

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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



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This 'n That

By Charlie Durning

April was another busy month. Mike Marsh's Natchez Euro Fest was postponed by 1 week due to weather. The new date was a success and worth the wait. Six EMC club members won awards as well as several friends of EMC. See Mike's report later in the newsletter.

Bro Clay and Bro Gene also attended the **Pensacola** show and walked away with some hardware. Congrats to the brothers! Bro Gene provided a report.

Pres John submitted an article from his visit to **Cotesworth Mansion in Carrollton, MS** with the MS Classic cruisers.

Meredith and Terry Trovato have their look back into EMC history with the **Blast from the Past**.

The Drive Through History scheduled for May 19th has been cancelled. In its place will be a fun drive to **Leatha's BBQ** in Hattiesburg. Last year Leatha's was a hit with our group. The route will take a leisurely drive along the back roads from Florence to Hattiesburg while avoiding the 4 lane roads as much as possible. After lunch there is an optional visit to the Hattiesburg Zoo.



Meet at the strip center next to the Shell station in Florence at 9:00 am with a departure at 9:30 sharp. **VP Steve** will be our fearless leader to Magee where there will be a rest stop at the Loves Truck stop. From there **Editor Charlie** will take over for the trek to Hattiesburg. The drive will go as planned, rain or shine. A head count will be appreciated to give Leatha's fair warning.

Contact Editor Charlie at 601-668-7909 or e-mail durningcharles@gmail.com

South African Landy

By Keith Anderson

Brian Anderson's current project is a 1966 Land Rover with a history of being used as a safari vehicle.



It still has the registration sticker from **Johannesburg, South Africa** and the "Big Game Hunting Club" sticker on the window.

The Landy, known as "Hedley", has been stored for a few years and the owner wants his 4WD back on the road.

The first order of business was to run the possum out from its nest inside the engine compartment. **Brian** is replacing all the wiring and hoses that the varmint chewed up. After all the fuel and hydraulic issues are addressed, we should be able to get the 77 HP engine fired up so Hedley can provide some touring enjoyment for the owner.

Editor's Note: **Brian** also has his Lotus running again.

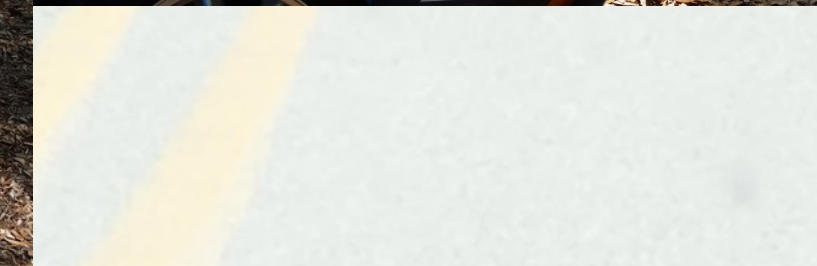
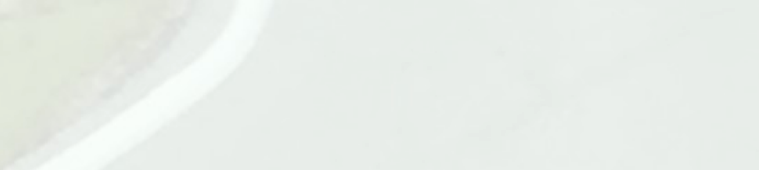
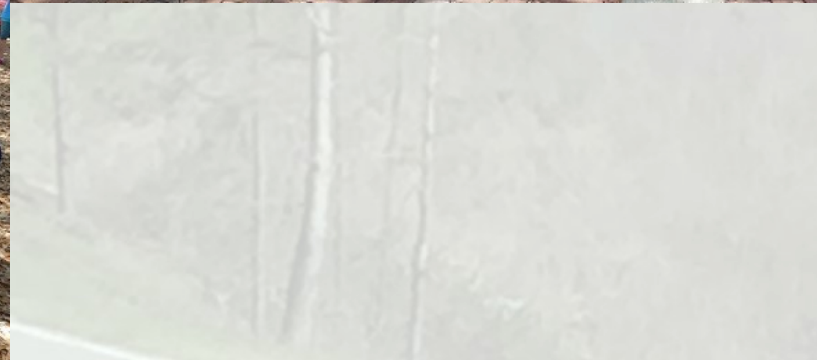
Pensacola Show

By Gene Johnston

The featured car at the Pensacola show was a Morgan. It was a great show. Friday night reception was excellent at the **Pensacola Transportation Museum**. It was packed and the food was great. The show grounds were excellent with 100+ cars on the field, under the trees.

Clay took 2nd in class and I was 3rd. The weather was great all weekend other than rain pretty much all the way home.







A Note from the President

By John Turbeville

April 28th was a beautiful Saturday for a drive with MS Classic Cruisers to Cotesworth Mansion in North Carrollton. It was the home of J. Z. George, a Mississippi statesman. George County is named in his honor. A very large turn out of Classic Cruisers as well as other makes were in attendance. I spotted **Dom Lavalla** in his Porsche, **Barry Schmidt** in his Miata, **Clint Gee** in his MGB, and **Jim** from Lexington in his MGB. My Mom bought an X-Type Jaguar 2 weeks ago so I drove it stopping in Vaiden to pick up my Uncle Bob.

From the main house we were shuttled down the street to see a collection of Imperials and Lincolns owned by **Jay Williams**. He also owns a 1911 Detroit Electric car complete with tiller steering. I didn't get a car count but every inch of several pole barns had cars parked bumper to bumper. Uncle Bob saw several friends he knew from Carroll Co. and I saw several car enthusiasts from the Corvette Club that I'd not seen in years. The car day at Cotesworth Mansion was a success.







[\[www.euro-fest.net\]](http://www.euro-fest.net)

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FERDINAND PORSCHE WOULD BE PROUD

Two Porsche, a 1968 912 and a 2004 996 Turbo Took The Honors at the 2018

Natchez Euro Fest, held Saturday, April 14th.

Although a very strong, forecasted storm came through Natchez early Saturday morning, the show was held and went on. Thanks to Natchez businessman and Natchez Euro Fest Automotive Society member, **Mr. Cappy Stahlman** who volunteered one of his empty commercial buildings to be the indoor venue for the show, we were able to proceed.

Many cars from the Memphis/Jackson and New Orleans/Baton Rouge caravans were able to park in the facility Friday night after the Welcome Reception at the Vue Hotel prior to the rain starting. The Porsche and Mercedes-Benz corrals were, once again, a welcome addition to the event. All in all it was an enjoyable show, in spite of the rain. The annual conclusion party, hosted by Bobbye and Bill Henley was most appreciated and enjoyed.

MAC & SUE PATE AWARD CREATED

In honor of Natchez residents, **Mac & Sue Pate**, an annual award has been created. The Pates are loyal contributors to the Euro Fest, and they feel strongly that their love of fine automobiles and Natchez makes for a quality event that is deserving of Natchez as its home. The award, The Mac & Sue Pate Love of Natchez Award will be presented annually to the person who most positively impacts the success of the Natchez Euro Fest, contributing

The famous saying that "The show must go on!" was never truer than in the case of the 3rd Annual Natchez Euro-Fest. Originally planned for April 7th to be held on the grassy bluff surrounding the Rosalie Mansion overlooking the Mississippi River, but the threat of a stormy cold front held true and caused the show to be rescheduled for the following Saturday, April 14th. Unfortunately, by this time, the weather forecast was already predicting another round of severe thunderstorms for that date as well. Not to be stopped by this imminent weather, Euro-Fest founder **Mike Marsh** (also our MBCA MS Section President) began the search for an indoor venue larger enough to hold what he expected to be less than half the original field of classic European automobiles and motorcycles. Luckily, **Cappy Stahlman**, a local business owner and member of The Natchez Automotive Society, came to the rescue and provided use of the old **Budweiser bottling building** less than a mile north of the **Rosalie Mansion**. With a new indoor venue now secured, word was sent to all of the participants and share through various forms of digital media about the change of plans for the show in hopes to keep attendance as high as possible.

Friday the 13th found us beginning to stage the early arrivals inside by mid-afternoon along with setting up our MBCA Corral just ahead of the reception at where good times were had greeting old friends and making new ones. The **Natchez Vue** was the host hotel and did a great job accommodating everyone for the reception that evening. After the party, most of the participants took their entries to the show building to keep them dry and out of the threat of hail that was forecasted with the incoming storms that night. A shuttle was provided to get everyone back to their hotels after all of the entries were "tucked in" for the night. Following a nice supper at **The Pilot House** restaurant, everyone retired to their rooms to get some rest before the day of the show.

And the rain came down! Saturday morning brought torrential downpours and tornado warnings across the state. We had the building open by 8:00am to receive the entries that had braved the weather and drove in that morning, this included two of our own members, **Larry Erwin** in his 1985 380SL and **Roger Pate** in his 1972 250C. Also in traditional fashion of Southern hospitality, we welcomed **Crystal Matherne** to our corral with her 2008 Chrysler Crossfire, which was built in Germany during the Daimler-Chrysler merger and shares many components with the Mercedes-Benz R107 platform. There were five members from the Memphis Section, two from the New Orleans Section, and twelve Mississippi Section members; counting our new Crossfire friend, that made twenty cars total in attendance either in the MBCA Corral or entered in the Euro-Fest show.

When the show opened to the public at 10:00am, spectators were waiting at the door to get in to see all of the beautiful European cars on display despite the rain! A good crowd was found throughout the day, taking their photos with the cars and talking up the owners too. Natchez thrives on it's tourism now and they did not disappoint with the turnout for what was expected to be a wash out of a day, but by noon a break in the showers helped boost the crowd and make it all worthwhile. There was also a food truck on site for lunch or you could have your choice of many fine restaurants within walking distance of the venue.

The awards presentation began around 2:00pm with many of our Mercedes-Benz taking top honors (see the results below!) We presented the members who had traveled the longest distance with gifts donated by Mercedes-Benz of Jackson for their participation in the MBCA Corral. Mrs Bobbye Henley was presented with an MBCA Silver Star Preservation award for her stunningly red 1986 560SL. It truly was a special time for all there, Mike even dubbed everyone as "Riders on the Storm" for coming to the show in spite of the weather and rescheduling, many of the entries received purple ribbons for this very reason.

- Mayor's Award, Mike McHann's 1993 300CE 24V
- Natchez's Visitors Award, Larry Erwin's 1985 380SL
- German Closed Best in Class, Jim Stephen's 1969 280SL
- German Open Best in Class, Bill Sandefer's 1963 190SL
- Preservation Outstanding in Class, Bobby Henley's 1986 560SL
- Preservation Outstanding in Class, Mike McHann's 1993 300CE 24V
- Preservation Outstanding in Class, Roger Pate's 1972 250C
- Special Interest Closed Outstanding in Class, Lark Sowell's 2001 S600
- MBCA MS Corral Award, Bill and Jo Anne Sudekum's 2015 C300 4MATIC
- MBCA MS Corral Award, Lynn and Janet Jones 2013 C250
- MBCA MS Corral Award, Bobby and Joan Gammill's 2017 GLS550
- MBCA MS Corral Award, Ken Solis 2005 SLK 350

The annual after-party was held at the **Henley's** beautiful condo, housed inside of one of Natchez's historic **Train Depots** just a few blocks from the show. This is always a grand gathering of auto enthusiasts, allowing everyone to relax and recap the day or discuss future plans.

With a record a mile long for great show weather, the rain was bound to catch us sooner than later, but when life gives you lemons, you just make lemonade with them! The perseverance to still hold and attend this show under all of the circumstances speaks to the passion we all have for these wonderful automobiles! With that said, it's time to look forward to **StarFest** in May, along with many more great MBCA Mississippi events and the 10th Annual **Renaissance Euro-Fest** this October in Ridgeland, MS!



Blast from the Past

by Terry & Merideth Trovato



Duotone Austin-Healeys were prominent during Brits on the Bluff circa 1997. The show site was what we called “**Cappy’s Field**”—owned by EMC member **Cappy Stahlman** -- which was a green space a few doors down from Natchez’ Bowie’s Tavern and on the same side of Broadway as Bowie’s. It was on this site that **Brits on the Bluff** originated.



From the Passenger Seat

By Donna Durning



This month's Passenger Seat feature was submitted by Penny Schooler. Thank you for your contribution, Penny! - DD

The Natchez Euro Fest By Penny Schooler

Rain did not stop **Mike Marsh** this year – or as he said “The show must go on”. Mother Nature caused the cancellation of April 6-7 but not the 13-14th. It was moved indoors to the old Budweiser Service Center on High Street.

The old Budweiser Building served as a nice and dry event headquarters.



We enjoyed the Welcome Reception at **The Vue** on Friday evening, seeing old friends and meeting new ones. The Service Center was full of cars on Saturday and the judges had their hands full with the nice array of automobiles. **Bill and Bobbye Henley** hosted the After Party at their old Train Station condo and it was a nice way to wind down and meet the sponsors. We had good representation from Brandon with four autos and each came home with awards. **Baby B** did see one of her sporty Mercedes friends from the Blues Trail event Thank you Mike for all your hard work Now Baby B has reservations in Crystal Springs for her engine rebuild so will miss everyone for the next couple of events. Have a great Spring and we'll see you soon.



Upcoming Events

English Motoring Club 2018 Calendar

May 19, 2018 - Drive to Leatha's Barbeque in Hattiesburg. Meet at the strip center next to the Shell station in Florence at 9:00 am with a departure at 9:30 sharp. Details: Charlie Durning (601)668-7909 or durningcharles@gmail.com.

May (check for dates), 2018 – Springtime in the Smokies / Townsend TN - The 31th 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.net, or Richard Lockhart, (865) 548 – 9891 or www.blountbritishcars.org

June 16, 2018 – 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.

We hope to see you at an upcoming EMC event for 2018!