

The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Founded 1963

August 2022

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Issue 706



The Classic MG Club of Orlando

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President's Thoughts

We were hoping for 20 members to attend the meeting at Carrabba's, there were 27 members in attendance.

Thanks to everyone who was able to attend. They need 20 for us to have their back room for free. It's great to have a backup if for some reason we can't get the Nauti Lobstah. We will be back at the Nauti Lobstah (formerly The Catfish Place), in Apopka for the August meeting.

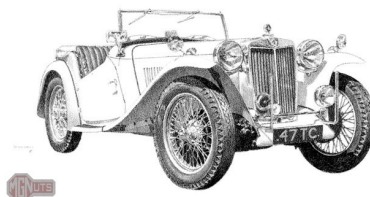
Scott Buie volunteered to be our Webmaster and he was welcomed by the membership. Thank you, Scott!

Dodie and I were not able to attend the movie and lunch that Ellen Tidwell planned. We'll have to wait for a report on how things went. It sounded great and was something that the club has not done before.

The August event will be at Fiddlers Green, 544 W Fairbanks Avenue, Winter Park, on August 20th. We haven't been there in a while, but it's always fun on a hot summer day to meet, throw some darts, and enjoy the Irish food and drink. Folks start arriving around 11:30 am, some old members may remember when Dodie won the dart championship.



Jim McSweeney



August 2022

Classic MG Club of Orlando

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The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Carrabba's, Winter Park

July 21, 2022



July Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Tom Redditt

President, Jim McSweeney called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Treasurer's report: Dodie Beach advised the club has a bank balance of 11,830.00 with an outstanding check that was written but not yet cleared for \$88.00. Once that clears it will leave a balance of \$11,742.00.

New members were introduced:

Bob and Elaine Hooker. Recently relocated from New Zealand to be closer to their family in Florida. They have a 1980 MGB as well as a 2007 Jag XK and 1996 XJS convertible.

Keith Cramer – owns and is restoring a 1974 red MGB as well as other cars.

Bob Zolkosky – owns a 1968 MGB – Bob is a professional water skier in Winter Haven and suggested a possible future outing for our club to see the show there.

Old Business:

Site Selection Committee for 2024 GOF South – Mark and Ellen Tidwell were unable to attend tonight's meeting. Scott Buie reported that the GOF 2024 would be held in "Central Florida" but the exact location is still being determined. Several sites are currently being considered.

Pete Rogers – **MG Club Jackets** were distributed to those members who previously ordered them.

GOF 2022 follow-up: After some investigation on his own, Glen Moore advised he discovered that funds were available to us from Lake County in the form of a tourist development grant to support conferences, such as a GOF. This grant is designed to promote economic activity in Lake County and is funded by the County bed tax on hotel rooms. Glen was successful in getting the GOF 2022 TDC grant approved and received \$2,500.00 funding for the club. He presented a check for that amount to our treasurer. Applying for grant funding and meeting all the requirements is a tedious process, so hat's off to Glen for a terrific job executing the paperwork to obtain these funds.

This grant together with the approximately \$5,000 profit from the 2022 GOF places the club in a healthy financial position. Glen suggested and it was voted by the members to **donate \$500 each to two charities:** 1) World Central Kitchen – food aid to Ukraine, and 2) Second Harvest Food Bank in Orlando

New Business:

July Event: Mark and Ellen Tidwell are leading a trip to the Cinépolis Luxury Theater on Saturday, July 23. After the movie, the group will proceed to Ford's Garage in Winter Garden for lunch. Contact Mark if you plan to attend.



Lonnie Cook Show and Tell: Lonnie shared the three most recent editions of the **Sacred Octagon, the magazine of the New England MGT Register**. He circulated copies of the featured articles as he described the recognition of CMGC club activities and club members. The February issue had the entire back cover displaying a photo from member George Butz with his daughter seated in his MGTD as the MG Girl, after the famous cover art of the MG Girl that appeared on the cover of the British magazine *The Autocar* in 1932. The April issue had two major articles about CMGC members and activities; the club members who displayed their T-Series MGs at a wedding at the Howie Mansion, and a story of member Glen Moore racing an MGTF at Sebring. The June *Sacred Octagon* was a bonanza for the club. Two major articles were published on the GOF South 2022 covering 10 pages with over 60 photographs. In addition, there was a separate two-page article just on the popular Tweed Drive. We are very proud to see our club featured in these international magazines.

Other items:

Tom Redditt advised that the **City of Longwood hosts a monthly “cruise in”** vintage car show on the second Saturday evening of each month in the downtown Longwood Historic District next to City Hall. The show is open to vintage cars of any type and there is no admission. Just bring your car and show it off. DJ music and food booths are provided. The show is from 5- 8 PM. This is a family-friendly event so kids are welcome. If you love old cars of all types, this is a great show to attend. Here is a link: <https://flacarshows.com/events/event/downtown-longwood-cruise-in/>

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.



Adventures of our trip to NAMBGR MG2022 and the Vintage Races in Peterborough, Canada June 18- 23, 2022

Richard & Kathy Gross

The excitement of the 3,000-mile round trip to Canada started months before in getting “Old Yellow” (’70 MGB) ready for the trip. She was prepped & polished for the GOF South; only a fresh splash of octane was needed to get her engine to roar again. Sure all her vital signs were given a work over to ensure she was fit for the journey. She knew that she had to be presentable after her placing among her equally Southern sisters. She had made a few trips out of the garage for some ice cream runs to be sure that everything was working as should be. She would be going in style by having her own bedding/garage (trailer) every night for the adventure because her owners’ backs wouldn’t make the trip in the “B” for the timely adventure.

The trip would start a week before reaching the Motorsport Park for the VARAC & the Vintage Grand Prix races. Quality time would be spent attending a 70+ family gathering at the “Say-Hay Farm” in West Virginia.



The excitement continues. We drove up to the Canadian Border booth with my navigator nervously wondering if we had all the info with passports & COVID paperwork to enter. We answered all the questions correctly except one, not knowing the tag number. Motoring on to our first stop was Niagara-on-the-Lake for a few days taking in Estate wineries and watching the large ships go up and down and thru the locks. Another day was a visit to the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum which took a 5-hour tour to take everything in. The tour guide and I exchanged our experiences on aircraft that were similar in design and function. After touring the Toronto South area, we moved on to Peterborough to find our abode for a week. With good fortune, it turned out that we had to stay at another hotel other than the headquarters hotel that was sold out for the event. MGs were parked in every space available. The venue could not hold another 20 MGs for the event as was expected.

The vintage races were a very good side attraction to the MG2022 NAMGBR show. It was in progress for 4 days as we attended the last 2 days of the event. We were able to drive through pit row with Old Yellow and stop and chat with some of the crew members and drivers. If they were not working on their cars they were very eager to talk about why and how they got involved in vintage racing. Of course, we followed their progress



on the track as well. You could tell the front runners - they always shifted at the same spot on each turn into a curve or uphill climb. Old Yellow and I wanted to be out there so bad. I had the roll bar but forgot the helmet and the number 9 decal.

The four-day event activities started with a meet & greet party which was a very social event. We were warmly welcomed by a group that had driven their 4 MGBs 500 miles from Sault Ste. Marie to Peterborough. We only knew a few other couples from previous shows but everyone welcomed us. A very large group was from the

Toronto MG club, which was the host club that organized the event. Most of the event MGs were from Eastern Canada. Many activities were presented during the 4 days, so it was hard to choose which one to attend. One of the best activities that had nothing to do with the MGs was a boat ride on a cruise boat thru the locks nearby. We anticipated the most difficult thing would be the exchange of money but they accepted a Visa card everywhere. The weather was so great that we were able to leave the top down all the time. We got many comments and conversations once the other MG guests saw our 70 MGB plates from Florida.



Kathy watches the racers through turn 1 sitting in the comfort of Old Yellow



The show ground was not at the hotel but several miles away on a soccer field with trees aligned. Even with a long time for judging cars before the ballots were due, I barely made it back to the box because of wanting to stop to hear all the stories that some of the owners had to tell. Old Yellow did us proud by being recognized as coming from a long distance and a very nice MG from the South. Hopefully, you'll see her in your next MG Driver magazine. We always say after attending

an event like this that it was a wonderful adventure and we enjoyed being among MG friends - old and new - who enjoy the same things. We left not seeing all that we wanted to see, but we had a great time. We are looking forward to MG2023 in Calgary.



The Sacred Octagon

GOF South 2022 Recognition

Glen Moore

The 2022 GOF South, organized and hosted by the Classic MG Club of Orlando, was a success by many means of measurement. Everyone had an enjoyable time.

Our event has received many write-ups in other club newsletters and has major articles published in the most recent (June 2022) edition of *The Sacred Octagon*, the magazine of the New England MG 'T' Register. Three separate articles, two on the GOF South and one on the Tweed Drive, covered 12 pages in the magazine and contained over 60 photographs. *The Sacred Octagon*, often referred to by its nickname, TSO, is distributed to members on every continent except Antarctica, spreading the story of the GOF South around the world.

George Butz and Glen Moore were the authors of the articles. Members contributing photographs were Scott Buie, George Butz, Glen Moore, Tom Redditt, and Mark Tidwell.

Many thanks to the TSO for sharing the highlights of the GOF South with its members through these beautifully laid-out articles.



Tweed Drive

Nothing is More British than Dressing in Tweed

Glen Moore #9036

Tweed attire has always been associated with the British. What could be more fun than enjoying a ride in your MG dressed in tweed or period attire and sharing an authentic British meal with your MG mates?

This concept was developed by Lannette Cook, a creative and enthusiastic member of the Classic MG Club of Orlando. The idea of a Tweed Drive is not entirely new, only applying it to an MG event, or any automotive event, is new. Dressing in tweed and galloping with friends doing the same has been occurring – with everyone on bicycles. These events are called Tweed Runs (although no one is running) and originated, appropriately in London, in 2009. The Tweed Runs have expanded around the globe. The two links below are YouTube videos from London and New York City. One Londoner exclaims, "Oh my word, you couldn't get more British" when asked about wearing tweed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7qU7yLHq>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4GCTReV50e>

The inaugural Tweed Drive was held as part of the GoF South 2022 in April. The drive was quickly filled during registration as the capacity of the restaurant limited numbers. It proved to be not only popular, but also loads of fun. Participants gathered on Friday for a coordinated drive to Mt. Dora for lunch at the Windsor Rose Tea Room.

The proprietor of the Windsor Rose opened the restaurant for only those on the Tweed Drive, then entertained the group with quizzes on British history and Cockney terms. After everyone's orders were taken and the food was being prepared, the restaurant opened for lunch to the general public. After lunch, the Tweeders had time for visiting the shops and museums in downtown Mt. Dora. The scenic drive back to the Mission Inn included a stop at the park next to the seaplane port in Tavares and Puddle Jumpers Bar & Grill overlooking the lake and seaplane landing ramp.

Consider a Tweed Drive for your club. If your Tweed Drive proves more popular than a restaurant's seating, the destination could be a park. Participants could pack a British-themed picnic to enjoy together in a peaceful setting. For those desiring competition of some sort, awards could be given for the best food, attire, and display in the British tradition.

Or, combine the Tweed Drive with a fun rallye, creating a Tweed Rallye. Participants begin at timed intervals, follow route instructions while measuring the distance of the route and answering questions along the way. An additional set of awards could be presented for the fun rallye aspect of the event. Oh, it should still have a destination that includes a meal. It is always fun to share camaraderie over good food with your new and old MG friends.

Someday, soon, may YouTube be filled with the fun of Tweed Drives featuring participants driving their MGs as it is now with participants on bicycles.



A Piece of GOF South History

Glen Moore



The first GOF South was held in 1967 near St. Cloud. Every GOF South has had a logo to graphically represent each event. For many years, these logos were made into jacket patches and were given to every person who registered.

I became interested in the GOF patches when a chap from England contacted the newsletter editor to list a group of patches for sale. He obtained the patches at an autojumble that displayed MG collectibles in a local pub. Having never attended a GOF South, they held no meaning for him. After no one purchased the patches after the first month of advertising, I decided to negotiate a deal for the collection.

This began a new adventure – creating a digital collection of every GOF South logo through photos of every year's patch. The 1971 GOF South jacket patch above is one of the many sewn onto John and Jean Camichos' club jackets. The first step in sharing the collection will be publishing them, one at a time, in the newsletter. Later, when all are collected, a collage of patches will become a part of the Classic MG Club history archives.

The collection now includes patches from 1971, 72, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, & 87. Do you have a GOF South jacket patch in your collection of MG memorabilia? If so, please contact the editor – editor.cmgc@gmail.com – to arrange a way to collect a photo of your patch.



OFFICIAL CONVERSION CHART

HOW TO INTERPRET

ANTIQUUE CAR ADS

IF IT SAYS:

IT REALLY MEANS:

Rare model.....	Nobody liked them when new either
Older restoration.....	Can't tell it's been restored
Needs engine work.....	It's been frozen for 30 years
Uses no oil.....	Just throws it out
No rust.....	Body and fenders missing
Rough.....	It's too bad to lie about
One owner.....	Never been able to sell
No time to complete.....	Can't find parts anywhere
Needs interior.....	Seats are gone
Rebuilt engine.....	Has new spark plugs
May run.....	But it never has
Low mileage.....	Third time around
Many new parts.....	Keeps breaking down
29 coats hand-rubbed paint....	Needed that much to cover rust
Clean.....	It sat out in the rain yesterday
Best offer.....	About what I expect to get
Always driven slowly.....	Won't go any faster
Prize winner.....	Hard luck trophy 3 times in a row
Stored 25 years.....	Under a tree
Real show stopper.....	Orange with purple fenders
Easy restoration.....	Parts will come off in your hand
Ready to show.....	Just washed it
Top good.....	Only leaks when it rains
Good investment.....	Can't depreciate any more

Thanks to Madell Dobrushin, editor of the Peachtree MG Register newsletter, for this list. Ed.





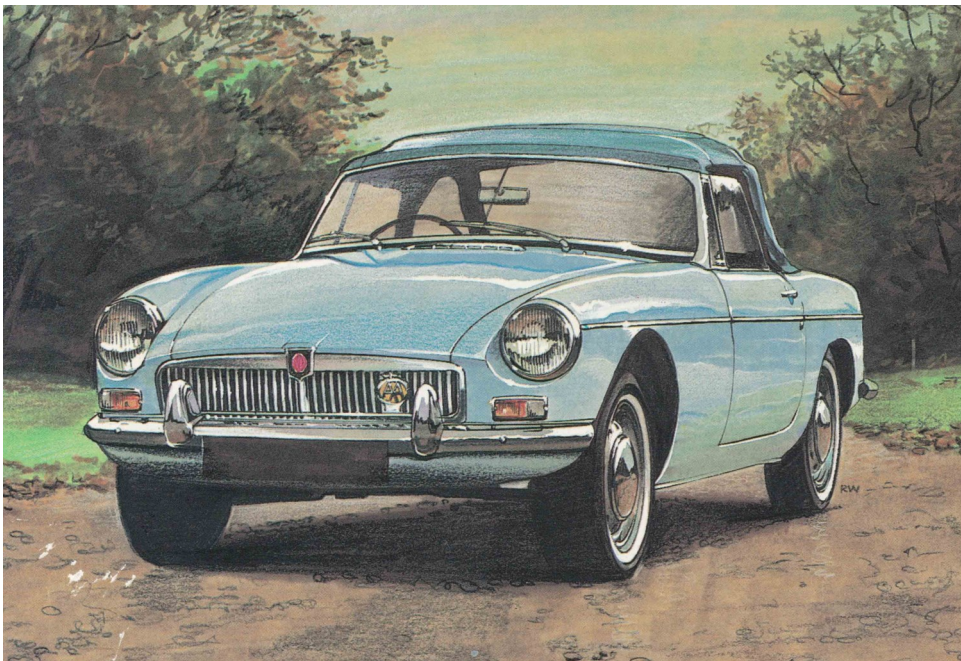
A Postcard from Karel & A Greeting Card from Reinout

Reinout Vogt

This card was sent from the Geneve Salon de l'Auto, the annual motorshow in Geneva, Switzerland. The card is post-marked March 24, 1963. Although the MGB was introduced in September of 1962 and first shown at the London Motorshow in Earls Court in October of that year, this was the first time that MGB was shown on what the British called 'the Continent'. On display at the MG booth were the MGB plus the cut-out model, demonstrating all its new features, and a Magnette, the Farina-designed four-door sedan.



To go along with Karel's postcard about the introduction of the MGB, here is a greeting card with beautiful artwork of an early MGB in Iris Blue, just like the car that was featured on the cover of the



November 1962 issue of Road and Track, with the first road test of an MGB in the US. The card was published by Golden Era in 1995 and unfortunately, the name of the artist is not listed, only the initials RW next to the left rear wheel. The text on the card is "MGB 1962, Illustrated is an early roadster from 1962 finished in Iris Blue with blue hood and running on standard equipment disc wheels."



New Members

Linda Villarreal, Winter Garden, 1978 MGB

MG Calendar of Events

Note - Exposure to COVID-19 is an inherent risk wherever people meet. Please weigh carefully your personal risk before deciding to participate in our functions. CMGC expects all to adhere to CDC guidelines and take appropriate precautions. You alone are responsible for your health.

Stay healthy, for everyone's sake.

August

- 8/18 **CMGC Club Meeting**, The Nauti Lobstah, Apopka, <http://thenautilobstah.com/>
6:30pm for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. Meeting at 7pm. 311 S. Forest Ave, Apopka
- 8/20 **Fiddlers Green for Fellowship and Darts**, 544 W Fairbanks Avenue, Winter Park
Begins at noon, contact Jim McSweeney for more information

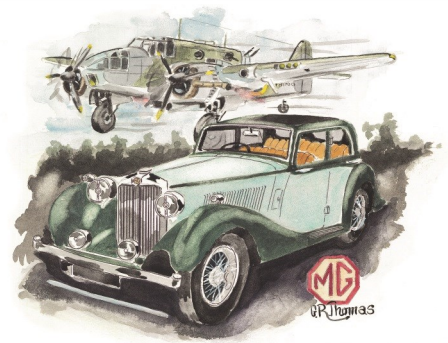
September

- 9/15-18 **Southeast British Car Festival 2022**
Dillard House, Dillard, GA
Peachtree MG Registry
<https://peachtreemg.com/>



October

- 10/21-22 **35th Annual All British Field Meet and Autojumble**
Safety Harbor, Featured Marque - MG
Organized by Tampa Bay Austin Healey Club
Information and registration click [here](#)
- 10/22 **British Classic Car Show**, St. Augustine
King's Head British Pub, US 1 North



April 2023

- 4/20-23 **GOF South Mk 55**, Gainesville
Best Western Gateway Grand
Never too early to mark your calendar



MG Marketplace

1950 MGTD - Rare, early 1950 TD with solid wheels. Painted in a duo maroon. Fully restored and has new interior and top, and a bimini top for those hot days. The car was purchased through Will Bowden. Sterling needs space in his garage for a planned purchase of an electric vehicle, parking and a plug for recharging. He would like to sell it to a local person to keep the car in the area. \$19,500.
Sterling Frey 352/217-9054

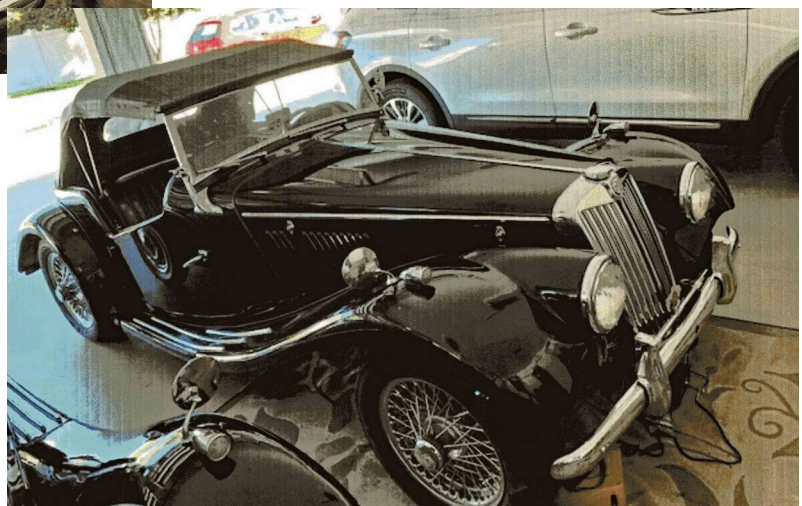


Rogers has two of his T-Series cars for sale

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. \$37,500

1954 MGTF 1250 Black body with black interior. Ground-up restoration completed in Spring 2021. Frame detailed, engine built to 1400cc, 3.9 rear end, front disk brakes, chrome wire wheels, new tires, new tonneau cover. Miles driven since restoration, approximately 125. \$50,000

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



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

Contact the editor each month to keep your ad current.



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



Lonnie Cook Photo

A recent visit to Will Bowden's former "Ye Olde MG Shop" was both sad and happy. Will was a passionate MG owner and promoter. He was one of the three founders of the Classic MG Club, the first newsletter editor, weaver of tall tales, MG racer, a mentor to new and seasoned MG enthusiasts, and the best MG mechanic in these parts. This TD sat outside at his shop for years and is still there watching over Will's spirit. I sorely miss him but I'm happy to have known him for a few short years.

Lonnie Cook

