

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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



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This 'n That

By Roy Schooler

Charlie has a great article on the annual guys road trip to Arkansas this year. On a personal note Penny was delighted there were no pictures of my car with the hood up this year. But Blake, our Lake Charles friend, wasn't so lucky. When he limped back home he found the trouble to be a carburetor gasket blown and creating a vacuum leak. It's the simple things that are sometimes the hardest to diagnose especially in parking lots.

Keith and Pat Anderson hosted the tech session. More about that in another article by Charlie. It seemed that everyone was busy with the tech session and eating to take photos—oops.

Be sure to check out the upcoming events page. We got several county maps ordered so will be working on one or two countryside drives, but would love to travel the roads Will and Jennifer took in Hinds County. Also I remember something about the fun roads Clay took during a recent road test. Stay tunedmore drives coming.

AR2020 an Unauthorized Annual Adventure

By: Charlie Durning

AR2020 is now in the books. Though this is not an official EMC event, mostly EMC members took part. At the high point there were 13 folks, 9 MGBs, 1 BMW, and 1 Miata. The basic plan was to eat, get gas, drive, eat, get gas, drive, eat, get gas, sleep, and repeat. To spice things up fiddling with our cars was thrown in.

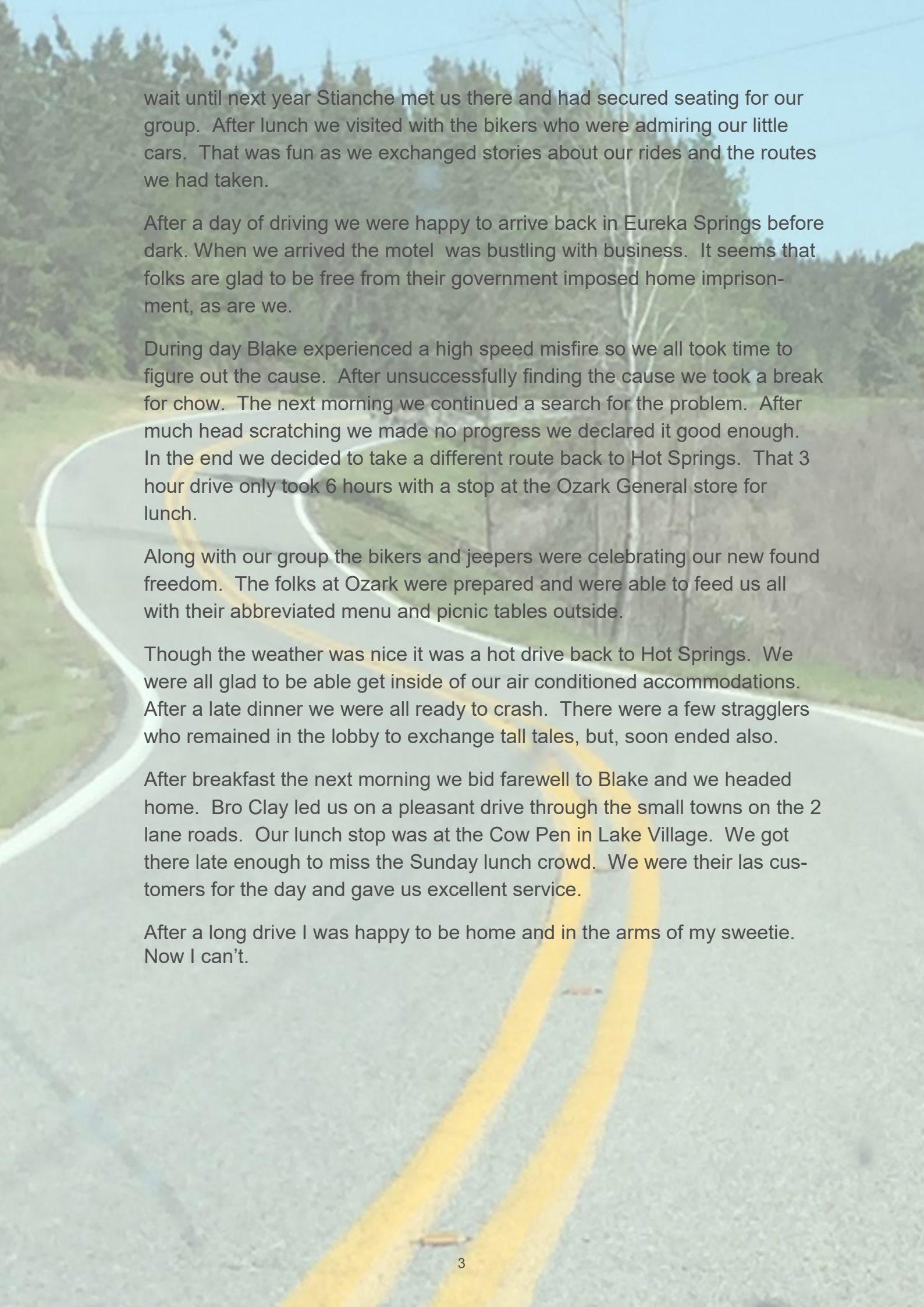
After gathering at the Beagle Bagel in Madison our first overnight stop was at the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs, AR. Bro Clay and Bro Gene laid out an alternate route to avoid the road construction along I-530. That was a good plan with fun roads through some quaint small towns. The only excitement along the way was a blocked railroad crossing. After waiting for the train to move we discovered that there was no locomotive attached. Bro Dr. Word took charge and found a way around by going through a grain elevator complex. We were given the high sign of approval by the employees.

The Arlington is conveniently located within walking distance to restaurants. We all arrived save and sound to a basically empty parking garage. Though the garage was to be reserved for disabled or motorcycles the hotel staff were gracious in allowing us to park there. Not sure if the staff thought we had big motorcycles or thought we were disabled. Either way our little cars were safe for the night.

The next day we were off to Eureka Springs via a visit to John Holangsworth's Private car collection in Hot Springs Village. John has an eclectic mix of antique and race cars that is constantly changing.

The drive from Hot Springs Village to Eureka Springs only took us 9 hours to make the 3 hour drive. The route we took was along the fun twisty roads that are abundant in the area as well as a stop for lunch at the Mt. Magazine Lodge. Next destination was the Best Western in Eureka Springs. Apparently the Covid19 scare had the town shut down until just a few days before our arrival. The manager was grateful for our business. We had the place all to ourselves with the exception of a few bikers.

After breakfast we set out for an all-day drive to enjoy the perfect weather and twisty roads with a destination stop at the Cliff House for lunch. The Cliff House is out in the middle of nowhere and is perched on a cliff above Arkansas' Grand Canyon. The place is a popular destination and was bustling with business. Joe



wait until next year Stianche met us there and had secured seating for our group. After lunch we visited with the bikers who were admiring our little cars. That was fun as we exchanged stories about our rides and the routes we had taken.

After a day of driving we were happy to arrive back in Eureka Springs before dark. When we arrived the motel was bustling with business. It seems that folks are glad to be free from their government imposed home imprisonment, as are we.

During day Blake experienced a high speed misfire so we all took time to figure out the cause. After unsuccessfully finding the cause we took a break for chow. The next morning we continued a search for the problem. After much head scratching we made no progress we declared it good enough. In the end we decided to take a different route back to Hot Springs. That 3 hour drive only took 6 hours with a stop at the Ozark General store for lunch.

Along with our group the bikers and jeepers were celebrating our new found freedom. The folks at Ozark were prepared and were able to feed us all with their abbreviated menu and picnic tables outside.

Though the weather was nice it was a hot drive back to Hot Springs. We were all glad to be able get inside of our air conditioned accommodations. After a late dinner we were all ready to crash. There were a few stragglers who remained in the lobby to exchange tall tales, but, soon ended also.

After breakfast the next morning we bid farewell to Blake and we headed home. Bro Clay led us on a pleasant drive through the small towns on the 2 lane roads. Our lunch stop was at the Cow Pen in Lake Village. We got there late enough to miss the Sunday lunch crowd. We were their last customers for the day and gave us excellent service.

After a long drive I was happy to be home and in the arms of my sweetie. Now I can't.



Arlington Hotel

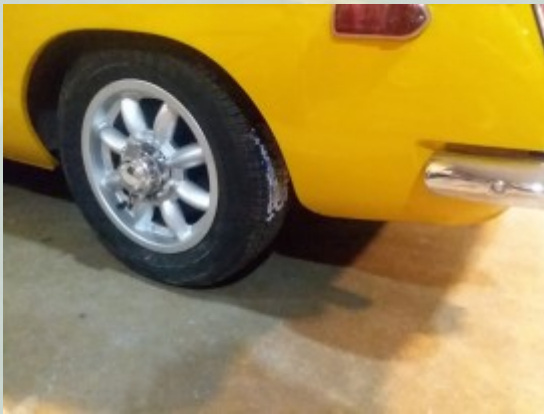


Best Western Eureka Springs



Here are your helpers, Blake. Looks like 2 of the Johnston brothers are bird watching while you work. Roy saw sparks so he's wisely supervising from afar.

Total of 1357 Miles



Brits on the Bluff

Sept. 18 - 19, 2020 Natchez, Mississippi

The English Motoring Club of Mississippi proudly announces its annual all-marque car show and celebration to be held in Historic Natchez, Mississippi, the weekend of September 20th and 21th.

Lower Lodge Antiques – Welcome Reception: Friday evening, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Join us on the outdoor patio of Richard Branan’s wonderful shop located at 712 Franklin Street, six blocks east of the Grand Hotel. The gathering will include hors d’oeuvres, drinks and a cash bar.

Natchez Bluff Park - Show: Saturday 10 a.m. - At 303 South Broadway Street, just a few blocks from the Grand Hotel, located on a magnificent 200-foot bluff containing shade trees and picnic tables. Awards presentation 3 p.m.

Overnight Accommodations - A block of rooms has been reserved at the Natchez Grand Hotel, located at 111 Broadway Street. The EMC has negotiated rates from \$120 to \$169 plus fees and taxes per night. See natchezgrandhotel.com for hotel information, call 866-488-0898 or 601-446-9994 for reservations, and be sure to reference “English Motoring Club of MS” for the group rates. The number of rooms in the block are limited so please book early.



Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City St, Zip: _____

Best Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Car Year: _____ Make: _____ Model: _____

Color: _____

In consideration of this entry, I waive any and all claims for myself and my heirs against the English Motoring Club, their officers and any sponsors of this event for injury or illness which may result directly or indirectly from my participation. I give my permission for use of my name and/or picture in any published or broadcast account of this event.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please enclose check for \$25 per ⁶car (\$10 for additional cars) payable to English Motoring Club and mail to: EMC MS, 498 Old Hwy. 49 N,

Exhaust Rattles



By Keith Anderson

Having completing most of the body work, we lowered John Turbeville's 1969 TR6 body onto the completed frame using a ceiling winch up front and an engine hoist in back. Next we'll attach the doors and panels to line them up, then spray additional coats of primer and begin the final sanding process. John's shop is air conditioned and has a big ceiling fan, so summer work should go smoothly.



JUNE TECH SESSION

By Charlie Durning

We couldn't have asked for a nicer day to hang out, tell stories, kick tires, and the best time is the feast that the ladies put together.. As always Tech Guy Keith had some sort of a project. This time he needed help in putting the finishing touch on a complete engine overhaul on a 1968 Sprite belonging to Jager Smith. The Sprite needed bonnet reinstalled so Keith enlisted some willing folks to help him avoid scratching the pristine paint work. The second project was a poorly running 1977 MGB belonging to Ken and Rhonda Slay.

The issue with the Slay's MGB was a bit puzzling. Doing the usual checks found nothing out of place. Then it was suggested that it had to do with something to do with the ignition timing but according to the timing light it was right on. Perhaps the marks on the damper were wrong. To confirm the #1 plug was removed and TDC was found. Low and behold the marks on the damper were out of place. The damper ring must have slipped. The damper was marked with a valid TDC and the timing was reset. That fixed the poor running and the Slays are now off to a summer of driving fun.

Another highlight was when *Mike* and *Alice* Glore arrived in their new McLaren GT. They now have 5K miles on the clock and are loving their new ride.

Once that was finished it was time for the most important part of the tech session, lunch. As a tradition the club members laid out quite a spread of yummy grub.

In total we had 26 members in attendance. It was good to see all of the folks getting out again as the Covid scare is winding down.

I must apologize for not having any pictures of the event. We were all so glad to see each other that we just plain forgot to take any pictures. We'll do better next month.

HERE I GO EXPERIMENTING AGAIN

By Charlie Durning

I know this is a bit off of the wall but hear me out before passing judgement. I've had an annoying oil consumption issue with Donna's Morris Minor. Nothing serious that could not be managed. Here are some of the symptoms:

- Oil consumption about a quart per 100 miles
- Oily ring around an otherwise learn spark plug
- No major oil leaks just a few drops when parked
- Oily splatter out the exhaust upon cold start up
- Smiths PCV valve swimming in oil

It was the excessive oil in the Smiths valve that caught my attention. On the MG forums posts keep cropping up about high oil consumption. One of the suggested fixes is to clean the gunk out of the oil separator for the crankcase vent. With the separator gunked up the wire mesh in the separator cannot do its job of allowing the oil vapor to drop out of the air flow. There might be something there. In a previous attempt to deal with oil consumption I installed a new front cover from a late 1300 A+ Mini. That may have helped but not much. So cleaning out the oil separator may not be the answer. Perhaps the air is flowing too fast through the separator and not allowing enough time for the oil to drop out of the suspension. That could be worth investigating.

In an effort to slow down the air flow I inserted a restrictor in the hose between the separator and the Smiths valve. The oil fill cap already has the small restriction. All adding the restrictor in the hose did was give a place for oil to accumulate in the hose so a restrictor is not the answer. Next thought was to divide the flow going to the Smiths valve. In theory, having two sources for the crankcase to vent should slow down the airflow through each separator. Slowing down the airflow could give the oil vapor enough time to drop out. I'll give that a try.

The 1098 engine has 2 lifter galley covers. I could attach another separator to one of the lifter galley openings. That has some promise. Once again I was out to the "gold mine". What I found was a side cover with a separator. That cover was for a Morris with a single carb. Donna's Morris has twin carb. That cover would not fit as is, but it can be modified to fit. A simple cut and weld got everything repositioned so the separator would come out between the front float bowl and the lower radiator hose.

Once installed, the hose from the “new” separator was “T” ed into the hose from the separator in the front cover. Now it is time for a tests drive. Upon start up the first thing I notice was no oily spatter out the exhaust pipe. That is a plus. The engine ran as expected so no additional fiddling or tuning was indicated. The initial test drive was a 45 mile round trip down Highway 49 at 70mph. At highway speed is when I noticed the highest oil consumption. When I arrived back at the shop I pulled to top off of the Smiths valve. There was an oily residue in the valve but no puddle, good news. Pulled the plugs and the oily ring that was present is no longer there, also good news. The last good news is no apparent oil consumption, it should have been down by about 1/2 quart. It appears that the excessive oil consumption could be resolved.

Only time will tell. So far I am happy with the results.



Just a Penny's Worth



Even though 2020 has been a very unusual year for the EMC thus far—it is hard to believe we are now in July.

We have a Tech Session in Braxton on the calendar and still waiting on Will or Clay to share their countryside rides with us. Come on guys -we are counting on you. Thanks for all the photos sent on the Arkansas Guys trip. I know it was a lot of fun—but I am sure some of the wives also enjoyed their time. I had some great “girl time” with our daughter.

The editor of the British Marque really enjoyed our Sheltering in Place/ aka Hunkering Down articles—be sure to read our section in the latest edition. Thank you for sending in your articles and photos. Keep them coming. I am looking forward to another countryside ride and have ordered several county maps so we can explore some other county roads. It's a good way to enjoy our cars with social distancing still with us. Have a safe July and stay cool. It's not so hot yet but oh so humid. However, it is summer in Mississippi isn't' it?



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.

[org](http://www.msemc.org)

July 18, 2020 – EMC Lotus Weekend / Braxton MS - I'm sure we'll find some interesting roads on our way down to the beautiful burg of Braxton. Come and join the drive and the visit with Mike and Alice. Bring a dish and enjoy lazing on a sunny afternoon in the summertime with the EMC. Lunch starts at 12:00pm. Details: Mike / Alice Glore (504) 231 – 5801.

August 15, 2020 – EMC Garage and Food Tour / Brandon MS - David and Jo Ann have a way of throwing a great party in lead up to the EMC show. Come on out and see what David has added or improved on for 2020. Always lots to see and do along with a great meal what else can you ask for. This will be the pre-Brits on the Bluffs gathering so bring along a dish and enjoy the fun. Gathering starts at 11:00am. Lunch starts as 12:00pm. Details: David / Jo Ann Bailey (601) 992 – 8566.

September (check for dates, usually the first weekend), 2020 – Shoals British Car Show / Florence AL - If you haven't had the pleasure of visiting the Shoals British Car Show at Joe Wheeler State Park in Florence AL you should. This is your kind of show if you're looking for a relaxing setting and days spent with friends. It's a laid-back gathering on the banks of Wheeler Lake. Everything including rooms, meals and Friday night's reception are within walking distance. They'll be celebrating their 24th year in 2020. Details: www.shoalsbritishcars.org.

September (date varies, usually in September), 2020 - Brits in the Ozarks / Fayetteville AR - Still looking for excuses for a mountain drive? Here's another chance to see the Ozarks in all of their colors and have a car show at the end of your drive. The 19th Annual Brits in the Ozarks will be there waiting for you. Details: www.britishironnwa.org

September 17 - 20, 2020 - Southeast British Car Festival / Dillard GA - For those interested in a drive to further regions the Peachtree MG Registry will host their event in the North Georgia Mountains. Lots of cars and driving adventures are scheduled with lodging at the Dillard house. Details: <https://pmgr.clubexpress.com>

September 18 – 19, 2020 – EMC Brits on the Bluff / Natchez MS – We have the promise of a perfect weekend for the 23th Annual BOTB. Hang out on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River starting with our Friday night party and spend Saturday with us under the oaks at Bluff Park. There will be lots to do on your visit with us. Information and registration information will post about 30 – 60 days in advance. Details: John Turbeville (601) 940 – 5288, Gene Johnston (601) 201 – 0801. **SEE FLYER IN NEWSLETTER**

If you are not receiving the OSU or monthly calendar notices of upcoming events, please email Gene at jjohnston18@msemc.org