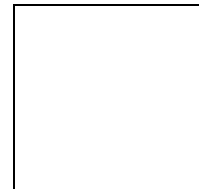


# THE OFF-SIDE UNDO

Volume 29

October 2015



“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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## Brits on the Bluff

### Good Times in Natchez

By Charlie Durning

**Click on the link below for a slideshow from Brits on the Bluff!**

**[Brits on the Bluff September 2015 Slideshow](#)**

According to the feedback sheets our Brits on the Bluff was a fun event for all involved. I certainly had a grand time. Lots of good folks, convenient accommodations, a spectacular show site, an eclectic mix of wonderful cars, and the weather cooperated. It was nice to see some old friends and meet some new folks.

Friday night at the Bouie Tavern was lively. There was lots of conversation and good eats. There was time to sit down, glad hand old buddies, and renew friendships. Thanks to Terry Trovato for making the arrangements at the Bouie Tavern.

Saturday morning Tech Guy Keith was out early setting up the show site and arranging the classes. This year we had a good mix of classes and all of the cars were excellent examples. Thanks Keith for a job well done. Clay Johnston and

Miller Kay (Gene & Martha Johnston's grandson) manned the site reception desk and handled the t-shirt sales. Terry Trovato was once again our exalted MC for the day. Terry kept all apprised with announcements and at the end of the day announced the winners. Pres John and Pat Cashman were kept busy with tabulating the votes.

A new feature this year was the Queen's Lunch at Natchez' Cotton Alley Cafe. The outing for the ladies was arranged by Merideth Trovato. From the smiles on the faces it was a rousing success. I'm sure the Queen's Lunch will be repeated next year and on into the future.

I know I have left out some folks who worked very hard to make the show a success. For that I beg for forgiveness.

Below is a list of the class winners, longest distance travelled, hard luck, and best of show. And below the list is a slide show of the event.

Our thanks to all who traveled to make Brits on the Bluff a success and to those who worked so hard during the year to pull everything together.

**Who did what for BOTB:**

John Turbeville	hotel booking
Terry Trovato	arrangements at Bowie's & Mayor's office
Meridith Trovato	cake and ladies' lunch
Pat Cashman	trophies
Goodie bag contents and stuffing	all hands on-deck at Bailey's Tech Session
Clay Johnston	porta-potty
John Turbeville & Pat Cashman	scoring
Keith Anderson	field organization
Terry and Merideth Trovato	MC and Natchez hosts
Clay Johnston and Miller Kay (Gene & Martha Johnston's grandson)	registration
Barbara Cashman	club regalia sales
Barry Schmidt	photos
Miller Kay & Terry Trovato	presentation of door prizes
John Turbeville & Terry Trovato	presentation of ribbons

**Here are the Winners!**

### **MGB, GT Chrome Bumper**

- 1st Tie 1972 yellow MGB Blake Sonnier  
1973 white MGB GT Gene Johnston
- 2nd 1966 MGB gray Mark & Judy Huber
- 3rd 1972 MGB red Gene & Tracy Cleman

### **MGB Rubber Bumper**

- 1st 1976 Red Keith Vezina
- 2nd 1977 white Abby Sonnier
- 3rd 1978 red Donna Wilkerson  
1974 1/2 red Barbara Henry & John Milton

### **MG Pre-war**

- 1st 1955 MGTF red Bob Manske

### **MG Midget**

- 1st 1974 red Midget Steve Whitlow

### **Tractor**

- 1st 1950 Triumph/Ferguson Dave & Menda Hayden

### **Austin Healey**

- 1st white & blue - Rick Huber
- 2nd black - Terry Trovato
- 3rd green - Richard Harris

### **Porsche**

- 1st silver - Mark & Chesney Doyle

### **Triumph**

- 1st 1960 TR3A green - Franz & Monica Bachman
- 2nd 1959 TR3A white - Bill & Amy Jacobs
- 3rd 1959 TR3A green Merideth & Terry Trovato

### **Triumph TR6**

- 1st 1973 green - Ken Dolhonde "pool boy"
- 2nd 1972 silver - Stephen Turner
- 3rd 1976 white - David Nezat

**TR-7**

1st 1975 bronze - 6 cylinder Buick engine Barry Schmitz??

**Triumph Spitfire**

1st 1969 white - George & Nonie Mason Maryville, TN

**Jaguar Sport**

1st 1995 Jag XJS champagne -John Wells

2nd Jag XK8 green - Wally Friloux

**Race Car**

1st 1949 MGTC Blue - Ann & Gene Gilliam

**Aston Martin**

1st DB7 silver - Reg Dunbar

2nd DB7 green David Bailey

**Empire Sedan**

1st 2013 McLaren MP4-12C - Mike & Alice Glore

**Empire Roadster/Convertible**

1st 1956 Morgan + 4 Bill & Melissa Silhan

2nd 2013 silver - Kay & Mickey Kay

3rd 2005 Mini Cooper green - Merideth & Terry Trovato

**Saloons**

1st RR Silver Wraith - Richard Branyon

2nd Rover Green - Keith Anderson

3rd 1996 Bentley Turbo R - Bob Adams

**Modified**

Sebring/Austin Healey Kit - John Grossy

**Morris Minor**

1st 1967 Green MM 1000 - Donna & Charlie Durning

**Best of Show**

1956 Gray 3 position Morgan + 4 Drophead - Bill Silhan

# The Queen's Luncheon



The first Queen's Luncheon was a BIG SUCCESS!

As a usual thing, at a British car show the gentlemen enjoy whiling away the hours discussing such obscure subjects as the history of Skinner's Union and their intricate S.U. carburetors, while the ladies are stuck on their lawn chairs with, unfortunately, not a whole lot to do.

Well former EMC First Lady Merideth Trovato decided it was time to rectify the situation by creating a Brits on the Bluff First Annual Queen's Luncheon the day of

the show. Arrangements were made for a private dining room at Natchez' Cotton Alley Cafe, located an easy walk just a few blocks from the show site. And 23 ladies in town with their husbands for the show responded favorably. They were Nonie Mason, Mary Lynne Huber, Barbara Cashman (in the role of her alter ego "Lurline," dressed appropriately for a day at Royal Ascot), Debbie Johnston, Menda Hayden, Melissa Silhan, Risa Manske, Barbara Henry, Cathy Greensfelder, Vicki Holleman, Karen Murray, Karen Vezina, Judy Huber, Martha Johnston, Alice Glore, Faye Enzman, Nell Bolt, Annette Franklin, Celeste Spann, and Barbara Dunbar.

Regrettably, Her Majesty was unable to attend, but to be sure she was properly honored and represented, the entourage journeyed from the show site to the restaurant proudly displaying the Queen's "Royal Standard" flag, which signifies that she is on the premises—at least in spirit on this occasion.

At the luncheon, one of the restaurant's owners, David Browning, helped Merideth find the perfect container to display the flag – a stunning fish vase – where it remained for the duration of the festivities. The staff treated their distinguished guests like royalty, "Lurline" provided the entertainment with a wonderful toast about "friendships," and a good time was had by all.

"Thank you ladies, for attending and helping to make this a success," Merideth said. "I plan to continue this next year, so plan to come and bring all your friends and family. We had a surprise visitor, Natchez Photographer David Perkins, so there is a good chance we will get some publicity from this," Merideth concludes. "I'll let everyone know if a picture surfaces in some local publication."

# A Note from the President



John Turbeville

Many thanks to all who helped put the annual car show in Natchez together and to those who attended. It was a huge success!

October offers many car shows--I think every Saturday on my calendar is booked with car related fun. The weather is turning cooler and that makes getting our cars out all that much more enjoyable! Hope to see you at some of the upcoming shows!

## Crystal Bridges

Mike and Alice Gore visited the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, Arkansas and wanted to share some of their photos with you. Crystal Bridges exhibits works of art that focus on America's artistic heritage. It enriches our appreciation of our country. Thanks to Mike and Alice for this contribution!













# From the Passenger Seat



By Donna Durning

This was one of my favorite moments at Euro-Fest 2015! Mike Marsh and Merideth Trovato were good sports to illustrate "The Short and Tall of It!" The show was great, as always! If you missed it, I hope you'll join the fun next year!



Charlie and I will celebrate 3 years of wedded bliss on October 27th! I would like to take this opportunity to wish my sweet husband a very happy anniversary and to thank him for bringing me along for the ride! I've loved every minute! The photo below was taken shortly before we were married.



*Photo by Barrett Photography, Michael and Dianne Barrett, Ridgeland, MS.*

**Editor's Note: Submissions are ALWAYS WELCOME! Please email me at [durning.donna@yahoo.com](mailto:durning.donna@yahoo.com) with your contributions!**



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# Exhaust Rattles



Pat Cashman got his Armstrong Siddeley truck ready for the Euro-Fest.

Pat and Barbara's Armstrong Siddeley has been down for a long time due to gas tank woes. It is up and running and is ready to be used as a truck again.



I got the truck running the other day. I did as you suggested and blew compressed air back into the tank to make sure the pipe out of the tank was clear. I then took off the fuel hose before the pump and connected a hose and small container of gas. Loosened the banjo at the carb and pumped and pumped with the primer lever. Got fuel at the carb and then hooked everything back up and it started and ran fine. Maybe the valves in the pump were stuck or something. Thanks for your help

Pat

## Our Own Irish Musician

When not posing as a mechanic VP Steve Whitlow earns his recognition as a very entertaining Irish musician. Catch him around. Well worth the effort expended.



# It Lives Again!



Brother Clay got his MGB out of the body shop just in time for the Euro-Fest. The car looks great! That's Clay on the far left admiring his beautiful car!



# A Blast from the Past!

by Terry Trovato



*Terry is pictured here with his lovely wife Meredith.*

The EMC British Car Day 1987. The location was the Jackson Zoo. Craig House is on the left and Keith Anderson on the far right. The Club was alive and well 28 years ago.



*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!*

# Euro-Fest 2015

By Mike Marsh

The 7th annual Renaissance Euro Fest Classic European Auto and Motorcycle Show, held at the Renaissance Center in Ridgeland, MS on October 3rd was, once again, an enjoyable success. The English Motoring Club has been very supportive of the show since conception and although the founder, Mike Marsh, is a Mercedes-Benz guy, he is a member and solid supporter of EMC and greatly appreciates the year around support and help of many EMC members.

***Below is a link to a slideshow featuring the photos Mike Marsh provided.***

## ***Euro-Fest 2015 Mike Marsh photos***

This year's EMC award recipients included:

Richard Poole-Outstanding In Class-British Closed-1965 Land Rover Dormobile

Galen Poole-Best In Class- British Closed-1966 Jaguar E-Type

Richard Poole-Best In Class Motorcycle-1950 Vincent Rapide

Keith Anderson-Taggart, Rimes and Graham, PLLC, "Wise Counsel" Award

Galen Poole-Best of the Renaissance Vintage

## **RROC Special Awards**

Thank you to Richard Branyon for giving out beautiful ribbons from the Rolls Royce Owner's Club for owners or their cars he felt were worthy.

***Click the link below for a slideshow from Euro-Fest 2015 featuring the British cars and British car fans! (different photos from the one above)***

## ***Euro-Fest 2015 British Cars Slideshow***

# Fun With Midgets

## Part 2

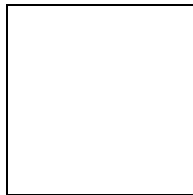
By Steve Whitlow

Like the old Wrigley's gum commercial says, 'Double your pleasure, double your fun' owning two MG's should provide twice the enjoyment or at least insure that you have one to drive while the other is being repaired, right? In the real world it doesn't always work that way, sometimes it means you have *two* cars in the garage in need of work. This was my predicament a few weeks ago. The Midget 1500 was up on jack stands at Charlie's shop in Magee when the 1974 Midget's water pump started leaking. Oh goodie!

With the EMC's Brits on the Bluff show in late September fast approaching it was time to get busy, so I called on Gene Johnston to assist in this endeavor.

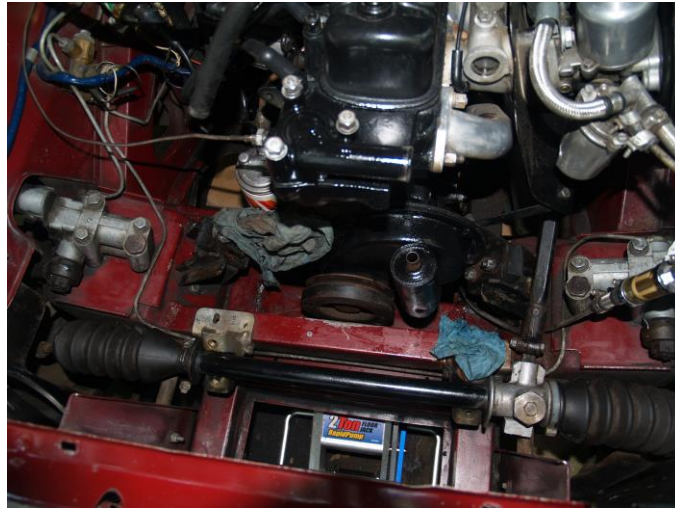
Removing the radiator and cowling was simple and straightforward. Likewise the cooling fan, water pump and alternator offered little resistance in their turn. So far so good.

I decided to replace all coolant and heater hoses, fan belt and cooling fan as the blades were showing signs of fatigue. Any fittings that looked questionable were also replaced but I decided to clean and reuse the original band type hose clamps.



Whilst waiting for my new parts from Moss Europe I took the time to clean the lower engine bay that that been concealed by the radiator. I also cleaned and re-sprayed the steering rack, timing cover, right side of the engine, expansion tank, lower coolant tube, heater return pipe and the original Lucas horns and their mounting brackets. The radiator and cowling paint was in very good condition so

these were simply cleaned. All hardware not replaced was thoroughly cleaned and polished to look like new. The radiator, expansion tank and lower tube were thoroughly flushed.



I also cleaned the alternator and fittings which were extremely grimy.



This was a good opportunity to grease the steering rack. I also changed the oil and filter, plugs and plug wires. My list of 'might as wells' kept growing, so in short order the distributor cap and rotor were replaced and the front suspension greased.

Now it was time to put it all back together and once again Gene Johnston's assistance proved invaluable as always. I took the opportunity to replace the two belt pulley with a single belt pulley as the air pump had long since been removed. The weight difference between them was almost two pounds! The most maddeningly difficult part of the reassembly process was the four bolts which

secure the radiator cowling to the splash shields via those fiddly captive nuts. I managed the upper two but so far the lower pair has proven uncooperative.

The old water pump is an anomaly, it was clearly designed for the cross flow radiator and had the deeper impeller but the housing was cast iron and weighed 3.8 pounds. The replacement pump had the alloy housing and weighed half as much. I thought all the pumps for the cross flow radiator design had alloy housings so this was puzzling. If Darwin's theory of evolution could be applied here I'd say we had a cross flow design pump that still retained a cast iron housing. ***Ah, the mysteries of the British automobile industry.***



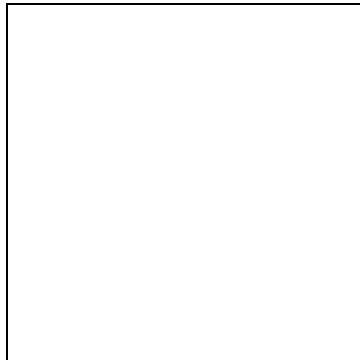
All back together again and no leaks, just in time for the Brits on the Bluff Show in Natchez.



Best of all replacing the pump and pulley resulted in a weight reduction of nearly four pounds. Just think of the performance gain! *'Safety (slightly) Fast (er)'*

# Car of the Month

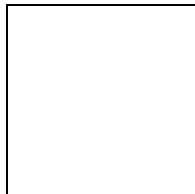
**Sadly, we didn't get a submission for Car of the Month for October.**



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*If you would like one of your British cars featured in Car of the Month, please send pictures, the story of where and how you found the car, and any adventure stories you would like to include. Please email us at [durningcharles@gmail.com](mailto:durningcharles@gmail.com).*

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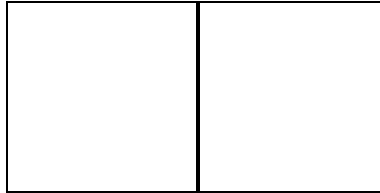
**October (check for date), 2015 - Brits at the Parthenon / Nashville TN** - If you're looking for a nice drive up the Natchez Trace there's no better reason than to attend the Nashville British Car Clubs Annual Show. Lot's to do including taking in the Lane Museum of Cars while in town. A reception is held on Friday evening and the shows on Saturday. Details: [www.nashvillebritishcars.com](http://www.nashvillebritishcars.com)

**October 23 - 24, 2015 – South Alabama British Car Festival / Fairhope AL** - It's a nice drive down to Fairhope AL so join the caravan to the lovely city by Mobile Bay. The Friday night meet and greet is always fun and the food is fantastic. The 2014 show was a high water mark for the EMC's final travel and show each year. Although moved to a new location the 2014 show remained within easy walking distance of all that downtown Fairhope has to offer. The show organizers put on a well organized show so make plans to attend. Details: [www.sabcc.org](http://www.sabcc.org). Travel plans with the EMC: Gene Johnston (601) 941 - 4892.

**November 7, 2015 – EMC Tech Session / 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 2015. The garage opens early and lunch starts at 12:00pm. Details: Gene / Martha Johnston (601) 607 – 7021.

And there's even more listed on the web-site at [www.msemc.org](http://www.msemc.org)



***ATTENTION!!!***

***As always, pictures and submissions are welcome!!!***