

# NEWSLETTER

#### **Prez Sez**

Update from the President of MG Classics of Jacksonville

**April 2023** 

The Gathering of the Faithful (GOF) 2023 is now in the history books. It was a great event according to many people I talked with while



there. It was (I think) a financial success for the club. The event planning and leadership by Richard and Kathy Gross deserves the praise and gratitude of every member of this club and all the attendees. They did an outstanding job. Many other club members contributed time and energy, too many to address in my little column here. The GOF summary will point out more of them. However, if anyone reading this column and the rest of the newsletter feels slighted, I accept full responsibility for it. As club president, I am grateful to all our members, and as well to the Orlando Club and Glen Moore, and the Gainesville British Car Club, who stepped up in many ways seen and unseen.

It felt wonderful to get a good night's sleep at home on Sunday.

Now, on to the future.

I want to wish Ron Pollinari a speedy recovery from a recent medical procedure. I hope he can rejoin us at a meeting soon.

On Saturday, April 29, The St. Augustine Cruisers 2023 Car Show will be held at the St Augustine Classic Car Museum on US 1 south of St Augustine. A link to their event will be on our club website. Fred Woller and I

are going, and we hope some of you will join us there.

On Saturday, May 13, Caffeine and Octane will continue at the Avenues Mall.

On Saturday, May 20, our May club meeting will be held from 1000 to 1200 at Palencia Park, a St Johns County Park, which is just east of US 1 on Palencia Village Drive. It is a new venue for us, a covered pavilion, restrooms, a large duck pond, and plenty of parking. Palencia Village Drive is 2 miles north of the King's Head Pub. And I am hoping that some of you will join me for lunch there after the meeting. The King's Head has been very supportive to us, and I would like us to show our support to them by having a nice turnout for lunch.

The club is in desperate need of a member to step into the role of Club Secretary. Anyone who regularly attends meetings is invited to assume this role.

Our club meeting schedule is still uncertain for the months of June, July, August and September. We are limited to six meetings a year at Bannon Lakes and I will be looking for suggestions for summer meetings. I hope to return to Trout Creek Marina for some outdoor meetings. But the lack of the pavilion shelter has interfered with peoples' willingness to commit.

#### Saturday, May 20th 2023:

10 am until 12 pm

**Palencia Park** 

**405 Palencia Village Dr** 

St. Augustine

Safety Fast!

Mark



#### MG Classics of Jacksonville

**April 1st, 2023** 

## Club Meeting At Bannon Lakes

**Total Attendance:** 26 club members Number of MGs: 1

The festivities included a gathering of the stalwarts at the Bannon Lakes club house. It was a lovely day for driving ones MG with the top down.

New Members: Jim Davidson - '78 MGB, Original Owner!

The meeting was called to order at 1027 by Mark Spaulding

#### Topics covered:

The tentative plan to have a meeting at Tom & Betty's restaurant in Orange park was shelved.

The club is still earnestly searching for Club Secretary to whip this organization into shape. Interested parties please reveal yourself to a board member so that you might take up the exalted mantle forthwith.

Several members will attend the Cruising to the Creek on April 15. The Club is not going to buy 10 spaces for show. But will donate donate to Ronald McDonald House.

St Augustine Cruisers Show, April 29 at Classic Car Museum.

Our club is Featured Marque at June Caffeine and Octane. We are the FCCC website for July.

Treasurer report.

GOF. – Richard Gross discussed the plan firming up for the GOF and appealed for more volunteers - a couple of hours here and there is all that's needed Presently 92 cars are registered.

Sponsors are coming through on their pledges.

**New Business?** 

Mark is soliciting ideas for fun and adventurous day trips and club member participation.

The meeting was adjourned at 1157, there being no further discussion.

Check the website for news. Thanks to Ian for tremendous website. The website has the most up to date and official information about club events and activities. Be sure to check it out frequently to get the latest information.





### MG Classics Members!

Here is an idea from your frowny newsletter editor. (Casting about for pertinent and relevant content for your newsletter.)

When you drive your car to an event (club meeting, other car event in the area, ...), or weekend jaunt, upon arrival snap a picture showing the surroundings or festivities AND your car (occupants too are allowed), then email the pic(s) and note to me for inclusion in our newsletter!!! Include a note about the event, yourselves, the date, etc. See your pride and joy in print!!!

Email: fgrrr@átt.net Text: 904-874-7159



Excerpted from The OCTAGON, used by permission of the author Glen Moore (who is also an MG Classics of Jacksonville member)

## **GOF South 2023**

Gainesville, Florida - Best Western Gateway Grand

Glen Moore

The 57th edition of GOF South had great weather, good facilities, many beautiful MGs, and a flock of first-timers, both cars and people. This year's event invited the North American MGA Register to join in the GOF activities.

Many drives and rallyes were offered giving participants a chance to drive their MGs and visit interesting places while interacting with fellow MGers. Thursday evening had two rallyes, a Tweed Drive to the Queens Arm Pub (which had Old Speckled Hen on tap) and to Crafty Bastards (over 50 craft beers on tap)



for the NAMGAR participants. On Friday, four rallyes were on the schedule: a Tweed Drive to Tea Time, Tranquility, and Treasures in Alachua; a NAMGAR drive to Fanning Springs for lunch at a seafood restaurant; Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, and a two-stop route to Devil's Millhopper State Park and Santa Fe State College teaching zoo. Forty-one MGs registered for the Saturday drive to O'Leno State Park near High Springs to share a picnic lunch with friends and explore some old Florida scenery.

Seminars were informative and well-attended. Bruce Woodson, the technical director for NAMGAR and a long-time British car shop owner, gave a detailed presentation on how to trouble-shoot your MGA and get it running again if you find yourself without power along the road. Of course, all of the tips applied to other MGs as well.

Member, Glenn Lenhard, owner of Glenn's MG Repair in St. Petersburg and long-time contributor to GOF South events, presented a seminar - "Judging Guidelines for Popular Vote Shows with Special Emphasis on MGA." All aspects of the car were covered with explanations of the difference between Concours





judging and popular judging. If a car does not have the bonnet open, do not spend time judging the car. A car can be any color, but it should be a period-correct color, not candy apple red. For those who missed the workshop, Glenn will provide a full-text version of his guide. Email him at glenn@glennsmg.com.

The Glenn Lenhard on-the-field seminar on MG troubleshooting, repair, and tuning had a new twist this year. A tent was set up on the show field and MGs were brought to the tent to be examined and tweaked by the expert. One non-running MG was pushed off the trailer and under the tent. It was running sweetly as it pulled away under power.



The First-Timers show on Friday afternoon had 42 MGs. It was held in the parking lot behind the hotel. Just

one of the examples of the hotel facilities that served the GOF well. There were many beautiful cars displayed. An MGA took the win with MG TCs in second and third.

The Meet & Greet had a barbecue of chicken and pork with multiple sides served on the deck around the pool. The weather cooperated with comfortable temperatures and there was plenty of room and more than ample seating/tables. Good food and conversation. Breaking bread together is always a good situation for making new friends.



The Best Western owns a large grass field adjoining the hotel parking lot which served as a perfect venue for the Saturday car show. The show field team had done an excellent job designing the layout so the MGs were grouped well by class with ample room around every car. There were many beautiful MGs. Judging was difficult as many cars were worthy of recognition.



The banquet Saturday night was held in the Best Western convention center. The room provided a large space so that tables were not crowded. The AV facilities supported the evening's program with two large screens at each end of the room. The event photographer and media specialist, Gary Whiting, presented a rolling slide show of the MGs and people at the GOF South 2023, during the serving of dinner. The awards program began with a Whiting-produced video of 100 Years MG. It received rave reviews. Glen Moore gave a history presentation celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Classic MG Club of Orlando and the history of GOF South accompanied with

many visuals. The awards were pre-sented to all recipients in a fun and efficient manner. The MC, Bruce Sedelmeyer, did an outstanding job.

Overall, the GOF South 2023 was a success in every way. There were many opportunities for social interaction, meeting new friends and catching up with old mates. Thanks must be given to the GOF Chair, Richard Gross and his hard-working wife Kathy, who did an excellent job of organizing the event. Members of the MG Classics of Jacksonville were always visible taking care of the myriad details. The Gainesville British Car Club partnered in planning and staffing the event. The Jacksonville Club can be proud of the job they did in continuing the quality and tradition of the GOF South.



## The GOF South as seen through Glen's Camera Lens





































## GOF as seen by Gary Whiting and Jeannie MacLeod















### Class Winners

#### GOF-South 2023

#### BEST IN SHOW 1952 MG TD - John Winn

#### First Timers

1st Place: 1959 MGA: Owner - Roger Hartman 2nd Place: 1947 MG TC: Owner - John Hibben 3rd Place: 1947 MG TC: Owner - Neil Nelson

#### Variant/Sedan

1st Place: 1948 MG YT: Owner - Steve Van Ess

#### MG TC

1st Place: 1948 MG TC: Owner - Neil Nelson

#### MG TF

1st Place: 1954 MG TF: Owner - Dan & Judy Duran

#### MGA (Judges Choice)

1958 MGA: Owner - Mark Ahlstrom

#### MGA 1600 > 1622

1st Place: 1962 MGA: Owner - Gary Altschuler 2nd Place: 1960 MGA: Owner - Henneke Vogt 3rd Place: MGA\*: Owner - Curtis Skomp \*100,000 MG

#### MGB ('63 > '69) Chrome Bumper

1st Place: 1963 MGB: Owner - AvivA Hoffmann 2nd Place: 1969 MGC: Owner - Fred Mannering 3rd Place: 1967 MGB: Owner - Mike Hogan

#### MGB Rubber Bumper

1st Place: 1975 MGB: Owner - Jim Carino 2nd Place: 1980 MGB: Owner - Steve Ratcliffe 3rd Place: 1980 MGB: Owner - Ron Edwards

#### MG Midget

1st Place: 1974 MG Midget: Owner - Jack Orkin

#### Preservation

1977 MGA Coupe: Owner - Jill Moore 1946 MG TC: Owner - Mark Tidwell

#### MG Modified

1st Place: 1955 MG TF: Owner - Glen Moore 2nd Place: 1952 MGB: Owner - Casper Pigott 3rd Place: 1961 MGA: Owner - Thomas Lempicke

#### MG TD

1st Place: 1952 MG TD: Owner - John Winn 2nd Place: 1951 MG TD: Owner - Bruce Sedelmeyer 3rd Place: 1953 MG TD: Owner - Kellie Caswell 4th Place 1953 MG TD: Owner - Mike McCormick Judges Choice: 1952 MG TD: Owner - Robert Mason

#### MGA 1500

1st Place: 1959 MGA: Owner - Malcom MacLeod 2nd Place: 1958 MGA: Owner - Dale Isenhoff 3rd Place: 1959 MGA: Owner - Edward Daniels

#### MGB/GT

1st Place: 1966 MGB/GT: Owner - Gery Cardamone 2nd Place: 1969 MGB/GT: Owner - Dan Bosso

#### MGB ('70 > '74) Chrome Bumper

1st Place: 1970 MGB: Owner - Richard Gross 2nd Place: 1971 MGB: Owner - Grace Sullivan 3rd Place: 1972 MGB: Owner - Ian Massey

#### MGB (Judges Choice)

1972 MGB: Owner - Mark Albright

#### Premier

1st Place: 1967 MGB/GT: Owner - Joseph Paez 2nd Place: 1955 MG TF: Owner - Bill Dixon 3rd Place: 1966 MGB/GT: Owner - Zach Merrill

#### Traveled Furthest

Gene & Becky Cooper: 1980 MGB LE From: Prior Lake, Minnesota



### Chairman's Report of the 2023 GOF South and NAMGAR Regional Show

A year's planning wasn't enough time to accomplish the many tasks and the expected results that were needed for such an event. The few committee members that did most of the planning did manage to pull it off with great success for the guests to have a great experience of having fun with the drives, seminars and their MG's on the show field for display. It was a good time to visit with old friends and meeting new ones. The dinners were great for Friday's BBQ around the pool and Saturday's banquet that showed the highlights of the event with videos of the guests and their MGs. The long audacious and relentless tasks for sponsorships made the event possible. The event drew 110 registered MGs and over 130 registrations. Both dinners drew over 130 guests for each night. The total MG guests during the event were over 235 people plus the local Gainesville visitors. I cannot say enough for the below listed people that made significant results during the planning stages up to the event that made the event successful by their foresight and dedication:

NAMGAR REP-Bruce Woodson

NAMGAR Coord-Tony Kimball

Webmaster & Registration developer-lan Massey

Logo-Jim Nolan

Awards-Richard Gross

Treasure/Registration-Ron Pallonari & Mike Hogan

Banquets & Graphics-Kathy Gross

Program Editor-Fred Groenert

Raffle Prize Coord-Teresa Gross, & Kathy Gross

Sponsorship Solicitors-Vanessa Albright, Fred Woller & Richard Gross

MG Drive Planners-**Glen Moore, Jill Moore & Ron Edwards** 

Photographer/Videographer-Gary Whiting

Orlando 60 yrs -Glen Moore

Seminars & Tech Speakers-Glenn Lenhard & Bruce Woodson

Best Western Staff-**Karl Kaufmann**, Senior Sales Rep

The following personnel volunteered their time during the 4 day event that made the event a success:

Ron & Michelle Edwards and volunteer members (10) of the Gainesville British Car Club for their support of the many tasks and drives that needed manpower to support this event. I'm sorry that I didn't have the chance to greet and thank each of them for their support.

Bruce Sedelmeyer "MC" for the banquet. Mark Spaulding & Richard Gross awards presentation.

Mark Spaulding, Dale Isenhoff & Roger Hartman for the show field layout.

The following volunteers that supported the Hospitality & Raffle Prizes Rooms:

Fred & Salena Woller were the hosts, fit the role and made a great impression on the guests with their friendship and workaholic efforts. Other volunteers were Bruce & Roberta Sedelmeyer, Ian & Paula Massey, Paula Ashcroft, Joyce Fink, Teresa Gross & Kathy Gross.

The following helped with registration: **Mike Hogan, Sybil Bradley**, & members of the Gainesville British Car Club.

The Ballot tabulation team members: Vanessa Albright, Neil Nelson, Kathy Albers, & Richard Gross.

A special recognition to **Gary Whiting** for all the photographs and videos presented during the banquet presentation.

To **Glenn Moore** for designing the MG Drives, writing the pre and posts articles for NAMGAR, New England T Register, the Orlando Club and Jacksonville Club newsletters.

A special recognition and to share the Chairman's award goes to my wife **Kathy** for the 8 months of working on the details of the GOF and designing the name tags and windshield cards and all the registration info for each guests. We were stretched to the limits but we made a great team pushing thru it all.

This list does not include the many others to whom we are indebted for their generosity of resources, donations, sage advice and intangible support in organizing and planning this exciting event.

Thank you one and all,

Your Humble Chairman,

Richard Gross



#### **Tinkering Notes**

#### **MG Electrics - Part 3 Improving Reliability**

So far we've touched on basics of one's LBC electrical system, I.e. where the electrical power comes from (battery & generator or alternator) and how it comes to be distributed around the vehicle: wiring, connectors and terminations. The discussion centered on things to look for when electrical system issues present themselves and some methods to prevent said issues from occurring in the first place (removing corrosion, protecting connections from contamination, etc.)

In the case of exterior lighting there are a couple of things that will keep your lights in tip top shape and another that will improve their performance while reducing the electrical load on the battery and alternator. In order of simplicity here they are:

1.. Ensure all the sealing gaskets associated with each of your external lighting fixtures are, in fact, sealing the internal bits of same from the elements. The sealing gaskets tend to fossilize and crumble into dust over time. It's worth inspecting yours to verify their condition. If they are the least bit suspect, replace them. They are available independent of the fixture and not terribly expensive.



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  - 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

- 2. Get a tube or jar of dielectric grease. Apply a coating of said grease to each bulb holder socket and bulb base as you reassemble them. This small effort will make the sockets last a very long time.
- 3. Convert all your lighting to LED bulbs. This has several advantages, primarily reducing the electrical load when your lights are on and they are much brighter that most 12v bulbs with out being overpowering. You'll actually be able to see and read you instrument indications at night. The newest versions of these bulbs are dimmable too, just using the dash rheostat. A third advantage is that they will very likely last for the life of the car.

On a slightly different topic another thing one can do to help prevent "oops" moments to be sure the wing harness is routed out of the way of rotating mechanical bits, e.g. fans, pulleys, belts, driveshafts, wheels, etc. They can destroy a wiring harness in a flash. Another place or space to avoid is hot surfaces like exhaust manifolds, exhaust pipes, engine blocks, radiators, etc. A wire bundle resting on a hot surface can cause a short to ground, or a short from wire to wire within a bundle (ask me how I know?)

To Be Continued ...

## **Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!**



Join over 2000 enthusiast owners in the restoration, preservation. And sheer enjoyment of driving a MGA, Magnette or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive 6 bi-monthly issues of MGA!, Our full-color award winning magazine, invitations to National and Regional Get-togethers

throughout the U. S. And Canada, plus a knowledge base and support group second to none. All this for just \$37.50 per year (North America), or \$52.50 (International). Get more information at http://www.namgar.com, or contact registrar@namgar.com



## NAMGAR & NAMGBR

Please report your membership to:

secretary@mgclassics.org



## **Latest Events of Interest**

Cars and Caffeine, June 10<sup>th</sup> 2023, 8 AM - 11 AM Featuring MG's
Avenues Mall, Jacksonville FL



## MG Classics Ads

#### Members:

To advertise your cars or parts for sale go to the Classifieds page on the website website: MGClassicsfl.org. Click on the Safety Fast logo to go to the Policy page. Fill out the forms and ad copy as directed. The ads can contain pictures of the car or items and a short description of the particulars of same. As a member it will be published at no cost for 90 days. Non-members may also submit ads for cars or parts, but the cost will be \$10.00 per month, renewable by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month for the following month's newsletter. One may pay through the website by PayPal (Yes, PayPal will accept your credit card).

There are presently at least 3 MG's listed on Craigslist, the silver and burgundy TD above and 2 MGBs, all appear to be driveable in their present condition. The owners of the MGBs have them go to the website to post ads for their cars that will be exposed to enthusiasts.

#### **Club Website Features You Can Use**

Go To: https://www.mgclassicsfl.org

- Join MG Classics of Jacksonville
- Renew Your Annual Club Membership
- Review the Club Membership Roster (This Requires a Website Password)
- Obtain a Club Website Password.
- Use Your Credit Card or PayPal to Pay Club Dues, Fees
- Order and Pay for Club Name Tags
- Review Calendar of Events and Car Shows of Club Membership Interest
- Register for Club Sponsored Events
- Read the Latest Club Newsletter
- Read Earlier Newsletters in the Newsletter Archive
- Read Club Meeting Minutes in the Minutes Archive

- Read the Club Bylaws
- Read Automotive Technical Articles
- Read Car Related Classified Advertisements
- Apply and Pay for Classified Advertisements
- Vote on Club Initiatives and Surveys With the Online Ballot
- Link to Nearby Out of Area MG Club Websites
- Link to NAMGAR and NAMGBR Websites
- Link to Local British Car Clubs (Jaguar, Austin Healey, Triumph) Websites
- Review past Club Event Photo Albums
- Read/review Details on MG Classics of Jacksonville Hosted GOF South 2019
- And More ... just <u>click here</u>

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## MG CLASSICS 2023 MEETING LOCATIONS

Date	Location	Address	City	Phone
14-Jan	Bannon Lakes Amenities Ctr	435 Bannon Lakes Blvd	St. Augustine	904-342-2471
25-Feb	Bannon Lakes Amenities Ctr	435 Bannon Lakes Blvd	St. Augustine	904-342-2471
??-Mar	None Scheduled			
01-Apr	Bannon Lakes Amenities Ctr	435 Bannon Lakes Blvd	St. Augustine	904-342-2471
20-May	Palencia Park	405 Palencia Village Dr,	St. Augustine	_
24-Jun	TBD			
29-Jul	TBD			
26-Aug	TBD			
30-Sep	TBD			
28-Oct	TBD			
18-Nov	TBD			
09-Dec	TBD			

2023 CLUB LEADERSHIP					
OFFICERS					
President	Mark Spaulding				
Vice President	Fred Woller				
Secretary	_				
Treasurer	Ron Pallonari				
DIRECTORS					
Permanent Member	Neil Nelson				
Technical Chair	Bruce Sedelmeyer				
<b>Events Chair</b>	-				
GOF Chairman	Richard Gross				
Membership Chair	_				
Past President	Bruce Sedelmeyer				
Director	Jim Hall				
Director	Len Geiger				
Director	Mike Hogan				
Director	Lorraine Puzanskas				
Director	_				
Newsletter Editor	Fred Groenert				
,					



904-282-1658, or 613-9591





## Your Local MOSS Reps

Bentley 1975-1980 MGB Shop Manual Normally \$74.00, 1 copy left: \$64.00

We stock a sizable inventory of MG parts for immediate purchase. We give 10% off to MG Classics members and consolidate orders to reduce or eliminate shipping charges.

We honor Moss sale prices and can give a larger discount on some items

#### CONTACT

Wayne Snook: mgbdriver73@att.net Neil Nelson: nwnel@yahoo.com



FLA CAR SHOWS website is a great resource to find out about local & statewide car shows and events. Click on the logo



MG Classics of Jacksonville Club Car Badge







Club badges are available through the website or at meetings. Sturdily built and will add grace and gravitas to your grill. \$30 each

#### FOR SALE

NEW, NEVER USED, BEVERLY HILLS TAN SOFT, FLANNEL CAR COVER. LISTS FOR \$325.00 SELL FOR \$200.00

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#### Contact Fred Groenert

For availability & prices, for your failed or missing bits 904-874-7159 (text or email preferred) fgrrr@att.net



## **MGs** in the Marketplace

The market for our beloved marque is active as illustrated below by examples of competed on-line auctions from Bring a Trailer and Hemmings Auctions within the last month. If one is in the market to buy or sell, or knows someone who is, these two sites are among the best.

#### **Hemmings Auctions:**



1973 MG B



1971 MG BGT



1969 MG B



SOLD

\$18,113





\$15,750

#### **Bring a Trailer**



No Reserve: Supercharged 1960 MG MGA 1600 Roadster 5-Speed

Sold for \$38,250 on 4/29/23



No Reserve: 1955 MG TF 1500

Sold for \$31,950 on 4/28/23



No Reserve: 1969 MG Midget

Sold for \$6,800 on 4/26/23



35-Years-Owned 1948 MG TC

Sold for \$16,750 on 4/26/23



1965 MG MGB Roadster

Bid to \$8,800 on 4/24/23



1955 MG Magnette ZA

Sold for \$15,001 on 4/24/23



No Reserve: Modified 1968 MG MGB GT 5-Speed

Sold for \$54,000 on 4/23/23



1953 MG TD

Sold for \$20,000 on 4/20/23

