



# MG Car Club—Florida

#83

MAY 2008 NEWSLETTER

## PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS: by Dave Alexander

Month four of 08 is behind us, eight more and 08 will be history, relegated to our memories. Wouldn't it be nice to have memories of driving your British car in company with others of like interest? Each and every month our club gives us just that opportunity, so please, come out and join us.

On Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> those that attended were treated to another of Ed's wonderful tours. Beautiful weather, nice roads, pretty and well behaved British cars, were enjoyed by all that participated, and quite a few admirers along the way seemed to enjoy our colorful procession also. More on this event and the May event (a first for this club, a "do not miss" for sure) is covered later in this newsletter.



## Car Show Notice

As you know, our annual car show at Fox Lake in Titusville in September is no more. The location, date, and name have been changed. This was done to avoid the height of hurricane season and heat and to more centrally locate the show field. The new name is:

### **BRIT BASH AT WICKHAM** *A Celebration of British Motorcars*

The new location is **Wickham Park** in Melbourne, Florida. The new date is **November 1, 2008**.

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

## IMPORTANT NEXT EVENT

Ed Price and Bill Emmons are planning a RALLY for the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of May, May 24<sup>th</sup>. It's going to be great so don't miss it. They promised it will be FUN! The required equipment is two people per car (driver and navigator), paper and pencil for calculations (yes, you may use a calculator), a working speedometer with mileage reflected (not necessarily trip), a watch with a second hand, and a sense of humor, patience, virtue (well, maybe not all of that). We will meet on the north side parking of Brevard Community College on Wickham Road at 9:30 a.m. The rally masters will hold a brief training session, and then we are off. It is planned for about 1 to 1-1/2 hour and will end with a picnic lunch. So, be sure top off the tank, get your gear together, and pack your lunch. We'll have a prize



for the best looking lunch basket as well as certain finishing position in the rally. Please plan to attend; you will have FUN! North group RSVP to Ed Price in the evening at 321- 672-2207 and south group RSVP to Norm Ridgely at 772-532-4265.

## DUES

As set out in last month's newsletter, dues are now PAST DUE. There are still a few who have not sent in their dues and it would be greatly appreciated if you would get your dues in the mail as soon as possible. The club address is on the last page of this newsletter. Thanks.

## ENGINE OIL by Norm Ridgely

On a recent trip to Glenn's MG Repair in St. Petersburg, Glen Lenhard stated that he is now using Castrol GTX Diesel Oil 10-40 due to the fact it still contains "ZDDP". As you know, there has been a lot of confusion over this issue. The reduction of "ZDDP" came about as motorcar manufacturers must warranty catalytic converters for 10 years, and zinc and phosphorus can shorten a "cats" life; also modern motorcars use roller lifters, not flat tappets, and most also have overhead cams. Therefore, need for "ZDDP" was reduced. John Twist has also switched to diesel, using Valvoline Diesel Oil 15w/40. John said in the July/August 2007 MGB Driver magazine "I'm still unsure as to the critical importance of all this." And, in 2008, trucks are supposed to start using cat converters so that may eventually reduce the availability of "ZDDP" oils for older cars.

## Past Events:

The recent Gathering of the Faithful, GOF South XLII was held at Silver Springs, Florida, over the weekend of April 11-13. It was a well-planned and well-executed (down to the smallest details) event.



Congratulations go out to the Suncoast Classic MG Club and the Nature Coast English Car Club for working together in producing this long-to-be-remembered GOF. Our club had 15 members in attendance: Saul Klein, Richard & Joanne Jensen, Tom & Ritva Bowman, Art & Yvonne Floyd, John & Sharon Spadaro, Ken & Betty Gregory, Frank & Helen Kingston, and Norm & Pat Ridgely. The Floyd's were accompanied by our

long-time (former) member/friend, Patsy Naumann, who we were happy to see again. Friday night's dinner was on your own but

at dark we were treated to movies projected on the side of the building under the moon and stars. We enjoyed 2 cartoons and "Tarzan" with



Johnny Weissmuller while a pair of "carhops" (one on skates and the other with hairy legs and other endowments) served cold drinks, popcorn & lots of laughs. Tarzan was special because it was filmed in

Silver Springs, probably in the late 1930s. Saturday we drove into Silver Springs Park, just across from the motel, where we were directed to park on a grassy slope off the parking lot with a number of shade trees. Judging was done by those with registered cars. Check our website for photos,



including an MG Midget BOAT on the St. Johns River. No, it did



not make it to the car show. We also had access to the park itself which had plenty to see and do, such as gator exhibits/shows, other wildlife, three different glass-bottom boat rides on the Silver River, a small zoo, and much more. The water was clear as glass. Saturday evening, we gathered



back at the park for the banquet and then moved to the motel's pool deck for the awards presentation and great entertainment from two young ladies who put on an Andrews Sisters style show followed by Hawaiian singing and dancing which also included members from the audience. Our club members did well in awards: Art Floyd received a 3<sup>rd</sup> in TC, Frank Kingston a 3<sup>rd</sup> in B chrome bumper, Ken Gregory 2<sup>nd</sup> in B rubber bumper, and Pat Ridgely 1<sup>st</sup> in B/GT. Everyone agreed it was a great event and hope more of you will be able to attend in 2009 when the Classic MG Club of Orlando will host GOF South XLIII.

The other event that took place in April was a driving tour presented by the Master Tourer himself, Ed Price, who really did himself proud on this one. This took place on Saturday, April, 26<sup>th</sup>. Twelve



members, 7 cars, met at McDonald's in the Rockledge Shopping Center at 9:30 a.m., kicked tires, used the facilities, and departed about 10. Ed sent us touring out to Indian River Drive, then through downtown Cocoa, back to Indian River Drive, traversed the highest point in Brevard County with

beautiful homes (thousands drive nearby daily on US #1 and don't even know it's there), visited a nice historical museum, the Brevard



Museum of History & Natural Science – well worth the entry fee. The tour terminated at River Roost on Merritt Island overlooking the Banana River where we had a great lunch on their deck by the water. Those attending were Dave Alexander & Gail Gilbert, Pat & Al Allen, Len Coppold (welcome back, Len), Joyce & Bill Emmons, Christian Havneraas, Pam & Ed Price, and Pat & Norm Ridgely. It was a beautiful day, great driving tour, and time well spent with fellow MG lovers. We missed those of you who couldn't make it.

### **MGCC-F UPCOMING EVENTS:**

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday – May 24<sup>th</sup> – T-S-D Rally (see article near the beginning of this newsletter).

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> – This will kick off our summer evening events – details to follow.

### **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 25/29, 2008 – MG 2008, Valley Forge, PA hosted by NAMGBR.

July 14-18, 2008 – NAMGAR GT-33 will be held at the Seven Springs Resort in Champion, PA. For reservations call the resort at 866-437-1300, room rate is \$130.00. Additional info can be found at [www.7springs.com](http://www.7springs.com). The featured car is the Twin Cam.

October 17-19, 2008 – Euro-Fest 2008 at the BMW plant in Greer, SC.

November 7/9, 2008 – MG Jamboree, St. Pete, FL – Details to follow

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:**

(5) Tires on rims with trim rings. Firestone FR380, P175/70R14. (2) excellent, (2) decent, (1) spare. \$200 OBO. Please call Ben Stone @ (772) 770-0083.

1975 MG Midget \$3,200 – converted to chrome bumpers. This restoration just finished: rebuilt engine, new top, tires, battery, clutch, fuel system, electric distributor & much more. This is not my first restoration. Larry Close, Vero Beach. 772-231-0315.

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)**

**Al Allen (Director)**

**Ken Gregory (Director)**

**Christian Havneraas (Director)**

**Danica Perhacs (Director, Show Chairperson 772-770-0083)**

**Saul Klein (Director at Large)**

**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**



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

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP fee is \$30 and INCLUDES**

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- Six bi-monthly issues of the the MGB Driver Magazine
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**North American MGB Register**  
P O Box 69; Eaton Rapids, MI 48827  
Toll-free phone/fax: 800-NAMGBR1



# British Marque Car Club News

[www.britishmarque.com](http://www.britishmarque.com) MGCCF Participating Club Price = \$14 per year