

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

“A GENTLEMAN DOES NOT MOTOR ABOUT AFTER DARK” JOSEPH LUCAS



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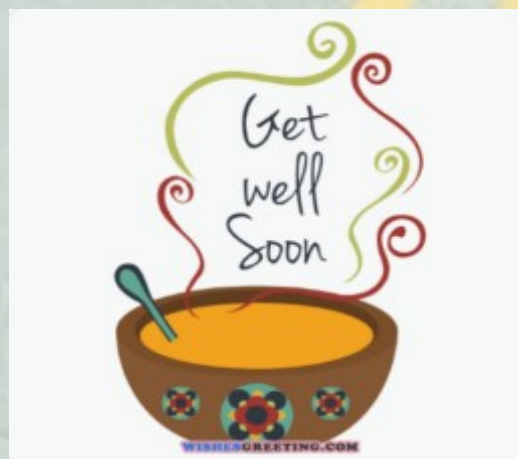
This 'n That

By Roy Schooler

I think we can all agree that January brought us enough rain to last until April or after. Only one planned event had to be postponed until March or April. The annual Fairgrounds show was a real success this year since it was held indoors. The January Awards and Business meeting had 30 or so attendees who weathered the threat of rain to attend.. And as we are getting used to Charlie's last minute call for a "drive", 6 or 7 cars gathered at Ramey's parking lot for a unique drive to Polkville to the 3-legged water tower.

Looking at the calendar, each month is getting full of fun events Penny has even added some local car shows to enjoy. By the way, it is time to pre-enter the New Orleans British Car Day in New Orleans, and the Natchez Euro Fest in Natchez.

Chicken Soup For Charlie—



2020 BankPLus Racing Vehicle Extravaganza

Mississippi Trademark Center at the Fairgrounds

January 4-5, 2020

Two EMC members showcased their cars under the great lighting at the Trademark Center. The lights really showed off Barry Schmidt's' TR-7 and Roy Schooler's MGB. Both cars earned trophies and they even recruited a prospective new member. Good work guys!



EMC 2020 BUSINESS & AWARDS

EMC 2020 BUSINESS & AWARDS

By

CHARLIE DURNING

About 30 folks attended this year's Business and Awards meeting. Two of which were new members Smoky and Glo Williamson driving their 1980 MGB. Welcome to our new members. First order of business was to hit the Berry's Fish House buffet line for some yummy chow. Of course that led to lots of conversation and noise.

After all had settled down Pres John called the business meeting to order. Bro Gene went over the proposed calendar of events. The final version will be posted to the club website. Bro Clay stated the club still has some money in the bank and Stephen Turner announced that it is time for club dues to be paid. Stephen went on to announce the names of new members. Pres John turned to the election of officers. The motion to keep the officers the same for 2020, was seconded, and unanimously adopted. A hardy thanks to our officers for their good job.

Then it was time for the awards. The strict rules for awards are as follows;

Can be to anyone.....Can be to anything.....Can be from anyone

*This year there was a new travelling, Setting the Pace award presented from Bro Gene to Editor Roy and Editoret Penny for their good work on the Newsletter.

*Past Editoret Donna presented the Sweet Inspiration award went to Editoret Penny for her work on the newsletter

*Appreciation award went to Editor Roy and Editoret Penny for their work on the newsletter

*Certificate of completion went to Editor Roy for his cylinder head repair

*Pres John presented Bro Gene with a certificate of Achievement for his retirement

*Certificate of Achievement went to Bro Gene for getting Ole Red back on the road after more than 2 years





Third Time is the Charm

By Charlie Durning



Yep it happened on the third try. After conflicts and weather the first drive of the season got under way on January 19. This was short notice since a nice sunny day fell amongst the rainy and stormy days. We took advantage of the opportunity.

In attendance were 8 folks, 2 of which were new members Smoky and Glo Williamson in their 80 MGB, and 5 cars, all MGB. The gathering point was downtown Brandon for a frolic over the river and through the woods. Roy Schooler was our fearless leader. The original plan was to end up at the Pineville General Store for lunch. Unfortunately the Pineville Store is not open on Sundays so the Dollar General in Polkville became our destination because the store has restrooms.

Roy laid out a nice drive along the roads less travelled. So much so we did not see any traffic which added to the fun along the way. The return was along a different route. All in the drive time was about 2 hours.

It was good to get our little cars out for some exercise and experience the charm these offer. All in all an afternoon well spent.



Exhaust Rattles



By

Charlie Durning

Bro Gene had some excitement on the way to the Jan 19 drive. After filling up Ole Red with new gas it began running poorly. He was able to barely get home only to discover he had filled his tank with water. I'm sure that was a byproduct of the rains we've had in the area and not so well sealed ground tank ate the gas station.



This is a link to a short video about the Austin/Morris Mini

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6_Qf02-QK0

COOPER POOPER

BY RICHARD GREENE

I was peacefully sitting on my back porch enjoying a cold Rolling Rock in my underwear when the phone rang waking me from my afternoon nap. It was our illustrious leader John Turbeville calling, although it was hard to hear him with "Hail to the Chief" blaring in the background. He said that he had found a 2010 Mini Cooper S for sale and our friend Charlie told him I was the Cooper Expert and could assist him in considering a purchase. Now remember that an expert is "One who knows more and more about less and less." My experience with the newer generation is limited to keeping my Wife crap-box 2002 mini on the road.

So here the deal, a 2010 Mini-Cooper S that would turn over but would not start. The price looked good and the pictures posted on Craig-list looked great. John asked a few questions on what to check when he went to look at it. I suggested he check for gas and spark to start out. Look at the oil, check the water and etc. Now the story on the car it that it was running fine one day and then next it would not start. The current owner's son bought the car in this condition thinking he get it running and towed it to his house in Petal, Mississippi. Once getting the car to Petal he quickly discovered a lack (actually non-existence) of Mini Cooper mechanics in that part of Mississippi. Actually the whole of Mississippi is considered a wasteland for good Mini mechanics.

Not thinking clearly myself, I offered John that I would be willing to tag along to look at the car with him. Plans were made to go that Saturday and Charlie would also be going to complete the team. Sort of like a tag team approach. I loaded a couple of Home-Depot buckets with some tools and misc. items and headed out to meet John at the Wal-Mart parking lot in Richland. From there we were to go get Charlie and head out to Petal for a 10:30 AM get together at the car. The day was a little cloudy and cool but the trip was pretty uneventful and we arrived a little early. I might add that this was quite an accomplishment considering that a stop was made at about every other restroom. Remember, when you get my age there are three things to remember: 1. Don't wear a thong to the beach. 2: Never pass up a bathroom and 3: Never trust a Fart!

Once we arrived at the car's location a quick once over was made and the car looked really good, accident free and fairly clean. The owner showed up and gave us to key to see if we could determine why the car wasn't starting. Of course the battery was really weak and would turn over the engine. I had brought my battery booster pack along and we quickly hooked it up. It took a few minutes but the batteries finally stabilized and we could turn the key and hear the starter turning over the car.

First thing first, is there gas in the car? In my weaker moments (getting more frequent) I sent numerous times troubleshooting a non-start car to find no gas in the tank. Not this time, there was gas in the tank. Next Charlie hooked up a extra spark plug and spark plug tester to the car and John cranked the engine.

Cooper Pooper

Continued

If the car ran fine and the next day it had no compression in 3 cylinders, surely there would have had been some indication of some sort. Flashing trouble lights, overheating and some sort of strange noise should have given some indication that something was not right. My conclusion is that the original owners knew the car was in back shape and were able to unload it on the current owner's son. With him thinking or being lead to believe that it would be a simple fix. Upon realizing that it was not a simple fix they are now trying to get rid of it. John was able to supply me with these figures: current owners bought the car for \$4500 in its current condition. Once realizing the serious issues involved they were trying to unload it for \$3500. After our assessment they dropped the price to \$2800. When John had passed at \$3500 I told the owner I would think about no more the \$1500 at it stands.

My assessment is that the car needs at least a new top end rebuild (rebuild head) that would cost about \$2500 doing the labor myself. A used engine would run about \$3000 to \$4000 with me doing the labor. So \$2800 + \$2500 at a minimum is \$5300 for a car that is only about worth \$6000. With a used engine it is \$2800 + \$4000 is \$6800 not counting time. Even with my low offer of \$1200- \$1500 and a used engine the end cost would be \$5500.

John T added:

The day was not a total bust as we headed to Letha's BBQ, in Hattiesburg, for lunch.

Shoe Peg Corn Salad/Dip

Pat and Barbara Cashman shared the delicious shoe peg corn salad/dip that they bring to most of our Tech Sessions. It is a real popular addition each month. Thanks for sharing.

Enjoy!

1 can shoe peg corn, drained
1 medium tomato, chopped
1/2 medium green pepper, chopped
1 jalapeno pepper, chopped
2 tablespoons mayonnaise
Seasoned salt to taste
Lemon pepper
Whole wheat wafers

Drain corn and add remaining ingredients including a generous amount of lemon pepper. Let stand at least 1 hour before serving. Serve with whole wheat wafers. Yield: 10 servings.

It's also good served as a salad.

This recipe comes from Vintage Vicksburg, a cookbook published by the Junior Auxiliary of Vicksburg and contributed by Pat Pierce.

Just a Penny's Worth



Thank you for the awards for the newsletter. We sure don't deserve them, but do thank you. It is all of you who send me articles, photos, recipes, and ideas. It is YOU who make a good newsletter. KEEP THEM COMING!

I am adding some local car shows to the calendar. The one listed in this Calendar of Events is at the Brandon Amphitheater during the Krewe de Roux weekend event. On Saturday besides the car show, there will be a gumbo cookoff, baseball games and other activities. If you'd like to keep us together—email me or Roy and we will see what we can do. I just think it showcases our Club and I love seeing all the colors and models together. I was waiting at a rather long traffic light today and found myself watching and counting the white—all colors of gray—black— and an occasional red vehicle. Boring!

Also, we hope Charlie continues to heal and I also heard that Donna is having surgery in early February. I told her I felt fine until I retired last June and all of a sudden I have low blood pressure - first time in my life I went to a cardiologist who says to eat MORE salt. Then now after going to physical therapy for strength and balance, I now have a stress fracture, so limited activities and on a cane for several weeks. I've been thinking of going back to work and encouraging Roy to keep working!

TO ALL WHO ARE AILING



Upcoming Events

English Motoring Club 2020 Calendar

These are some calendar entries that have been posted to the EMC web site www.msemc.org for 2020.

February 15, 2020—EMC Tech Session—2020 starts at the garage of Pat and Barbara Cashman in Vicksburg. So bring a dish and join the wrenching at 11:00am and lunch at 12:00. Details: Pat/Barbara 601-630-7837 or 601-831-0063.

February 22, 2020—KREWE DE ROUX Car Show—Brandon Amphitheater 11:00—3:00 pm. Enjoy the 1st annual event and also enjoy the gumbo cook-off. Go to the www.brandonms.org then Parks & Rec for entry form and registration/event information.

March 14, 2020—EMC Tops Down/Rocky Springs. Our annual trip down the Natchez Trace to Rocky Springs for an early Spring picnic and a celebration of St. Patrick's Day/ Bring a dish and meet at the Clint MS Visitors Center on the Natchez Trace at 10am. Details: Keith/Pat Anderson 601-829-2938. Wear Green or

Happy Motoring!