



FLORIDA OCTAGON

#255 May 2024

Safety Fast!

CLUB OFFICIALS

President:

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

Vice President:

Bob Beiler
(321) 720-8945
Bobracc44@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:

Frank Kingston
(321) 773-1455
FrankTKingston@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

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

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:



OK, show of hands, who knew April was Car Care Month? Hmm, does that mean care about, care for or take care of? Well, it's over and if you didn't do one of those, shame on you.

I actually washed the TR3, cleaned past show trash out of the cockpit, polished chrome, inside and out, vinyl treated, tire shined (I'm getting exhausted just writing this) changed the oil (less than 2K miles but over two years) and had it greased. Did y'all ketch dat? **HAD IT GREASED!** I had been at the quicky lube place that morning with the family truckster, wearing a Triumph t-shirt. In response to the tech's query as to what kind of car it was, I showed him a picture and just happened to ask if they could do a chassis lube. He said yes if they could lift it or get under it as it looked a tad low to him. I said that you need a floor jack to lift it high enough to get the arms of a two-post lift under it and he rubbed his chin and went hmmm. Maybe the pit, but it looked kind of narrow. When I got the van home, I measured the distance between the front tyres and found it to be 40 inches. Went back to the shop, with a tape measure and found the pit curb to be 39 inches.

We carefully lined it up, cripes, had a half-inch on each side, didn't we? Driving it over the pit took about as much steering correction as going through a car wash because the 4-inch-high metal curb just guided the vehicle. The eldest tech, a biker type probably in his fifties, was given the job as he actually gave a knowing nod when I mentioned "zerk" fittings, the rest of the crew had the deer in the headlights look. He got the first three on each side on the trunnions done and started to clean up. I told him that he was about fourteen short of being finished, on the front. He got a kid with an electric torch (British name) and found the rest. Started to clean up again and I sent him to the rear of the car to get the rear u-joint, three parking brake fittings and, a big surprise, the rear wheel bearings. I told him that there were two more, but they were inside the cockpit and needed the carpet pulled up. I said that I would get those.

The rest of the crew bombarded me with questions like: What make is it? (Inch-high letters across the nose?) What country is it from? (They make cars in England? Ever hear of Jaguar, Land Rover, Rolls Royce?) I'm glad I didn't take in a Riley Elf, Singer Gazelle or Humber Super Snipe. I had to forgive them as I, and one other customer, were the only ones within ten years of the age of the car (I'm 15 years older) most of the lube crew being less than half its age. For all of this entertainment and new-found knowledge, they charged

Chairman Emeritus

Jerry Keuper
(In Memoriam)

For Club Info--Please
visit:

[MG Car Club--Florida](#)

May Birthdays:

05 Helen Kingston
06 Bill Insko
07 Mike Euziere
10 Toby Anderson
11 Betty Gregory
12 Irene Pope
19 Thomas Lempicke
23 Jim Netterstrom
24 Anna Howell
26 Theo Koumarios

May Anniversaries:

03 Mark & Sue Davia
05 Norm & Pat Ridgely
08 Gail & Glen Lenhard
14 Robert & Maria Buck
23 Richard & Dawn
Kiefer
24 Lee & Beth Harris

Contact Information:

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

me.....nothing! Can't guarantee that outcome for the rest of you, but, when you decide, like I have, that doing the inch-worm thing under your LBC for its essential lubrication is no longer in your skill set, try the local lubritorium. You might just be surprised.

The rest of the month was the usual hum-drum: Three car shows in eight days, a couple hundred miles driven, two third-place finishes, lots of kids (all ages) admiring the car from the driver's seat. Club members' results from two of these shows should be recapped elsewhere in this missive, especially the All European show hosted by the club. Kudos to those who gave of their time to put it together, a major effort and success.

More stuff coming up to do before it gets TDH (rather warm) to use our LBCs. (Look below this.) The folks north of the Mason-Dixon line really can't comprehend what that means as they have probably just, in the past month, gotten their steeds out of hibernation. CU 'round the show fields, parking lots and dinner tables. Until then:

Safety Fast!

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

NOTICES:

The theme of the 2025 McKee Car Show is Red Cars. If your car is red and you'd like to display it, please contact Norman Ridgely at normridge@yahoo.com.

Watch your email! To encourage contributions to the newsletter I'll be sending out 'Meet Our Club Members' questionnaires. Roger & Edie Lowery shared a questionnaire their Austin Healy implemented, and it has been quite successful for their club.

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!

- **May 11, 2024 -- Drive to Dine – Shiloh's 11:00 AM.** Brian has mapped a route to Shiloh's [Shiloh's - Restaurant in Titusville, FL \(shilohstitusville.com\)](http://shilohstitusville.com) to include a stop at the Enchanted Forest [Enchanted Forest Sanctuary \(brevardfl.gov\)](http://brevardfl.gov) before proceeding on to the restaurant. The trip plan is to meet at the DAV (the Big Orange) 2265 N Harbor City Blvd, Melbourne, FL 32935 and be ready to leave by 8:30 AM. The drive to the Forest will be approximately an hour giving us an hour or so to enjoy the nature walk. The plan is to be at Shiloh's at 11:00 AM. You are welcome to meet the group at the Enchanted Forest if you live north and want to skip the drive. If you prefer to attend lunch only, meet the group at Shiloh's. Please RSVP to Brian (bgspain@hotmail.com) by May 8th if attending lunch in order to provide the restaurant a

planning number.

- **May 22, 2024 – Monthly Dinner at Sonny’s BBQ 6:00 PM.** Located at 150 Sheriff Rd, Melbourne, FL 32940. Please RSVP to Marilyn (delewis67@aol.com) by May 20th in order to provide the restaurant a planning number.
- **June 8, 2024 – Drive to Dine at Causeway Diner.** The trip plan is to meet up at Rockledge McDonald’s and take a scenic route to Causeway Diner for breakfast (3712 N Courtenay Pkwy Ste 103, Merritt Island, FL 32953). Specific details to come!
- **June 19, 2024 – Monthly Dinner Pizza Gallery 6:00 PM.** Located at 2250 Town Center Ave Ste 113, Viera, FL 32940 (Avenues at Viera). Please RSVP to Marilyn (delewis67@aol.com).
- **July 1, 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.
- **July 17, 2024 – Monthly Dinner New England Eatery and Pub 6:00 PM.** Located at 5670 S Highway A1A, Melbourne Beach, FL 32819.

OTHER EVENTS:

British Car Driving Group Calendar of local car events and cruise-ins maintained by Mike Euziere. 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.

- **May 4, 2024 –The Classic MG Club is hosting an adventurous Indian River Drive!** Join in for a day of fun, laughter, and stunning views. Start at 7:30 AM with breakfast at The Town House Restaurant, 139 N Central Avenue, Oviedo, FL 32765. For those not wanting to meet for breakfast plan to be at the restaurant by 8:45 AM. Drive starts at 9:15 AM. Lunch will be at the Goodrich Seafood and Oyster House at 253 River Road Road, Oak Hill, FL 32759. RSVP to Bob Moore 407-790-9570. Or click on this link [Indian River Drive RSVP](#)

CLUB PHOTOS:

April 6, 2024 – 39th All British Car Show, Henry's Depot, Sanford, FL



On a beautiful April day with great driving weather, Brian Mitchell, Paul & Judy Stedman, Bob & Donna Beiler, Rich Kiefer, Kourdt Howell, Dan Kunz, John Powling attended this show. Doug & Linda Rothwell as members of the British Car Club of Central Florida were on the car show committee.



MGCC-FL Winners – Rich & Dawn Kiefer 3rd Place TR/Spitfire, Brian Mitchell 3rd Place TR3, Bob Beiler 2nd Place Jag/XK120, John Powling 2nd Place MGB, Doug & Linda Rothwell 1st Place MGBGT, Hayes Harris (Honorary Member) 1st Place Jag/E and 1st Place TVR (Paul Stedman provided photos and results)

Brian provided the following: The TR3 that won the class was a perfect representation of what mine supposedly looked like when it left the factory. He was from the Jacksonville Triumph club. The second-place car was a terrific dark blue, not an original color but beautiful, with a light blue interior. I have no regrets placing third to those two. The other two cars in the class were the ones Mike E. and I lost to last year.

April 13, 2024 – Wheels in Motion Fox Lake Park



Brian Mitchell, Ed Price, Dale & Marilyn Lewis met up to caravan!





Pat Fox



Harry Mannos



Chuck Rowe-Welcome back!



Ed Lankenau



Tom & Carol Lempicke



Show Cars



April 14, 2024 – 2nd Annual All European Car Show at the American Muscle Car Museum





Show was great. Wonderful to reconnect with so many old friends. Diane & I look forward to next year's show & hope to see you before then.
Pat & Diane Grassick





Paul Stedman, Bob and Donna Beiler,

We want to thank you for a spectacular car show. The Morgan car group was thrilled with the reception, organization, friendliness, and a chance to visit an extraordinary museum.



**Hope to see you again.
Regards
Chuck and Karen Bernath**

Awards and volunteer photos below!

April 17, 2024 -- Club Monthly Dinner at Fiesta Azul Tequila House

The evening was a great time of fellowship and surprising entertainment! Mark Harpold attended his first club dinner and we all enjoyed meeting him and viewing his MGB. Those attending were Bob & Donna Beiler, Dale & Marilyn Lewis, Mike & Sallie Razor, Guy Hoenig & Cindy Ingraham, Judy Stedman, Mark Harpold, Dan Kunz, Jim Baer, Don Robinson & Lenora Grimm, Linda Knoblock-Raupp, Richard & Judy Fickes, Nick Kaplan, Bob & Sue Parks





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

April 14, 2024 – 2nd Annual All European Car Show at the American Muscle Car Museum

On Sunday, April 14, 2024, 130 British and European cars gathered at the American Muscle Car Museum. The weather was perfect, the venue was awesome. Not only did the participants display their beautiful cars but the show included entrance into the museum to see the fabulous collection of cars. The show attracted a great crowd. Donations were received to be given to the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital charity through car registrations, auctions, and entrances to the museum. Awards were given to cars and their owners in 21 classes plus a best of show recipient. -Paul Stedman

We'd also like to acknowledge the volunteers. The Car Show Committee consisted of Bob & Donna Beiler, Helen Kingston, Linda Knoblock-Raupp, Bob Parks, Paul & Judy Stedman working diligently to ensure the success of this show. Day of Show volunteers:

*Lewis Maldonado
Don Robinson
Nick Kaplan
Terry Collins & Gina Carpenter
Ric & Nancy Garwood
Steve Moore
Rich Kiefer
Leo & Willie Ethier
Bill Antonetz
Bob & Donna Beiler
Linda Knoblock-Raupp
Bob & Sue Parks*

*Paul & Judy Stedman
Dave & Mary Beth Alexander
Dawn Donaldson
Susan Harrington
Marilyn Lewis
Brian Mitchell
Frank & Helen Kingston
Tim Kingaby
Boy Scouts
Kevin photographer
And those who pitched in where and when they were needed!*





And then the awards! A complete listing of the show results is posted on the club website.
[2024 All European Show Winners.pdf \(mgcarclubflorida.org\)](http://mgcarclubflorida.org)



Best of Show – George Cole





The American Muscle Car Museum provided the pictures they took of the show. View them at the following link: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NfH-Yp7ordVBoV8bQZdsu8uf-x-j0jQb?usp=sharing>

April 18 – 21, 2024 – 58th Annual Southern Gathering of the Faithful (GOF – South)

Thank you, Paul Stedman, for providing this writeup and photos. Thank you, Tom Lempicke and Pat Ridgely for your photos and contributions.

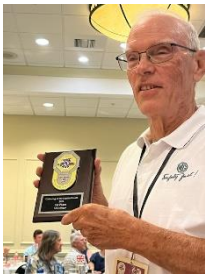
MGs of all sorts gathered at the Plantation Resort in Crystal River, FL for the annual Gathering of the Faithful (GOF) South. There was quite an assortment of MG's including Pre-war MG's, T series MG's, MGA's, MGB's, MGC's, MG Midgets, an MG 1100 sedan and Ken Deleuw's MGF.

Being at a resort there were several activities offered including boat riding, fishing, etc. The countryside in this part of Florida is beautiful and not only was the ride to and from the GOF enjoyable but separate car drives were available also. One of the highlights of the gathering was Glen Moore's presentation of the "100th Anniversary of MG" worth sitting through. Saturday was the car show with Glenn Lenhard doing his roll through technical session, always giving great tidbits of information.

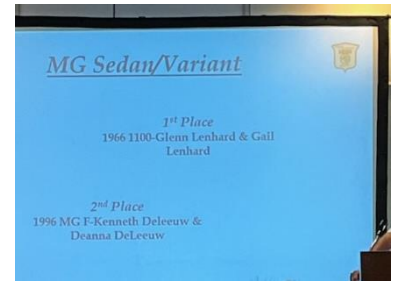


**This little four door coupe is an interesting car. It was built as a prototype in the late 1930's. Put in storage during the war, it was finished with off the shelf parts after the war by the MG factory.
-Tom Lempicke**

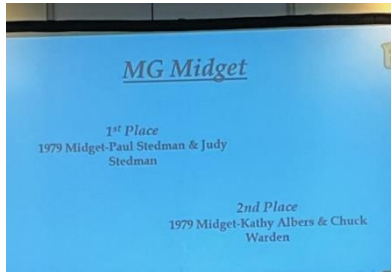
Saturday night was the awards presentation from the show.



Paul Stedman won 1st place in the MG Midget class.



Glen & Gail Lenhard won 1st Place and Ken & Deanne Deleeuw won 2nd Place in the MG Sedan/Variant Class.



John Spadaro carved and donated small wooden cars for table centerpieces. The lightweight wheels turn on the axles. I managed to collect three of them to give to my great grands ages 6, 4, and 1 years old. I envision some grand races! -Pat Ridgely



Banquet Cookies

Attendees from the club were: Norm & Pat Ridgely, Ken & Betty Gregory, John & Sharon Spadaro, Paul & Judy Stedman, Tom & Carol Lempicke

John Ferrentino submitted the following:

Triumph Spitfire [Five Classic Cars with Potential to Rise | Logbook Loans 247](#)

The Triumph Spitfire was in production from 1962 until 1980. It is one of the few 1960s British sports cars that has remained constantly popular. Spare parts are readily available to keep enthusiasts' cherished cars on the road.

When the model was launched, it was mass-produced and wasn't too costly. Spitfire prices have increased by 27% over the past two years alone. The early cars in good condition fetch the best prices at auction, selling for around £28,000, according to Hagerty's guide.

The two-seater roadster is one of the most popular classic cars still on the road. Baby Boomers account for 47% of today's Triumph Spitfire owners. This is the biggest single group of classic car owners across all models, according to Hagerty.

The experts say it's a "stable investment", with the Triumph sports car still providing a great driving experience, despite being 60 years old. It is relatively simple and cheap to maintain, so classic car collectors believe the next generation of owners will find it equally appealing.

Donna Beiler submitted Pictures of Bob's Best in Class 1st Place win in the 3rd Annual Delray Beach Concours D'Elegance on April 21st. Congratulations!



Pat Lankenau performed with the Golden Steppers in "5 ,6, 7, 8" on April 7th! Linda and Marilyn attended and were in awe of the energy of these amazing ladies. The Golden Steppers are a senior tap dance group ranging in age from 60's through 80's. Please view the video from My News 13 where you'll see Pat in action. [5 things to know about The Golden Steppers \(mynews13.com\)](http://mynews13.com)

MGCC-FL Merchandise



**MGCC--FL Hats
\$25**

**Colors available are Navy, Beige, White, Black,
Tan**



MGCC-FL Patches
\$5

Anniversary Logo Design

POC for Purchase:
Helen Kingston (hjk10590@gmail.com)

For Sale:

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.

**FREE CAR: 1980 Triumph TR7. A/C car. Somewhat rusty. Some parts removed (headlight assemblies, radiator, wheels in pix).
Engine, transmission (5 spd) rear axle all there. Not running but supposedly ran on ether three years ago. Windscreen cracked, door glass ok. Has open Florida title.
Three tires hold air, one will stay up long enough to load on a trailer. Vehicle in Melbourne 32935**



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

May 2024

1976 Triumph Spitfire 1500 \$7,500

Vehicle in good condition. It could use some TLC, but not much. It runs well. It has 4 pipe exhaust, electric fuel pump, electric ignition, Weber Carb. The seats are in good condition. In the last 2 years Spitfires have gone up 27% according to Haggerty. Average price is \$10k.

[Five Classic Cars with Potential to Rise | Logbook Loans 247](#)



Contact: John Ferrentino, (321) 223-1137

May 2024

Supercharged 1961 MG MGA Roadster \$42,500



Supercharged 1.8 liter engine, 5 Speed Ford T9 Transmission, Black Upholstery w/red piping, New black top & Bimini Top, Chrome 15" wheels, Four Wheel Disc Brakes, Driving Lights, Trunk Mounted Luggage Rack, LED taillights.

Contact: Tom Lempicke. 321 747-0749

April 2024

Wanted:

Looking for 1959 MGA 1600 parts to complete a project vehicle. Need the following: Passenger seat (any condition - 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 body 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

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.

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

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)

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