

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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

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Lagniappe December 2013

From the President

I would like to take this time to thank all of our club members for their support during this past year. I would also like to thank my fellow officers for going over and above in making 2013 a rousing success. We had lots of good fellowship, successful “tech” sessions, fun outings, and in spite of the rain one of the best ever Brit’s on the Bluff.

Going forward 2014 will be a new year. If you have any suggestions or comments the January business meeting will be the place to voice those suggestions and comments. Also we will be discussing the calendar of events for 2014. Please let Gene know about any dates that you have in mind. January is also a time for elections. If anyone would like to take on an elected position just let one of our officers know your feelings and we’ll be sure to bring up your request at the business meeting.

The January business meeting is also the time for awards. Those awards can be for anything, to anyone, for any reason, by anyone. We had a lot of fun with those at the last business meeting so let’s keep up the fun. There were 4 perpetual awards given out last year. Those folks will be passing on those awards. It’ll be fun to see who will be selected for the Big Valve Award, the I-Beam Award, the Scorched Piston Award, and the coveted Eager Beaver award.

Also for 2014 our newsletter editor wants to hear from each and every-one of you. We have had some interesting articles submitted by the membership. We would like to hear more. So this year let’s work on submitting some tech articles, personal history with your LBC, or even something light hearted about your trials and joys your LBC has brought you or your family. How about a blow by blow about an overhaul or a minor fix? It’s fun to see how each of us finds solutions to those perplexing problems that we all face with our LBCs. Keep in mind, we like pictures.

In closing I would like to wish all a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Charlie Durning

HO-HO-HO!

Photos Courtesy EMC

Raymond MS – They said that we could return! On December 7th 2013 the EMC and Deep South Alfa Romeo Clubs gathered at the home of Andy and Bonnie Menapace for our combined Christmas parties and party we did. A total of thirty - three persons including The Jolly One Him-self had a great time.



Just a few of the EMC/DSARC revelers

There was plenty of food available, had to be one of the largest spreads of the year as was a little something to lift the spirits and warm the cockles. Those in attendance in LBC's were Mike Glore in his Jag and John Turbeville in his MGB. Due to the late start and inclement weather in the area most arrived in their domesticated modes of transportation. A fairly large contingent read hairy garage types made way to the shop to check on Andy's progress on the rebuild of his Alfa. As with my GT, Andy's progress involves much contemplation and anticipation and now, the wait for warmer weather.

We all hated to see the evening come to an end. I think most would agree that the 2013 Christmas party was one to remember. Thanks to all in attendance and to those that couldn't we missed having you join us. We're working on the 2014 calendar now and should have it finalized at the January 18, 2014 Gathering. We all hope to see you in 2014. As our guest Santa said as he rode out of sight: "Frohe Weihnachten an alle und an alle eine gute Nacht"!



Santa wrestles Mike for a cup of holiday cheer

Other Exhaust Rattles

Following several months of anticipation Mike Glore has received his Alfa Romeo 1600 Zagato. The new ride was given a full physical prior to its release to Mike. Next time you see him ask about it. On another note, Mike on his way home from the Christmas party encountered an alternator issue in the Jag but he kept calm and the Jag got him all the way home.

I'm pleased to report that Jim Enzman has returned home following his visit to the VA hospital. Ernie Clark is back on the mend from hip replacement. Your presence was missed at the Christmas party and we hope that we see you both soon.

Recent new Gulf Coast members George and Pat Wilkins sent in an update on the progress on their 1976 Triumph Spitfire 1500: We recently added dual SU HS4 carburetors complete with air cleaners, a stainless heat shield, and an oil cooler. The carburetor assembly came from the UK. The Spitfire now spits fire, the wheels will burn rubber if I press too hard on the peddle and I am actually pressed back in the seat making the car a true European Sports car instead of the anemic shadow of what was intended that was sold on the US Market. I am doing a low budget restoration, after new disc brakes the next big bite will be to install a new interior. I have made a new dash board, a glove box and coin box out of an oak stained "special walnut". I had added a leather grained dash cap about 10 years ago which still looks great. New sun visors and horn button have been added and hope to have the car repainted white, original color with biscuit color seats.

New members are always welcome and as we close 2013 we continue to gather new members. Tony and Liz Risher of Madison are our newest. A warm EMC welcome to you both, we hope that you'll be able to join us at one of our gatherings in 2014.

Well it's official, on December 14, 2013 some of the best and brightest minds with the EMC, Charlie Durning, Clay Johnston, Steve Whitlow and John Turbeville and myself couldn't put Humpty Dumpty, my '73 MGB GT, back together again. After hours attempting to gain oil



No pressure here

pressure we had to throw in the towel. The general consensus is that something, likely an incorrect oil pump gasket was installed during the engine rebuild. I am currently looking for an individual with nerves of steel, along with small hands that is not adverse to oil splatter in the face to assist with replacing the pump gasket. I'm available for your call at most any hour....chuckle...chuckle...chuckle.....

As Charlie noted the EMC has had a great year. We must be doing something right as our membership is now approaching seventy! We're always looking for new members, suggestions for improvements and new ideas including places to go and things to see. I have left the 2013 calendar posted to the web-site www.msemc.org and it will remain posted thru mid-January. The calendar posted to the web-site will be updated with new dates and hopefully a few new ideas for 2014. That's part one of where each you come in. If you have ideas for events or gatherings, please pass those along. I'll ensure that your suggestions will be considered during the January meeting. The other area that the EMC is requesting your participation is in the submission of articles and/or photos for the Off-Side Undo. From how you got started or interested in British cars to my current projects with or without frustrations to great trips with or without LBC, all will be considered for entry in the OSU. As the slogan goes, "Membership has its privileges". We want to hear from you.

Happy Motoring

The EMC

Calendar of Events

January 18, 2014 EMC 2013 Awards & 2014 Kick-Off / Jackson MS

Over the last two years Sal & Mookie's has become the home for the end of one year and the start of the next. The EMC has grown a bit during the last year so make plans to arrive early for a seat near the action. Bring your party hats along with awards for those that generated memories for you in 2013. Be careful what you wish for as a few of those awards that were so sought after in 2012 will be passed along and who knows you may be the lucky recipient this time around. New awards are always welcome! The fun and frivolity begins at 11:30am. Lunch will be from the menu. For a good time, contact Gene Johnston (601) 201 - 0801 or John Turbeville (601) 940 – 5288.