



# MG Car Club—Florida

FLORIDA OCTAGON

#112

OCTOBER 2010

**BRIT BASH**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30TH 2010**  
*A celebration of British motorcars  
and motorcycles*  
@ RIVERSIDE PARK OAKS  
VERO BEACH, FLORIDA  
*Show field opens at 8:30 am*  
*FREE to spectators*

REGISTER AT [WWW.MGCARCLUBFLORIDA.ORG](http://WWW.MGCARCLUBFLORIDA.ORG)  
OR CALL DANICA PERHACS  
(772) 770-0083

**PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS:** by Dave Alexander

**October is here, and so is our BIG Show- “Brit Bash 2010” ! The new location in Riverside Park, Vero Beach “Under the Oaks” is a great location and we expect a large turnout. Many thanks to all the club members who have volunteered for the many tasks that a show like this requires. A special thanks to Danica Perhacs for all her hard work making this show possible. More volunteers on the day of the show are welcomed and needed. Please support “our” club and participate in our BIG Show. See all of you on Saturday, October 30 at the park.**

**OCTOBER EVENT - Saturday, October 30th, 2010**

**Our sole October event is the CAR SHOW. Thanks to the members who have volunteered, and we could use more volunteers to help out on show day. The show field gates will open at 8:30 AM, so please be there by 7:30 AM to get your**



**assignments and instructions. Registration ends, and show field gates close at 11:00 AM. Voting ends at 1:30 PM and we plan to present the awards by 3:00 PM. After that, the members will canvass the grounds for trash, pack up and head for home. This is our 8<sup>th</sup> annual show and it appears it might be the largest; it certainly is in the nicest location yet. If you plan to register your car or bike for the show, be sure you do so by**

**October 16<sup>th</sup> to get the \$10 discount (28.6% off the \$35 fee at the gate). So, please support your club and if you can, be at the park before 8 AM. That would be great.**

**Remember, the “Meet & Greet” BBQ is Friday night 6-8 PM at the Springhill Suites in Vero Beach (5115 Indian River Blvd. 772-7942636).**

**LAST MONTH'S EVENT – Saturday, September 25th, 2010**

**Sebastian Beach Inn was the meeting place for our club in September. This is an**



**old landmark restaurant, bar, and live music venue in south Melbourne Beach on the ocean. Seventeen of us gathered at 6:30 in the evening, just as the sun was setting. The SBI had set aside a dining room for our group. The food and drink was very good (and reasonably priced); service was excellent and the Fried Apple Pie alamode was delicious. We had a short meeting and broke up about 9 just as the moon was rising over the ocean – very nice! We were happy**

**to see Christian Havneraas who rode down on his Bimmer and almost – MIA Len Coppold who arrived a tad late (having taken the scenic and round-about route) to everyone’s relief. The rest of us: Norm & Pat Ridgely, Al and Pat Allen, Esther G. Adams (who suggested this fun spot), Brian & Virginia Mitchell, Betty & Kenny Gregory, Dave Alexander & Louise Husband, Richard & Jo-Ann Jensen, and Linda Knoblock & Mark Raupp rounded out the group.**



### **MEMBER PROFILE – BEN STONE - THE BRITISH CAR BUG (ADDICTION)**

**When where you first bitten by the British car bug?**



**For me, it was early (I didn’t know it even happened until years later) and multiple times. My first bite came at around 5-6 years old. My dad was a retired Pearl Harbor survivor from the Navy and had returned to Ponce Inlet Fl., to resume commercial fishing after retiring. He met my mom and her 6 children from a previous alcoholic and abusive marriage and proceeded to add myself, two more**

brothers, and a sister to the group - can't ever have enough Wharf Rats running around. Needless to say, even with a pension, times were always tough with that many mouths to feed.

My dad had two English Hillmans as clunkers to get back and forth to the docks. Nothing but rust buckets. Actually only one ran the other was the infamous parts car. But what great fun my brothers and I had - playing for hours and hours in the parts car. We drove 100,000 miles and never left the yard. The one that did run had a very forgiving, non-functioning gas gauge, you just drove and guessed - and if you guessed wrong and ran out of gas, you just pulled out the full gallon can from the trunk. The get-your-butt-home can; it never failed.

The second time came in sixth grade. My teacher drove a MGA; boy, did it stand out from all the other teachers' cars in the parking lot. He also taught us how to play soccer and chess during recess - pretty unique in the mid to late 60's.

My next bite came riding the bus to high school. Every day the bus would drive by a house, and in the driveway would be a beautiful maroon TR6. I knew some day I would just have to have one.

After surviving the muscle car era (Mustangs, Camaros, Chevelles, etc.) with my brothers, I was ready to get a TR6 but love intervened. I had been dating a gal somewhat older than me, (Yeah, don't ask) and mentioned the TR6. She had had a 1965 MGB and thought I would like it much better. So being THAT guy in love, the search was on. I ended up buying a 1973 MGB in Orlando with 60,000 miles on it in 1977. A lot of miles, but the car felt so tight. When my future ex-wife, (different gal) had me trade it in on a VW Sirocco; it had 120,000 miles on it with no major problems... can't exactly say the same for the ex-wife.

At last it is 1989, starting over with my soon-to-be new Wifey, Danica, and what is hiding behind the Palm Beach Dunkin' Donuts? - no, next to the police car - a slightly battered and bruised, in need of a clutch, and a lot of other stuff - 1974.5 MGB. So Danica bought it as a get-over-your-divorce present. What a find - Danica, then the car. I think I have that in the right order.

So the Luv-B, Danica the Wifey, along with a son and a daughter, have been my new family through some lean times and very, very good times for 20 years. My bites have evolved into an addiction. As I have also added a 1973 MGBGT and a 1952 TD (they found me I swear). My addiction wouldn't be possible without the love and support of my wife.

Happy 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Danica.



## **REDNECK BANK LOAN**

**A Redneck from North Carolina walked into a bank in New York City and asked for the loan officer. He told the Loan Officer that he was going to Bakersfield on business for two weeks and needed to borrow \$5,000 and that he was not a depositor of the bank.**

**The bank officer told him that the bank would need some form of security for the loan, so the Redneck handed over the keys to a new Ferrari. The car was parked on the street in front of the bank. The Redneck produced the title and everything checked out. The loan officer agreed to hold the car as collateral for the loan and apologized for having to charge 12% interest.**

**Later, the bank's president and its officers all enjoyed a good laugh at the Redneck from the south for using a \$250,000 Ferrari as collateral for a \$5,000 loan. An employee of the bank then drove the Ferrari into the bank's private underground garage and parked it.**

**Two weeks later, the Redneck returned, repaid the \$5,000 and the interest of \$23.07. The loan officer said, "Sir, we are very happy to have had your business, and this transaction has worked out very nicely, but we are a little puzzled. While you were away, we checked you out and found that you are a multimillionaire. What puzzles us is why would you bother to borrow \$5,000?"**

**The good ole' Tar Heel boy replied, "Where else in New York City can I park my car for 2 weeks for only \$23.07 and expect it to be there when I return?"**

**His name was BUBBA ... (reprinted from the Piedmont British Motor Club "Lugnut")**

## **UPCOMING MGCC-F EVENTS**

### **FRIDAY/SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29<sup>TH</sup> / 30<sup>TH</sup> – BRIT BASH AT VERO BEACH'**

**Remember you are needed to assist in your club's car show. Contact Danica Perhacs, Show Chairman - 772-770-0083, [britbash@comcast.net](mailto:britbash@comcast.net) to volunteer.**

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> – F.I.T. ANNUAL HOMECOMING PARADE**

**We have been invited to participate in FIT's Homecoming Parade. We need to form up at the staging area of University Park Elementary School (500 West University Blvd.) at 10AM. The parade starts at 11 AM. After the parade, we are invited to attend a Bar B Q on Campus as guest of the Alumni Association. Also please note that the parade route this year has eliminated the long, spectator-less Babcock Avenue stretch. "Shorter-is-better". If you do not wish to drive/ride in the parade, please come as a spectator and also enjoy the Bar-B-Q, and wear your MGCC-F shirts, hats, badges, etc. Please call Ed Price (321-632-2207) or**

**Linda Knoblock (321-544-4569 or [oldcarsnewcars@bellsouth.net](mailto:oldcarsnewcars@bellsouth.net)) to let them know you're coming.**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> – A DAY TRIP TO HISTORICAL DOWNTOWN SANFORD.**

Details to follow

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> – ANNUAL TOUR TO HISTORIC BOK GARDENS, SINGING TOWER, AND PINWOOD ESTATE, LAKE WALES**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> - HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE GREGORY'S IN VERO BEACH.**

Details to follow

**2011 – HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**We have an open calendar for the coming year. We have some suggestions but please submit any ideas you have so we might consider them; i.e. Mt. Dora, Daytona Experience and/or Rolex 24, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, joint meeting/tour with other clubs (Gold Coast in Palm Beach Classic MG in Orlando); day trips or overnights. Any and all suggestions welcome. It's your club.**

**DUES**

**The Club's by-laws (Article III-Section V) state that dues shall be reviewed and discussed at each October monthly meeting and voted upon by all at that meeting. As our "meeting" for October will be our annual car show, your Board of Directors, at their meeting held September 29<sup>th</sup> voted to keep the dues at \$15.00 a year. If you do NOT concur with that, please contact Dave Alexander (321-213-7051 or [iamcaptain@mindspring.com](mailto:iamcaptain@mindspring.com)) to let him know no later than October 28<sup>th</sup>. The car show is usually in November so we have not had this conflict in dates before. The November newsletter will carry the DUES "notice for payment" along with an updated renewal form.**

**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.**

**October 15-17 – EURO 2010 – Greenville, SC**

**October 23 – 24<sup>th</sup> Annual All British Field Meet, Safety Harbor**

**October 29-31 – SBCC Annual Car Show – Chattanooga Choo Choo (Tennessee)**

**November 5-7 – JAMBOREE 17 – Riverside Inn, Homosassa - [www.fsmgcc.com](http://www.fsmgcc.com)**

**June 12-18, 2011 – MG 2011 NA Council of MG Registers – Reno/Tahoe, NV**

**For questions on any of the above, call Norm Ridgely (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 Ridgely at [normridge@yahoo.com](mailto: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:**

**Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. Send your ad to Norm 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.**

**FOR SALE – the front seats from the Ridgelys 1967 MGB/GT. The seats were rebuilt September 2004 and new sheepskin (grey) covers were put on them in March 2006. Asking \$300. 772-532-4265. (10/10)**

**FOR SALE – 1980 MGB, red with black interior/top, good condition inside and out, new top, engine mechanicals very good. Palm Bay, FL – Joann Kane 321-724-1751, asking \$7,000. (10/10)**

**FOR SALE – 1971 TR6 Triumph – No rust, low mileage. Trade for MG of equal value – up or down. 863-763-0894. Please leave message Albert Mace (Okeechobee) (10/10)**

***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](mailto: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](http://www.mgcarclubflorida.org)**

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

**For Club Info- Please email Dave Alexander [email](mailto:davealex@mgbr1.com)**



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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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**CAR CLUB NEWS**

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