

## Member Featured Car of the Month

### MY 69MGB, and My MG Ownership Journey

By Norm McCord

So, my MG experiences go back to 1972, when I bought my first MGB. It was a beautiful car. BRG, tan interior, and I had the dealer (yes there were dealers back then in Jacksonville, Florida) add a roll bar. I thought that it made the car truly unique. That car, during moves, traveled from JAX to Jackson, MS, and then to Atlanta, GA. For fun, I actually drove it on business trips a few times even though I had a company car; and for a while it was my wife's daily driver. We loved that car and it was truly fun to drive. I eventually parted with it. Some years later. Some years later (1978 timeframe I think), I bought a red Midget. It was fun to drive, but it was a mess; a true shop queen. I only kept it for a year or two.

Some years passed and I got the urge again. In 2005, I bought a 1979 MGB. I don't think that it was BRG: I think that the other green color that my research suggested might have been Mallard green. Tan interior. I didn't drive it a lot but kept it until about 2020. It was somewhat a shop queen, and Steve Miller at MG Automotive was very familiar with it.

The



I really had the urge to acquire a BRG MGB of the same time period and color as my '72, chrome bumpers, dual carbs, etc. In my first internet search this '69 MGB popped up in Charlotte, NC. write-up suggested that it had been restored and was in pristine condition. I immediately contacted the owner and arranged a trip to see the car. I took cash with me (I'm such a negotiator...LOL). It was/is a stunning car. I bought it on the spot. The owner suggested I should drive it back to Dayton. No way was I going to drive all that way back to Dayton through the mountains, on the interstate with screaming truck traffic. Besides, I thought that I detected a slight issue in the right front when turning left during the test drive. I had it shipped. Steve Miller checked it out; and yep, wheel bearings. I was curious: I found out the name of the shop that restored the car, BJ & Sons in Star, NC. I reached out to them to find out what all that they had done during the car. Oh My Gosh; they





sent me a 5-page listing of everything that they did during a frame-off restoration, and over 500 pictures of the process. It was completed in 2015. I hope the pictures show just how beautiful that this car is (yeah, I'm proud). Side note: Ron Parks visited me to take a look at the car and take some more pictures. We discussed the color and concluded that it may not be BRG. I researched the list of work that occurred during restoration. It turns out that the color is Brooklands Green...but it's a beauty to me.



So to conclude, I wanted to share something that amused me after reading another owner's story in the Octagon few months back about how he got in and out of his "B." So, when I owned my '72, at age 25 or 26, Ha! getting in and out was no problem. Now at 78, with my '69, well it can be a hilarious event to witness. With the top up, forget it. I keep the top down mostly, and still have to crawl out, sometimes with hands on the garage floor...but I'll keep doing it!



Norm McCord and his 69 MGB