



# MG Car Club—Florida

#96

JUNE 2009 NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Dave Alexander

I want to thank those members who have come forward with what I call "off calendar" events, and those that have picked up the task of putting all the pieces together to make them happen. The Sunday afternoon at the Avenues, and the upcoming Art Gallery opening are two fine examples for club members to gather and display their British cars and have fun. Seems that each new idea is a chance to be exposed to something I might not normally go out of my way to do. I would not even have known about the Art gallery Grand Opening until the Monday after, when someone at work will mention it. So please keep the ideas coming. Hope to see everyone at both of our events on June 19 and 20.

## THIS MONTH'S EVENT – JUNE 20<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> SATURDAY)

As you know, summer is upon us. Therefore, our events are scheduled in the "cooler" part of the day, early evening (est. temp. 90°). This month we shall gather at the famous McDonald's in the Rockledge Shopping Center for another fabulous tour presented by that outstanding Tourmaster Ed Price. We will depart at 6:30 PM promptly or thereabouts. At the conclusion of the driving event, we will return to the aforementioned shopping center for a sumptuous meal at a local pizza, etc. restaurant. (Ed & Pam highly recommend the eatery.)

## CAR COLLECTION OUTSTANDING – MAY EVENT

If you were one of the 19 participants on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, who met in



Mims, you were very fortunate. Early that morning, we caravanned about 8 miles west of I-95 on SR 46 to the home of Bob Shearer, to view his private car collection. None of us were prepared for what we were about to see. Bob's collection exceeds 175 cars, most of which range from the mid-50's to mid-



70's. The majority are in excellent condition and drivable. Cadillacs, Oldsmobiles, Pontiacs, Chevrolets, Fords, Dodges, Plymouths, Packards, Lincolns, are housed in three air-conditioned buildings. A complete machine, paint and body shop is in one of the buildings. It is called the South 40 Collection because Bob purchased 40 acres off SR 46, filled it and built his house and the "car barns" there. Saul has put many photos on our website.



Those in attendance were Richard Jensen, Helen Kingston, Norm & Pat Ridgely, J. Conarroe, Roger Hobart, Dan Cook, Ken & Betty Gregory, Saul Klein, Rich & Pat Jablonski, Gene Jablonski (guest), Carol Gradwell, Kevin Hoffman, Dave Alexander, Len Coppold, and Ray & Mary Pollock. After viewing this fantastic collection, Saul took us on a short tour ending at Dixie Crossroads in Titusville for lunch. Our thanks go to Bob for his gracious welcome and to Ray Pollock for suggesting this event.

### A SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT THE AVENUES AT VIERA

This event was quickly put together to observe “British Car Week – Drive your British Cars” (May 30<sup>th</sup> – June 7<sup>th</sup>).



A group of about 16 members and guests gathered at the Pizza Gallery and Grill in The Avenues at Viera Shopping Center for libations, food and ice cream on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. There were MG's, Jaguars and an Aston Martin! Those who had not visited this center before found quite a variety of shops of good quality. And the



Pizza Gallery is no “pizza joint” but an outstanding Italian restaurant. Many did have pizza, but unlike any other; some had fish and meat dishes; all was outstanding as was the service in our own private dining room. No one left hungry. All enjoyed the outing. Thanks Helen.

### SAD NEWS – A LEGENDARY SHOP CLOSSES

John Twist (Mr. MG) recently announced the following:

## *END of the ROAD*

University Motors will cease fulltime business on Wednesday, July 1st, 2009, after 34+ years of service to the MG community. Little did we imagine that it would be our own business that would be demolished in the current economic storm.

We have ceased taking appointments and will use the month of June to complete the work in the shop. We will continue to receive bench work. In late October we will have an auction of parts, tools, and MG memorabilia. Books, DVDs, and technical publications will be forthcoming.

All good things must come to an end. It's been a simply wonderful run!

### MISCELLANEOUS

CLUB BADGES, Ts, POLO SHIRTS, & NEW CAPS – Anyone interested in any of these items can purchase by contacting Al Allen at 321-259-6957 or [patalallen@msn.com](mailto:patalallen@msn.com) (can view on our website)

For those members who wish to obtain a list of the current membership roster, please e-mail Helen Kingston ([hjk@cfl.rr.com](mailto:hjk@cfl.rr.com)) and she will send it to you. We encourage our members to get together outside of our club events; that way they can contract with one another for a casual drive or tour some place that interests them. Or plan to go together to another club's function, such as the upcoming GOF in Crystal River.

### MGCC-F UPCOMING EVENTS

July 18<sup>th</sup> (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday) – A similar program as June will be planned – in the evening with food and a tour. We are anticipating this event will take place in southern Brevard County on the Barrier Island. Possibly a visit to the McLarty Treasure Museum, Sebastian Inlet Fishing Museum, and/or the Barrier Island Museum, followed by dinner.

August 8<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday) – We will all gather at Frank & Helen Kingston's home on South Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, for a social evening of conversation, dining, tire-kicking, and the viewing of 2 DVDs: "Inside the Octagon MG: 1921-1945" and "Inside the Octagon 2 MG: 1946-1980." The time of arrival should be at 4 PM. The first DVD will start at 4:30, to be followed by dinner, with the 2<sup>nd</sup> DVD following dinner. Frank will be barbecuing his famous "Bone-In Chicken Breasts." You can have them mild or spicy. The guests are expected to bring veggies, salads, or desserts. (Please call or e mail Helen to coordinate what you're bringing so we do not just have chicken and 50 lbs of potato salad – thanks.) Sodas, tea, or coffee will be provided.

September's event will possibly center around Downtown Historic Melbourne's Friday Fest. Details will follow.

October's event could be an overnigher and/or center on the Octoberfest theme.

November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Brit Bash at Wickham: A Celebration of British Motorcars. This is our annual car show. To volunteer, call Danica Perhacs at 772-770-0083.

Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup> – Third Saturday – This will be our club's Annual Meeting and Election of Officers and Directors. Details will follow.

December – A Holiday Party is in the planning phase. Should you have any ideas, please contact any officer or director.

### **OTHER EVENTS:**

1<sup>st</sup> 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.

June 24-28, 2009 - MG 2009 – MGs in Breckenridge – The annual national meet sponsored by the North American MGB Register, of which we are a chapter, will gather in Colorado: only 98 miles west of Denver in the Rocky Mountains, average daytime temperature is 70 and nights in the 50s, humidity about 30%. Elevation is 9,000 to 12,000 feet. Let's get a group together and caravan out there. It's only about 2,000 miles (one way) so that's about 4 days each way.

September 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> – Southeastern Fall GOF Mk XV – Hiawassee, GA – [www.semqtr.org](http://www.semqtr.org)

October 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> – EuroFest 2009 – Greenville, SC

October 30<sup>th</sup> – November 1<sup>st</sup> – SBCC Annual Car Show – Chattanooga, TN

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

### **MEMBER PROFILES:**

Members are invited to submit interesting articles about their MG or MGs and themselves.

### **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:**

Weber 38 DGES "Outlaw" carburetor. Includes manifold for MGB installation. Used approximately 1000 miles. \$375 or best offer. Contact Ben Stone at 772-770-0083.

Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. Send your ad to Pat Ridgely at the link below or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965 by the 25<sup>th</sup> 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.

We need as many articles written by members as we can get. Submit yours to Pat Ridgely at [pridgely83@yahoo.com](mailto:pridgely83@yahoo.com) or P. O. Box 651068, Vero Beach, FL 32965. Thanks for your help.

**Safety Fast !**

**Club Officials:**

**David Alexander 321-213-7051 (President)**

**Frank Kingston (Vice-President)**

**Pat Ridgely 772-567-2231 (Secretary & Newsletter Editor)**

**Helen Kingston 321-773-1455 (Treasurer)**

**Saul Klein 321-269-0236 (Webmaster & Director at Large) Al Allen (Director)**

**Ken Gregory (Director)**

**Christian Havneraas (Director)**

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

**Norm Ridgely (Director at Large)**

**Ed Price – Past president**

**Jerry Keuper Chairman Emeritus (In Memoriam)**

**MG Car Club – Florida [www.mgcarclubflorida.org](http://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)**



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Toll-free phone/fax: 800-NAMGBR1

*An Invitation to Subscribe to*

## **British Marque CAR CLUB NEWS**

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## **CAR CLUB NEWS**

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### **PARTICIPATING CLUB SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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