


# English Motoring Club

P.O. Box 5263  
Jackson, MS 39216-5263  
(601) 442-8684

**President:** Terry Trovato  
**Contributing Editor:** Pat Cashman

*"A gentleman does not motor about after dark." -- Joseph Lucas, attrib.*



# Got me a cyberspace Singer

Shopping for a rare piece of British iron? Try "Dogpile" on the World Wide Web

JAN./FEB. 1999

by Terry Trovato

Going shopping for an extremely rare piece of rolling British history sometimes can be like looking for a needle in the proverbial haystack, particularly if what you are seeking is a running, driving, reasonably priced example of the marque. Well, thanks to the magic of cyberspace, I managed to find one—a 1949 Singer Nine roadster with right-hand drive—using an awesome multi-engine search tool named "Dogpile." Yes, *Dogpile*.

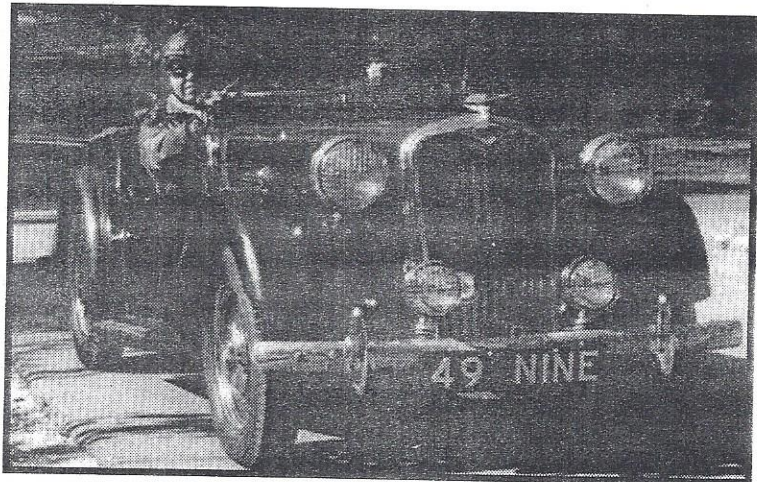
Dogpile simultaneously uses the individual search engines Yahoo!, Lycos, Lycos' A2Z, Excite, Excite Guide, GoTo.com, PlanetSearch, Thunder-stone, What U Seek, Magellan, Web-Crawler, InfoSeek, and AltaVista to help find specifically what you are seeking.

To begin, I simply typed in the words "singer cars," "singer automobiles," "british cars," "singer automobiles for sale," "singer vehicles," and various combinations thereof. After what seemed like an eternity of journeying link-to-link, magically, up popped "For Sale. Singer Nine Roadster, IL," followed by the price and telephone number.

After a brief introductory telephone conversation with the owner, Ron Baker, and a subsequent review of the photographs of the car, I agreed to purchase the vehicle but was concerned about delivery. While the car was located near Chicago, I reside in Natchez, Miss. For those of you not familiar with automobile shipping charges, they can run anywhere from 75¢ to \$1 a mile, so long-distance shopping can become cost prohibitive if you reside on the East Coast and the car of your dreams is located in upstate Oregon.

The distance from the Chicago area to Natchez was over 900 miles, but Baker said he would trailer the car to Hot Springs, Ark., where his parents reside, if I would meet him there. Great, I answered. Delivery took place during the Labor Day weekend, and now, let me tell you a bit about this interesting vehicle.

According to Singer Archivist Bill Haverly, in a letter to Baker which was passed on to me, no more than 100 Singer Nines were shipped to America from 1946



Mr. Trovato and his cyberspace find.

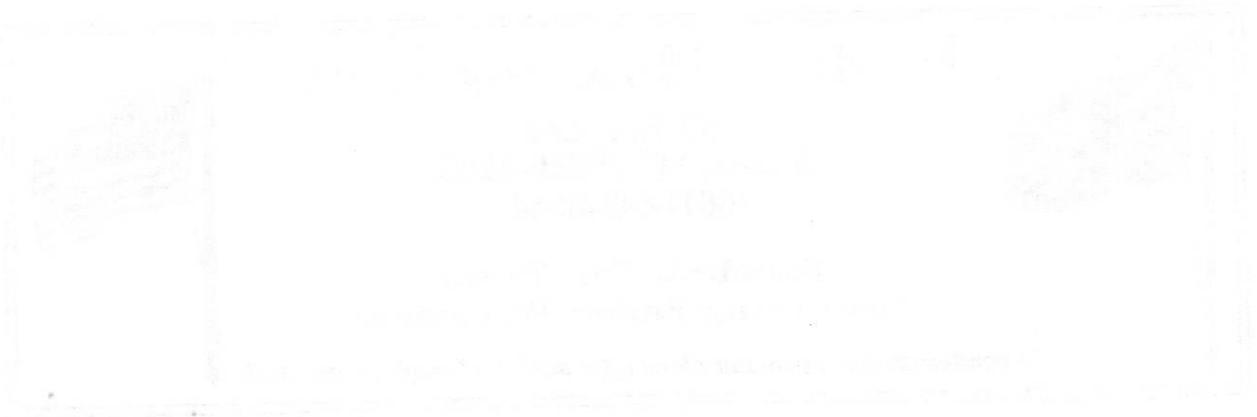
*Photo courtesy EMC*

through 1949. My car, A1656S with right-hand drive, originally was Signal Red with a red leather interior and was shipped to Adams Motors, New York City, on August 12, 1948—but there is no record of its first owner.

Subsequently it was traded in to Auto Engineering, Lexington, Mass., and was purchased by Fred Foster on October 11, 1963. Foster related that at the time he acquired it, the car had a damaged right front fender and was experiencing electrical problems. He drove the car for several years but then parked it in his barn, where it was used as a chicken roost for over two decades.

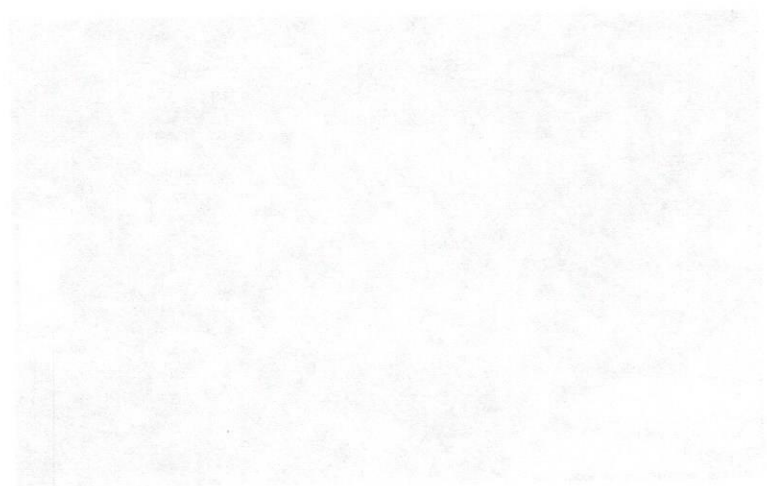
Baker, the third owner, bought the car from Foster in December of 1996. He removed the original and by now dysfunctional Singer engine and transmission and,

as a suitable substitute, tastefully installed a 1973 1275cc MG Midget engine and transmission for ease of parts procurement and maintenance. An engineer, Baker also meticulously reworked all of the mechanical and electrical components of the car so everything "would work," including the rare trafficator turn indicators. All I've had to do is replace the fuel pump after the previous one acted up recently.



# But the Cybercrimes Bill

It is a bill that would give the government the power to track down cybercriminals and to prosecute them.



The bill would give the government the power to track down cybercriminals and to prosecute them. It would also give the government the power to seize the assets of cybercriminals and to freeze the accounts of cybercriminals. The bill would also give the government the power to monitor the communications of cybercriminals and to intercept the communications of cybercriminals. The bill would also give the government the power to require the disclosure of information by cybercriminals and to require the disclosure of information by cybercriminals.

The bill would give the government the power to track down cybercriminals and to prosecute them. It would also give the government the power to seize the assets of cybercriminals and to freeze the accounts of cybercriminals. The bill would also give the government the power to monitor the communications of cybercriminals and to intercept the communications of cybercriminals. The bill would also give the government the power to require the disclosure of information by cybercriminals and to require the disclosure of information by cybercriminals.

## EMC awards "colors" for outstanding service

A new English Motoring Club tradition has been established.

Taking a page from the fox hunting groups in England that award colors—the right to wear the livery—to outstanding members of their hunts, the English Motoring Club has for the first time bestowed its own "colors" upon individual members for outstanding service to the organization during 1998.

At the EMC Annual Christmas Party in December, an awards ceremony was conducted by President Terry Trovato, with each recipient getting a Certificate of Recognition along with a handsome pin emblazoned with the Union Jack in the form of a shield topped with a crown and bearing the slogan, "Alive to drive British."

With each award given equal importance, the recipients are as follows: Pat Cashman, Behind-the-Scenes Award; Chuck Daniels, Above-and-Beyond Award; Daniel Ducote, Outstanding Student Enthusiast Award; Dennis Lofton, Wise Counsel Award; John Simmers, Attention-to-Details Award; Merideth Trovato, Hospitality Award; John Turbeville, Enthusiasm Award; and Alex Wade, Fiscal Responsibility Award.

We congratulate these individuals and look forward to an exciting and successful driving season in 1999.

## Officers for 1999

Officers heading up Mississippi's English Motoring Club for 1999 are Terry Trovato, President; Alex Wade, Secretary-Treasurer; John Simmers, Special Events Chairman; Keith Anderson, Social Chairman; Steve Collins, Tech Session Chairman; and Pat Cashman, Editor, *Offside Undo* and Regalia Chairman.

Plans are being formulated for several fun-filled and exciting events, including the club's annual early-bird "Tops Down Party" scheduled for March 27th on the picturesque Natchez Trace Parkway, and the acclaimed "Brits on the Bluff" show and competition scheduled for October 15-17 in Natchez.

## Members attend SABCC British Car Conclave

by Terry Trovato

**FAIRHOPE, ALA.** — On October 2nd, the South Alabama British Car Club hosted its annual show at picturesque Fairhope, on the eastern shore of beautiful Mobile Bay. On hand to participate in this event, and blessed with magnificent weather and gentle Gulf breezes, were English Motoring Club members John and Florence Simmers in their MGC GT, John Turbeville in his MGB roadster, and yours truly and wife, Merideth, in our 1949 Singer roadster.

A total of 105 British cars were on the field by 11 a.m., including an immaculate Aston Martin DB6 that had been featured in a Hollywood film, a rare Vanden Plas Princess saloon sporting a Rolls-Royce engine, and a plethora of rubber bumper MGBs, the featured marque of the 1999 show.

Competition/voting was by popular choice, with each contestant given ballots for the various classes and special awards. John and Florence Simmers' C GT placed second in its class, and our Singer Nine garnered a third in class as well as the "Diamond in the Rough" award. Best in Show went to the Aston Martin.

The awards ceremony was followed by a leisurely drive "down the bay" to Pelican Point where, more often than not, almost on cue, dozens of pelicans come to fish and feed at 5 p.m. Then it was off to Fairhope's Royal Oak Pub, owned by an English couple, for fun and frivolity.

The English Motoring Club wishes to congratulate the officers and staff of the SABCC for their efforts in producing an excellent, fun event.

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870

1870