



The Octagon

NEWSLETTER OF

THE CLASSIC



CLUB OF ORLANDO

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MAINTAINING THE BREED FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS

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MEETING LOCATION: The APRIL 16TH MEETING WILL BE A VIRTUAL MEETING WITH THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND ANY OTHER MEMBERS INTERESTED IN ATTENDING. IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND PLEASE CONTACT PRESIDENT MIKE MCCORMICK trouble150@gmail.com .

So much has happened since our last physical meeting and the St. Patrick's Day Party and planning event. Right after the party, restrictions on gatherings intensified followed by Safe at Home restrictions, and the closing of non-essential services. After investigating and learning a few tricks for video conferencing, The board held the meeting on March 30th, using duo. Duo is limited to 8 people, but the club will consider using Zoom if more people are interested. A meeting summary will be seen below. Who said old dogs can't learn new tricks!

For a break, the Editor and Assistant Editor got their 1953 MG out and drove it around the neighborhood. What a lifting experience! Al was thrilled to not only drive, but he changed the oil which he is finally able to do after his shoulder surgery! We certainly hope that other members will get out and explore new areas and maybe new ideas for events will come out of these!

Dodie and Lonnie have been working on our website. While you are browsing website, look at other information on the site - it's your one-stop location for past - current - future information about the club. <https://www.classicmgclub.com/>

We would like for people to submit articles about the history and restoration of their MGs. Also, we could use some volunteers to write tech sessions for the newsletter and the website. PLEASE VOLUNTEER and send them to the Assistant Editor. Other original items can also be included.

REPORT ON THE MARCH DRIVING EVENT AND PLANNING MEETING:



On March 14, 2020, we had March Driving event and The Annual St. Patrick's Day party and planning session at the Cook's home in Lithia, FL 33547. This was the first party since their move and over 25 people attended. Of course, we had the traditional corned beef and cabbage as well as numerous delicious sides and dessert. Kathy topped off the event with her Irish Coffee which was enjoyed by many people. We conducted our annual planning meeting and planned many events with Action Officers to organize those events. Pat Moore won the drawing and has some new hot beverage glasses. The summary is below, subject to changes of course.

OTHER EVENTS:



April 4TH - 36th All British Car Show at Central winds Park was canceled due to the Covid-19 Virus, Winter Springs., www.allbritishcarclub.com.

They sent out an announcement which said,

Other:

Lonnie sent out a message to watch a John Twist Seminar! Al Cook saw it! It is great!

GOF 2020:



**DUE TO COVID-19, THIS EVENT IS CANCELED.
MAKE SURE TO CANCEL HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

We were all looking forward to the 54th annual "Southern Gathering of the Faithful" Friday April 17 through Sunday April 19, 2020 at The Mission Inn, Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida.

There was a lot of work put into this event and we hope to recycle many aspects of this planned event. This would have been the heart and soul of our MG friends Florida event. The GOF-South website is <https://www.gofsouth.org> . Refunds are currently being made.

SUMMARY OF MARCH MEETING:

March 30, 2020 Duo Video Conference

Attending: Officers and Directors of MG Club

Mike McCormick, Patrick Raley, Jim McSweeney (Dodie Beach), Al Cook (Kathy Cook), Paul Plasschaert, Lonnie Cook, Pete Rogers

Treasurer's Report: Paul is writing refund checks and returning PayPal payments. Checks are ready to mail; PayPal returns are time consuming but will be done shortly. Paul estimates that after paying some small expenditures, the club balance will end up being just short of what it was before GOF planning started.

Old Business

The Second Harvest Food Bank is now our official club charity. Thanks to Jack and Brian Collins for obtaining our official charity status from Mindy Ortiz, Director of Volunteer Services at the foodbank.

GOF South Cancellation Update -

Carol McCormick and Glen Moore contacted all donors and sponsors to our 54th GOF. Informed of our cancellation, all companies or individuals who donated materials or certificates graciously requested that we keep the goods until our 2022 show. Money from major sponsors is being returned.

Pete Rogers spoke with officials at the Mission Inn and feels certain we will have no problem receiving a refund on our deposit.

Lonnie volunteered to call magazine/websites informing them of the cancellation of our 54th GOF. Al volunteered to write a letter to the NMGTR detailing our cancellation.

The Jacksonville MG Club will host the 55th GOF in Gainesville in 2021. Their president asked Lonnie if 2021 should be the 54th GOF; he told them that ours was the 54th even though cancelled.

Jim had ordered lanyards that can be reused in 2022. Because our dash plaques have the date of the show on them, the group agreed that we should send a dash plaque out in the same envelope with each of approximately 40 check returns Paul is processing. MG club members will also receive a dash plaque at the first meeting or event held post Corona.

New Business: Discussion of plan going forward for MG Club

It was suggested that our Octagon newsletter could become a forum for posing technical questions to fellow club members, who could post a question by replying to Dodie Beach or Kathy Cook after Octagon is published. Lonnie stated that the video on our cameras gives us a great way to discuss technical questions with other members by including pictures, video and sound as he did recently.

We agreed that the Octagon could also ask if other members are interested in joining our video meetings. We would most likely have to move our meetings from Duo to Zoom to accommodate a larger crowd. Those interested could respond to Dodie, Kathy or Mike.

Patrick shared an interesting talk he recently heard detailing the 4 phases of a pandemic such as ours:

Phase 1 is happening right now.

Phase 2 would occur as the virus contagion has leveled out for 2 weeks. Younger people would come out of quarantine, but high risk folks would remain in self quarantine. This phase could quickly revert to Phase 1.

Phase 3—Everyone is out of quarantine

Phase 4—When we are completely out of danger, preparations for reoccurrence of such and event in the future could begin

In the meantime there may be a desire to have road events for the MG Club even if we were still in Phase 2. We could drive our cars on Rallies or on some of our suggested events like the Lake Apopka Wildlife Drive when it reopens. If necessary, we would just not get out of our cars and interact. Others agreed, and it was suggested that we could move our scheduled events around to suit the circumstances in this difficult time.

Lonnie suggested we have a online video meeting with the entire membership on Zoom, with each of us having our own food (hamburgers?) and drink while we meet.

The group unanimously agreed to hold another video meeting on the third Thursday of each month via video until meetings in person can be held.

MEMBER'S CORNER:



Whatcha Workin' On?

Follow “Social Distancing” guidelines by showing us your MG projects. We’ll share your photos and questions in the newsletter. We will post member’s answers, comments, and tips.

Just hit the “Reply” button from the newsletter (or send it to Dodie Beach mg_enthusiast@aol.com) and send your photos, questions, and comments.

1. Jim Young (and sons) – 1979 MG Midget

We just finished fibreglassing the floor and laying down new carpet and added a new radio. We had to switch back to the seats that came with it. My old trunk lid had broken braces so my son came up with the idea of fixing it with fiberglass and it worked. Then I needed to cover the old holes for the rusted rack that was on there so I got 2 belts from a Dollar Store and the holes matched up perfectly. I think it came out great.



2. Bryan Corkal, bcorkal@gmail.com , took some pictures of his MGB and is sharing them with the club. He also fixed the driver's side window. It looks like he will have the time since he reported, "It needs the fluids changed and if I have some time I will get that done."

Some things about the car...it was restored around 1997. The car has around 18k miles on the rebuilt engine. I was rear-ended in about 2003 and the rear bumper is a little crooked and seam for the trunk is misaligned. The car has stone chips and the typical knocks. Every year I do a project or two. In the last couple of years I replaced the front bushings, the clutch master and slave cylinders and the water pump. The car has a slow leak and loses about a teaspoon of fluid every 6 months---it might be the transmission. He welcomes conversation about this car. Just call (321-272-3444).



TECH QUESTIONS, ANSWERS, AND TIPS:

MGs are a puzzlement! Please use your experience to answer questions from fellow CMGC members. Just hit the "Reply" button to send answers, questions, or tips.

Sagging rear suspension – 1979 Midget

From Jim Young: I have a question about the rear axle and suspension as mine seems to sag real bad in the rear. I am not sure if it is a leaf spring or shock issue. When I jack it up and put on jack stands the axle seems to hang down a lot.

FUTURE CLUB EVENTS:

We try to do a driving event on the weekend after the meeting (local drives during the summer). **This of course is subject to availability and changes. Events planned for the next year but of course subject to change! Driving events are generally the Saturday after the meeting but subject to change based upon other factors.**

April 2020 – 16th – Virtual meeting

May 2020 – 21st Meeting

TBA Winter Park Scenic Boat Ride - Pat Moore

- June 2020** – 18th Meeting
TBA- Sanford Brewing - Tony Geraci and Mark Tidwell
- July 2020** – 16th Meeting
TBA Willow Tree Restaurant - Paul Plasschaert
- August 2020** – 20th Meeting
22d - Black Hammock Restaurant - Jim McSweeney
- September 2020** – 17th Meeting
19th Proper Pie Company - Richard and Nancy Payne
- October 2020** – 15th Meeting
TBA - Tuck A Way Shores Overnighter - Kathy and Al Cook
TBA - Optional Event - Lift Day at Pete Roger's house
- November 2020** – 19th Meeting
22d - Flankey Picnic - Camille and Kerry Flankey
TBA - Optional Event - Destination Duran's - Dan and Judy Duran
- December 2020** – Christmas Party - TBA
17th Tour of Lights - TBA
TBA - Optional Event - Tuba's at Winter Park - Marcia Geraci
- January 2021** – 21st Meeting-
23rd Lake Apopka Wildlife Audio Tour - Carol and Mike McCormick
- February 2021** – 18th Meeting -
Palatka Overnighter – TBA
- March 2021** – 13th - MG St Patrick's Day and Planning Party at the Cooks in Lithia
18th Meeting
- April 2021** – GOF South - Gainesville Jacksonville MG Club

Other ideas for later use or substitutions;

Ponce Inlet trip - Light House, North Turn or Down the Hatch Restaurants

Frost Proof for Slaw Burgers - possibly combine with Avon Park trip

Crabby Bills Restaurant in St. Cloud

Any State Park

Deleon Springs Pancake - too hot for summer months

Space Coast Center Visit

Cedar Key Overnighter

Lake County Garage Shop Tour

Blue Springs river cruise

PLEASE TAKE PICTURES AT THE EVENTS AND EMAIL THEM TO KATHY
KATHY.COOKUCF@GMAIL.COM SO SHE CAN PUT THEM IN THE NEWSLETTER!!!!

FOR SALE AND WANTED ITEMS: If you would like to list any items for sale, please send the information to the editor for inclusion in the newsletter.

FOR SALE:

1. 1953 MGTD 1 owner, Cream/w Green Interior. 2460 miles on frame- up restoration completed early 2014. 3 Bow tan stayfast top, full tonneau and side curtains, luggage and driving lights. Portfolio of receipts and over 350 pictures of restoration process. \$ 25600. Contact Tony Geraci, E-mail marton1879@gmail.com or 407-656-7472.



2. For sale: 1971 MGB, \$6,500 OBO
CMGC member Bryan Corkal is selling his 1971 MGB. It was restored in around 1997 and has always been garaged and cared for. The car needs the fluids changed and the driver's side window is off the track---other than that, it should be good to go. Contact Bryan Corkal, Winter Garden, 321-272-3444. See information above.
3. Kim Denmark needs to sell her 1960 MG Magnette MarkIII. The property where she has been storing the car has been sold. The boot is completely rusted out. The car is stripped and about ready to be refinished. All the parts are there. All the glass is intact and not cracked or broken. It still has its chrome front and back bumpers. It would be great for someone who wants to refinish it or if someone needs a lot of parts. Kim lives in Ocoee and the car is in Groveland. If anyone is interested, give her a call, 407-721-5434, or send her an email, kimwdenmark@yahoo.com .

