

THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

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

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South Alabama British Car Festival Fairhope, Alabama

By Charlie Durning

15 intrepid travelers and 7 LBC's ventured down to the South Alabama British Car Club's October 24 British Car Festival. Our mid Friday afternoon arrival was at the Baron's Inn for our weekend home base. Now don't get me wrong, the Baron is nothing to write home about but it is part of the whole experience. The best part of staying at the Baron was lounging about and exchanging stories. An additional bonus is we were joined by some of our friends from New Orleans.



Baron's Inn

The Friday evening gathering was held at the Fairhope United Methodist Church Family Life Center. The Family Life Center is a spacious facility that was able to accommodate all of the entrants comfortably. The highlight of the evening was when I accepted the door prize for Donna Durning. Just what I needed!

Saturday was off to an early start with breakfast and then a short drive to the show site. Once we gathered our registration packets we got our pictures taken with 5 Southern Belles.



The site was well organized as we were each given guidance to our class parking. Pres John's, Clay's, and Gene's MGBs went to the MGB row, VP Steve's Midget went to the Midget row. Glore's McLaren was parked with the exotics next to a Lotus 7. Cashman's Gordon Keeble and Editor-et Donna's Morris were curiously parked in the same class. I suppose that must be the orphan class. We were parked with a 1937 Lancaster, a MG Magnette, and an Anglia. The grouping must have seemed reasonable to someone.

No matter, we settled in for a nice day of strolling, chatting with friends and inspecting the wonderful array of LBC's.

The day was closed out with a late dinner and standing around in the Baron's parking lot exchanging stories about the great way we had all spent the day.



Sunday morning we woke up to menacing skies. Donna and I elected to depart at first light in an effort to beat the rain, which we did, mostly. The rest of the crew followed later. I suspect Donna and I were nestled in the comfort of our home long before those who elected for a late start had departed Fairhope.

The general consensus is “let’s do this again next year”.

Click on the link below for more Fairhope pictures:

[South Alabama British Car Festival - Fairhope, AL 10/24/2015](#)

A Note from the President



John Turbeville

A great time was had by all at the Fairhope car show on Oct 24th. It had been many years since I last attended--can't believe all the fun I've been missing out on. Congrats to the award winners from MS!

Now is the time to be thinking about winter projects. Hopefully I'll have a rebuilt Mercedes Diesel engine to install into my 1999 E300 Turbo. Keith and I pulled the engine on April 27th and it has been at the machine shop since May 18th. Maybe it will be ready by New Years Day to install, but I won't hold my breath. Just be on standby, Keith!
Happy motoring this fall!

(Photos below are the Editor's additions.)



John, his MGB, and a Southern Belle at Fairhope 2015

From the Passenger Seat by Donna Durning



Many thanks to Jo Ann Bailey for this recipe for Broccoli Salad. It sounds delicious!

Broccoli Salad From the files of Jo Ann Bailey



3 CUPS BROCCOLI FLOWERLETTES
2 CUPS RED SEEDLESS GRAPES, HALVED
1 LARGE ONION, CHOPPED
12 SLICES COOKED BACON, CRUMBLED
½ CUP SUNFLOWER SEEDS
½ CUP SUGAR
1 ½ TABLE SPOONS WHITE VINEGAR
1 CUP MAYONAISE
SAUTE CHOPPED ONION IN SMALL AMOUNT OF OLIVE OIL.
COOL ONION AND MIX INTO BROCOLLI AND GRAPES.

ADD SUNFLOWER SEEDS AND BACON. FOR DRESSING, COMBINE ½ CUP SUGAR WITH 1 ½ TABLESPOONS WHITE VINEGAR. ADD 1 CUP MAYONAISE TO SUGAR AND MIX WELL. POUR OVER SALAD AND GENTLY STIR TO COAT BROCOLLI AND GRAPES.

You can vary the amount of broccoli and grapes according to how many servings you desire. You can also add/ substitute to salad. Example use white seedless grapes, raisins, etc. or use peanuts, pecans, walnuts, etc. Hope you enjoy.

Editor's Note: Submissions are ALWAYS WELCOME! Please email me at durning.donna@yahoo.com with your contributions!



Exhaust Rattles

Steve Whitlow has finally prepared his Midget for an engine extraction. Steve, Clay and Charlie have started a Saturday tradition of lunch at Zip's in Magee before a long afternoon of working on the Midget.

Since the disc brake conversion on the Morris Minor was successful, Charlie has started work on a disc brake conversion for the Midget. The disc brakes on the Morris were successfully proven on the trip to Fairhope, Alabama. It stopped like a champ!

NOLA TransAm visit



by Gene Johnston

Avondale, LA – Martha and I loaded up the old Dodge truck for one last race outing for 2015. This was our planned visit to NOLA Raceway Park, and we were looking forward to exploring the most recent addition to the area race tracks. We were unable to make Friday or Saturday's activities, however on Sunday October 11th we were there bright and early. Keith and Bryan Anderson were reported to have made the Saturday activities. The morning started pleasantly cool but warmed to the mid to high 80's as the day went along. First up were the SVRA support races. We enjoyed seeing cars from the mid-sixties thru the mid-seventies. Open wheel, prototypes, saloons along GT/sports cars put on great shows in their respective categories.

Post-race we got in a good visit with Doc Bundy who was racing a 1964 Lotus 23B and also stopped by for a visit with Lou Marchant. This was the second time I've run across Lou and her 1959 MGA, the first time occurred when Lou's MGA was featured at the NAMGAR GT-34 in the lobby of the Arlington Hotel in Hot Springs in 2009.



Lou Marchant's MGA

I also noted the Bolus and Snopes Shelby Mustang of local racer Sam Scott lurking in the paddock area now maintained by John Baldwin and garaged in Covington LA. If you're not up on the antics of this Shelby Mustang, Google it and read up on it's history along with that of the "most celebrated mule in racing history", Dick Johnson.



A Shelby with Mississippi Roots

As the day warmed, so did the competition when thirty-nine TransAm cars took to the track. They put on a great show. How could they not with that many cars vying for position over the 2.75 mile track? The pace was fast furious from the start but at the end of the day the Tony Ave Cadillac CTS-V and Paul Fix Corvette gave way to the pressure applied by Amy Ruman in her Corvette. We enjoyed our visit to NOLA Raceway Park and we'll keep an eye out for upcoming events.



Martha's visit with Amy Ruman



Scarecrow 2015

By Keith Anderson

The Scarecrow Cruise and Car Show in Madison, MS, held on October 17th, was attended by ten of our EMC members. A total of nineteen British cars attended the large event. About 500 cars participated with most of them being American made. The weather had been dry so the grassy area where we were parked was dusty, but that didn't dry the spirit of the attendees.

Larry Webster won the "Best British" award for his beautiful white '76 TR6. Pat Cashman's Gordon Keeble and Mike Glore's Lotus Elise each took home a "Top Import" popular vote award.

Dominic La Valla's Austin Healey 3000 was awarded "Best Import Car" of the show by popular vote of all the other car owners, beating the other British, Japanese, Italian and German cars. Congratulations Dom!

IMPORTS -BEST IN CLASS

1967 Blue Austin Healey 3000 Mark III- Dominic LaValla- Jackson, MS

IMPORTS- OTHER WINNERS

1975 Copper Triumph TR7- Barry Schmidt- Brandon, MS

2004 Black Lotus Esprit- Michael Glore- Destrehan, LA 2003

1964 Silver Gordon Keeble- GK1 Pat Cashman- Vicksburg, MS

A Blast from the Past - By Terry Trovato



The year is 1986. The venue: The Mardi Gras T's Christmas Party in New Orleans held at Mike Lewis' home. (That's Mike in the center, flanked by Keith Anderson on the left and Manley Ford on the right.))The discussion...hmmm. The bonnet is open and Mike has a wrench in one hand and it seems that Keith and Manley are offering mechanical advice. Keith, Mike and Manley all started racing MG's at Road Atlanta back in 1981, and Manley has been racing MG-T series cars for the past 34 years. Mike's headgear? Maybe from a Mardi Gras parade-watching location!



Editor's Note: If you have some EMC pictures from the past you'd like to share, please send them in! Thank you, Terry for this submission!



15 Minutes Can Make A Difference

John Turbeville

On a Friday evening in April 1996 I stopped in Capitol Sports Center in Jackson to see a Mercedes in the show room, but a 1977 MGB caught my eye. The Mercedes was nice but the top was down on the MG, so I asked Wayne Farris, shop owner, if we could take it out for a drive. Wayne had grown up in a British car loving family so he was full of stories about driving an MG to Pensacola Beach and around town as a daily driver. My excitement was growing for owning a fun car, but I wasn't ready to make a spur of the moment decision. He told me the price, I said I'd think about it overnight, and I asked what his hours of operation were for Saturday morning. I made the decision to purchase the car with some cash and a personal check. When I arrived on Saturday morning to make the deal, Wayne was backing out "my" car to let a couple take it on a test drive. As they exited the parking lot, I told Wayne I was there to buy that car. He said, "I'm a business man and the first one with cash gets the car so let's go write it up." So while the couple was out for a spin around the block, I bought the car. They arrived back to the shop while Wayne and I were standing outside. As the lady handed Wayne the keys she said, "I think we like it." To which Wayne replied, "Too late, he just bought it" pointing to me. She was mad that someone had bought the car in the 15 minutes it took to do the test drive. I was honored that she liked my car so well.

The ownership of an MGB over the years has been a labor of love—she's had a new interior, new paint, new carburetor, a cylinder head job, new wheels, new canvas convertible top, new gas tank, new fuel pump, and an overdrive transmission installed. She presently needs a rear main seal which will necessitate pulling the engine...always a project waiting when you own an MG!



The MG's first Fairhope Car Show in 1996.

In 2013 my MG became important for Eric and Abby Covington who asked if they could use it as their wedding reception get away car. I'd never loaned my car out to anyone before, but when Eric said he would prefer a British convertible rather than be chauffeured in a 1966 Lincoln I knew I liked him. We met in the Kroger parking lot in Clinton on his way to his rehearsal dinner so he could get in a practice run of shifting gears and switching in the electric overdrive. The car was older than him and has quirks—couldn't risk having him pop the clutch with his wedding party watching. He did very well and was only slightly late for rehearsal dinner. Here they are in front of the Fairview Inn after the reception. I've had them on my mind this week as Eric died of cancer on October 31, 2015, at age 32.





The return to Fairhope Car Show 2015... Same car, same driver, different wheels, different location.

How can I get my car featured in Car of the Month?



- ❖ Send pictures
- ❖ tell us where and how you found the car
- ❖ Include any stories you'd like to share about you & your car
- ❖ Email to durningcharles@gmail.com or durning.donna@yahoo.com



Our Annual Meeting is coming up in **January**. Start getting your creative juices flowing and come up with some new awards. Remember, there are no rules! Anybody can give an award to anybody else for anything!

EMC Calendar

December 5, 2015– EMC / DSARC Christmas Party / Vicksburg MS - We return to the place that started the 2015 EMC tech sessions. Make plans to join us at Pat and Barbara's to wind down 2015 with the EMCs year end gathering. Again in 2015 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 party starts as 2:00pm. Details: Pat / Barbara Cashman (601) 638 – 3240.

Be sure to visit the web-site at www.msemc.org!



Happy Motoring!

ATTENTION!!!

As always, pictures and submissions are welcome!!!

