

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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“A gentleman does not motor about after dark” Joseph Lucas

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Tops Down at Rocky Springs

by Charlie Durning

After the cold winter it was great to be outside communing with the trees at Rocky Springs. It is an annual tradition for the MSEM to celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the quiet park. Most arrived just in time for lunch dressed in some type of green apparel. Pat Cashman kicked off the festivities with an Irish greeting, as only Pat can do. He advised us that it was a "soft day".

What a spread of Irish and American food we had! There was an abundance of corned beef and cabbage to celebrate the day. One of the highlights was the cinnamon twists provided by the Glores,. There was car-talk and girl-talk. It was a nice day for a drive and visiting with good friends.



David Bailey Daredevil / Trash Inspector



Elana Greene



Donna & Charlie Durning



**Kent Turner, Keith Anderson, David Bailey,
Mike Glore, Stephen Turner, Steve Whitlow**

**Mike Glore, Rick Greene, Stephen Turner,
Kent Turner, Keith Anderson, Pat Cashman**



Kent Turner, David Bailey, Pat Cashman, Keith Anderson

Photos by Donna Durning



Be sure to watch the video and slideshow taken at Tops Down at Rocky Springs.
Enjoy!

Click the link below.

[Tops Down at Rocky Springs Video and Slideshow](#)

New Orleans Car Show

Rain, Rain

by Gene Johnston

New Orleans LA – Despite the warnings of the weather prognosticators of at least 3 days of showers, something everyone in the southeast I think has grown wary of, Martha and I loaded the B GT up for a long weekend on the road visiting new spots and attending the 25th anniversary of the New Orleans British Car Clubs British Car Days. We left home south bound on the less traveled roads of South Mississippi and to the boot of Louisiana, arriving at The Southern Hotel in Covington by mid-afternoon. After checking out our very nice digs for the evening, we walked the streets for a bit, toured HJ Smith's Son General Store and Museum, an actual vintage general goods store with an excellent collection of items you won't find at any Wal-Mart. After a rest and checking out the hotel lounge to get us started we wandered just down the street from the hotel for dinner at Buster's. We'd been warned of arriving late but having no other place we could think of we'd rather be, we didn't heed the warnings. It really didn't matter in the end, as the wait was short particularly when we found out it was ½

price oyster night. Full of oysters, a sufficient amount of wine and an excellent dinner we turned in for the evening. **No evidence of rain on day one.**

After great nights sleep and only **limited evidence of an overnight shower** we were up early and headed down to The French Quarter for a walk about. Checking in at the market on Decatur, wandering the streets and dropping into a couple of regular watering holes. Then we loaded up to head out to meet fellow travelers for more.... you guessed it oysters. There is an "R" in March, after all. Doing our share to combat an overflow of oysters we headed over to the famous BMCNO reception at the host hotel. The hall was almost full on arrival with friends most of whom we hadn't seen since the final shows of 2014. It was great to see everyone. We had a great visit. The food prepared by club members was as always second to none, and there was plenty to go around. The ticket drawing for door prizes and the chance to get an early choice was ours as Martha and I drew the first ticket pulled. A nice Jack Flag coffee mug now adorns our cupboard. We were off to retire following a brief parking lot party. Friday's weather was perfect and the forecast for Saturday weather for the most part looked fine with only **a hint of rain indicated post car show.**

I managed to find a wash hose for car clean up early on Saturday morning and cleaned the GT up a bit. After all, it was the GT's first appearance at the New Orleans British Car Days and I wanted it to be in best form. Following the clean up we headed out to the breakfast hosted by members of the Mardi Gras T's. The menu was scones and coffee around the pool and in the garage. What a spectacular way to start the day. The scones were the best we'd ever eaten. We made the short drive over to the show site at Delgado College and took our position on the show field following checking in and mugging for photos. The field was well organized with plenty of room. By mid-morning other EMC'ers, Clay Johnston and Charlie Durning, in Clay's recently rebuilt "B" and Barry Schmidt in his mod-TR-7 had arrived. In spite of the **adverse weather** predicted, the field of cars was top notch with the usual and unusual field of British cars and bikes. There were several food vendors around this year and the brats and other fare were grilled to perfection. The morning had started with a **few lofty clouds** but none that looked to be **rain bearing**, as a matter of fact as the day moved along the **sun broke thru** and the temp was very comfortable and called for a smear of

sun screen. Following a full day with the autos we moved into the student union building for the awards ceremony with Clay Johnston and I both receiving recognition awards. As the field was broken up, **the skies darkened a bit**, but the weather-person was outwitted again. Brother Clay and Charlie report that they **ran into rain** on the way home following the show and **significant amounts of it**. Martha and I remained in the Big Easy joining the BMCNO traditional post show dinner at New Orleans Seafood and Spirits for more fine food and foolishness.

Next morning we were up late yes, I admit it for breakfast with friends prior to loading up and heading for those northbound back roads that carried us home. Oh, and **just a bit of a spit of rain** that started 30 miles south of home that was light and easy to deal with. It was great to see the weather folks claims of **upcoming weather calamities** fall short and us to be blessed with great weather. Some challenges are worth taking and the 2015 edition of The British Motoring Clubs British Car Days was one of them. Thanks folks for putting on a great 25th edition! We're looking forward to next year.





Photos by Charlie Durning



From the Passenger Seat *by Donna Durning*

This month we have 2 recipes submitted by the always fashionable Pat Cashman! Thank you, Pat for a great submission! Ok, men, is Pat the only man with great recipes? I challenge you for a submission!



Photo by Donna Durning

This is from "Vintage Vicksburg" which my sister Mary Louise helped put together. - Pat Cashman

- 5 Tablespoons vegetable oil
- 5 Tablespoons flour
- 4 chicken breasts
- 1 onion
- 2 ribs celery
- 3 green onions
- 2 cloves garlic

4 cups okra, sliced
6 cups hot water
1 (16 ounce) can tomatoes
1 can chicken broth
3 bay leaves
1/2 teaspoon tyme
2 teaspoons salt
2 teaspoons pepper
2 sprigs parsley

Make a roux. Cook cut up chicken in the roux and brown over low heat. Take out the chicken and add onion, celery, green onions, garlic, and okra to pot. Cook 20 minutes. Add water and stir well. Put in tomatoes. Return chicken. Break bay leaves and add to pot. Add spices. Simmer 1 hour. Add parsley and simmer 10 minutes.

Pat's Internationally Talked About and Never Duplicated Smoked Salmon

One hour of cooking time for one pound of salmon with one pound of charcoal. Keep the same ratio for whatever you smoke. Rub olive oil on the salmon and dust with "Jane's Crazy Salt and Jane's Crazy Pepper. Never had enough left over to take home from parties.



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Exhaust Rattles

Bro. Clay finished his engine overhaul with rousing success. Congratulations on a job well done!

Charlie, with the help of VP Steve Whitlow and Bro. Clay, was able to complete the dismantling of the Car of the Month featured in the article below!

Car of the Month!



It was a poor, neglected Morris parked in a grove of trees, gradually returning to the earth. But I could see the beauty beneath the surface in it's component parts. Once I got it back home to the shop, I started tearing it apart. I salvaged the rear axel, the dash board, it's poor, dejected face, the transmission, the crank shaft, and head.

After the dismantling, we cut it up in little bitty pieces and loaded into my trailer. VP Steve and Bro. Clay helped with damage control. The engine served as a training tool for Steve so he could see the inner workings of an A-Series engine. Steve was filthy head to toe, but his brain was filled with new-found knowledge to offset some of the mush! Bro. Clay and I wisely kept our distance. We suspect that the remains of the Car of the Month will soon be turned into Chinese re-bar or a Japanese washing machine.

You can click the link below for a slideshow of the lovely Car of the Month!

[April 2015 MSEM C Car of the Month!](#)

If you would like one of your British cars featured, please send pictures, the story of where and how you found the car, and any adventure stories you would like to include. You may email us at durningcharles@gmail.com.

Happy Motoring!