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The Good, Bad and the Ugly.....

I'll start off with the good. The English Motoring Club appeared on the grounds of the 14th Annual New Orleans British Car Day with 7 cars and garnered the coveted Club Participation award last weekend. YEAH!

Those appearing were in no particular order:

Pat and Barbara Cashman	E-Type
Al and Debbie Adams	Bug-Eyed Sprite
Barry and Patti Schmidt	TR-7 (V-6)
Jim and Fay Enzman	MGB
Yours truly	MGB-GT

and multi-club members:

Bill and Melissa Silhan	Aston Martin
Dave and Menda Hayden	TR4

Members also took the following awards;

Al and Debbie	2nd in Class
Barry and Patti	2nd in Class
Yours truly	2nd in Class
Pat and Barbara	Hard Luck Award (more in a moment)

Dennis and Mary Katherine Loftin, David Crawford, Joe Burghard and John Turbeville also came to give moral support.

The weather was great and the company was even greater. The hospitality room on Friday night was filled with great food, provided by the New Orleans folks and everyone had a good visit. The show was well organized as usual on Saturday and I didn't see any hitches. I understand that the Award's Banquet on Saturday evening was excellent.

The bad and the ugly I'll throw into one group.

The clutch went out on Pat and Barbara's E-Type when they got onto the show grounds....well that wasn't soooo bad. After the show we decided to load it on to Al's trailer and pull it back over to the hotel with Pat returning to Vicksburg to return with his trailer the next day to get it back home.

Thinking it would be a short trip we strapped the front wheels to the trailer and began to head for the hotel. Unfortunately the Jag attempted to run free about 2 miles from the exit for the motel and dropped both front wheels off to trailer ramps. YIKES!

After about two hours of waiting for a wrecker on I-10 Pat, John and Al decided, and smartly so that they needed to get off the interstate before dark. They re-strapped the car and arrived back at the motel to find us biting our fingernails with concern for safety, theirs of course primarily, but also for the cat.

Another 2 hours and the work of two wreckers and we were able to get the Jag back on the trailer and backed safely into the parking lot. WHEW!

The E-Type sustained some damage but we're all grateful that no one was hurt, other than egos. The Jag I'm told will be back in showroom condition soon.

In Skin Diver's magazine there use to be an article called, "I learned from that". Take it from me on behalf of all present we all learned a lot from that experience.

I understand that everyone made it home from the 1st show of the year and we should all be pleased with the recognition we received in New Orleans.

The Tops Down Ceremony is this coming weekend at Rocky Springs Park on the Natchez Trace. Keith Anderson has forwarded me this reminder so I'll pass it along as is.

Gene:

Just a reminder that we'll meet at Metrocenter Sear's parking lot by McDonalds around 10:45 AM this coming Saturday morning. We'll leave around 11:00 to drive down the Natchez Trace for a 45-50 min drive to Rocky Springs Park, located half way between Jackson and Natchez.

We intend to arrive around noon to enjoy sharing food for a community lunch. It is customary for everyone to arrive with their tops up so that they may be lowered at the appointed time to celebrate the arrival of spring.

If folks need any information, they are welcome to call me during the day at 957-3005 at extension #17, or at home at 829-2573.

You are welcome to pass this email along to the members and friends of then club.

Keith Anderson

In addition new member David Bailey has contacted me to invite us over to the Heritage Festival at Port Gibson that same afternoon. David indicates that his house will be open for the Festival and he can assist us with some parking spaces near the festival. It's a short drive from the Park over to Port Gibson, maybe 20 minutes I'm told so we could get a little cruise in with the tops down garnering some recognition for the EMC.

I thought we could leave the park about 2:00 or 3:00 and ride over with time to visit and still get home before dark.

If anyone is interested please e-mail or call me by Thursday and I'll get intouch with David to let him know about how many cars we'll get over with.

I can be reached at (601) 607 - 7021 or (601) 952 - 2653.

Thanks to all and be safe first,
Gene Johnston
English Motoring Club