

# THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

Volume 27

November 2013



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

Official Publication of the English Motoring Club of Mississippi

On the web at [www.msemc.org](http://www.msemc.org)

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## 2013's Final Fling

Photos by Steve Whitlow

*Fairhope AL* - Three members of the EMC departed the Jackson Mississippi are on October 25, 2013 from the Kangaroo Station on High Street. John Turbeville stopped by to see Steve Whitlow, Martha and I off as we set sights for points further south. The sky was a true Tahiti blue as only Morris Garages could mix as we sprinted down to Hattiesburg for a great lunch at our long established favorite, the Purple



Jaguar bonnets at British Car Festival 2014

Parrot. While quenching our thirst Brother Clay and Debbie made their way to the lunch rendezvous. Following lunch we hit the high spots on Highway 98 south making a gas stop in Hurley. Hob knobbing with the locals was fun before continuing south to Moss Point where we blended in with the runners in

The Pipe Fitter 500 traveling east toward Mobile. Thru the resounding Mobile Bay Tunnel and to the east side of the bay we hung a right down to the Fairhope Alabama the long time home of the South Alabama Sport Car Club's annual British Car Festival. We were met at The Baron by Mike and Alice Gore and the

remainder of the traveling EMC'ers Pat and Barbara Cashman arrived on the scene shortly there- after from an early afternoon tour in their TR-3. After a day on road it was early to sleep in anticipation of a big day on the grounds of Faulkner State Community College campus.

Saturday morning as the day just prior came a bit on the cool side but there was no denying that it was going to be a great day with lots of sun, great cars and friends. Other members of the EMC that joined us on the field were Barry and Patti Schmidt along with Karen and Megan Whitlow. Following a brief pass thru the field of cars the ladies did what ladies do.... they departed the show site and moseyed into the downtown area, only a couple of blocks away to shop. The well-organized field was filled to the brim with a great selection of Her Majesties finest iron. The day warmed nicely and following a great on field meal, the tallying of the ballots was completed and the popular choice awards were distributed to great rounds of applause. Travelers and hard luck awards winners were also recognized. Awards for the EMC went to Steve Whitlow, MG Midget in the MG Midget/Healey Sprite class and Michael Glore, McLaren MP4-12 in the modern Britannia class and best of show went to EMC'er Bill Silhan for is Triumph 2000.



Tahiti Blue skies over the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual British Car Festival

Following the show the members of the EMC that were residing near Gambino's Italian Grill decided that a short walk to dinner was the recipe so our decision was made and a great celebration and evening finished off a great day in South Alabama. Next day participants went our separate ways after breakfast, turning our compasses to the north and home. Thanks to the weather, this was the first regularly scheduled show of the year that didn't have damp weather involved, and to the members of the SABCC for a great end to the show season for 2013. Our spirits were lifted and we look forward to winter repairs in preparation for 2014.

### **Tech Session III**

**Ridgeland MS** – November 9 was the date and apparently we knew the change of season was just around the corner. Thirty-five EMC members started arriving early and I could tell by the look in their

eyes that there were two things on their collective minds, car projects and chili. Not necessarily in that order. Chili on the stove was filling the house with pleasant aromas. Probably in the incorrect order the dinner bell went off and all in attendance were looking for openings to get into the kitchen to fill a plate or bowl.

Two problems occurred with autos in route to Tech Session III. First up was a call received from Tommy and Kathy Hart. They made it as far as Hollandale before their MGB was affected by a flat tire. They made it to Greenville, repaired the tire and made it back to the gathering in time for festivities. They are cruising in style and comfort following the installation of an overdrive installed by John Twist a month or so back. The second call came from Barbara Cashman. Pat and John had run into fuel feed issues in route in their Jaguar. Mike Glore and Keith Anderson mounted a recovery effort but in the end the Jag required a trailer recovery. On a more successful note we were able to un-stick the trunk lid on Clay and Pat Ellis's MGB. Although most attendees, myself included felt like a nap, sufficient energy was garnered to assist with performing the initial brake bleeding on my long term project the GT. Thanks to all that gathered for lunch and everyone that assisted in moving the GT a little closer to returning to the highway.

### **Other Exhaust Rattles**

I am happy to report that Jim Trunzler is back up and running his shop a bit down in Crystal Springs.

Ernie Clark and Mike Glore along with Tommy and Lynn Williamson all gave great reports on The Euro Fest at L'Auberge Casino Hotel in Baton Rouge on November 2, 2013. Good work Mike Marsh on you successfully adding a third feather to the Euro Fest catalog.

Keith and Bryan Anderson got the ride of a lifetime a few weeks back when the Andretti/National Guard two seater Indy car made an appearance at the Air Guard Base in Gulfport MS. Indy car wheel man Davey Hamilton gave Keith some white knuckle time in the 170 MPH range as they bent the horizon around a slalom course set up for the event.

Keith Turner continues restoration on his MGB GT. Rick Greene attended Tech Session III in his Lotus Europa. He's sorted the rear suspension and is now planning strategies to complete the same at the front end.

Welcome new members to the EMC. George Wilkins, Triumph Spitfire 1500 joined our ranks. George keeps his garaged in Biloxi MS and Rick and Catherine Chernecky garage their Aston Martin Ocean Springs. Thomas Whitfield has re-joined the EMC after a couple of years away. Thomas maintains his TR-6 in Starkville. We hope that all of you can make one of the EMC's upcoming events.

The EMC is looking for input for the 2014 calendar. We're always looking for new places and faces to join us. If you have suggestions please make plans to attend the 2014 Kick-Off Gathering which is scheduled for Saturday, January 18, 2014 at Sal and Mookie's here in Jackson. If your unable to attend please e-mail your suggestion to [jjohnston18@msemc.org](mailto:jjohnston18@msemc.org) and your idea(s) will be presented. We are hoping that during 2014 we can co-sponsor additional activities with our friends in the Deep South Alfa Romeo Club. Also, put your recognition thinking cap on. The January meeting is our traditional awards gathering. If you have a person or persons in mind that reached new highs or lows (and recovered from them) in 2013 be sure that you bring your award to the January meeting.

As the EMC comes to the end of 2013 we'd like to thank everyone that sponsored events and to all those that were able to attend. Next and last up for 2013 is the annual English Motoring Club / Deep South Alfa Romeo Christmas Party. For 2013 we'll gather at the home of Andy and Bonnie Menapace in Raymond MS. If you need directional information you can contact Andy or Bonnie at the number listed in the calendar entry or drop me an e-mail. We hope that you're able to make the party. It is always a great time!

That's it for this edition of the Off-Side Undo. Hope you make it out on the road in your LBC.

Happy Motoring

The EMC

### **Calendar of Events**

#### **December 7, 2013 – EMC / DSARC Christmas Party / Raymond MS**

For 2013 we will be sharing the table with the Deep South Alfa Romeo Club so bring a dish and join what's become a great gathering. The location for 2013 will be with our fine hosts, Andy and Bonnie Menapace. Bring a dish and join our season ending gathering with friends. The party starts at 5:00pm. Details: Andy and Bonnie Menapace (601) 857 – 2829.

#### **January 18, 2014 EMC 2013 Awards & 2014 Kick-Off / Jackson MS**

Over the last two years Sal & Mookie's has become the home for the end of one year and the start of the next. The EMC has grown a bit during the last year so make plans to arrive early for a seat near the action. Bring your party hats along with awards for those that generated memories for you in 2013. Be careful what you wish for as a few of those awards that were so sought after in 2012 will be passed along and who knows you may be the lucky recipient this time around. New awards are always welcome! The fun and frivolity begins at 11:30am. Lunch will be from the menu. For a good time, contact Gene Johnston (601) 201 - 0801 or John Turbeville (601) 940 – 5288.