

The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

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The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Club Leadership

President

Jim McSweeney
jimspeedmaster@aol.com

Vice President

Mike McCormick
trouble150@gmail.com

Secretary

Tom Redditt
tredditt@mac.com

Treasurer

Dodie Beach
mg_enthusiast@aol.com

Editor

Glen Moore
editor.cmgc@gmail.com

GOF South 2022 Chair

Scott Buie
gofsouth2022@gmail.com

Webmaster

Scott Buie
s.buie@aol.com

Website

www.classicmgclub.com

Facebook

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



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President's Thoughts

The Christmas Party was a great success, I'm sorry we couldn't make it. When I heard Dan and Judy flew their plane in, I was really sorry.

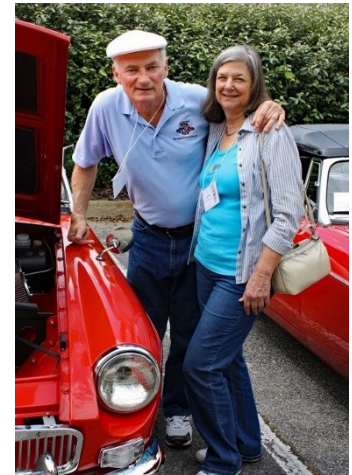
I remember seeing their plane at their house some years ago and would have loved to have seen it in the air. I understand everyone had a good time and that's what matters.

My tire project has stalled some, as I haven't had the MG out of the garage since I put the new tires on it. I did get the new spare wheel and it was the tubeless type. Otherwise looking like the standard wire wheel. The giveaway is the mounted tubeless tire valve stem, on the inside is more rubber over the spokes. Looks like I may have an extra tube. I'll have more to report as this project gets finished.

The club will have challenges in the new year, but I'm sure we can address them and keep moving on. We'll start to get into this next month at the regular meeting.

Dodie and I wish all of you the best Holiday Season and the best New Year!

Jim McSweeney



Note the license plate - Lonnie Cook



New Members

Steve and Jeanne Van Ess, The Villages, MG YT
I am born and raised a Wisconsinite, but a Duke Blue Devil at heart. Jeanne and I have just moved to The Villages and are now full-time residents.

I first saw an MG YT in a two-volume book set on the history of the MG. I immediately fell in love with them. I found out from an online MG enthusiast in London that they are few and far between. He connected me with a friend of his who was selling his car.



To make a long story short, I ended up importing the YT from Hagen, Germany to Florida. She is nicknamed "Dixie". I love driving her, showing her at car shows, and talking about MGs, YTs, and Dixie to anyone who is interested.

Walter and Carol Basso, Orlando, 1967MGB/GT

IS YOUR INFO CORRECT?

The 2023 CMGC Member Pack will be distributed in March

- > Is your info in the Member Pack correct?
- > Would you like to add a new shop or a website?

[Click here to see the current Member Pack](#)

Contact Lonnie Cook to make changes.
lonniecook@aol.com

Must receive by Feb 14, 2023.



Merry MG Christmas

Patrick Raley, story

*Carol Raley, Marcia Chaplin,
Glen Moore - photos*

The Classic MG Club renewed its tradition of having a Christmas party, after a seemingly interminable two-year Covid hiatus, this year hosted by Ken and Lynn Ball on Saturday, December 18.

Lynn and Ken opened their lovely home at Spruce Creek to all. More than 30 of us showed up. Members brought appetizers, side dishes, and desserts and feasted on some hearty and delicious fixings. Dan and Judy Duran even took the opportunity of flying in, rather than driving the more than 100-mile distance from their home in Polk County. The robust attendance showed that our members have put past troubles behind and are ready to get the good times rolling again.



Marcia Chaplin photo



Carol Raley photo

In addition to good food and camaraderie, the members were treated to viewing the delightful decorations and accents of the Ball's home, which reflect both the taste and humor of our hosts. It seems Ken may have consulted the local authorities about how best to alert everyone of the small step into the living room with a very official-looking caution. The lucky ones who asked were also given a brief tour of Ken's ample garage where his TF is incubating.

Many thanks to our gracious hosts for the warm welcome and enjoyable party.



Carol Raley photo



Carol Raley photo





Carol Raley photo



Carol Raley photo



Glen Moore photo



Carol Raley photo



Our hosts, Ken & Lynn

Carol Raley photo



Marcia Chaplin photo



NORTH/SOUTH PICNIC

John Spadaro

It's that time of year. Once again, our friends from Virginia are going to come to the Sunshine State to tour. They will be boarding the Auto Train with their "T" cars and making their way to warmer weather. As in years past, the Classic MG Car Club will host an event to celebrate them and to wish them safe travels.



RSVP Now! So food can be ordered!

John Spadaro

jjs852@aol.com

352-406-3373

This year, the event will take place on Saturday, January 28. We will have the event at Hickory Point Park, 27341 SR 19 Tavares FL 32778. This venue is somewhat enclosed (screened) and it is not directly on the lake, so if it is cold as it was last year, we should be OK. This park has a very nice lakefront location, with hiking trails and nice vistas of Lake Griffin, bring the kids! We will have fine fixin's catered by Sonny's BBQ. We are asking that everyone pay \$5.00 per person to attend which will be collected on the day of the event. Obviously, this is not enough to cover costs, so our club will pick up the balance. Of course, there will be no charge for our guests. For those who have attended in the past, you know these folks from Virginia are really nice people, they have great stories and are very passionate about their MGs. If you have never attended, now is your chance. So be sure to join us for food, fellowship, and just good ole tire kicking. We can all tell lies about what great cars MGs are.

So, make a note on your calendar for January 28. Show up anytime, we plan to serve lunch at about 12:30. It is very important that you let us know you are coming. As we are catering the meal, we need to know how much to order. It is very gracious of the club to pick up the majority of the tab for this event and we do not want to waste the club's money, nor do we want to run out of food, so, please, no surprise appearances.

Contacts:

President Jim McSweeney	jimspeedmaster@aol.com	407-695-2981
Dodie Beach	flutterby670@aol.com	407-695 2981
John Spadaro	jjs852@aol.com	352-406-3373
Sharon Spadaro	sas852@aol.com	305-322-5556



Nehrling Gardens

February Club Event

Mark your calendars for the February 2023 MG club event at Nehrling Gardens in Gotha. On Saturday, February 18, we have a private tour scheduled with a docent to take us through the 1880s historic home and gardens of Dr. Henry Nehrling. This special site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is dedicated to historic preservation, horticultural education, and environmental conservation. I have been told that plants will also be for sale.



Location of the gardens: 2267 Hempel Avenue, Gotha, Florida 34734. We have parking across the street from the entrance and a caretaker from the gardens will help us cross the street.

Time: Begin arriving at the gardens at 9:30 a.m.; the tour will begin at 10:00 a.m.

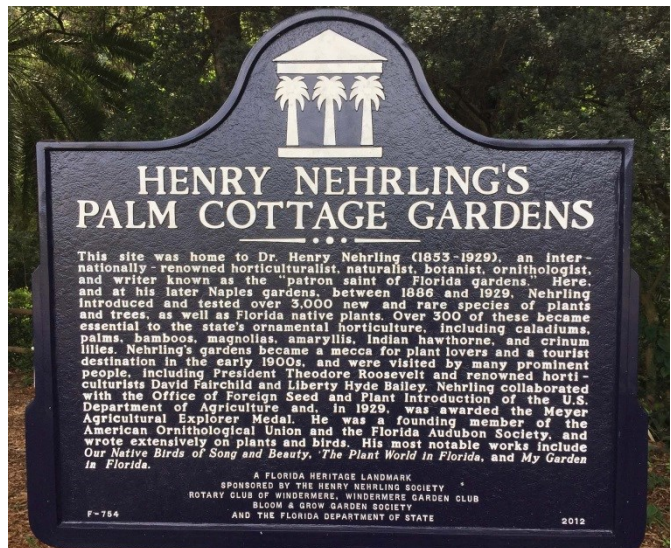
Cost: Nehrling Gardens is a non-profit organization run by volunteers and a volunteer docent will be our guide in February. Our day is an extra event for them to have the gardens open and they are suggesting a \$10 per person donation, this is just a suggestion and any donation is fine. Their requested donation during their regular Saturday events is \$5 per person.

Important information regarding the tour: Tours will cover approximately 3/4 mile on foot through gently contoured terrain, as well as several small sets of steps. Paths are mulched and because of the nature of this historic property, wheelchairs cannot be accommodated. Please wear sensible sturdy shoes and appropriate clothes to walk in a woodland setting. Also, each guest will be required to sign a release and waiver before touring.

More information and a release will be provided to you at the January and February meetings. For more information about Nehrling Gardens, its history, local Gotha history, and other details that might answer questions you have, go to nehrlinggardens.org.

Please RSVP to craley@gmail.com so I can give them an approximate count for the tour.

Thank you! *Carol Raley*



“YOM” License Plate for Your MG

Lonnie Cook lonniecook@aol.com rev 15-Dec-2022

Here’s a special detail that will make your MG stand out from the crowd. It looks equally good on a barn-find or an Amelia Island Concours MG. It’s a “Year-of-Manufacture” license plate.



“YOM” plates are original Florida license plates that were issued the same year as your MG model-year. After inspection, approval, and fee paid, the plate will be the permanent legal license plate for your car.

Unfortunately, Florida Statutes are vague, conflicting, and confusing. Local and state DMV representatives are often equally confused. But never fear. I’ll guide you to determine the correct plate for your car, where to find it, and how to register it. Plus, I’ll share some optional “picky” details.

THE CORRECT YOM PLATE

- The Florida plate is dated 1975 or earlier.
- The plate is the same year as the model year on your title.
- It is original, not restored, and is legible for law enforcement purposes.
- The number cannot have already been used by someone else as a YOM plate, and the number cannot be in use on another vehicle. [Click here](#) or visit your local DMV.
- With a few exceptions, just about any plate from the model year can be used.

WHERE TO FIND A YOM PLATE

- Yard sales, flea markets, eBay, on-line sellers, etc.
- I am pleased with three YOM plates that I bought from Jeff Francis. [Click for website.](#)
- Prices can range from a few dollars to over a hundred, depending on condition.

HOW TO REGISTER YOM PLATE

- A. **Write a letter to the state** requesting authentication of the license plate. (I suggest that you request the state to send the registration decal to you unattached to the plate, so that a state employee doesn’t ruin the plate by sticking the decal on it in an odd place.)

The letter must include the following information:

1. **Mailing address** (printed) - if an out-of-state address or a post office box is used, then a Florida residence address must also be provided.
 2. **Driver License number** - license holder’s name, sex (using “F” for female or “M” for male), and date of birth (month, day, and year). If joint ownership, give the information for both owners.
 3. **A description of the license plate** - the year and license plate number. Suggest that you also attach a photo or scan of the plate.
 4. **A description of vehicle** - year, make, VIN number, and title number.
- B. **Enclose the license plate.** Wrap to protect it. Tape your name and address on the back. Photograph or scan the plate for your records.
- C. **Pay applicable fees.** A check for \$60 made to Florida Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles. You may receive a partial refund if over-paid. No one at DMV seems to know the correct amount.



D. **Give proof of Florida insurance.** [Click here to download the Florida Insurance Affidavit.](#)

E. **Mail** the plate, the letter, insurance form, and check to:

**Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Direct Mail and Issuance Rm #A330
2900 Apalachee Parkway, MS #72
Tallahassee, FL 32399**

You will probably receive your approved YOM plate in about sixty days.

OPTIONAL PICKY DETAILS

· County and Weight Codes

Florida license plates before 1976 had a county code and a vehicle weight or use code. YOM plates can use any county code and weight code; they don't need to match the vehicle. But it's really neat to have a YOM plate with the correct weight and/or county code. The #1 objective for my YOM plates was to have the correct weight code.

See your Operation Manual or Workshop Manual for your MG's weight.

Here are the county codes for nearby counties and weight codes for most MGs.

County codes:

7 Orange
8 Volusia
12 Lake
17 Seminole

Weight codes:

T = Passenger Car under 2000 lbs. ('34-'61)
No Letter = Passenger Car 2001-2500 lbs. ('34-'47)
D = Passenger Car 2001-2500 lbs. ('48-'75)
D = Passenger Car 2501-3000 lbs. ('34-'47)
No Letter = Passenger Car 2501-3500 lbs. ('48-'75)

[Click here for a complete list of county and weight/use codes, colors, and history.](#)

· Restoration

I have no first-hand knowledge, but I have heard that excellent professional restorations are now accepted. The judgement of the DMV office is very strict. The original color of the plate must match exactly and the paint must be "rolled" on the numbers.

[Click here for a professional license plate restorer.](#)





A Postcard from Karel & A Greeting Card from Reinout

Reinout Vogt



This M-Type is on the so-called Test Hill at the Brooklands track in Weybridge, England. The hill was built in 1909 to test cars' ability to climb steep hills as well as the ability to brake on the way down. It is still in existence today and is often used for driving tests with vintage MGs. The hill is 352 feet in length and consists of three sections with 12.5%, 20%, and 25% grades. I have seen MGs going up the hill once and I seriously doubt that Emma, my 1932 M-Type would make it far beyond the first 1/3 of the hill. Let alone, as in this 1996 painting by John Pufford, after a typical January snowfall. The card was published in 2002 by the Brooklands Museum. The M-Type in the painting is the actual car displayed in the museum, the buildings in the background.



MG Calendar of Events

January

- 1/19 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobster, 311 S. Forest Ave, Apopka
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm
- 1/28 **North/South Picnic**, Hickory Point Park, Tavares
information on page 5 of this newsletter
RSVP Now! John Spadaro, jjs852@aol.com 352-406-3373

February

- 2/16 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobster, 311 S. Forest Ave, Apopka
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm
- 2/18 **Nehrling Gardens** club event - 9:30 am, 2267 Hempel Ave, Gotha, 34734
Details on page 6, Carol Raley craley@gmail.com

2023

- 2/11-19 **Best of Britain - 100 Years of MG**, Simeone Museum, Philadelphia, PA
- 4/01 **“April Fools Day” Multi-Marque Show**, Sanford, British Car Club of Central Florida
<https://www.britishcarclubofcentralflorida.com/car-show-information>
- 4/20-23 **GOF South Mk 55**, Gainesville, Best Western Gateway Grand
For more details, check out <https://www.gofsouth.org/>
Registration is now open
- 5/27 **MG Centenary**
Gaydon, England
- 9/1-4 **MG 100th Anniversary Festival and Race**
Lime Rock Park, CT



Best Western Gateway Grand, Gainesville
Site of GOF 2023 - 4/20-23/23





Join Us at GOF-South 2023 & NAMGAR Regional April 20 Through April 23, 2023

GOF-South 2023 welcomes all MG cars from the Marque's conception to the end of production in the Abingdon Works.

We have Teamed with NAMGAR to include a NAMGAR Regional Element to the Program.



The Program Includes:

- > Two Judged Car Shows (First Timers and All Comer's Show)
- > Technical and Informational Seminars
- > Self Guided and Group Drives to Interesting Local Destinations
- > Reception and 'Meet & Greet' Buffet
- > Awards Banquet
- > Event Regalia
- > Door Prizes, Raffles, and Silent Auction

Event Host Hotel: The Best Western Gateway Grand Hotel and Spa, Gainseville, Florida
Special Event Rates Available

Arrive Early, Stay Late and Make it an Excuse for a Spring Vacation in Sunny Florida



Your Host: MG Classics of Jacksonville, Florida

Event website: <https://www.gofsouth/org>



This is a Rain or Shine Event



January 2023

Classic MG Club of Orlando

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**1923 2023
CENTENARY**

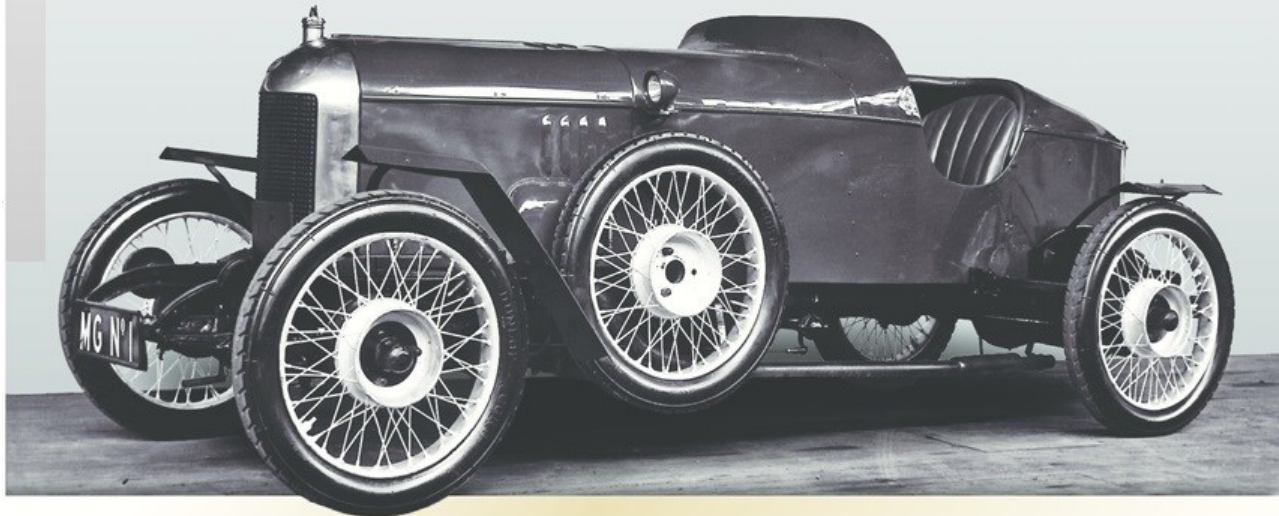


In support of Air Ambulance UK,
Prostate Cancer UK and
Sporting Bears Motor Club



An event celebrating 100 years of MG

**British Motor
Museum**
Saturday 27th May 2023



- Timeline of 100 MGs
- Old Number One
- Works cars display
- MGs of special interest
- Sporting Bears dream rides
- Multi start point scenic runs converging on Gaydon
- Centenary dinner with guest speaker
- Club marquees
- MG specialist traders
- MG Motor UK
- Pride of ownership competition
- Private MG sales
- Car boot sale
- MG archive films in the film theatre
- Children's entertainment
- Souvenir merchandise
- The Barn-ettes – girl singing group

Full details and merchandise from our website: www.mgcentenary.co.uk
Tickets on sale from British Motor Museum: www.britishmotormuseum.co.uk



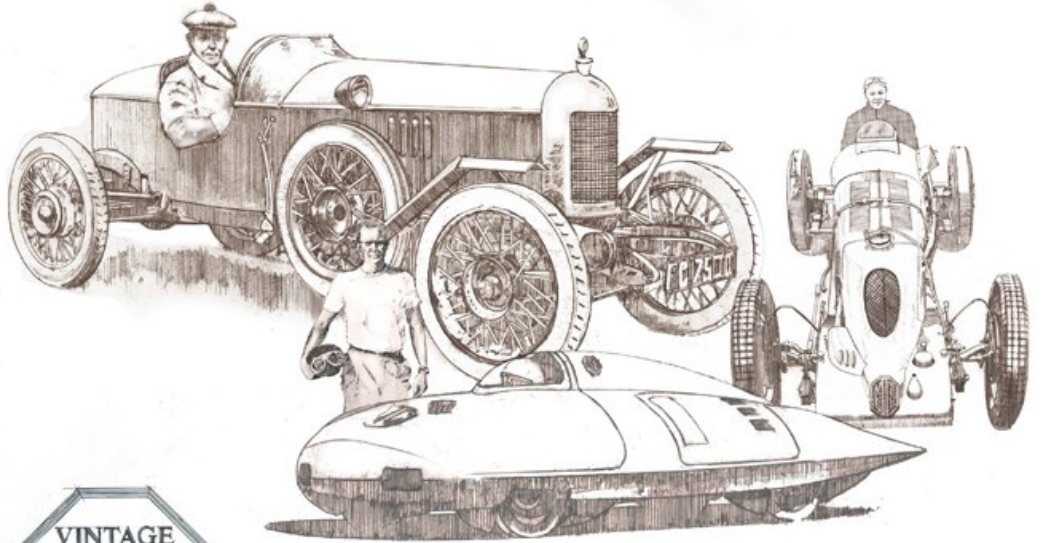
Jointly organised by The MG Octagon Car Club, The MG Car Club, The Early MG Society, The MG Owners' Club and The MG T Society





LIME ROCK CELEBRATES MG'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SEPTEMBER 1-4 2023



Safety fast!

Ben Abing



MG Marketplace



1952 MGTD Silver body with black fenders, black leather Interior. Complete ground-up restoration 14 years ago. This MG was built for Show and Go. It is a constant TOP prize winner. Rear axle ratio - 4.33, many extras, drives like new. Miles driven since restoration, approximately 1,000. \$27,500

Pete Rogers 352/343-1855 H
352/406-1948 C
31104 Fairvista Dr., Tavares, FL

1955 MGTF 1500 Silver body with red interior. This is an outstanding car that has earned many first place awards. Disk brakes, 3.9 rear, recalibrated speedometer, chrome wire wheels, full tonneau, SS exhaust, digital ignition, all the best accessories. \$40,000 Contact Pete Rogers



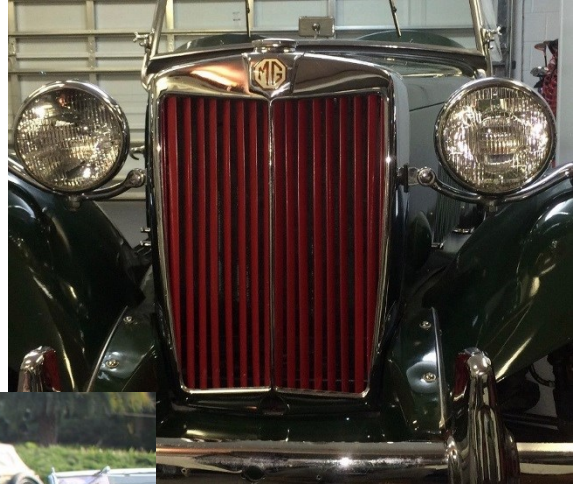
Adverts are free. Send information to
editor.cmgc@gmail.com.

Contact the editor each month to keep
your ad current.



1951 MGTD For Sale or Trade

Brakes, carbs, and ignition completely rebuilt. New wiring harness will be included with the sale. Although at twenty feet, the TD looks really good, as you get closer you can see where the patina is flaking and cracking much to my chagrin, mostly on the fenders. The car is still in good enough shape to turn some heads as I drive down the highway, however. It is a fair-weather car, as it has no top or side curtains installed, although I do have a set of old frames. \$20,100
Larry Burris, Gainesville, 407-448-1087



MGTF Front Fenders and Bonnet Side Panels

Good condition, very restorable MGTF front fenders and bonnet side panels. \$600
BC 949-234-6564
hot1929rod@yahoo.com



1953 MGTD Matching numbers manufactured on 10/21/1952 Red with Tan interior. Mechanically the car is in great working condition. It has recently had a new water pump, valve cover gasket, gas lines, carburetor tuneup, tie rod ends, front brake lines, and new tires in the last year and a half. All lights, gauges, and wipers work as designed. The car has a 5-speed transmission and runs well.



Body and interior show its well-driven history. The tan cloth top and matching spare tire cover are in Excellent condition. Car is available to see and test drive most days or weekends. \$16,900 If you have any questions please contact Jeff Corenblum at 407/415-4773.

1969 MGC Roadster - Tartan Red, chrome wire wheels, 4-speed o/d transmission, purchased 1980. Major restorations in 1985 [engine] and 1994 [transmission] - Minor restorations 2015, 2019, and 2022 -to include clutch & brake system including original boosters; front shocks, tie rod ends and rack bellows; new gas tank; rebuilt 3 SU carbs with Joe Curto kits; 5 new tubes and 165/HR/15 tires [mfg 4418], competition header, dual exhaust; Petronix Ignitor ignition; spare Moto Lita steering wheel; new top and tonneau cover and interior kit by Moss; LED's in rear lights; Drive It Home---\$26,000. Car is located in St. Augustine, FL. Dave Burrows 231-675-4919



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: 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

