

# "Brits on the Bluff" enjoys record participation — again

DECEMBER 2000

by Terry Trovato

**NATCHEZ, MISS.** — On October 14th, under picture-perfect blue skies and warm (low 80s) temperatures, the English Motoring Club of Mississippi hosted its 4th Annual "Brits on the Bluff" British Car Show and Competition in historic Natchez. It was the largest turnout yet for this small, but interesting, gathering, with 62 cars in place by noon.

A Concours d'Elegance-styled show judged by points, the event coincided with the city's Fall Pilgrimage Tour of antebellum mansions. Participants paraded through town under police escort to the show site — the city's new Main Street Marketplace, which resembles New Orleans' famous French Market.

British rarities on hand for viewing pleasure included a 1960 Armstrong Siddeley Star Sapphire Saloon, 1967 Aston Martin DB6, 1957 AC Bristol, 1964 Gordon Keeble signed by the designer (there are only four known examples in the U.S.), a 1958 MG ZB Magnette Saloon, and a 1949 Series A Singer "Nine" Roadster.

Judging commenced at 12:30 p.m. with an awards ceremony at 3 p.m. The results were as follows:

**Best of Show** — Peter and Kathy Harris, 1963 TR3B.

**Show Stopper** — Parker Hall, 1957 AC Bristol.

**Austin-Healey Sprite/MG Midget** — 1st, Al Adams, 1960 Bugeye Sprite; 2nd, Raymond Cooper, 1958 Bugeye Sprite; 3rd, David Puddister, 1972 MG Midget.

**Austin-Healey 100/3000** — 1st, Martha and Robert Goodwin, 1956 100M; 2nd, Allen Williams, 1963 3000; 3rd, Ted Glover, 1960 3000.

**Jaguar** — 1st, Chuck and Charlene Byrne, 1994 XJS-V12; 2nd, Ron Pardo, 1992 XJS-V12; 3rd, Bob and Margaret Henson, 1967 E-type Roadster.

**MGB/C/GT Chrome Bumper** — 1st, John Simmers, 1967 CGT; 2nd, Jim Snyder, 1970 MGB; 3rd (tie), Richard DeCrevel, 1974 BGT; 3rd (tie), Mark Toney, 1974 MGB.

**MGB Rubber Bumper** — 1st, Matt Cook, 1977; 2nd, William Harris, 1980; 3rd, Renee Cole, 1976.

**Empire (Touring)** — 1st, Bill Silhan, 1967 Aston-Martin DB6; 2nd, John Turbeville, 1980 DeLorean; 3rd (tie), Jeffrey Pitt, 1977 Aston Martin V8 S; 3rd (tie), Pat Conroy, 1978 Lotus Esprit.

**Empire (Sports)** — 1st, David and Chesney Loeb, 1952 MG TD; 2nd, Ted Glover, 1985 Morgan Plus 8; 3rd (tie), Parker Hall, 1957 AC Bristol; 3rd (tie), Jeffrey Pitt, 1962 Daimler SP250 Dart.

**Empire (Small Sedan/Utility)** — 1st, Cappy Stahlman, 1958 MG ZB Magnette; 2nd, Tom Schmitz,

1967 Mini Cooper S; 3rd, Taylor Poole, 1965 Land Rover.

**Empire (Luxury)** — 1st, Fred Fabre, 1986 Bentley Mulsanne; 2nd, Barbara Cashman, 1960 Armstrong Siddeley Star Sapphire; 3rd, Richard Branyan, 1949 Rolls-Royce Silver Wraith.

**Triumph TR2-3** — 1st, Scott Patterson, 1954 TR2; 2nd, Walter Murphy, 1959 TR3A.

**Triumph TR4-6** — 1st, Nicky Edrington, 1975 TR6; 2nd, Richard Crichton, 1972 TR6; 3rd, Fred Bertch, 1964 TR4.

**Triumph TR7-8** — 1st, Bill Breithoff, 1980 TR8; 2nd, Roy Richardson, 1981 TR7; 3rd, Barry Schmidt, 1979 TR7.

## Special awards

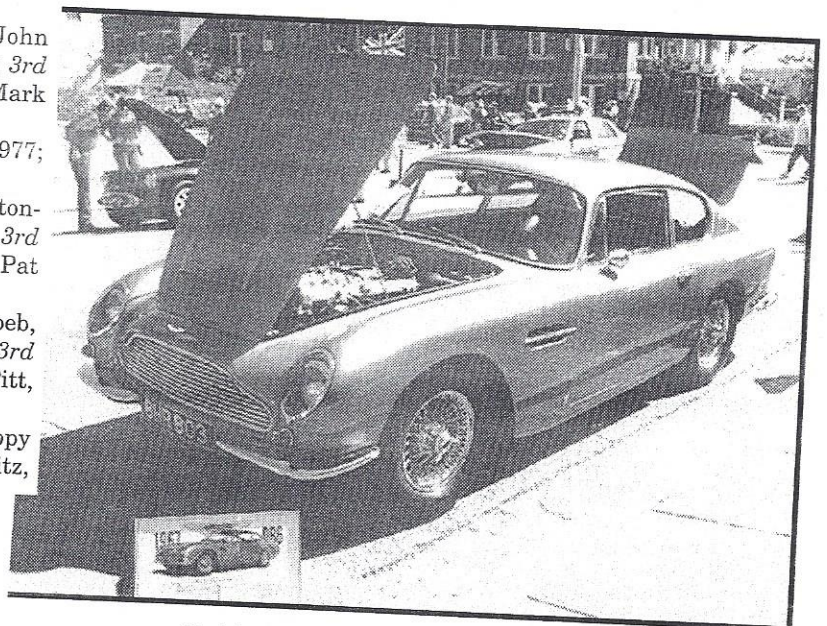
**Mayor's Choice (chosen by Natchez Mayor F. L. "Hank" Smith)** — Bob and Margaret Henson, 1967 E-type Roadster.

**Blue-Light Special (chosen by Natchez Police Chief Willie Huff as the car that looked the speed-**

**iest while parked)** — Pat Conroy, 1978 Lotus Esprit. —

**Best Red Car (chosen by Natchez Fire Chief Gary Winborne)** — Peter and Kathy Harris, 1963 TR3B.

The English Motoring Club wishes to thank all participants for making this year's show a success, with a special tip-of-the-hat to Tom Schmitz of the Panhandle British Car Association, David Loeb of the Mardi Gras T's, and Charles Ake of the British Motoring Club of New Orleans, for their enthusiastic support of the event.



First in the Empire (Touring) Class was Bill Silhan's immaculate '67 Aston. The car was used in the 1997 film *Excess Baggage*, starring Alicia Silverstone.

Photo by Terry Trovato