

The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Founded 1963

March 2024

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The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Presidential Thoughts

February has flown by so fast. Both the By-laws and Events Committees met. The rough draft of the By-Laws has been completed and is being reviewed by the club board of directors. The board will meet sometime after the GOF to finalize the document for presentation to the membership.



The Events Committee has compiled 24 potential day events and 14 potential overnight events. You will receive an Email with these two lists with instructions. Review and select your most interesting day and overnight Events as per instructions. If you have any suggestions for events, please bring them to the March planning event. The membership selected events will be presented at the St Patrick's Day event, March 16th at the McCormick's for Selection to become the 2024 event calendar. Club events can't happen without a host/organizer. I am hoping we are able to fill the calendar schedule.

While we're on events, the weather didn't cooperate for the Indian River Drive causing a postponement. Pat and Bob Moore are in the process of choosing a date to reschedule. Look for an Email blast with the date of the rescheduled Indian River Drive. Please RSVP to the Moore's early. This is going to be a fun event.

The North/South Picnic was a great success, thanks to Sharon and John Spadaro. The Picnic format events have been the most enjoyed type of event for the club. These events promote fellowship, tire kicking, and a delicious meal in a casual atmosphere. I think two of these a year would be ideal. A point to be discussed at the St. Patrick's Day event.

The GOF is fast approaching. The GOF Committees are filling, if you haven't chosen one to help on, be a part of GOF and participate. Call Scott Buie.

See you down the road!

Mark Tidwell
Safety  *Fast!*

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March 2024

Classic MG Club of Orlando

Your Club's Leadership

President:	Mark Tidwell	1mwtidwell@gmail.com
Vice President:	Jim McSweeney	jimspeedmaster@aol.com
Secretary:	Tom Redditt	tredditt@mac.com
Treasurer:	Dodie Beach	mg_enthusiast@aol.com
Club Registrar:	John Avallone	Johnavallone73@gmail.com
Editor	Keith Waggoner	editor.cmgc@gmail.com
Webmaster	Scott Buie	CMGCModerator@gmail.com
Chairperson, GOF South 2024	Scott Buie	GOFSouthEvents@gmail.com
Club Website		classicmgclub.com
Club Facebook		Click this link to facebook

Your Club's Affiliations



Their Website: [New England MG T Register](#)
Nat'l Meeting: GOF 110 Mystic, CT to Bristol, RI Jun 7-8
Local Contact: Mike McCormick



Their Website: NAMGAR.com
Nat'l Meeting: GT-49 Welches, OR Jul 15-19
Local Contact: Jill Moore



Their Website: NAMGBR.org
Nat'l Meeting: MG2024 Katy, TX Apr 21-24
Local Contact: Jim McSweeney



The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Meeting Minutes



submitted by Tom Redditt

Location: Nauti Lobstah seafood restaurant, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka, FL 32703

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:58 PM on February 22, 2024

Guest Introductions: None present

Treasurer's Report - Dodie reported that Club is well funded for all activities including the upcoming GOF.

Old Business: President Mark Tidwell held a discussion on whether members preferred evening/dinner monthly club meetings or morning/breakfast meetings. Following the open discussion, a vote was held and the consensus was in favor of having morning/breakfast meetings possibly then following with a drive or event afterwards for those who wish to participate. It was also suggested that we could possibly do both switching alternatively each month. Mark said he will look into maybe trying this after the GOF is over.

Bylaws committee: The bylaws committee (Mark Tidwell, Patrick Raley, Tim Clifford, John Spadaro) met and new basic bylaws for the club have been created but still are being refined by the committee members. More on this will be forthcoming when the bylaws are finalized.

Events committee: Committee members (Mark and Ellen Tidwell, Tom Redditt, Anthony Graziano and Susan Stephens) met and assembled a recommended list of daytrips and overnight events.

The annual club St. Patrick's Day party and event planning meeting to select the events for the upcoming year from this list will be held at noon on March 16, 2024 at the home of Mike and Carol McCormick, 716 Oak Leaf Ct, Apopka, FL 32712. **More information is found later in this issue.**



Meeting minutes continued...

Tech Session: A special CMGC “Tech session” will be held by Scott Buie on March 21 at 6:00 PM immediately prior to the start of the March monthly club meeting. The purpose is to instruct members how to use the club website properly, upload photos, etc. Bring your cellphone.

Tech Day: John Avalone reported that he recently attended a great tech session with famous MG guru, John Twist. This was held at Glenn’s MG & British Car repair in St. Petersburg.

Roar at 24: This annual vintage car racing event will be held in January 2025. Check the internet for upcoming information on this event.

Overview of 2024 GOF: Scott Buie was not present but Lonnie said that everyone needs to step up and volunteer to help out on the various event committees as time is getting short for this event. Also, event committee members need to communicate with each other to plan their activities for the GOF. Any questions, concerns or suggestions should be directed to Scott Buie or Mark Tidwell. Register for the event on the club website.

Indian River Drive reschedule: Bob Moore did not attend the meeting so at this point the event has not yet been rescheduled.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:25PM



Saw this ad recently in Facebook

Editor’s note: Yes, it’s in the past, but the MGA caught my eye and I thought it worth sharing ...



Calendar of Upcoming Events

March

03/16 **St. Patrick's Day CMGC Planning Luncheon/Meeting**

Please plan to attend this important event!!!

Noon (12PM) Hosted by Mike and Carol McCormick

716 Oak Leaf Ct., Apopka 32712

Wekiva Glen subdivision

(Gate Code #1887)

See more details can be below.

03/21 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobstah, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka

6:30PM for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm

April

04/06 **British Car Show** at Henry's Depot 212 W 1st St, Sanford

More details can be found later in this newsletter.

04/18 **2024 Gathering of Faithful South** Crystal River Plantation

More details can be found later in this newsletter.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR REVISED ST PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON AND PLANNING

We will be eating a delicious corned beef lunch and voting on the slate of attractive options for 2024 monthly events created by our Events Committee.

Kathy Cook will provide our traditional Corned Beef. We are hoping you will bring a side dish or dessert.

To coordinate our Irish Feast, please call Carol McCormick 407-257-1953 or cmcarol17@gmail.com before Thursday, March 14th to let us know what you are contributing.



Saturday, March 16th at Noon (12PM)

Carol and Mike McCormick's home

716 Oak Leaf Ct. Apopka 32712

Wekiva Glen subdivision

Gate Code #1887 This is a new code!!

GOF committees are also invited to have a meeting after the events selection.



GOF South 2024



**ONLY 7 HOTEL ROOMS LEFT
In Our Discounted Block!!!**



“GOF South 2024 is just over a month away, so get cracking and reserve that hotel room and spot on the show field”



GOF South 2024

Continued

The Tweed Drive is also almost full too. You have to make a reservation for that too, so don't miss a great drive and a fantastic dinner!

Both the hotel reservations and the registration links are on the GOF-South 2024 page on our website, So click here to DO IT NOW!

As a fun part of your weekend at the Plantation Resort, why not get involved and volunteer to help? It doesn't have to be a lot, just help park some cars, or say "Hello" to folks as they check-in at the Registration Desk.

Volunteering is an action verb, so add a fun facet to your weekend!! Remember, this is the Club's sole revenue generator, so if you would like to help with ANYTHING, please go to our website, and submit your comments.

www.classicmgclub.com/gofsouth2024

***Here's the scoop for GOF-South 2024:
April 18-21, 2024***

***The Plantation on Crystal River,
Crystal River, FL***

Make sure you come back to the website often for exciting updates and event information. Until next month, enjoy your Morris Garage classics!


Scott Buie
GOF 2024 Chair



GOF South 2024

Contributed by Carol McCormick

What can I donate to the GOF Hospitality Room Raffle?

This year we are hoping that most of our raffle items will be provided by our loyal members and we also are not holding a Silent Auction.

Please consider...

Creating a themed basket or other container

Donating a gift certificate or gift card

Passing along a car related item

Any other creative gem(s) you think someone..

male and/or female...would buy a ticket to win



Your donations do not need to have bows or be wrapped in plastic...they just have to be able to be placed on a flat surface and displayed.

You can bring your donation to the Hospitality Room at the Plantation Inn when you arrive if you wish. If space is an issue in your teeny MG, you can bring your item to the St. Patrick's Day Lunch/Meeting on March 16th or the club meeting at the Nauti Lobstah on March 21st and give them to Carol and Mike McCormick. Or drive them to the McCormick home at 716 Oak Leaf Ct, Apopka 32712 anytime before the event.

Thanks in advance for helping
to create a fun Hospitality Room!



Other Events of Interest

The following are featuring the MG marque celebrating its 100th anniversary

All British Car Show, Sanford, FL
April 6, 2024

More details can be found at
<http://www.britishcarclubofcentralflorida.com/>

[Link to registration](#)



Carolina British Classics XVI Car Show

Date April 6, 2024
At the Tartan Day South Festival
The Historic Columbia Speedway
2001 Charleston Highway, Cayce, SC 29033

[Click here for registering](#)

Watkins Glen Festival 2024

September 5 & 6, 2024 This year they are honoring MG!
MG is a big part of the racing history at Watkins Glen, with MGTCs finishing in 8 of the top 10 finishing positions in the inaugural 1948 Grand Prix. The Festival has honored MG in 1994, 2004, 2014, and will again in 2024. There will be an MG-only car show and dinner on Thursday and a Tour De Marque on Friday, beginning at a winery and including laps on the current Watkins Glen International race track and two laps on the old street course. Friday includes multiple drives in the area with MGs eligible for most of the drives. Details can be found at <http://www.grandprixfestival.com/>



Club Happenings

Photos and article by the editor. "You owe me John Spadaro"

North - South Picnic ... well, sort of ...

Our friends from up north were unable to make it this year, but the southern folk didn't let that get in the way of a good time. It took place at Hickory Point Park in Tavares on Saturday February 24th.

Hosted by John and Sharon Spadaro with fixins from Sonny's BBQ, a good contingent of MGs and OBCs (other boring cars) braved the beautiful weather to chat, kick tires, and EAT.

Sit back and enjoy the photo gallery of the day's happenings.



Club Happenings



N-S continued



1982 GOF Patch

An International Affair

By Glen Moore

Last month Keith, the editor, contacted me saying he had an empty half-page in the newsletter and could I send him another GOF patch to fill the space. So, I quickly determined that the next patch in sequence was 1982 and sent it on to him.



When the newsletter was published, I looked at the patch closely. It has "USA" on the right side. Why does it need to designate that the GOF South occurred in the United States? It turns out that there was to be a large number of international attendees, who when wearing the patch at home, could confuse people thinking they had been to Melbourne, Australia rather than Melbourne, Florida, USA. The 1982 GOF South was hosted at the Florida Institute of Technology. Dr. Jerry Kueper had begun MG Car Club – Florida in Jacksonville in 1956. It was the Florida Center (Chapter) of the Mother Club, MG Car Club, Abingdon, England. Dr. Kueper was a big MG enthusiast, owning multiple prewar MGs. He was also instrumental in beginning the National MMM Register. Dr. Kueper decided to begin a college in Brevard County and moved there to follow that pursuit. The college was originally named Brevard Engineering College, but as it gained international recognition, it changed to Florida Institute of Technology. When Dr. Keuper moved to Brevard County, he moved the MG Car Club – Florida to Brevard County also.

Forward to 1982. Dr. Kueper offered to host the 1982 GOF South at the college. It was held in July, when the students were mostly gone for summer break. Attendees were housed in the dorms for free. A more affordable GOF South has yet to happen. Dr. Kueper had hosted many MG enthusiasts from around the world at FIT. For the 1982 GOF South, Norm Ewing brought a contingent of 20+ members of the South African MG Club to Melbourne. It was part of a USA MG tour for the group.

Continued, next page



You should remember Norm Ewing. I wrote a story about him for the August newsletter. See page 15 in the link below.

https://www.classicmgclub.com/_files/ugd/7dc25b_bc8d8b6cc8d84abf9ca78ee3779fc573.pdf

So, there is a story behind that 1982 patch with the “USA”. The MG Car Club – Florida history document contains a story about that event, written by CMGC member and leader, Tony Roth.

HERE’S A BRIEF RECOLLECTION OF THE 1982 GOF by TONY ROTH (note- Tony Roth was the first recipient of the MG Car Club Florida “Jerry Keuper Award” in 200? -Saul K.)

Great GOF at FIT. Jerry (Keuper) had a bunch of South African MG owners here on a tour. It was known as the Florida Freebie. We stayed in the dorms free – meals were very cheap. It was in the summer, but it didn’t seem hot at the time. There were breezes off the ocean and river. We had an autocross on the baseball field.



An autocross in the dirt. Now, there is a novel idea that shows how much MG ownership has changed. In 1982, MG owners raced their cars through the dirt. Today, most MG owners will not even drive slowly down an unpaved road. The 1982 GOF South, and Classic MG Club membership, at the time, was limited to T-Series MGs. The new, modern MGs, such as MGA and MGB were not participants.

(MGCC-F Editor’s Note: Tony has been the driving force behind the Classic Mg Club in Orlando for a number of years. He is well-known in the MG world.)

From Under the Bonnett

From John Avallone

To get the most out of your MGs, it is important to have a good preventive maintenance program. Doing scheduled maintenance and adjustments will prolong the life of your car, help prevent expensive downtime, give the best quality engine performance, and gas mileage.

John Avallone, Gery Cardamone, Richard Drewyer, and Larry Miceli attended a John Twist MG Technical workshop at Glenn's MG and British Car Repair Shop located in St. Petersburg, FL. on February 17th.

The technical workshop was "The Complete Tune-up." The car used for the direct review was an MGB GT Glenn purchased from one of his customers. Both Glenn and John provided a wealth of technical advice, lots of humor, and plenty of time to ask questions. I would be remiss not to mention the behind-the-scenes work that Gail Lenhard provided before and during the technical seminar.

The seminar began with introductions, followed by a tour of Glenn and Gail's 5,000 square feet business. We then dove into the tune-up.

One of the most important take home messages from the seminar was workshop safety. The one item that should be in every garage and car is a properly rated fire extinguisher. In addition, I would add working smoke and CO2 alarms. John shared a story about an individual who over time, had lots of gasoline spills on a concrete floor in their garage. One day while working using a grinder a spark ignited the residual gas that had soaked into the concrete. Smelling something burning, the individual looked under his car and saw just a blue flame typical of what one would see with using a sterno fuel can.

John Twist performing various repairs on all models of MGs can be found at his University Motors YouTube Channel.

([universitymotors.online](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) and [universitymotorsltd.com](https://www.universitymotorsltd.com))

If you have a tip, send it to the editor editor.cmgc@gmail.com



From Under the Bonnett

Continued ...

Do

- Have an easily accessible fire extinguisher in the garage and each car you drive.
- Have working smoke/CO2 alarm in garage and change battery yearly.
- Have adequate lighting while working.
- Read and know what you are planning to do using the specific car manual.
- Keep your shop clean and uncluttered.
- Consult more experienced club members.
- Have GCFI outlets in garage.

Don't

- Work on a gas tank (Rusts from inside out) and if you do, fill it with water.
- Tow your car backwards
- Use a dishwasher or an oven in your home to clean parts.
- Place a tool in your back pocket.

In closing, I would like to add that the CMGC technical day, presented by George Pardee and Mark Tidwell and held at Mark and Ellen's home, was as informative as the Twist seminar, but free. Handouts from both technical days are available from me. If you would like to have them, please email me a request, and I will email them to you. Johnavallone73@gmail.com

Editor's note: We in the club enjoy having an opportunity to mix with and learn from anyone that can make our MG experience more enjoyable. Sometimes it costs more than others and we are thankful to have the choice to attend either or both.

If you have a useful car maintenance tip, send it to the editor editor.cmgc@gmail.com



This submission by Glen Moore depicts the 1983 GOF patch which, to his recollection, is the only time it was held in St. Augustine



Classy Finds

Aka classifieds

FOR SALE



Type to auto text

SUPERCHARGED
1961 MG
MGA
ROADSTER

Supercharged 1.8 liter engine, 5 Speed Ford T9 Transmission, Black Upholstery w/red piping, New black top & Bimini Top, Chrome 15" wheels, Four Wheel Disc Brakes, Driving Lights, Trunk Mounted Luggage Rack, LED taillights,

Tom Lempicke. 321 747-0749

Price \$42,500



Classy Finds

Aka classifieds

1962 MGA MK2 1600

Colour: Maroon

Offered by: Richard Drewyer

858 Patriot Pl

Tavares, FL 32778

PH (301) 535-1064

\$25,000



Classy Finds

Aka classifieds

OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONTINUES

CLASSIC MG CLUB NEWSLETTER

Fellow Enthusists....

The second meeting of the "Classic MG Club" was held at the home of Will Bowden on August 29th 1963. Present were 16 Enthusists, a vast improvement over the previous meeting. Plans for the upcoming tour (a HARE & HOUNDS) was discussed and it was decided to terminate at some location for swimming and a picnic. John Camichos and Will Bowden agreed to undertake the layout for same. A date of September 29th, Sunday afternoon was picked. Mrs. Joe. Sires volunteered to host the next meeting, to be September 19th at her home. Hereafter meetings to be held the third Thursday of the month. Dee Lauderback offered the use of her Ranch as a meeting place after the summer mosquito has migrated to warmer climates.



March marks the eighth "official" month of the 60th Anniversary of the Classic MG Club. We will be celebrating the milestone through July 2024, which includes GOF-South 2024 that we will host this April. So, order your commemorative 60th Anniversary stickers and embroidered cloth patches now to proudly display for this anniversary year and for years to come.

Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with appropriate postage, along with one dollar in cash for each sticker and five dollars in cash for each embroidered patch to:

Lonnie Cook, 656 Terrace Blvd., Orlando, FL 32803.

(I must have your stamped envelope and cash; no checks.)

If you haven't yet returned the Member Update form that you received by mail in May, then please send it to the same address.





**North
American
MGB Register**
NAMGBR.org

Join Now

Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!



Join over 2,000 enthusiastic owners in the restoration, preservation, and sheer enjoyment of driving an MGA, Magnette, or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive six bi-monthly issues of *MGA!*, our full-color, award winning magazine, invitations to National and Regional Get-Togethers throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus a knowledge base and support group second to none. All this for just \$37.50 per year (North America), or \$52.50 (International). **Get more information at <http://www.namgar.com>, or contact registrar@namgar.com.**



[Click here for more info](#)

Second Harvest Food Bank is the official charity of the Classic MG Club. Many people in Central Florida go to bed hungry every night. In the U.S., 50 million people are food insecure - one in four children. As a club, and as individuals, we can make a major difference in our neighbors' lives.

Second Harvest
FOOD BANK
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
FeedHopeNow.org



fighting hunger. feeding hope.

Second Harvest is an efficiently-run charity with 97% of contributions going directly to help local people in need. Every \$25 donation can provide 100 meals for struggling families and kids.

Donate Online: <http://www.tinyurl.com/GOF-FoodBank>

By Mail: Checks payable to Second Harvest Food Bank of Ctrl FL, 411 Mercy Dr., Orlando, FL 32808

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.

This month's end shot is a GOF promotion. It's Ann Plasschaert in her 1961 MGA being chauffeured by her son Jeff. This photo was taken by Jill Moore during one of the GOF 2022 scenic drives in Howey-in-the-hills.



Do you have an end shot?
editor.cmgc@gmail.com

And until next month ... Keith

