The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Founded 1963

October, 2026 Vol. 65, No.10 Issue 756

The Classic MG Club of Orlando

A special thanks to George and Kelly Butz (and family) for hosting our lunch as we made our way to Winter Haven and the Cypress Gardens Ski Show



Photo - Cypress Gardens

The club held an overnighter trip this past September with the highlight being a visit to the resurrected Cypress Gardens Ski Show in downtown Winter Haven. Shown above is the final formation, the pyramid. While many in the club noted the sheer **beauty** or the **skill** needed, there were a few that made note of the **horsepower** required for a boat to pull the weight of 22 skiers at once.

Presidential Thoughts



Hello Members,

September was certainly a wet month, but it was a fantastic one for our club! We had an incredible drive out to Winter Haven for the Cypress Gardens Water Ski Show.

While the Young family unfortunately had to leave their MGs at home due to last-minute mechanical issues with Daniel's car, it was wonderful to see so many other members driving theirs out for the event.

A huge thank you to Mark and Ellen for organizing such a great trip, and to George and Kelly Butz for hosting us for a wonderful lunch at their home. Even though we caught a bit of rain just before the show started, the weather cleared up beautifully for the rest of the day.

We have some exciting driving events coming up soon:

- **October 18:** Founders Picnic Gathering at a community park on the St. Johns River near DeLand. Please let us know if anyone would like to caravan or meet up for the drive together!
- **November 14:** Drive to the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science.

One last reminder: our next club meeting will take place on **Tuesday, October 20 at Grills**.

Hope to see you all there!

Safety Fast,
Jim Young
President, Classic MG Club of Orlando

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Your Club's Leadership

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Club Website		classicmgclub.com
Club Facebook		Click this link to Facebook

Your Club's Affiliations

Their Website: **NEMGTR.ORG**
Nat'l Meeting: All MG 8/24-27
Sandusky, OH
Local Contact: Glen Moore

Their Website: **NAMGAR.com**
Nat'l Meeting: All MG 8/24-27
Sandusky, OH
Local Contact: Jill Moore

Their Website: **NAMGBR.org**
Nat'l Meeting: All MG 8/24-27
Sandusky, OH
Local Contact: Keith Waggoner

The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Meeting Minutes

Location: Grills Lakeside Seafood Deck & Tiki Bar, 4301 N OBT, Orlando

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM Thursday September 15, 2026.

Treasurer's Report: Dodie reported we had sufficient funds in the account.

New member introductions: New members Erich and Chelsea Lynn Wilhelm (1970 MGB GT owners) were unable to attend due to a health issue. Keith Waggoner made the announcement that Erich and Chelsea Lynn were hosting a Distinguished Gentleman's drive September 27. It's a global fundraiser that invites classic car owners to participate in a drive on the last Saturday of September each year, to raise money for men's health issues. Keith also offered the idea we make it a part of our club activities for next year.

Old Business: Review of our club activities: Darts at Fiddler's Green. This event was attended by a large group of 20+ members who all had a great time. Mark Tidwell was crowned the winner of the dart throwing contest.

- Club meeting location: The idea of holding club meetings at Gator's Dockside on Tuskawilla is in the works.

New business: No new business was discussed.

Announcements: Overnighter event is September 19-20. Travel to Winter Haven, FLI for a water ski show. Hosts Mark and Ellen Tidwell.

- October 18th is set for the Founders Picnic in Deland hosted by Tracey and Keith Waggoner. Please RSVP your intent to come and what side dish you'll bring to share with the club provided fried chicken.
- Jim Young has decided not to sell some club merchandise at the Turkey Rod Run.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:18 PM.

Calendar of Upcoming Club Events

October

10/18 Sunday **Founders Picnic,** Quail Hollow on the River Rec Center and Park
1968 Quail Hollow Drive, DeLand, FL
Noon - 4:00 Food and Frivolity!
Hosts: Tracey and Keith Waggoner
*** **More info on the following pages** ***

10/20 Tuesday! **Club Meeting Grills Lakeside,** 4301 N. OBT, Orlando
6:30PM Drinks, ordering food or tire kicking.
7:00PM Monthly Club Meeting Begins

November

11/14 Saturday **Drive to Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science**
2201 Michigan Avenue, Cocoa FL
Time TBD Details to follow
Hosts: Bob and Pat Moore
*** **More info on the following pages** ***

11/17 Tuesday! **Club Meeting Grills Lakeside,** 4301 N. OBT, Orlando
6:30PM Drinks, ordering food or tire kicking.
7:00PM Monthly Club Meeting Begins

December

12/17 Thursday Christmas Lights Drive and Dinner, Winter Park
2111 Vía Tuscany Winter Park, FL 32789
5:00PM Meet Down by the Lake
6:15PM Drive begins
7:15PM Dinner begins
Hosts: Rebekkah and Brad Parlee
*** **More info on the following pages** ***

Note: No December Club Meeting!

October's Upcoming Club Event



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

Sunday, October 18th from Noon to 4

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

You're invited to the CMGC Orlando Founders Picnic.
It's all about a good ole' southern get-together

Fried Chicken and all the fixins.
We'll furnish the chicken, water, tea, sodas and tableware

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

Oh, and don't forget your lawn chairs
for "sittin and storytellin" along the St Johns River bank

Please let Keith Waggoner know you're coming
and what you're bringing.
He's at mkwaggoner@yahoo.com or 407-920-2013
RSVP by October 14th.
If you need suggestions, he 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!

November's Upcoming Club Event

Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science

Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science



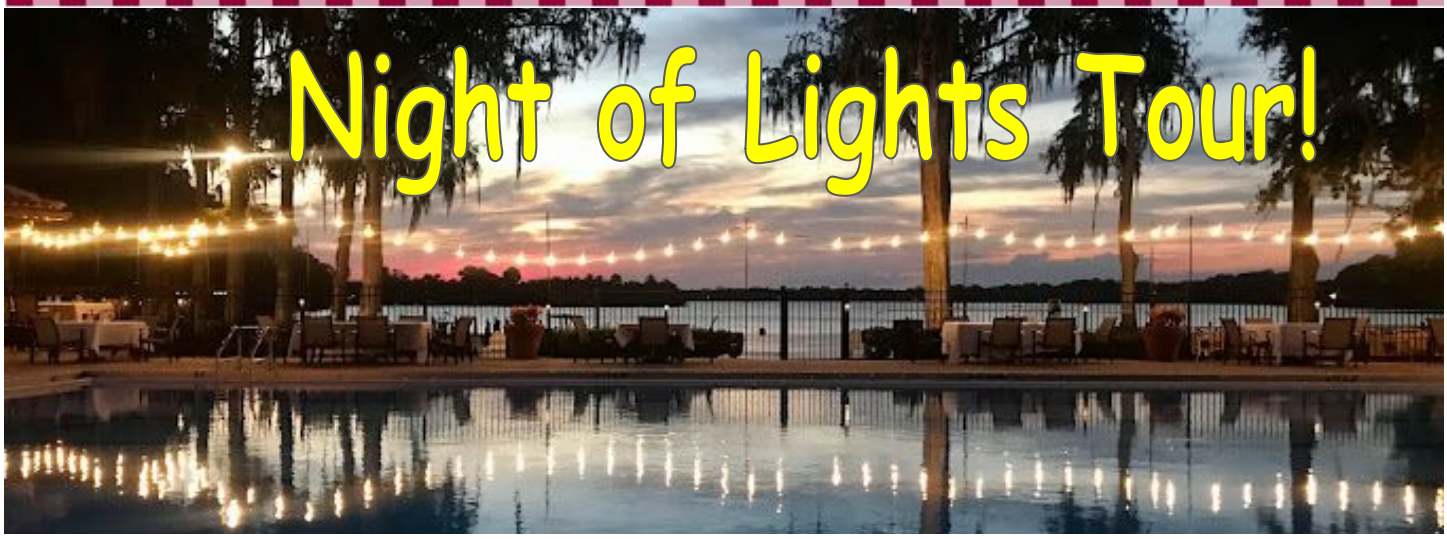
Brevard Museum...Where history comes alive!

The Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science covers local history from the Ice Age to the Space Age! Be amazed by the life sized skeletons of "Bones" the mastodon, a giant ground sloth, and other prehistoric beasts. The People of Windover exhibit allows visitors to experience one of the most significant archaeological discoveries in the world. Discover pioneer culture. Rotating exhibits mean there's always something new to see.

2201 Michigan Avenue, Cocoa FL, 32926 • 321.632.183

November 14th
More details to follow
Check back here next month.

December's Upcoming Club Event



Join in the fun!
Thursday, December 17th starts at 5:00PM

Winter Park Racquet Club
2111 Vía Tuscany
Winter Park, FL 32789

Brad and Rebekkah Parlee host this year's night of lights tour.

Meet at the Winter Park racquet club at around 5:00 PM
Gather by the boat ramp - at the back right of the property.

Have some cider, snacks and tire kicking down by the lakeside.
Take some pictures at sunset.

Start the tour around 6:15pm.
Return to the club around 7:15 PM.

Have a sit-down dinner ordering from the menu.

Charges at the racquet club should be settled with a credit card.

RSVP to BParlee@cfl.rr.com



CMGC Activites Outlook

2026

May 30th 9:15AM	Visit Sanford Museum: lunch at local restaurant; Host-Tom Redditt
Jun 20th Noon	Educational Session: Learn about 3-D printing; 1618 Pepperidge Dr, Orlando Host-Scott Buie
Jul 18th Noon	Valve Cover Races: Sickies Garage International Dr, Orlando; Host-Jim Young
Aug 22nd Noon	Darts: Fiddler's Green Irish Pub Winter Park; Host-Patrick Raley
Sep 19th Various	Overnighter: Drive to Winter Haven; Watch Cypress Gardens Fr[illegible]ki Show; Eat at local restaurant; Hosts-Ellen and Mark Tidwell
Oct 18th Noon-4	Founders Picnic: Deland; Hosts-Tracey and Keith Waggoner
Nov 14th Time TBD	Drive: ~~Inverness for Air boat ride followed by lunch in downtown~~ –Brevard Museum in Cocoa Beach and lunch Hosts-Bob and Pat Moore
Dec 17th 5:00	Tour of Lights: Racquet Club of Winter Park; Hosts-Rebekkah and Brad Parlee

2027

Jan 30th Noon	North/South Picnic: Magnolia Park Apopka; Hosts-Sharon and John Spadaro
Feb TBD	Visit Birds of Prey Center: Maitland, FL; lunch at local restaurant; Host-Dodie Beach
Mar TBD	Planning for club 2027-2028 events calendar: Tibby's Winter Park; Host-Jim Young
Apr TBD	GOF South: TBD Host-MG Classics of Jacksonville

The Winter Haven Overnighter: Sunshine, Spooks, and Skiers

If you missed the Winter Haven overnighter, your MG is probably leaking oil out of pure disappointment. What a weekend!

The adventure kicked off on a beautiful, sunny Saturday morning in Winter Garden. In a stunning display of mechanical cooperation, nine MGs (YT, A, B's, TC, TD, TF and a couple of modern "chase cars" (just in case) successfully started up and met for a highly scenic, pleasant cruise. Our destination was the home of George and Kelly Butz, and remarkably, we arrived without a single roadside bonnet-popping ceremony.









Several other club members met us there, arriving just in time to attack a beautiful spread of sandwiches, wraps, charcuterie boards, and cookies. It turns out the Butz household has a massive love for Halloween, as festive decorations, spooks and skeletons were keeping watch throughout the house.



Overnighter continued...

We also got to celebrate three generations of the Butz family, including the undisputed star of the afternoon: 10-week-old Teddy, George and Kelly's adorable new grandson.



After lunch, George gave us a tour of his garage, sharing the secret origin stories of his eclectic fleet: a Datsun 280Z, a Corvette, a Mercedes, and a proper MG TD. We left highly envious and heavily fed.

Next, it was off to the hotel for a quick refresh before the evening Cypress Gardens ski show. Right on cue, the Florida sky decided to test our wiper blades. But a little water wasn't going to scare a group used to Lucas electrics! Some waited out the worst of it in their cars, and strolled in after it cleared, while others braved the weather securing a front-row seat.



Overnighter continued…



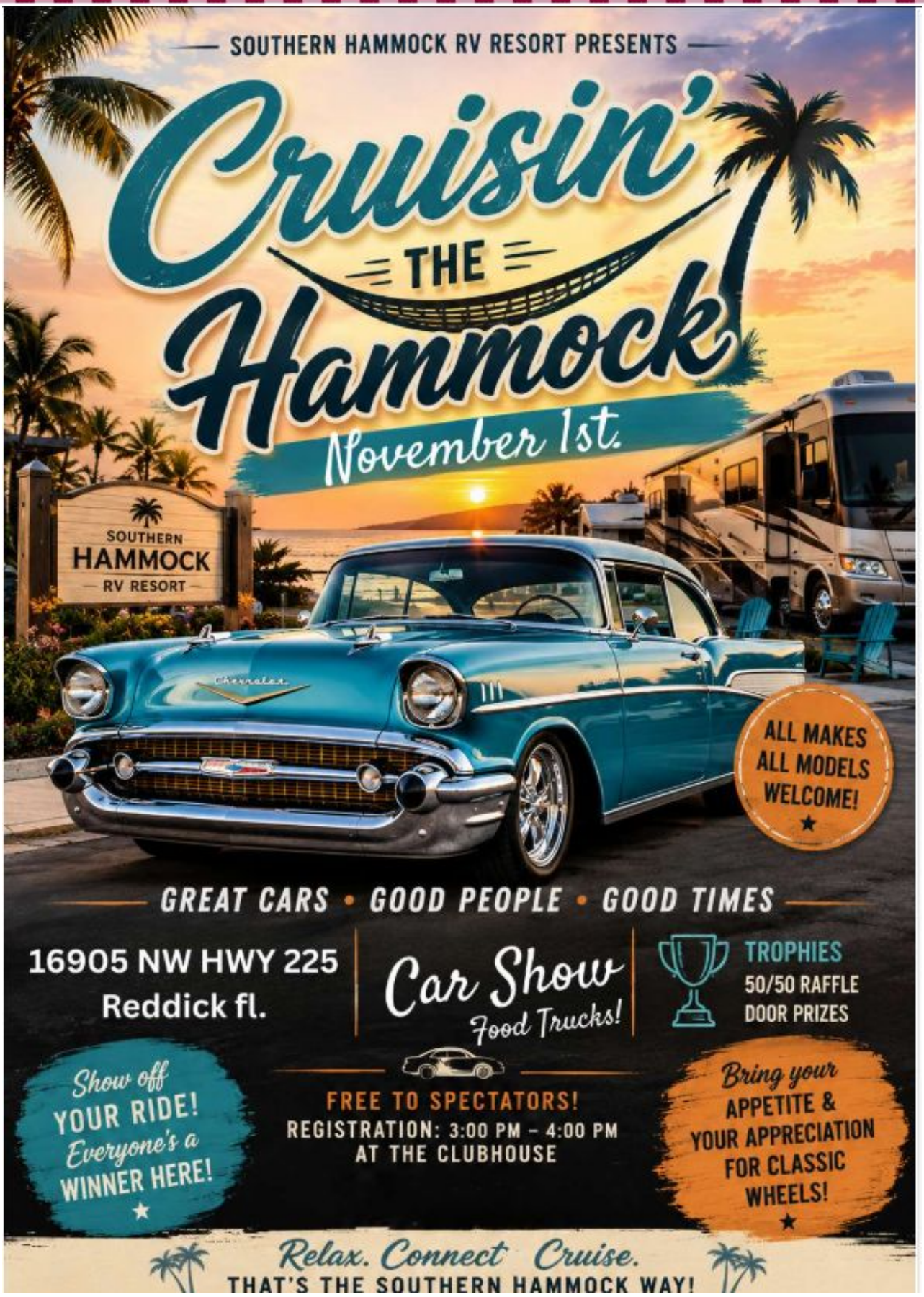
The skiers put on an incredible show with more costume changes than a high-end fashion week, keeping us thoroughly entertained.
Drying off at Tanner's Restaurant, we shifted our focus to "fluid levels" (the libation kind) and a variety of excellent entrees. The laughter was loud, the stories were mostly true, and the company was unmatched.

On Sunday morning, after raiding the hotel breakfast, a dedicated convoy of five cars fired up their engines at 9:30 AM for a glorious group drive back to Clermont. The rest of the pack opted for a solo, leisurely cruise back to their own garages.
A huge thank you to George and Kelly for the incredible hospitality, and to everyone who brought their cars and their sense of adventure.
See you at the next starting line!

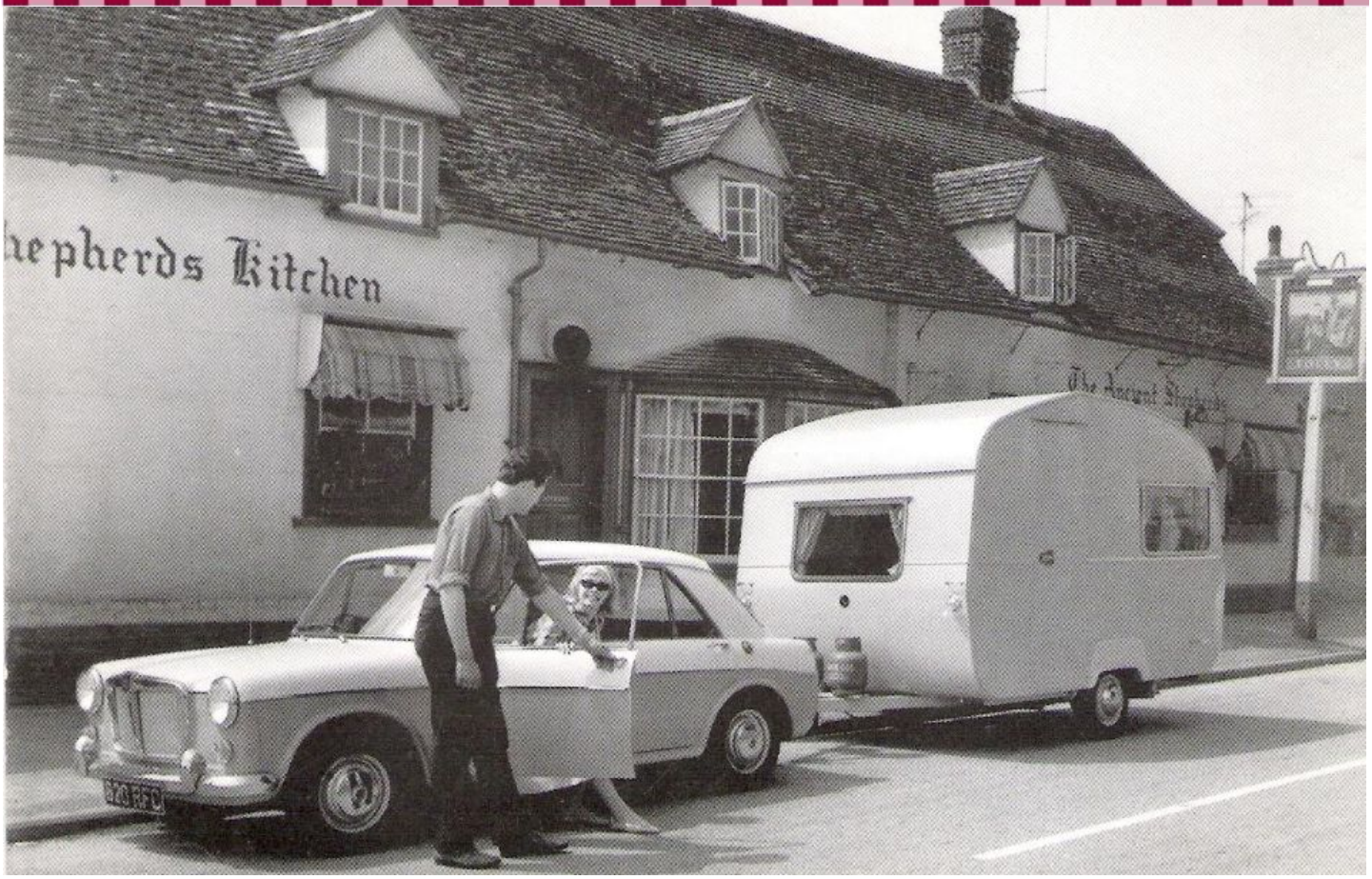




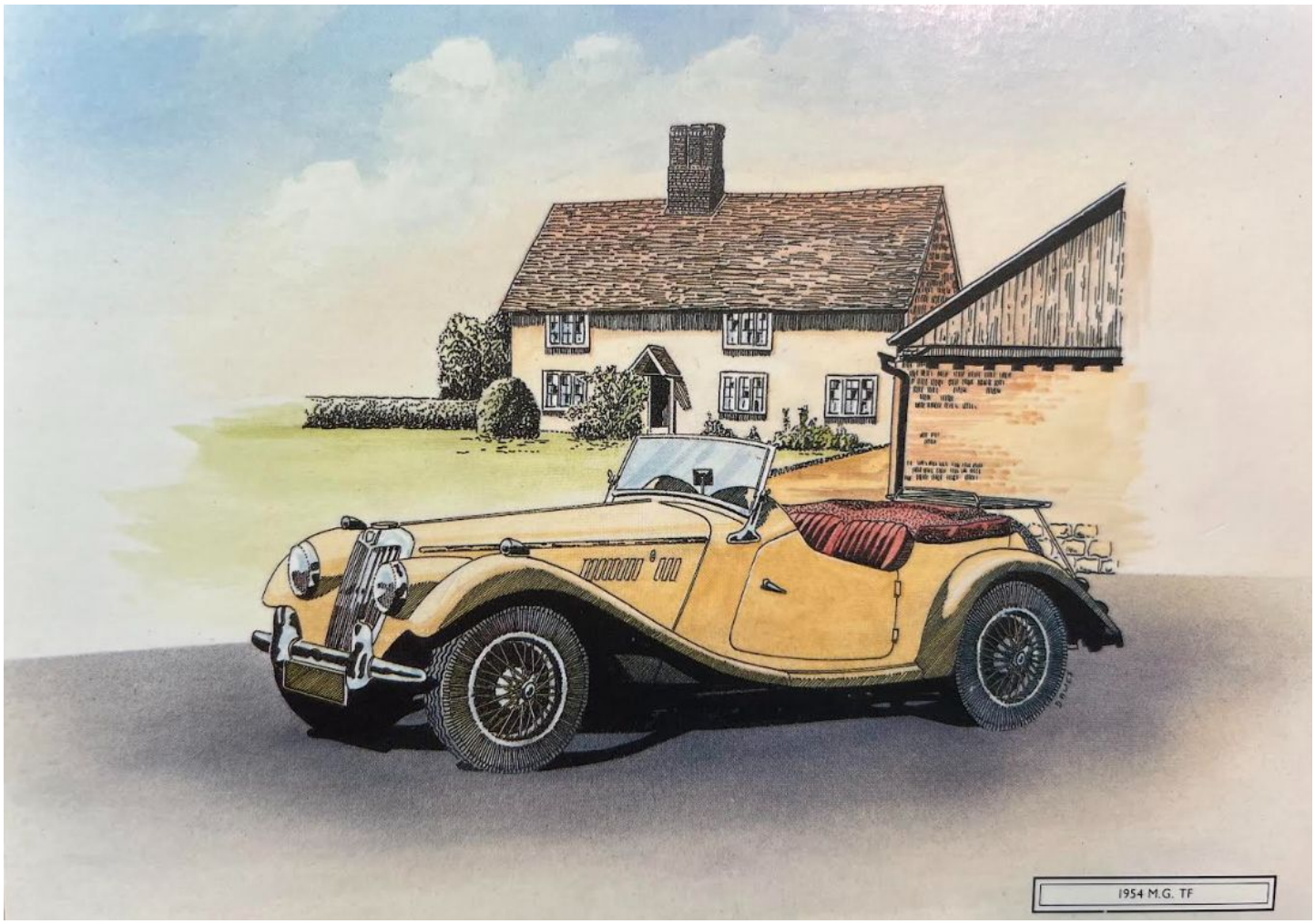
Other MG Events of Interest



MGs in the Post from Reinout Vogt



This postcard from Karel is quite the find, with three things we don't see much in the US. First, of course, is the 1960s MG 1100 or 1300. Not many of these were sold and even fewer survive here, certainly not is this rare two-tone paint scheme. These MGs were part of the so-called ADO16 family of BMC saloon cars which also included a VandenPlas, Wolseley, Riley, Morris, and Austin (called the Austin America in the US) version.
Second is the 'caravan', the British term for a camper or travel trailer. Not too many of us, nowadays for sure, would even consider to pull anything, let alone a caravan as big, and two times as high, as the car itself.
And lastly, the Shepherds Kitchen, which does look like any pub in the 60's in England. And it is... except that it was first established in the 1540's, as three separate cottages, and became its current shape in 1805 when it got first licensed to sell beer. It is now called Ancient Shepherds and can still be found at 5 High Street, Fen Ditton in Cambridge.



The card from my own collection for this month is this beautiful wire-wheeled TF. The artwork is by British automotive artist Brian Dawes and the cars was published by Quay Publications in Poole, Dorset.
The MG TF was the last of the T-Series which began in 1936 with the TA. I find it the prettiest of them all, with its sloping front, integrated headlights, and dashboard with octagon gauges. It's more aerodynamic shape just made the perfect transition between the square front of the TD (production ended in 1953) and the streamlined body of the MGA (which came out in 1955).

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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…

We see the moment where Bob Sieck ended his 60+ year stewardship of this 1954 TF. I'm so honored that he offered me the opportunity to be the next custodian of this treasure.

Bob knows that if the mood hits him, he has an all-access pass to get back behind the wheel and take it for a spin.



See you next month

Keith