



Beyond Control

Ridgeland MS – Due to issues beyond my control I was unable to events that closed out the 2010 car show circuit. Martha and Ole Red I have made the South Alabama British Car Club's Car Festival held in Fairhope Alabama for most of the last few years and were really looking forward to celebrating their 20th annual on October 22 – 23, 2010. The Renaissance Euro Fest was held on October 23, 2010 not far from home however I couldn't make that one either.

Thanks to a little help from my friends I was able to make the two shows vicariously and although missing the good times with close friends and seeing the rolling sculpture in the shine of a nice fall day, for a moment I can close my eyes and be there after reading their updates. First up is Brother Clay's report from Fairhope and then Keith Anderson was kind enough to submit his notes from the Renaissance Euro Fest. Thanks guys and hope everyone enjoys.

Fairhope AL - Traveling notes: The fourth Friday in October was a beautiful day for a drive. After losing the rest of the Mississippi EMC crew to schedule conflicts, ailments and car maladies, Debbie and I strapped on the B for a little top-down cruise and headed for Fairhope. We took our time, making several stops along the way and arrived at Baron's on the Bay late in the afternoon of October 22, 2010.

Following a quick freshen up, we headed down to Faulkner College's Dahlgren Hall for the opening night's festivities provided by our friends at the South Alabama Car Club. The Club really went all-out treating the large crowd to a pulled pork barbeque and lots of deserts.

Saturday morning was clear and cool with a light breeze. Activities got started early around The Baron with car cleaning and prep for the show. Then it was off to the seaside show site at the Fairhope Municipal Park. Again the SABCC did an outstanding job throughout the day with a gaggle of volunteers and lots of activities. Did I mention this was the Club's 20th anniversary car show? Really a super job by the crew! Thanks for the recognition of first in class at the 20th annual show.

Saturday night the British Car Club of New Orleans was kind enough to allow two Mississippi orphans to tag along for dinner. Thanks to the N.O. folks for a wonderful evening.

Sunday morning was early travel time for most folks. Deb and I weren't in a big hurry, spending most of the day getting home. Just a great fall weekend for a leisurely cruise.

For more including photos visit the SACC site at www.sabcc.org.



The Tour Bus at SABCC 20th Annual British Car Fest Photo Courtesy SABCC

Ridgeland MS – October 23, 2010 the Renaissance Euro Fest in Ridgeland, MS was a wonderful European classic auto show that featured British, German and Italian models with over 125 fabulous cars and motorcycles. The British Marques were well represented with a large number of autos. Our English Motoring Club members who garnered awards were Richard Banyan for his 1949 Rolls Royce Silver Wraith and John Lange for his 1949 MG-TC.

There were many EMC members who enjoyed the casual setting and showed their British and Italian autos. Pat & Barbara Cashman really put forth an effort to bring out their 1956 Jaguar XK 140, 1960 Armstrong Siddeley Star Sapphire, Citroen 2CV and 1959 Velocity Venom.

The weather was perfect for the upscale shopping mall setting at Renaissance at Colony Park. What made the show really unusual is that there was no entry fee, yet we got to enjoy the pre-show dinner, show day lunch, beautiful awards and then a dance band. We thank all the event show sponsors who took care of the costs and allowed us to enjoy the wonderful time.

Organizer and EMC'er Mike Marsh provided additional details noting that the event drew 92 auto entries and 12 cycles entries. Seventeen new cars were exhibited during the day and the Porsche Club corralled with 20 cars. Total attendance during the day was tagged at 13,832 and the event was covered by three local television stations. It was a great day and Mike sent out his thanks for everyone that contributed to making the second annual show a great success.

For wrap info on the Renaissance Euro Fest check out <http://www.euro-fest.net>.

The 2010 High Milers

After picking up a second place award at the 2010 Memphis Euro Auto Fest with their 1994 Lotus Esprit Mike and Alice Glore took a rather round-a-bout way of returning to South Louisiana. Here's Mike's tale of travel.

From Lake Ponchartrain to the Potomac and Back

By Michael Glore

Earlier this year, my calendar indicated a window of opportunity to make two car shows in a row one week apart. First was the Memphis Euro Car Show, October 1st and 2nd followed by the Lotus Owners Gathering (#30) in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. This was a no brainer, just pencil it in on the calendar and send off the registration. Done!! Later as the dates got closer, decisions had to be made as to which Lotus was suitable for such a trip. Well....suitable is not the correct word – more like which one I believed had the best chance returning under its own power. The Lotus Elise has the best reliability of the fleet; however, my wife and I are quickly losing our ability to get in and out of that particular car. The only remaining car that I thought had a chance was the 2004 Lotus Esprit. Now, I know what you British types are thinking a 2004 Lotus (practically new) how much drama can there be in that. Well, actually a lot. You all do know, what Lotus stands for.....**Lots Of Trouble Usually Serious**. My V8 Esprit, has clocked over 30,000 miles prior to this endeavor. That is a very rare number for any Esprit to complete in its entire lifetime. Earlier this year, I had upgraded all the coolant hoses to silicon, changed all fluids and filters, and gave the car a real good going over. In no way, did all that work erase my fears of making it back without incident.

So now dates approached and the car is selected and prepped for the trip. Now the usual argument about luggage begins. This particular discussion always centers around my belief that the lesser amount of luggage equals more room for spares, tools and fluids. Looking in my tool box to select the tools is sort of like staring into a crystal ball – in fact, anything could fail on the car and the entire contents of the tool box could be required. I didn't have the space or luxury to do that. Items were selected carefully and stored in all places. The storage for tools is in the nose of the vehicle and after shutting that hood, I noticed precious little clearance under the chin spoiler. We departed allowing ten hours to reach a four hour destination. We arrived at the hotel way too early to check in. Success!!

The Memphis Show was well attended and I counted approximately 88 cars. The show is located further north so that I was able to see cars that usually do not show up for a deep south car show. It was a Euro show, so there were other marks besides British, Ferrari / Alfa / Porsche were among the others that were well attended. After collecting the silver it was off to LOG 30.

The long haul to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania started Sunday AM under clear cool (are we thinking overheating) skies. Quite bravely, we headed for the southern end of the Blue Ridge Parkway, this 468 mile parkway is said to take three days to drive.

Who would have thought three days to do just 468 miles. Did the author of that statement suspect some couple in an overpowered British car could beat his estimate. Anyway, we arrived at our hotel, Pisgah, at over 5000 elevation in the parkway at early evening. Did I mention during our luggage discussion, I convinced my wife to omit heavy, bulky, warm clothes? Alice quickly emerged from the gift store layered in multiple overpriced sweat shirts. We were in the clouds. Surprise, clouds are wet and cold - outside temperature was 44°. No wonder the last couple of hundred miles the temperature gauge was behaving oddly. I unloaded all of our bags into our motel in my only light jacket trying to look like I wasn't freezing. If you choose to travel the Blue Ridge and I suggest everyone should, BYOB has new meaning, no package stores up there – hell – there isn't even a gas station on the road.

First real day of driving the parkway was Monday, October 4th and since I always have my mind on the prize (to finish) we rocketed past numerous scenic overlooks and settled into a comfortable 60 mile an hour after discovering that most of the turns could safely be taken at that. The second night on the parkway was at a hotel called The Bluff, this has a beautiful view out of our window. Upon checking out the next morning, I advised the innkeeper that we did not steal his TV. This was a small joke because no rooms had TV's. There are only three inns on the parkway. We got to the last inn, Peak of the Otter, but pressed on. Remember, I had my eye on the prize. Traveling further that day, we exited the parkway and went into a small town and stopped at what might have been a good motel, 40 years ago, but now it was the financial endeavor of an Indian entrepreneur family. The only thing it had above the parkway inns was the TV. We did win the gold by arriving in Gettysburg one day early where the room had the elusive hairdryer. Alice was quick to schedule lots of tours and shopping events that had nothing to do with the car show. Can you guess that this is not her first car show?



Mike's Esprit V-8 at 2010 Memphis Euro Fest

Photo Courtesy BSCC

The attendance was large with over 200 cars pre-registered; however, 6-8 failed the trip, so we had just under 200 in a panoramic picture. The event was great and I heard many break down stories from people that I had just met. They seemed to express them with pride - something akin to the red badge of courage. Next years LOG is in Vegas, I didn't even bother to ask my wife.

Note: I've seen Mike since their travels but not Alice. I'm sure the 2010 EMC high milers are safely at home with Alice enjoying the grand kids and Mike feverishly planning the next LONG HAUL! Thanks for the trip Mike. Hopefully I can put the Blue Ridge Parkway in my future plans.

Other Exhaust Rattles

It's not cold here yet. As a matter of fact other than the rainy days it's been downright pleasant to get yours LBC out for a ride or plan your over wintering projects.

A new interior has been ordered for the GT although of the two choices for winter driving is it the preferred it may go down this winter. Ole Red may have to pull me thru. Brother Clay has plans for a diff replacement on his MG and John Trubeville is replacing the gas tank on his MG and contemplating the TR-8 maladies and cures. Jim Enzman has the engine back in his GT and I can tell he's gearing up for travels in 2011. Make your plans early and wisely and set your strategies to get yours out on the road sooner rather than later.

If you've got winter travels or projects going shoot me a line and let me update everyone on yours.

Happy Motoring from the EMC.

Events Calendar

There's not much left but there's remains two great opportunities to join us in 2010. We hope that you will!

November 20, 2010 – EMC Tech Session IV / Ridgeland MS

We'll have the chili on the stove and a wrench ready for stirring. We'll put together a project or two or perhaps take one apart. Hope you can make the final tech session of 2010. Lunch starts at 12:00pm. Details: Gene / Martha Johnston (601) 607-7021

December 4, 2010 - EMC Christmas Party / Vicksburg MS

We return to the place that started the 2010 EMC tech sessions. Make plans to join us at Pat and Barbara's to wind down 2010 with our year end gathering. Again in 2010 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