

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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



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This 'n That

By Roy Schooler

Here we go....heading into Spring and the Rocky Springs Picnic that we all look forward to. I enjoyed taking the B to the car show at the Brandon Amphitheater—even if the B was the only non American car among the 80 or so. Baby got lots of looks and questions and some talking about their old Triumph or MGB—who knows they may purchase another one and join the EMC. It is always a delight to go to the Cashmans Garage in Vicksburg. They are great hosts and we always enjoy the large table of food.

It is also a sad time for EMC. We lost a faithful member Jake Weaver, and Cappy Stahlman, who helped us in so many ways every time we held an event in Natchez. I just heard that Mike Glore lost his mother, Audrey Glore at 96 years old. Our thoughts and prayers go to the families and friends.

Thank you for all the articles sent to be included in this newsletter. See you at Rocky Springs!

February Tech Session

By: Roy Schooler

Upon arriving at Pat and Barbara Cashman's garage in Vicksburg we saw the bonnet was up on their Armstrong Siddeley. Pat said the windshield wipers were not working. They are a cable driven affair and no one there had ever seen anything like it. The cable resembled a speedometer cable. One end was screwed onto the wiper motor and the other end went through the firewall and disappeared under the dash. Since no one there was familiar with this type of wiper system, it was suggested he "u-tube" it - in other words, we bailed out.

Next on the agenda was their 1965 Vesper motor scooter. The kick starter was stuck in the down position. Keith Anderson and Steven Turner fiddled with it for sometime and finally decided to roll the scooter forward get the engine to turn over. After several failed attempts Steven sat on the back of the scooter while Keith pushed and the engine turned over and the kickstarter freed up. Keith then tried to start the scooter but it wouldn't start. He kicked and kicked until he worked up a sweat and it just wouldn't start—must be flooded.

Someone said lunch was ready so we all left the scooter and gathered around the table for a great meal and fellowship. Then back to the scooter to clean the spark plug and adjust the fuel mixture and *started the scooter!*



Jake Weaver 1947—2020

I believe Jake and I met in the seventh or eighth grade at the then new Chastain Junior High School in North Jackson. We were immediately united by our love for sports cars and a strong disdain for rules and authority.

Jake's mom was divorced from Jake's Dad. Maxine had remarried a hard drinking Jackson insurance broker specializing in SR-22's. I remember one extremely terrifying trip to Lake Centennial in Vicksburg towing a 20' wooden ski boat. Jake and I were huddled in the cramped backseat while stepdad passed traffic uphill with his long ram dual quad D500 Dodge. The adolescent memories of kids today just can't compare with the Mad Men era.

I recall one time when Jake's Mom and Stepdad were out of town and we were left to our own devices in the house on Brecon Drive. We made up our mind to go see Thunder Road at the 51 Drive-In. When we started the '62 Dodge Polara there was smoke under the dashboard and the quad headlights had shorted and we couldn't turn them off. Being the ingenious mechanics we were at the age of 16, we weren't going to let a little problem like that ruin our evening. We cut up a couple of paper grocery bags (remember them?) and taped them over the high beams and turned them into "fog lights". When we arrived at the drive-in we disconnected the battery to shut the lights off completely.

Jake's Dad was quite a colorful character himself. "Big" Jake apparently was quite the horse trader himself. Jake mentioned that one time his Dad traded a wrecked Cessna 195 for a Jaguar XK-140MC. Apparently the apple didn't fall too far from the tree. In the summer Jake would also stay with his Dad down in D'Lo Mississippi. I visited there many times and stayed with Jake in his Dad's rustic cabin located next to the sawmill he operated. A strictly masculine environment. Every time I smell coffee brewing and bacon frying I think of the D'Lo sawmill house

As children of divorced parents often do, Jake became proficient at playing one parent against another. The first car I remember Jake having was an MGA. I marveled at the British ingenuity of using two 6-volt batteries rather than one and how practical the sidecurtains were for the Mississippi winter. Other high school cars I remember Jake having were a Corvair turbo convertible that Jake never quite bonded with. The Corvair soon replaced by a brand new red Triumph TR3B. This was a big improvement in our eyes.

Due to his lack of attention to academic progress in our sophomore year at Murrah, Jake was sentenced to a semester or three at the renowned prep school Patterson School for Wayward Boys in North Carolina. Jake made the best of this opportunity and developed a taste for Gant shirts, Bass Weejuns, London Fog coats, and smooth whiskey but I'm not certain his GPA was improved. By our senior year at Murrah (1965) Jake had returned to Jackson sporting a Corvette Stingray. I do remember one particular off-campus sketching trip in Art Class. The attractive female teacher chose to scrunch between Jake and me in the Corvette rather than ride in a much more spacious Ford four door sedan another student offered.

Memories of Jake Weaver continued

After graduation I stayed in Jackson for a year and then later went to State and the University of Alabama. Jake pursued a cafeteria-style education sampling, (in no special order) Gulf Coast Junior College, Palm Beach Junior College, Miami Dade (where he made exceptional grades in English as he was the only native English speaker in his class) and possibly Florida Atlantic although this can't be authenticated. I remember visiting Jake one Spring Break in West Palm. I arrived at a house on Lake Avenue that made the frat house in Animal House look like a monastery. It was a great trip though. I remember Jake and I going to the Beach and seeing the mechanics that were supposed to be tuning his XK150, sitting in it and chatting up a couple of bikini clad Gidgets.

Jake was fond of my wife Deborah. She was a straight shooter just like Jake. I remember one time when he was relating some outrageous story of his checkered love life. She called him out on it saying, "Jake, you're such a jackass." Jake laughed that Jake Weaver laugh we all knew so well and said, "Yeah... that's about right."

There's many more tales out of school that I could relate regarding Jake, but they are best saved for late night cactus therapy sessions around a campfire. No doubt club members have a few of their own.

Jake was my longtime friend in the truest sense of the word. He will be sorely missed and fondly remembered.

-- Doyle Smith

Note:

Doyle has presented an interesting bio on Jake for the newsletter. I wish that I had gotten to know Jake better. Doyle plans to have Brian and I get the British cars running, then Doyle will let the EMC membership the first opportunity to purchase them prior to going to auction. Doyle was the official photographer for the Pebble Beach auction houses for many years, and is a good appraiser. So he has many sales resources for Jake's early big Healey's, Triumph TR3's and a disassembled TR6. I think the '65 Corvette 396 needs paint.

Feel free to keep in touch with me about the condition of the cars after our inspection on March 13th.

Keith Anderson

Krewe de Roux

First Annual Car Show at the Brandon Amphitheater February 22, 2020

The weather was perfect and over 80 outstanding cars/trucks/hot rods participated. We did not expect to trophy since there were so many beautiful vehicles but we had our fair share of lookers and questions. We always have fun going to different events showing off our Baby B. We also enjoyed the gumbo cook off. We also saw old friends like Tony and Liz Risher and Dick Edmonds. Best of all, the proceeds of the event went to the youth of Rankin County, MS



What's Wrong with this picture?

BY: Eric Connell



Nothing, when I first looked, in fact, I loved this car so much, it was what I had been looking for ever since I sold my first MGB, a 1971 Bronze-Yellow MGB in 2005, fifteen years ago from the time I bought this one.

In my previous contribution to the EMC newsletter, a couple of years ago, I said that the newly acquired 1976 British Racing Green MGB was my 6th and last one. Well, I am sure this is not the first time we have all heard this is, “the last one or last time I am going to do this!” This being #7, a lucky number I do think it is the final car with all things present can be no better. I have what I want, I can think of no better and I am ready to get this Brooklyn Green 1970 MGB on the road. It was in the best condition of any MGB I had purchased, and the first one I could drive away so, let the fun begin, right?!

Wrong....there were these two little things, (tachometer and temperature gauge).....



could see each time I got into the car, that needed changing... and four to six months later, the B is on the jacks being worked on!

Oh yeah...the wheels need to go back to original,



Center console needs replacing with the original, anything that was distracting from the original simple was going to be removed, even the brand new larger gas tank that I could see from behind. Now I am starting to get onto the things you cannot see, like the two rusty bolts that are among the nearly perfect interior engine compartment. Fitting some of the connections with the same exact screws and bolts and washers! Who looks at a car this way? No one is going to see this! Oh, but how untrue that is, so I have found my obsession to fit my OCD and here we are with the most beautiful MGB I have ever owned, three dashboard removals later, two seat removals, a 500-mile oil change

for the purpose of replacing filler plug with a new one, that is not all buggered up! I have also cleaned up some regular looking parts!



New snaps and new shiny screws that one can see with the eye, make sure the washers are all the same. And it seems there is no end! I realized that it must be an old habit, because the previous six B's I have owned all had to be towed to my garage, they could have easily detoured to the junk yard and this time the car was driven into my garage.

But... that is the joy of owning an MG-B, at least so for me! Many thanks go to out to Charlie for responding to my request to locate a Chrome Bumper-B and Clay and Charlie for the many times they have helped me take it apart and put it back together and the numerous replies to random questions at all hours of the day, concerning anything at all about my MG-B.

Now I just need to get it off the jacks and start to drive it for an extended period of time, how about one-year before any more replacements, adjustments, refinements, refinishing or messing with! Not likely, but I am going to give it a try! I love this car! Thanks to that one really smart decision I made over two years ago, to **join the EMC!**



PS: I even joined the MG Owners club in Swavesey, Cambs (UK) for one-year just so I can buy a nice MG sweater that matches my car and other cool collectables like this fancy sticker!

Cheers! -Erich Connell

A Visit to Moss Motors

By Gene & Martha Johnston

Goleta CA – Yes Virginia there is a Moss Motors. Back in September Martha and I took an extended road trip to California in a run-up and practice to my upcoming retirement and future road trips. While wandering around central California we decided to make the drive from the Monterey Peninsula area down to the Moss Motors location in Goleta. I had just happened to bring along a boot cover that had been gifted to me and needed to be exchanged for a model that allowed for owner installed lift-the-dots. We arrived pretty late in the afternoon, nearing 4:30pm on Friday afternoon. They were a bit taken aback when we informed them that we'd driven from Mississippi to California to exchange a boot cover. After the shock had worn-off everyone got a chuckle and we were enthusiastically welcomed. The employees were willing to bring out their full inventory of boot covers for us to measure and compare. While I was head scratching to the best of my ability to make an accurate selection, Martha was working behind the scenes with Steve to get us behind the counter and into the innerworkings of the Moss Goleta. Steve was very accommodating and to my surprise gave us a personal tour of the facility including a look into the cube of the Wizard of MG's Kelvin Dodd. Kelvin was away but I did take quick picture of the answer command center. On our way out the door, well after closing time, we loaded up on stickers, mints and shared our 20 years of appreciation of the parts and service that have been supplied to us by Moss Motors. Thanks to the staff of Moss Motors for the hospitality and customer service. Yes, brother Clay and I've completed the installation of the boot cover which fits perfectly and looks great. Martha and I are just waiting for car show season 2020 to show it off.



Blast from the Past

By Terry & Merideth Trovato



We are going to take a look back at a Blast from the Past of sorts by honoring one of our long-time EMC members and devotees, who was absolutely instrumental in getting “Brits on the Bluff” off of the ground: H.I. “Cappy” Stahlman, who passed away on February 23rd after a bout with ALS, or “Lou Gehrig’s Disease.” Cappy loved cars, with an affinity for Cadillacs but for Brits as well. Joining the EMC in the late 1990s, he showed his stripes as a true enthusiast by purchasing the highest point-judged MG ZB Magnette Sports Saloon in the United States from retired Marine Captain Bob Mason, who happened to be the national Technical Coordinator for the MGB Register. Cappy enjoyed this pristine example of British iron, which was burgundy with a correct maroon Connolly Hide Leather Interior and burgundy Wilton Wool Carpets. When the EMC needed a spot for the first edition of Brits on the Bluff, Cappy offered a large “green space” in Natchez overlooking the Mississippi River and scheduled the event in conjunction with the Great Mississippi River Balloon Race. As the gaggle of hot air balloons silently glided over the river EMC members and guests were given the opportunity to watch the proceedings from their front row seats. A great way to host a British Car Show, for sure. Later, Cappy purchased an MG TF for restoration, but never got around to it and instead sold the car to fellow EMC member Richard Harris of Natchez. When Mike Marsh of Mercedes Benz fame came up with the idea of a Euro-Fest Show in Natchez, Cappy was founding member of the support team, and saved the show one year during inclement weather by allowing the venue to take place in a building he owned—a giant Budweiser Beer Warehouse! Fun-loving Cappy was always on hand with a smile and good cheer at any and all car club events, and his presence will be sorely missed.

Just a Penny's Worth



This has been quite a month. Roy had to travel alone to the Tech Session since I had a stress fracture and had to “sit and rest” for four weeks. Now in physical therapy trying to get strength and balance back after doing nothing for 4 weeks. Then I see where we have lost two special men. Cappy was so special to us and City of Natchez. I also learned a lot about Jake Weaver—like I would have never guessed he went to Murrah High School with me and 550 others. Well we do have good news—Charlie may have lost a kidney but he didn’t lose his sense of humor.....he recently sent this to me.

In The Service...

The pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque.

It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it.

A six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up; stood beside the little boy; and said quietly, “Good morning, Alex.”.

“Good morning. Pastor,” he replied, still focused on the plaque. “Pastor, what is this?”.

The pastor replied, “Well, son, it’s a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.”.

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque.

Finally, little Alex’s voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked “Which service, the 8:00 or the 10:30?”.

Happy Spring-



time !!!!!!!

Upcoming Events

March 14, 2020 – EMC Tops Down / Rocky Springs MS - For 2020 the EMC will be meet at Rocky Springs MS on the Natchez Trace with the hope of an early spring and a celebration of St. Patrick's Day so you might consider wearing a wee bit of green to avoid a pinch. Bring a dish and enjoy the afternoon with the EMC family and friends. Those leaving from the Jackson area will depart from the Clinton MS Visitors Center (on the Natchez Trace) at 10:00am. Details: Keith / Pat Anderson (601) 829 – 2573.

March 20 - 21, 2020 – New Orleans British Car Day / New Orleans LA - Get your registration in early for the 30th annual BMCNO British Car Day. The EMC will join the BMCNO in the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Annual British Car Day. The EMC hopes for a good member turn out to enjoy the celebration with our friends in Louisiana. Travelers from Jackson area can give me a ring. Watch their website for show details: www.bmcno.org. Travel plans with the EMC: Gene / Martha Johnston (601) 941 – 4892. C The

April 3 - 4, 2020 – Natchez Euro Fest / Natchez MS – Ring leader extraordinaire Mike Marsh has put together an outing for lovers of everything automotive. The show site will be on the grounds of Rosalie overlooking the Mississippi and a block of rooms is available at the VUE also overlooking the old ma. The Porsche 356 Registry has listed the event on their 2020 calendar <https://porsche356registry.org/events> It's anticipated the Porsche gathering will draw cars from as far away as Texas, Missouri, Florida along with representation of other fine European Automobiles. Details [et](#) / Mike Marsh (601) 946 – 1950.

April 17 - 18, 2020 - Brits on the Bay / Pensacola FL - For the 28th annual show they'll fill the field with friends, fun and automobiles. Make plans to attend a great weekend this time promised to be in the sun. Travel down to Pensacola with the EMC to join us for this yearly migration to sunny Florida. The Friday night gathering is a do not miss so make plans early. Details: www.pbca1.com

May 8 - 9, 2020 – Springtime in the Smokies / Townsend TN - The 33rd annual event takes place in the shadow of the Great Smoky Mountains. Friday night hospitality is an opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. There will be time after the show and before trophies are presented to drive over and around the hills enjoying a little of what east Tennessee is famous for. Details: Jim Watson, spridget@charter.nt, or Richard Lockhart, (865) 548 – 9891 or www.blountbritishcars.org

June 13, 2020 – EMC Tech Session / Brandon MS - If our Tech Guru calls for a tech session you know it'll be a real challenge. Join us to see the answer to whatever puzzle Keith has up his sleeve. Wrenching starts at 11:00am and lunch starts at 12:00pm. Details: Keith / Pat Anderson (601) - 829 - 2573..MC Lotus Weekend / Braxton MS

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 the afternoon in the summertime with the EMC. Lunch starts at 12:00pm. Details: Mike / Alice Glore (504) 231 – 5801.

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