

MORRIS GARAGES

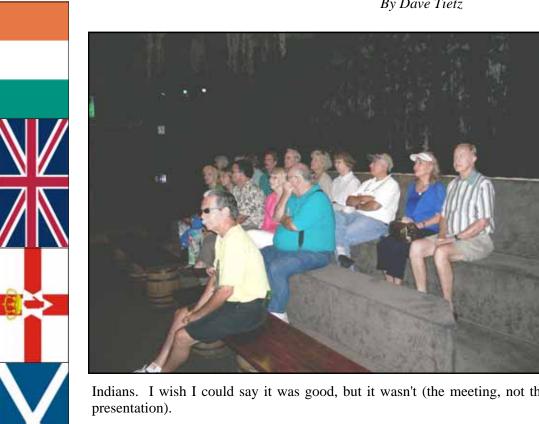
INFORMER



Volume 29, Number 8 "It's Gotta Be Fun" August 2009

Visit To The Tampa Bay History Center

By Dave Tietz



Indians. I wish I could say it was good, but it wasn't (the meeting, not the

Then we had dinner at the Columbia Cafe, located in the main lobby of the



was not the Columbia's full menu. had several choices including the famous 1905 Spanish Salad, Bean Soup, Black Bean Soup and u b a n Sandwiches. After lunch, we went back to exploring the Center.

Center. While it

The next activity was a multimedia presentation of the Second Seminole

Thanks to Harry Britton we attended a nice event Saturday the 18th of July. A good sized group of us met at the Tampa Bay History Center, newly opened in January, 2009. It is on the shore of the shipping channel in downtown Tampa and is housed in a gleaming new aluminum and glass structure built just for the museum.

A guide showed us some of the exhibits - an ancient dug-out canoe, bow & arrow sets and other tools of the original inhabitants of our area. She then escorted us to a neat video presentation of the first landing of Spanish explorers and their interaction with the local

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Newsletter Editor

Dennis J. Magee It is the policy of this editor to review all articles submitted and make changes as necessary.



War, as experienced by both War Chief Coacoochee and a U.S. Lieutenant who came to know the chief very well. This was very enlightening. The Second Seminole War was the deadliest (there were three altogether). In fact, if I understood the presentation correctly, it was the worst confrontation of the Army and the Indians in U.S. history! The presentation was compelling, emotional and unforgettable to me.

Next, our guide took us through exhibits of the "Cigar City" era of Tampa, the later 1800's. It turns out one of our members had some experience working for a cigar manufacturer. John Soler gave our tour guide some facts unknown to her about his experiences.

Last, we were turned loose to visit the top floor and see a variety of exhibits going up to Operation Desert Storm in 1991. There also was a map gallery showing maps from the early 1500's (not too accurate by our standards, but probably good enough for navigating around at the time) to modern maps.

This is a fascinating place with great exhibits and lots of history. It is a nice place to

have lunch while you are visiting. In our case, we also had a great dessert after our walk-about!

The Tampa Bay History Center is located at 801 Old Water Street, Tampa, FL 33602 and their phone is 813/228-0097. The next time you are wondering where to take the kids or have a weekend with no plans, check it out!

Breakfast At The Skinny Rooster

By Dave Tietz

Saturday, July 11th dawned cool and bright as Dianne & I drove to Clearwater from St. Pete to host our Breakfast Club get-together at the Skinny Rooster. It was a beautiful day for cruising in the MG.

On arrival, Dianne checked to make sure they had lined up several tables on their

deck under a canopy of trees overlooking the small lake in the back. Not too slowly, members and guests made their way to the deck. Gail counted 26 noses attending. There was some spillover from the main table, but most everyone was within earshot of each other.

We all ordered from the menu. I didn't hear any complaints about the service or the food. I think we lingered on the deck for well over an hour. After paying our bills, we checked out cars in the parking lot. Fiona Ross brought her "new" Classic Mini, a right-hand drive beauty. I guess it was the star of the event. It is a very nice car!

Former member Chris Cameron showed up with the Rosses. Gail & Glenn's grandkids had fun checking out the turtles in the small lake. There were lots of them! If I may say so myself, it was a perfect event.

Independence Day 2009

By Bruce Rauch

What a great day for a parade! The village of Safety Harbor, Florida was decked out with lots of red, white and blue; and Main Street was lined with people ready to celebrate the Fourth of July. At 10:00 AM the first of twenty groups started at the east end of town and slowly traveled along Main Street to the west end, a distance of about one mile. Being early in the day, the temperature was relatively cool

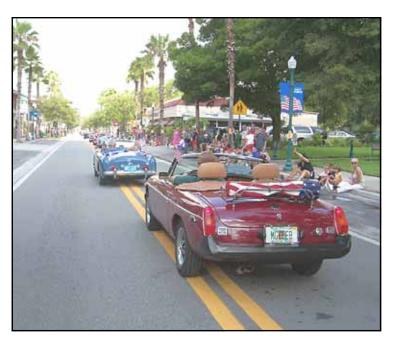


and there were no over-heating problems. Everyone, young and older, enjoyed seeing our classic cars.

Our group was organized by the Tampa Bay Austin Healey Club and consisted of five big Healeys, a Bugeye, a Bentley and two MGs, last minute interlopers from the FSMGCC. Several members met for breakfast at the Paradise Restaurant before the parade, while others had a brunch



afterward. It was truly a wonderful part of the Holiday Weekend.



Being able to celebrate the Birth of our Nation with hundreds of enthusiastic, flag-waving people and a group of car-guys and gals is an exciting experience. I hope we get invited again next year.

The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club Board of Directors Meeting July 1, 2009

President, Bruce Rauch, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and established a quorum.

Secretary's Report: A motion was approved to accept the April 1, 2009 BOD minutes as printed in the Informer.

Treasurer's Report: The Club currently has a favorable balance. Our biggest expense was the newsletter and stamps.

Membership Report: There are currently 94 member families. The Board approved two new applicants:

Karen & Everett (Mike) Silvernail – 1960 MGA Jennifer & Lee Robertson – 1951 MGTD

Activities: The list of Club activities and breakfasts through the end of the year was reviewed. The BOD approved reimbursing the Britton's for the cost of the lunches for FSMGCC members at St. Leo's College after the Pioneer Days Festival on September 7, 2009.

Newsletter: All articles are due by July 20th.

Ballot Committee: Bruce suggested having Club officers make phone calls to get volunteers for the upcoming slate. Dave Tietz stated that he would not run for Treasurer in 2010. A slate of nominees should be in place by September.

Fellowship: Phyllis Graham is home recovering and is being cared for by her husband Don.

MG Jamboree 17: The Club members have found two possible choices for a venue: The Resort at Little Harbor located in Ruskin; The Riverside Inn Resort located in Homosassa (return to the site of many prior Jamborees)

Old Business: Don Graham and Don Muhleman from Northeast High School's Automotive Academy have arranged to meet with Jonathan Brewer and Glenn Lenhard to look at the cars they have offered to determine of combining the two would make a viable project car.

Don said that, due to his wife's illness, he would like some help with this project. Dave Tietz, Bob Cannarella and Bruce Rauch offered to assist Don to keep this project moving forward. New Business:

Don Graham verbally gave his resignation from the Board to take care of his wife.

It was suggested that another meeting place might be better then the CDB's's Southside Restaurant. Glenn volunteered to write up an e-mail memo to send out asking members to look about for other options.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Gail Lenhard, Secretary

The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club Monthly Minutes July 8, 2009

Bruce Rauch called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Humberstone read an interesting article from one of his classic sports car magazine collection on Doc Little and his MG TD.

Secretary's & Treasurer's Report: Both these reports were approved as presented.

Membership Report: Glenn reported that the Club currently has 94 member/families.

Regalia: Contact Barrie Carson for tee shirts, name badges, or other regalia items. Contact Gail Lenhard for FSMGCC logo clocks for \$10 each and MG Jamboree Cookbooks for \$5.

Past Activities: The Club needs a volunteer to be the Activities Chairperson. Contact Bruce Rauch.

The June 13th Breakfast Club event at Ybor Grille and the Starlight Majesty Dinner Cruise events were a great success. Bruce and Bert Rauch enjoyed the June 21st Father's Day Garage Tour held in Sarasota and found the variety of classic cars interesting.

Future Activities & Breakfast Club: Bruce discussed upcoming events. See Club Activities in this Informer.

Fellowship: Lorrie Maniscalco is recovering nicely from recent cataract surgery. Phyllis Graham is getting stronger. Gail Lenhard will undergo surgery on July 20th.

Carol and Bill Forshay are on a twelve-day barge tour in Europe. On July 10,Bert & Bruce Rauch will be driving their MGA to Hot Springs, Arkansas for NAMGAR GT34.

Newsletter: Deadline for articles is July 20th.

Old Business:

Ballot/Election of Officers for 2010: Bruce said that someone will have to step up to the plate and volunteer to serve, as the current President and Treasurer will not run again. Contact him if you are interested in being an officer or board member.

MG Jamboree: After a brief discussion, the Club members voted to return to the Riverside Inn at Homosassa for MG Jamboree 17 in 2010. Gail Lenhard has agreed to act as cochair and will contact the venue to secure the dates.

Northeast High School Automotive Academy MG Donation: Don Graham said that he and Don Muhleman from Northeast High School have an appointment to look at Jonathan Brewer's '71 MGB shell on Thursday and afterwards stop at Glenn's MG to look at the MGB he has that is a complete car.

New Business:

There has been some talk that CDB's Southside wasn't the right venue for the Club meetings. Bruce asked everyone to give some thought on this. Glenn said that he would send out an email to the membership.

Correspondence: All items were given to the appropriate parties.

Announcements: Dot & Harry Britton won the 50 – 50 Raffle and donated the money back to the Club.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Gail Lenhard, Secretary

August 2009 Fellowship

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

August 2	Lee & Bobbie Strickland
August 7	Tim & Nancy Kasprzyk
August 11	Phil & Fiona Ross
August 12	Bob & Cathryn Crocker
August 17	John & Margaret Lester

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

August 2	Warren Maxon
August 3	Pat Ridgely
August 4	Richard Ostroff
August 4	Ron Broadhurst
August 7	Bob Faria
August 7	Jennifer Robertson
August 12	David White
August 15	Dot Britton
August 17	Lowell Lutz
August 20	John Robinson
August 23	Vera Kearney
August 23	James Lynn
August 26	Bruce Rauch

Fellowship News:

Phyllis Graham is recovering at home under Don's watchful, loving care.

Our positive thoughts and prayers go to Gail Lenhard who is anticipating kidney surgery on July 20th. Good luck, Gail!



Aug 09: Ice Cream Social at Bud Stanley's home, 421 Druid Road, Clearwater, FL 34616. It is suggested that members bring ice cream makers and make some homemade ice cream to share.

Aug 12: FSMGCC Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM at CDB Southside Restaurant, 3671 S. Westshore Blvd., Tampa 33629 (813-805-2327)

Aug 15: Breakfast Club 9:00 AM at the Four Coins Restaurant, 2700 34th Street N. St Pete 33713 - hosted by Gail & Glenn Lenhard

Sept 07: Breakfast/Lunch Club hosted by Dot & Harry Britton in conjunction with the Pioneer Days Festival in Dade City

Sept 09: FSMGCC Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM at CDB Southside Restaurant, 3671 S. Westshore Blvd., Tampa 33629 (813-805-2327)

Oct 03: Hope Children's Home Car Show, hosted by Jim & Vera Kearney

Oct 07: FSMGCC Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30 PM at CDB Southside Restaurant, 3671 S. Westshore Blvd., Tampa – all members are welcome

Oct 14: FSMGCC Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM at CDB Southside Restaurant, 3671 S. Westshore Blvd., Tampa 33629 (813-805-2327)

Oct ??: Breakfast Club hosted by Fiona & Phil Ross

Oct 24: All British Car Show and Auto Jumble, Safety Harbor, FL hosted by the Tampa Bay Austin Healey Club

Nov ??: Fun Rallye directed and planned by Bill Forshay & Dave Tietz

Nov 11: FSMGCC Membership Meeting, 7:30 PM at CDB Southside Restaurant, 3671 S. Westshore Blvd., Tampa 33629 (813-805-2327)

Dec ??: St. Petersburg Santa Parade

Dec ??: FSMGCC Christmas Party and Installation of officers

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS ARE THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH at 7:30 PM. Watch your newsletter for the exact location.

The MGC

By Mark Saylor Editor, American MGC Register

The MGC - a car that to this day evokes more emotion and debate than any other model that left the gates at Abingdon. Doomed by poor planning and execution, underdevelopment during its brief production run, internal politics, bad relations with the motoring press, and almost no marketing, it lasted only 2 years with a production run of a mere 9002 cars.

The MGC was compared to two great cars of that era – the Austin-Healey 3000 and the MGB – and was found to be lacking. It didn't have the performance of the former, and lacked the "sportiness" of the latter. But one only needs to



look at the two factory MGC GT "Sebring" aluminum-alloy bodied race cars, "Mabel" and "Romeo", otherwise known by their English registration numbers MBL 546E and RMO 699F (see above), to see the true potential of the MGC. They were more than a match for anything in their class and proudly represented the MG marque at such legendary venues as the Targa Florio, Nurburgring and Sebring. One can only imagine what they would have been able to do if they had raced at Le Mans.



Fast forward to today. The MGC enjoys a "cult" status among the MG fraternity. Owners and enthusiasts are able to look past its initial shortcomings and see a superb grand-touring car that with a few modifications, like those done by the Downton (who's "Stage 3", or in Downton-speak the "Triple Carburetor Conversion No. 45" package is shown here) and Nicholson tuning firms during the car's production run, is capable of dramatically improved performance and handling. An MGC is more than capable of taking you from home to show and back, while still keeping up with the pace of today's traffic. It offers you the performance of an AH 3000, while sharing many parts with the MGB, giving you a rare car without the prices rare cars often command. But that may not be the case for much longer.....



It is this rarity that has saved many an MGC. Many have been restored from rustbuckets to show-winning condition because of it. The majority of the MGC-specific body shell parts have been NLA for quite some time and for this reason owners have gone to tremendous lengths (and through tremendous amounts of \$\$\$) to revive a car that had it been a MGB would have resulted in a new body shell – not an option for the MGC – or a trip to the breakers! One owner even used a Heritage BGT shell to restore his MGC GT, as seen below.

This is why an estimated 2500 to 3000 MGCs are still in existence – quite impressive given the low production amount and almost 40 years of use! That the MGC was marketed only in Europe, North America and the UK during its production run has also led to many cars being saved from a certain death, as now reside in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and elsewhere, where they have been restored and are enjoyed by their owners and highly sought after by others.

Thankfully, due to the persistence of many suppliers in the UK, US and Europe, more MGC parts are available now than ever before. Also, MGC owners tend to be a tight-knit bunch who will go out of their way to help someone else put



or keep their MGC on the road, whether that means help restoring the car, sourcing a part or providing invaluable technical advice.

The MGC also enjoys tremendous club support, whether it is Ginny and Barrie Cartmell in the UK with the MGC Register of the MG Car Club, or Keith Sanders and Mark Saylor of the American MGC Register.

Admit it – now you want an MGC! Well, find a Register member or MGC owner at a show near you! Chances are he or she will know where one is. Or simply contact any of the above.

To paraphrase the slogan for Morland's Old Speckled Hen beer, the MGC is a "Most Gratifying Car"!

Fiona Ross's New Mini







Austin Healey 5th Annual I ce Cream Social

August 9, 2009 2:00 PM on the Stanley's Estate lawn at 421 Druid Road W, Clearwater

All British Cars are Welcome

Bring your favorite flavor and freezer – and plug it in here, or bring an appetizer to share.

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Show Field opens at 9:00 am.

People's Choice Balloting ends at 12 Noon. Trophies will be presented at 2:30 pm.

year of manufacture, Best Of Show and Best MG Trophies awarded for multiple classes based on (as voted by Triumph Club Members) and Best Triumph (as voted by MG Club members).

October 2nd receive One FREE Lunch Paid registrations received before & Event T-Shirt

After Oct 2nd entry fees will remain the same, Additional T-shirts are \$10 each Entry fee is \$25 for the first car Additional lunches are \$5. \$15 for each additional.

Traditional Buffalo's food will be available in Buffalo's will have an outdoor cook station located adjacent to the Show Field. The shirts are \$15 at the event.

but no FREE Lunch or T-shirt.

the Cafe. All participants are encouraged to remember to make sure you maintain your partake of this fine facility and physical hydration!



presents

British Car Classic

Saturday, Oct. 17, 2009 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Balloting Ends at 12 Noon



just off Blanding Blvd, one block south of I-295 Located at 6055 Youngerman Circle, which is Phone 904-778-1101

View all of the British Classic Cars To promote an appreciation for All British Cars on display

Don't forget to bring your camera and sunscreen!

Paid registrations received before October 2nd receive One FREE Lunch & Event T-Shirt First Car - \$25.00

Additional Cars - \$15.00 ea.

ck. Petersburg Yackt Club

VINTAGE MOTOR CLASSIC

Sunday, November 15th, 2009

11 Central Ave. St. Petersburg

On The Waterfront, On The Lawn, Under The Trees
IF YOU OWN A 1979 OR OLDER VINTAGE CAR, TRUCK,
MOTORCYCLE, OR BOAT YOU'RE INVITED TO ENTER
THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS SHOW ON FL'S WEST COAST!

Food, drinks & music, Trophies, Prizes



Arrival: 8:00 ~ 10:30AM

Vehicles enter Straub Park at 1st Ave. No. & Beach Drive

Show Hours: 10:30AM ~ 3:00PM

Prizes & Trophies Awarded: 3:00PM

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE FOR INFO! REGISTER, HISTORY, & PHOTOS FROM LAST YEAR'S EVENT

WWW.SPYC.ORG

Click On: EVENTS, Then: 2009 VINTAGE MOTOR CLASSIC

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This thin film of Mr. MOLY prevents metal-to-metal contact between moving parts

and effectively eliminates wear. The low coefficient of friction of molybdenum disulfide (MoS2) allows the plated metal parts to glide by each other with reduced friction and heat. The plating action of MoS2 ensures that the protection is there even when the call has drained off. This is particularly important at startup or in the event of oil or coolant failure.

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liveak-in is a soluble molybdenum together with anti-foaming agents and corrodon inhibitors specifically designed to increase the load capacity of oil in the initial and critical first hours of operation in new and rebuilt engines.

Even with extensive machining and honing of the surfaces on new or rebuilt engines, under microscopic view these surfaces (i.e., rings to cylinder wall, cam to lifters) look like two mountain ranges passing over each other. As these peaks pass over each other, they actually weld together and then shear apart, creating tremendous friction and heat. This is the reason why new or rebuilt engines will run at higher than normal temperatures during the break-in period. Break-in helps to eliminate scutfing and scoring and promotes the flowing out of metal high points. These high points are flattened, not broken away.

Break-in is ideally suited for performance type engines in cars and boats where the luxury of a normal break-in period at low speeds is not available. In normal everyday me, the benefit of using Break-in in the engine's early life will ensure a longer life and delay, by thousands of miles, the inevitable costly rebuild.

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Upcoming Events 2009

Aug 09: Ice Cream Social at Bud Stanley's home, 421 Druid Road, Clearwater, FL 34616.

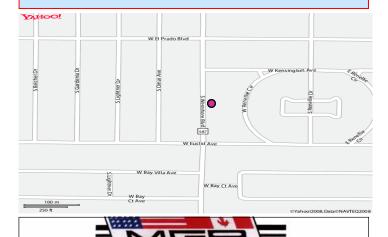
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Next Meeting is August 12, 2009 CDB Southside Restaurant, 3671 S. Westshore Blvd, Tampa, 33629, 813-805-2327



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