

The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

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The Classic MG Club of Orlando

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President's Thoughts

What a great GOF! The Jacksonville club has done another fine job! Dodie and I were able to attend on Saturday and were glad we did. Lots of MG's and many of our members. I really enjoyed the beautiful J2.

Our next CMGC meeting will be at the Nauti Lobstah on May 18th. The location seems to work as we are getting 25 to 30 members per meeting. We say get there at 6:30 to order supper, but I see folks arriving at 6 just to meet friends and have a drink.

Ellen Tidwell has organized a Boat Tour in Winter Park and lunch on Saturday the 20th.

Next year we put on the GOF South and I know some members have been scouting out new locations as we have been priced out of our old favorite. It takes many volunteers to organize and operate the GOF South. Begin thinking about volunteer roles you could fill to assist the club in creating another grand event. Scott Buie, GOF South 2024 Chair, will be announcing the location and start the planning process soon.



Jim McSweeney



May 2023

Classic MG Club of Orlando

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New Members

Mark and Sara Plymale 1954 MGTF My career path evolved mainly from mechanic to machinist, ending as an engineer. I migrated to FL 15 years ago as a hurricane window manufacturer service manager. After retiring 6 years ago I have stayed busy, among other things, restoring classic off-shore speedboats. Just recently decided to get back into antique autos. After a lot of soul searching, I chose antique MGs purchasing my first, a 1954 TF.



Passings



Todd A. Clarke, of Doylestown, PA passed away at his home in January 2023 from complications of heart and Lyme disease.

Willing to strike out on his own, Todd, after pursuing studies in cinematography at Bucks County Community College and Temple University, chose to establish Clarke Spares & Restorations in 1976, providing expert repair and replacement parts for British sports cars, specializing in MG's from the mid 1950-60s. Traveling on foot across the UK, Todd established a unique supply and client base for his business. He gained a true appreciation for British engineering ingenuity which he shared with purveyors and clients around the globe for over 45 years.

Todd specialized in MGAs, manufacturing many parts that were no longer available or not manufactured to the original specifications and quality.

Jim Stidham, Clinton, South Carolina. Jim, a longtime MG enthusiast, passed away in March. Jim has attended many GOF South events in Florida over the past 50 years. He was a member of the SEMGTR until it ended and the NEMGTR. We all loved attending the many GOFs in Florida over the years. The last one we attended together was in Orlando about 4 years ago. He drove his 1955 red MGTF.

(submitted by Len Thomas, Stone Mt, GA)



GOF South 2023

Gainesville, Florida – Best Western Gateway Grand

Glen Moore

The 57th edition of GOF South had great weather, good facilities, many beautiful MGs, and a flock of first-timers, both cars and people. This year's event invited the North American MGA Register to join in the GOF activities.



Many drives and rallyes were offered giving participants a chance to drive their MGs and visit interesting places while interacting with fellow MGers. Thursday evening had two rallyes, a Tweed Drive to the Queens Arm Pub (which had Old Speckled Hen on tap) and to Crafty Bastards (over 50 craft beers on tap) for the NAMGAR participants. On Friday, four rallyes were on the schedule: a Tweed Drive to Tea Time, Tranquility, and Treasures in Alachua; a NAMGAR drive to Fanning Springs for lunch at a seafood restaurant; Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, and a two-stop route to Devil's Millhopper State Park and Santa Fe State College teaching zoo. Forty-one MGs registered for the Saturday drive to O'Leno State Park near High Springs to share a picnic lunch with friends and explore some old Florida scenery.

Seminars were informative and well-attended. Bruce Woodson, the technical director for NAMGAR and a long-time British car shop owner, gave a detailed presentation on how to troubleshoot your MGA and get it running again if you find yourself without power along the road. Of course, all of the tips applied to other MGs as well.

Member, Glenn Lenhard, owner of Glenn's MG Repair in St. Petersburg and long-time contributor to GOF South events, presented a seminar - "Judging Guidelines for Popular Vote Shows with Special Emphasis on MGA." All aspects of the car were covered with explanations of the differ-



ence between Concours judging and popular judging. If a car does not have the bonnet open, do not spend time judging the car. A car can be any color, but it should be a period-correct color, not candy apple red. For those who missed the workshop, Glenn will provide a full-text version of his guide. Email him at glenn@glennsmg.com.

The Glenn Lenhard on-the-field seminar on MG troubleshooting, repair, and tuning had a new twist this year. A tent was set up on the show field and MGs were brought to the tent to be examined and tweaked by the expert. One non-running MG was pushed off the trailer and under the tent. It was running sweetly as it pulled away under power.



The First-Timers show on Friday afternoon had 42 MGs. It was held in the parking lot behind the hotel. Just one of the examples of the hotel facilities that served the GOF well. There were many beautiful cars displayed. An MGA took the win with MG TCs in second and third.

The Meet & Greet had a barbeque of chicken and pork with multiple sides served on the deck around the pool. The weather cooperated with comfortable temperatures and there was plenty of room and more than ample seating/tables. Good food and conversation. Breaking bread together is always a good situation for making new friends.



The Best Western owns a large grass field adjoining the hotel parking lot which served as a perfect venue for the Saturday car show.

The show field team had done an excellent job designing the layout so the MGs were grouped well by class with ample room around every car. There were many beautiful MGs. Judging was difficult as many cars were worthy of recognition.

The banquet Saturday night was held in the Best Western convention center. The room provided a large space so that tables were not crowded. The AV facilities supported the evening's program with two large screens at each end of the room. The event photographer and media specialist, Gary



Whiting, presented a rolling slide show of the MGs and people at the GOF South 2023, during the serving of dinner. The awards program began with a Whiting-produced video of 100 Years MG. It received rave reviews. Glen Moore gave a history presentation celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Classic MG Club of Orlando and the history of GOF South accompanied with many visuals. The awards were presented to all recipients in a fun and efficient manner. The MC, Bruce Sedelmeyer, did an outstanding job

Overall, the GOF South 2023 was a success in every way. There were many opportunities for social interaction, meeting new friends and catching up with old mates. Thanks must be given to the GOF Chair, Richard Gross and his hard-working wife Kathy, who did an excellent job of organizing the event. Members of the MG Classics of Jacksonville were always visible taking care of the myriad details. The Gainesville British Car Club partnered in planning and staffing the event. The Jacksonville Club can be proud of the job they did in continuing the quality and tradition of the GOF South.



The GOF South as seen through Glen's Camera Lens





Gary Whiting Photo





GOF as seen by Gary Whiting and Jeannie MacLeod



GOF South 2023 Awards

Best in Show - John Winn 1952 MG TD

First Timers

1st Roger Hartman 1959 MGA
2nd John Hibben 1947 MG TC
3rd Neil Nelson 1947 MG TC

Variant/Sedan

1st Steve Van Ess 1948 MG YT

MG Modified

1st Glen Moore 1955 MG TF
2nd Casper Pigott 1976 MGB
3rd Thomas Lempicke 1961 MGA

MG Midget

1st Jack Orkin 1967 Midget

MGB/GT

1st Gery Caradmore 1966 MGB/GT
2nd Dann Bosso 1969 MGB/GT

MGB Rubber Bumper

1st Jim Carino 1975 MGB
2nd Steve Ratcliffe 1980 MGB
3rd Ron Edwards 1980 MGB

MGB Chrome 63-69

1st AiviA Hoffman 1963 MGB
2nd Fred Mannering 1969 MGC
3rd Jack Hollrah 1964 MGB

MGB Chrome 70-74

1st Richard Gross 1970 MGB
2nd Grace Sullivan 1971 MGB
3rd Ian Massey 1972 MGB

Judges' Choice MGB

Mark Albright 1972 MGB

MGTC

Neil Nelson 1948 MG TC

MGTF

1st Dan Duran 1954 MG TF

MGA 1500

1st Malcolm MacLeod 1959 MGA
2nd Dale Isenhoff 1958 MGA
3rd Edward Daniels 1959 MGA

MGA 1600 & 1622

1st Gary Altschuler 1962 MGA
2nd Henneke Vogt 1960 MGA
3rd Curtis Skomp 1962 MGA (100,000th MGA)

Judges' Choice MGA

Mark Ahlstrom 1958 MGA

MGTD

1st John Winn 1952 MG TD
2nd Bruce Sedelmeyer 1951 MG TD
3rd Kellie Caswell 1953 MG TD
4th Mike McCormick 1953 MG TD

Judges' Choice MGTD

Robert Mason 1952 MG TD

Premier

1st Joseph Paez 1967 MGB/GT
2nd Bill Dixon 1955 MG TF

Preservation Recognition

Mark Tidwell 1946 MG TC
Jill Moore 1957 MGA Coupe

Chariman's Award – Richard Gross

Legacy Award – Neil Nelson

Will Bowden Award - Tony Geraci

Long Distance Award - Gene and Becky Cooper and son, Nick - Prior Lake, Minnesota 1980 MGB LE



St. Patrick's Day Party and Club Event Planning

Kathy Cook

The luck of the Irish was with us for the Saint Patrick's Day party and planning event. Although rain was predicted, we didn't have any rain, and it has been reported that everyone made it back with their cars and no rain.



We had lots of wonderful food including corned beef and cabbage. It's always wonderful to try everybody's specialties.

Members enthusiastically shared ideas both in writing and in person at the meeting. Tom Redditt submitted a nice list of ideas and his name was entered into the drawing. He can pick up his winnings at the next meeting!

We recognize that the summer months are a little warm in Florida so we tried to plan events that were not long drives but certainly

enjoyed some MG fellowship and good food. Worldwide, British car groups seem to travel keeping in mind they want to have something good to eat and drink along the way. Some of the events planned for the year are as follows:



Saturday, May 20

Winter Park Scenic Boat Tour, 312 E. Morse Blvd., Winter Park 32789, followed by lunch at a local restaurant (Mark and Ellen Tidwell)

Saturday, June 17

Lunch at Black Hammock Fish Camp, 2316 Black Hammock Fish Camp Road, Oviedo (Jim McSweeney)

Saturday, July 22

Brunch and annual Dart Tournament at Fiddlers Green Irish Pub & Eatery, 544 W Fairbanks Ave, Winter Park 32789 (Dodie Beach and Jim McSweeney)

Saturday, Aug 19

Lunch (dinner?) (music?) at Hollerbach's German Restaurant, 201-205 E. 1st St, Sanford, FL 32771 (Dodie Beach)

Saturday, Sept 23

Meet at 10 am to explore Oakland Nature Preserve, 747 Machete Trail, Oakland FL 34760, possibly with a volunteer guide. The plants and possible animal sightings are well marked on the 1.3-mile boardwalk to Lake Apopka and on other shorter nature trails as well. The attractive Education lodge has classrooms, a museum, live species tanks, and a Serenity Porch for relaxing. www.oaklandnaturepreserve.org.

(event description continued on next page)



Saturday, Sept 23 (continued)

At 11:30 am, caravan approximately 10 minute drive to Hagan O'Reilly's Irish Pub, 16112 Marsh Rd, Winter Garden, FL 34787 for lunch. www.haganoreillysirisishpub.com (Mike and Carol McCormick)

October 6-8

Attend the Suncoast MG Club biannual Jamboree. This trip will be an overnighiter. (no coordinator assigned, Kathy Cook?)

Saturday, Nov 18

Seeking Fall Picnic location to replace Flankey Picnic as Kerry Flankey has sold the family farm. (George Pardee and possibly George Butz??)

December?

Volunteer needed for the Christmas Party and volunteer also needed for the Tour of Lights. Several offers to help someone else organize the Tour of Lights and find a place for dinner afterwards. Not sure of names of volunteers to help. (Kathy Cook?)

Sat/Sun, Jan 20/21

Overnighiter with a stop at Bok Tower and then on to Avon Park. (George and Ellen 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)

March?

2 events...unknown dates...Nehrling Gardens different tour (Carol Raley) and St. Pat's Planning Party (Carol and Mike McCormick's house with Kathy Cook)

April - GOF South 2024

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. John Spadaro can give us updates on whether the North will meet with the South again, so we did not put this in the schedule.

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

Casadega

Manello Museum

Leu Gardens

St John's River ship with lunch

Longwood guided tour of Historic district and Bradlee McIntyre House

Lakeridge Winery and music

Crappy Bills Lakefront Restaurant





A Postcard from Karel & A Greeting Card from Reinout

Reinout Vogt

A postcard from Leicester just East of Birmingham in the East Midlands District in England. The MG parked along the road is a VA. (Hopefully, a real VA this time, see the Greetings Card from Reinout.)

The double-decker street cars are from the Leicester Corporation Tramways, which ran in the city from 1901 to 1949.



This card, sort of a mix between my greeting cards and the MG in Ads series by Jeff Powell, came from Mike Jacobsen, Registrar of the North American MGA Register.

Printed in 1990 as part of the 'From The Archives' series by The Coca-Cola Company. The back side states:

Take Enough Home
Original painting, artist unknown, 1959
This illustration for a calendar depicts the affluent life of the postwar era. During the 1950s, service stations sold more Coca-Cola than motor oil.



MG in Advertising

An ad for Contact Slacks by Miller Bros., circa 1964, from the collection of Jeff Powell from Melrose Park, IL who also writes the captions:

These two ads were one month apart in Esquire magazine. You could register for the drawing by buying a pair of slacks and filling out the entry form that was attached. Both of the MGBs shown are new 1964 models, one Tartan Red and the other Iris Blue. Did they give away two cars? The model on the blue car should be careful as a misplaced left foot is going to put a serious bend in that aluminum bonnet! Thanks to Jeff Powell, Victor L'Heureux, and the Chicagoland MG Club.

CONTACTS MAKE YOU
A WINNER

WIN A '64 MGB



CONTACT
SLACKS BY MILLER

Get the action you hope for in the car, in the slacks! Contact "Trads" not only give a man his best lines—but a great chance to win a '64 MGB. Contacts can really get you in because the entry blank's on the slacks. \$4.95 to \$14.95 in your fabrics, your colors...in stores where the action is, or write for Contact contest information to Miller Bros. Industries, Inc., 390 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10018

CONTACTS MAKE YOU A WINNER

WIN A '64 MGB



No gag—"Stags"! A new MGB free! Just whip the hips in a pair of new Contact Slacks—and send in the entry blank you get with 'em. Enjoy a "Slimmer" semester with upbeats like those horizon-level front pockets, belt loops or easy-fitting extension waistband, easy-twistin' tweeds—and, maybe, a new MGB! \$4.95 to \$14.95 in your fabrics, your colors . . . in stores where the action is, or write for contest information to Miller Bros. Industries, Inc., 390 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y. 10018

CONTACT
SLACKS BY MILLER

Contributed by: *Reinout Vogt*



MG Calendar of Events

May

- 5/18 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobster, 311 S. Forest Ave, Apopka
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm
- 5/20 **Winter Park Scenic Boat Tour**, 9:15 am, 312 E. Morse Blvd, Winter Park 32789
\$16 cash, Lunch at local restaurant, RSVP Ellen Tidwell, emtidwell@gmail.com or
352/874-5241 Limited Seating! <https://www.scenicboattours.com/boat-tours>
- 5/27 **MG Centenary** <https://www.mgcentenary.co.uk/>
Gaydon, England

June

- 6/15 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobster, 311 S. Forest Ave, Apopka
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm
- 6/12-16 **NAMGAR GT 48**, Memphis, TN, Memphis Hilton, [info](#), [registration](#)
- 6/17 **Lunch at Black Hammock Fish Camp**, Jim McSweeney
2316 Black Hammock Fish Camp Road, Oviedo
- 6/20-23 **GOF Central**, South Bend, IN, Embassy Suites, GOF2023.com

July

- 7/20 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobster, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm
- 7/22 **Brunch and Annual Dart Tournament** at Fiddler's Green Irish Pub
544 W. Fairbanks Ave, Winter Park, Jim McSweeney and Dodie Beach

August

- 8/17 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobster, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm
- 8/19 **Lunch at Hollerbach's German Restaurant**
201-205 E 1st St, Sanford, Dodie Beach

September

- 9/1-4 **MG 100th Anniversary Festival and Race**
Lime Rock Park, CT
- 9/21 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobster, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm
- 9/23 **Oakland Nature Preserve**, 747 Machette Trail, Oakland, Mike and Carol McCormick
10:00 am, meet at Preserve for a tour of the plants and animals and Education Lodge
www.oaklandnaturepreserve.org
11:30 am, 10 minute to Hagan O'Reilly's Irish Pub, 16112 Marsh Rd. Winter Garden
www.haganoreillysirishpub.com





**1923 2023
CENTENARY**

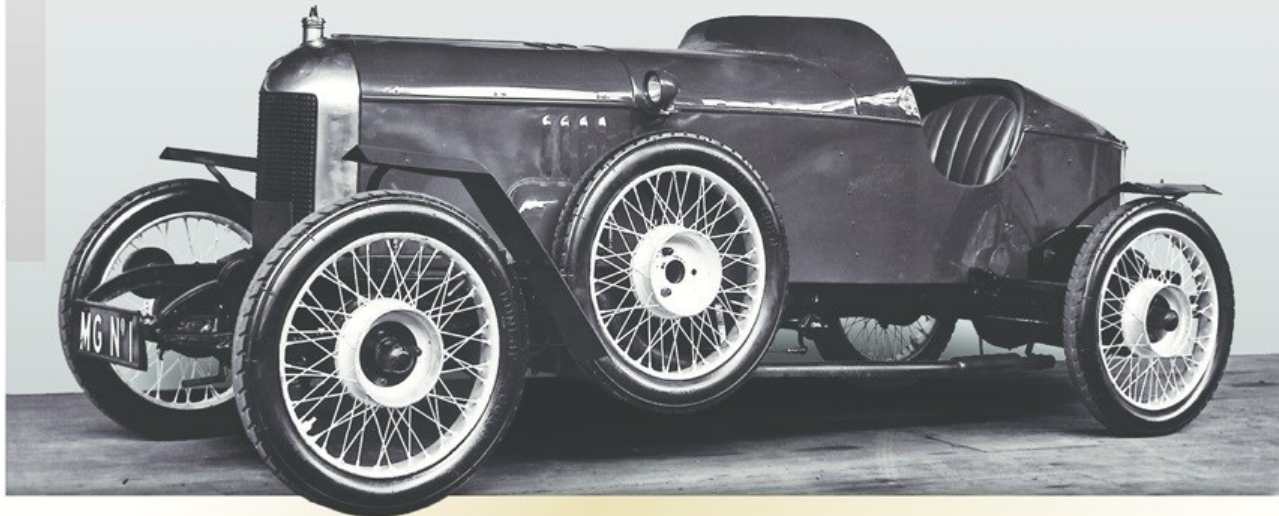


In support of Air Ambulance UK,
Prostate Cancer UK and
Sporting Bears Motor Club



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





GOF CENTRAL

*Gathering of the Faithful
Celebrating 100 years of MG Sports Cars
South Bend, IN June 20 - 23, 2023*



The *Olde Octagons of Indiana* and *Hoosier MGs* present another great MG event for you. GOF Central combines special friends, activities, and food for an MG centenary birthday party to remember! The Embassy Suites in South Bend, Indiana is the guest hotel and headquarters for GOF Central. All MGs and enthusiasts are invited!

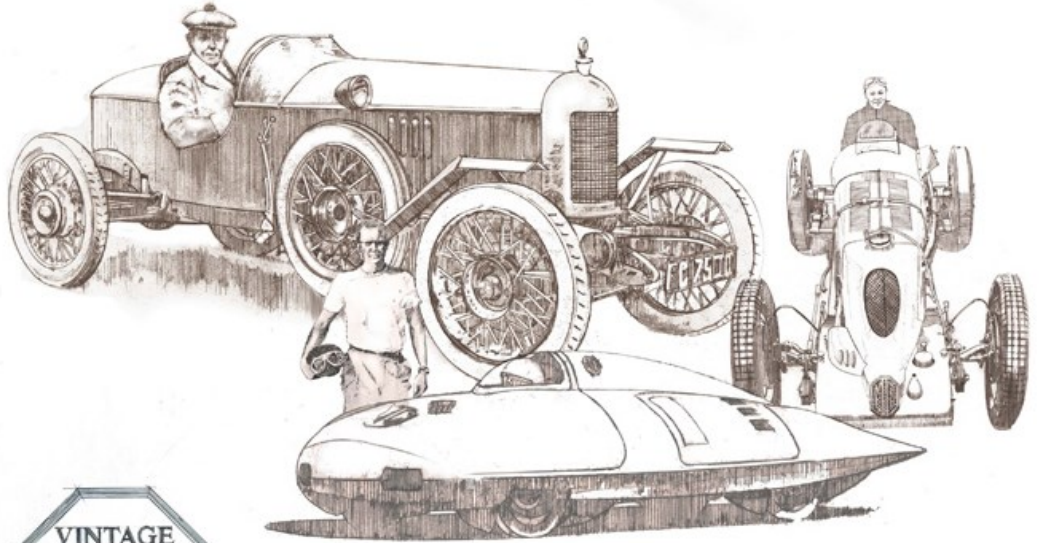
For details and to register, visit GOF2023.com.
Be sure to watch the video!





LIME ROCK CELEBRATES MG'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SEPTEMBER 1-4 2023



Safety fast!

Ben Abing



MG Marketplace

1954 MGTF 1500 Fully restored in all aspects, documented with over 700 photos. Front disc brakes, new leather interior, new tan hood and half tonneau. Set up for reliability and highway cruising with a Chevrolet 4-cylinder engine and automatic transmission. Must be seen to be fully appreciated. Come take it for a drive. Located in Chuluota. Steven Powell, spowell@rtm-inc.com



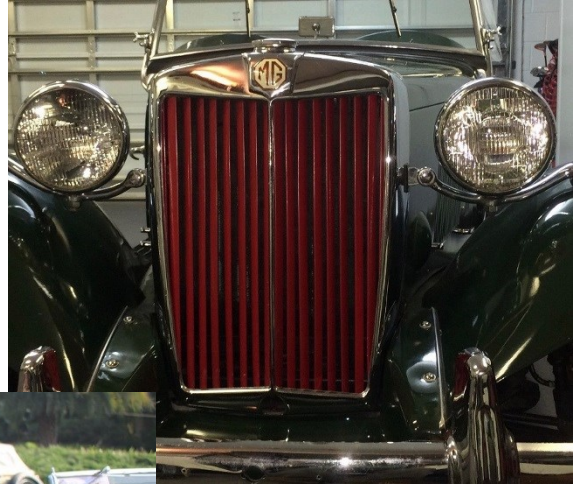
1978 MGB Owned for the past 20 years. I originally bought the car when I was in college in South Carolina. The car is a blast to own and drive and runs well. It does have the original Stromberg 175CD carb which could be easily replaced with dual SUs for a bit more power and fun, but is still a blast to drive with the current setup. The Stromberg has been recently serviced and is in fine running condition. Since owning the car I have had the seats reupholstered, added a rollbar for safety, and replaced the wind-

shield, gas tank, fuel pump, distributor, and heater valve. The car has been garage-kept since I have owned it, hasn't seen a day of snow or salt, and has no leaks. The interior and exterior are in very good shape, but do have a few blemishes and paint chips here and there. Everything looks good enough that you'll be proud to show off your classic, but isn't so good that you'll worry about taking it out for some fun. The perfect weekend car. The radio and fuel gauge are both non-functional, although the sending unit in the gas tank was replaced when the tank was replaced about 10 years ago. \$8,500 obo Chris Dunkel chris.dunkel@gmail.com



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



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

Contact the editor each month
to keep your ad current.

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



New in box MGA Gas Tank - \$140.00 which is Moss distributor price. Tank located in St Augustine.
Dave Burrows. 231-675-4919



1955 MG TF 1500 - Bought in 1962, believe to be second owner. Removed from service in 1969. Car stored since 1969. Approximately 59,000 miles, matching numbers. Restoration begun by professional restorer. Complete disassembly, all parts cleaned, refinished, repaired, replaced as needed, painted. All hydraulic parts re-sleeved/replaced, new brake shoes, new painted wire wheels. Complete refinish of all metal frame parts, wood replaced as needed with original spec, new sheet metal front and rear quarter panels. All other sheet metal cleaned and refinished. All finished in stunning color-sanded red/black piping. Original engine rebuilt/balanced. All chrome either new or re-chromed.: New wiring harness installed. New generator, starter, fuel pump. Complete new interior, red as original, tonneau cover installed. Top frame refinished/no canvas. Side curtains original.

TO BE COMPLETED

Electrical connections under dash, rear of car, some fire-wall electrical connections. Install gear selector/trans cover. Radiator support strut (driver side), install bonnet latches/ bonnet. Front/rear apron/bumpers. Some other miscellaneous items Virtually ALL PARTS needed to complete restoration are included and refinished.: Vehicle may be seen in Rhode Island. \$25,000 OBO
Bill Russell; 401-225-2923; xwrussell@gmail.com



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.



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



The ending shot this month is the editor's duo red MGTC. A sunset in the background would be most appropriate, but this end-of-the-road shot will suffice.

This is the last newsletter from your editor, Glen Moore, as he retires from newsletter editing and publishing responsibilities.

It has been a pleasure bringing club members the news about club activities and MG news over the previous three years. The interactions with members in gathering information for the newsletter will be missed.

