



# NEWSLETTER

## Prez Sez

### Update from the President of MG Classics of Jacksonville

June 2023

On Saturday, May 20, our May club meeting was 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 was a new venue for us, a covered pavilion, restrooms, a large duck pond, and plenty of parking. Attendance was quite good and everyone there approved of the location. I was hoping that some of you would join me for lunch at the Kings Head Pub after the meeting. But the St Augustine Cruisers held a Cruise In there at the same time. So, it was quite crowded there. But six of our club managed to get a table and enjoy lunch there. We may try again after the June meeting.

We had a final report from Richard Gross on the successful GOF 2023, which has left the club in very good financial condition. At the next meeting on June 24, also at Palencia Park, we will briefly discuss our decision to hold the GOF 2025 at the Gateway Grand Hotel in Gainesville once again. We have already commenced discussions with the hotel and will be signing a contract and making a deposit shortly after finalizing a few details at the next meeting. The club directors have already looked over the contract, and only a few minor changes are needed to proceed. The room rate increase will be nominal, from \$119 per night this year to about 139. Considering the rate of inflation, the increase is quite reasonable. The dates will be April 24-27, 2025. Mark your calendars and start thinking about how we can improve on our great recent performance.

The new entry in the Cars and Coffee arena was held on May 27 at the Beachwalk Amenity Center, at 1000 County Road 210, St. Johns FL 32559, east of I 95 and west of US 1. It is a new community with a large young population



where we might find some younger people interested in our old cars. It was a cool day and the turnout was not up to our expectations.

Our club meeting schedule is still uncertain for the months of July, August, and September. We have been offered an opportunity to hold some meetings at the Yards Athletic Complex in Ponte Vedra, in the Sawgrass Club area. Fred and I will be meeting with the club manager the week of June 25 to discuss possible future arrangements. Charles McDarris, a club member, has discussed the possibility of us displaying our cars on an open area between their restaurant/club house and the golf course. Lunch following a possible meeting would be a great option as well.

The Caffeine and Octane event on June 10 at the Avenues Mall was a tremendous success. MG Classics of Jacksonville was the Featured Car Club of the month. Thank you to the more than 19 club members who attended. There were also a couple Jaguars, a Triumph and some Mini Coopers that joined us in the feature area.

Please remember that there is an all British Club picnic schedule in Green Cove Springs on July 15. A link to indicate your interest with more information can be found on our club web page. Please consider attending with Triumph, Austin Healey and Jaguar club members

I have found a company to produce new Club badges and put in a order which should be filled by mid-July. They are coming from Taiwan, not from China. Also the MG 100 Centenary badges which some of you ordered in May, have arrived. I will bring them to the June meeting to distribute to those of you who requested them.

Ron Pollinari is still temporarily out of commission as Treasurer and Mike Hogan has again stepped forward to substitute until Ron's return.

The club is still 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.



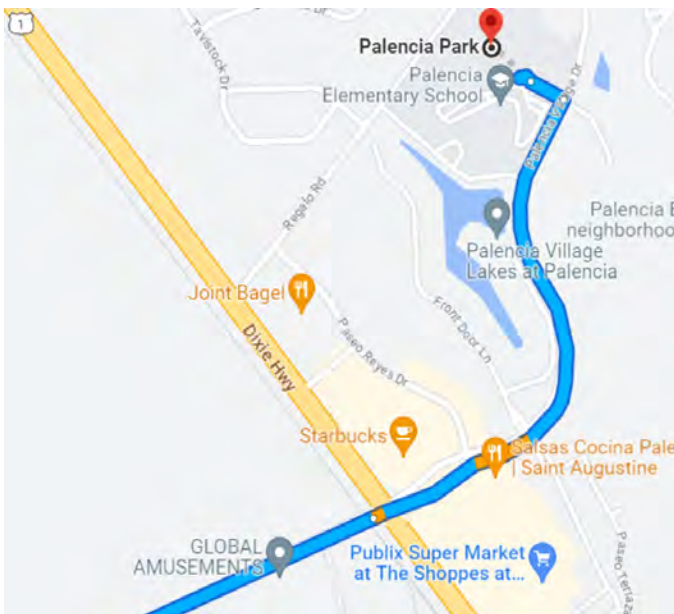
Finally on a personal note, I recently began receiving treatment, every day until August 8, for a medical condition that affects very many older men. Without boring you with the details, I am happy that this regimen has not been as unpleasant as I was fearing, and I hope it will enable me to continue my plans to drive my MGB on my 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

I look forward to seeing many of you on June 24 at Palencia Park. Please sign up on the web page.

### Saturday, June 24th 2023:

**10 am until 12 pm**  
**Palencia Park**  
**405 Palencia Village Dr**  
**St. Augustine**

**Safety Fast!**  
**Mark**



## MG Classics of Jacksonville

**May 20th, 2023**  
**Club Meeting**

**At Palencia Park**

**Total Attendance: 26 club members**

**Number of MGs: 12!**

- Any new members present?
- Current membership is 125 minus 33 expired 12/22. 92
- We NEED a club Secretary. Please step up if you can.
- Next club meeting June 24 here in Palencia. Are you happy with this location?
- Need meeting locations for July, August and September. Any ideas?
- Any ideas for pop up drives?
- New cars and Coffee at Beachwalk on 4th Saturday 1030 to 1300. Young audience.
- Great Race June 24 starting from St Augustine (See pg 11)
- Our club is Featured Marque at June Caffeine and Octane. We are the FCCC website sponsor for July.
- Elaborate on 100th MG celebration
- First Coast Car Council. Raffle tickets for 2002 Jaguar. Winner in October.
- Classic MG Magazine. Needs support!! Great magazine.
- British Car Rendezvous 7/15 12-3
- Spring Park. Green Cove Springs.
- Treasurer report.
- GOF. Richard's time for finance wrap up.
- New Business?
- GOF 2025 same place agreed.
- Ordering some more club grille badges. May considers future redesign of club logo.
- Good thoughts for Ron Pollinari. (Mark too)
- Check website for news. Thanks to Ian for running a tremendous website.
- Kings Head for lunch anyone?

## 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@att.net](mailto:fgrrr@att.net) Text: 904-874-7159

## Tinkering Notes

### A Common Spark Plug Problem with Old Cars

First, let's define the problem with the modern spark plug. When automobiles became computer-controlled with fuel injection, the bottom of the spark plug insulator no longer needed to be glazed, thus saving in manufacturing costs.

Today's cars use fuel injection, and the computer will not put enough fuel into the cylinders to flood them. Moreover, it will not put more fuel into the engine until it fires. Then, it fires the cylinder with 40,000 volts.

With today's cars, if the fuel injectors sent too much fuel to the cylinders because the fuel-injection computer control failed, the engine would flood. Then it would not run or run poorly until you replaced the spark plugs.

John Twist once told Neil Nelson the first thing he does is replace the spark plugs when a rough running MG comes in his shop.

Since the bottoms of the insulators are no longer glazed, if you flood the engine, the Ethanol gasoline

will contaminate the spark plugs. However, it is highly unlikely you will ever flood a computer-controlled fuel-injected vehicle?

Now, our old cars are not fuel injected, so if your carburetor is running rich or you flood the engine, the same thing happens. The bottom of the spark plug insulator, where it fires the engine, becomes contaminated junk, and our point-coil or magneto ignition does not have 40,000 volts to try to fire the spark plug.

The solution to the problem is we should use spark plugs manufactured before they stopped glazing the bottom of the insulator. If you have old type glazed insulator spark plugs, clean them with WD-40, kerosene, diesel fuel, or anything that will not remove the glazing. In any case, do not sandblast or bead blast these spark plugs. Those processes will remove the glaze. Remember, no glaze + modern gasoline + flooding = ruined plugs.

If you want old-style plugs, go online and search for: "Spark Plugs for old cars." Several vendors sell them.

## 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](mailto:registrar@namgar.com)**



## NAMGAR & NAMGBR MEMBERS

Please report your membership to:

??

[secretary@mgclassics.org](mailto:secretary@mgclassics.org)



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



## Latest Events of Interest

The Great Race, June 24<sup>th</sup> 2023, 8 AM - 1 PM  
Francis Field, St. Augustine, FL

BCCNF Spring Drive & Picnic, July 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, 12 - 3 PM  
Spring Park Green Cove Springs, FL

BritFest 2023 October 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> 2023  
The Market Common, Myrtle Beach SC



## MG Classics Ads

### Members:

To advertise your cars or parts for sale go to the Classifieds page on the website website: [MGClassicsfl.org](http://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 [click here](#)

Ian



## MG CLASSICS 2023 MEETING LOCATIONS

Date	Location	Address	City	Phone
14-Jan	Bannon Lakes Amenities Ctr	<a href="#">435 Bannon Lakes Blvd</a>	St. Augustine	904-342-2471
25-Feb	Bannon Lakes Amenities Ctr	<a href="#">435 Bannon Lakes Blvd</a>	St. Augustine	904-342-2471
??-Mar	None Scheduled			
01-Apr	Bannon Lakes Amenities Ctr	<a href="#">435 Bannon Lakes Blvd</a>	St. Augustine	904-342-2471
20-May	Palencia Park	405 Palencia Village Dr,	St. Augustine	—
24-Jun	Palencia Park	405 Palencia Village Dr,	St. Augustine	—
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
Events Chair	—
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



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**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](mailto:mgbdriver73@att.net)  
Neil Nelson: [nwnel@yahoo.com](mailto:nwnel@yahoo.com)

**FOR SALE**

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

**BOB WRENN**

**904-568-7512;**

**MGOWNER@BELLSOUTH.NET**

**From The Frame Up, LLC**

"Specializing in MG hard to find parts"



**Doug Pelton**  
Proprietor

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602-690-4927 (c)  
[www.fromtheframeup.com](http://www.fromtheframeup.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**



HIGHLY POLISHED CLOISSONNE/CHROME



3" X 3" BADGE

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

**Gently Used Parts**

- MGA, MGB & Spridget Parts +++
- MGB Front Fenders (used)
- Intake & Exhaust Manifold
- Carburetor(s) & Distributors
- Starters, Generators, Alternators
- MGB Windshield Frame(s)
- MGB Top Bows
- Wire Wheels, Hubs & Knock-offs
- Plus, plus, plus, ...

Minor repairs & tune ups (inquire)  
[And, you get to hold the flashlight!]

**Contact Fred Groenert**

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

# OIL CHANGE INSTRUCTIONS

Contributed by the club's favorite curmudgeon - Wayne Snook

## For Women:

1. Pull up to dealership when the mileage reaches 5,000 miles since the last oil change.
2. Relax in the waiting room while enjoying a cup of coffee.
3. 15 minutes later, scan debit card and leave, driving a properly maintained vehicle.

Money spent:

Oil Change: \$24.00

Coffee: Complementary

TOTAL: \$24.00

## For Men:

1. Wait until Saturday, drive to auto parts store, and buy a case of oil, filter, kitty litter, hand cleaner, and a scented tree. Use your debit card for \$50.00.
2. Stop buying a 12 pack of beer (debit \$24) and drive home.
3. Open a beer and drink it.
4. Jack MG up. Spend 30 minutes looking for jack stands.
5. Find jack stands under kid's pedal car.
6. In frustration, open another beer and drink it.
7. Place drain pan under engine.
8. Look for 9/16 box end wrench.
9. Give up and use crescent wrench.
10. Unscrew drain plug.
11. Drop drain plug in pan of hot oil: splash hot oil on you in process. Cuss.
12. Crawl out from under MG to wipe hot oil off of face and arms. Throw kitty litter on spilled oil.
13. Have another beer while watching oil drain.
14. Spend 30 minutes looking for oil filter wrench.
15. Give up; crawl under MG and hammer a screwdriver through oil filter and twist off.
16. Crawl out from under MG with dripping oil filter splashing oil everywhere from holes. Cleverly hide old oil filter among trash in trash can to avoid environmental penalties. Drink a beer.
17. Install new oil filter making sure to apply a thin coat of oil to gasket surface.
18. Dump first quart of fresh oil into engine.

19. Remember drain plug from step 11.
20. Hurry to find drain plug in drain pan.
21. Drink beer.
22. Discover that first quart of fresh oil is now on the floor. Throw kitty litter on oil spill.
23. Get drain plug back in with only a minor spill. Drink beer.
24. Crawl under MG getting kitty litter into eyes. Wipe eyes with oily rag used to clean drain plug. Slip with stupid crescent wrench tightening drain plug and bang knuckles on frame removing any excess skin between knuckles and frame.
25. Begin cussing fit.
26. Throw stupid crescent wrench.
27. Cuss for additional 5 minutes because wrench hit MG and left dent.
28. Beer.
29. Clean up hands and bandage as required to stop blood flow.
30. Beer.
31. Dump in five fresh quarts of oil.
32. Beer.
33. Lower MG from jack stands.
34. Move MG back to apply more kitty litter to fresh oil spilled during any missed steps.
35. Beer.
36. Test drive MG.
37. Get pulled over: arrested for driving under the influence.
38. MG gets impounded.
39. Call loving wife, make bail.
40. 12 hours later, get MG from the impound yard.

Money spent:

Parts: \$50.00

DUI: \$2,500.00

Impound fee: \$75.00

Bail: \$1,500.00

Beer: \$24.00

TOTAL: \$4,149.00

But you know the job was done right!





**FOR SALE** is a **1952 MGTD**, previously owned by James Nolan for 45 years. The car was originally registered in Arizona by an 80+ year old submariner who served in the U.S. Navy during WW II.

Since purchasing, we (Wayne Snook & Dave Hodson) have had very minor dings dents removed and the car repainted in a very light primrose color. We have Installed: a new green interior including, leather seats, black carpet, black vinyl top, black vinyl tonneau and side curtains. The differential has been converted to the 4.3 gearing (same as the MGA). It has a new stainless steel exhaust system. The car shows beautifully and is in excellent, running condition. Additional photos available on request. The car can be viewed at 5720 Springhaven Dr, Orange Park, FL, by appointment. Asking price \$21,500. Contact Dave at 904-654-4852.



## 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 BGT**



SOLD  
\$13,650



**1969 MG B**



SOLD  
\$14,963



**1952 MG TD**



SOLD  
\$36,750

### Bring a Trailer



**31-Years-Owned  
MG MGB Race Car**

Sold for \$19,500  
on 6/18/23



**1955 MG TF 1500 5-Speed**

Sold for \$49,900  
on 6/18/23



**38-Years-Owned  
1948 MG TC**

Bid to \$18,000 on 6/18/23



**1953 MG TD**

Sold for \$24,000  
on 6/16/23



**1958 MG MGA Twin  
Cam Roadster**

Bid to \$45,000 on 6/16/23



**64-Years-Family-  
Owned 1958 MG  
MGA Roadster**

Sold for \$21,525  
on 6/12/23



**32-Years-Owned  
1971 MG MGB GT**

Bid to \$18,900 on 6/10/23



**MG MGB Roadster**

Sold for \$12,300 on 6/9/23



British Car Clubs of North Florida  
--- **British Car Rendezvous** ---  
A Picnic Lunch with our British Car Friends



- Saturday 15 July 2023
- Spring Park in Green Cove Springs
- 12:00~3:00 PM

Hosted by the St. Johns Austin-Healey Club





**#1 VINTAGE RALLY!**

# 2023 GREAT RACE ROUTE

St. Augustine, FL to Colorado Springs, CO

June 24-July 2, 2023

**SATURDAY, JUNE 24**  
**START:** Francis Field, St. Augustine, FL - 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
**OVERNIGHT:** Main Street, Tilton, GA - 5 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 25**  
**LUNCH:** Toomer's Corner, Auburn, AL - 12:15 p.m.  
**OVERNIGHT:** Uptown at Protective Stadium, Birmingham, AL - 4:30 p.m.

**MONDAY, JUNE 26**  
**LUNCH:** Lee County Courthouse, Tupelo, MS - noon  
**OVERNIGHT:** Guesthouse/Graceland, Memphis, TN - 5 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 27**  
**LUNCH:** Argenta, Downtown, North Little Rock, AR - 11:45 a.m.  
**OVERNIGHT:** Russellville Depot, Russellville, AR - 4:30 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28**  
**LUNCH:** BW Inn Of The Ozarks, Eureka Springs, AR - 12:15 p.m.  
**OVERNIGHT:** Main Street/Historic US 66, Joplin, MO - 5 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 29**  
**LUNCH:** Lyon County Fairgrounds, Emporia, KS - 1 p.m.  
**OVERNIGHT:** Mosely Street/Old Town, Wichita, KS - 5 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 30**  
**LUNCH:** SRCA Drag Strip, Great Bend, KS - noon  
**OVERNIGHT:** Main St./Stevens Park, Garden City, KS - 5 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JULY 1**  
**LUNCH:** Colorado Welcome Center, Lamar, CO - 11:00 a.m.  
**OVERNIGHT:** Pueblo Union Depot, Pueblo, CO - 4 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 2**  
**FINISH:** Tejon Street, Colorado Springs, CO - 1 p.m.



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