



MORRIS GARAGES INFORMER



Volume 30, Number 11

“It’s Gotta Be Fun”

November 2010

Further adventures of Noddy in the NW The LeMay Museum

By John and Margaret Lester

On August 28th we visited the LeMay Auto Museum in Tacoma WA. The regular museum is housed at



the Marymount Academy south of Tacoma. About 2 miles away is the LeMay grounds with the LeMay family home and several further large barns with additional vehicles. On this day, only one day each year, the LeMay grounds were open to the public as well as the museum. Also owners of collector cars could park on the museum grounds in a large car show. Of course we took Noddy.

Harold and Nancy LeMay amassed the largest privately owned collection of automobiles, motorcycles, trucks, other vehicles

and related memorabilia in the world.

At its peak, the LeMay Collection numbered in excess of 3,000 vehicles and thousands of artifacts and was listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the largest privately owned collection in the world; impressive if accomplished by a King, but jaw dropping, awesome when accomplished by a local businessman from Tacoma, Washington.

In 1998, Harold and Nancy LeMay formed the 501c3 charitable organization, The Harold E. LeMay Museum, and committed themselves to donating the vast LeMay Collection to the Museum for the benefit of the public. A new museum is being constructed in Tacoma to house a selection of the LeMay collection and will open in 2011. The LeMay Museum was chartered to secure, preserve and interpret the valuable LeMay Collection, along with additional vehicles and artifacts that it may acquire, in order to explore the broad themes of American mobility and lifestyle in an instructive and entertaining manner.

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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.

It was an awesome, jaw dropping experience to see so many cars in one place. In one barn about 300 feet long the cars were stacked 3 high!

Please log on to their web site at www.lemaymuseum.org.

Nuffield Trophy

Later that afternoon we went to the home of a member of the NW MG club where the Nuffield Challenge Trophy was on display. I had never heard of this trophy. Apparently there are 5 Nuffield trophies, the original, a gold one in England, and one for Europe, Asia, Africa and the United States. This trophy is awarded to a club each year by the Mother MG club in England for superior services during the year. The members at the meeting were a little unsure of the criteria for awarding the trophy, but the above is what I was told.



I went to the MGCC UK website, could not find anything on the trophy but did find the email address of Brian G Woodhams, the Overseas Director, so I sent him an email explaining my confusion and that since the inception in 1954 not one MG club south of St Louis had ever been awarded the trophy.

He e-mailed me back the following day and in part this is what he said "It is a long walk from Florida to Seattle. However I feel from my experience as Overseas Director that the problem with the Florida Suncoast MGCC lies in lack of self-promotion. This is not a criticism, but we cannot award the Trophy to a Club when we do not know what is going on there. The MGCC does not receive the Morris Garages Informer (hard copy or electronically), and there have been occasions when I have tried to contact people in your Club, and the MGCC Florida, for help for potential members and have not received an answer to E-mails. I know Florida is a large State, but if your Club is out there we would love to hear from you.

We are worried about an East/ West split in the USA, but you have now brought up a North/ South split - I can assure you this is NOT intentional. The awarding of the Trophy is done with A LOT of input from the USA by a Committee in both the USA and UK - we do try to get it right. It is not easy, and I have had a lot of flak in the past for awarding it to Registers, because the original criteria talked about Centres only. However I have recognised that the MG scene in the USA has developed differently to that of the UK. I have also tried to spread it around to some of the smaller Centres, i.e. West Michigan Old Speckled Hen MGCC, Rocky Mountain Centre, and St Louis. I make no apologies for awarding it to the NW Centre (your Centre) in 2009 because of their help in repairing the Trophy after it was damaged in transit from St Louis to Denver. In short - we would love to hear from you out there in Florida - maybe the Suncoast Club could appoint a direct contact with the MGCC UK so that we are more in touch. Could you please go onto the MGCC UK Website, go to Centres, go to America, find your Club and check that the contact info is correct - PLEASE. In my time as Overseas Director I think I got to the USA 7 times and twice to Canada - I would love to get to Florida - maybe we in the MGCC UK just need an excuse or some motivation. I will be at MG 2011 in Reno, Nevada and hope to meet yourself or some of your Club Members then."

He also said "The Overseas Manager(s) for the USA is the subject of much discussion over here at the moment, but for the time being I have volunteered to take on this task again. We are hoping for a decision and democratic resolution at MG 2011, but this is all in the very early planning stages."

I plan to follow up on this subject, as I do not see why the FSMGCC should not be awarded this trophy some time in the near future.

The President's Page

By Fred Humberstone

Wow! What fabulous weather. This is the time of year we all wait patiently for to enjoy our MG's, with the top down of course. I hope that's what you are doing.

I've been busy getting my 1978 MGB roadster ready for driving. Just prior to the Davis Islands show, I replaced the exhaust with a new stainless steel system from Falcon. While working on the installation, I noticed a small leak from the left rear shock absorber. Well, I figured that's the next issue I'll have to deal with. I was right. On my way home from the Brit's by the Bay picnic, I arrived home to a loud bang as I drove over the curb onto my driveway as a result of the shock failing altogether. This event has precipitated the total rebuilding of the rear suspension and some work on the front too.

After I parked the car in the garage, up it went with the jack and onto four jack stands. Off came all four shock absorbers which I sent off to Apple Hydraulics in New York for exchange for rebuilt units. I have installed them along with rebuilt rear springs, new rebound straps, all new hardware, all new prothane bushings, and new links between the shocks and rear springs. All of the clamps, brackets and shackles were refinished to look like new, all of the grease nipples were lubricated on the front suspension and I flushed and renewed the brake fluid also while I was under the car. Now while all of this work was in progress, I read some horror stories provided by some readers of the magazines I read who had recently completed the same work I was now doing but with problematic results. I began to wonder what I had gotten myself into. Well, after completing this installation and getting absolutely fantastic results, I can only assume that the problems reported were the result of mistakes made with the installation not the parts. My car now rides beautifully as if it were new. No squeaks, no rattles, no noises at all. And the car sits level to the ground. Last weekend I completed a full detail of the car, inside and out. I am really happy with the results.



In other car news, I now own four MGB's. You will

recall the 'Barn Find' I reported on last month. The owner called me highly motivated to get rid of the car. We agreed on a deal and now that car, a 1968 MGB roadster, sits in my workshop in Safety Harbor. My first goal was to get the hood open. That turned out to be easy but I was not expecting what I had found. The engine compartment was made into a huge nest for some woodland creature, probably a family of rats (see photo attached). Fortunately the occupants were long gone. The car is not restorable but it will provide some needed parts for the restoration of my 1967 MGB GT.

I will no doubt see many of you at the All British Field Meet and Autojumble in Safety Harbor presented by our friends in the Tampa Bay Austin Healey Club. Our club is always well represented and I would like to see us win the attendance award again this year. It means three of our members may be attending for free next year.

I expect to see all of you at MG Jamboree 17 in Homosassa Springs. I'll ask again of those of you who are attending, please step up and volunteer for some small chore. It would be greatly appreciated by the small handful of people who are putting on the show. See you there.

The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club Board of Directors Meeting Summary October 7, 2010

Fred Humberstone called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. and established that there was a quorum present.

The Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report were approved as presented.

Membership Report: Steve McDowell stated that there are currently 79 member families. The board approved these new and renewed Members:

Marie & Bill Terlop – 1976 MGB

Lea Hunt & Albert Leung – 1957 MG TF

James Porco & Teresa Griffith – 1978 MG Midget

Regalia: FSMGCC lapel pins will be available at the MG Jamboree 17 for \$3.

Future Activities: Fred reviewed the upcoming activities:

October 23rd – All British Car Show – Safety Harbor Main Street – a “no host” breakfast will be held at the Paradise Restaurant at 8:00 a.m.

November 5, 6, & 7 – MG Jamboree 17 – Gail reported that everything was going well. After a brief discussion, a motion was approved to purchase a \$200 Gift Certificate from Tire Rack as a FSMGCC donation. Gail volunteered to do this.

December 4th – St. Petersburg Santa Parade – Gail has received the application and requested a check for \$30 for the fee. She will contact Chattaways to reserve a spot for lunch afterwards.

December 12th – Christmas Party @ Daddy's Grill starting at 4:00 p.m. Fred volunteered to check with the restaurant to see if they would be able to offer a limited menu. A gift exchange and donations to Ronald McDonald House will also be part of the event.

January 2011 – Gail volunteered to look into the Parrish train to nowhere as a possible event.

February 2011 – Florida Southern College tour with Irby Giddens.

March 2011 – Dave Tietz InterClub Rallye

Breakfast Club:

October 23rd – in conjunction with activity

Newsletter: All articles are due by October 20th. .

Old Business:

Nominations for 2011 Officers & Board of Directors election

President: Glenn Lenhard

Vice-President: Steve McDowell

Secretary: Gail Lenhard

Treasurer: OPEN POSITION

Board of Directors: Dave Tietz, Dennis Magee, Barrie Carson, John Lester, & Bruce Rauch

New Business:

Meeting Venue for 2011: Some Members are researching meeting venues for the coming year.

Dues for 2011: A motion was approved to keep the dues at \$30.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Gail Lenhard, Secretary

The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club Monthly Minutes Summary October 13, 2010

President Fred Humberstone called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed new member Jim Porco and Steve McDowell's guest Tina Alloway. Secretary's Report and Treasurer's Report were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Cannarella stated that the Club has a favorable balance. .

Membership Report: The Club currently has 79 member/families with one new member:

James Porco & Teresa Griffith who own a 1978 MG Midget

Past Activities: September 18th –There were a good turnout for the breakfast and tour of the Mote Aquarium including members from other area

NOVEMBER 2010 FELLOWSHIP

November Anniversaries:

November 12	Gregg & Darlene Miller
November 13	John & Nancy Nick
November 25	Ted & Marilyn Badger
November 25	Lowell & Joyce Lutz

November Birthdays:

November 8	Glenn Lenhard
November 8	Claire Matthews
November 9	Nancy Williams
November 13	Irby Giddens
November 25	Becky Waldo
November 27	Sue Broadhurst

Fellowship News:

Phyllis Graham is in the hospital.
Prudy Olson broke her humerus while on vacation in Georgia.

clubs. See the article in the October Informer.

Future Activities: Fred briefly read off the list of events:

October 30th – Brit Bash 2010 – Vero Beach, FL MG Car Club of Florida – contact Danica Perhacs at 727-770-0083;

November 5, 6, & 7th – MG Jamboree 17;

December 4th – St. Petersburg Santa Parade. After the parade, the group will go to Chattaways for lunch;

December 12th – Christmas Party – Daddy’s Grill starting at 4 p.m. \$10 gift exchange and a collection of non-perishable items will be collected for the Ronald McDonald House;

January 15, 2011 – “Train to Nowhere” Parrish, FL – Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 3-11 – Gail Lenhard;

January 29th – Car Display at the 17th Annual Sarasota Highland Games & Celtic Festival held at Roberts Arena & Fairgrounds on Fruitville Road. Dennis Magee will be getting more information on this;

February 2011 – Florida Southern College Tour that was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright with Club member Irby Giddens; **March 2011** – InterClub Rallye hosted by Dave Tietz .

Breakfast Club:

January 22, 2011 – hosted by Dianne & Dave Tietz;

February 2011 – hosted by Gail & Glenn Lenhard;

March 2011 – hosted by Lorraine Spicer & Barrie Carson

Fellowship: Phyllis Graham is in the hospital. Prudy Olson broke her arm while on vacation in Georgia.

Newsletter: Deadline for articles is October 20th.

Old Business:

MG Jamboree 17: Registration numbers look good. There was a waiting list for rooms. Members are asked to bring snacks for the Friday afternoon check in and the Club will provide water, iced tea, and lemonade. Gail also asked members to bring items for the raffle.

Nominations for 2011: Fred presented the slate. The Club still needs a volunteer to be Treasurer.

President:	Glenn Lenhard
Vice-President:	Steve McDowell
Secretary:	Gail Lenhard
Treasurer:	OPEN POSITION
Board of Directors:	Dave Tietz, Dennis Magee, Barrie Carson, John Lester, & Bruce Rauch

New Business:

A Club debit card will be obtained for the Treasurer to simplify some required payments.

John Lester asked if anyone had heard of the Nuffield Trophies and said that there are five trophies worldwide with one in America. He researched this online and learned that these trophies have been around since the 1950's and that the Seattle Club has won this award five times. He wondered why only the northern Clubs have won and was told that these Clubs promote themselves. John wrote an article about this for the newsletter because he would like our Club to win this award.

Announcements: Lee Robertson won the 50 – 50 Raffle.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Gail Lenhard, Secretary



FSMGCC
Activities



November

5-7: MG Jamboree 17

6-7: Winter Park Concours, Winter Park Florida.

10: Regular Business Meeting, Daddy's Grill, Oldsmar, 7 pm.

14: St. Pete Yacht Club Vintage Motor Classic, 11 Central Ave St. Petersburg. www.SPYC.org/classic. or call Bill Waters 727-580-1804 Bill.Waters@RaymondJames.com

13-14: ROAR N SOAR AT FANTASY OF FLIGHT; vintage and exotic cars as well as vintage airplane demos, classic race boats, sanctioned slalom course, short course R/C truck and buggy racing; for more information, call (863) 984-3500 or visit www.fantasyofflight.com/roar-n-soar/

December

4: St. Petersburg Santa Parade. After the parade, the group will go to Chattaways for lunch;

12: Christmas Party – Daddy's Grill starting at 4 p.m. \$10 gift exchange and a collection of non-perishable items will be collected for the Ronald McDonald House.

Time to Renew Dues !



Florida Suncoast MG Car Club, Inc.

P O Box 61273, St. Petersburg, FL 33784-1273
2011 Membership Registration Form

New Application _____ Student _____ (No Fee) _____ Renewal _____

Name _____ D.O.B. (MO/DAY Only) _____

Spouse/Companion Name: _____ DOB (MO/DAY): _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ e-mail _____

I'd like to receive the newsletter via the Postal System YES or NO
I'll view the newsletter via an email link instead. YES or NO

Anniversary _____ (MO/DAY) Child Name _____ Age _____

Child Name _____ Age _____ Child Name _____ Age _____

Occupation _____ Work Phone _____ EXT _____

Spouse's Occupation _____ Work Phone _____ EXT _____

Model of MG _____ Year _____ Color _____

Model of MG _____ Year _____ Color _____

How long have you been involved with MGs? _____

Other interests/comments: _____

Would you be interested in helping the Club with any of the following:

_____ Events _____ Social Activities _____ Tech. Info. _____ Newsletter _____ Committees _____ Telephone Calls _____

Do you know anyone else who might be interested in joining our club? _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ email _____

Dues are \$30.00 for individual or family membership only. Make checks payable to: FSMGCC

Signature _____ Date _____

History

In August of 1980, a few friends got together and decided to form a club for MG owners. Later that year, they incorporated as the Florida Suncoast MG Car Club, Inc. Finally, after a lot of work, the club was ready to be listed with the International MG Car Club, Ltd. as the second official center in the state of Florida.

Today we are the most active MG car club in the Tampa Bay area. Our members include owners of MGs for everyday transportation, show car collectors, professional mechanics, and auto enthusiasts interested in preserving classic cars as a part of our social and industrial heritage.

Membership

New members are the life-blood of the organization, bringing with them fresh ideas and enthusiasm. Club membership is open to all individuals interested in the MG motorcar, whether they own a car or not. Membership entitles the entire family to participate in the activities of the Club.

Purpose

The main purpose of the Club is to promote knowledge, understanding, maintenance and preservation of the MG while enjoying the thrill of driving a true sports car and the fun of lighthearted social activities with members who share a common interest.

Meeting and Activities

The Club's activities include: car shows, parades, rallies, car clinics, tours, picnics, camp-outs, parties and interclub functions. Club members are invited to participate in as many as they choose - the more the merrier! The Club has a Monthly Meeting, held on the second Wednesday of each month. Meetings start at 7:30 pm.

Morris Garages Informer

All members receive our monthly newsletter, the Morris Garages Informer. It includes reports of events, an activities calendar, classified ads from members, updates of the last meeting, technical tips pertinent to the MG, and current information relating to the collector car hobby.

A Classified Ads Section is open to all Members free of charge. Members may personally advertise MG cars and parts they wish to buy, sell or trade.

Club WEB site

The Club has a WEB site at <http://www.fsmgcc.com>

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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 scuffing and scoring and promotes the flowing out of metal high points. These high points are flattened, not broken away.

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**New Meeting Location
at Daddy's Grill**

Upcoming Events 2010

November

- 5-7: MG Jamboree 17
- 6-7 : Winter Park Concours, Winter Park Florida
- 10: Regular Business Meeting 7:30 pm.
- 14: St. Pete Yacht Club Vintage Motor Classic

December

- 4: St. Petersburg Santa Parade. After the parade, the group will go to Chattaways for lunch;
- 12: Christmas Party – Daddy's Grill starting at 4 p.m. \$10 gift exchange and a collection of non-perishable items will be collected for the Ronald McDonald House

Next Meeting is November 10, 2010—7:30 pm
Daddy Grill, 3682 Tampa Road, Oldsmar,
FL 34677(813) 891-6556



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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP fee is \$30 and INCLUDES

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