

# The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Founded 1963

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The Classic MG Club of Orlando

## Club Leadership

### **President**

Jim McSweeney

[jimspeedmaster@aol.com](mailto:jimspeedmaster@aol.com)

### **Vice President**

Mike McCormick

[trouble150@gmail.com](mailto:trouble150@gmail.com)

### **Secretary**

Tom Redditt

[redditt@mac.com](mailto:redditt@mac.com)

### **Treasurer**

Dodie Beach

[mg\\_enthusiast@aol.com](mailto:mg_enthusiast@aol.com)

### **Editor**

Keith Waggoner

[editor.cmgc@gmail.com](mailto:editor.cmgc@gmail.com)

### **Registrar**

John Avallone

[hrtpace1@aol.com](mailto:hrtpace1@aol.com)

### **GOF South 2024 Chair**

Scott Buie

[gofsouth2022@gmail.com](mailto:gofsouth2022@gmail.com)

### **Webmaster**

Scott Buie

[s.buie@aol.com](mailto:s.buie@aol.com)

### **Website**

[www.classicmgclub.com](http://www.classicmgclub.com)

### **Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/classicmgclub>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/classicmgclub>

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*Safety*  *Fast!*



October 2023

## Presidential Thoughts

The weather finally allowed us to get our MG's out for a nice drive to the Oakland Nature Preserve and lunch at a Pub. The McCormick's TD had a problem but still made it to the Preserve. Thanks Mike and Carol for organizing a wonderful event. John Avallone took photos and wrote an article which is in the Newsletter.



Mark your calendars for the fall picnic on November 12th. See more information in the Newsletter. This will be fun, please try and make it.

We'll be back at the Nauti Lobstah on October 19th. We hope to see you there!

The MG Jamboree will be October 6-8th. We will be attending for the first time along with several other MG Club members.

Please contact Lonnie Cook if you are interested in attending the Historic Vintage Sports Car races at the Daytona Speedway on November 4th.

Check your tires and pressures and see you at some events. Happy Motoring!

*Jim McSweeney*



Classic MG Club of Orlando

# The Classic MG Club of Orlando

## Meeting Minutes



*submitted by Tom Reddit*

Location: Caffe Positano, 3030 E Semoran Blvd, Apopka, FL 32703

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Treasurer's report: Dodie reported the club has more than sufficient funds in the bank account to fund our upcoming events and obligations.

New member introductions: There were no new members attending.

Old business: No old business was discussed.

New business: The September outing will be on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at The Oakland Nature Preserve, 747 Machete Trail, Oakland, FL 34760.

This event is hosted by Mike and Carol McCormick.

10:00 am - meet at Preserve for a tour of the plants and animals and Education Lodge [www.oaklandnaturepreserve.org](http://www.oaklandnaturepreserve.org)

11:30 am – 10-minute drive to Hagan O'Reilly's Irish Pub, 16112 Marsh Rd. Winter Garden [www.haganoreillysirishpub.com](http://www.haganoreillysirishpub.com)

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The Suncoast MG Club is hosting their annual Jamboree in Lutz, FL October 6-8, 2023.

Those planning to attend please contact Jim McSweeney.

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Lonnie Cook reported that the owner of Christopher John, Ltd Morgan shop, 1052 N. Beach St, Daytona Beach, FL 32117 has invited our club to attend the Historic Vintage Sports Car racing event at the Daytona Speedway on November 4, 2023. It is a 24-hour event but would consist of just attending the race for about 2 hours then head to nearby Christopher John's Morgan shop for refreshments, tire kicking, and car talk.

If interested in attending this event please contact Lonnie Cook.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.



# Upcoming Calendar of Events



## October

10/6-8 **23rd FSMGCC Jamboree** \*\*Hosted by Florida Suncoast MG Car Club\*\*

Bethany Retreat Conference Center Lutz, Florida

***Trip is an overnigher!!***

10/19 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobstah, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka

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

## November

11/4 **HSR Classic 24 Vintage Races** at Daytona Motor Speedway

*Tentative schedule:*

9:00am Meet at the track to view the ongoing 24-hour vintage races

11:00am Adjourn to Christopher John LTD British Sports Car dealership

105 N Beach St, Daytona Beach for open house

snacks and beverages provided

Contact Lonnie Cook if you are interested

[HSR Classic 24 Event info](#)

11/12 **CMGC Fall Picnic** Quail Hollow on the River Rec Center

1968 Quail Hollow Dr Deland, FL 32720

12:00pm Enjoy the Fall weather by driving your LBC to DeLand, FL

for a fried chicken picnic along the bank of the St Johns River

Hosted by Keith & Tracey Waggoner

*(See the flyer on the next page)*

11/16 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobstah, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka

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

## December

12/21 **Tour of Lights** hosted by Rebekkah and Brad Parlee

Time TBD Maitland followed by a dinner at a local restaurant.







**It's Picnic Season, It's Driving Season.  
Let's do both!**

**Sunday November 12th from Noon to 4**

**Community Park and Rec Center of Quail Hollow on the River  
1968 Quail Hollow Drive DeLand, FL 32720**

*Hosted by Keith & Tracey Waggoner*

You're invited to the CMGC Orlando Fall Picnic.  
This year it's all about a good ole' southern get-together  
***Fried Chicken and all the fixins.***

We're bringing the chicken, water, sodas and tableware

You bring any other drink and one of the following to share  
Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Mac'n'Cheese, Tater Salad  
and, of course, any dessert.

*Oh, and don't forget your lawn chairs  
for sitting along the bank of the St Johns River  
and telling stories.*

Please let Dodie Beach know you're coming and what you're bringing.  
She's at [flutterby670@aol.com](mailto:flutterby670@aol.com) or 407-695-2981 **RSVP by November 9th.**

If you need suggestions, she can offer options  
based upon what others are bringing.

Come rain or shine. We can go inside the clubhouse if inclement weather

***See you there!***





# Future Calendar of Events

*Still in the planning stages ...*

## **Sat/Sun, Jan 20/21**

Overnighter with a stop at Bok Tower and then on to Avon Park.  
(George and Elyn Pardee)

## **Saturday, Feb 17**

Indian River drive with a stop at Goodrich Seafood and Oyster House,  
253 River Road, Oak Hill 32759 (Bob and Pat Moore)

## **Saturday, Feb 24**

**North/South** Hickory Point Park in beautiful Lake County

## **March?** 2 events...unknown dates

...Nehrling Gardens different tour (Carol Raley)

St. Pat's Planning Party (Carol and Mike McCormick's house with  
Kathy Cook)

## **April 2024 GOF South**

It's official! GOF South will be at the Plantation Resort in Crystal River.  
More details from Scott Buie can be found later in this newsletter.

## **September 5 & 6, 2024, Watkins Glen Festival 2024**

This year they are honoring MG, as they did 1994, 2004, 2014.  
More details can be found later in this newsletter

We certainly have a busy year planned. Generally, we plan on the club event to be the Saturday after the club meeting, with the meetings held on the third Thursday.

We also hope to plan a tech session with a date to be determined. This can be a subject discussed at our next club meeting.

All events, of course, are subject to change. In planning, we try to coordinate based on the weather and distance. If something falls through the following could be substituted this year, and definitely are things to consider for next year.

Other suggestions for the future include:

Polasek Museum

and Sculpture Gardens

Mennello Museum

St Johns River ship with lunch

Longwood guided tour of Historic district and

Cassadaga

Leu Gardens

Lakeridge Winery and music

Crabby Bills Lakefront Restaurant

Bradlee McIntyre House



# North/South 2024

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**FEBRUARY 24, 2024**

People always say that as you get older, time goes by faster. I think they have something there. It did not seem like it was that long ago that our friends from Virginia were down here, but once again they are in the process of planning their trip and once again, they have reached out to us to plan an event as they pass through our area. For those of you who are not familiar with these folks, they put their "T" cars on the auto train and come down to tour Florida during the time when it is usually quite cool in their neck of the woods.

So, once again we are planning a picnic. This event will take place on February 24, 2024. (It seems weird writing 2024, wow!). We will meet at Hickory Point Park in beautiful Lake County. Our plans are still fluid, but we will probably do something similar to what we did last year. We will be asking that everyone pay \$10.00 for the picnic lunch (Where can you get lunch for ten bucks anymore?)

If you had planned to go visit Uncle Festus in Arizona or an exotic cruise during February, cancel your plans!!! Come to the picnic instead. It's a much better deal. A nice drive out to Lake County in your LBC along with a great lunch with like minded friends at a great place. It doesn't get much better than that.

As we move forward with the plans we will keep everyone informed via the newsletter.

John Spadaro



# GOF South 2024



***It's almost time to order your dinner!!***



**The menu is set, and you will be enjoying some excellent local fare. Fresh seafood and more awaits.**

***And remember...***

***The hotel reservations link is Live and Ready to Go!!!  
Go to the GOF South 2024 page on our website, or click [here](#)***

***Make your reservations now,  
before they're sold out!!!***

**(Our reserved discounted block is limited, so don't miss out)**





# GOF South 2024

*Continued*

We still need more volunteers to help with a variety of things. If you want to help, thank you! Right now, our pressing need is for folks to help with gathering sponsors. We will eventually need help with the hospitality components, parking and even assembling welcome gift bags. If you would like to help with ANYTHING, please go to our website, and submit your comments.

[www.classicmgclub.com/gofsouth2024](http://www.classicmgclub.com/gofsouth2024)

And as always, please get ready to come join us:

**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



# Other Events of Interest

## Watkins Glen Festival 2024

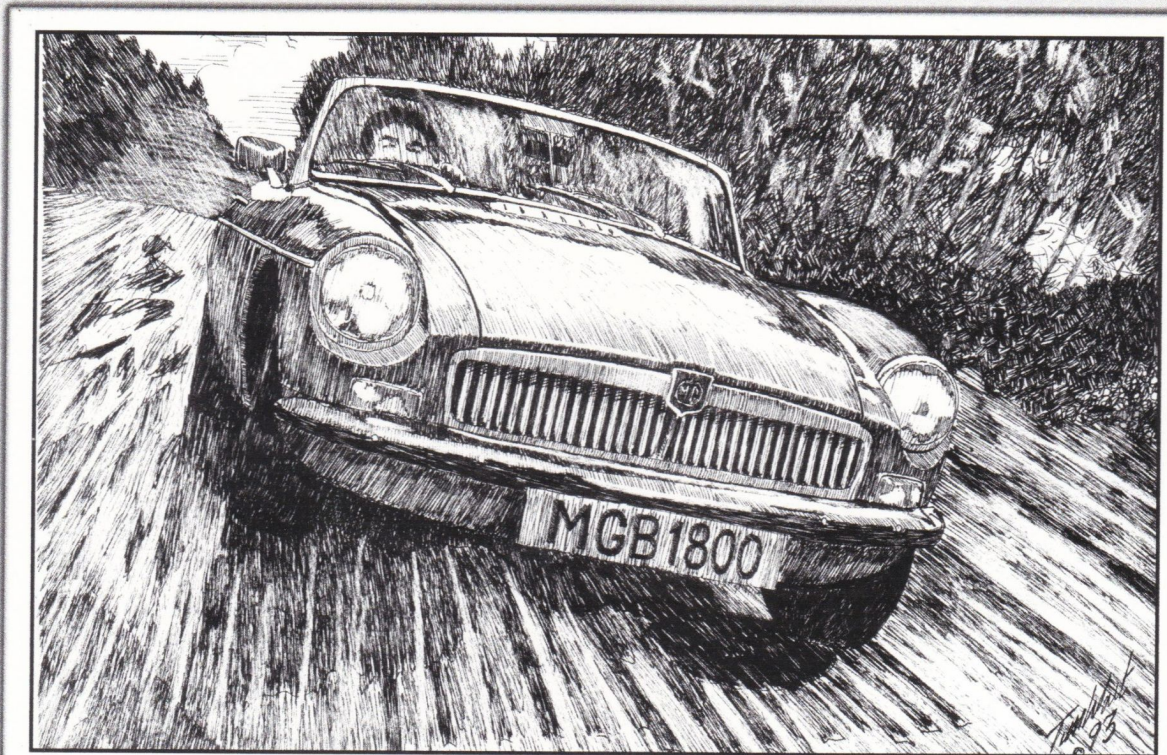
September 5 & 6, 2024 This year they are honoring MG!

**Registration  
Begins  
October 15th**

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/>

*Greeting Card from Reinout*



MG 1800

This pen-drawing, of an MGB at speed, with the driver fully focused on what lies ahead, shows all the excitement of driving an MG. Imagine a hilly road, maybe early evening hours, top down, nowhere in particular to go... just you and your MG. What else can you wish for? The artist is Tim Wait and the card is copyrighted and published by The Alternative Card Co. in the U.K..





# Club Happenings



*Submitted by John Avallone*



**The Classic MG Club of Central Florida September's event** was an outing to the Oakland Nature Preserve located in Orange County Florida on the south end of Lake Apopka. It encompasses 128 acres that includes five of Florida's ecosystems. The turnout for this event was eighteen. Under the expert guidance of Glen and Jill Moore, we walked on one of the many trails available. Lunch followed at Hagan O'Reilly's Irish Pub. Hope everyone enjoys the pictures taken at the outing and lunch event. Thanks to Mike and Carol McCormick for arranging this event and getting to the preserve after experiencing minor car trouble.

*Remember, for all outings we run on MG time.*



In search of Florida's Bigfoot...



...Found it!





# Club Happenings

September's outing continued



Jim McSweeney, Dodie Beach, Susan Stephens and Angelo Gaziano



I-r Jill Moore, Lonnie Cook, Glen Moore, Doug Rothwell, Joanne Cook, and Linda Rothwell





# Club Happenings

September's outing continued



David and Lissette Cayón



Carol and Mike McCormick, Marcia Garcia and her sister Sue, Kathy Cook, Ann Plasschaert and her son Jeff



Submitted by Brad Parlee  
who offers this thought

New Smyrna Beach  
with an MGA  
- and we wonder why  
they're all rusty.



*It's not the cover of  
The Rolling Stone  
Magazine,  
but it's still an honor*

Here's Glen Moore in  
his #56 MGTF  
-in the octagon frame-  
He found himself on  
the event T-shirt for this  
year's Watkins Glen  
Speed Tour.  
Celebrating MG 100th







## Lime Rock Park Historic Festival 41



*Article and pictures submitted by Glen Moore*

Labor Day weekend was filled with MGs and activities in northern Connecticut at Lime Rock Park. CMGC was there – twelve members and five MGs. The place is truly a park, not like any other race track. Surrounded by mountaintops and covered in grasses and trees, the beauty is not spoiled by any grandstands. Located in the Berkshire Mountains, this area has been a summer retreat for over a century.

The 5-day weekend was filled with events. Thursday afternoon, there was a 20-mile parade on back roads and through small towns, ending in the tiny town of Falls Village where a street festival was being held to honor the sports and racing cars. Crossroads were blocked and people lined the roads, cheering as cars passed. In the paddock, there was an MG 100 display with a range of MG models lined up, from a 1925 Super Sports, a J4, two MGAs that raced at Sebring, and a TC that raced the street course at Watkins Glen.



Glen Moore chases down Ed McCord in the Pre-War and Early Post-War race





Practice, qualifying, and races were held on Friday, Saturday, and Monday. There is no racing on Sunday due to a noise ordinance. However, Sunday is a grand day at Lime Rock. A car show is set up around the entire race track with many marques represented and an invitation-only Concours on the front straight.

With MG as the honored marque, there were two Concour classes – race cars and street cars. Robert Carr and Holly Bird’s beautiful J2 won the second-place ribbon in the street car MG class. It was a wonderful weekend, with beautiful weather, filled with activities and people to meet. CMGC members at the MG 100 included: Christopher Silvestri (1961 MGA), JP Silvestri (1963 MGB), Mark and Ellen Tidwell (YA), Robert Carr and Holly Bird (1933 J2), Glen and Jill Moore (1955 TF), Mike and Carol McCormick, and Rick and Jan Sevcech.

*right*

The Centenary display in the paddock had a 1925 MG Super Sports leading the line-up



*below*

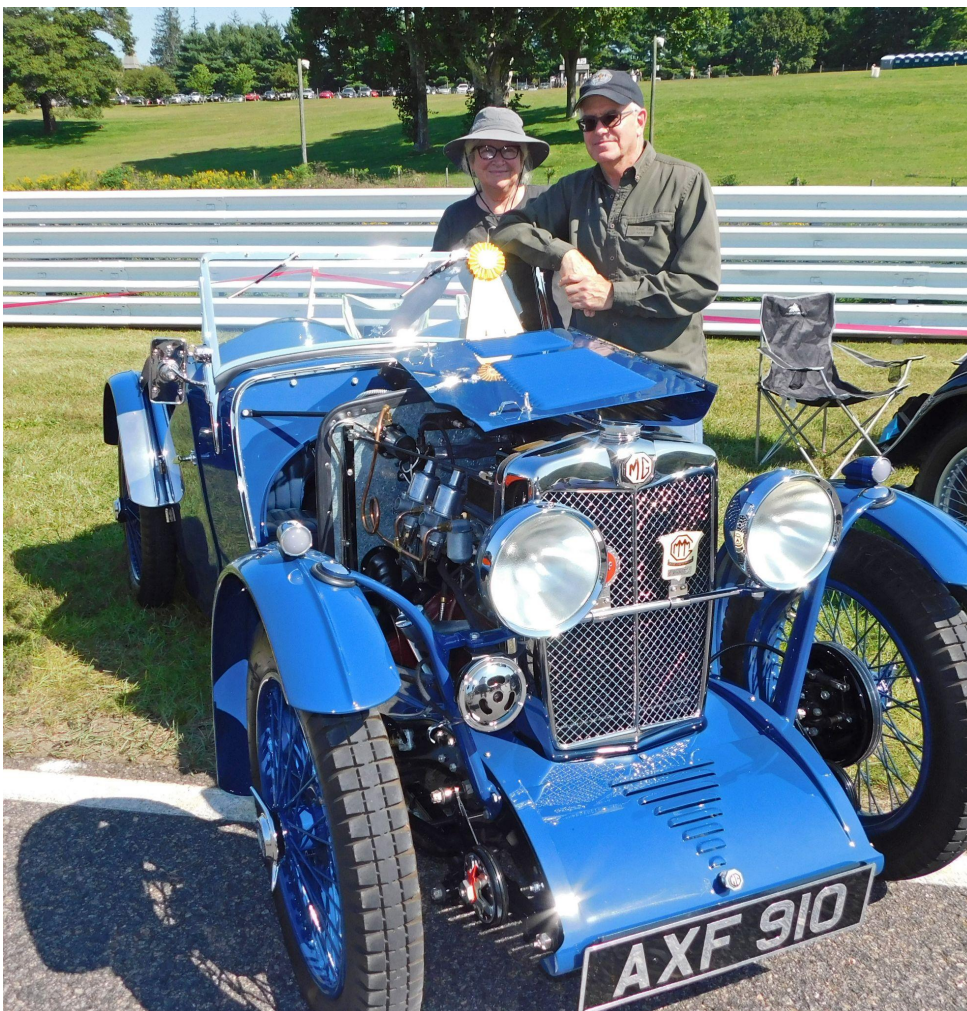
JP Silvestri has his MGB loaded and ready to head to Connecticut







Above  
Rick and Jan  
Sevcech, Ellen  
Tidwell with the  
Tidwell YA



Left  
Robert Carr and  
Holly Bird's 1933  
MG J2 placed  
second in the  
Concours

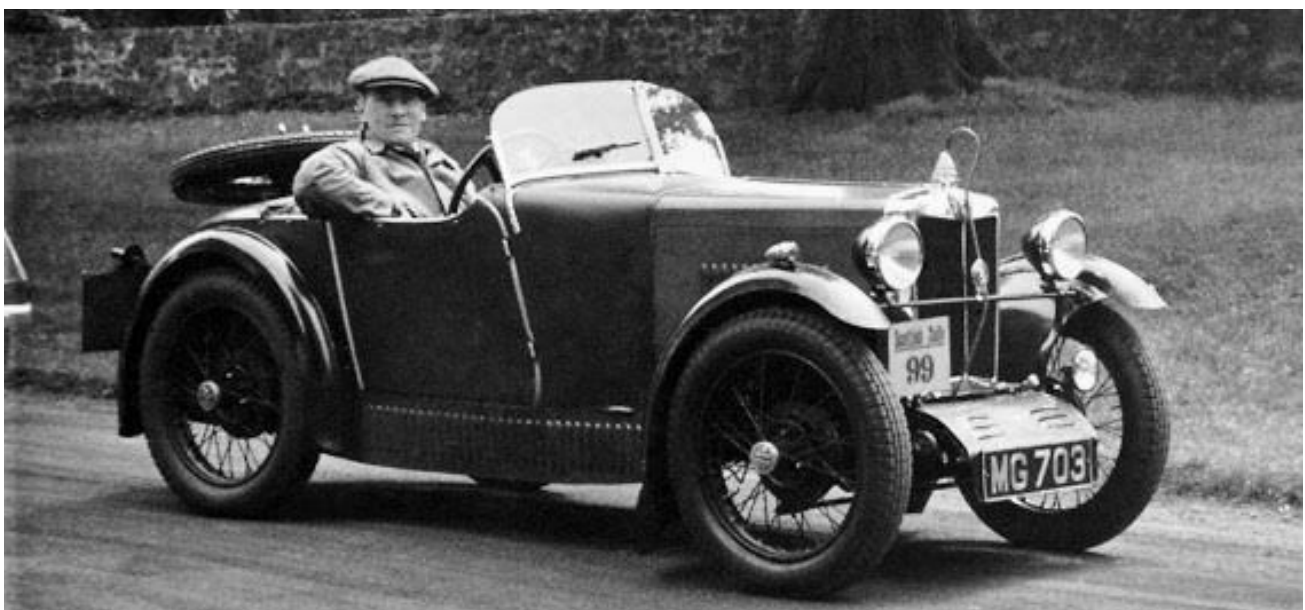




# Postcards from Karel



This postcard is from Canterbury, Kent with a photo of the Maltby's Motor Engineers building on New dover Road. The car on the left in an MG 18/80. A little bit of Googling reveals that the name may have been a reference to Maltby's coach building activities on, mainly, Wolseley chassis from the Morris organization at their Sandgate, Kent location. This particular building was converted to a fire station in the 1930's. And interestingly, Lt. Cmdr. G.M.D. Maltby (RN), of the coach building family, drove an M-Type Midget in the 1936 Scottish Rally. Pictured below



# From Under the Bonnett

Tips and Tricks from around the MG world ...

- Don't Drink and Drive
- If you're drinking, it's probably not driveable
- Want to test/bleed your brake lines without assembling your brakes?

Use zip ties on your slave/caliper cylinders

=====>



Engine Oil? Dare it even be discussed here?

Conventional wisdom says 20W50 viscosity.

Now the hard part .. API spec SJ or SL. If it is SJ or SL spec, most premium motor oils will have the correct additive package for our "flat tappet" engines

- Penn Grade 1 High Performance
- Valvoline VR1
- Lucas Hot Rod & Classic High Zinc
- Castrol GTX Classic

... to name a few



If you have a tip, send it to the editor [editor.cmgc@gmail.com](mailto:editor.cmgc@gmail.com)

# Classy Finds

*Aka classifieds*

## OUR 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONTINUES

### CLASSIC MG CLUB NEWSLETTER

Fellow Enthusiasts....

The second meeting of the "Classic MG Club" was held at the home of Will Bowden on August 29th 1963. Present were 16 Enthusiasts, 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. Jos. 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.



October marks the third "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 next 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.





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.

The Classic MG Club  
of Orlando  
is an affiliate chapter  
and active supporter of:



**NAMGAR**  
North American MGA Register



North American MGB Register



This month's end shot is a bit different. I was in Kentucky and saw a 1953 MG TD, so I stopped to view it and noticed a dash plaque. I moved in closer to read it and then snapped this picture.

As you can see, it's from Orlando, FL and a time prior to this club's formation. -1959, 'The Orlando Sports Car Club', and regional affiliate of SCCA.

I checked with some of our longer term members, but none recalled the club. So I thought this would be a nice *end shot*, that might *start* you thinking.

Send me your end shot!  
[editor.cmgc@gmail.com](mailto:editor.cmgc@gmail.com)

And until next month ... *Keith*

