

The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Founded 1963

August 2025

Vol. 64, No.8 Issue 742



The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Presidential Thoughts

August has arrived, and the summer heat still lingers. Like many of you, I'm looking forward to cooler fall weather and better driving conditions.

Tracey Waggoner and the GOF committee have been hard at work planning GOF 2026. Be sure to check out Tracey's update to follow their progress.



Our July event—a visit to the Orlando Auto Museum at Dezerland—was hosted by Jim Young and family and far exceeded my expectations. The sheer volume and variety of cars in the collection were overwhelming. I'll definitely need to go back a few more times to fully take it all in.

Looking ahead, our next event is **Lunch and Darts at Fiddler's Green in Winter Park on August 23rd**. This will be a great opportunity to test your dart-throwing skills—especially since there's a good chance we'll be hosting a Dart Tournament at GOF 2026!

Also coming up: **Jim Young and I will be hosting a POP-UP event** focused on designing and building Valve Cover Racers. **Join us Saturday, August 16th at 10:00 AM at my home**, followed by lunch at Green Mountain Pizza. This will help us gear up for the **September 20th event at Sickies Garage in Kissimmee**, and of course, the Valve Cover Races at GOF 2026.

See y'all down the road!
Mark Tidwell



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August 2025

Classic MG Club of Orlando

Your Club's Leadership

President:	Mark Tidwell	1mw_tidwell@gmail.com
Vice President:	Jim McSweeney	jimspeedmaster@aol.com
Secretary:	Tom Redditt	tredditt@mac.com
Treasurer:	Dodie Beach	mg_enthusiast@aol.com
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Webmaster	Scott Buie	CMGC Moderator@gmail.com
Chairperson, GOF South 2026 Tracey Waggoner		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 111 Danbury/Bethel, CT
Sep 4-7
Local Contact: Mike McCormick



NAMGAR
North American MGA Register

Their Website: NAMGAR.com
Nat'l Meeting: GT-50 Traverse City, MI
~~Jun 2-6 (MGA 70th Anniv)~~
Local Contact: Jill Moore



Their Website: NAMGBR.org
Nat'l Meeting: MG2025 Crystal Lake, IL
~~Jul 28-31~~
Local Contact: Keith Waggoner



The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Meeting Minutes



July 17, 2025

Location: Nauti Lobstah Restaurant, Apopka, FL.

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Mark Tidwell at 7:06 PM

Treasurer's report: Dodie reported that we have a significant amount in the bank.

New Members: No new members were present

Old business:

- The upcoming "POP UP" event on making a valve cover racer has not yet been decided but Mark Tidwell and Jim Young are working on it and will be sending out an e-mail soon advising more information as plans become finalized.
- 2026 GOF status/update: Tracey Waggoner gave a detailed presentation on progress of the 2026 GOF. See GOF splash page found later in this newsletter for further details.

New Business:

- Social Media – It was suggested that enhanced social media activity would help drive interest and new members in the organization. Lonnie Cook, administrator for our Facebook page discussed that we need to put the club events and meetings on there. We also need someone to help with using other social media platforms like Instagram, X, etc. If anyone in the club has expertise and would like to help with this please contact Mark Tidwell or Lonnie Cook.

Announcements:

- Is there interest in a POP UP on making a Valve Cover Racer? If interested please contact Jim Young.
- July 19 – Orlando Auto Museum, 5250 International Dr., Orlando, FL. Self-guided tour with lunch in the Bond Lounge. Cost is \$31.50 for the tour (\$25 for senior or military). The tour lasts 1 1/2 hours then lunch afterwards.
- August 23 – Darts at Fiddlers Green Irish Pub & Eatery, 544 W Fairbanks Ave, Winter Park, FL 32789 in Winter Park. Date is Saturday, August 23, 2025 at 12 noon. Meet there for a fun game of darts, fellowship and a delicious lunch of authentic Irish fare.
- September 20 - Valve cover races. Sickies Garage, 17640 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy, Kissimmee, FL 34747 11-3 PM. Jim Young is hosting.
- October 18-19 - Overnighter: Radisson Resort at Port Canaveral. 9:00 AM meet in Orlando for the drive to Cape Canaveral with dinner at the Pig and Whistle.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 PM



Calendar of Upcoming Club Events

August

08/16 Pop-Up Event Build a Valve Cover Racer,

10:00AM at Mark Tidwell's House 1960 Brantley Circle, Clermont

Hosted by Mark Tidwell and Jim Young

*** More information on this event will follow in an email ***

08/21 Club Meeting at Carrabba's 5820 Red Bug Lake Rd, Winter Springs

6:30PM Drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7:00PM

*** Please make note of the different location! ***

08/23 Darts at Fiddler's Green 544 W Fairbanks Ave, Winter Park, FL

Noon: Hosted by Carol and Patrick Raley

*** See more information on this event in the following pages***

September

09/18 Club Meeting at Carrabba's 5820 Red Bug Lake Rd, Winter Springs

6:30PM Drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7:00PM

09/20 Valve Cover Races: Sickies Garage, Bronson Hwy, Kissimmee

11:30AM Hosted by Jim Young

*** See more information on this event in the following pages***

October

10/16 Club Meeting at Nauti Lobstah, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka

6:30PM Drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7:00PM

10/18-19 Overnighter Excursion to Cape Canaveral

9:00AM Meet in Orlando for the drive to Cape Canaveral

Stay at the Radisson at the Port (hotel of GOF-South 2026)

Hosted by Ellen and Mark Tidwell

*** See more information on this event in the following pages***

November

11/09 CMGC Founder's Picnic, 1968 Quail Hollow Dr. Deland

Noon: A fall weather, fried chicken picnic along the St Johns River

Hosted by Tracey and Keith Waggoner

*** More information will be forthcoming next month***

11/20 Club Meeting at Nauti Lobstah, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka

6:30PM Drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7:00PM



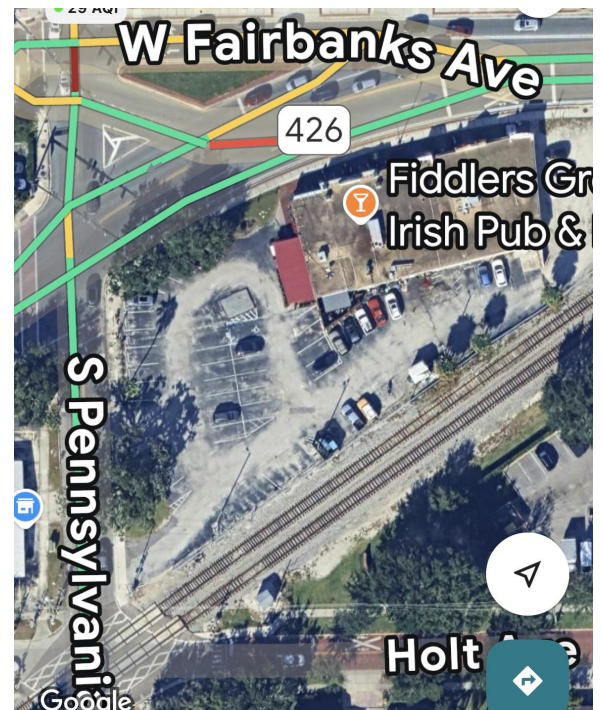
August's Upcoming Club Event



Fiddler's Green for Darts and Craic 544 W Fairbanks Ave, Winter Park, FL

Join us at Noon on August 23, the Saturday following our monthly meeting, at Fiddler's Green Irish Pub & Eatery in Winter Park for fellowship, darts, and a good time. The pub opens at 11. Please reserve the tables near the dart boards if you arrive first.

Fiddler's address is located at 544 West Fairbanks Ave, but its parking lot is accessed only from Pennsylvania Ave. Attendees approaching along Orange Ave will find it easier to turn right onto Holt Ave, then left. Those approaching from Aloma Ave should turn left at New York Ave, then right onto Holt as left turns are not allowed onto Pennsylvania Ave.



September's Upcoming Club Event



Valve Cover Races at Sickie's

7640 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy
Kissimmee, FL 34747
September 20, 11:30AM

Jim Young is hosting this unique event. If you have a competitive spirit and so happen to have a spare valve cover laying around, you're invited to create your own racer car and compete against your friends. This gives you an opportunity to practice for the GOF-South Valve Cover Races next April.

Questions? Contact
Jim Young at

magicbucfan95@gmail.com

Interested,
but don't know where to start?
[Click Here!](#)



Here's Jim's pic
of the track!

Jim's version of
racer design and
race rules can be
found on the next
page.



Valve Cover Races at Sickie's

THE CARS: There are many 'Rules and Regulations' for CAR DESIGN ...
(these are Jim's)

- 30" Maximum overall car length
- 21" Maximum wheelbase
- 10" Maximum height
- 10" Maximum width (including wheels)
- 12 LBS Maximum weight determined by official scale for the event
- No engines or propulsion of any kind
- No moving weights
- Covers must have 4 wheels each less than 6" diameter. (Inside or Out)
- Wheels must have a non-metallic surface contacting the track
- Covers shall be based on an actual valve cover from a 4 cylinder MG
- Nothing shall extend beyond the cover's front gasket surface
- Covers must have a permanent number affixed
- The Cover can have an integrated chassis, but it cannot be interchanged with any other body parts after being registered and inspected.
- **All covers must be clean. If it drips, you lose**

THE RACES:

- The Track will consist of 2 Lanes
- The track manager will release the covers.
It is up to you to line your cover up straight
- If a Cover Interferes with the Opponent Cover during the race,
you lose that round
- If a Cover is hampered by a track issue, they will receive a Re-Run
- If neither Cover makes it to the finish line,
the Cover that makes it the farthest is declared the Winner
- The Finish Line Judge's decision Is Final in all races
- This will be a single elimination bracket style race



October's Upcoming Club Event



Overnighter at the Cape October, 18-19th 2025

An opportunity to preview
the home of the 2026 GOF,
Cape Canaveral, Florida

Here's your opportunity to get the skinny on our '26 GOF-South home! You can familiarize yourself with the Radisson Resort at the Port, our hotel for the event, as well as things to do in the local area.

Start your Saturday morning with breakfast in the Oviedo area, meeting up with like-minded CMGC friends. Drive to the port to check-in and check out our digs.

After a swim, walk, shopping at Ron Jon's, taking a nap, whatever, it'll be time to head to the port for some drinks and appetizers. Then off to the Pig & Whistle British Pub for dinner. This will be the location of the GOF's first-night "knees-Up" party.

Sunday morning, we head to breakfast at a local establishment and then back on the road to the Orlando area, where we will then say...
"Cheers, have a lovely day"



Classic MG Club Year-at-a-Glance

May 2025 - April 2026 Calendar

May 3, Saturday 9:30	Club Drive: Valiant Air Command Inc Warbird Museum; Titusville -Host: John Appleone
June 21, Saturday 10:30	Site Visit: Historic DeBary Hall; DeBary w/ Lunch Swamp House Riverfront Grill -Host: Ann Plasschaert
July 19, Saturday 11:00	Site Visit: Orlando Auto Museum at Dezerland Park; International Dr, Orlando Lunch at 1:00 -Host: Jim Young
August 23, Saturday Noon	Darts: Fiddler's Green Irish Pub and Eatery; Winter Park -Host: Patrick Raley
September 20, Saturday 11:30	Valve Cover Races: Sickies Garage; Kissimmee -Host: Jim Young
October 18-19	Overnighter: Radisson Resort at the Port; Cape Canaveral -Hosts: Ellen and Mark Tidwell
November 9, Sunday 12-4	Founders Picnic: On the St Johns River in Deland; -Hosts: Tracey and Keith Waggoner
December 21, Thursday 5:00	Tour of Lights: Winter Park Racquet Club; -Hosts: Rebekkah and Brad Parlee
2025 January:	Site Visit: Chase Wildlife Sanctuary; Webster -Hosts: Marcia and Scott Buie
February:	North/South Picnic: -Hosts: Sharon and John Spadaro
March:	Site Visit: Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens; Winter Park -Hosts: JoAnn and Lonnie Cook
April 14-17 Tuesday-Friday	GOF South LX: Radisson Resort at the Port; Cape Canaveral -Host: CMGC



Classic MG Club Ideas for the Future

In addition to the regularly scheduled monthly events, additional club-initiated events are being considered to add to the MG Adventures for club members.

Drive to Kissimmee, Old Town car shows and or/ music
<https://myoldtownusa.com/category/events>

Drive to Lake Mary, Cars and Coffee, 3rd Saturday of Month

Webster Flea Market (Open only on Monday) with lunch and Southern Hospitality

Drive to Winter Garden, Cars and Coffee, Last Saturday of the Month

Tech Sessions held at Club members garage



Photo by Lonnie Cook

This is the result of Lonnie Cook learning
there's an upcoming pop-up event
for building valve cover racers

Club Happenings

Dezerland Auto Museum Article and photo by Jim Young

We had 13 club members show up at the museum but only 2 drove their MGB's. That was the Young Family that brought Jim's 77 MGB and Daniel brought his 79 MGB. This was Daniel's longest drive of his MGB and it was a hot day to drive one.



The museum was a self guided tour of over 200 cars and motorcycles. Then we had a nice lunch at the Bond Lounge that took a while to serve us but the food was good.

The Young Family had to leave after lunch but hopefully the other club members took advantage of the Bond Museum that was at the back of the Bond Lounge.

I think a great time was had by all.



2026 GOF-South

8 MONTHS TO GO!!

60th GOF South: Your MG Holiday

April, 14-17 2026

'Radisson Resort at the Port' in Port Canaveral, FL

This past month saw a planning focus on the social and culinary experiences we have arranged for our GOF. If you know me; you know I am all about the dining experience!

We will be jumping right in on Tuesday, April 14th at 6pm with a taste of Britain at the amazing Pig & Whistle in Cocoa Beach. This dinner will follow our traditional tweed drive and is open to everyone-tweed or tweedless! The dinner is our kick off dining experience and we look forward to everyone being 'knees up' as we all anticipate the upcoming festivities of our MG holiday.

Wednesday, April 15th will offer independent or drive combined lunches. We will also have a culinary lifestyle class for those that would like to attend and sample some of our best and easiest summer dishes. But don't get too full; because our Wednesday focus is on recognizing our GOF first timers and we are excited to have a showing of these cars and a reception to follow. We then dine onsite at the Radisson with a Meet and Greet BBQ buffet. Following dinner we all move outdoors for our valve cover races. Get your entry ready or enjoy cheering friends on!

After our Thursday morning Car Show, we will again offer independent or drive combined lunches. Thursday is our 'proper' evening. We will dine onsite at the Radisson in the spacious and beautifully decorated Pavilion room. We will be offering a Northern Italian inspired buffet (Gluten free options will be available- please let me know of any allergies). Dinner will be followed by our Car Show awards and a live auction of some very special items you will not want to miss. We will end our evening with bourbon tasting and an Old Fashioned tippler! A perfect nightcap to a great day and a wonderful MG Holiday.

Cheers to the Best GOF 2026!

Tracey

Tfradford@yahoo.com



Other Events of Interest



The MG Car Clubs from Ottawa and Toronto invite you to

MG102Fest.

Join us for a weekend of fun and camaraderie in beautiful Muskoka.

Muskoka is located in Central Ontario.

This weekend gathering of MGs is open to all enthusiasts.

We would love to see you there!

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

Tailgate Pizza Party

Group Scenic Tour

MG Car Show

Pub & Trivia Night

Register at tinyurl.com/mg102fest

AUGUST 22 - 24, 2025



[Click here to register](https://tinyurl.com/mg102fest)



Other Events of Interest



November 14-15, 2025
Monkey Island Riverside Resort
5297 South Cherokee Way
Homosassa Springs, FL 34448

The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club invites **ALL**
British Car Enthusiasts to join us for
"CARS IN PARADISE"

We've decided to scale back and make this event a tranquil one. No banquets, no tech sessions, or auctions. Just fun relaxing games, meals at local restaurants, a car show at a nearby Assistant Living Facility where the residents and staff select the winners, and a pontoon boat ride.

Meals (other than lunch on Saturday) are on your own, but suggestions will be made to encourage MG friendship and enjoy the real Florida.

Come for the day or for the weekend.
The choice is yours.

50/50:

Everyone loves the idea of winning money – buy your tickets for your chance. Winner will be chosen at the ALF.

Location:

The Host Hotel is the beautiful Monkey Island Riverside Resort. The resort offers peaceful, serene surroundings to make your stay memorable.

Friday:

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.: MG Jamboree Registration

5:00 – ? p.m. Informal gathering, BYOB and bring a snack to share. Dinner on your own – Caravan to local restaurant

After dinner – Hangout at the Monkey Bar or Lenhard's suite

Saturday:

AM – Breakfast on your own

9:00 – Line up for the caravan – in front of resort

9:20 – On-site Registration

9:30 – 11:30 – Car Show at Sunflower Springs ALF

11:30 – Lunch provided by Sunflower Springs ALF

Afternoon – Scenic Pontoon Boat Tour – \$25/person or Games and /or on-your-own driving tours

5:30 p.m.- Informal gathering. BYOB. Dinner on your own – Caravan to local restaurant

After dinner – Hangout at the Monkey Bar or Lenhard's suite

****Schedule is Subject to Change****

Call Resort for reservations starting May 1, 2025



1-352-628-2474 or 1-800-442-2040
Mention "MG Jamboree"
To receive Group Rates

For More Information Contact: Gail Lenhard @
727-452-1752 (text) or GPL54@yahoo.com

FSMGCC, INC is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization

REGISTRATION

Please return this completed form with a
check made payable to FSMGCC to:

Gail Lenhard
C/O Glenn's MG Repair
3130 39 Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33714-4530

Please PRINT the names of all people attending.

Name/s _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

Year and Model MG/ Little British Car

I AM AWARE of the hazards inherent with motor vehicle events & specifically release & so indemnify the organizers, supporting sponsors, & the Florida Suncoast MG Car Club collectively & separately, for any & all liability from personal injury or property damage incurred by me or my guest(s) while participating in the MG Jamboree. I understand & agree that The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club reserves the right to revoke my registration & retain my registration fee should I engage in reckless, dangerous and/or unsafe behavior. **I (We) have read, understand, and agree to this release PLEASE SIGN BELOW**

X _____

Use the QR Code to take you
to the Event Registration where
you can register, digitally sign,
and pay online.



(Convenience Fees may apply)

REGISTRATION – per car and two people

Car Show Early Registration.....\$25.00 \$ _____

Car Show Registration after September 1 and Day of Show:

Registration fee \$35.00 \$ _____

Scenic Pontoon Boat Tour - \$25/person # people _____

****Cutoff date for boat tour 11/1**** \$ _____

Total Enclosed:.....\$ _____

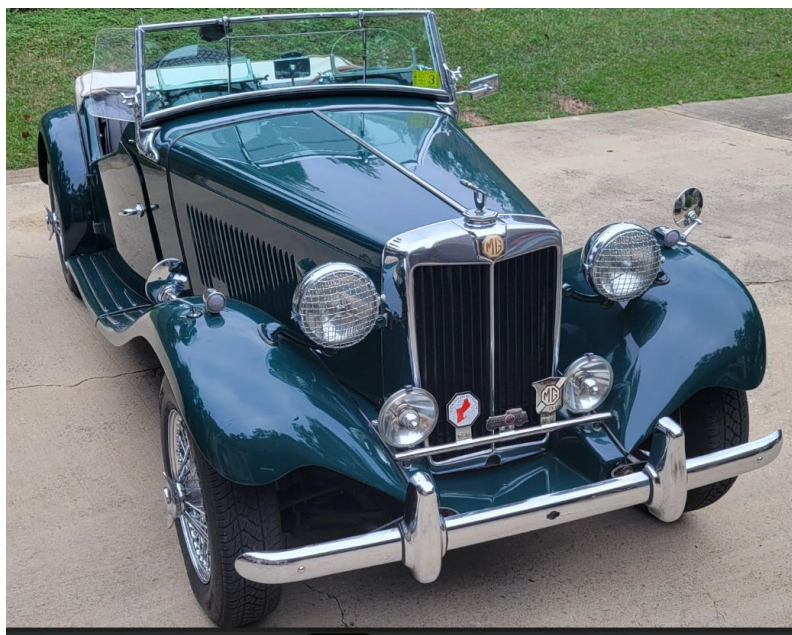


Classy Finds

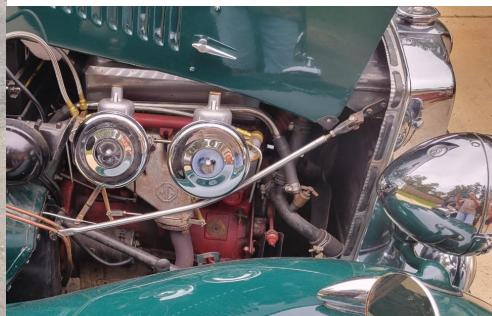
Aka classifieds

Extraordinary Provenance - Extraordinary Car: One family 1950 MG TD For Sale MG TD car #2932 was purchased new from International Motors NYC by Blair Engle's father, a member of the Westchester Sports Car Club. Blair became an MG fanatic at an early age and proudly took custody of the TD in 1962. A graduate Engineer, Blair was a founding member of the Classic MG Club and of MG Vintage Racers; #199 in the New England MG 'T' Register. While serving as the engineer in charge of the FSU Physics Lab, he operated The Classic MG Shop in Tallahassee. A Moss Motors Distributor since the 1970's, he performed the exacting restoration of the TD with NOS parts and accessories, which now, if available at all, are only reproductions.

The engine was upgraded to TD MkII specs with dual fuel pumps, large valves and 1-1/2" carbs, resulting in outstanding performance. For the last 50 years, the car has been kept in an air conditioned garage, driven and shown periodically by Blair's son Craig. The TD's lacquer paint has minor flaws, and the power unit has the usual slight leaks. The car presents beautifully, enhanced by the correct period accessories.



\$22,500.00 or near offer.
Craig Engle
850 566 1433 (Tallahassee, FL)



Classy Finds

Aka classifieds

Our friend and frequent Octagon contributor, Nick Pardee, asked me to put in a good word for his new business website.

I thought 'a picture is worth a thousand words' (editor)



GOLDSEAL LLC



Assessing and Reconditioning Vintage Mechanical Assemblies

[Click here to access GoldSeal1.com](http://GoldSeal1.com)





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 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.

Second Harvest
FOOD BANK
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
FeedHopeNow.org



Fighting hunger. feeding hope.

This month's End Shot...

On the drive to June's event in DeBary, Ann Plasschaert encountered the usual golf cart crossing and road construction signs, but she had to make a special note when she came upon this gem...

See you next month!
Keith



August 2025

Classic MG Club of Orlando