



FLORIDA OCTAGON

#222 August 2021

Safety Fast!

CLUB OFFICIALS

President:

Brian Mitchell
(321) 254-9605
bgspain@hotmail.com

Vice President:

John Perez
(321) 243-2661
jpmetsjets@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Helen Kingston
(321) 773-1455
Hjk10590@gmail.com

Secretary:

Marilyn Lewis
(321) 259-7681
Delewis67@aol.com

Director:

David Alexander
(321) 213-7051
Davidjalexander13@gmail.com

Director:

Paul Stedman
(321) 676-8306
pjsted@yahoo.com

Director:

Norman Ridgely
(772) 532-4265
normridge@yahoo.com

Director:

Dale Lewis
(321) 259-7681
Delewis67@aol.com

Immediate Past President

Linda Knoblock-Raupp
(321) 757-0180
oldcarsnewcars@bellouth.net

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

For those of you expecting my monthly dollop of vehicular advice and humor, please wait until next month, if you will.

In England, going 100 miles per hour is referred to as "Doing the Ton" and, I suppose, that we could say that living to be 100 years old could also be referred to the same way. It is with great sadness that I pass on to those who may not already know that our favorite Canadian immigrant, Len Coppold, has passed away at the age of 99.

Anyone who had the good fortune to know Len has been rewarded with lots of memories, some kind of fun, like following his bright yellow TR7 or blue Midget for miles with the turn signal on; entertaining like listening to him play a perfectly strummed jazz guitar; and some, like recently for me, heartwarming, as, shortly before his passing, he was searching for a part for a car that he had recently sold, but still felt responsible for. One that will be with me forever was a nighttime ride home from Marsh Landings in Fellsmere, in a hot rod Chrysler Crossfire, at five miles under the speed limit, in the second lane on I-95, in the dark. Safety not-so-fast!

Len always had a smile spread across his face and would try to pass it on to whoever would take it, always keeping enough in reserve for the next person. Others of us will be sharing stories elsewhere in this missive, but I don't think that any of us will ever know the full story of his life and good deeds. He may not have "Done The Ton" of years, but he has left behind a ton of fond memories and friends as faithful as he was to them.

Rest in peace, good friend, and may there be lots of Little British Cars available for you to tootle around Heaven in.

Safety Not So Fast

Brian

(321) 254-9605

bgspain@hotmail.com

Chairman Emeritus

Jerry Keuper
(In Memoriam)

For Club Info--Please
visit:

[MG Car Club--Florida](#)

August Birthdays:

03 Pat Ridgely
03 Linda Knoblock-
Raupp
05 Ruth Rutherford
08 Preston Elliott
08 Adrianna Hay
12 Robert Ross
13 Jane Parrett
15 Sharon Spadaro
16 Maria Buck
17 Sue Davia
17 Ken Gregory
31 John Spadaro

August Anniversaries:

02 Roger & Jeanne
Jessaume
13 Jeremy & Jane Parrett
20 Saul & Maureen Klein
Paul & Judy Stedman
21 Pat & Sally Fox
21 Roman & Joan
Ortega-Cowan

Upcoming Club Events:

*July 14 – Monthly Dinner
El Chico 6:00 PM*

Contact Information:

Brian Mitchell
P. O. Box 410471
Melbourne, FL 32941
(321) 254-9605

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS:

Have you been some place interesting, taken a scenic drive, dined at a restaurant you enjoyed? These are potential places, drives, dinners for club events! Please contact a member of the board and share your suggestion. Input is always needed and appreciated!

- **August 18, 2021 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner 06:00 PM.** POC Judy Stedman. Judy has chosen Red Ginger in the Melbourne Square Mall for August's dinner. [Red Ginger \(redgingerusa.com\)](#) Please RSVP to judy_stedman@yahoo.com or call/text 321-831-7405. A confirmation to the reservation number is needed by August 10th.
- **August 20, 2021 – MGCC-FL Celebration of Len Coppold.** John Perez has reserved a room at Haru Sushi Bar & Grill, 1500 N Hwy A1A, Indialantic, FL 32903 [Haru Sushi Bar & Grill - Japanese Restaurant | INDIALANTIC | FL](#) for the MG Car Club to gather to pay tribute to Len. This restaurant was one Len entertained with his music. John and Brian will MC the evening. Anyone wishing to share a memory of Len is encouraged to do so. If you have any pictures to contribute to the video John and Saul are creating, please email the pictures to Jpmetsjets@gmail.com by August 13th.
- **September 18, 2021 – MGCC-FL Members Yearly Business Meeting 11:30 AM Marsh Landing, 44 N Broadway St, Fellsmere, FL 32948.** A trip plan will be put together and updated here before September. Tentatively the club will meet and caravan to the restaurant via a scenic route. Those that choose to can meet us at the restaurant.
- **October 9, 2021 – SPCA of Brevard 10th Anniversary Hot Dogs, Cool Cats & Wild Rides Car & Motorcycle Show 10:00 AM -2:00 PM, Fox Lake Park in Titusville.** Pre-registration by Oct 9th is \$15, day of show \$20. First 100 cars registered receive a 10th anniversary car show hat and dash plaque. The trip plan is to meet up at the Rockledge McDonald's on US1 by 8:00 AM to caravan to the show. Please visit [Join us for our 10th Annual Car Show - SPCA of North Brevard \(spcabrevard.com\)](#) and click the 'To register online [here](#)' link to register. *Please see flyer below!*

OTHER EVENTS:

- Calendar of local car events and cruise-ins maintained by Mike Euziere. [British Car Driving Group](#)
- **July 31, 2021 – The Majors Gold Club and the Cape Canaveral Antique Auto Club present Saturday Morning Cars and Coffee at the Majors Golf Club, 3425 Bayside Lakes Drive, Palm Bay FL. 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Top 10 plaques awarded by peoples' choice (must be present to win) NO ENTRY FEE. Breakfast and refreshments available for purchase at the clubhouse. Questions? Email: tmkldwwj@yahoo.com**
- **August 28, 2021 – Daytona Car Corral. 12:00 PM – 07:00 PM.** On Saturday, August 28th, the Daytona International Speedway is sponsoring a Car Corral at One Daytona. Admission of \$50 includes a 300 level (good seats) ticket to the Coke Zero 400 that evening, and free parking, as your car will remain in the car corral at One Daytona. Entry begins at 12:00

Noon with Judging at 04:00 PM. A companion ticket can be purchased for an additional \$40. If you are interested, contact Alex Snyder at 276-956-7226 or email at asn timer@nascar.com to purchase admission by August 10th. Mention you are with the MG Club when you make your purchase.

- **September 23-26, 2021 – Brits in the Valley British Car Weekend Hosted by Peachtree MG Registry in Columbus, GA.** Please visit [Peachtree MG Registry - Brits in the Valley](#) for details on the event and registration information. Norman and Pat Ridgely are attending and have tentative plans to leave on September 22nd. They will drive back roads for a leisurely trip. If anyone is interested in caravanning with them, please email Norman at normridge@yahoo.com. In the past, members of the MGCC-FL have attended, and have said Peachtree MG Registry puts on a great event. A fun weekend get away!

The poster has a textured, light brown background. At the top left is the SPCA of Brevard logo, which consists of a black silhouette of a dog and a cat inside a circle, followed by the text "SPCA OF BREVARD" in red and black. Below the logo is "10th Anniversary". The main title is "Hot Dogs, Cool Cats & Wild Rides Car & Motorcycle Show" in large, bold, black letters. Below the title is a side-view image of a white classic convertible car. To the left of the car, registration prices are listed: "Registration before Oct 9: \$15" and "Day of Event: \$20". To the right of the car, it says "Featuring DJ Fast Eddie" and "50/50 & Raffle Drawings". Below the car, it says "Bring a bag of clumping cat litter and receive a FREE drawing ticket!". The date "Saturday, October 9, 2021" is in large red letters, followed by "10 am - 2 pm at Fox Lake Park in Titusville - Registration starts at 8 am". Below that, it says "First 100 cars registered receive a 10th anniversary car show hat and a dash plaque. All cars registered receive a meal ticket." At the bottom, it says "For Vendor & Advertising Info: logistics@spcabrevard.com Other Inquires: Pat Fox 321-362-0590" and "To register online, visit www.spcabrevard.com". At the very bottom, there are two small logos for "ALTMAN'S COOLING & HEATING" and "Tami Leflaga Massage" with contact information.

Daytona Car Corral
Saturday August 28th, 2021

Entry begins at 12pm, judging will begin at 4pm

Admission is \$50, includes a 300 level ticket to the Coke Zero Sugar 400 Race Beginning at 7pm

A photograph showing several classic cars parked in a lot under a clear blue sky. A palm tree is visible in the background. The cars include a red one, a yellow one, and a blue one.

To purchase admission, contact:
Alex Snyder @ 276-956-7226
or email at asn timer@nascar.com

Leonard (Len) Coppold
March 25, 1922 – July 17, 2021
A Life Well Lived!



On July 17th the MG Car Club Florida lost a valued club member, Len. He fought hard to regain his health and was optimistic he would once again take his beloved trip to the mountains this fall. It wasn't meant to be. Len is survived by Ruth Rutherford, his dearly loved partner. Len was preceded in death by his wife, Madelyn, and his daughter, Robin.

Len loved life! His smile lit up a room and he always had a smile and a kind word for those he was with. As his 98th birthday approached, I attempted to set up an interview with him for this newsletter. He was humble and appreciative, but no way was that going to happen. Fortunately, his good friend Saul Klein intervened and put together a couple of videos to commemorate the occasion.

[Len's 98th Birthday - YouTube](#)
[Len's 98th Birthday Part 2 - YouTube](#)

Saul also had provided me with a list of topics for the interview. From these I've pulled together some facts about Len's life.

He was born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada on March 25, 1922. Growing up in Montreal, he learned to play the guitar to impress girls in his teens. This led to his love of jazz, and he entertained as a jazz guitarist.

In 1940 Len joined the Royal Canadian Air Force. World War II was raging. He was stationed in England and worked aircraft maintenance. During this tour, he joined the Canadian Military Band as a jazz guitarist. The London Free Press published a YouTube video in remembrance of the RCAF Streamliners of St Thomas.

[Music & morale: Remembering WWII's RCAF Streamliners of St. Thomas - YouTube](#)

Len played with many orchestras and bands throughout his life. He joined the Johnny Holmes Orchestra in the 1940's playing alongside Oscar Peterson, one of the great pianists in the history of jazz.

After the war Len worked for Canadian Airlines and eventually relocated to New York City. Sometime in the 1950's Len was employed by CARE (Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere) accepting assignments world-wide. Eventually he settled on Long Island, New York and after many years with CARE, retired and remained on Long Island until moving to Florida in 2002.

Len frequently volunteered with Space Coast Honor Flight.

Yes, Len loved music! His friend Matt Heister put together the following documentary.

[Len Coppold - A Short Documentary - YouTube](#) Len Coppold, A Short Documentary created by Len's friend Matt Heister in April 2020

And Len loved cars!! We know the British Enthusiast Len!

Saul has documented 'The 3 Amigos', Saul, John Perez, Len, on their road trips to the mountains through the years and they're posted on the club website [MG Car Club Florida Brevard Car Club British Sportscars](#)



During the years I knew him, Len alternated between his 79 MG Midget and his 75 TR-7 at events. It's my understanding over the years he owned many other British cars.

In 2013, Len was awarded the Jerry Keuper Memorial Award for his outstanding enthusiasm and efforts in supporting the club.



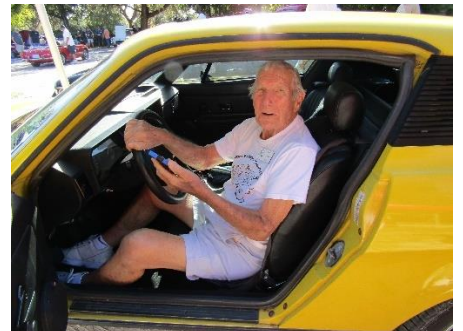
In the last few years, Len was won over by Crossfires and had many adventures on the road.



Saul shared the following album from Bill Storr, a good friend of Len's. They met in Suntree several years ago. Both are Canadians and 'Car Guys'. Bill lives in Edmonton and winters in Suntree. Bill said Len's highlight of his trip to Edmonton was seeing the Piece Arrow!

[Shared album – William Storr – Google Photos](#)

We all have had many good times with Len over the years attending club events!





Till we meet again my friend...

CLUB PHOTOS:

www.mgcarclubflorida.org/mgclubflorida/Club_Photo_Album.htm

July 10, 2021 – Collector Car Appreciation Day Dunkin’ Donuts Car, Truck, & Bike Day



Brian attended this show and provided these pictures and the following info:

In attendance, Bob Beiler (Red TR3), Tim Kingaby (Red MGB), Paul Stedman (Green Midget – used a ‘file’ photo), Fred Braid (Blue MGB), Brian Mitchell (White Triumph), Karin & Mike Pepper, Ed Lankenau. Also, two Metropolitans.



July 14, 2021 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner El Chico



Mary Beth & David



Ginny & Brian



Paul & Judy



Bob & Donna



Pat & Ed



Doug & Linda



Anna & Kourdt



Dale & Marilyn

Club Member Contributions of Articles, Personal Interest Stories and Other Fun Information

If you see a British article, tech or otherwise, you would like to share or have a story to tell (Why you love British Cars; What is the story of your car; What piqued your interest in British Cars, etc.) or if you come across something that just makes you smile, please email me (delewis67@aol.com) and I will include it in the newsletter!

The following article appeared on the funkhana.com website.

Parking lot games for sports cars

Funkhanas are low-speed, light-hearted competitions conducted by car clubs that are a test of dexterity and patience.

Each team, composed of a driver and passenger, must complete tasks -- often centered around a theme -- that involve car handling, teamwork and especially a sense of humor. There are no official rules, the only requirements being that the event is good-natured, low-speed, safe and not hard on the cars.

Funkhana challenges range from sophisticated to silly. You might be squeezing into a tight parking spot, balancing on a huge teeter-totter, playing **ring toss** with a fan belt, or preparing a faux meal of **fish and chips**. Teams are graded by a combination of time, accuracy, and points. By including an element of luck, everyone has a good chance of winning. . . or screwing up.

Unforgettable fun!

Mention the word “funkhana” to a car enthusiast and you’ll probably get one of the following two responses: Most will answer with a question, such as “Huh?” or “Could you spell that?”

The others will grin, chuckle, laugh, grimace, moan – or a medley of the above – and then begin informing you of a particular funkhana incident, possibly from 20 years ago.

That’s because funkhanas are incredibly memorable.

What the “h”? . . . or why it’s funkhana and not funkana

We’re still trying to find out who came up with the word funkhana. It’s derived in part from gymkhana, a term referring to a race over a defined circuit with obstacles either by **horseback** or at the wheel of a sports car. The British favor the word gymkhana for events often conducted on a grass field, while the American equivalent called autocross consists of a course delineated by orange safety cones over the expanse of a parking lot. There are other spellings for this pastime, such as funkana or even funcana, but most people include the “h” to signify the derivation from gymkhana.

Hop on the funkhana bandwagon

It was probably in the 1950s that a driver — realizing that he or she lacked the skill or equipment to excel in the one-car-at-a-time gymkhana races — decided to add unusual obstacles, slow down the pace to low gear, make the competition less serious, and call it a funkhana. The name and concept caught on and soon sports car clubs began conducting funkhanas, which evolved into an automotive social function of sorts that was fun for the whole family.

Funkhanas were most popular in the 1960s and ’70s when classic sports cars like MG, Triumph, Austin, Austin Healey and Morris were still in production. While owners of these older cars still do funkhanas, there’s a new wave of enthusiasts driving newer cars like MINI Coopers, Miatas, BMWs and Porsches.

MGCC-FL Merchandise



MGCC--FL Hats

\$25

Original logo from when club was first founded,
with date and club name

Khaki color is a light weight material with
Nylon adjustable tab closure.

White is slightly heavier but vented on both sides
with
Velcro closure.



MGCC-FL Patches

\$5

Anniversary Logo Design

POC for Purchase:

Helen Kingston (hjk10590@gmail.com)

Ads are free of charge to members, run for three months unless renewed and/or canceled by the advertiser. Send your ad to delewis67@aol.com for publication in the following month's newsletter.

For Sale:

Window Winder Handles - Free

I purchased some window winder handles from Moss, and I made a typo error in the number of units. I now have window winder stock for multiple cars. It will cost me almost as much in postage to return them as the refund amount. If you can post a notice in the next newsletter, I will be happy to give a pair to anyone who can use them. (These are the plastic handles; the metal ones are not available.) Contact Ed Price via phone 321-632-2207 or via E-mail at pdpcash8@gmail.com.

1954 Partially Restored Morris Minor \$4,000

A partially restored 1954 Morris Minor for sale. Split screen, two door. Last driven 7 years ago. Requires new brake lines, at least one drum brake, probably a new front bumper and some surface rust that needs some attention (I live beach side). A nice little car which my wife purchased in GB in the 90's. She had it partially restored, painted and new seats before she passed away. Looking for a buyer who would like a little honey of a car that still needs some loving.

Contact: Tim Sawyer, alwaysyou0214@aol.com



June 2021

1977 MGB Mark IV Roadster \$12,000

Description -

PLEASE READ THE DETAILS, THIS IS A TOTALLY RESTORED CAR

HISTORY

This is a 1977 MGB Mark IV Roadster. It was purchased from the original owner from Maitland Florida (I have a copy of the original Florida Title from 1977) with 75,120 original miles and has been a Florida car all its life. About 1/3 of those miles were when the car was towed behind a motor home. The car was stored in a garage for many years after the owner passed. During the years of storage there was no maintenance done but the car remained rust free. In 2020, when the family attempted to start and run the car, they did not pay attention to the old fluids (oil and water) and as a result spun the main bearings.

2020 to 2021 RESTORATION

In 2020 I restored the interior, sound-deadening material under the carpets, originally white the car was stripped and painted with 4 coats of diamond white (\$3.5K), new body trim work, new dashboard, new seals, new tires, restored rims, new brakes, new top. Complete undercoating. It has the Tonneau cover and top Boot.

The motor was removed, bored 20 over and completely rebuilt top to bottom by J&J Racing Engines in Jupiter Florida February 2021. New alternator, battery, cooling fans, gas tank, fuel pump. The smog pump was deleted. The engine installation and Zenith Stromberg carburetor was completely rebuilt by Eagle Automotive Vero Beach Florida.

The car is still in break-in mode with less than 300 miles since rebuild. AS NICE AS IT GETS. Asking \$12K. Eric Michaels 772 713-7885 Micco FL.



June 2021

1974 Jensen Healey \$8,000

In last month's Hemmings a 'daily driver' (high mileage) 74 Jensen Healey was listed for \$12,000 My car is all original with the exception of the gas tank, lines, fuel pump and carburetor. It was climate controlled stored for many years. Original paint and all gages work. Asking \$8,000. It is the only Jensen Healey registered in Florida.

Contact: Michael Sherbin Phone: (321) 622-5080 Email: msherbin@hotmail.com



May 2021

1953 MG TD Kennedy \$6,500 OBO

Pictures: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/10i9gc8prcdrqm7/AADeRKjf6K7BTY_IWTr1691ha?dl=0

Contact: Lou Dominguez Phone: 772-323-9521 Email: Imdominguez23@yahoo.com

May 2021

1972 MGB - \$500 (negotiable)

1972 MGB with clear Florida title. Many parts: engine complete w/dual SU carbs & manifold, oil cooler, radiator, dists, coils complete head & valve assembly, generator, etc. Transmission & rear end thought to be good, suspension parts all there. Bumpers are fair, instruments and door glass are good except right window. Many small parts, hinges, door handles, etc. Window regulators & vent window frames & glass are there.

Engine condition is unknown, engine is stuck, and I have not tried to do anything with it, top frame & top bows are complete except for front header bar. I bought this one as a package deal & used the canvas top, SS muffler & other parts in restoring another MG. Car rolls but has one tire which will not hold air.

Contact Bill Insko (321) 259-8323

Downsizing: MG & Triumph parts & projects

1967 MGB GT Partially disassembled Project car. Florida title \$2,000.

1970's Postal Jeep. Rusty body I6 engine, turns. \$500.

Two 1970's VW Project/parts cars. Both engines run. \$2,000 each.

1976 MGB RDS Project car. Custom steel dash, good rubber, good driver. Florida title. \$2,500.

1978 Triumph Spitfire. With weber/header, aluminum radiator, new wood dash, fiberglass trunk lid, factory hard top, rough body, good tires, Florida title. **\$2,000.**

Contact Dave Alexander (321) 213-7051 (Please leave a message, I will return all calls)

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1970 MGB \$6500 Rust Free

1970 MGB 3rd owner Florida car excellent driver. RUST FREE BODY, partial older repaint of original color, Original interior, 85,000 miles. New brake master, emergency cable, clutch master and slave, front rotors and calipers, front wheel bearings, rear springs, Apple rebuilt front and rear shocks, fuel gauge sending unit, excellent top and tonneau, new inner tubes, rebuilt radiator. All work done by an 18-year vintage racing driver to update and have safe running gear. Could be driven anywhere. Typical oil leak.

Contact Mike McLaughlin (407) 625-8382



Seats for 91 Lotus Elan \$550



These seats were in my Lotus for about two years. I replaced these seats with the originals. New, these seats were \$1200 Sparco & the back is adjustable. They have aluminum adapters on the bottom and are like new. I will let them go for \$550 for the pair.

Contact Kourdt Howell, email: Kourdt.howell@gmail.com, Phone: (328) 427-3072

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Form and check must be received by the 20th of the month to receive the next month's issue

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