



MG Car Club—Florida

FLORIDA OCTAGON

#116

FEBRUARY 2011

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Dave Alexander

Welcome all to February.

January saw the club on the back roads of south central Brevard to the Pig & Whistle restaurant- fine drive, good food, and great camaraderie.

This month, after a straight shot south (not sure if we can remember how to use main roads to get someplace), will find us at McKee Botanical Gardens in Vero Beach to view an Exotic Motor Car Exhibit (more info further in this newsletter), and then Lunch at a place TBD.

March will find the lucky members (you have to witness Ray and Mary's hospitality to understand why I say "lucky") at Ray and Mary's for breakfast, followed by a jaunt, led by Ed (pay attention because it is expected that Ed will be back in form in his back yard on this trip) over to the V.M.C.

This brings us up to April, and here is your Boards dilemma. The first weekend is Winter Park Show, the second weekend is GOF, both road trips and quite a number of our members plan to make both events. So the dilemma is, what to do for the third weekend for our monthly get-together?

On behalf of your Board, I am asking for suggestions for a local (central Brevard) venue for the third weekend in April. Don't be shy, all ideas welcome. The prize if your idea is chosen is a good time and a grateful group of LBC'ers.

Please contact any board member or Norm, Saul or myself.

THE FIRST TOUR OF 2011

Saturday, January 22, dawned bright but cold. By 10 o'clock that morning, five couples gathered in the Golden Corral parking lot for the first tour and luncheon of the year. And with only two MGs. However, as "they" say, "press on regardless." So, we did. Ed Price had set up a good drive through the central, western, and southern parts of the City of Palm Bay, and then south on US1 to Roseland for lunch at the Pig & Whistle. Richard and Pat Jablonski, Brian & Ginny Mitchell, Norm & Pat Ridgely, Dave Alexander & Louise Husband, and Ed & Pam Price all agreed that it was a nice tour capped off by a great lunch with a very congenial group of members. Please join us next month.



REMEMBRANCE

On February 4, 1945, the father of MG, Cecil Kimber, passed away at the age of 57.



UPCOMING MGCC-F EVENTS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH – MCKEE BOTANICAL GARDENS VERO BEACH – EXOTIC MOTOR CAR EXHIBIT



This “by invitation only” exhibit will feature 30 exotic & sports cars from this area – some never seen before. These special vehicles will be parked in McKee’s parking lot. John Schumann will have a few of his collection there. (There is no charge to view the motor cars.) Some of the cars are a 2004 Maserati Spyder Cambrocorsa, 2003 Aston Martin, 2002 Jaguar XKR100 (ltd. Ed); but alas no MGs. If you wish to visit the gardens and are not a member of McKee or a reciprocating location, the charge is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors. “A Season of Seuss” is currently on display in the gardens, featuring 5 large bronze pieces depicting characters from the fertile mind and imagination of Dr. Theodor Seuss Geisel,

author of 44 children' books, translated into almost every language on earth. And many of his stories were not necessarily directed at children, but to adults, such as The Grinch. There is also a very nice café for lunch on the property (no entry fee to McKee); otherwise there are a number of good restaurants nearby such as Bono's BBQ, TooJays Deli, Panera Bread, and Mr. Manatees. The gathering spot to head south will be at the Sunoco petrol station at the corner of US1 and Aurora Blvd., in Eau Gallie. Please be there for a 10:00 AM departure time to head for Vero Beach. If you do not plan to drive south with the North Group, plan to join up with them at McKee at about 11:45 AM (their ETA).

After the McKee show, you might want to drive over to the beachside for the monthly Oceanside Business Assn. Sunset Saturday Night Concert. This month's theme is Mardi Gras, with music and food to match. It starts at 5:30 and runs till 8:30.

SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH – BREAKFAST AND TOUR

This day will start out with a fantastic breakfast at the home of Ray and Mary Pollack. Those who attended last year will attest to the fact that Ray and Mary are wonderful hosts and you do not want to miss this!! We will gather at their home at 9 o'clock, at 1013 Indian River Drive, Cocoa. After breakfast, Ed Price will take us on a tour to the Veterans Memorial Center & Park on Merritt Island. This is a great museum, about $\frac{3}{4}$ the size of the one at Tico Airport. After that you are on your own. Some of us plan to visit Cocoa Village to window shop, eat lunch, and maybe buy something.



DUES

Reminder!! Dues are now due and the amount is the same as last year: \$15.00. Attached to this newsletter is an Application for Membership, New or Renewal. Please fill it out completely and send it with your check to the Club's P O Box (see last page). This form is new this year and we are requesting information to benefit the membership (i.e. occupation) and also birth and anniversary dates (day and month only) as other clubs do. If someone requires the services of an "XYZ", and you are an "XYZ", then a member might prefer to call upon you rather than someone they don't know. Any questions or comments, call Norman (772-532-4265).

MG Club Florida Membership Application

New Renewal

Please print clearly.

Name _____ Birthday (Month/Day) _____

Occupation _____ Work Phone _____

Spouse/Partner Name _____ Birthday (Month/Day) _____

Wedding Anniversary (Month/Day) _____

Occupation _____ Work Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Please list your British vehicles:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Make</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Comments</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

How many years have you been involved with LBCs? _____

Other car clubs you belong to (local, national, international) _____

Which club functions are you interested in assisting with? (Check as many as you wish)

Social activities Tours Meetings Annual car show Rallies

Tech info Committees

Over please

In what other way could you assist the club? (Any special talents, experiences, etc.) ____

Benefits of Membership:

- An opportunity to meet some very friendly people who will share their enthusiasm for MGs and other British cars with you.
- A monthly tour to interesting destinations with either breakfast, lunch or dinner at some point, and, if necessary, a short business meeting. We like to drive our cars!
- The FLORIDA OCTAGON monthly newsletter with free classified ads for members.
- Member roster published annually.
- Caravans to car shows around the state (Boca Raton, Winter Park, GOFs), to Southeastern U. S. shows (in Hiawassee and Dillard, GA), and our annual tour to Bok Gardens in Lake Wales in December.
- Club Website – www.mgcarclubflorida.org
- Able to purchase club regalia (t-shirts, caps, jackets, grill badges, etc.)
- Annual Holiday party
- Technical repair and restoration assistance sessions

Dues are currently \$15.00 a year (Jan-Dec). If you join after June 30th, dues are \$10.00 for the balance of the year. Please make checks payable to MG Car Club – Florida, Inc. and mail it to

MG Car Club – Florida,
P O Box 410471,
Melbourne, FL 32941.

Name badges are currently \$ ____ each. Please indicate how you want your name(s) to appear on the badge. Add the cost of the badge or badges to your membership check. If you have a pacemaker or prefer it, we can have the badge made with a pin rather than magnet – just request it that way.

Name _____

2nd badge name _____

Car _____

(Signed by all persons listed on the application above)

Date

(Signed by all persons listed on the application above)

Date

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We wish to welcome all the new members who have joined in the period covering October 2010 to this month, as follows:

Jim & Joan Aldridge of Ft. Pierce – 1964 MGB

Jim & Mimi Bailey of Lake Worth – 1962 MGA MK II

Brian & Cynthia Cervini of Cornwall-on-Hudson, NY – 1978 MGB

Dave & Suzanne Edwards of Vero Beach – 1957 & 1961 MGAs, 1946 MG TC, and 1952 MG TD

Frank & Marilyn Erion of Port St. Lucie – 1956 MGA 1500

Pat & Diane Grassick of Palm City – 1978 MGB

Ken & Marla Jock of Vero Beach – 1960 MGA and 1975 MG Midget

John & Gail Murphy of Stuart – 1976 MGB

Jim & Lee Reed of Ft. Pierce – 1946 Panther Model 70, 1937 Royal Enfield 250, and 1967 Triumph 650

Bill & Sarah Richey of Vero Beach – 1933 MG J2, 1933 MG L1 Magna Police Car, 1934 MG PA (these from the 30s are from Jerry Keuper's collection), 1967 Austin Healey BJ8, 1968 TR250

Kevin & Nick (son) Walsh of Indialantic – 1968 MGB

WELCOME RETURNING MEMBERS

Bill & Carol Frost of Rockledge – 1974 MGB, 1995 Jaguar XJC

Jordan Roberts of Daytona & Huntington Sta., NY

SODDY MOUNTAIN HAD TWO FEET OF SNOW

This photo was in the Southern British Car Club (Tennessee) newsletter. At least we don't have that to contend with.



SOME SAY SODDY MOUNTAIN HAD AS MUCH AS 2 FEET OF SNOW
SUBMITTED BY HANK RIPPERT.

NEW CLUB NAME BADGES

The new style name badges are ready to order. They are 1¾" x 3½" white plastic with red lettering (engraved) and feature our new club logo. You have a choice of magnetic or dual tie tack attachment. The price is \$11 and must be prepaid as they are being custom made (personalized) to your specifications. If you want an order form or additional information e mail Danica Perhacs, at britbash@comcast.net or call 772-770-0083.

ORIGIN OF "SAFETY FAST" SLOGAN

A tidbit of MG history for your enjoyment, found in the June 1979 issue of the Sacred Octagon, the NEMGTR magazine. It's from an interview of George Tuck in 1974. "Ted Colegrove, the original Sales Manager of the company at Abingdon was driving behind one of the new buses in Oxford. The bus had a

big red triangle on the back and "Safety First!" painted through it, to indicate that they were fitted with four wheel brakes which was a novelty then. Ted thought that if the 'ir' was replaced by an 'a' it would make a jolly good slogan for the M.G., so he went back to Abingdon and sold this to Kimber, and from then onwards it was the only slogan for M.G. Prior to that in 1929 we had a slogan which was quite good - 'M.G. faster than most' - and this went on until someone wrote to Cecil Kimber enclosing one of the advertisements on which he had inserted the word 'bicycles' so that it then read - 'M.G. faster than most bicycles!'

OTHER EVENTS

1st Sunday of each month: British Car Breakfast Club 9:00 a.m. at the Golden Corral in Altamonte Springs. It is just south of SR 434's intersection with SR 436 on the east side between Costco and Robb & Stucky.

Feb. 19, 2011 – Seminole Ridge High School Car Show & BBQ, Loxahatchee

Feb. 20, 2011 – 18th Annual British Classic Car Show, Boca Raton, presented by the Gold Coast British Sports Car Club – Featured marque MGA - Let's support their show by registering or as a spectator. www.goldcoastbritcar.org

Feb. 24-26, 2011 – AACA Southeast National Car Show, Homestead, FL - at the Homestead Miami Speedway (pre-registration by AACA members only)

March 11-13, 2011 – 14th Annual Amelia Island Coucours d'Elegance, www.ameliaconcours.org

March 26, 2011 – AACA Car Show, Riverside Park, Vero Beach – Our club usually has the highest number of British cars there. www.local.aaca.org/Indianriver

April 1-2, 2011 – 26th Annual All British Car Show, Winter Park, FL – Let's support their show; we plan a caravan to it - www.allbritishcarclub.com/carshow.htm

April 8-10, 2011 – GOF South MK XLV Weeki Wachee, Suncoast Classic MG Club – we plan a caravan to and from this event. www.gofsouth.com

April 23, Wheels Across the Pond 2011–Jupiter– www.wheelsacrossthepond.com

April 25-29, 2011 – NAMGAR Mile Zero CT 7 Key West (All MGs invited)

May 28-June 5, 2011 – British Car Week, Drive Your British Car!!!

June 12-18, 2011 – MG 2011 North American Council of MG Registers – Reno/Tahoe, NV – there will be over 1000 MGs there www.mg2011.com

Sept. 17th, 2011 – British Invasion, Stowe, VT – www.britishinvasion.com

Oct. 14-16, 2011 – Euro 2011 – Greenville, SC

October 28-29, 2011 – MGCCF Brit Bash – Vero Beach, FL - OUR BIG SHOW!!

Danica Perhacs 772-770-0083, britbash@comcast.net

For questions on any of the above, call Norm (772) 567-2231.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS:

Members are invited to submit interesting articles about their MG or MG's and themselves. We need as many articles written by members as we can get.

Submit yours to Norm at normridge@yahoo.com or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965. Thanks for your help.

NOTE: Authors and creators of original material submitted to the Newsletter for publication do so with the understanding that Florida Octagon and the MG Car Club – Florida may use such material for any purpose the Board of Directors may decide is beneficial to the Club. Other MG Newsletters may reprint such material, provided a suitable reference is made to the source and to the author.

FEEDBACK:

The Officers and Board members would like to hear from members concerning their views on current functions and events (likes, dislikes, etc.) and any ideas for the future. This is your club and we want everyone to participate and enjoy. So, please contact anyone on the list on the last page to have your voice heard. Thanks!

CLASSIFIED ADS:

SOLD! \$4,800 on eBay – 1977 MG Midget – 30,000 original miles, orig. interior except radio, new top, windscreen, & tires, newer battery & paint, recently replaced elec. fuel pump, rear brakes (shoes & cyls.), rear hub gaskets & oil seals, clutch cylinder (master & slave), brake hoses (front, rear & clutch). With a little TLC car could be show quality. (Club Member's car)

For Sale - front seats from a 1967 MGB/GT, leather fair condition with sheepskin covers \$200 – Call Norm Ridgely Vero Beach 772-532-4265 (4/11)

For Sale – Many parts for MGB and Midget: vent windows, carbs, oil cooler, CB, radio, manifolds, grills, etc. Call with your request. Larry Vero Beach 772-231-0315 day or eve. (4/11)

For Sale – 1977 MG Midget Enjoy this great 1977 British racing green MG Midget convertible. Get ready for summer, catch all the shows in the Central Florida area for moooooore fun! Wonderful People! This fun car can be yours for only \$3250! Call Dale at 386-212-6852 or 386-586-0560

Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. Send your ad to Norm at the link below or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965 by the 25th of each month for publication in the following month's newsletter. In your e-mail, please reference MGCC-F ad so it's not considered spam.

Safety Fast!

Club Officials

David Alexander 321-213-7051 (President)

Linda Knoblock 321-544-4569 (Vice-President)

Pat Ridgely 772-567-2231 (Secretary)

Helen Kingston 321-773-1455 (Treasurer)

Al Allen 321-259-6957 (Director)

Ken Gregory 772-633-0873 (Director)

Christian Havneraas 321-543-0453 (Director)

Danica Perhacs 772-770-0083, britbash@comcast.net (Director and Show Chairperson)

Norm Ridgely 772-532-4265 (Newsletter Editor, Director-At-Large)

Saul Klein 321-269-0236 (Webmaster, Director-At-Large)

Ed Price 321-632-2207 (Past President)

Jerry Keuper Chairman Emeritus (In Memoriam)

MG Car Club – Florida www.mgcarclubflorida.org

**P.O. Box 410471
Melbourne, FL 32941
321-213-7051**

For Club Info- Please email Dave Alexander [email](mailto:davealexander@mgcarclubflorida.org)



The only MEMBER RUN organization for MGB, Midget & 1100/1300 owners

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP fee is \$30 and INCLUDES

- Membership Card
- Six bi-monthly issues of the the MGB Driver Magazine
- Invitation to the Annual National Convention

North American MGB Register
P O Box 69; Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
Toll-free phone/fax: 800-NAMGBR1

AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE TO

**British Marque
CAR CLUB NEWS**

We are now a Participating Club of the *British Marque Car Club News*, a monthly tabloid newspaper featuring the news of our club and numerous other British car clubs as well.

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Each subscriber from a Participating Club is also entitled to **one free classified** (up to 20 words) per issue. (This applies only to non-commercial ads, of course.) An additional 15¢ will be charged per word over the 20 word limit. Photos are also additional, at \$7.50 each.

Don't delay — Subscribe today!



CAR CLUB NEWS

c/o Enthusiast Publications, LLC

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PARTICIPATING CLUB SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Club Name _____

Member Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip/Post Code _____

Phone (Optional) (_____) _____ - _____ E-mail _____

Attach cheque or money order payable in U.S. funds to Enthusiast Publications, LLC, and send to address above.
Form and cheque must be received by the 20th of the month to receive the next month's issue.