

# The Morris Gazette

British Motoring Club - New Orleans

June 03

Published Monthly

***BMC-NO is affiliated with:***  
North American MGB Register (NAMGBR)  
and  
Vintage Triumph Register (VTR)

If you are a member of these or any other national register or club, please let us know.

## Inside this issue:

[Calendar \(click here\)](#)

[Meeting Minutes](#)

[Officers \(click here\)](#)

[Crawfish Boil](#)

[Back to the Beach Show](#)

[Altoids Trouble Light](#)

[Mid-Ohio Racing Video](#)

[The One That Got Away](#)

[For Sale](#)

[Membership \(click here\)](#)

[Club Regalia \(click here\)](#)

## President's Message

The crawfish were great, the weather was good, we had a nice turnout of people and British cars. All was right with the world. Special thanks to Cliff for his work in getting the crawfish, tables, and chairs, and to his helpers, Jim Jones and Charlie Ake. Actually everyone there helped set up and clean up after.



May 24 to June 1 is the 7th Annual British Car Week. This is a national event that costs nothing to enter. Everyone in the USA is encouraged to drive their LBCs\* as much as possible, such as trips to drug store, to let the cars be seen on the road. This coincides with our meeting on May 27. We have been having a good turn out of British cars at our meetings. Lets try to make this the biggest ever.

Sandro Pieri's MGB continues to live under my carport. Every once in a while I get enthused and work a little on it, but it seems each time I fix one thing, another problem erupts. I am learning more about MGBs than I ever wanted to know. Thank God for Triumphs!

Seriously, I have been doing some work on the clutch hydraulics. The black semi liquid that came out of this system was disgusting and has convinced me to change the fluids in the brakes and clutch in all my cars. I had never believed in periodic changing of brake fluid but now I do.

Some of you that have not touched your brakes in a few years, and never think about the clutch, may want to take a hint and check before major problems develop. This is a good job to do with a buddy and clean up both cars.

Keep those British cars running.

Harold O'Reilly

\*LBC = "Little British Car"



**LUBRIPORT LABORATORIES, INC.**  
*PROUDLY SERVICING THE PETROLEUM & MARINE INDUSTRIES*

PETROLEUM LABORATORY SERVICE – USED LUBE OIL ANALYSIS  
 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS – DIESEL & RESIDUAL FUELS TESTING  
 NEW LUBRICANT QUALITY ASSURANCE – EMISSION SPECTROMETER ANALYSIS

(504) 464-1734 – 1650 AIRLINE DRIVE – KENNER, LA 70062  
 ANNE & FLOYD FRILLOUX, OWNERS

## April 29 Minutes

Harold O'Reilly started the meeting by announcing the upcoming Crawfish Boil set for Sunday, May 4th at the Bogue Falaya Park in Covington. Reservations requested for this event and the list was passed around. Pre-payment was also requested to offset the club's subsidy of this event. Price of \$10 per 5 lbs of crawfish also includes corn, potatoes, sausage and soft drinks.

**Guest Speaker:** A representative from Ramelli Fast Blast, LLC, located on Washington Avenue in New Orleans, came to talk to us about stripping our British cars in a safe manner. Their process involves using "baking soda in high pressure blast machines", a system that was developed in the late 70's. This process is non-abrasive and will not damage the car body, glass or chrome. Disadvantages of this process include being messy and highly corrosive in electronics. Car stripping can be performed in one day. Their hours are from 7 AM to 6 PM, but will take in vehicles on weekends and nights if prearranged by calling 504-482-2040 or 800-245-4757.

**Car Show Recap:** Harold O'Reilly said we should all give ourselves a pat on the back for a great show. Bill Breithoff continued with a run down of the day. 168 cars were registered and 160 showed. This was the largest turnout in the history of our show with the next best show having 138 cars. Bill heard of no major complaints. Though Delgado's cafeteria closed at 1:30 pm, Weaver's Poboy shop was able to provide sandwiches. They said they did so well, they would like to sponsor Best of Show again next year. The car show volunteer appreciation party on April 13th apparently did not go so well. A new location, the King Buffet, was not quite prepared for the group. Parking problems and large crowds held up some people from arriving at 1:00 pm. Tables were not reserved and lengthy seating times influenced some people to leave and dine elsewhere. Apologies were made by both Bill & Harold with promises for better organization in the future.

**Pensacola Car Show:** BMCNO was well represented and won club award attendance. Most members came back with trophies. The Panhandle Club asked for our opinion concerning moving show to location that would be off Santa Rosa Island and on grass with trees. Show of hands voted with  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the group for and  $\frac{3}{4}$  against move.

**Upcoming Events:** Cliff Hughes proposed attending a Zephyr's game instead of the run to Catfish Charlies in June. Board will look into this suggestion.

**Members' Projects:** Harold O'Reilly mentioned that he was contacted by a person having 3 FREE MGB's. They include a '68 chrome MGB, a '71 MGB-GT, both parked for 10 years and a '71 MGB parts car. Harold has number if interested. Question arose as to how to dispose of a

'77 MGB rolling chassis that did not have a title. (most places require title for disposing). Southern Scrap and also a scrap yard in Slidell will take it if an identifying number can be found on the chassis. Floyd Friloux talked about the rebuilding of the master cylinder on a '72 GT6 and offered the use of the hones he purchased from NAPA. Purchasing antique license plates on Ebay was discussed. Cort Musgrave has been reading British author's book about building the cheapest car that runs. The cheapest car cost 47 Pounds or approximately \$70 using a Ford Escort body and a Pinto engine. Mike Anderson added that a Ford Cortina or Mercury Capri could also be used.

**50/50 Drawing:** The \$25 pot was won by Mike Baker. T-shirts were won by Gene Graham, Harold O'Reilly and Joy Watts. §

### Crawfish Boil 2003

Around 50 people made it to the Club's annual Crawfish Boil at Bogue Falaya Park in Mandeville. The weather was clear and sunny so plenty of LBCs drove in with their tops town.

The mud bugs were delicious and everyone got to eat their fill. The club provided the sodas and Anne Friloux brought her famous home-made pralines for dessert.



**FREE Parts & Accessories Catalogs**

Order Toll Free 7 Days A Week  
**1-800-255-0088**

Choose From These Catalogs:

- Austin Healey 100-4 • 100-6 • 3000
- MGA
- MGB & MGC
- AH Sprite & MG Midget
- Sunbeam Alpine & Tiger
- TR2 TR3 TR4 TR4A TR250
- TR6
- TR7 & TR8
- Spitfire & GT6

Order Your Free Catalog Online at  
**www.VictoriaBritish.com**

**Ship to Shore Marine Electric Inc.**

New equipment installations      Repair  
 Troubleshooting      Old equipment updates

Solving electrical problems since 1982

**Cort Musgrave**      (504) 392-4961

## Back To The Beach Car Show

The Save Our Lake Foundation's 2003 Back To the Beach Festival is being held May 30 - June 1. The event takes place along Lakeshore Drive by the Kiefer UNO Lakefront Arena. There will be live music on the Lake, fabulous food, inflatable games, and arts and crafts.

On Sunday, June 1, there will be a **Back to the Beach Car Show**.

Registration is from 7:00 AM - 11:30 AM, enter via Lakeshore Drive. 100 trophies plus 20 specialty awards will be presented at 1:30 PM. (If only 100 cars enter, all will get a trophy!) After awards are presented, drivers may leave their cars in place on the field and enjoy the rest of the festival.

Pre-registration for the show is \$20 until May 29, 2003, \$25 day of the show. Show registration includes festival admission for up to 2 adults in each car, a \$12 value!! (Additional tickets \$6.00 Adults, Sr. Citizens \$3.00 & \$2.00 children)

It is our understanding that this is general automotive show and that cars will be parked in order of arrival.

TIME	PERFORMER
7:30-11:30	Car Show Registration
1:30	Car Show Awards
1:30-3:00	Bobby Cure & the Summertime Blues
3:25-4:55	Bucktown All-Stars
5:20-6:50	Topcats
7:15-8:45	Rockin Dopsie Jr. & tje Zydeco Twisters
8:45	Fireworks Display!!

In order to have a "British Car class" and get all our cars parked together, several members have expressed an interest in meeting mid-morning somewhere near UNO, then driving to the show as a group. Afterwards, we can enjoy the concert and fireworks.

Details for BMCNO participation will be finalized at the May 27 General Meeting, and posted on the web site for anyone interested who is unable to attend the meeting. Or you can call any club officer the day after the meeting to get the details if you aren't "on-line".

More information on the **Back to the Beach Festival** is available from: Save Our Lake Foundation at 504-282-2862 or <http://www.saveourlake.org/event.html>

### NOTICE TO MGB OWNERS!

Our club is affiliated with NAMGBR, the North American MGB Registry. This affiliation provides our liability insurance for events. BMCNO must maintain 8 registered NAMGBR members in our club to be affiliated. If you own (used to own, or would like to own) an MGB, please join

NAGMBR, then tell the newsletter editor, Cathy Greensfelder. (She's the keeper of the membership list.) NAMGBR dues are \$25 and the newsletter *MG Driver* is worth it. Cathy will have NAMGBR membership applications at the next meeting.





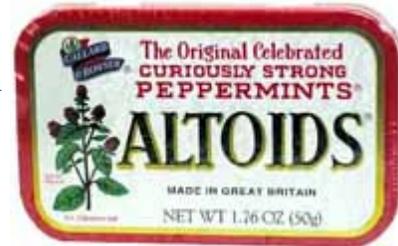
### ATTENTION TRIUMPH OWNERS!

Our club is a Vintage Triumph Register (VTR) zone. We need 10 VTR members in our club to become an affiliated chapter. There are insurance and other benefits to becoming a chapter. If you own (used to own, or would like to own) any type of Triumph, please join VTR, then tell the newsletter editor, Cathy Greensfelder. (She's the keeper of the membership list) or Harold O'Reilly, the VTR liaison. Cathy will have VTR membership applications at the next meeting.

### Altoid's Trouble Light for Your Glove Box by Cort Musgrave, Jr.

In the years of owning a British car I have found that a trouble light is the most valuable thing you can have for emergencies. After all, all of the tools in the world are useless unless you can see what you are doing.

You will need to stop by a place like Lowe's, Home Depot, or Radio Shack for the parts. Pick up the following:



- A large clip (like a Mueller No27) Make sure it has a screw-on connector
- A small clip (like a Mueller No60)
- A bulb socket (like a Serv-a-lite MS401U)
- A 12-14 volt bulb that fits the above socket
- Approximately 36"-48" 18 gauge electrical wire (any color you like).

While checking out, pick up a tin of "Altoids" mints (not the ones in the round tin) and offer some to the people in the queue and to the cashier. On the way home, offer "Altoids" to any one you come in contact with.

Sitting down in front of your work bench, take the large clip, screw the bulb socket with the base connector to the back of it (you may have to bend the wire holder on back of the clip out of the way). Next offer "Altoids" to any one asking what you are doing and continue by stripping a 3/8" section of each end of the wire and threading one end through the other connector on the bulb socket (the connector going to the center contact on the bulb) and solder it (I will help any one without a soldering iron). Take the other end of the wire and tread one end of it through the solder hole on the small clip and solder it. Put the bulb in the socket and go out to the car and test it by clipping the large clip to a good ground source and touching the small clip to something powered up like the battery hot terminal, offering "Altoids" to anyone asking what you are doing or if the car is broken again.

If it lights up, congratulations you are successful! If not bring it to the next meeting and I will look at it. By now your "Altoids" tin should be almost empty (you should have been trying). If not, take out the rest of the "Altoids", dust out the box, roll up the wire and put the whole test light assembly in the tin: it should fit. You will find all sorts of uses for this light and will wonder how you got along without it. Some of these uses include- setting points on older cars, testing for power on non-working devices, trouble light, and anything else you can think of.

Being British, the "Altoids" tin is the perfect thing to hold it and re-using the tin is frugal, which is a noble British trait. §

### **Mid-Ohio All-Triumph Racing Video**

The video of the All-Triumph race of last June 16, 2002 at Mid-Ohio is now available. The one hour, 23 minute video covers a description of the track, interviews with the drivers, drivers describing their cars and an entertaining lap-by-lap commentary of the race by 3 veteran vintage car drivers. Video was compiled from 5 in-car cameras and 8 track-side and paddock cameras.  
Send check for \$20 to Kent D. Howard  
W330 S3435 Bryn Mawr Road  
Dousman, WE 53118-9719

### **The One That Got Away** by Cort Musgrave, Jr.

Ever hear a fish story? You know, a story about a 10 lb catfish or a 15 foot sunfish that someone fights for 8 hours and just as the net is about to scoop it, it breaks the line or throws the hook and swims away? The person telling the story swears that it's true and just how it happened.

Well, over the years, my father and I have some pretty good fish stories about cars that got away. And I swear it happened just like this- When I was about 11 or 12 years old (I'm 39 now, so I guess this makes this 1975) my parents bought a camper. After camping in it about 3 or 4 times, we decided that we no longer liked camping and put the camper up for sale. A guy came by to look at it and said that he would buy it, but because his tow vehicle did not have the right tow gear on it could we deliver it. My father agreed and we towed it to the guy's house out in Chalmette.

He owned a trailer park and lived in the only house in the middle of this trailer park and as we are pulling up to the house, my father points to a car in the guy's back yard, starts hyperventilating trying to say something like, "That's an Aston Martin". The car was in fact an Aston Martin DB2 coupe. If you have ever seen Hitchcock's "The Birds", the silver-blue convertible is a DB2. My father starts talking to the guy about it and the guy informs him that his son brought it back from England and now was in the Peace Corps and left word to sell the car, would we be interested in an even swap, the camper for the car.

Meanwhile, I went over to look at the car. It was dark green, so dark it appeared black, with red leather interior, body-color wire wheels, and a second engine sitting on the back seat. I sat in the driver's seat on the right side of the car and the guy informed my father that those English cars were all that way and that this Austin company always gave you two engines, just in case and his son told him that this car was special being a "zagnut" or something like that and it was suppose to be faster than the regular car. Well, we didn't get the car because we were getting new carpet for the house and although we had carpet, we needed new carpet.

Fast forward to 1988. (If you've seen "Wayne's World", make that noise he makes when he goes back in time!)

My friend Ben Gravolet and I are working on some car in his parents' garage and I tell him this story. He asks me if I've ever gone back to see if it is still there. I stated no and we jumped in his mom's Volvo for an adventure.



**This is NOT the exact same Aston Marton DB2, but one very much like it!**

All I remember was that it was a trailer park with a house in the middle of it and a shooting range in the back of it. Now I thought this to be a pretty strange combination, but apparently this is a common setup in the Chalmette area. We search for three evenings stopping every police officer we came across and were sent to at least 5 places that loosely fit this description. Finally, we meet up with an older retired officer working as a security guard and he informs us that he knows of a place (but the range shut down years ago) down past Violet. We get the instructions and head down there.

As Ben pulls in the long drive, I have a flash back! "This is the place!" It is close to 9pm and we found the place! The wife was outside doing something and asked if she could help us. I told her that my parents sold them a camper in the seventies and do you still have your son's car that was in the back yard? She got her husband, I asked him and he said "You mean that old Austin Martin..." Ben stopped him and stated "I think you mean Aston Martin like Aston hill, not Austin Martin".

Sure, whatever, anyway my son died in the Peace Corps and we finally got rid of that car a couple of months ago. It was all rusted out and the son of a friend of ours gave me \$50 to haul it away. We asked if he remembered the son's name. He gave us his name and phone number and also stated that he worked at the Lee Circle YMCA.

We flew down to St. Charles and started beating on the door of the YMCA, someone finally came to the door to chase us away saying it was 10:30pm. We started yelling if they knew this guy. They did but he was off that night so we went home thinking this was the end of the trail.

The next couple of days Ben started calling the guy and finally got in touch with him. He said that he sold the car for \$4500 to a dealer in New Hampshire and it was the fastest money he ever made. Ben got the name and number for the dealer in New Hampshire and contacted him. The guy had since sold the car to someone else and when Ben found out that the car was a Zagato car with Webers instead of SU's, had Avon racing tires, pyrospex sliding side windows, a second engine that appeared to be assigned to this car and seemed to be set up for racing, he flew down on the next flight he could get.

About this time one of the magazines at the bookstand on 17th street had a picture of a Aston Martin DB2 on the front cover with the word "FOUND" across it. The article stated that one of the works Aston Martin DB2's was found after being lost for quite a while and that the new owner sent it to Newport-Pagnel where Aston Martin was built for a proper restoration. It went on to state that the car was found somewhere in the southern United States and that the new owner had recently turned down an offer of \$1.2 million US, but he wasn't selling it. I walked out of the newsstand in a daze, my father shaking me and stating "We have to get back, the guys are going to be at the house to tile the area where the carpet is." §

**For Sale**



**67 Triumph GT6 Mark 1.** Solid California car plus similar parts car, lot of parts. Recent brake and clutch rebuild, runs good, purchased from the original owner. Fuel tank still out after cleaning. New fuel pump. Clear title on the good car. Bill of sale only on the parts car: good glass, good suspension, some decent sheet metal, no transmission. In Harvey, LA. \$2,500 package deal. Dave Johnson H:(540)368-1733 W:(504)362-7373 Cell:(504) 416-3710. (5/03)

**80 MGB-LE** new top & tires, runs great! \$7,500 Roger Gibson 887-2725 (4/03)

**72 MGB and '73 MGB-GT** in old Algiers. Asking \$2500 for both. Call (504) 486-9752 or (504) 400-3486 (3/03)

### **Parts:**

**Triumph Type A overdrive transmission.** \$500 OBO. Cliff Hughes (985)966-0492 (4/03)

**MGB 68-74 brake master cylinder,** \$130, John Roper (985)893 2413, [scjohn@bellsouth.net](mailto:scjohn@bellsouth.net) (5/03)

### **Newsletter Submissions**

**Electronic submissions are greatly preferred. Email to [MorrisGazette@cox.net](mailto:MorrisGazette@cox.net) or bring a diskette to the meeting. (MS Word or plain text preferred.) Bring written articles to the meetings, or mail to P.O. Box 73213 Metairie LA 70033**

Web Design and Production By  
**mrsawdoff productions**