

Brits By The River

After almost two weeks of daily showers in South and Central Mississippi I wasn't too optimistic that we'd make it thru the 12th annual Brits By The River without a repeat of the famous or infamous 2001 event spent dodging a field of umbrellas. I was only half correct. Friday, travel day began a little overcast and misty traveling down The Natchez Trace to the rendezvous point at The River View RV Park in Vidalia Louisiana overlooking the Mississippi River. Nothing that a properly fitted hood couldn't handle when necessary but it never got to the point of necessity. I don't think any of the travelers ran into severe weather coming in from Texas, Louisiana or Florida. Still, the humidity was at times quite balmy to say the least and a good source of water was always nearby.

Friday night's social was at the River View Welcome Center and our hosts there were very accommodating even supplying a fan for the registration ladies. A large number of folks gathered for the beginning of the year-end car shows for and were not disappointed by the hors d'ouvours supplied by The Pig Out Bar B Que restaurant in Natchez.

Saturday started very early for the club members that are the energy source that puts our show on and I can't say enough about the effort this year. The registration went smoothest ever, the goodie backs were some of the best ever and the field of cars reflected the support of this show. Thanks to all members for your support and hard work.

The cars made it onto the field at 10:00am after a caravan from the hotel thru the surface roads to the show site as the road along the levee was judged to be in need of a little repair with all the rains. In all thirty four British and three Italians cars made it on the field. This was the first year that space was made for the Deep South Alfa Club to participate and we were very happy with their turnout and involvement in BBTR. Thanks Tim Spurill, Andy Menapace and Charles Durning and spouses for spending the day with us.

Only So Much

The Dog Days

Here at my place there's not been much progress on the GT. After July's run to Arkansas I've run into some minor transmission issues that have occupied my time. What I originally thought was a case of low transmission oil causing the overdrive to freak out turned out to be a cotter pin with a mind of it's own. Don't ask until you see me. I want to see the look on your face. Anyway the overdrive seems to be working fine however the second gear remains in a funk and occasionally if worked hard will give a gear ring as though it's attempted to engage one of the other assorted gears or synchro rings in the box. Well there's only so much that can be done all at one time so I've convinced myself that the thing to do for the time being is to be patient on entering second gear on the up shifts and the downshifts to get to the fall. No sense in getting all hot and bothered by it now.. No fun but the tranny pull needs to wait for cooler weather.

I've shared my gearbox woes with Jim Enzman who's had his share in his very yellow GT. Next time you see Jim be careful about regarding is tranny troubles,

you may get more than asked for.

Jim and John Turbeville have gotten in some floor pan repairs on John's TR-8 and at the gathering at the Baileys John indicated that the work resulted in some almost like new floor pans. Way to go John and Jim!

I'm not sure if it's me or the humidity but it's been too hot to get too deep into much in the way of LBC repairs. A little here and there but difficult to spend all day out in it. Come on fall.

Tech Session II

We had a gathering of fifteen or so at David and Jo Ann Bailey's on August 15, 2009.

Those arriving by British steed were Dennis Loftin, Clay and Debbie Johnston, John Turbeville and Keith Anderson. It was warm out but that didn't stop Keith from taking out David Bailey's MGA out and visa-versa for a tour around the neighborhood. Clay and Keith were seen hovering around David's E-Type looking for the cause of a no fuel pressure issue. They narrowed it down to a good pump but something in the wiring that wouldn't deliver power. I didn't get the final diagnosis from Keith and Clay so I'm uncertain if they were able to rectify the issue.

Madame President was pre-occupied for the day and couldn't make our pre - Brit's By The River meeting but she sent her right hand men, John and Pat to run the program and our discussion of BBTR things to do. We got task assigned and sorted and got our first pass of goodie bags completed. Things are shaping up for a great 13th anniversary gathering so I hope that you can make it down if not for Friday and Saturday at least for the Saturday show which will be in the usual location and associated with the Jim Bowie Festival.

That's it for this edition of the Off-Side Undo.

Happy Motoring

Gene

Events Calendar

SEPTEMBER 18 - 19, 2009 - EMC Brits By The River / Vidalia LA

2008 was a memorable year for the EMC's Brits By The River. Everyone indicated they had a great time in the new location with lot's of shade to spare so we'll repeat the location in 2009. Mark your calendar to be in Vidalia in the fall. Additional details and registration information can be found on the web-site at www.msemc.org Details: John Turbeville (601) 940-5288, Gene Johnston (601) 607-7021

OCTOBER 2 - 4, 2009 - Memphis Euro Fest / Memphis TN

Always a good fall show. If you haven't made this one your missing a great fall show that's close to home. This will be the 25rd edition so make plans to attend one of the oldest shows in the area. (*note, this date is tentative at time of posting please check their web site to confirm). Details: www.memphisbritishcars.org

Here are the class awards for the 12th annual Brits By The River:

Austin Healey

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 -- Terry Trovato | 1960 Austin Healey 3000 |
| 2 -- Richard and Darla Willows | 1958 Austin Healey 100-6 |

MG Midget

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| 1 -- Bob Deich | 1979 MG Midget |
|----------------|----------------|

MGA

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| 1 -- Tom Schmitz | 1957 MGA Coupe |
| 2 -- David Crawford | 1957 MGA 1500 |
| 3 -- Paul Hornsby | 1960 MGA 1600 |

MGB Chrome

- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| 1 -- Blake Sonnier | 1972 MGB |
| 2 -- Tom Warren | 1964 MGB |

MGB Rubber

- | | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1 -- Stuart Waddington | 1977 MGB |
| 2- Kathy Sonnier | 1977 MGB |
| 3 -- John Wilkerson | 1978 MGB |

Triumph TR2 -- 4

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| 1 -- Wayne Pangburn | 1963 TR -- 4 |
| 2 -- Brooks Dearing | 1957 TR -- 3 |
| 3 -- Merideth Trovato | 1959 TR -- 3 |

Triumph TR – 6

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1 – Poolboy | 1973 TR – 6 |
| 2 – Kevin Carran | 1974 TR – 6 |

Triumph Spitfire

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 – Tommy Boudreaux | 1973 Spitfire |
| 2 – Grady Wilkerson | 1978 Spitfire |

Jaguar Sports

- | | |
|------------------------|----------|
| 1 – John and Dot Wells | 1995 XJS |
| 2 – Wally Frilox | 2001 XK8 |
| 3 – Menda Hayden | 1994 XJS |

Jaguar Saloon

- | | |
|---------------------|------------|
| 1 – Barbara Cashman | 1957 MK II |
|---------------------|------------|

Empire Sports

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1 – Mike Robbins | 1976 Blakely Bearcat S |
|------------------|------------------------|

Empire Luxury

- | | |
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| 1 – Richard Branyan | 1949 Rolls Royce |
| 2 – Judy Stallman | 1973 Rolls Royce Cornich |

Empire Economy

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| 1 – Mike Glore | 1966 Moke |
|----------------|-----------|

MGB Modified

1 – Danny Varnado MGB Roadster

Triumph TR – 7 Modified

1 – Barry Schmidt TR – 7 Coupe

Alfa Romeo

1 – Andy and Bonnie Menapace Alfa Spider

Best of Show

Wayne Pangburn 1963 Triumph TR-4

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 8 - 10, 2009 - Lane Motor Museum / Franklin TN

Leave early on the 8th, drive to Franklin TN on The Trace and do the Lane Motor Museum - www.lanemotormuseum.org - on Friday. Social gathering on Friday night and show on Saturday. Details: www.nashvillebritishcarclub.org. If your interested let me know. Gene Johnston (601) 607 - 7021

OCTOBER 17, 2009 - EMC Tech Session III / Vicksburg MS

We missed a couple of visits to the Oldsmobile Garage aka. Pat and Barbara's in Vicksburg during 2008 so he's got a back log of projects of us to sling a wrench at. Bring your work cloths a tub of your favorite cool beverage and let's get down to work. Wrenching will begin at 11:00am a break will be given about 12:00pm. Details: Pat and Barbara Cashman (601) 638-3240

OCTOBER 23-24, 2009 - South AL British Car Festival / Fairhope AL

If you haven't made this gathering write it down now. The 2009 gathering was one of the best ever with a great turn out of cars. The Friday night gathering has become legendary. Date is tentative please check the web-site. Details: www.sabcc.org