



# 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 MAY 21ST MEETING WILL BE A VIRTUAL MEETING WITH THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ANY OTHER MEMBERS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING. IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND PLEASE CONTACT PRESIDENT MIKE MCCORMICK [trouble150@gmail.com](mailto:trouble150@gmail.com) . We welcome your input!

Everything is happening virtually these days. We miss getting together in person but for the safety of all concerned, it just isn't possible. Do read about the "Drive By" in Orlando to see the Camichos.

Get your car out for a spin while the weather is nice! The preset May event has been canceled but stay tuned (your car, that is) and check your emails from the club. We may have a popup event.

We would like for people to submit articles about the history and restoration of their MGs. Also, we could use some volunteers to write tech sessions for the newsletter and the website. PLEASE VOLUNTEER and send them to the Assistant Editor. Other original items can also be included.

Dodie and Lonnie have been working on our website. While you are browsing the website, look at other information on the site - it's your one-stop location for past - current - future information about the club. <https://www.classicmgclub.com/>

## **SUMMARY OF APRIL MEETING:**

April 16, 2020 Video Conference

### **Call to Order 7:13 PM**

#### **Review of members on Zoom:**

**Attending: Mike McCormick, Patrick Raley, Jim McSweeney, Dodie Beach, Al Cook, Kathy Cook, Paul Plasschaert, Lonnie Cook, Pete Rogers, Glen Moore, Scott Buie**

Technical Questions about Zoom were answered by Scott Buie and Mike McCormick. Thanks to Scott for using his Zoom Pro to set up the meeting and to provide the email link to 9 homes. Apologies to Jim and Dodie from Mike for the mixup on email addresses.

We had two other cautionary tales:

1. Your device needs to have a strong WIFI signal to have clear audio and video, so conduct the meeting as close to your router as possible. And,
2. if you are using an android tablet, you might only see 4 participants on a page. To see all 9, you have to constantly scroll through 3 pages. Best to use a computer or laptop (not a Microsoft Surface Pro device) with video capability and a strong WIFI signal to take maximum advantage of this cool app.

### **Treasurer's Report Paul Plasschaert**

Paul reported that we probably only lost about \$930 due to the GOF cancellation. These figures include the possible loss of our \$500 deposit which should be refunded. John Spadaro successfully cancelled the trophies, resulting in only a \$64.48 charge, and Jim will keep the lanyards and name tags for our next GOF. Paul said we still might have few more expenses that have not yet been submitted.

### **Old Business**

A lot of places are shut down or working with minimal staff including the Mission Inn as Pete mentioned. Lonnie said that Moss Motors is completely shut down with no activity in the Receiving or Shipping departments. ( Editor: Thank goodness they are now opened! )

We hope to use the Octagon newsletter as forum for tech questions. Lonnie, Al, Kathy and Mike discussed successfully having the Octagon newsletter as a Tech Forum last month and options for the May Octagon issue. **Members are encouraged to submit Tech questions for discussion to Kathy or Lonnie. You may also simply reply to the email which sends the Newsletter.**

### **New Business**

There was a roundtable discussion of the MG Club plan going forward. Last month, all members were invited in the Octagon to contact Mike McCormick if they wanted to be added to the April virtual meeting roster. Lonnie expressed his desire to grow the monthly Virtual MG Club meeting to include as many members as possible, and to preferably make the meeting link available to all members. We were glad to have Glen Moore and Scott Buie join the meeting this

month, and we will likely continue to have an ongoing discussion before the next meeting about how to accomplish this goal. Lonnie also wanted to explore the concept of a 30 minute virtual “Tire Kicking” after the monthly online meeting to use our cameras to view member cars in their garages and discuss ongoing renovations and/or mechanical issues.

### **Outlook for Future Events**

With restaurants being closed and groups limited to ten or less it is difficult to have our regular driving events. The May event has been canceled. Paul stated that he tried to make a reservation for Hollerbach’s Willow Tree German restaurant which is scheduled as our July event, but that they are closed and would not take a reservation. It was the consensus of the group that a physical meeting or event will not be possible anytime soon, and that any events we schedule will have to be outdoor, driving and picnic table types.

Mike initiated a discussion about our commitment to the Second Harvest Food Bank. The final decision was to have the club donate \$500 and to encourage club members to also donate individually. The day after the meeting, Friday April 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM, just when the our 54<sup>th</sup> GOF would have been starting, Lonnie sent out 100 powerful emails to club members registered for the GOF. He encouraged them to donate part of their GOF returned monies to Second Harvest. He also sent the email to the companies that would have been sponsors of our lost GOF. It was decided that 7:00 PM was a good time to continue starting the meeting, and having a glass of wine or beer while meeting was a fine idea!

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:55**

### **APRIL DRIVING EVENT:**

Maybe it wasn’t our usual event but we did have a Driving Event in Orlando! The club did a drive to longtime members John and Jean Camichos. John is recovering from recent surgery and welcomed the visit. Of course members stopped, oogled, and maintained social distancing!



This says it all! “See you on the road, soon!!”



Ladies, too!

A couple of the beautiful cars.

**MEMBER'S CORNER:**

**Whatcha Workin' On?**

Follow "Social Distancing" guidelines by showing us your MG projects. We'll share your photos and questions in the newsletter. We will post member's answers, comments, and tips.



*Just hit the "Reply" button from the newsletter (or send it to Dodie Beach) and send your photos, questions, and comments.*

**Richard Hebb – 1964 MGB**

My project MG is a 1964 MGB, MKI. After keeping the B running for 20 years as daily driver, it was parked for another 25 years.

This was literally a basket case!





Decided to restore the B; I know it's crazy, but it keeps me out of trouble and I'm sure to learn a lot of new skills. However, the best part will be when I'm able to drive the MGB again.

Interior and dashboard have been removed, and the engine bay cleared out for engine removal. Ready to remove the Engine and Transmission as soon as the door bracing is welded in. To do the work planned in my single car garage, I'll be using an auto rotisserie to rotate the body during repairs.

### Robyn Kaminsky 1973 MGB

Robyn Kaminsky will be making future events but the lockdown has enabled her and her husband Ian to work on their car! Ian finally had the time to redo the interior of the 1973 MGB. Boy, that was a task and a half! He cut out the floorboards and got all the rust gone from underneath. Robyn asked if it was "Fred Flintstone powered now... not funny, huh?" Well, he welded in new floor pans & we added sound deadening material. Then came the new carpets!

They also got new "leather" for the seats & new foam. Wow- what a difference!!! They also installed brand new seat belts. Ugh- they still are not comfortable! Then he had redone the interior door panels & new visors... and of course a new radio.





## Tech Questions, Answers, and Tips

*MGs are a puzzlement! Please use your experience to answer questions from fellow CMGC members. Just hit the "Reply" button to send answers, questions, or tips.*

### **Sagging rear suspension – 1979 Midget**

From Jim Young: I have a question about the rear axle and suspension as mine seems to sag really bad in the rear. I am not sure if it is a leaf spring or shock issue. When I jack it up and put on jack stands the axle seems to hang down a lot.

### **Bracing Doors for Welding – 1964 MGB**

From Richard Hebb: If anyone has a picture or drawing with recommended placement of temporary door bracing for welding prior to removing the engine and structural parts, I'd like to see how other people have braced the doors.

### **FUTURE CLUB EVENTS:**

We try to do a driving event on monthly (local drives during the summer). **This of course is subject to availability and changes. Events planned for the next year but of course subject to change! Driving events are generally the Saturday after the meeting but subject to change based upon other factors including Covid 19!**

**May 2020** – 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting via zoom. Please contact president Mike to participate.

TBA, Rescheduled for later Winter Park Scenic Boat Ride - Pat Moore

**June 2020** – 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting

TBA, Rescheduled for later - Sanford Brewing - Tony Geraci and Mark Tidwell

**July 2020** – 16<sup>th</sup> Meeting

TBA Willow Tree Restaurant - Paul Plasschaert

**August 2020** – 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting

22d - Black Hammock Restaurant - Jim McSweeney

PLEASE TAKE PICTURES AT THE EVENTS AND EMAIL THEM TO KATHY [KATHY.COOKUCF@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KATHY.COOKUCF@GMAIL.COM) SO SHE CAN PUT THEM IN THE NEWSLETTER!!!!

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:**

The COVID-19 can't keep us from getting new members. Welcome Jim and Karen McGowan who live in Clermont. They have two beautiful MG Midgets ... a 1965 and a 1979. Jim contacted the website asking about our meeting schedule and location. I'm sure that all of us are looking forward to meeting, talking, and tire-kicking.



Will Bowden

**OTHER MEMBER NEWS:**

Lonnie recently spoke to Craig Engle. His father and founding member of the Classic MG Club, Blair Engle, recently had his gallbladder removed and may still be in the hospital.

Long-time club members will be saddened to hear that that former CMGC member Jan Gardner passed away recently. Her husband, Jon Gardner, passed away a few years ago. They lived in Tallahassee.

Heather Rippert shared some updates about her Dad, Hank Rippert. He came home after an early March trip to PA for the DVC (Delaware Valley Chapter) MG Car Club for the 50th Anniversary. Unfortunately, the latest news is that he passed away. Hank loved MGs and promoted their appreciation everywhere he went. He was the second chairman of New England MG T Register, taking over from Dick Knudson. He has been an NEMGTR Director for years. He drove his black 1951 TD with cycle fenders to GOF functions around the nation, including many GOF-Souths. His daughter may be reached at Heather Rippert, 8418 Ruth Place, Tampa, FL 33604, [www.heatherrippert.com](http://www.heatherrippert.com) , 610-733-3429.

**SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK:** We named Second Harvest Food bank as our official charity. Part of the GOF-South proceeds were to be donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, the charity partner of the Classic MG Club, but that won't happen. *Will you please consider donating part of your GOF refund to the Food Bank?* It only takes a few seconds. Every \$25 donation can provide 100 meals for struggling families and kids who have lost their income during the commercial lock-down. 97% of contributions go directly to help local people in need, the best of any nonprofit in Central Florida.

Donate Online: [www.tinyurl.com/GOF-FoodBank](http://www.tinyurl.com/GOF-FoodBank)

Donate by Mail: Make your check payable to "Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida" send to: **Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida, 411 Mercy Drive, Orlando, Florida 32808**

Donate by Phone: Please contact Donor Services at **407-514-1039**



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The MG community is special throughout the world. Thank you for any support that you can give to the Food Bank and to your MG friends who may need help and a kind word.

**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:**

1. 1953 MGTD 1 owner, Cream/w Green Interior. 2460 miles on frame- up restoration completed early 2014. 3 Bow tan stayfast top, full tonneau and side curtains, luggage and driving lights. Portfolio of receipts and over 350 pictures of restoration process. Recently reduced. Contact Tony Geraci, E-mail [marton1879@gmail.com](mailto:marton1879@gmail.com) or 407-656-7472.



2. 1971 MGB, \$6,500 OBO  
CMGC member Bryan Corkal is selling his 1971 MGB. It was restored in around 1997 and has always been garaged and cared for. The car needs the fluids changed. The car has around 18k miles on the rebuilt engine. It was rear-ended in about 2003 and the rear bumper is a little crooked and the seam for the trunk is misaligned. The car has stone chips and the typical knocks. In the last couple of years, I replaced the front bushings, the clutch master and slave cylinders and the water pump. The car has a slow leak and loses about a teaspoon of fluid every 6 months---it might be the transmission. Contact Bryan Corkal, [bcorkal@gmail.com](mailto:bcorkal@gmail.com), Winter Garden, 321-272-3444.



3. Kim Denmark needs to sell her 1960 MG Magnette. The property where she has been storing the car has been sold. The boot is completely Mark III rusted out. The car is stripped and about ready to be refinished. All the parts are there. All the glass is intact and not cracked or broken. It still has its chrome front and back bumpers. It would be great for someone who wants to refinish it or if someone needs a lot of parts. Kim lives in Ocoee and the car is in Groveland. If anyone is interested, give her a call, 407-721-5434, or send her an email, [kimwdenmark@yahoo.com](mailto:kimwdenmark@yahoo.com) .
4. Pete Rogers has a beautifully newly restored 53 TD. Everyone knows Pete is a perfectionist and really does a beautiful job on his cars. Restored with all new tires to top. Special Red exterior with a tan interior. All the extras installed are estimated at \$2500 in costs. Drives very well and the engine especially strong. It has been rebuilt to a higher horsepower. Car is offered as BEST OFFER. Call Pete at 352-406-1948 or email: [pfrslot@gmail.com](mailto:pfrslot@gmail.com)



5. Jake Kertz wants to sell his 1952 MGTD. Red with Biscuit interior 96,800 miles. Owner has had the car for over 60 years. Always garaged. Less than 500 miles since engine overhaul and frame up rebuild. New paint (bare metal), leather, tires, and canvas. \$21,000. Leesburg, FL . Contact Jake Kertz at 352-728-4435 or [jakenan@aol.com](mailto:jakenan@aol.com).



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