MG Classics of Jacksonville

Jax Classics

The purpose of MG Classics of Jacksonville is the enjoyment, preservation and maintenance of MG sports cars. Club membership is open to all MG owners. Associate membership is available to all MG Enthusiasts.

Volume 34, Issue 9 **September 2005**

Prez Sez **Bernie Nowotny**

Welcome aboard our new newsletter team Joe & Pheona Kaiser. They are taking over this job and Jeff Sager who has done double duty doing the newsletter and Web site will now concentrate his efforts on the Web site. Thanks to Jeff for his hard work and patience while a new editor was found. August meeting was almost a wash out with rain and winds trying to discourage members from attending. Well rain it did and members showed up, 30 folks came out to enjoy fellowship and MG stories.

An upcoming event that affects MG Classics directly is the British Car Show Oct 22nd. It's our show and hopefully we will have a positive turn out of our membership. In addition I ask that the membership take a look in your garages and see if there is anything you could donate as a raffle prize, possibly you could donate a case of oil or a specialty tool kit. Something to draw interest and sell tickets. Also remember that you do not need to own a show car to enter, this event draws interest from people who enjoy cars, it brings back memories and entertains the public. Come on out enjoy the day, meet new folks who enjoy cars, and exchange stories. I am putting a call out to the membership to help in making this show a success. Specifically I need someone to step forward to organize the volunteers to accomplish what is needed. I will be out of town the week before and return the Thursday before the show. If you have the time and can help organize the team please let me know.

Do you subscribe to NAMGAR? If so look at the back page and see Joe and Pheona Kaiser and their MGA Coupe. They traveled to Key West and enjoyed the GT for MGA's. When Joe settles down from jet lag I'll ask him to give us a down load on the Key West gathering. Also in attendance were Chic and Terry Holiday who report a great time was had by all.

Our next meeting will be held at Ed and Karen Altomare's residence and I thank them for opening their house for this meeting, Sunday Sept 25th. See the pictures on our website (samples below) of the July meeting held at our presidents house . Don't miss the next one, mark your calendar and bring your lawn chair. Please RSVP Ed & Karen if you plan on coming and if you bring a dish to pass, coordinate what may be needed with Karen. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

Safety Fast

Bernie



The President & First Lady opened their home to MG Classics for the July meeting.

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The Southeastern Fall "Gathering of the Faithful"

Mark XIII

Lake Chatuge Lodge

Hiawassee, Georgia

October 6 - 9, 2005

Featuring the MG TC

Hotel Rooms are Limited. To receive the discount rate of $89.00 per night, you must register by September 1st. To make reservations, Call 1 800 613-4349 before September 1st, and tell them you are with the MG Club.

Wayne Stewart, GOF Chairman; 3883 Andrews Crossing, Roswell, GA 30075 Phone 770-992-2498
Cut Here and Mail to: Elaine Stewart, Registrar, 3883 Andrews Crossing, Roswell, GA 30075

Registration: Southeastern Fall GOF MK XIII, Lake Chatuge Lodge, Hiawassee, GA

Name: _____ **Spouse/Guest** _____

Address _____ **Additional Guest** _____

City, State, Zip _____ **MG Club** _____

Phone No. (____**)** _____ **e-Mail Address** _____

1st MG Model _____ **Year**_____ **Color**_____

2nd MG Model _____ **Year**_____ **Color**_____

Registration: $35 per MG Owner + 1 Guest; $10 each Adult Guest **$5.00 for 2nd Car or each additional Car**		$ _____	
Friday Evening BBQ	$15.00 per Person X_____	$ _____	Children under 12 $7.50
Saturday Banquet	$35.00 per Person X_____	$ _____	Children under 12 $17.50
T-Shirts	**Size S ( ), M ( ), L ( ), XL ( )** @ $12.00 ea. X_____	$ _____	
	Grand Total	$ _____	

Date Recd. _____
Car # 1 _____
Car # 2 _____

(Make check payable to The Southeastern MG T Register)

Mail to: Elaine Stewart 3883 Andrews Crossing, Roswell, GA 30075 770-992-2498

THE SOUTHEASTERN FALL GOF MK XIII LAKE CHATUGE LODGE, HIAWASSEE, GA

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

THURSDAY: Oct. 6
REGISTRATION DURING AFTERNOON
DINNER AT DEER LODGE - (on your own)

FRIDAY: Oct. 7
REGISTRATION
SELF GUIDED MOUNTAIN ROADS TOUR
HOSPITALITY
FIRST TIMERS CAR SHOW
HAPPY HOUR
BBQ DINNER
ENTERTAINMENT

SATURDAY: Oct. 8
REGISTRATION
CAR WASH
CAR SHOW
HOSPITALITY
TECH SESSION
AFTERNOON RALLY
(DIVORCE COUNSELING PROVIDED)
BANQUET, AWARDS, AUCTION

DIRECTIONS

Hiawassee is located in the North East Georgia mountains

From Atlanta:
Take **I-75 to I-575** North to highway **US-76** and follow the signs to Hiawassee.

From Florida:
Take highway **US-441** to Clayton, GA. turn left in Clayton on highway **US-76** and follow the signs to Hiawassee.

HOTEL:
Lake Chatuge Lodge
Hiawassee, Georgia
30546
phone 1-800-613-4349

(note: you Must Register by September 1st to receive the special GOF rate of $89 per night)
Tell them that you are with the MG Club

Dear Fellow **MG** Enthusiast,

The Southeastern MG T Register invites you to the thirtenth biannual "SOUTHEASTERN FALL GATHERING OF THE FAITHFUL". We emphasize the term "Gathering of the Faithful or GOF because the event is exactly that - a gathering of those unique individuals who enjoy, even love their MGs and find nothing better to do or more fun than simply getting together to share their cars and experiences.

There is no better place to drive MGs than the North Georgia Mountains in October. With a nip of fall in the air, the winding roads, scenic mountains and valleys, interesting little shops, traditional festivals and the fall color all contribute to make driving an MG as good as it gets. Located just four miles from the North Carolina border, Hiawassee, Georgia is an excellent base to enjoy the Georgia mountains to the south and the Nantahala and Smokie Mountains to the north. The Lake Chatuge Lodge has given us the entire lodge for our use at the summer rate of $89.00 per room and you know how difficult and expensive it is to get reservation in the mountains in October. The Lodge will even let us keep the low rate into the next week if you want to extend your stay and use the Lodge as a base for touring the mountains. Our GOF is the week-end before the famous Hiawassee Fall festival. We will use the Fall Festival theme and use their entertainers and food vendors for funnel cakes, hot dogs, hamburgers, etc at our GOF. We will have fun.

Early registration starts on Thursday, Oct. 6th and activities really begin on the 7th with self-guided mountain tours, a great Tech Session, tire kicking, our famous hospitality room and a BBQ Friday night with mountain entertainment. Saturday we will have the traditional car show, the famous Thornley Rally, followed by another great tech session or visiting the quaint mountain shops. Saturday night we will have the awards banquet followed by a brief auction of MG and other great stuff. This year we will have a flea market so bring those MG things you haven't found a use for that have been cluttering your garage and make your wife happy. Your trash may be someone else's treasure.

This GOF is not to be missed so fix up and drive or drag you MG to the Georgia mountains. We expect to have MGs from A to Z at the GOF, but if you can get your T type or earlier MG to North Georgia please try to bring it, we all want to see it. We will have fun!

H. Wayne Stewart, Chairman **Elaine Stewart**, Registrar

Southeastern Fall GOF
3883 Andrews Crossing
Roswell, GA 30075
Tel: 770-992-2498

We're on the Web!
www.mgclassics.org

MG Classics of Jacksonville

request the pleasure of
your company at the

British Car Classic

Saturday, Oct. 22, 2005
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Balloting Ends at 12 Noon
Orange Park Kennel Club
Behind the Orange Park Kennel Club
under the trees on the St. Johns river.
1/2 mi south of I-295 on Park St. (Hwy-17).



For all who appreciate British Cars

For Information call **904-731-2081**
or www.mgclassics.org

• RESERVATION FORM •

BRITISH CAR CLASSIC

Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

#1 Make Vehicle _____ **Model** _____ **Year** _____

#2 Make Vehicle _____ **Model** _____ **Year** _____

☐ **$20 ADVANCE Registration** Amount enclosed _____

☐ **$25 DAY OF EVENT Registration** Amount enclosed _____

For Information call **904-731-2081 or www.mgclassics.org** **Total Amount Enclosed** _____

ADVANCE RESERVATION DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 1st, 2005

Send with check made to: **MG Classics** **c/o** Bernie Nowotny, 9404 Whittington Dr., Jacksonville FL32257

The New York Times

August 8, 2005

As MG Moves to China, Owners Keep the Faith

By MATTHEW HEALEY

THE mortal remains of the last British-owned mass-market carmaker, MG Rover, passed to the Chinese last month when Nanjing Automobile bought the company's production machinery and other physical assets, which now seem destined for China. Several companies, including Shanghai Automotive Industry, which acquired the rights to the designs and technology last year, are still negotiating over the marque's immortal soul.

Longtime fans of MG in the United States heaved another collective sigh, if not of relief then perhaps of resignation. Even after the latest development in the tale, it would be risky to predict the reincarnation of the beloved brand.

For generations of American enthusiasts, the stylish and fun-to-drive MG was the epitome of British sports cars, its quirks offset by an abundance of charm and, well, sportiness. And MG's were always affordable.

MG's success, to a great extent, was made in the United States. G.I.'s returning from World War II brought home a fondness for things British, including the cars; imports of MG models in significant numbers - the TC in the 1940's and the TD in the 1950's - introduced drivers to new pleasures and travel experiences. The cars would prove a big hit.

Later, the MGA and MGB were the best-selling imported sports cars in America, the automotive counterpart to the British Invasion in music and fashion. In the 60's and 70's, the majority of the cars produced - 100,000 MGA's and more than a half-million MGB's - came to the United States. MG's were last sold here in 1980.

Dave Houser, whose garage in Brooksville, Fla., houses three MG's, has long been a fan of the marque. Forty years ago, he and his wife, Rita, had been married just two weeks when he spotted the front of a black 1953 TD poking out of a car lot. "I said to her: 'We've got $800 from our wedding. I've just discovered what I want to spend it on!' " Mr. Houser recalled. He talked the salesman down to $425, from an asking price of $550, and drove the car home.

Forty years and 62,000 miles later, Mr. Houser still drives that TD regularly - and is still happily married to Rita. He restored the car in 1967 and eventually acquired eight more MG's, but whittled down the collection when he retired to Florida a few years ago. "The trouble with owning so many MG's is finding the time to drive them all," Mr. Houser said.

As many collectors will attest, there are two aspects to a passion for sports cars: the cars themselves and the people who love them. Mr. Houser has belonged to numerous MG clubs and owners' groups over the years, and meeting other members is one of the primary joys of having an MG. "We call our meetings 'Gatherings of the Faithful,' " he said. "One of the highlights of my life was a gathering of MG owners for a tour of England and Scotland in 1990."

The owners shipped their MG's to Britain for this memorable drive, then shipped them back home.



Photo: Chris Garlington for The New York Times

David Houser with his '67 MGB GT and '60 MGA coupe.

"We spent three weeks driving all over the countryside," Mr. Houser said. "It was a terrific experience."

Although buying an MG has typically been inexpensive compared with the purchase of other British or European sports cars, restoring one can be costly. Owners seem not to mind, and many, like Mr. Houser, do most of the work themselves. He estimates that he spends no more than a few hundred dollars a year maintaining each of his cars.

Despite some good years, the MG brand had a difficult life. After an unhappy marriage with British Leyland, a conglomerate that included Austin, Jaguar, Land Rover and Mini, the marque was retired. A late affair with BMW in the 1990's fizzled and the brand ended up in the hands of a group of British businessmen, who formed MG Rover in 2000.

Then MG saw something of a rebirth. New models, including the MGF, were introduced at a fast clip and were well received. Though a new model was developed for the American market, it did not come to fruition before the announcement in April that MG Rover was in bankruptcy proceedings.

The troubles at MG have not cast a pall over collectors of the classic models, who are used to fending for themselves. The biggest question was what the eventual owner of the brand might do to continue - or despoil - its pedigree.

"I'd love to see the MG come back to the States," Mr. Houser said. "I hope the MG name can survive this latest challenge."



We're on the Web!
www.mgclassics.org



Please email updates to:

newsletter_editor@mgclassics.org

Automobiles For Sale

1952 TD
Make a great car to drive and enjoy now and restore later. Asking $7,500. Contact Dallas Stratton at 904 692 5914 or 4290 Independence Ave., Hastings, FL, 32145.

1972 MGB GT
Excellent condition. 26K miles on rebuilt drive train. 280Z 5-speed transmission, A/C, many suspension and engine upgrades. $5000. Contact Norm Jones, at normandbetty@msn.com or 904-724-8030.

1972 Midget - Must Sell!
Car in good shape. Engine 1 yr old. New: master cylinder, slave cylinder, clutch, rear brake cylinders, brakes, battery, tires, radio, front shock assemblies. Includes: extra rims, tires, gauges, tonneau cover, lug wrench, jack, 2 service manuals, spot fog lights, new uninstalled air horn, parts and more. Can easily be a daily driver. Asking $4000 OBO. Ranger Inman at 813-882-3153 or 2ranger@tampabay.rr.com.

1974 MGB - Price Reduced!
Overdrive, chrome wire wheels, cross-flow head, 1.75in SU carburetors and manifold. Has 2in free-flow exhaust system with header. Excellent red paint with black interior and top. Fast and reliable. Price reduced to $9,500. Contact Roger Brinkley at 904-981-8600.

1974 MGB Under Restoration
MGB in Orlando. Engine has been rebuilt. Comes with many new parts and an extra engine and tranny. Asking $3000 obo. Call John Loudermilk at 407-834-0561, or 407-257-6262.

1976 Midget - Project/Parts
Restoration was begun, but never finished. Car has many new parts and is in good shape, but is not currently running. Very little rust and a clean title. Contact Steve at 904-591-6654 or smschriefer@yahoo.com.

1977 MGB
Red w/Black top. Canvas top is new. 110,000 miles. Runs good, some rust. Pictures available via e-mail. $3000. Contact Charles Stevens at 904-256-4774 or chrimina@comcast.net.

Two 1979 MGB Roadster's
Two 1979 MGB's. One is in fairly good shape, dented trunk lid with hole in it from attempted theft in it's distant past. This car was bought about 6 years ago. Has not been running in some time. Second MGB was bought for parts. Has a good trunk lid, but has been pretty well stripped. Engine and transmission are still in it. Make an offer around $800 to $1000. Steve Spaeth at 352 - 665-7227.

1979 Triumph Bonneville Special
Beautiful condition. 750cc, 5spd, dual disc brakes. Same owner last 11 years. Meticulously maintained. $6000 or trade. Contact Jim White at Hm: 269-9922 or Cell: 742-2933.

Parts:

69 MGB Carb/Manifold Parts
Manifold (intake and exhaust), heat shroud, Zenith! Stromberg carburetor with adjustment tool, air filter, plate to attach everything. All original equipment. Installed a Weber and no longer need these. All this for $200! Call Udo at 904-573-3547.

Parts for 68, 70, & 73 MGB
MGB 70 on assorted lenses in fair-very good condition. Retail value new estimated at $175. All items are used and in fair to very good condition.
MGB 69-72 Left & Right Doors in good condition. These doors are painted grey and in good condition. One includes the chrome molding strip and both include interior handles which are in working order. The weep holes have a small amount of rust. A parts catalog shows the price for a set of new doors and handles as $1150.
62-74 Front Bumper Bar with Overriders. This bumper is in good condition with some pitting and scratches. Price new is $200+ for the described assembly.
68-71 Dash Panel Cover. Like new condition. Never been installed. Parts dealers list it at $180 new.
MGB Left & Right window glass w lower channels & glazing. One set of window glass in very good condition with glazing and channels. New windows with channels list for $200 each in parts catalogs.
MGB Left & Right window regulators in VG condition. One set of window regulators, (left and right windows) in very good condition. Both have been tested and are in excellent working condition. I will also include used l&r rear window channel, an $80 value if new. New regulators list for $150+ each in parts catalogs if available.
MGB Hardtop, good condition. Some of the lexan is crazed.
MGB window outer frames in fair condition. These frames are no longer available and will fit bodies from 65865 on. Glass and inner frames are available also. MGB 70 dashboard wiring harness in good condition. Call Bill @ 904-737-9656 for add'l info. Jacksonville.

Regalia For Sale

Club Polo Shirts
(Medium or Large)
$10 each

Club Car Badges
$35 each

MG Baseball Hats
(in red, white, or blue)
$10 each

MG Tool Bags
$10 each

Rubber Bumper CB Radio Antenna Mounts $10 each

Miscellaneous Car Pins $5 each

To purchase regalia or to ask questions please contact:

Wayne Coker, Regalia Chairman, at:
904-543-0201 or
rwcoker@aol.com.

New 3 Main and 5 Main Engine Blocks
Also, 5 main motor, Pull Handle doors, and a late B trunk. Contact Drew: 904-287 -3072 or drewdecandis@comcast.net.

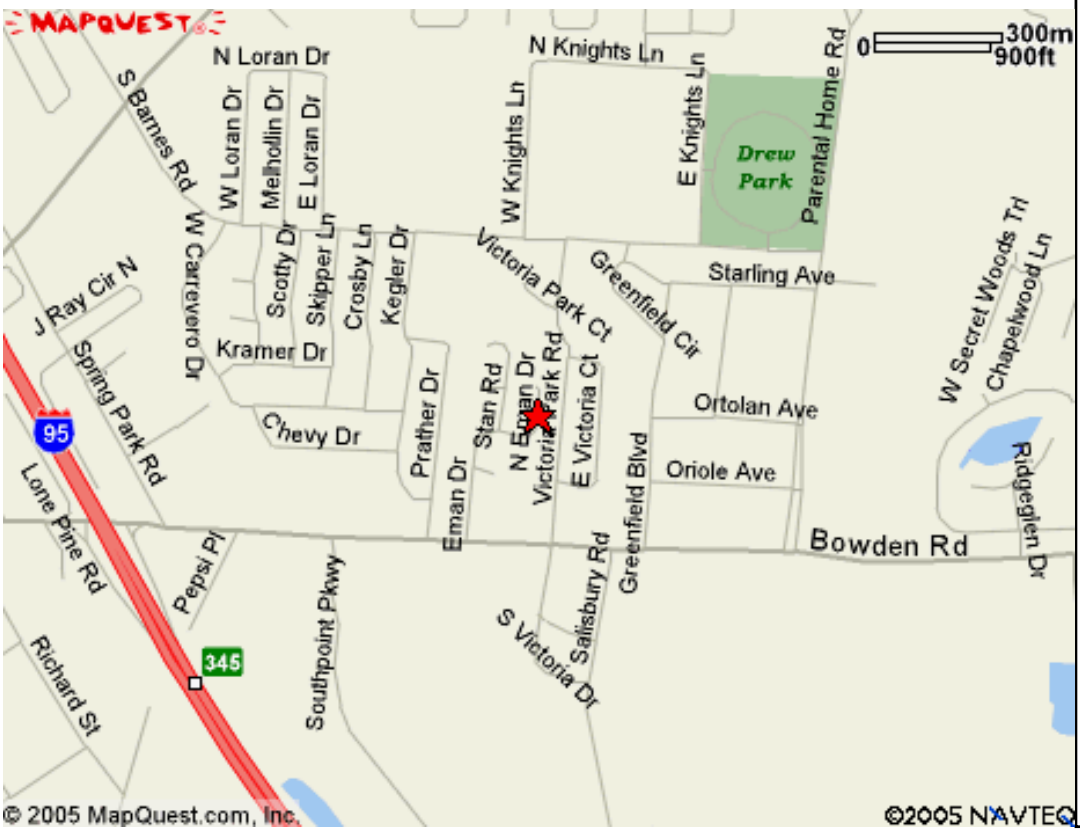
Two MGA Engines/ Transmissions
One is from a 1960 and the other 1961. Conditions are unknown, but they will probably need to be rebuilt. Located near Ocala, interested buyer would need to pick them up (no shipping). Pictures can be emailed on request. Contact Joe at originalroadtoad@aol.com.

MG FYI

- FSMGCC is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year. Their new web address is: www.FSMGCC.com.
- British Marque Car Club News is a monthly tabloid newspaper featuring the news of numerous British car clubs throughout the U.S. and Canada, plus interesting and informative articles from some of the most entertaining writers you'll come across in an automotive publication. Over 100 Participating Clubs contribute to the Marque. Two editions - one to cover news from the Midwest, South, West, and abroad, and one for the Mid-Atlantic and New England are published. British Marque is published monthly, 11 times a year, and offer both regular and participating member subscriptions. The classifieds usually stretch to two pages. Each issue contains tech tips by the dozen, plus invitations to all sorts of rallyes, autocrosses, car shows, and much more!
- BBMGs & FSMGCC are organizing caravans to attend the GOF-SE in Hiawassee
- Pheona is actually the editor all Joe does is try and make the newsletter look good and arrive in time to remind you of the upcoming meeting, etc. You must provide stories, reports, jokes, classifieds, etc. so Pheona will have something to edit, so I'll have something to mail and enrich the USPS (not a US government agency).

We're on the Web!
www.mgclassics.org

Next Meeting Place Map!



Club Officers & Board Members

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Next MG Classics Meeting

Special Meeting Date and Venue for September: Sunday 09/25/05, 3:30pm at Ed and Karen Altomare's House. BBQ type meeting at the Altomare's house: 6371 Eman Dr. N. (Map on website) Please RSVP with Ed or Karen at 904-730-6771 to coordinate food. Ed's cell 904-571-7954 and Karen's cell 904-629-1611 or karenedwincarnutz@comcast.net. Indoor pool so bring your bathing suit - rain or shine! Map on page 7

MG EVENTS CALENDAR

Oct. 6-9 - SE Fall GOF Mk XIII at Hiawassee, GA. Caravan organizing!

Oct. 22

British Car Classic Mk XVII. 9:00am to 3:00 pm at a beautiful site next to the river behind the Orange Park Kennel Club. All British Cars are welcome. Volunteers needed!

Contributions to YOUR club newsletter are always welcome. Thanks go out this month to Bernie Nowotny, Bob Wren and Tony Roth.

Submissions for next month must be received before the 10th of the month for possible inclusion.



MG Classics member Bob Wren located this slightly modified MG Midget on ebay: *"1976 MG Midget with engine replaced with a new 1650cc Harley Davison engine. All gauges & controls have been kept to standard MG Midget. Electric cooling fan for the engine. Interior in good condition. Minor rust back quarter panels. Runs well and fun to drive. Email or call with any question. Phone: 515-232-9079 "- Ebay item # 4571695853*
Ed Note: Look at this url: http://photobucket.com/albums/b315/cwweigleathotmail/