



# FLORIDA OCTAGON

#233 July 2022

## ***Safety Fast!***

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## **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:**



As I write this, we are spending our last evening in the LBC-friendly White Mountains of NH, with its twisty roads, HILLS!, and remarkably cool weather. My body has forgotten how to perspire so I'll be enrolling in a refresher class upon my return to Florida at the end of June. I'm told that the weather most of you are currently experiencing may obviate the need for said course of instruction, as my body's genetic memory will probably take care of it. We've had temps from the low 40's to the high 70's, with overnight snow on Mount Washington. We declined the opportunity to use the auto road to the top (6,288ft) as there were 50+ mph winds at the summit and we've been there before. The now-closed weather observatory once recorded a gust of 231 mph on April 12, 1934, the highest ever recorded in the world.

We did pass two MGBs and a TR6 on the roadways and spied an MGTD on the front row of a used car lot. Lots of other drop-top vehicles ferrying smiling passengers around some of the best driving roads in New England during their fifth season. Yup! Five seasons: almost winter, winter, still winter, mud and road construction. A lot of that going on. It's light at 0430 here and sunset isn't until after 2015 (815 pm) tonight (6/23). Lots of time to enjoy the pleasures of motoring without having to fear the vagaries of ole Joe Lucas, if one can afford the petrol. We have been dealing with \$5.09-\$5.19 for most of the three weeks we've been gone. Found some \$4.79 stuff the other day, right across the road from Clam Haven, an old high school hangout, where we were relieved of \$140 for two large orders of our favorite whole-belly clams, two small orders of onion rings and two bottled drinks, YIKES! Inflation much? I certainly hope that the fare at our July soiree at New England Eatery and Pub will be more reasonable.

Looking forward to getting back to Florida and car buddies there, the heat notwithstanding. We have a Board meeting in early July and are actively seeking ideas for driving and social events for the summer and beyond. Cruises, car shows, dining venues both new and familiar. Many minds make light work, or something like that.

Until next month,  
Safety Fast  
Brian  
(321) 254-9605  
[bgspain@hotmail.com](mailto:bgspain@hotmail.com)

Chairman Emeritus

Jerry Keuper  
(In Memoriam)

For Club Info--Please visit:

[MG Car Club--Florida](#)

July Birthdays:

05 Ed Price  
06 Pam Price  
11 Cindy Ingram  
12 Corinne Belanger  
12 Donna Powers  
14 Michael Sherbin  
18 Gail Powling  
19 Diane Perez  
20 Jim Baer  
20 Bill Parks  
22 Mike Fufidio  
23 Lee Harris  
25 Mary Insko  
25 Sallie Richardson  
26 Linda Rothwell  
28 Charles Salemme  
Doreen Sherbin

July Anniversaries:

06 Ed & Pam Price  
10 Roger & Edie Lowery  
11 Adrianna & Richard Hay  
11 Ken & Betty Gregory  
12 Mike & Rainy Euziere  
19 Bill & Mary Insko  
21 Angel & Susan Lopez  
31 Pat & Diane Grassick

Upcoming Club Events:

July 6<sup>th</sup> – Monthly Dinner at New England Eatery and Pub  
July 16<sup>th</sup> – Breakfast at Sarno's Restaurant & Pizzeria

Contact Information:

Brian Mitchell  
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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!

- **(Note: New Date) July 06, 2022 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner at New England Eatery and Pub 06:00 PM.** July's monthly dinner was recommended by Linda Knoblock-Raupp and seconded by Mike Fufidio and Mike DeZego. It will be at New England Eatery and Pub located at 5670 S Highway A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951 [New England Eatery & Pub](#) Please RSVP to Marilyn Lewis at [delewis67@aol.com](mailto:delewis67@aol.com) so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.
- **July 11, 2022 – MGCC-FL Quarterly Board Meeting 06:00 PM.** The board meeting will be held in the Kingston Garage, 1561 Maple Avenue, Melbourne, FL. All club members are welcome to attend, or you can send ideas/concerns to a board member to present for discussion. The meetings encompass club business, finances, and planning. Minutes are prepared and available by request.
- **July 16, 2022 – Breakfast at Sarno Restaurant & Pizzeria 09:00 AM.** The club has been to Sarno Restaurant & Pizzeria for breakfast previously with rave reviews. [www.sarnorestaurantandpizzeria.com](http://www.sarnorestaurantandpizzeria.com) We're doing it again! For this early morning meet up some of us will drive our cars! There is plenty of room to park together if we park out from the building. Please RSVP to Marilyn Lewis so we can let the restaurant know how many to expect.
- **August 2022** We are still in the planning stages for a possible display of our cars at Hemmingway's while we have lunch. Rob Buck is arranging this event with the owners.
- **October 8, 2022 – Hot Dogs, Cool Cats, & Wild Rides Car & Motorcycle Show Fox Lake Park, Titusville 10:00 AM – 0200 PM** To register online visit [SPCA OF BREVARD INC - Car Show 2022 \(networkforgood.com\)](http://SPCA OF BREVARD INC - Car Show 2022 (networkforgood.com)) First 100 registrants receive dash plaque. Sheriff Ivey is MC for the show. *Please see flyer and registration below!*

**OTHER EVENTS:**

- Calendar of local car events and cruise-ins maintained by Mike Euziere. [British Car Driving Group](#)
- **July 16, 2022 - Dunkin Donuts Beachside Car & Truck Show 08:00 AM – 12:00 PM.** *Please see flyer below!*
- **September 15 – 18, 2022 Southeast British Car Festival Dillard, GA** The SOUTHEAST BRITISH CAR FESTIVAL in Dillard, Ga. is now taking registrations for their 30th ANNIVERSARY event. This is not "just" a car show. First, Dillard is located in the foothills of the Blue Ridge mountains, just south of North Carolina and west of South Carolina, in the northeast pocket of Georgia. There are over a dozen self driving tours you can partake of, including THE TALE OF THE DRAGON. There are tours to winery's, pottery shops, the Foxfire Museum & Heritage Museum, Black Rock Mountain State Park, shopping in Franklin or

Highlands, NC. Thursday night we drive down to Clayton to the Tiger Drive-in for a movie, usually an automobile themed one, Friday night is a LOW COUNTRY BOIL dinner. Saturday morning is the car show of all British makes and models, usually more than 200. The afternoon is yours, and the Buffet and Awards Banquet is that evening. Sunday is heading south. Pat & I have attended this event for many years, as well as many members of our club, such as the Gregory's, Spadaro's, Kingston's, Saul Klein, Len Coppold, and others. The St. Pete, Orlando, and Palm Beach/Miami clubs are also in attendance. The weather at that time is usually outstanding. Registration is now open. Go to [peachtreemg.com](http://peachtreemg.com), click on Dillard 2022, and you will have access to all the info you need to sign up. The phone number of the Dillard House is 800-541-0671, for room reservations (they go fast) and is the location and base for all activities. The website gives you other places to stay if Dillard House is full. Hope to see you there. Norm Ridgely

#### **CLUB PHOTOS:**

[www.mgcarclubflorida.org/mgclubflorida/Club\\_Photo\\_Album.htm](http://www.mgcarclubflorida.org/mgclubflorida/Club_Photo_Album.htm)

#### **Monthly Dinner at Tuscany Grill - June 14**

A big Thank you to David and Sallie for recommending Tuscany Grill in Viera for June's Monthly Dinner.

*Attending:*

*Norman & Pat Ridgely  
Roger Lowery  
Linda Knoblock-Raupp  
Marilyn Lewis  
David Homlswood  
Sallie Richardson  
Paul & Judy Stedman  
Frank & Helen Kingston  
Richard & Judy Fiskes*



## Cocoa Village Concours - June 19<sup>th</sup>



**Rob, Maria, Dale, Ed**



**Lisa, Dale, Linda, Ed, Pam**



**Linda**



**Pam and Ed Price**

**On Sunday, Father's Day, Rob and Maria, Dale and Marilyn, Linda and Lisa met up at McDonald's to attend the Concours. Ed and Pam stopped by to greet everyone! Ed had the Bimini top on their MGB and demonstrated the install for us. Then, after Rob filled the radiator on the Land Rover, we were off to the show!**

**There was no assigned parking at the show so we didn't park together as a club. Rob and Maria parked their Land Rovers as directed, but the radiator on Linda's MGB wasn't cooperating so we followed her in our MGA over to Oleander to park where she would have easy access to a tow if needed (fortunately it wasn't). Tim Kingaby parked his MGB with us too. Mike Euziere attended showing his 1958 Triumph TR3A. We ran into Mike Panopoulos at the show, a former club member. We met Tim Potter, showing his 1969 Austin Healey Sprite.**

**There were many beautiful cars at the show of all makes and models. Some were displayed in groupings but most were parked randomly.**



**Rob and his dad, Mr. Buck**



**Maria Buck**



**Tim Potter**



**Mike Euziere**



**Dale Lewis**

**Linda with her helpers**

**Tim Kingaby**



**Mike Euziere, Mike Panapoulus  
Tim Kingaby, Dale Lewis**

**Mike Panaouplus, Mike Euziere**

## Club Member Contributions of Articles, Personal Interest Stories and Other Stuff

**If you see a British article (tech or otherwise) you would like to share 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! Personal stories are welcome too! Tell us about your car(s)!**

### *Pictures and writeups from our club members*

Frank Kingston shared a photo of his 1969 MGC GT. The 'Queen' has undergone many 'surgeries' since her accident to restore her to her previous restored beauty! Looking forward to a write up from Frank soon.



**Before**



**In-process**

In June's newsletter Ed Price shared his discovery of a Bimini top for MG's. Paul shared this picture and comment!

Hi Ed,

I want to thank you for the lead for this top. I bought one, received it today and installed it right away. Assembly was easy even without instructions. Just what the dermatologist ordered.

Thanks again, Paul Stedman



The tops can be ordered  
from: [Edkirkland@centurylink.net](mailto:Edkirkland@centurylink.net)

## *Articles!*

### One in One-Hundred Thousand

In last month's Gazette Quick Shifts section, I shared a memory of a great experiences that Susan and I had at the April 2009 NAMGR Regional event in Key West. Fred Scomp, a Key West local, was the event host. Fred was also the owner of the famous Gold 100,000th 1962 MGA 1600 mkII.

Recently while looking for images to inspire my brain for the May Gazette, I came across the cover of the May 1962 Safety Fast issue. Low-and-behold it featured the 100,000th MGA car rolling off the Abingdon production line. It was Fred's car. The car was not your regular MGA 1600 mkII. It was a show car that was specially trimmed. Gold body paint, three gold plated "100,000" badges, gold plated wire wheels, a full white leather interior, and deep-pile lambswool carpeting. A 1962 version of "Pimp-my-Ride".

As Mark J. McCourt of Hemmings Motor News wrote in 2008, "it was designated to live a pampered life of a show car, but history would prove otherwise".

The car debuted at the September 1962 Earls Court Motor Show. Then transported to the United States on the RMS Queen Mary with two other MGAs to be displayed at the New York International Auto Show to wow the motoring public for the last time before the new MGB replaced the MGA in 1963.

After display at a few prominent America MG dealerships, according to Mark McCourt of Hemmings Motor News "the car made its way to the John Tune Import Motors dealership in Nashville Tennessee. Mark speculated that it was because John Tune was a big importer back in the day".

This is where the Scomp family steps into the picture. Fred Scomp's brother Russell, by chance walked into the Tune dealership and saw the Gold 100,000th MGA on the sales floor. He bought it for list price on the spot. The salesman was all-to-happy to sell the MGA to make room for the new MGB models (remember the MGA was last year's car). The sales manager immediately approved the deal. All the papers were signed, and Russell was the proud owner of an incredibly special car.

It's reported that the next day John Tune personally called Russel and said that he could not own the car as Abingdon wanted the car to be returned. Tune made efforts to get the car back but was unsuccessful. Apparently with the launch of the MGB nearing, Abingdon deciding it was not worth arguing further. Russell prevailed as the legal owner of the MGA, lock-stock-and-driveshaft.

Fred was "smitten" by Russel's MGA and also wanted one. Russel co-signed a loan for young Fred, and Fred bought an iris blue 1962 MGA mkII. The brothers enjoyed driving their cars for about two years.

Russel had driven the car about 8,000 miles when it developed a little problem that he and a few friends could not solve. The car was parked in the back of his house on his 40-acre ranch, waiting to be repaired. That is where it stayed. Fred asked Russel on numerous occasions if he would sell him the car, but Russell said he intended to it get it back running. The MGA languished into obscurity (play the sad music).

Fast forward to 2000. Russel Scomp had passed away and Fred's niece contacted him and said they wanted him to have the 100,000th MGA. In 2003 he started a full restoration. As Fred was quoted, "It's one of a kind - - that's what I thought, putting this thing back together, not knowing that there will be a monetary value to the car. The value doesn't make a lot of difference to me because it's a family heirloom. I wanted to put it back the way it looked the day Russel drove it off the showroom floor".

Ok, fast forward to 2009. I had my own encounter with Fred and Cindy Scomp and the legendary car at the Last Sunset Regional NAMGR event. As I said previously, it was the best event to date that we have attended. Exceptional drives (the seven-mile bridge), all those little Keys to explore on a poker run, the Mallory Square

car show, the nation's only coast-to-coast parade, and a recreation of the Conch Republic Air and Naval engagement - "it was crazy fun". Topped off by meeting great event hosts Fred and Cindy Scomp. Fred was the driving force behind the Key West British Car Club. He enjoyed driving and showing the car. He was a wonderful MG ambassador, sharing his stories of the MGA. When Fred started not to feel well, he worked with NAMGAR and Moss Motors to have the car taken to the Moss Motors in Richmond VA for display. In 2014 Fred passed away.

Russel's initial purchase. Fred's determination to restore the 100,000th MGA mkII to its original glory, saved an especially important MG for all to treasure. Literally, it's Gold. For more information visit ([www.hemmings.com/stories/article/solid-gold-1962-mga](http://www.hemmings.com/stories/article/solid-gold-1962-mga)).

Paul

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**And the funnies:**

**The Car Keys....**

**They weren't in my pockets. Suddenly I realized I must have left them in the car. Frantically, I headed for the parking lot. My husband has scolded me many times for leaving my keys in the car's ignition. He's afraid that the car could be stolen.**

**As I looked around the parking lot, I realized he was right. The parking lot was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen.**



Then, I made the most difficult call of all to my husband – “I left my keys in the car and it's been stolen.”

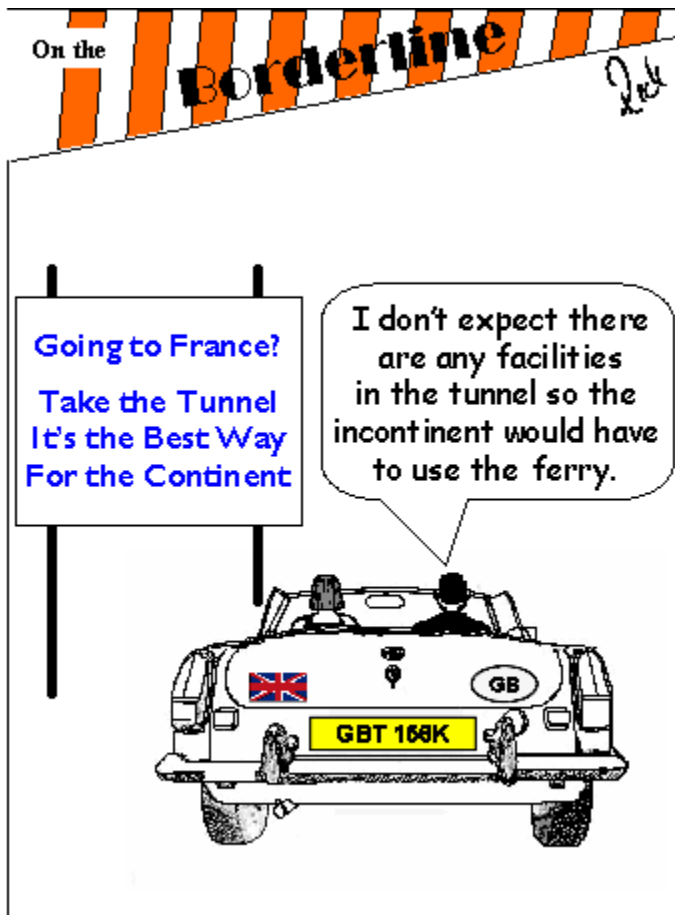
There was a moment of silence. I thought the call had been disconnected, but then I heard his voice. “Are you kidding me?” he barked, “I dropped you off!”

Now it was my turn to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, “Well, come and get me.”

He retorted, “I will; just as soon as I convince this cop that I didn't steal your car!”

Welcome to the Golden Years!

\*Submitted by Brian Mitchell



\*Submitted by Norm Ridgely, borrowed from the LBC Newsletter.

# Dunkin' Donuts Car, & Truck Show



Dunkin Donuts Beachside  
1220 N. A1A, Indialantic, FL  
Saturday, July 16, 2022  
8:00 AM to 12:00 PM



Free Show! Bring what ya got.  
If it Rolls, Roll it on in!  
Rat Rods. Under Construction,  
All Years, Makes & Models are Welcome,  
No Judging, No Trophies, Just Good Fun!!



Questions? Call  
Bill Antonetz at  
321 725-3648



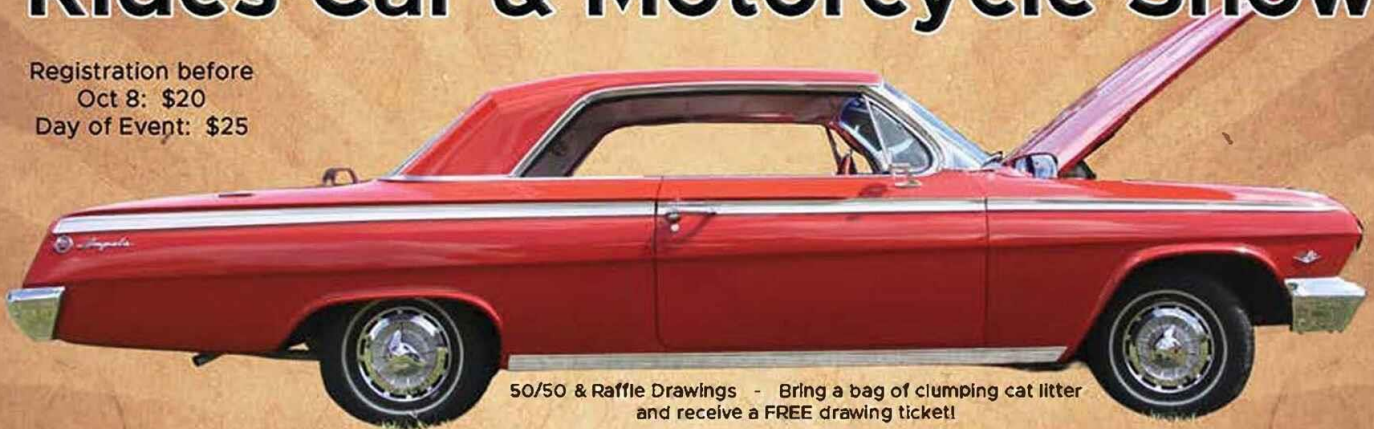


**SPCA**  
OF BREVARD

11th Anniversary

# Hot Dogs, Cool Cats & Wild Rides Car & Motorcycle Show

Registration before  
Oct 8: \$20  
Day of Event: \$25



50/50 & Raffle Drawings - Bring a bag of clumping cat litter and receive a FREE drawing ticket!

## Saturday, October 8, 2022

10 am - 2 pm at Fox Lake Park in Titusville - Registration starts at 8 am

**NEW THIS YEAR: Sheriff Wayne Ivey as MC for the show!**

First 100 cars registered get a dash plaque. All cars registered receive a meal ticket.  
For Vendor & Advertising Info: [spcaadopt@spcabrevard.com](mailto:spcaadopt@spcabrevard.com). Other Inquires: Pat Fox 321-362-0590

To register online, visit [www.spcabrevard.com](http://www.spcabrevard.com)

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

Trophy List: Cat's Meow, Club Participation, Best of Show, Best Corvette, Best Truck, Best Mustang, Best 1949 or Earlier, Best 1950-1959, Best 1960-1969, Best 1970-1979, Best 1980 or Newer, Best Paint, Best British, Best Ford, Best Chevy, Best Mopar, Best Muscle Car ('64-'72), Best Bike, Best European (non-British), Best Model T or A, Best Import (non-European), Best Camaro, Best Chevelle, Best Rat Rod, Best Animal Car (Cobra, Mustang, Hawk, etc.)

**Liability:** In consideration of the right to participate in this show, I hereby release and discharge the SPCA of Brevard, event sponsors, venue, any and all people who are connected with the management of the event from any and all known and unknown damages, injuries, losses or claims to my vehicle, its occupants and myself. I give the SPCA of Brevard the right to photograph and keep all photos taken at this car show. I further acknowledge that all photos taken will become the property of the SPCA of Brevard and may be used in their publications. Submission of this form and registration payment are indication of acceptance to liability waiver.

To register, complete this section and mail to: SPCA of Brevard, Attn: Pat Fox, 455 Cheney Hwy, Titusville, FL 32780

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Car \_\_\_\_\_ Make \_\_\_\_\_ Model \_\_\_\_\_ Club Affl \_\_\_\_\_

# of cars pre-registered \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20/ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# of extra meal tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5/ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Pre-registration must be postmarked by October 6, 2022**

Please make checks payable to SPCA of Brevard

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:delewis67@aol.com) for publication in the following month's newsletter.**

## **For Sale:**

**Liquidating MG & Triumph parts & projects  
EVERYTHING MUST GO!**

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

**1970's Postal Jeep. Rusty body I6 engine, turns. \$500. **Reduced \$250****

**Two 1970's VW Project/parts cars. Both engines run. \$2,000 each. **Reduced \$1000 Each****

**1976 MGB RDS Project car. Custom steel dash, good rubber, good driver. Florida title. \$2,500. **Reduced \$2000****

**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. **Reduced \$1500****

**Liquidating British sports car hobby shop.**

**Selected parts cars \$200 each.**

**A lot of new old stock and used parts.**

**Call with your needs.**

**Contact Dave Alexander (321) 213-7051 (please Leave a message, I will return all calls)**

\*\*\*\*\*

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*British Marque Car Club News* is a 40-page monthly tabloid newspaper featuring the news of dozens of British car clubs coast to coast. Did you know that your club is one of over 100 official British Marque Participating Clubs? It's true — and members of Participating Clubs are entitled to all sorts of benefits.

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Additional 15¢ charged per word over the 20-word limit. Photos may be included for \$7.50 each. Free classified ad benefit available only to individuals, not businesses.

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail or phone \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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 15th of the month to receive the next month's issue.

**MGB, MGC, Midget, 1100/1300 and Post Abingdon Car Owners:**



## **North American MGB Register**

The only MEMBER-RUN organization  
for MGB, MGC, Midget, 1100/1300 and  
Post Abingdon Car owners.

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP \$30 (\$45 overseas)**

- **Dash plaque • Membership card • Window decal**
- **Six bi-monthly issues of The MG Driver,  
a 68-page informative magazine.**
- **Annual national convention – a four-day MG party!**

## **North American MGB Register**

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Toll-free phone: 800-NAMGBR-1

[www.namgbr.org](http://www.namgbr.org)



**NAMGAR**  
North American MGA Register

[NAMGAR Membership Application Form](#)

### **NAMGAR Mission Statement**

The North American MGA Register shall promote the preservation and enjoyment of the MGA sports car and its variants; encourage fellowship among MGA owners; aid members' efforts to restore and preserve these cars by publishing and exchanging maintenance and restoration information.