



"It's Gotta Be Fun"

MORRIS GARAGES INFORMER

The Official Newsletter of the Florida Suncoast MG Car Club



VOLUME 18, NUMBER 4

APRIL 1998

Festive Festival of States Car Show

We had a bunch of members turn out for the St. Petersburg Festival of States Car Show. I didn't make it, but I heard everyone won a prize — geez, the *one* car show I didn't enter... Please read Bruce Rauch's account of the event in this issue.

The GOF was well attended too, and Bruce has also written up that event.

The presentation that the Captain of the HMS Bounty gave at our Monthly Meeting was very interesting. He did a great job, I can see why he is the Captain — neat guy!

The video he showed was incredible! It was taken by a young man in 1929, and narrated by him in 1980. I didn't know that wooden sailing ships still transported goods as late as 1929, but this one had 8000 tons of phosphate on board — and, we are talking about a *big* ship here, three 17 story tall masts, with no less than 6 sails on each. The narrator had all kinds of stories about the trip: 5 sailors got washed overboard (and lost), everything was made on board (sails, yardarms, etc.) from the time they left Germany until the time they arrived in Peru — putting into any port in-between was just *not* done, and how all meat (for meals) was on the hoof, and butchered as needed. The turkey got sick so they ate it quick before it died! It really showed a different world than we live in now...

We have a busy May, the Garlits Museum Tour and the Malibu Grand Prix Challenge. No Breakfast Club this month, but I'll bet you would find some members getting together at the Village Inn on 4th street (about 6 blocks south of Gandy Blvd.) about an hour before we meet at the dog track for both events.

Dave Tietz



Some of our members participating in the Festival of States Car Show are: Standing; Rusty Davison, Bert Rauch, Bill & Marianna Graham, Dave Wilgus, Lee Strickland, Joe & Eileen Eletto & daughter. Sitting; Jim & Sharon Alonso. Sharon is holding a dust mop... err, wait, that's their dog, Oreo. Bruce Rauch is behind the camera.

Monthly Meeting Minutes

*Florida Suncoast MG Car Club
April 9, 1998*

Jim Alonso called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m. and welcomed guests Robin Walbridge and Claudia. Robin is the Captain of the HMS Bounty and will be making a presentation after the meeting.

Ralph Przybeck and Glenn Lenhard were the recipients of this month's magazine raffle.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: approved as presented by Glenn Lenhard.

Correspondence: The Club received several flyers for future events: (1) April 11, Gulfport Beach Art Show and Antique Car Show, (2) May 2, antique car, truck and motorcycle charity event at Spa Beach in downtown St. Petersburg benefiting Hospice, (3) July 4, a gala celebration and car show at St. Pete Beach.

Committee Reports:

Membership: The club currently has 80 Member families.

Name Tags: Glenn Lenhard requests that if any Members would like to order name tags to let him know. Those attending the meeting were asked to note this request on the sign-in sheet.

Continued

Activities: On April 11 the Breakfast Club will meet at the Belleview Biltmore at 9:00 a.m. Bert Rauch reminded everyone to wear Easter bonnets. Dave Tietz promised a picture in the newsletter of anyone wearing an Easter bonnet.

On May 9, the club event will be a tour of the Don Garlits' Museum and lunch at Sonny's Bar-B-Que. A caravan will leave the Gandy Dog Track at 7:45 a.m.. This will be a personally conducted tour of the two museums - an antique car museum and a drag racing museum, as well as touring the back shops where the cars are restored. Gregg Miller and John Murdock are co-chairing this event, and John will lead a driving tour for those attending. The Suncoast Classic MG Club has been invited to join our club for this event. The admission price for the museums is around \$6-7 per person plus the cost of lunch .

John Gilley has arranged the May 17 event at Malibu Grand Prix and has invited the Tampa Healey Club and the Sarasota Suncoast British Car Club to participate. Those attending are asked to arrive at Malibu by 9:30 a.m. which is an hour before their scheduled opening. Instructions on how to get to Malibu will be printed in the newsletter.



In the lobby of the Belleview Biltmore: Bruce & Bert Rauch, John Gilley, Pam Vosler, Sharon & Jim Alonso, Dianne Tietz, Glenn & Gail Lenhard (Dave Tietz behind the camera). I'm not sure they will let us in there again...

Jim reminded everyone of the July 8-12 MGB event in Hagerstown, Maryland and the July 21-23 MGA event in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Past Activities: The March Breakfast Club at the BilMar restaurant was very nice. Margie and Dave Wilgus hosted the group

for breakfast and afterward went for a walk on the beach. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

Bruce Rauch reported that the Spring Fling event at Lake Helen was a nice laid-back event. There were about 90 British cars including 6 Alpine Tigers and several vendors in a shady park setting. The cars were judged by popular vote and there was an abundant raffle. He said that it was a good opportunity to visit with people who we often see at Picnic Island, Fleet Peoples Park and the MG Jamboree.

Jim Alonso requested volunteers to plan & host the May Breakfast Club event. Contact him (813) 823-8480.

There were 8 cars from our group at the Festival of States Car show on March 28 and all of them got awards. Dave and Margie Wilgus received a first place plaque for the TF which Dave reports was backed into on his way home. The weather was nice and those who were there had a good time.

Bob Carr reported on the GOF in St. Augustine, stating that there were a lot of cars for each category especially the TFs, TDs and early MGBs. The weather was good and everyone had a lot of fun.

Fellowship: Bert Rauch mentioned that she spoke with Angie Joseph and learned that she is doing well and thanks the Club for the book we sent her. Lyle and Toni Jones are both feeling much better.

Continued

Fellowship Corner

May Birthdays:

May 6 Eileen Jevcak
 May 6 Don Schmidt
 May 11 Tom Bradshaw
 May 13 Jim Alonso
 May 14 Rose Zuilkowski
 May 16 Linda Higgins
 May 18 Jennifer Lenhard
 May 19 Rene Reno
 May 20 Lee Strickland
 May 21 Ed LaBrecque
 May 23 Rosemary Knight
 May 28 Dave Tietz
 May 30 Dianne Tietz
 May 31 Kelly Rauch

May Anniversaries:

May 5 Bill & Barbara Walker
 May 8 Glenn & Gail Lenhard
 May 9 John & Barbara Vetri
 May 15 Ralph Przybeck & Carolyn Shields
 May 21 George & Joann Mahaffey
 May 21 Earl & Jayne Hemstreet
 May 29 Dave & Dianne Tietz
 May 30 John & Martha Robinson

Martha Robinson, we're all hoping that you're feeling better. Get well wishes from all of us!!

Bert Rauch

MG Jamboree: Bruce Rauch confirmed the dates of November 6-8, 1998 with Riverside Inn. He will be contacting people to help with the committees over the next few weeks. He stated that flyers have been sent out to all clubs in the Southeast as well as MG Magazines, and vendors. Flyers were also distributed at the GOF in St. Augustine where several people stated that they were interested in attending. The theme for this year's event will incorporate a 10th Birthday celebration.

Old Business:

Grille Badges: Several people have noted that the bolt on the back of the badges has come off, and suggestions were made to fix this. The badges cost \$10 each and if they need to be mailed, send an extra \$3 to cover the mailing costs.

New Business:

A general car show will be held at the Checkers on US 19 in Palm Harbor on Friday, April 24 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. to benefit a first grader who has cancer. The entry fee is \$10 per car and there are 60

trophies for winners. There will be a silent auction, raffle and door prizes.

A question was raised about putting Members' e-mail addresses in the Newsletter. Because Newsletters are sent to other clubs, it was decided to put this information on our Club Roster and have it available for members only. If anyone would like his/her e-mail address added to the Roster, contact Dave Tietz or Glenn Lenhard.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m. followed by a lively and informative presentation from Captain Robin Walbridge on the HMS Bounty and a movie on sailing a "Tall Ship" around Cape Horn.

Gail Lenhard

New Constitution

You should have a copy of the new Club Constitution and Bylaws with this newsletter. Toss your old one. Please contact me if it is missing.

Dave Tietz

77th Annual Festival of States Car Show

What a spectacular place for a car show! The Vinoy Park on the bay front in St. Petersburg is surrounded by history, opulence, and beauty. From the park we could see he recently restored 1920's vintage Renaissance Vinoy Resort Hotel, the Vinoy Yacht Basin where the rich and famous tie-up their floating toys, the Pier, scenic Tampa Bay, and within walking distance a myriad of shops and restaurants. On March 28, right in the middle were over 90 antique, classic and collector cars and motorcycles on display while the Sam Robinson Blues Band played familiar tunes in the background.

"The Festival of States is a ten-day St. Petersburg civic celebration featuring art, music, parades, high school bands, picnics, runs, carnivals and baseball." Started in 1917 (with a few years off for WWI & WWII) by the city fathers to showcase St. Petersburg and Florida, individuals and organizations from all over the United States

Garlits' Museum Tour

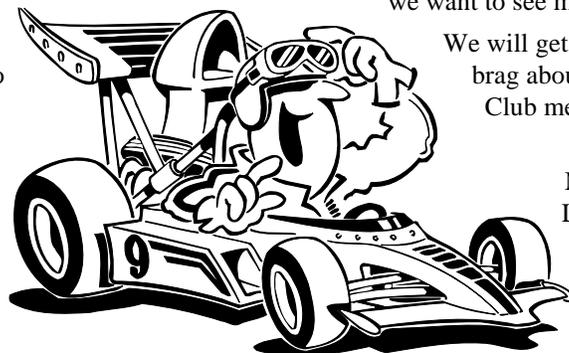
Saturday May 9, 1998

How about a nice run up to Ocala on a nice Saturday in May? We will have a "Horse Farm Tour", lunch at Sonny's Bar-B-Que with Don Garlits, and a tour of his museum with him as the tour guide!

We will be joined by the Suncoast Classic MG Club - come & make some new friends.

For those who don't want to get up so early, take a look at the itinerary and join us when you want.

Bring money enough for lunch and \$6.00 each for the museum tour and meet us at the Northeast corner of the Derby Lanes parking lot at 7:45 AM to caravan up to Ocala.



Grand Prix Challenge

Sunday May 17, 1998

We have challenged that old nemesis of ours, the Sarasota Suncoast British Car Club, and the Tampa Healey Club to a drag race (using the Malibu Grand Prix cars). This is legal. We will stay on the track and will "add-up" timed runs by members.

John Gilley assures us that anyone can operate these cars, and we want to see members of all ages participate in the race.

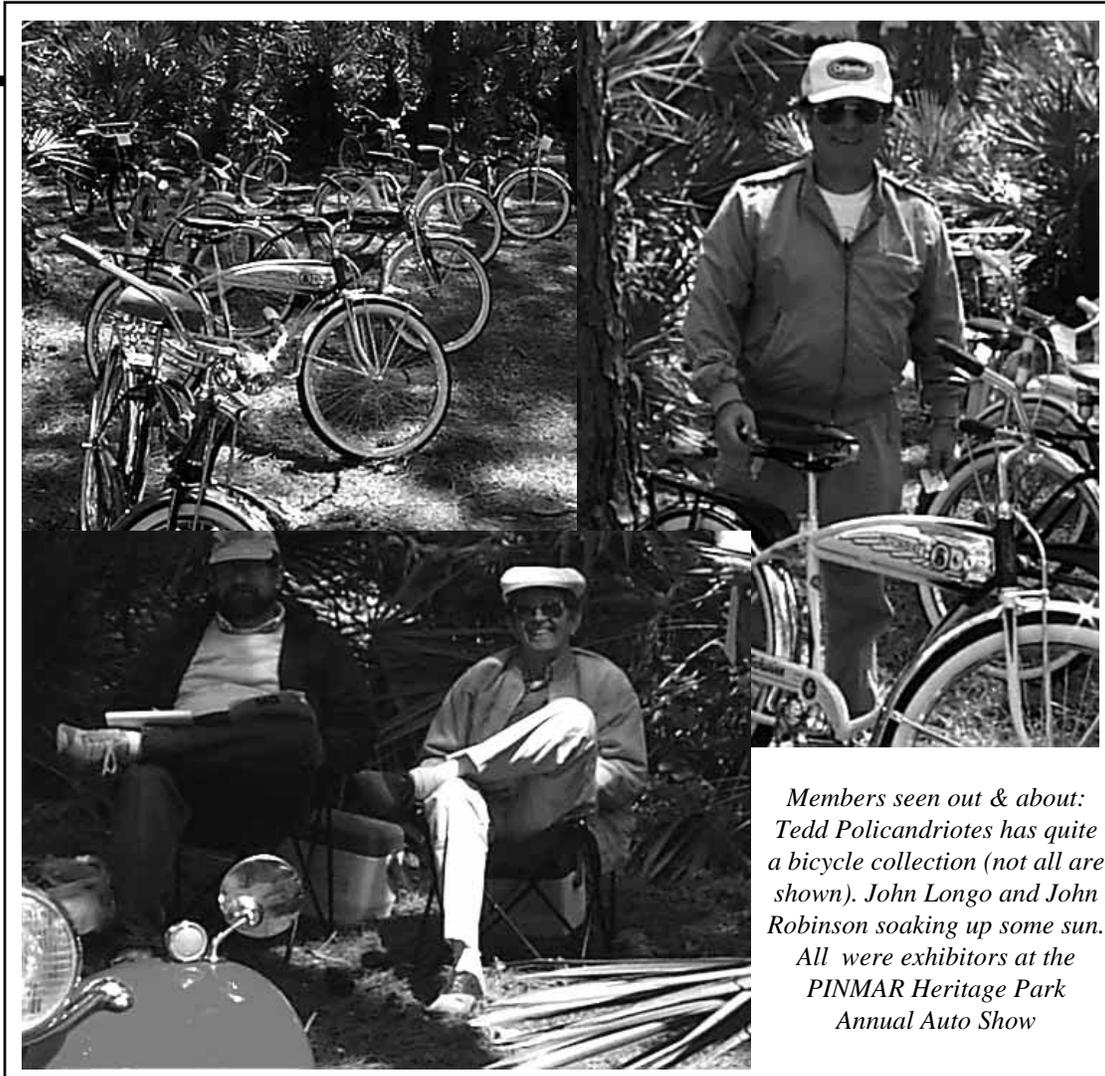
We will get together with the other clubs for lunch to brag about how well the Florida Suncoast MG Car Club members did with their individual runs, and how badly we beat them.

Meet at the Northeast corner of the Derby Lanes parking lot at 8:45 AM to caravan or meet us at the Malibu Grand Prix at the Bearss exit off I-275 at 9:30 AM. After you exit, go right, then right again.

are invited to participate in the various events and represent THEIR states. The Festival attracts more than one-half million spectators annually to the Tampa Bay area.

The car show is one of many activities at the Festival and is a bit different than some of the more competitive shows in which we participate. It is more an opportunity to display our cars as part of a civic event, like the Christmas parades. Therefore, the organizers recognize the car owners' participation by presenting an award to almost every entrant.

Our eight MGs rubbed fenders with the old (the cut-off year was 1977) and the older. Cars on display included a 1904 Curved Dash Oldsmobile, a 1936 Mercedes Benz touring car (like the command car in Hogan's Heroes), a 1952 Aston Martin DB2 (predecessor to the James Bond car), a rare 1922 Packard Single Six Coupe' (Doctor's Coupe), a nice selection of '50s and '60s muscle cars, and a variety of expertly restored and maintained collector cars. The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club showed a good progression of the MG marque with a TC, a TF, three MGAs, two chrome bumper MGBs and a MGB-GT.



Members seen out & about: Tedd Policandriotes has quite a bicycle collection (not all are shown). John Longo and John Robinson soaking up some sun. All were exhibitors at the PINMAR Heritage Park Annual Auto Show

We should be proud to be a part of promoting our community. Thanks to all for helping to make this year a success.

Bruce Rauch

Club cars at Festival Of States Car Show — good location!



House passes measure reducing car inspections

The number of car inspections in South Florida, the Tampa Bay area and Jacksonville would drop sharply under a bill the House passed 113-0.

For the last decade, car owners in Dade, Broward, Hillsborough, Pinellas and Palm Beach counties have had to have their cars inspected annually as part of the state's effort to meet clean air standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The legislation would exempt from inspection new cars, including the current year's model and three prior years. Older cars would still have to be inspected but only every two years rather than every year.

Reprinted from The St. Petersburg Times 04/15/98



Dave &
Dianne Tietz



Gail Lenhard

Easter Bonnets at the Easter Bonnet Breakfast



Bruce & Bert Rauch



Sharon & Jim
Alonso... Hey,
is that an Easter
Basket?



Stella &
Walter Bumby

GOF 32

The weekend of August 3 - 5, 1998 there was a Gathering of the Faithful in St. Augustine, Florida. Specifically, MG Classics of Jacksonville hosted GOF, South - Mark XXXII, at the Radisson Ponce de Leon Golf & Conference Resort in St. Augustine. FSMGCC was represented by a baker's dozen member families (Berberie, Carr, Dwyer, Hemstreet, Jones, Knight, Lenhard, Miller, Murdock, Rauch, Trotter, Walker, Wilgus). At the Awards Banquet Saturday evening, octagonal clock trophies were collected by Carr, Dwyer, Murdock & Trotter.

We enjoyed renewing friendships from events past and meeting new friends, too. Some of us also did some sightseeing, taking in the Kings Head British Pub, strolling through Old City St. Augustine, and visiting the St. Augustine Lighthouse. Weather was perfect the whole weekend, and we all had a great Gathering with the Faithful.

Bruce Rauch



Photos at right: Cars that won their class and some club members enjoying the local pub; l-r: Bruce Rauch, Gregg Miller, Jacqueline Murdock, Darlene Miller, Glenn Lenhard (trying to hold down a pesky cowlick), Gail Lenhard, Bert Rauch & John Murdock.

OTHER MG EVENTS

May 2; Statesville, NC - British Car Day, Hosted by the Piedmont British Motor Club - for info call Tom Dickerson (704) 872-4292

May 2; Townsend, TN - 11th Annual British Car Day, Hosted by the Blount British Cars, Ltd. - for info call Carolyn Henriksen (423) 984-8711

May 23; Braselton, GA - British Motorcar Day at Chateau Elan, Hosted by British Motorcar Club

June 20-21; Silverstone, England - Silverstone Meeting, Hosted by: MGCC, Abingdon

July 8-12; Hagerstown, MD - NAMGBR MG '98, hosted by MGs of Baltimore - for info call Sally Schlining (410) 461-5888; for reservations call: (800) 283-6423

July 21-23; Chattanooga, TN - NAMGAR GT-23, hosted by the Southern British Car Club - for info call Linda & Bryson Lesley (706) 375-8750; for reservations call: 1-800-TRACK 29

July 24-26; Pensacola, FL - American MGC Convention - for info call (704) 274-2269

August 13-15; Grand Rapids, MI - 22nd Annual University Motors Summer Party, Hosted by: University Motors - for info call John Twist, 616-682-0800

October 16-18; Greenville, SC - EURO '98, all-European car show, hosted by the Foothills British Car Club

October 17; Tampa, FL - All British Car Show, Picnic Island

October 23-25; Chattanooga, TN - 7th Annual Choo Choo Car Show, hosted by the Southern British Car Club - for info call Linda Lesley (706) 375-8750

John Twist Update

In last month's newsletter we learned that John Twist had undergone some surgery and that he was at home recuperating. Another email was received this week from Twist himself explaining that he had a brain tumor removed on March 16.

Apparently about two years ago John discovered that he had a brain tumor. Despite regular medical treatments, the tumor continued to grow. After consultation with the Mayo Clinic and additional tests, it was decided to have the tumor surgically removed. The operation was performed at a Grand Rapids hospital.

The tumor appeared to be benign and no further treatment is recommended. John returned to work on a part-time basis about a week later and has progressively increased his workload to full-time status. He thanks all those who remembered him with cards, good wishes and prayers during his surgery and recovery.

John is planning to attend both the NAMGBR MG '98 in Hagerstown, MD and the NAMGAR GT-23 in Chattanooga, TN in July.

Bruce Rauch



*Our man on the Bounty.
Glen Lenhard on the
yardarm, climbing up
the mast and putting his
back to it - bringing up
the anchor.*



May

Florida Suncoast MG Car Club

1998

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Garlits Museum Tour Ocala
10	11	12	13 7:30 PM Monthly Meeting at Steak & Ale Clearwater	14	15	16
17 Malibu Grand Prix Tampa	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25					

CLUB MEETINGS
 May 13 Monthly Meeting
 June 10 Monthly Meeting
 July 1 Board of Directors
 July 8 Monthly Meeting
 August 12 Monthly Meeting

CLUB EVENTS

- May 9 - Garlits' Drag Racing Museum - Ocala - Lunch with Don Garlits
- May 17 - Malibu Grand Prix - Challenge the Sarasota Suncoast British Car Club and Tampa Healey Club
- June 6 - June Moon Zoom
- June 20 - Visit Sunset Sam at Clearwater Marine & have meal at Border Grill in Clearwater
- July 11 - Tour to Lakeland to visit Florida Southern College, which has 12 buildings designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, followed by meal at Branch Ranch
- August 15 - Movie Night at the Drive-in
- September - Canoe Trip - Bring your water gun!
- October 17 - Picnic Island - Shine your car!
- November 6-8 - Jamboree 10 - Kick back!
- November - Croquet Match - Challenge the Sarasota Club-proposed
- December 6 - Christmas holiday party/installation of officers
- January, 1999 - Overnight trip to Edison/Ford Mansions in Ft. Myers - Gotta see those Christmas lights!
- February, 1999 - Coast-to-Coast Rallye

Itinerary - Garlits' Museum and Tour - May 9, 1998

The May activity is a trip to Ocala with a short tour of the rural horse farms conducted by John & Jacqueline Murdock and a tour of Garlits' Museum of Drag Racing and Antique Car Museum conducted by "Big Daddy" Don Garlits himself.

Don Garlits will be our guest for lunch. After lunch we will convoy to the Garlits' museums and park in a reserved area. Garlits will then give us a personal tour of the back shops, where they restore and maintain the cars, before turning the group loose to visit the museums.

The schedule is as follows:

- 7:45 am Leave Tampa Bay area from Derby Lanes on Gandy Blvd.
- 10:00 am Arrive at the Garlits' Museums parking lot for a short pit stop (exit 67, I-75 & CR 484; AKA the Ocala Outlet Stores exit)
- 10:15 am The Murdocks will guide a short tour of the pristine horse farm country that will take us past the now defunct "Cross Florida Barge Canal", curvey and rolling roadways, and some beautiful scenery. This will take in the route of the recent Ocala Marathon course.
- 11:00 am Arrive at Sonny's Restaurant for lunch with Don Garlits
- 12:00 noon Personal tour of the restoration area of the Museum by Don Garlits
- 12:30 pm Club members are free to begin a tour of the display area of the museums
- ?:?? pm Finish the museum tour and prepare to drive home

Glenn's MG Repair



Glenn A. Lenhard
 13715 - C 49th Street N.
 Clearwater, FL 33762
 (813) 572-1069



"It's Gotta Be Fun"

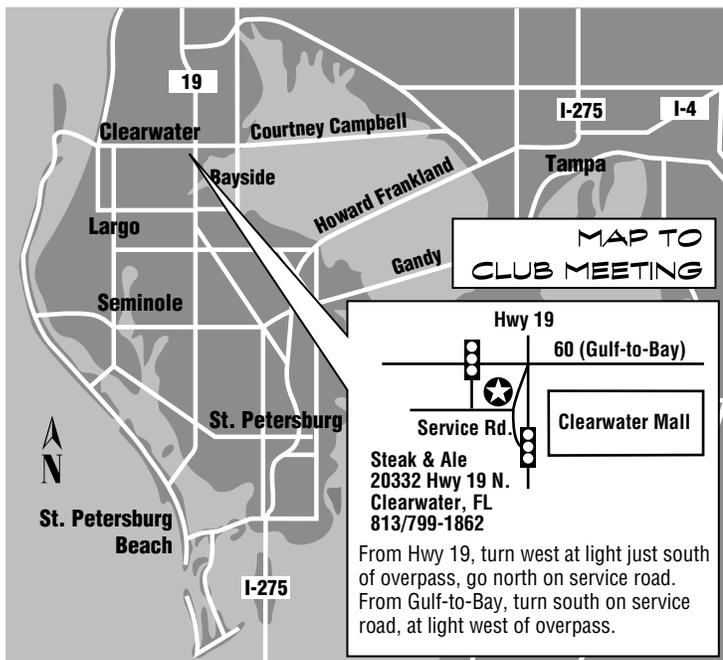
P.O. Box 0251
Tampa, FL 33601-0251

First Class Mail

Join us at our Club Meeting

We meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm

(come at 7:00 for MG gabbing before the meeting)



1998 CLUB OFFICERS

<i>President:</i>	Jim Alonso	813/823-8480
<i>Vice President:</i>	Glenn Lenhard	813/827-0332
<i>Secretary:</i>		
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Gail Lenhard	813/827-0332
<i>Board of Directors:</i>		
	Tom Bradshaw	813/725-8581
	John Gilley	813/321-7333
	Bruce Rauch	813/576-9474
	Dave Tietz	813/321-3809
<i>Newsletter:</i>	Dave Tietz	813/321-3809
	Bert Rauch	813/576-9474

FAX 813/827-0332

Club WEB Site: <http://members.aol.com/fsmgcc>

If you have received this newsletter and are not a member of our Club... Consider it an open **invitation** to join!

Contact Glenn Lenhard at **(813) 827-0332**.

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