



FLORIDA OCTAGON

#251 January 2024

Safety Fast!

CLUB OFFICIALS

President:

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

Vice President:

Bob Beiler
(321) 720-8945
Bobrace44@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:

Vacant

Immediate Past President

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

Chairman Emeritus

Jerry Keuper

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:



Happy New Year!

I'm actually writing this a few days before Christmas having finally completed those holiday tasks assigned to yours truly by tradition or happenstance as no one else would do them. The tree is up (I don't decorate it) the outside lighting glows brightly for six hours each evening and some of the preparations for the holiday feast are done

(I am in charge of the marrow {squash for us yanks} and will be carving the avian and porcine comestibles {turkey and ham} when the time is appropriate). On the day of, I must compose the casserole de haricot verts avec soupe aux champignons et oignons frites (green bean casserole). Of course, some of this will be with the unwelcome assistance of a kitchen full of hangers-on finishing breakfast in their night clothes.

The mention of turkey reminds me of our first Christmas in England, back in 1977. Having read Dickens' Christmas Carol and the description of the Cratchett's plight, our oldest child suggested that we have a goose as the centerpiece of our holiday meal. As it turns out, that year satisfied one item on our collective bucket list (the bleeping goose) which we never have to repeat. How a bird can be boney, fatty and greasy all at a time is beyond me. I've had a similar recollection of a Christmas goose from one of our British members.

Feeling a tad Grinch-like at the moment, I may suggest to everyone that we observe the British tradition of Boxing Day. This is the leaving of gift opening to the day after Christmas. By then our out-of-town company will have left and we get to keep their stuff! According to another of my Olde Country informants, boxing day was when the servants who spent Christmas day serving the Lord of the Manor, were given the leftovers and some token gifts as well as the day off. I suspect that my family will not go for the delay.

As to gift giving, I hope that your families have come up with appropriate items to bestow on your LBC, or at least a gift certificate or two to one of the purveyors of such items. I think I'm getting one since a relative asked me where I got my stuff from. HMMMMM

I would be terribly remiss if I didn't give a really, really big THANK YOU to Bob and Donna Beiler for hosting the Club Holiday Event. Fantastic! More food than could be consumed, lots of members and a Chinese Santa event that went

(In Memoriam)

For Club Info--Please visit:

[MG Car Club--Florida](#)

January Birthdays:

10 Lisa Parks
16 Dale Lewis
16 Sally Razor
28 Mary Beth Alexander
31 Melanie Keuper

January Anniversaries:

No one was married in January.

Contact Information:

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

flawlessly. (I should've snagged the whiskey back with my second chance.) Terrific hosts. Photos were taken and are elsewhere in this publication.

As I write this, we don't have a January driving event finalized. If one does materialize notification will be by blast email. We do have the All-European Car Show on February 4th at the American Muscle Car Museum, being deftly put together by a small group of our members. There is a plea for help elsewhere here. Their effort last year was near perfect, and this year promises to be even better. They would love to have maximum club registration. No conflict with other shows this time.

I might suggest that a new year's resolution for all of us should be to participate in as many club events as possible, service our LBCs properly, and keep (get?) moving with our project vehicles. In my case, that will probably involve a tetanus booster shot as I part out the "gift" TR7 in my driveway. Anyone need an engine, transmission or third member?

Until next month:

Safety Fast!

Brian

(321) 254-9605

bgspain@hotmail.com

NOTICES:

Obituary

Pete Rogers, a very active MG enthusiast and member of the Classic MG Club of Orlando passed away the morning of Wednesday, December 27th. Pete used to caravan with a lot of our members to many car shows, especially in Georgia. He was also a member of the MG U-TURN club (ask Norman) and the prior owner of Ed Price's MGB/GT-OLDSMOBILE, whom Pete had purchased from our dear friend and member, Len Coppold. Our condolences to his family.

Norman Ridgely

Renew your membership by paying your club dues!

MG Car Club dues!

Please submit your payment for 2024 Club dues by January 31, 2024, to avoid being deleted from our roster. (Reference the club by-laws Article 111, Section V & VII)

Make the check (\$15) payable to MG CAR CLUB—FLORIDA, INC. and mail to:

MG Car Club – Florida
P O Box 410471
Melbourne, FL 32941

2nd Annual All European Car Show at the American Muscle Car Museum
Registration is open! Please send in your registration! The registration information is on the flyer below.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS:

Have you been to some place interesting, taken a scenic drive, dined at a restaurant you enjoyed? Event Possibilities! Tell us about them!

- **January 8, 2024 – MGCC-FL Quarterly Board Meeting 6:00 PM.** The board meeting is held in the Kingston Garage, 1561 Maple Avenue, Melbourne, FL. All club members are welcome to attend. **If unable to attend, please 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.
- **January 17, 2024 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner 6:00 PM.** David Lister recommended Ocean 302 for a monthly dinner. Located 302 Ocean Ave, Melbourne Beach, FL 32951. Please RSVP to Marilyn Lewis by January 12th. (delewis67@aol.com) [Ocean 302 Melbourne Beach | January 2024](#) – Event ideas are welcome. Please provide a suggestion prior to the January 8th board meeting. Be prepared for an impromptu event to be announced after the board meeting!
- **February 4, 2024 – 2nd Annual All European Car Show at the American Muscle Car Museum. 9:00 AM – 02:00 PM.** The MG Car Club - Florida is sponsoring this show and committees are being organized! One free museum entry per car. *Flyer with registration is included below.* Register by January 15th for a reduced rate. First 125 registrants receive a T-shirt. Contact Bob Parks 321-427-8846 for additional information. Volunteers needed for the show: Contact Linda Knoblock-Raupp oldcarsnewcars@bellsouth.net and let her know where you can help. A listing of volunteer categories is included after the flyer found below. If you haven't sent in your registration, please do so.
- **February 10, 2024 – McKee Garden 15th Annual Car Show “Rods & Customs”.** This year's motor car exhibition will feature Rods & Customs...vehicles showcasing the creative work of individual builders. They take an automobile and rebuild it to become their dream car. You will see how imaginative the builders can be with body styling, paint work, engines and interiors. Come see what they have created and talk to the owners about how and why they have built their one-of-a-kind Rod or Custom. In addition, there will be an eye-catching display of pristine motorcycles. We will attend this event as a club with lunch following the show. Details being worked.
- **February 2024 – MGCC-FL Monthly Dinner.**

OTHER EVENTS:

Calendar of local car events and cruise-ins maintained by Mike Euziere. [British Car Driving Group](#) Mike emails a weekly listing of all local events occurring on the upcoming weekend to all club members. If you're not receiving the email, and would like to, please let us know.

- **January 14, 2024 – Dixie Cruisers Car & Coffee/Monthly Drive.** Meet at C's Waffles Cocoa, 5600 FL-524, Cocoa, FL 32926 for fantastic food and

company from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM. The drive is from 9:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Great scenic trip!

- **January 20, 2024 – Dunkin’ Donuts ‘It’s a New Year Car & Truck Show’.** See flyer below.
- **March 16, 2024 – Honor Flight Central Florida 6th Annual ‘hot Rods for Heros’ 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Oviedo Mall.**
<https://honorflightcentralflorida.org/pdfs/support/hot-rods/2024/hrfh-2024-save-the-date.pdf>
- **March 30, 2024 – Wheels Across the Pond 16th Annual British, European Car & Bike Show.** wheelsacrossthepond.com | [British Classic Car and Motorcycle Show](http://BritishClassicCarandMotorcycleShow.com)
- **April 6, 2024 – Central Florida’s Premier Multi-Marque British Car Show.** Registration is now Open! [Central Florida British Car Club](http://CentralFloridaBritishCarClub.com) (britishcarclubofcentralflorida.com)

CLUB PHOTOS:

MGCC-FL Holiday/Christmas Party





Attending:
Guy & Cindy, Ed & Pat, David & Mary Beth, Brian & Ginny, Don & Lorna, Paul & Judy, Norman & Pat, Frank & Helen, Dave & Charlotte, Linda, Ken & Betty, Tim & Barbara, David & Sallie, Mike & Sally, Terry & Gina, Doug & Linda, Rob & Maria, Bob & Sue, Jay & Wendy, and our hosts Bob & Donna



Helen delivered the gifts to Nana's House. Additionally, a club member donated \$100 with this message "Used to give to them every year when I lived in Melbourne-they are a wonderful organization- please pass this along to them". Nana's House staff were very grateful - as they always are.



MG Car Club – Florida 2023 Club Events

Our club held a total of 30 events in 2023! We took drives, toured destinations, came together for breakfasts, lunches, and monthly dinners! Our annual meeting celebrated the 100th anniversary of MG. We ended the year with a spectacular Christmas at the Beiler's home.

We have 146 club members on our roster. Of those, 92 of us participated during the year. Three people attended 23, 22, and 21 events respectively. Nine people attended 11-20 events. 80 people attended 1-10 events. Of these events the most attended were the British European Car Show at the American Muscle Car Museum, Monthly Dinner at Fresh Scratch Bistro, the Christmas party, and the Monthly Dinner at Red Ginger with all four having well over 30 club members in attendance. The least attended events were the Dunkin' Donuts Car Show and the Merritt Island National Refuge Center with lunch at Third Culture Kitchen with under 10 in attendance.

Thank you to all who planned, test drove, arranged, and hosted these events! You made these events successful. Here's to 2024! where we would love to have your input when planning events to enjoy!

We welcomed new members to the club: Mark & Melissa harpold, Dan Kunz, Jay & Wendy McDonald, Bob & Pat Moore, Tim & Kath Potter, Don Robinson & Lenora Grimm, Robert Sieck, Owen & Joyce Tamburr, Al & Marlena Wassel, and John & Diane Conarroe! We look forward to getting to know you as you attend our events.

Happy New Year!!







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 ESPECIALLY WELCOME!** Tell us about you and your car(s)!

Articles, Pictures and Writeups from our club members

Featured Club Members

MGCC-FL Club Member Brad Richardson submitted the following update on his recent acquisition and restoration project. Please reference the June 2023 MG Car Club Newsletter for his initial article. 2nd article updating his progress appeared in the August 2023 MG Car Club Newsletter.



Thought I would give an update on the 1959 MGA project.



It was a difficult 8 months working on the MGA's left and right sills, rockers, and B posts. Started on the left side during the summer months and it was brutal working in the Florida heat and humidity. Replaced the sill panel, sill, B post rocker and inner closing panel. Also welded in new body mounts and inner fender panel and tonneau repair panel. Everything is rock solid. Painted inner panels with POR 15 before welding them in and, also, used weld through primer. Got through that experience and hit the right side in September and finished it up just before Christmas. Again, a rinse and repeat of the left side except for the tonneau repair



panel. Doors fit well but will need some love to make them perfect. Although fitted when replacing the B posts, the fenders will need some extra love at the dog leg to be the way I want them - I have the time to show them the love they need. Will be moving on to the trunk repair in the new year. I got some repair panels and a trunk pan but will need to bend a few pieces with the brake to get the fit and finish needed. The trunk is do-able, and I have the confidence needed given the experience earned over the summer. All in all, it's been fun, learned a bit and otherwise kept out of trouble this past year. As a bonus, the wife always knows where to find me.

Brad Richardson
72 Roadster
67 MGBGT
59 MGA

Norm Powers greeted us from up north and shared the following:

I received the following YouTube video from a friend. [Lanny's 1950 MG TD \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lanny's+1950+MG+TD) It is an interview that was done with him, Lanny Lanoue of Monterey, MA. He is the gentleman that sold me Madge and also my daughter-in-law's stepfather. If you think anyone in the club might be interested, please include it in the club paper.



Also, an update on Madge, she has had all the engine parts machined at various county machine shops and they are slowly being reassembled. Anyone interested in getting dirty fingers is welcome to come on over and lend a hand. Give me a call after the 1st. 321-431-0823

Hope all are having a wonderful holiday season.

Norm and Donna Powers

Flyers:

***It's a New Year
Car & Truck Show***

**Dunkin Donuts Beachside
1220 N. A1A, Indialantic, FL
Saturday, January 20, 2024
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!!**



***Thanks for the great toys!
Still Collecting More!***



Pet Friendly



**Questions? Call
Bill Antonetz at
321 725-3648**



**Find us on Facebook
Dunkin Donut Car
Show Indialantic,
Florida**



2ND ANNUAL ALL EUROPEAN CAR SHOW

Held at:

AMERICAN MUSCLE CAR MUSEUM

3500 SARNO ROAD, MELBOURNE FL. 32934

Hosted By:



Sunday
FEB. 04, 2024
9:00 am - 2:00 pm



- One FREE Museum entry per car • FREE T-shirt for the first 125 registrants
- The outdoor show and front showroom are free to the public. The back showroom will be open from 10:00AM to 1:00PM with a \$25.00 donation to St. Jude. Under 18 free with adult.

\$25

Register BY
Jan 15, 2024

Registration Information

Registration limited to 200 cars
Award Presentation - 1:30pm

Fire Extinguisher REQUIRED

Checks payable to:
MG CAR CLUB
P.O. BOX 410471
Melbourne, FL 32941

\$35

Late
Registrants
Jan 16, 2024

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Year, Make, Model: _____

Preferred T-shirt Size: Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large _____

(Size not guaranteed)

• Contact Information: Bob Parks- (321)427-8846 • Europeanbritishcarshow@gmail.com

Holiday Inn, Melbourne-Viera Convention Center

<http://www.ihg.com/>

booking code: **787046248** in special rate preference section title "corporate ID"

Request for Show Volunteers, Letter from Linda Knoblock-Raupp:

**2nd Annual British and European Car Show
American Muscle Car Museum
Sunday, Feb. 4, 2024
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Dear Club Members,

We are reaching out to you to request volunteers for our Second British/European show. Your participation is needed to make this show a success. All proceeds will go to St. Jude.

Your time, talents, ideas, energy are what we are looking for. Committees are being formed and we'd like to know where you would like to contribute. Please contact Linda Knoblock-Raupp oldcarsnewcars@bellsouth.net to let her know which of the following committees you are interested in.

**We thank-you,
MG Car Club, Car Show Chairman**

Would you like to help in:

- **Advertising (Radio, newspaper, Flyers will be distributed)**
- **Awards (To AMCM, Boy scouts, Etc. Thank you)**
- **Dealerships (Getting them to come to show with new cars, Sponsors, Goody Bags)**
- **Judging**
- **MG Car tent (advertising club, History, etc.)**
- **Parking**
- **Raffle's, 50/50, silent auction**
- **Registration**
- **Sponsors (we all should come up with at least 1 sponsor)**
- **T-Shirt connections**
- **Trophies**
- **Vendors**

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:

Wanted:

Looking for 1959 MGA 1600 parts to complete a project vehicle. Need the following: Passenger seat (any conditon - mainly the rear frame), Hub caps, good windshield (no scratches, wiper marks or clouding), original steering wheel (prefer no cracks), gas tank (not bent - I have one of those), fuel pump (working or rebuildable), wood surround pieces for budy tub, wood floors or full scale drawings to make them, and any other MGA parts you may have collecting dust but are still serviceable.

Contact Brad Richardson at Britcars-4me@hotmail.com

.....
1973 Triumph TR6 \$7,000

1973 Triumph TR6, 95% complete restoration, all manuals, parts, hardware ad paint included. Exterior needs preparation and paint. No rust. Asking \$7,000 OBO Health issues have kept me from finishing this car. The car runs well. 72,000 miles.

Contact John Conarroe 321-459-3691 (Merritt Island, FL)

FREE 67 MGB GT Clutch

From Angel Lopez:



'I finally found one major clutch issue on my MGB GT. Replaced the clutch but the old one is actually new. Over time the flywheel and pressure plate stuck together due to rust. I believe it's still good. Anyone interested please call. Its free!'

Contact Angel Lopez (321) 960-2881

1961 MGA \$38,000

Complete body off restoration on a California rust free original showing only 26,289 miles. Finished in dark red with black interior with red seat piping. Black convertible top and tan canvas tonneau cover. This MGA was restored by a well-known MGA restorer some years ago and has always been covered and garaged. When driving this beautiful MGA you will think you are driving a new 1961 MGA Roadster. When the engine was rebuilt, it was to the 1611 CC Specifications.



Contact Jad Farhat (859) 983-4528, wildcatconstructionky@gmail.com

1976 Triumph Spitfire \$8,000.00

Vehicle in good condition. It could use some TLC, but not much. It runs good.



Contact: John Ferrentino, (321) 223-1137

For sale, like Free!

A manual small brake. 2 nice sizes of sheet aluminum, miscellaneous pieces of steel rods, aluminum, one high intensity shop light and a few used early BMC parts. Must take all.

Contact: Kourdt Howell (321) 427-3072.

Free to Good (ANY) Home:

Every issue of the Sacred Octagon, June 1993 – June 2020
The Bi-monthly Journal of the New England MG T Register
All are in pristine condition, likely never or only gently read. Pick up or local delivery only.

Contact: Brian Mitchell (321) 254-9605 Bgspain@hotmail.com

1952 MG TD \$9,500

Maroon with red interior. 68k miles. Runs well. Asking \$9500.

Call Al Wassel 321-917-2809 for details.

Triumph TR3A "kit" \$6,000 (price reduction)



- Includes one complete 1960 car with title, unmolested, except by rust, never disassembled, everything where it's supposed to be, except spare tire cover (missing).
- Two disassembled TRs, no commission number plates, both frames slightly "tweaked", need floors, sheet metal for one usable as is, other needs help.
- Two engines that ran four years ago, four good transmissions, one rear axle (does not count the stuff in the rusty complete car).
- One beat up TR2 front apron (have the grille, too). Many extra parts, possibly enough to create one street car and one track car out of the lot.

"New" cost of sheet metal alone is in excess of \$15K, if even available (Per Moss and Roadster Factory current price lists).

More photos available on request.

Can possibly reassign storage facility to purchaser. Current rent \$240/month includes electric.

Contact Brian Mitchell (321) 525-1313 bgspain@hotmail.com

1993 Lotus Esprit Turbo - \$25,000

**Calypso red, gold leather interior. New battery. Mechanics records available. Mileage 39K.
[certificate of provenance.pdf](#)
[Lotus factory details.pdf](#)**



**Contact Ann Dalter (703) 740-6718 (Leave message, call will be returned) or email
dalterann@gmail.com**

MGB Parts

**A running rebuildable MGB motor from a 1974 roadster and flywheel
\$250 for the Motor, Motor plate & flywheel. Motor #18GB-U-H-27788**



**1972 through 1974 Dashtop cover brand new in original packaging for Moss Motors P/N 453-895
\$75**

Contact: Mike Doherty, (321) 222-8580

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

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

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)

AN INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE TO *British Marque* CAR CLUB NEWS

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.

For one, you can subscribe to either the Print Edition or On-line Edition of the Marque at a **37% discount over non-member (regular) rates**. Both Editions have the same 40 pages of event listings, columns, classifieds and special features. Either way, you will receive 11 issues a year.

SPECIAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR PARTICIPATING CLUB MEMBERS

Members residing in the USA: Only \$18.00/year Print Edition
Members residing in Canada: Only \$23.00/year Print Edition
Members residing overseas: Only \$30.00/year Print Edition
On-line Edition, regardless of residence: Only \$12.00/year
(On-line Edition FREE to Print Edition subscribers upon request)

Regular (non-Participating Club) subscription rates \$29.00 for U.S. residents, \$42.00 for Canadian residents, and \$55.00 for overseas residents. Regular On-line Edition rate \$19.00. All rates quoted in U.S. dollars.

PLACE FREE CLASSIFIED ADS, TOO!

Each subscriber from a Participating Club is also entitled to place **one free classified ad** (up to 20 words) per issue, whether you're selling or looking for something British car-related.

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.

So don't delay — subscribe today!

British Marque CAR CLUB NEWS

c/o Enthusiast Publications, LLC
5 Old Nasonville Road
Harrisville, RI 02830 USA

PARTICIPATING CLUB PRINT SUBSCRIPTION FORM

To pay by credit card or to order the On-line Edition, please go to our website, www.britishmarque.com

Club Name _____

Member Name _____

Address _____

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

PO BOX 876 • Downers Grove, IL 60515-0876

Toll-free phone: 800-NAMGBR-1

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.