

The Octagon

NEWSLETTER OF THE CLASSIC



CLUB

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MAINTAINING THE BREED FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

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SPECIAL MONTHLY MEETING AND TIME: Our January meeting is still on the third Thursday, which is on **January 19th at 6:30 PM,--but NOT at our former location!** This month, while we search for a new meeting location, we will assemble at **Johnny's Fillin' Station located at 2631 Fern Creek Ave.**, Orlando, FL 32806. President Dodie reports that "We have the big room in the second building." They are expecting us around 6:30. Presumably, we can set out stuff down and 'kick tires' for a while and still start the meeting at 7:00PM.

GOF 18 PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING: We have a meeting of the GOF '18 organizing/planning committee is scheduled for Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 10:00 AM at Jack Collins' office conference room. The location is Zeltech, 7123 University Blvd., Winter Park. Our objectives are to create ways to attract new attendees to GoF; to secure sponsors, donors, and vendors; and to review updates from committees. Please come and participate, even if you haven't attended previous planning meetings. We especially invite recent new members to give us fresh ideas. Please contact Lonnie Cook if you will or might attend. (407) 670-9679, lonniecook@aol.com

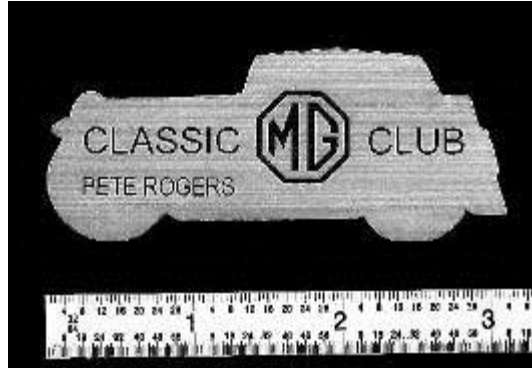
RECAP OF DECEMBER'S EVENTS: We kicked off the Holiday season on December 10, 2016 with a wonderful Christmas party hosted by Pete and Sherry Rogers. Many MG lovers from Lake County and around Central Florida joined our usual group and, I believe that the attendance was north of 60 people! Sherry and Pete transformed their garage into a wonderful party room. Seems appropriate for the many people in the club that really like to live in their garages. Everyone had plenty to eat and a good time was reported by all. The large number of folks made our traditional holiday gift exchange take a little longer than usual, but, it seemed that all enjoyed the event. We were supposed to participate in a local Tour of Lights, but the late hour took some of the enthusiasm out of the folks.

The usual meeting in December has, for many years, been replaced by a Tour of Lights and this took the place of our regular Third Thursday Meeting. The problem was that we couldn't secure the Party Room at Tibby's on Thursday and had to move our meeting/tour up to Tuesday, December 13th. Well, the lights were bright, but the combination of the weather and the date drove down the number of drivers. Many of our group went directly to Tibby's where we experienced our second Challenge – their computer system was down and they couldn't take orders! Not to fear, however. They offered free drinks for all as we waited for them to emerge into the 21st century and take our dinner orders! Fortunately, the system was soon back on line and we had a wonderful time, as we had expected.

CLASSIC MG CLUB NAME TAG

John Camichos designed a terrific name tag that is an exact replica of the original club badge. Brushed metallic plastic with magnetic clasp. Cost about \$15.00. Order from:

Acme Sign & Stamp
822 N Mills Ave
Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 898-5550



ROSTER UPDATE

We are updating our club roster and newsletter mailing list. Will you please send the following information to Lonnie Cook, lonniecook@aol.com

- > First, Last, and Spouse Name
- > Email Address (spouse email, too if you want.)
- > Postal Mailing Address
- > Home, Business, Cell Phone numbers (spouse phone numbers, too, if you want.)
- > MG(s) and Brit-cars that you own.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Claude and Stefanie Laborde from Winter Park contacted our website to join the club. They have an orange 1971 MGB roadster with wire wheels. They hope to have a new water pump and brakes completed in time for the January overnight to Avon Park.

Sterling Frey from Clermont has a very early 1950 TD that was one of the first 250 TDs produced of the total of almost 30,000. It has slotted wheels instead of pierced wheels that were common on most MGs that followed.

JANUARY OVERNIGHT DRIVING EVENT:

January Overnighter: Date: Saturday Jan. 28, 2017. Destination: Hotel Jacaranda, Avon Park. Assemble at McDonald's on So. Orange Ave. (just North of Michigan) at 9:00 AM. There will be a driver's meeting at 9:15 in the rear parking lot. Departure WILL BE at 9:30. A pit stop will be in Poinciana and lunch will be in Frostproof. Room rates will be \$69.95 plus tax (\$76.25 total) regardless of room class. We will again have the lounge area on the seconded floor, which opens onto the balcony, for our cocktail party. A continental breakfast is included. 14 rooms will

be held for our use until Jan.1. Their phone number is 863-453-2211. PLEASE tell them that you are with the Classic MG Club. That info will be used for our dinner reservations. Dinner is planned at 18East (across the street from the hotel) at 7:30-8:00. See their web site at <http://www.beststeakaround.com> . We will depart the hotel at 10:00 on Sunday and lunch in Kissimmee at a location to be determined.

Those participants not leaving from Orlando can rendezvous at the "Frostbite" diner on north hwy. 17 in Frostproof (ETA 11:30) or at the hotel on 19 E. Main St., Avon Park (ETA 2:00).

Because of traffic concerns, the route(s) will be in easy to follow written form rather than an en-masse tour. Bring a pencil to check off instructions as you use them.

FUTURE EVENTS:

The British Breakfast Club is planning a driving event on Saturday February 11 to celebrate Valentine's Day. The drive will leave Orlando around 10 am and head towards the Strawberry Winery in Sorrento, Florida. After the Winery we will head into Mt Dora for lunch at the British tea Restaurant, spend some time in Mt Dora sightseeing, and leave for home around 4pm or when folks are ready. The event will be finalized within the next week, and an email blast sent out as soon as possible.

February 25th is a special opportunity to engage MG fans from outside our area. John and Sharon Spadaro have been in contact with our overseas MG friends. This will be a fun picnic and a great opportunity to get out and show our spirit as well as our cars.

March brings us to St. Patrick's Day and our annual dinner and Planning Session at Al & Kathy Cook's house. Details to follow. St. Patrick's Day is on Friday 3/17, but we will get a jump on things by substituting 3/16 (our regular Club meeting date).

FOR SALE ITEMS: Please send your information to the editor. Current offerings: Pete Rogers reports that he has a variety of MG parts that he has accumulated in his many restoration projects and rather than a random list (that would miss more than it includes), he suggests that if you have a need, that you call him to see if he has what you need. Pete's telephone # is 352-343-1855 and he can also be reached at pfrslot@gmail.com.

Rick Vimmerstedt of Southeast Performance is selling assorted MG parts: Contact Lonnie Cook, (407) 670-9679, lonniecook@aol.com
The web link to photos and descriptions: <http://tinyurl.com/LC-MG-Parts>

MISCELLANEOUS: A little bird told me that Club members Jack and Brian Collins have started a performance company, specializing in MGBs. They have a wonderful blog detailing their 2017 project – an MGB roadster with a “special” engine. Many of you have seen Brian's Ford engine in his 'B, so there are likely to be items of interest to many of our members. The link to their new project is www.ceresmotorsports.com/projects . Check it out!