of our drives.

Alan Maki recently moved to Punta Gorda as a permanent Florida resident and wants to be a member of our club. He has a 1952 MG TD. Although it may be a bit far for monthly meetings, we hope to see him at events and of course the GOFs.

Mark Grant lives in Orlando and owns a 1969 MGC/GT. He contacted us via the Classic MG Club website. Hopes to be at the November club meeting.

WEBSITE: Check out our updated website www.classicmgclub.com.

OTHER EVENTS:

GOF 2019: 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 on a Friday afternoon. We will also have a few driving MG's road events in the Daytona area. We are starting on a Thursday for the early birds with something for them to do, a meet & greet as well as a driving tour. Go to <https://www.mgclassics.org/gofsouth> for registration and Hotel information. A copy of the registration form is attached.

MG Jamboree: The Florida Suncoast MG Club is holding their biennial Jamboree November 16-18, 2018 at the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa which is located on the west side of Tampa Bay. This is a fun event which has been attended by many of our club members. See the attached flyer for more information.

Orlando Food Drive: Ceres Motorsports and McGinnty's Pub is sponsoring a food drive on December 1, 2018, from 6-10 PM at McGinnty's Irish Pub, 5406 Hansel Ave., Orlando, FL 32809. The cost is a food donation or \$10.00. There will be car show prizes and raffle items. See attached Flyer.

Bok Tower: The MG Car Club-Florida has invited us to attend their trip to Bok Tower on December 8, 2018. The attached flyer will give you the information and I am sure we will discuss it at the meeting. The deadline to let the MG Car Club know you are going is December 3, so don't wait! The "entrance fee" will not be collected at the gate when you arrive. You are to tell the attendant a password and you will be waved through. The sponsoring club is required to pay all entrance fees to a member of Visitors Services with a single payment the day of the tour.

Those planning on attending please register with Norm Ridgely no later than Monday, December 3rd and please send a check to payable to MG CAR CLUB-FLORIDA in the amount of \$12 per person, to be received by Norm no later than Thursday, December 6th. If you know you are planning to attend, PLEASE do not wait until the last to register and pay.

For those who wish to visit CHRISTMAS AT PINEWOOD, there is no change. Go to the counter in the Visitor Center, give them the pass word and you can purchase your ticket at \$7 per person.

There will be no designated parking area set aside for us, due to the time of the year, but by arriving prior to noon, most if not all of us should be able to park together. And for those of us who have mobility issues, BOK does have shuttle trams. The password will be sent out a few days prior to Dec. 8 to all who register.

Should you have any questions, please contact Norman C. Ridgely, 772-532-4265, or normridge@yahoo.com , P.O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, Fl. 32965.

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:

December – Paul Plasschaert will do the Tour of Lights

The holiday party will be at Kathy and Al Cook's home, 8554 Amber Oak Drive, Orlando, Florida on Saturday, December 15, 2018 starting at 5:00. The club will provide the main dish and nonalcoholic beverages. Members are to bring a side. Please coordinate with Kathy and RSVP by December 9th by calling 407-678-6814 or 407-963-5349. Mark your calendars now for this event which will arrive **before** the usual third Thursday meeting that month. The annual gift exchange can be any unmarked gift valuable or not so valuable! These may be traded so don't despair if you get something very original.

Happy New Year! – 2019

January – Kathy C. will do a trip to the Lone Cabbage Fish Camp

February – TBA

March – Al and Kathy Cook will host the St. Patrick's Day Party and planning meeting

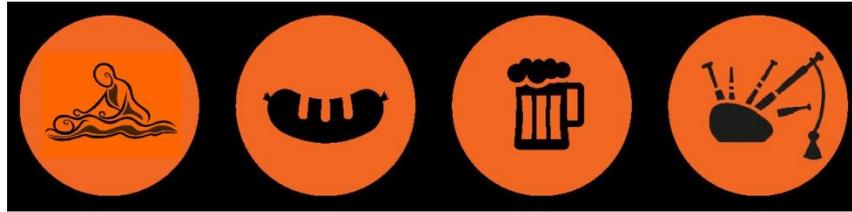
FOR SALE and Wanted ITEMS:

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

1. Donald Harvey contacted us with the following request, "I am looking for a finished well sorted out Sprite MK IV or MG Midget. I have reached an age where I no longer want a project (been there ... done that). I am however very fussy and enjoy a fine finish (engine bay included) restored or cherry original. I do prefer red. Please advise if you have any leads for me." You can contact him at donald_harvey@mac.com



MG Jamboree 21 – Brits at the Spa



On November 16-18, 2018 the Florida Suncoast MG Car Club will host **MG Jamboree 21** at the beautiful Safety Harbor Resort and Spa overlooking Tampa Bay. The Safety Harbor Resort and Spa is a one-of-a-kind destination rich in history and hailed for exquisite hospitality...offering 175 spacious, well-appointed guestrooms and suites, stunning Swarovski crystal chandelier-lit ballrooms embellished with rich fabrics, a cozy lobby lounge along with casual and fine dining. Tucked away in the quaint town of Safety Harbor, Florida, the “Spa” has remained a highly revered refuge for rest and relaxation for nearly 100 years.

Central to the resort’s storied past and today’s international popularity is the acclaimed spa built on the ancient natural mineral springs that run beneath the resort. In 1539, Spanish explorer Hernando De Soto reached the shores of this very site and discovered the natural mineral springs, believing he had found the legendary “Fountain of Youth.” American Indians visited the springs and inhabited what is now the Safety Harbor area almost 2,000 years ago.

NOW, in November, 2018, British cars and drivers will arrive for a weekend of relaxation and fun at **MG Jamboree 21**.

At this MG Jamboree there will be two car shows *open to all British cars*...one on Friday at the Spa and another on Saturday as part of the Dunedin Celtic Music and Craft Beer Festival. Also on Friday evening guests can stroll the Main Street in Safety Harbor for the Street Fair and Music Festival. Guided and self-guided tours will be featured as well as tech sessions appealing to all. Ending each day will be meals prepared by the Spa’s expert chefs. For those people anxious to venture farther afield, within one hour driving time is the Greek fishing village and sponge docks of Tarpon Springs and in the opposite direction is Treasure Island which is hosting the International Sand Sculpturing Competition of 2018. Or, you can stay at the Spa and be pampered by their attentive staff and pools offering the healing mineral waters.

This event has been held every other year in the Tampa Bay area since 1982 and offers a unique perspective on the area and the British car hobby. It is a wonderful activity for Northerners to do before putting their cars in cold storage and a great way for Southerners to start the cool weather driving ahead. The coordinator of this event for many years is Gail Lenhard, Florida Suncoast MG Car Club Secretary. She can be reached at 727-452-1752 or Gail@glennsmg.com.



The Classic MG Club of Orlando

NOVEMBER 18

ANNUAL

FLANKEY PICNIC

AND BRITISH

CAR SHOWING



The Classic MG Club of Orlando

**Extends warm greetings to the
British Car owners to attend this
annual event!**

Location:

Flankey Horse Farm

**8098 Gillam Road,
Apopka 32703**

**Directions: Turn East
off Apopka-Vineland
Rd. at Gilliam Rd, 1
mile North of the
intersection of A-V
and Clarcona-Ocoee
Rd.**

Time:

**12:00 Noon until
approximately 4:00**

RSVP

**Bring a dish to share
with 6-8 people; RSVP
and coordinate with
Kathy Cook,
407-963-5349 or
Kathy.cookucf@gmail.com**

**Non-alcoholic beverages
provided by the MG Club**

Bring chairs

**Volunteers needed for
Saturday setup**

**Unusual awards by Camille
Flankey**

(May the best car loose!)

The Orlando Food Drive

HOSTED BY CERES MOTORSPORTS AND MCGINNTY'S PUB
OPEN TO ALL CLASSIC CARS



FIGHTING HUNGER. FEEDING HOPE.

Join us in giving back to the local community.
Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida needs your donations.

Second Harvest secures and distributes food products to approximately
550 local nonprofit feeding programs throughout Central Florida.

Bring your classic car and donation to McGinnty's Pub and join the fun.
There will be car show prizes and raffle items provided by our sponsors.

Recommended food items can be found at www.tiny.cc/secondharvest

WHEN /
DEC 1, 2018
6 - 10 PM

WHERE /
MCGINNTY'S IRISH PUB
5406 HANSEL AVE
ORLANDO, FL 32809

COST /
FOOD DONATION OR \$10

www.orlandofooddrive.com

BOK HOLIDAY TOUR RESURRECTED

Norman Ridgely



For years, the MG Car Club-Florida visited Bok Tower Gardens in Lake Wales in December to enjoy the gardens, the carillon in the Singing Tower, and a visit to the Pinewood Estate, decorated for the Christmas season. All enjoyed lunch in the Blue Palmetto Cafe. For some unknown reason, the club dropped that tour from our events awhile back.

Well, it is back on our calendar!! Saturday, December 8th, 2018. Through an arrangement with Bok, we have a discount on the entrance fee to Bok and to the Pinewood Estate, \$19 per person. For those who do not wish to visit the estate but just the garden, it is \$12. But I can't imagine not doing both. In talking with my contact at Bok, as you come through the front entrance, you will pay an entrance fee of \$12 per person and if you wish to tour the Pinewood Estate, after parking, go to the Visitors Center and at the counter, you will then pay \$7 per person for your ticket to Pinewood. In both cases, identify yourself as with the MG Car Club. If you have never been to Bok, I urge you to visit their website <https://boktowergardens.org/> to get a feel for the place. My first visit was in 1939, and Pat & I go several times a year. We have been members for over fifteen years. It is a beautiful and serene place; very restful.

An important point! We need twenty (20) members to get the entrance discount!!

The plan is that the north group will gather at the Cumberland Farms Store at John Rhodes and US 192 at 8:00 AM for an 08:15 AM departure. You will travel west on 192 to Holopaw, then south to Yeehaw Junction. That is about 57 miles, an hour or so.

The south group will gather at Wawa on SR 60, just east of I-95 at 0830, and depart at 0845. That leg to Yeehaw is 26 miles.

Hopefully, both groups will arrive at the same time. In the past, we were able to use the rest rooms at the Desert Inn, but it is now closed (?) so my advice is to go to one of the convenience stores just east of the traffic signal by the Desert Inn for relief &/or coffee etc. From Yeehaw to Bok is about 48 miles, half is one lane east, one west with three passing lane sections; the last half is four lanes with a medium. Figure an hour or so. Our ETA should be around 1030/1100. Once on the grounds, everyone is on their own, no guided tour. For those who need transport at BOK, they rent chairs and scooters. You might be able to reserve one in advance so call them. And there is a shuttle service to the Tower and to Pinewood. This is not a level ground park. It is the highest point on peninsular Florida, 298 feet above sea level, called Iron Mountain. But most all the paths are paved so the walking is easy.

So, put 12-8-18 on your calendar! PLEASE call or email me so I can keep track as to those coming. Remember, we need a minimum of TWENTY, but would like to see 40. Any questions, please call me. You can still come without your LBC.

Norman
772-532-4265
normridge@yahoo.com