

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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

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Made in the Shade

Louisville MS – Fifteen members of the English Motoring Club gathered at the Primos on Lakeland Drive on June 16, 2012 for The EMC Drive Thru History day event planned by club president Charles Durning. Departing at 8:30am we ran Highway 25 at a good clip under partially cloudy skies dotted with puffy clouds for a trip to the Taylor Big Red Fire Truck Museum in Louisville Mississippi. Long distance traveler for this drive was Tommy Hart in from Greenville in his 1980 MGB LE following an overnight stop over with family in the Jackson area and Kent and Stephen Turner over from Vicksburg.



The EMC at Taylor Fire Truck Museum

Photo Courtesy of the EMC

Arriving about 10:00am we were barely out of our cars when the staff came out to welcome us. They admired the collection of cars represented, four MGB's and one each Alfa, Mini, Porsche, Miata and a Caddy battling clean-up. Stepping inside we were allowed not only to touch and feel fire apparatus ranging from an 1897 Hand Pumper to a 1931 Model – A Chief Truck but were allowed to wear fireman's hats, sit in several of the vehicles and even ring fire bells and crank the manual sirens. In

addition to the assortment of approximately fifteen fully restored rolling pieces of fire equipment we also were entertained by a ten car train set that ran on a wall height track around the museum, view large scale models of other trains, planes and automobiles in the collection. Also included in the collection were models of many of the heavy equipment produced by Taylor Machine Works right here in Mississippi. The museum was established in 1989 and is really a hidden gem. Thanks to the kind folks for allowing us access to the private museum.

Following the visit to the museum we traveled thru Louisville to Lake Tiak-O-Khata for lunch. The buffet at Lake Tiak-O-Khata is on the EMC's must dine list whenever in the area and this visit was no exception. The restaurant was busy however due to Charlie's early planning they set us immediately and we dug in to the fine food and deserts offered. Following lunch we adjoined to the shade of the covered pier for a brief meeting.



Made in the shade in Sebastopol

Photo Courtesy of the EMC

From Louisville we headed south on Highway 15. The puffy early morning clouds had given way to thinner and less filtering clouds of afternoon. As we headed south thru Noxapater we began looking for those shady overhanging trees along our way. Passing thru Burnside and around Philadelphia we picked up Highway 21 and flew past the brightly painted cabins of the Neshoba County Fair Grounds. We passed Good Hope on our way to the next stop the cool tree shaded parking area of a local garage in Sebastopol. Our trek continued following our shady stop to Forest and a stop to bid adieu's and head west for most of us and home. A great day was had by all and the shady spots were very welcome. Thanks for setting up this drive Charlie it was a good one.

Blast from the Past

Responses were received from two EMC members to last month's Blast from the Past photo. Keith Anderson has proven to have an excellent memory this month supplemented by Michael Hemsley. Keith

provided the following information: The 1987 Tourist Trophy Run photo was taken on the Natchez Trace. Dennis Loftin's blue Healey 3000 is up close. Alec & Tere Wade's red TR3 is in front of Dennis' Healey. Dennis Loftin is wearing the blue shirt looking at Steve Cappello's white TR3 with the bonnet up. Jane House sitting in the passenger seat of her cream Austin Healey 100. Tricia Peel sitting on the ground next to the white TR3 with red top. Frank Peel is likely nearby. Steve & Julia Cappello are seen as well. Keith's response was supplemented by Michael Hemsley's response: If you look closely at the photo, you'll see that there's one very nice looking car in the middle of the photo. It's a 1961 Alfa Romeo Giulietta Spider. I don't remember anything about the event, but I sure do recognize the car.

Apparently the Alfa was one of many I'm sure in Michael's past that got away. Great team work guys on updating us.

Now for a more recent snap shot. This one was taken at the start of the 2001 Drive Thru History. From the looks of the color coordinated blanket on the red Healey it must have started out on a wet note. Can anyone identify the cars and owners?



DTH 2001 at the Old Country Store

Photo Courtesy of Terry Trovato

Return of the Chick Magnette

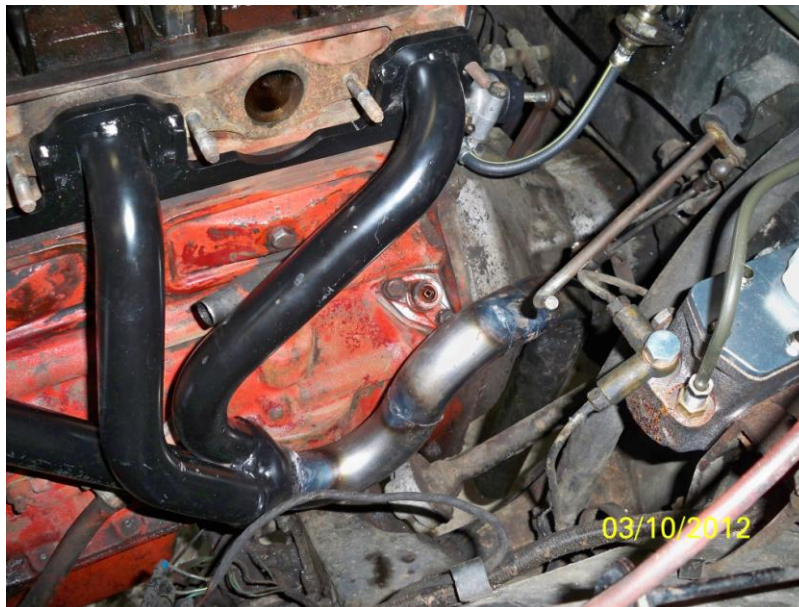
Update and photos by Charlie During

I finally got a break from life so I could get back on the Chick Magnette. The last installment ended with inspecting the rear brakes. After cleaning up the mess left by leaky wheel cylinders I worked on fitting new rear cylinders. Unfortunately the replacement cylinders were not machined correctly. The fit was so tight that they could not slide freely on the backing plate. A file solved that problem. After that problem was solved the rear cylinders installed as they should. And the new shoes fit nicely.

After the wheel ends were serviced I turned to the master cylinder. The original master cylinder has some pitting so I opted for a new master cylinder. Since I couldn't stomach the cost of a new Magnette master cylinder I opted for one from a MGA. The MGA has the same cylinder bores so I figured it would slip right in. Well not so. Since the brake check valve in on the wrong side I swapped the guts from side to side. The other problem is that the threads for the fittings for the Magnette are 3/8-20. The MGA is 3/8-24. A change of fittings solved that problem.

Next it was time to get to the exhaust system. Coming up with 1 5/8" exhaust pipe was more of a challenge than I had originally thought so I elected to use 1 3/4". First the header needs to be modified. Thanks to Brother Clay for his assistance and 2 u-bends we successfully modified the header to fit the chassis.

The long pipe was cut to length and a 2 bolt flange was welded on the end. I dislike a slip fit and u-bolt clamp. They leak and are difficult to take apart if the exhaust has to be removed to service the car.



CM's Basket of snakes

The exhaust piping to the back was straight forward once I got the piping twisted around under the transmission. An exhaust shop made up the tail pipe. The end result is an exhaust system that will let the exhaust escape.



When size does matter

The end of the story for now.

Other Exhaust Rattles

Eight members of the EMC arrived in The Big Easy May 19 – 20 for some car and non-car time together with the British Motoring Club of New Orleans. We started on Saturday with a visit to the National World War II Museum. This was our second trip to the museum and still there's more to see in future visits. On Sunday we continued our visiting with the BMCNO with a visit to the Cars of Yesteryear. The BMCNO invited us to join them afterward for a great poor boy at Parkway Bakery. For a full write up and photos of the EMC's visit with the BMCNO check out the June edition of the Morris Gazette at <http://www.bmcno.org>. There's already talk of next year's Drive Thru History so stay tuned.

Brother Clay and our spouses made the trip Dillard Georgia during the week of June 6, 2012 for the North American MGB Register gathering. Lots of miles, over 1,400 of Safety Fast. The Peachtree MG Registry put on a high water mark national event and we're glad that we attended. There were activities for everyone. We were happy to see and visit with friends, new and old all associated with MGs. Great Fun!

Brits on the Bluff is on the calendar for September 21 – 22, 2012. We've got a new host hotel and are looking for a big turnout for our second year back in Natchez. Shortly a list of the various tasks that must be completed to make the 2012 show as successful as those of past years will be sent out. When you receive it please don't delete. Your EMC needs your mind and your back so please make plans to volunteer in 2012.

That's it for this edition of the Off -Side Undo.

Happy Motoring

The EMC

Events Calendar

July 21, 2012 – EMC Lotus Weekend / Braxton MS

Travel down to the Piney Woods to Mike and Alice's place in the woods. A great trip is in store for the drive down and as well as a great meal and lots of fun and frivolity. Bring a dish and enjoy whiling away a lazy afternoon with the EMC. Lunch starts at 12:00pm. Details: Mike / Alice Glore (504) 231 – 5801

August 18, 2012 – EMC Tech Session II / Brandon MS

There's enough room and AC for everyone at David and Jo Ann's place. Come on over, the atmosphere is great. David's got lots going on in his garage and it's always of interest so bring some of that along with a dish and enjoy the fun. Lunch starts as 12:00pm. Details: David / Jo Ann Bailey (601) 992 – 8566

September 21 - 22, 2012 – EMC Brits on the Bluff / Natchez MS

We had such a good time in 2011 returning to Natchez that we could resist the invitation to return in 2012. We've also returned to the original Brits on the Bluff title for 2012. We're looking for a great turnout for The EMC's 2012 show. We hope that friends from near and far will join us. Details and registration information to be posted at www.msemc.org. John Turbeville (601) 940 – 5288, Gene Johnston (601) 201 – 0801