

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO



Volume 28

January 2014

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

Official Publication of the English Motoring Club of Mississippi

On the web at www.msemc.org

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, my recent understanding is that AAA was required to get him home.

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.

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. Updated to 75lbs!

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. Over the course of the following week, braving cold and windy weather the front suspension was dropped, pan pulled, incorrect gasket verified, replaced and all back together. On the first day of winter the GT was re-started with good pressure and as of this update has about 100 miles under its belt. WHEW!

John Turbeville has replaced the carburetor on his TR-8 and reports that there will be another Triumph in operation in the EMC.

Charlie Durning is in pursuit of an MGB GT. After having one get away from him on the left coast his quest continues. If you run across a promising example of an MGB GT, let him know.

New members are always welcome and as we closed 2013 we continued 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. As we entered 2014 our

first new members are Greg and Judy Gearhart from Clinton MS. As we enter 2014 the EMC membership is at a record high from my short memory at 77 families. Welcome new members. We hope that you'll be able to attend one of the EMCs upcoming gatherings.

Alex Wade, the EMCs far west correspondent e-mailed me in mid-December noting that Graig House sustained serious injuries in an accident in while driving Jane's Mini. I recently understood that Greig is recovering at home. Greig and Jane were active in the EMC into the early 1990s when they left the area. They are now retired in the Tucson AZ area. From the EMC Greig, we hope that your recovery is speedy.

Members of the EMC were saddened to learn that Jim Enzman passed away January 7, 2014. Jim was a great supporter of the EMC was very enthusiastic and always ready to assist the club and members in anyway that he could. He will be greatly missed. Please keep Jim, Faye and the family in your thoughts and prayers.



Garage times with Jim (on the right) were always fun

EMC President Charlie Durning noted the EMC has had a great year. We must be doing something right as our membership continued to grow during 2013. We're always looking for new members, suggestions for improvements and new ideas including places to go and things to see. If you have ideas for events or gatherings, please pass those along. We'll ensure that your suggestions will be considered. The other area that the EMC is requesting assistance in is the submission of articles and/or photos for the Off-Side Undo. From how you became involved with or want to become involved with British cars to current projects or great trips with or without your LBC. Heck, we'll even consider a fish story or two for entry in the OSU. As the slogan goes, "Membership has its privileges". We want to hear from you.

Before we leave this edition of the OSU I thought I'd pass along a photo of one of our most esteemed members. No, not in a sports car but does appear faster than a speeding Magnette.



Who is that masked man?

If you are not receiving e-mail updates from the EMC please contact me at jjohnston18@msmec.org.

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.