The Octagon

The Newsletter of The Classic MG Club of Orlando

Founded 1963

September 2024

Vol. 63, No.9 Issue 731



Presidential Thoughts

Summer is transitioning to fall. I'm looking forward to cooler weather so I can drive the MGs more. I have started prepping my MGs for upcoming events, topping off fluids, checking points gap, etc.



Ann Plasschaert is hosting a tech session on servicing T Types Brakes in November, date to be announced. If any other member wants to host a tech session on an aspect of their car, please let me know and I will see if the club can make it happen.

Scott and Marcia Buie hosted the August event, an Airboat ride on Lake Panasoffkee this past weekend. What a hoot! The upcoming September 21st, tour of Harry P Leu Gardens, the registration and \$17 payment deadline is coming up soon, 9/7. Please attend the event, get your payment to Dodie, check payable to Classic MG Club.

GOF 2026 planning is beginning. It is imperative that all members help to make the event a success.

See you down the road



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Your Club's Leadership

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 1mwtidwell@gmail.com

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Chairperson,

GOF South 2024 Scott Buie GOFSouthEvents@gmail.com

Club Website <u>classicmqclub.com</u>

Club Facebook Click this link to facebook

Your Club's Affiliations



Their Website: New England MG T Register

Nat'l Meeting: GOF 110 Mystic, CT to Bris Jun 7-8

Local Contact: Mike McCormick



Their Website: NAMGAR.com

Nat'l Meeting: GT-49 Welches, OR Jul 15-19

Local Contact: Jill Moore



Their Website: **NAMGBR.org**

Nat'l Meeting: MG2024 Katy, TX Apr 21 4

Local Contact: Jim McSweeney

The Classic MG Club of Orlando Meeting Minutes



submitted by Tom Redditt

Location: Nauti Lobstah, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka, Fl 32703 Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM on August 15, 2024

Treasurer's report:

Dodie Beach reported that we still have more than sufficient funds in the bank account and there were no expenses since the last meeting.

New member introductions: There were no new members present

Old business:

- The club bylaws have been revised and the approval vote is scheduled for the club's regular business meeting in October.
- CMGC and British Car Club of Central Florida have agreed to reciprocally post their web page links on their respective websites. This is in the process of being completed by both clubs. This is for advertising purposes only and to promote the British car brand so that both clubs will benefit. Each club will retain its own separate entity.
- VERY IMPORTANT! VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! There are important club positions still open that must be filled very soon:
 - 1) GOF 2026 Committee members (2 positions)
 - Committee members to find suitable location for the 2026 GOF. This excludes making the final decision for location and participating in negotiations for meals and access to the food facilities we require.
 - Art director: Brainstorm for theme and integrate the art into the location we select. Develop art for tee shirts and marketing the 2026 GOF.
 - -There will be other positions open later on after the location is selected.
 - 2) Registrar position This position involves reviewing a new request for membership and data to join the club and update the membership database.
 - 3) Octagon newsletter assistant. Keith Waggoner needs assistance gathering, assembling, verifying event information for the club calendar

Please contact Mark Tidwell if you can fill any of these important roles.

Continued on next page



Meeting Minutes continued...

New Business:

- August event: Lake Panasoffkee Airboat Ride August 24, 2024.
 Hosts are Scott and Marcia Buie. Breakfast at Twisted Biscuit in Tavares at 8 AM. Leave there at 9 AM for 1 hour caravan drive over to Lk. Panasogee to the Swamp Fever Airboat Adventures. Airboat ride leaves at 10:30 AM. You can save \$10 by purchasing a ticket in advance off their website at: swampfeverairboatadventures.com
- September meeting will be held Saturday, 9/28/24 at the IHOP restaurant in Sanford. Tire kicking begins at 8:30 AM in the parking lot with breakfast at 9:00 AM.
- Harry P Leu Garden Tour: Saturday 9/21/2024. MUST RSVP AND PAY BY 9/7/24. Please pay Dodie Beach in advance for the tour.
 Payment can be made by Cash, Cash App or check made payable to Classic MG Club.

Announcements:

- Summer is a great time to prepare your car for the upcoming Fall and Winter driving season. If your car needs help, a tech session can be scheduled at your house. Please contact Mark Tidwell if interested.

Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:12PM.



Just the car you've been waiting for! Two adults up front - two children in back - or an emergency four - Disc brakes; full instrumentation; wire wheels; leather bucket seats; ample luggage space - Come in - See the sensational sports car today! " (punctuation and grammar copied exactly from the card)



Special Notice

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF

THE MEMBERS OF

THE CLASSIC MG CLUB OF ORLANDO, INC.

A special meeting of the members of THE CLASSIC MG CLUB OF ORLANDO, INC., a Florida not for profit corporation, will be held at its regular business meeting on October 17, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at THE NAUTI LOBSTAH, 311 S. Forest Avenue, Apopka, FL 32703, for the purpose of voting on a proposed restatement of its bylaws.

The close of business on October 1, 2024 is the record date for determining members entitled to vote at the meeting.

Dated: August 15, 2024 s/ Robert T. Redditt

Robert T. Redditt, Secretary

Calendar of Upcoming Events

September

09/21 Harry P Leu Gardens Tour Hosts-Penny and Jim Young You will need to register by September 7th.

10:00AM Meet in the parking lot of Leu Gardens for tour 1920 North Forest Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803

12:30PM drive to Lunch at TooJays

2624 E Colonial Dr, Orlando, FL 32803

More details can be found later in this newsletter

09/28 **Club Meeting** at the IHOP 111 S Oregon Ave, Sanford, FL 32771 8:30AM for tire kicking.

9:00AM Breakfast and Meeting

*** Please make note! date/time/venue change ***

October

10/17 **Club Meeting** at Nauti Lobstah, 311 S Forest Ave, Apopka 6:30PM for drinks, ordering food or tire kicking. 7:00PM Special Meeting Begins

*** Please make note! We are voting on the club Bylaws ***
See official notice.found on the previous page

10/19-20 Overnighter excursion to Micanopy,

Hosts-Ellen and Mark Tidwell, with Tom Redditt Sat:10:30 Drive starts at the RaceTrac in Eustis

lunch at Eaton's Beach in Weirsdale

Stay at Equus Inn in Ocala,

Sun:10:00 Breakfast at Hotel

10:45 Marjorie Rawlings State Park

Lunch at The Yearling Restaurant, Hawthorne Shopping in Micanopy

03:30 Drive back to RaceTrac in Eustis

05:00 Say our goodbyes

More details can be found later in this newsletter

November

11/09 CMGC Founder's Picnic Hosts-Tracey and Keith Waggoner

Noon: Enjoy the Fall weather by driving your MG to DeLand, FL for a fried chicken picnic along the St Johns River Bank.

At the Quail Hollow on the River Rec Center 1968 Quail Hollow Dr Deland, FL 32720

More details can be found later in this newsletter



September's Upcoming Event



Leu Gardens: Explore an amazing 50-acre botanical oasis. Each garden is designed specifically to inspire visitors to appreciate and understand plants.

Meet you there at 1920 North Forest Avenue, Orlando

Tour starts at 10:00AM, so meet in parking lot at 9:30

Tickets are \$17 and must be purchased by Sept 7th

See purchase info below,,,

After the tour we plan to gather for lunch at TooJays Found at the corner of N Bumby Ave and E Colonial DR 2624 E Colonial Dr, Orlando, FL 32803

If you are planning to come Please contact Dodie Beach to discuss payment

flutterby670@aol.com_407-695-2981

Tickets must be purchased by Sept 7th!



October's Upcoming Event



Overnighter to Micanopy:

An eventful 2 days of eating, exploring and shopping Where to stay: Equus Inn 3434 SW College Rd Ocala, FL 34474 equusinn.com ph#352-854-3200

Make your reservation directly with the hotel! The hotel is holding a limited number of rooms for the Classic MG Club. \$85 Incl Breakfast

Saturday, October 19th

10:30, Meet at the RaceTrac 2850 SR 195 in Eustis as we gather to start our drive. We'll head to 15780 SE 134th Ave, Weirsdale, FL for an 11:45 lunch at Eaton's Beach Sandbar and Restaurant. Then, on to the hotel for check-in, and dinner (tbd).

Sunday, October 20th

Start with complimentary breakfast. At 10:45, we head out to explore Marjorie Rawlings State Park 18700 S. CR 325 in Crosscreek.

At 11:45, we head to lunch At the Yearling Restaurant 14531 E. CR 325 in Hawthorne, Fl

Then, on to Micanopy for some shopping and ice cream!

At 3:30, we head back to the RaceTrac (where it all started)

Estimated arrival time is 5:00, where we can say our goodbyes, and head home.



November's Upcoming Event



It's Picnic Season, It's Driving Season. Let's do both!

Sunday November 9th from Noon to 4

Community Park and Rec Center of Quail Hollow on the River 1968 Quail Hollow Drive DeLand, FL 32720

You're invited to the CMGC Orlando Founder's Picnic.
It's all about a good ole' southern get-together
Fried Chicken and all the fixins.

We'll furnish the chicken, water, tea, sodas and tableware

You bring any other drink and one of the following to share: Appetizers, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Mac'n'Cheese, Tater Salad and, of course, any dessert.

Oh, and don't forget your lawn chairs for "sittin and storytellin" along the St Johns River Bank

Please let Keith Waggoner know you're coming and what you're bringing.

He's at mkwaggoner@yahoo.com or 407-920-2013

RSVP by November 4th.

If you need suggestions, he can offer options based upon what others are bringing.

Come rain or shine. We can go inside the clubhouse if inclement weather

See you there!



Classic MG Club Year-at-a-Glance

May 2024- April 2025 Calendar

May 4th Saturday: Indian River Drive; Sts-Pat and Bob Moore

May 18th Saturday 12PM-4PM: Lakeridge Winery & Vineyards "Weekends at the Winery" https://www.lakeridgewir.zry.com/ live music; Hosts-Sharon and Allen Wyman

June 22nd Saturday: Longwood Mansic Museum Tour; Host-Tom Redditt. Begins 9:30 Drive, Tour and Lann

July 20th Saturday 9:30AM a visit to Mouse Museum https://morsemuseum.org/; House JoAnn and Lonnie Cook

August 24th Saturday Airboat; Hosts-Marcia and Scott Buie 8:00AM Breakfast in Tavares: 9:00AM Drive to Lake Panason, e for airboat ride;

September 21st Saturday a visit Harry P Leu Gardens https://www.leugardens.org/ lunch TBD; Host-Jim Young

October 19-20: 2 Day Overnighter excursion to Micanopy, lunch at Yearling restaurant, Paynes Prairie Preserve state park, stay at Equus Inn in Ocala, shop Micanopy, drive home possible stop for lunch/dinner; Hosts-Ellen and Mark Tidwell, with Tom Redditt

November 9th Saturday 12PM-4PM: Founders Picnic, at the park of Quail Hollow on the River Deland; Hosts-Tracey and Keith Waggoner

December 19th, Thursday; Tour of Lights; Hosts- Rebekkah and Brad Parlee

2025

January: Drive from Clermont, drive west through great roads to Richloam General Store https://www.richloamstore.com/ ending at The Friar Tuck British restaurant in Clermont https://thefriartuck.com/ for lunch; Hosts-TDB

February: North/South Picnic; Hosts-Sharon and John Spadaro

March: Parrish, 2 day, Florida Railroad museum, https://www.frrm.org/, hotel to be identified; Host-Dodie Beach

April 24-27: GOF South 2025; Hosts-MG Classics of Jacksonville



Classic MG Club Ideas for the Future

In addition to the regularly scheduled monthly events, additional club-initiated events are being considered to add to the MG Adventures for club members.

Rallyes and Drives

Recreate past CMGC Rallyes and Drives - hare and hounds, drive with clues, scavenger hunt type.

Potential Pop-Up Events

A Pop-Up Event can be announced by any club member through the club website portal. If a member plans a trip with their MG, they can announce it to all the membership by posting on the website and others can choose to join. Some suggestions include:

- -Drive to Kissimmee, Old Town car shows and/or music https://myoldtownusa.com/category/events/
- -Drive to Lake Mary, Cars and Coffee, 3rd Saturday of the month
- -Webster Flea market (Open only Monday) with Lunch at Southern Hospitality
- -Drive to Winter Garden, Cars and Coffee, Last Saturday of the month

Suggestions for Long Trips

CMGC has traditionally scheduled two overnight drives each year. However, there are appealing destinations and events worthy of a visit that will take multiple days.

Extended Journey Suggestions

- -Naples, FI. 3 day Revs Institute and Car Museum Revs Institute/Car Museum day-1 drive down, day-2 guided tour with walk through workshop \$35, Drury Hotel, Day-3 Drive home.(If interested, contact Mark Tidwell)
- -Dillard Ga., 5-6 Days Southeast British Motor Car Festival. Sept. 12-15
- -Fall Blue Ridge Parkway drive with lodging along the Parkway.

Tech Sessions

Events at member's homes to explore mechanical maintenance and repair techniques, tools, and tips.

Other Events of Interest

Watkins Glen Festival 2024

September 5 & 6, 2024 This year they are honoring MG! MG is a big part of the racing history at Watkins Glen, with MGTCs finishing in 8 of the top 10 finishing positions in the inaugural 1948 Grand Prix. The Festival has honored MG in 1994, 2004, 2014, and will again in 2024. There will be an MG-only car show and dinner on Thursday and a Tour De Marque on Friday, beginning at a winery and including laps on the current Watkins Glen International race track and two laps on the old street course. Friday includes multiple drives in the area with MGs eligible for most of the drives. Details can be found at http://www.grandprixfestival.com/



Our friends at Peachtree MG Registry are inviting you to the 16th Biennial Southeast British Car Festival in Dillard, GA at the famous Dillard House from September 12 – 15, 2024.

This event started in 1992 and has been held every two years since then. It attracted over 150 cars on average over the course of the 30+ years and they continue to grow the event.

If you haven't been before, this is your chance to join the many others who mark their calendars and help celebrate all those English cars from the UK including our beloved MGs.

Click here for more information





Nick Pardee Ramblings

Remember the Future

Hello Classic MG Club members.

My new business venture involves test driving customer cars. While stopped for fuel or adjustment I have had encounters familiar to most MG drivers. People of all sorts see an unusual car and want to talk about it.

"What year is that?", "Don't you mean GM?"

"Why is the steering wheel on the wrong side, was it a mail car?"

"I had one just like that only the engine was in the back."

Some of these pleasant interested individuals are genuinely inspired. "I was following you and that looks like more fun than my husband's new Harley."

"How much does a car like that cost?", "Where can I buy one?"

Usually, in casual conversation one deflects questions of costs and sources. Occasionally, the new acquaintance standing there is a true budding enthusiast. Our hobby is not growing. We are aging. New MG friends must be encouraged and cultivated.

Here are some thoughts on guiding potential MG drivers.

-Give rides: Automobiles are kinetic objects by definition. Everyone's favorite MG memory is recalled behind the wheel running down the road. Use discretion. However, even in the litigious modern world there is no better way to share the ineffable joy of MG

-Share your misconceptions, mistakes and the attendant realities:

You were once a first timer. Think back to your first MG experiences. In my case, I was a newborn babe riding unbelted in the tonneau of my father George's TF. Throughout my youth our cars and our friends' MGs at the racetrack, on tours, undergoing restoration and repair or cruising on a cool Friday night formed a large part of my life. When I was eighteen George bought a 1974 MGB roadster from Dennis Day that would be mine to drive. The car was home to many feral cats with all that that entails. It had no title. It did not run, let alone roll. The gas tank was mostly full of a solid (not rocket fuel). These issues did not bother me as I was young, spry and had a large existing support base of lifelong MG friends. A neophyte likely would have regretted such a purchase after the car's first three months at a sports car shop without turning a wheel. The fondest memory of the increasingly embittering experience would have been sitting in the mildewed driver seat making vroom vroom noises on the back of the flatbed tow truck the morning that the car was purchased. The lessons learned from most of our missteps and wide-eyed self-delusional overzealousness can be distilled into the advice my father always gives.



Nick Pardee Ramblings continued

Buy the best car that you can afford. "Ran when parked" is not a positive. Best car sounds straightforward. Even so, how does one know how much the shiny red 1978 Midget with the painted bumpers, cockeyed top and Hurst shifter is worth?

Current market research is paramount. Don't pay too much.

Sales history on midsized online auction websites can be analyzed in order to determine value based on sold cars in comparable condition. Traditional classic car classified publications and their associated online resources are also helpful. So, which of the digital photographs of seemingly identical 1977 thru 1979 shiny red Midgets are cars in comparable condition?

A professional opinion is vital before purchase. They've seen it all before. Any candidate MG should be inspected before purchase by at the very least a competent mechanic. Needless to say, a British sports car specialist is preferable. These are fewer and farther between. Who can spend three hours around and under this seemingly increasingly desirable Midget and tell one what condition its condition is in?

Introduce your potential MG driver to the club. We can talk about MGs all day. Club members have relationships and experience with those who maintain, repair and restore MGs. Many do it themselves. Every MG driver in the club has a unique perspective on our shared hobby. Also, club events like meetings, weekend overnights, cars and coffee, GOF, tours and impromptu drives are a large part of our MG lives. Opportunities to enjoy using the car amid the camaraderie of enthusiasm will likely transform the prospect into a full fledged MG friend.

Be the reason someone is still driving her MG in twenty years.

After all the meritorious effort, did the would-be MG driver buy the Midget? Did she join the club and rise to the dizzying heights of leadership, hosting epic grog parties? Was the car in fact the 1987 H-Production SCCA national champion? Or, did she buy a hybrid MX-5 instead? Find the answers to these questions and more in your own imagination.

Safety Fast!

Nick Pardee, Proprietor Goldseal LLC Assessing and Reconditioning Vintage Mechanical Assemblies 419-709-7803 goldseal_1@yahoo.com

Editor's note: Glen Moore submitted the following link. I thought it would be a great tool to have when speaking to a potential MGer...

5 Reasons to buy an MGB



Car Caravan 101 (submitted by Kathy Cook)

All you ever wanted to know about car caravans - and more!

By Bruce Rauch of the Florida Suncoast Car Club.



One of the more enjoyable aspects of belonging to a Car Club is driving together in a convoy or caravan. However, driving to a destination as a group can be a challenge. So, we thought it would be prudent to do some research on "caravan rules of the road."

The Florida Suncoast Car Club emphasizes safe driving in all our events. Members are responsible for their own road safety on trips by properly preparing their vehicles, driving carefully and obeying the traffic laws of the region. Outlined below is a set of guidelines compiled from FSMGCC experiences and other sports and vintage car events from around the USA that will make touring with a group of cars fun and safe.

- Make sure you understand the planned route and the approximate distance the caravan plans to travel. Have more than one driver who knows the route. Record the cell numbers of the lead car and the end car in case of emergency.
- Be ready to leave at the agreed upon time. Have a full tank of gas, a full stomach and an empty bladder by the departure time.
- Advise the Event Coordinator if you are going to leave before the end of the tour.
- The slowest cars, cars which may be least dependable or anyone concerned about getting lost should take positions near the front of the caravan.
- The caravan will have a "lead car" at the front and an "end car" at the rear. Both the lead car and the end car will know the route.
- A caravan of 20 cars can stretch over 2 miles of highway. If the group is too large, divide it into 2 or more groups of 10 or less, each with a lead car and an end car.



Car Caravan 101 continued...

- The lead car will set the pace for the caravan and drive at about the legal speed limit.
- Each driver is responsible for keeping the car behind him or her in sight. If the "car behind" drops out of sight or you see a problem with anyone else's car, signal the caravan to slow down or stop by flashing your lights.
- The group/s should travel in the middle lane or the right lane on a freeway or multi-lane highway so as not to obstruct the flow of traffic. When approaching a turn or exit, the lead car will signal the turn and the end car should also signal so as to "block" for caravan cars ahead changing lanes. On two-lane country roads, the group/s should provide spaces between the cars to allow faster (alien) cars that overtake the caravan to safely pass.
- When driving, try to keep a consistent interval between you and the car ahead. This helps avoid frequent speed changes farther back in the caravan.
- If you think the caravan is going too fast or too slow, signal the car ahead by flashing your lights. However, keep in mind that no two MGs' speedometers read the same. Some can be 10-20 mph off.
- When traveling, the group may become separated. The lead car can elect to slow down to let the group catch up or stop and pull off the road to regroup.
- If you need an emergency stop, signal the car ahead that you are pulling off. The entire
 caravan will stop if it's safe to do so. If not, the caravan will pull off at the next available
 opportunity. The end car will pull off behind you.
- When pulling back onto the highway when everyone is ready to roll, the end car pulls on to the road to "block" for the others.
- If you decide to (or are forced to) leave the caravan, make sure someone knows that the caravan should not wait for you or look for you. Try to inform the caravan leader or the end car.
- Do not pass another caravan car unless they have told you they are dropping out or wave you by.





From Under the Bonnett

NO BRAKES!!

Submitted by Lonnie Cook

(I did this easy fix on both of my TFs)

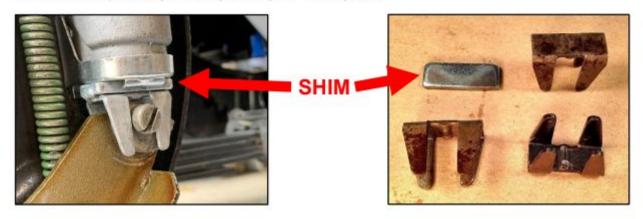
MG-T and MGA workshop manuals say to adjust each brake until it locks up, then back off one click. But sometimes the brakes won't lock up when the adjuster is turned to the max. So, why does this happen and how to fix the problem?

WHY? Previous owners may have had the drums turned too many times, and now the inside diameter is too large to contact the brake shoes. Or maybe new replacement shoes are too thin or too short.

HOW TO FIX? The easiest way is to add a shim to the mask that rides against the wheel cylinder to move the brake shoe closer to the drum. Four front cylinders; two rear. "[CLICK]" links below.



DETAILS. Use 1/8" steel bar stock or 1/8" thick angle bracket purchased from a hardware store or use something similar lying around the shop. Cut the shim 1-1/8" long X 1/2" (or 9/16") wide. Tack weld the ends of the shims to the adjuster masks. Do not weld the sides. After welding, file the top flat and remove weld material on the underside of the mask that may interfere with the adjuster. If you can't weld, then a club member can probably do the job for you. SafetyFast!



Click here for John Twist video

Click here for the MGA Guru pictorial





If you have a tip, send it to the editor editor.cmgc@gmail.com

Classy Finds

Aka classifieds

In appreciation for helping make the GOF a success, we are running a series of ads to recognize these businesses.

Please support them!



Wonder if Leighton was rubbing it in, since he knows we're here in hot Florida. (Ed.) 503-864-2001

Click here for their website



Classy Finds

Aka classifieds

These come from Jack Collins at Ceres Motorsports. A set of Rota 15x6 wheels with 195-60-15 tires and MG emblems. Priced at \$550 for the set. 407-924-0841





MG TF Bimini
Made by Ed Kirkland
Black, new in box!
\$350

Contact John Avallone 217-714-1819



September 2024

Classic MG Club of Orlando



Join Nov

Register Your MGA With NAMGAR!

Join over 2,000 enthusiastic owners in the restoration, preservation, and sheer enjoyment of driving an MGA, Magnette, or variant of this noble breed. You'll receive six 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

Second Harves

FeedHopeNow.ord

fighting hunger, feeding hope

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.

Click here for more info



Second Harvest Food Bank is the official charity of the Classic MG Club. Many people in Central Florida go to bed hungry every night. In the U.S., 50 million people are food insecure - one in four children. As a club, and as individuals, we can make a major difference in our neighbors' lives.

Second Harvest is an efficiently-run charity with 97% of contributions going directly to help local people in need. Every \$25 donation can provide 100 meals for struggling families and kids.

Donate Online: http://www.tinyurl.com/GOF-FoodBank

By Mail: Checks payable to Second Harvest Food Bank of Ctrl FL, 411 Mercy Dr., Orlando, FL 32808

The MG Community is special throughout the world. Thank you for any support that you can give to the Food Bank and to your MG friends who may need help and a kind word.



This photo by David Shepherd is of the Frontine MGB GT LF60. Looks as if this and a LHD EV version may be coming to the US. Wonder if the old guard will be pleased or disgusted by these modernized MGs?

For sure, they'll be pricey! \$\$\$\$... See you next month...

> Keith Do you have an end shot?

editor.cmgc@gmail.com

