# The Morris Gazette

**British Motoring Club - New Orleans** 

#### September 2004

**Published Monthly** 

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

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

Register (VTR)

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#### **President's Message**

By the time you read this newsletter, it should be time for the TGIF Friday gathering on Columbia St. in Covington, held Friday, August 27 from 5 to 10 pm. Last



month about 18 of our members were there and they had a great time. If you missed it, try to make this one.

Thanks to all of the 46 members that brought 21 British cars and one British motorcycle to the 7th Annual UnCar Show, which was on Columbia St. in Covington at the Tap Room.

Here is another way to "Do More in 2004". On Sunday, September 5th, like last year, there will be an all-clubs cruise to have lunch at Middendorf's. It was nice to see other cars besides our own there.

If you always wanted to drive your car with a paper bag on your head, you have to come out on Sunday, September 19th for the Hayden Funkana at the Tanger Outlet Mall in Gonzales. This event is funny and challenging! Dave and Menda along with Ian and their other family and friends bring all of the props, cones, and teeter-totter from Abbeyville to put this event on for us. It is a lot of work, and they do it willingly as long as enough people show up to run the course. So bring your navigator and your car, and prepare to have some fun.

See you there!

Bill

P.S. Saturday, September 11th, be at the south toll plaza of the Causeway at 4:45. The convoy leaves for Pontchartrain Vineyards and Jazz'n the Vines. Bring your food, tables and chairs, and any non-alcoholic beverages. Admission is \$8.50 per person.

## September 2004

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Middendorf's	6	7	8	9	10	11 Jazz'n the Vines
12	13	14 Board Meeting	15	16 MG Registry	17 MG Registry	18 MG Registry
19 Funkana	20	21	22	23	24 Brits Convoy	25 Brits & Ala- bama Show
26	27	28 General Meeting	29	30		

**Sun Sep 5 "All Clubs Cruise" to Middendorf's**. Join enthusiasts from other area clubs. Meet at Kenner Welcome Center, I-10 at Loyola at 10:30 am. Middendorf's is opening early for lunch at 11:30 followed by a minishow in Ponchatoula afterwards.

**Sat Sep 11 Jazz `n the Vines**, Pontchartrain Vineyards Hwy 1082 north of Covington. Concert by the The Pfister Sisters (swing era jazz vocals) and picnic. Bring a picnic dinner, chairs, flashlight and umbrella. South Shore convoy from Metairie Causeway toll plaza at 4:45 pm, meet North Shore at Rouse's on Hwy 190 in Covington at 5:15. We will arrive at Vineyard shortly before 6 pm. \$8.50 admission. Wine (by glass or bottle) & soft drinks available for purchase. No pets or outside alcohol. **www.pontchartrainvineyards.com** 

**Tue Sep 14 Board Meeting** – 7:00 pm at Cliff Hughes' home, 100 Chula Place, Mandeville, (985) 845-8709 South shore car pool leaves Lakeside from near Whiney Bank at 6:15pm.

**Sep 16-19 Peachtree MG Registry Show**, at Dillard House in Dillard GA (120 miles NE of Atlanta). Georgia Mountains tour on Friday, show, swap meet, rally on Saturday. More information at www.Peachtreemg.com

**Sep 19 Funkana Tanger Outlet Mall in Gonzales**, 1pm. Dave Hayden, family and friends put on a wonderful event. South shore convoy leaves Kenner Welcome Center at noon, North shore leaves Beau Chene at 11:30.

Fri Sep 24 – Convoy to Vidalia, LA for "Brits on the River" show. Time TBA at the August meeting. Check the web site details later.

**Sat Sep 25 – "Brits on the River"**, Vidalia, LA (across the river from Natchez). Keith Vezina is driving up Saturday morning – contact him for convoy info.

**Sat Sep 25 – Montgomery Alabama Show** in conjunction with the Alabama Highland Games. More info: http://clubs.hemmings.com/bmcmontgomery

**Tue Sep 28 General Meeting** 7:30 pm Italian Pie, Jefferson Hwy .6 miles West of the Huey P. Long bridge, across the street from Smilie's. Nomination of officers for 2005.

#### July 27 General Meeting Minutes

President Bill Breithoff called the meeting to order promptly at 7:30 and introduced guest Pete Meyers from Colorado. Pete is a Mini owner and is spending a few months in the New Orleans area while working at NASA. New member Robert Rougelet, also a Mini owner, was introduced. Approximately 35 people attended the meeting.

Bill was pleased to note the fine turn out of British cars. We managed to get a full row of LBCs along the front of the parking lot.

**Past Events:** The Taste of Bavaria run was a great success, even if there was some confusion about the room. Next time we will have to remember to call before we leave Kenner. Dawn Gonzales and Ray brought pictures of the event to share.

Bill and Sally Breithoff plan to write an article on convoy etiquette. However, they were warned by Cliff that they should include in the article "Only follow someone home if you live where they live!" (Bill wasn't paying attention on the way home from Taste of Bavaria and started to follow Cliff to the North Shore!!)

**Future Events:** All members are encouraged to check out the TGI Friday block party in Covington the last Friday of the month. The event begins at 5 and the streets close to vehicular traffic shortly after 6. Cliff Hughes recommends you take I-12 West to 21 and come in the back way. There is construction on highway 190 and it's a bumper-to-bumper mess during rush hour.

If you don't want to drive across the lake, several members have caught the Crawfish and Concert on the back porch at Southport Hall, also on Friday evenings. Club member Harold O'Reilly is the new owner.

The Un-Car Show is the next major event, coming up on August 15th. It's too hot to wax, so don't worry about it. There will be awards in various areas such as worst paint, dirtiest, biggest windshield crack...

The Funkana is coming up in September. Dave Hayden and family always put on a great event. Someone asked if the LA Z club (Datsun/Nissan Z cars) would be invited again this year. The board will check with Dave and make sure it's OK.

Marvin Faber Trophies has closed up shop. They did the trophies for our car show for many years. If anyone knows of a trophy place that is open on Saturdays or willing to open for a special order, please contact any board member.

**Member Projects:** "Scarlet Rose", Sally Breithoff's pink MBG is ready to begin installing the interior.

Fraser Rice just got back from the NAMGAR national meeting in Connecticut. He was the only person attending from the New Orleans area. It was a four day event, held in an orchard and it was pleasantly cool with no rain. It was 45 degrees Thursday night in New York!! It felt wonderful. There were lots of spectacular cars and nice people. (Fraser flew – he did not drive his MGA to New England!)

Fran Talley won \$27 in the 50/50 drawing. Roy Richardson, Robert Rougelot and Deryl Lynn Roberts won T-shirts. The meeting was adjourned promptly at 8pm and the Bradley's passed out directions for the Mystery Cruise. §

### Club Officers - 2004

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#### Slidell Open Car and Truck Show by Raymond Williams

Frazer Rice

Henry Bourgeois

Harold O'Reilly

Keith Vezina

On Sunday, July 4th at the Slidell Heritage Festival, the Slidell Police Department hosted the First Annual "Open Car and Truck Show". Dawn and I brought our 1980 MGB to the show. We were suprised to find that we had the BEST British car at the show.....since it was the ONLY British car at the show. We came to meet many that were interested in the British Motoring Club of New Orleans and we spread the word to many nice folks about our great club and all the fun events it sponsers.

Since this was the FIRST Annual Car show at the Slidell heritage Festival, maybe next



year we can have more British cars to enroll. It was a day of fun---bands, food, crafts and a street fair-- an all around good time. Lots of sunshine and heat----Must bring a big umbrella!

#### **Newsletter Submissions:**

Electronic submissions preferred via the following methods:

- Email to editor@bmcno.org
- Bring a diskette to the meeting
- Mail to P.O. Box 73213 Metarie, La 70033



#### NAMGBR - June 24-27, 2004 by Bill Harris

The North American MGB Register (NAMGBR) held it's convention at Parsippany, NJ this year. BMCNO was represented by Bill and June Harris and their grandson, Patrick. This was our fourth National Convention

The three day journey to New Jersey was uneventful until arriving at Gettysburg, PA to tour the famous battlefield and tour the museum. The next day, after three more hours and a 1350 mile drive, we finally arrived at the host hotel.

The Parsippany Hilton had reserved a huge portion of the parking lot for the MG's and set up a car wash station. Parking lot parties went on till midnight and started again at sunrise. The hotel was HUGE, and caused us to get lost several times when trying to find the vendors rooms and the hospitality suite.

**Thursday** morning we took a bus tour of New York City, seeing areas of Manhattan (Ground Zero, the Garment district, Chinatown, Central Park, Wall Street, Times Square, Greenwich Village, Fifth Avenue, the Letterman Theatre, the Apollo Theatre, Battery Park, and Grant's Tomb (yes, he is buried there)). After lunch at South Street Seaport we toured the Em-

pire State Building.

**Friday** we saw the vendors that had set up at the hotel, and attended the tech sessions that were offered. Several impromptu tech sessions took place in the parking lot. One car, from Ontario, cracked a valve on the way to the hotel. Another lost its clutch. As luck would have it, Moss Motors was a short 10 minute drive from the hotel, so parts were readily available.

Some went to a rally Friday afternoon that ended up at Lewis Morris Park, site of the evening's catered bar-b-que. The park also was the setting for a funkana, valve cover racing and MG Olympics. Rain forced the



activities to be cut short, but everyone enjoyed the food under the tent where the food was served. That night back at the hotel, a storm forced the parking lot parties indoors. A DJ set up music in the parking lot, and played music for himself under a covered pavilion.

**Saturday** morning, after everyone dried their cars from the downpours, we drove to Lewis Morris Park for the show. There were between 240 and 250 MGs under beautiful skies. That night the awards banquet was held at a restaurant about 10 minutes from the hotel; that is if you could find it. We were awarded 2nd place in the Limited Edition Class!

New Jersey doesn't believe in highway signs posted before the intersection. They are usually found after you have already made your turn. Speaking of turns, they don't allow left turns. They have what is known as "jug handles". This is a loop or road from the right lane that circles back to the road that you originally wanted to make a left to. Kind of hard to understand and even harder to find and use them.

**Sunday** morning, after saying our goodbyes, we headed back home. After traveling through the Amish farms around Lancaster, PA we headed for Hershey, PA to tour the Hershey Chocolate factory.

Show pictures can be seen at the NAMGBR website http://www.mg2004.com/2004photos.htm. Photos taken by Adam Housley of The MGB Experience (mgbexperience.com), can be seen with his permission at http://community.webshots. com/user/MGB2004. MG 2005 will be held in Olympia Wa., July 6-10th (www.MG2005.com).



#### A Taste of Bavaria by Cathy Greensfelder

Thirty adults (plus a few children) and 13 British cars braved a brutally hot day for a cruise to Ponchatoula to the Taste of Bavaria restaurant and bakery.

The South Shore crowd pulled out of the Kenner Welcome center exactly on time made it to Taste of Bavaria by 10:45. Being on time was important as they stop serving breakfast, i.e. Belgian waffles and Hopple Popple (a German omelet with potatoes!) at 11:30.

There was some confusion when we arrived. We were told that the back room was available but the air conditioning was off and it was hot. So they proceeded to seat us in small groups through out the building. Later, Floyd Friloux heard a waiter grousing that he had gone to all that trouble getting the back room ready for some car club and they didn't show. Floyd asked him which club, the waiter said the British car club, and Floyd replied that we were there - we'd been told the back room wasn't air conditioned. Confusion!! Turns out we only needed to wait 10 minutes for the room to cool down. If they'd said that,





Wayne & Joyce Aucoin, Allen & Sue Bradley, John Roberts

we'd have waited. Oh, well. Next time we WILL remember to call before we leave. And this time we really mean it!!

Butch Frutos won the "British Car" drawing and the club paid \$10 towards his brunch.



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#### TGIF in Covington by Sue Bradley

18 people from our club, including Colorado visitor, Peter Meyers and another co-worker, joined us for an enjoyable Friday evening. Those attending were: Linda and Cliff Hughes, Austin-Healey; Susan & Allen Bradley MGB; Deryl Lynn & John Roberts MGB; Roger Nagy Austin Seven; June & Bill Harris MGB; Robert Rougelot Mini Cooper, Jim Jones

Morris Minor Sedan. Dawn Gonzales and Ray Williams joined us without their British car. Joyce and Wayne Aucoin joined us also, but were unable to get into the street party area with their new Mini. Unfortunately, we did not have any Triumphs to represent us this time. There were lots of antique cars and motorbikes. People were very interested in the British cars and asked a lot of questions. We enjoy showing off our cars anytime, anyplace.

A few of us caravanned across the lake and met up with Cliff Hughes. Bill Harris and Robert Rougelot arrived early and managed to save a few parking spots, so we were able to SQUEEZE in our LBC's.

We had a group of 15 for dinner at Etoile. Very good food, nice at-

mosphere...Some of us plan to go back. It was a very enjoyable evening. The guys got to talk cars and the ladies got to shop. A few of the stores stayed open late for browsing and shopping. There was something for everyone!

#### **Mystery Cruise**



Following last month's meeting, a large gathering left the Italian Pie for an unknown local destination. Only our planners knew what was in store! As it turns out it was something right up everyone's alley - food! Even better, it was a sweet-tooth's delight at The Creole Creamery on Prytania Street uptown.

The ice cream parlor was abuzz with chatter while we enjoyed our treat Only one question remains: Where are we going next?

#### **Crunch Time**

This is NOT the way to win an award at the UnCar Show, but Rogers Schupp could have easily walked away with a Golden Fracture Award if he tried. On the day prior to the show, Rogers and his wife were traveling home in his two-month old 1994 Lotus Esprit S4. When they were only a few blocks from The Creole Creamery, a motorist ran her stop sign, saw the Schupps and stopped in the middle of the intersection. Fortunately none of the people involved in the ensuing accident were hurt. The same cannot be said of the Esprit. It has been declared a total loss, leaving Rogers (and the car's PO) quite dejected. This unfortunate incident is a reminder to all of us to use extra caution when driving our LBCs. Rogers and Cindy were protected by air bags, but not many of our cars have them. As our "brake tags" say, "Drive Defensively".



#### The UnCar Show by Cathy Greensfelder



The 7th Annual Richard Wolf Un-Car Show was the best ever. We had an unseasonable cool front move through the area bringing clear blue sky and mild temperatures. This was a very welcome change from the rain and blistering heat of the last three or four years. Twenty two British vehicles -21 cars and a motor cycle – were "entered" in the un-show and 44 members and guest enjoyed the food and A/C at the Tap Room.



Cort M. Musgrave (Cort Senior) took home the *Interior Award* for his 1963 olive drab Land Rover. The seats are in pretty good shape but the old beast has pop-up vents on the

ceiling and a thin coating of rust covering them and the surrounding head liner.

Allen Bradley, two time winner of the Goodwill Award, only brought home the *Spider Web Award* this year. His TR6, last year's grand prize winner, is well on its way to being a contender at the real shows. However, the professional installer that was putting in his new windscreen broke the glass. Allen decided at 8 am the morning of the show that the TR6 was competing for its final time and DUCT TAPED the old windshield back in place. The Spider Web Award is usually for the biggest crack or star, and the old windshield only has a number of small, hardly noticeable pits, but the duct tape was just too much for the judges to pass by.

Roy Richardson brought his gold 1981 TR8, which apparently is stored outside under a tree. He takes home the Gunk Award for worse



engine compartment. The judges did not find any acorns actually sprouted and growing among the leaves and compost in the engine bay, but did spot a couple of ants frantically trying to find a place to stow eggs from their disturbed nest.

Keith Vezina's 1976 MGB, a frequent winner at local shows, even more so after its recent paint job at Delgado, took home the *Exxon Valdez Award* for biggest oil leak. Keith confessed that he hasn't changed the oil in 5 years. He says he just changes the filter every 3000 miles and figures that with the 4 quarts he adds between filter changes, the oil takes care of itself. It's kind of like a self-cleaning oven!!

Charlie Ake, another past Goodwill winner, takes home two awards this year with his "new" 77 MGB: The **Dust Bin Award** for dirtiest car, and the **Primer Award** for paint. While several other cars were very close to having as much dust and road grime on the exterior as Charlie's, his was the only one with foot prints – Cliff's Hughes' grandson's foot prints to be precise - across the trunk lid. (Much bigger than the discreet cat paw prints on several others.) And to convince the judges that his paint was indeed the worst, Charlie handed out souvenirs of red paint chips from the hood.

A new member, who joined on the spot at the event, was Rich Umholtz of Mandeville. Rich entered a brown 79 MGB that all of us immediately recognized as a previous Goodwill winner. Rich bought the car from the guy Charlie Ake sold it to a year ago! It's in much better shape now than when it first won – the mechanicals are all in fine working order now. But it still has the same dash, winning it the *Grand Canyon Award* for most cracked, split dash. It also won the *Body Shop Award* for biggest dent for something new: It seems the hood popped up on Rich while driving. We figured that it was pretty badly dented, where ever it was, because it wasn't on the car anymore.

Roy Richardson took home the "*Wink Award* "(created on the spot with a handy Sharpie permanent marker!!). The TR8 has one retractable headlight down and the other stuck up, so the car looks like it either has a black eye or it's winking at you.

The **Boot** Award goes to the person voted most likely to walk home from an event. This year it went to a non-participant –Sally Breithoff for her pink MGB. Bill has reassembled the car after painting to the point that it is drivable, but after it killed on Sally three times on the two block trip to the gas station around the corner, she decided not to bring it. (It's suffering from a stuck clutch and 10 month old gaso-line.)

The *UnDo Trophy* (that's what is says on the battered knock off) goes to the car with the worst wheels in the show. For the second year in a row, I (Cathy Greensfelder) took it home. All four Rostyle wheels on my 1979 MGB are uniform rust brown!

The grand prize, the coveted *Goodwill Trophy* (stylishly engraved with the names of previous winners in black marker on duct tape) went to Ronnie Palmisano for his mostly blue 1976 TR6. The car is defiantly in need of a total restoration: it qualified for awards for glass, paint (what there is of it – hood and one door are mostly primer), interior (one seat is not bolted down and there are no interior door panels), dents (provided you count rust holes completely through the trunk lid as dents), dash and top. Ronnie gets to proudly display the cracked, grubby little trophy for a full year! Congratulations, and best of luck on the restoration!



#### For Sale

**1971 MGB** chrome bumper, wire wheels with 1974 mgb parts car. The 71 is dismantled, rust

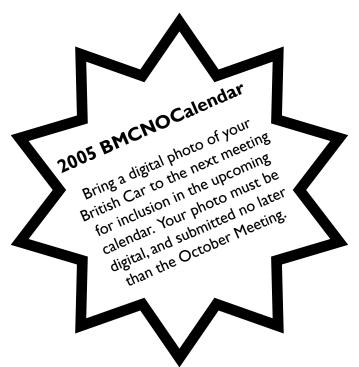


free, restoration project. All parts accounted for. \$ 1600.00 for all. For details, call: Kover Seippel at (504) 887-0677. Metairie. La.

**75 MG Midget** parts car. Wrecked in front- no engine- Has good windshield, some gauges, and good

body parts from doors on back. Best offer. Jimmy (337) 984-7060.

**1959 MGA Coupe** with MGB engine. Maroon. New oil cooler, hoses, generator, good tires. Call Joe Rogers at (504) 467-4246.



### **Membership Info**

Club membership is open to anyone who owns or has owned, drives or is interested in British motor vehicles.

Annual Dues: \$30 first year / \$25 subsequent years.

\$15 corresponding membership (newsletter only) available outside the Greater NO area.

New members receive a name tag and either a club license plate frame or Tshirt at their first or second meeting (shipping extra). All members receive the monthly club newsletter.

Your membership expiration date is printed on your newsletter mailing label. Please pay your dues promptly to avoid missing any issues of the Morris Gazette.

Mail renewal checks payable to "BMC-NO" to: Treasurer, PO Box 73213, Metairie LA 70033

### **Member Directory Listing Corrections:**

Name:				
Address:				
Phone:	Fax:		 	
E-Mail:				
Cars: Year Marque Model Color				
Car 1		Car 2		
Car 3		Car 4		

