



MORRIS GARAGES INFORMER



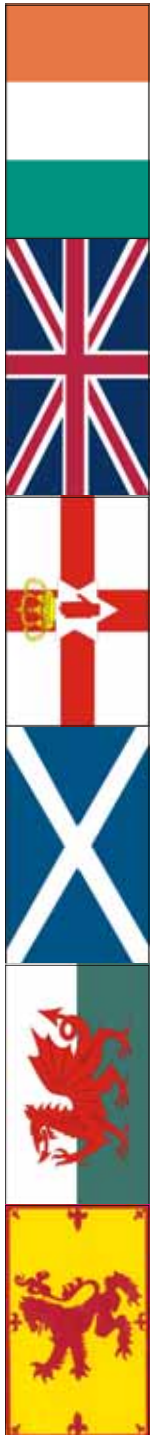
Volume 31, Number 7

“It’s Gotta Be Fun”

July 2011

A Walk Through History

By: Gail Lenhard



On Saturday, June 4th, twelve members converged on the Fireplace Restaurant in Seminole for a fabulous breakfast and fellowship. We had an excellent server who made sure our coffee cups were never empty and our orders delivered hot. After breakfast, our group caravanned to the Armed Forces Military Museum in Largo. Outside surrounding the museum were all types of military transportation – planes, helicopters, tanks, and jeeps. It was really interesting to see these up close and marvel at the craftsmanship. Our tour guide, Frank, was a Marine who had his own stories to tell us of the various items on display.



The tour began in “Salute to Service” gallery that featured various formal and service uniforms of US servicemen and women ranging from the Civil War to the present day. Many of these uniforms were donated by local veterans and were quite impressive.

If you have an interest in military weaponry, then the next gallery would interest you. The “Firearms & Ordnance/Mines & Grenades room had so many types of weapons that I got the chills just looking at them knowing what they were designed for.

We then walked through the “World War I Trench” gallery that was so lifelike it was eerie. To show what life was like for our soldiers, there was a diorama showing an underground bunker, complete with spiders, which were a problem for the soldiers.

The next gallery depicted the attack on Pearl Harbor and the beginning of WWII. On display were the actual models of the Japanese fleet used in the 1950 movie “Tora, Tora, Tora”. Frank said that “Tora” means “tiger” in Japanese but the phrase “Tora! Tora! Tora!” was a code phrase for “attack with torpedoes”. A large movie screen showed actual footage of the December 7th attack from both the Japanese and the Americans. The detail on these models was incredible. Watching the footage made me pause to reflect on all the lives lost that day.

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Important Notice
Meeting Location Change

Technical Updates—Only
available in electronic edition

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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.**

One gallery displayed the memorabilia from Colonel Leonard Schroeder, a local resident who was the first soldier to land on Utah Beach during the D-Day operation. He recounts this feat in an audio clip and if you closed your eyes, you could almost envision the invasion.

The next gallery took us to France – St. Mere Eglise to be exact where we see paratrooper Private John Steele who was captured briefly by the Germans after catching his parachute on the church's steeple. In addition there was a PT boat with a tank coming off it as well as a depiction of the villagers in the upper windows of their homes.

Rose's Bar was next on our tour and this was a replica of the favorite bar of U.S. soldiers during the Korean War. This bar in Seoul, Korea was highlighted in the television series "M.A.S.H.". It wasn't hard to imagine our soldiers finding solace in a drink or two during this time of war.

We then traveled down the Ho Chi Mon Trail diorama which depicted the complex network of truck roads, bicycle and foot paths with water routes that was used to move supplies and soldiers to the North Vietnam Army and Vietcong.

Lastly there was a small table. Nothing fancy, but never-the-less very important. The items on the table each symbolize something associate with our POWs/MIA. This table is the museum's way of symbolizing those members of our services who are still missing from our midst.

The entire tour lasted a little over an hour but the memories of what I saw will stay with me for a long time.

The Armed Forces Military Museum walks you through military history from a WWI trench to the flight deck of the Japanese aircraft carrier Akagi. The museum has completed displays reflecting WWI, an extensive display of Japanese memorabilia associated with the WWII attack on Pearl Harbor, displays of the USMC in the South Pacific, D-Day landings, German Third Reich, Korean War and 8063rd M.A.S.H memorabilia. Exhibits are enhanced with simulations of smoke, sounds of airplanes and tanks, and other audio/visual effects. These effects will make you feel you are part of the action.

The museum is proceeding with its development program that includes several additional displays and the presentation of equipment and weapons. Future displays will represent the Cold War, Vietnam, Desert Storm (Saudi Arabia), Afghanistan and Iraq. Among the numerous vehicles, equipment and memorabilia – three of the many outstanding artifacts are a wooden cross-bow used in Vietnam, a Ford M151 experimental utility truck, and the only known full service uniform of Saddam Hussein in the United States.

Three for the Road

By John Lester

The attached photo is of Margaret and I with my sister Ann, all in Noddy, my MGB about to cruise the back roads of Crossville Tennessee. We cruise the back roads to keep out of the eyes of the local Law!!!

My sister Ann wanted to come with us from Tampa to Seattle so she could see our daughter Nancy, so she flew into Tampa and will fly back to England from Seattle. I told her that it is going to be hot (she does not like heat), there are going to be bugs (she does not like mosquitoes) and I only tow a two-seater car. Well, she solved the two-seater car problem!!!

Next thing is to get a goat, a few chickens and a rocking chair on top of the RV and we will be real Beverly Hillbillies!!

John, Margaret and Ann



The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club Monthly Minutes June 8, 2011

President, Glenn Lenhard, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Secretary's/Treasurer's Reports: A motion was made and approved to accept both reports as presented. The CD was renewed for 13 months @ 1% interest.

Membership Report: Steve said that there are currently 77 member/families.

Regalia: Contact Barrie Carson if you would like to purchase any club regalia.

Past Activities:

May 14th – Social Event at the Titled Kilt – good time – write up in Informer.

June 2nd – “British Car Invasion” of Quaker Steak & Lube Restaurant – Mike Silvernail reported that there were six MGs present.

June 4th – Breakfast at the Fireplace Restaurant & Armed Forces Museum Tour – Glenn said that the museum was a pleasant surprise and hopes that other members visit this great facility.

Future Activities/ Breakfast Club: See list in Informer

Fellowship: Bert via phone message reported that everyone was doing well.

Newsletter: Deadline for articles is June 20th. A volunteer for the “Meet our Members” article is needed. Send an article, along with pictures, to Dennis.

Old Business:

NAMGAR Regional event for 2013 – the club needs a committee/chairperson & dates for event so a formal letter can be sent to NAMGAR.

The Meeting venue for the remaining of 2011 meetings will be at the Hanger Restaurant & Lounge – downtown St. Petersburg Airport.

New Business:

July 13th – Board of Directors meeting, meeting to be held before the July 13th Regular Business Meeting starting at 6:30 p.m. which is open for all members, at the Hanger Restaurant.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.



Bold type is a club sponsored event

July

2: Brits By the Bay Picnic. Philippe Park, Safety Harbor. See flyer page 10

9: Cars and Coffee at Ferrari of Tampa Bay, 7:30 to 11 AM, 2420 Tampa Road, Palm Harbor 34683 727-784-3377

13: Regular Business Meeting 7:30 pm. @ The Hanger Restaurant & Lounge, 540 First Street SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. 727-823-7767 Special Notice: BOD meeting to be held before the July 13th Regular Business Meeting starting at 6:30 p.m.

16: Cars and Coffee. DuPont Publishing Headquarters West Parking Lot 3051 Tech Drive St. Petersburg, FL 33716 7 AM – 9AM

August

10: Regular Business Meeting 7:30 pm. @ The Hanger Restaurant & Lounge, 540 First Street SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33701. 727-823-7767

13: Breakfast at Tiffany's is at 8:30. Tiffany's Restaurant, 35000 US 19 N, Palm Harbor FL 34684 Phone: 727-785-9530. Followed by a visit to Tampa Bay Ferrari at the corner of Us 19 and Tampa Rd. Pam Harbor Ferrari. 2420 Tampa Road, Palm Harbor, FL 34683, Phone: 727-784-3377

JULY 2011 FELLOWSHIP

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- July 7 John & Janet Hessey
- July 17 James Porco & Teresa Griffith
- July 28 John & Ann Fox

JULY BIRTHDAYS

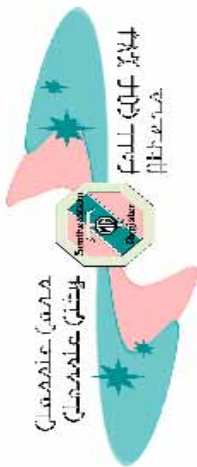
- July 3 Joanne Baumgartner
- July 4 John Soler
- July 6 Sherrie Fitzpatrick
- July 10 Jean Magee
- July 11 Ed McCarroll
- July 14 Nigel Petch
- July 17 Rick Hoppes
- July 28 Joe Kaiser

DuBois Nursing Home Celebrates Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Car Show

By Dennis J. Magee, CPM, Editor

DuBois, Pa. For several years now, the traditional Father's Day celebration at the DuBois Nursing Home has centered around a Car Show, featuring all makes and models of autos, motorcycles, trucks and tractors, and also included entertainment from a band, The Glendale Train. There were food vendors of various types, and an Outdoor Flea Market. This year's band kept a wide variety of music flowing through-out the day, with tunes from the early 40s through the 70s all for the benefit of the nursing home residents. The car show allowed the residents to view the cars and enjoy the music and food, along with their many relatives and visitors. Local member Dennis Magee, took third place in class with his 1980 British Racing Green MGB. Also, local member Bob McKee was represented with his Jaguar XKE. Over \$2500 was raised for the residents. This year was the largest attended event in the twenty-five year history.





Southeastern Fall Gathering of the Faithful
Foundry Park Inn & Spa
Athens, Georgia October 14-16, 2011

Dear Fellow MG Enthusiast,

The Southeastern MG T Register is hosting the sixteenth biannual "SOUTHEASTERN FALL GATHERING OF THE FAITHFUL" on October 14-16, 2011. The theme, "Classic Cars, Classic City" will be a blast from the past and center around the fun of owning and driving our vintage cars. Please join us as we gather to celebrate our beloved cars.

Located in the heart of Athens, our host hotel, The Foundry Park Inn, is a beautiful historic hotel with on-site restaurants and spa. Situated on an ideal location in Athens just steps from downtown, guests can venture easily to shops and restaurants or take advantage of the stellar food and beverage options offered in the hotel's historic Hoyt House.

We hope your club will join us for a relaxing weekend filled with classic cars, classic events, and classic fun!

Classic Cars... Let's dust off those MGs and get them out in public! Join us for an impromptu car show at the drive in, or a more formal showing Saturday morning. Whatever your pleasure, we've got it covered.

Classic Events... Remember the days of picnics, group drives, and the crazy fun of the "fun kana"? We're bringing back these events, along with the popular Valve Cover Races. If you've never driven the obstacles of a "fun kana" or watched someone else drive them, you're missing out! There's nothing like "fishing" from the passenger side of an MG, or zig-zagging between cones, all in the quest for the best time! For those who miss their "pine wood derby" days, the Valve Cover Races are like derby cars on steroids!

Classic Fun... Whether your idea of fun is relaxing in the open air hospitality room, joining a spur of the moment hula hoop contest, or listening to live music at The Melting Point, you won't be disappointed. The 2011 GOF will be a blast from the past!

We hope you will be able to join us as we celebrate these classic cars with good food, good friends and good times! See you in October!



Beth Ehrlic, Chairman
Southeastern Fall GOF MK XVI
 202 Hiwassee Drive
 Woodstock, GA 30188
 Tel: 404-966-4604 e-mail: semgtgof@gmail.com

Foundry Park Inn & Spa
 Reservations: 866-928-4367 mention SEMGTR.
www.foundryparkinn.com

To get the discounted rate of \$112 per night, make your reservations by 9/14/2011. Select your dates on the calendar, then click on the group tab and enter group code SO1014 in the box

Visit us at www.semgtr.org and become a fan on Facebook

The Southeastern M.G. T Register, Ltd.

Contact Information

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 Semgtgof@gmail.com

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 www.foundryparkinn.com

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 Chamblee, GA 30341
 770-457-4561

Dear Fellow MG Enthusiast,

The Southeastern MG T Register is hosting the sixteenth biannual Southeastern Fall Gathering of the Faithful on October 14, 15, and 16, 2011. The theme "Classic Cars, Classic City" will be a 1950's blast from the past and center around the fun of owning and driving our vintage cars.

Located in the heart of Athens, our host hotel, The Foundry Park Inn, is a beautiful historic hotel with on-site restaurants and spa. Situated on an ideal location in Athens just blocks from downtown, guests can venture easily to shops and restaurants or take advantage of the stellar food and beverage options on site in the historic Hoyt House. **Please call the hotel directly toll free at (866) 928-4367 to reserve your room at the discounted GOF rate of \$112 per night. This discounted price is only valid until Sept. 14, 2011. You may also make reservations on their website at www.foundryparkinn.com. Select the dates on the calendar, click on the group tab, and enter the group code SO1014 into the box.**

Register for Event before 9/14/2011 to be entered in a drawing for one free hotel night!

Classic Cars... Let's dust off those MGs and get them out in public! Join us for an impromptu car show at the drive in, or a more formal showing Saturday morning. Whatever your pleasure, we've got it covered.

Classic events... Remember the days of picnics, group drives, and the crazy fun of the "Funkana"? We're bringing back these events, along with the popular Valve Cover Races. If you've never driven the obstacles of a funkana or watched someone else drive them, you're missing out! And for those who miss their "pine wood derby" days, the Valve Cover Races are like derby cars on steroids! We also haven't forgotten to include a lazy drive to a beautiful park and picnic site for those who like the open road and a relaxing lunch.

Classic Fun... Whether your idea of fun is relaxing in the open air hospitality room, joining a spur of the moment hula hoop contest, or listening to live music at the Melting Point, you won't be disappointed. The 2011 GOF will be a blast from the past

Tentative Schedule of Events

- Friday, Oct. 14th**
- Registration 1:00-6:30
 - Hospitality 1:00-6:30
 - Drive In Car Show 7:00-dark
 - 1st Timers Show 7:00-8:00
- Saturday, Oct. 15th**
- Registration 8:00-12:00
 - Hospitality 8:00-12:00, 3:00-5:00
 - Car show 9:00-12:00
 - Micro Tech Sessions
 - Group drive & picnic 12:15-2:00
 - Scenic Tour of Athens 2:00-3:30
 - Funkana 3:00-5:00
 - Valve Cover Races 4:00-4:30
 - Awards Banquet & Auction 6:00-9:00
- Sunday, Oct. 16th**
- Hospitality Breakfast 8:00-10:00

Sorry, no refunds after September 14th, 2011

Spark Plug Q & A

QUESTION: WHAT'S THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN SPARK PLUGS TODAY?

Answer: Long-life spark plugs have become the norm in most new vehicles. Platinum plugs have been around for years and do an excellent job of reducing electrode wear for extended plug life. There now seems to be a shift in the marketplace to iridium for the center electrode in spark plugs, or alloying iridium with platinum to increase wear-resistance while reducing cost.

Iridium plugs have also been around for a number of years, but until recently were used primarily in Asian engines as original equipment. Now iridium is finding its way into domestic engines as well as the aftermarket for a wide-range of applications.

Iridium actually has a higher melting point than platinum, making it a very wear-resistant material. The center electrode can also be made very fine, which helps concentrate the spark for more reliable ignition.

Plug life can be shortened if a vehicle is burning oil, is used mostly for short trip, stop-and-go driving or spends a lot of time idling. This kind of use increases the risk of spark plug fouling and misfires. The OBD II system can detect misfires and will turn on the check engine light and set a misfire code if the plugs are bad and need to be replaced.

Long-life plugs are more expensive than standard spark plugs but actually save the vehicle owner money over the long run because they last more than twice as long as standard plugs. On engines where the spark plugs are hard to reach, it also means the plugs don't have to be replaced as often. Consequently, long-life plugs maintain fuel economy and emissions longer.

Q. HOW CAN I MAKE SURE MY CUSTOMERS GET THE RIGHT REPLACEMENT SPARK PLUGS FOR THEIR ENGINES?

A. Just follow the spark plug supplier application charts and you usually can't go wrong. Spark plugs come in many different sizes, styles and electrode configurations. So follow the application guide and compare thread diameters, the length of the threads, plug reach and the plug seat (flat with a gasket, or tapered) on the old and new plugs to make sure they match.

Warning: Installing the wrong spark plugs in an engine may damage the plug threads in the cylinder head, or the



engine itself if the plugs protrude too far into the combustion chamber.

Spark plugs are pre-gapped at the factory. Even so, due to consolidation, the electrode gap should also be checked before the plugs are installed — unless the plugs have a special type of electrode that is non-adjustable (follow the spark plug manufacturer's recommendations).

Q. WHAT DOES "READING" THE SPARK PLUGS MEAN?

A. "Reading" is visually inspecting the spark plugs after they have been removed to look for signs of trouble. This should always be done when spark plugs are changed.

All spark plugs get dirty with use. Combustion by-products stick to the electrodes and typically cause the white ceramic insulator around the center electrode to discolor. Normal deposits are a light gray or tan color.

You can tell a lot by "reading" plugs. If the electrodes are coated with black fluffy carbon deposits, the engine is running too rich — or is not being driven long enough or fast enough for the plugs to get hot and burn off the deposits. If the electrodes are coated with black, oily deposits, the engine is burning oil. Switching to a spark plug with a slightly hotter heat range may help keep the plugs cleaner longer.

Spark plugs with a yellow or blistered center electrode means either the spark plug or the engine is running too hot. The plugs may be the wrong heat range for the engine, or the engine may have a cooling problem (bad thermostat, water pump, plugged radiator, low coolant or inoperative cooling fan). ●

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Break-In New/Rebuilt Engine Oil Supplement

Break-In is a soluble molybdenum together with anti-foaming agents and corrosion 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 scuffing 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 use, 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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New Meeting Location
The Hanger,
540 First Street SE, St.
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727-823-7767

Upcoming Events

July

2: Brits By the Bay Picnic. Philippe Park, Safety Harbor.

9: Cars and Coffee at Ferrari of Tampa Bay, 7:30 to 11 AM, 2420 Tampa Road, Palm Harbor 34683 727-784-3377

11: Cars and Coffee at Ferrari of Tampa Bay, 7:30 to 11 AM, 2420 Tampa Road, Palm Harbor 34683 727-784-337

13: Regular Business Meeting, New location at The Hanger @. 7:30 pm. BOD meeting to be held before the July 13th Regular Business Meeting starting at 6:30 p.m.

16: Cars and Coffee. DuPont Publishing Headquarters West Parking Lot 3051 Tech Drive St.

We want your MGA...

to be registered with NAMGAR!



Yearly membership is \$37.50 North America or \$52.50 International. The application form is available on-line at www.namgar.com or from: NAMGAR Registrar, 7522 SE 152nd Ave., Portland, OR 97236-4861



Members receive *MGA!* Magazine, the bimonthly magazine devoted exclusively to the enjoyment, care, and preservation of the MGA, Magnette and Variants; and an annual Get-Together in various locations in U.S.A. and Canada.

2010-11



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