# Morris Gazette

October/November 2005 Published Monthly

# BMCNO is affiliated with

North American MGB Register (NAMGBR) and

## Vintage Triumph Register (VTR)

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

We strongly encourage all members to join the registry for their marque!

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## President's Message

WELCOME HOME BMCNO MEMBERS! It has been 7 weeks since all hell broke loose with the hurricane. I know that many of you have suffered tremendous losses, and many others were unscathed. In an effort to regain momentum, we held a club meeting at the end of last month at our normal gathering place, and a total of 17 members arrived ready to talk about their experiences.

Our October officers meeting was held two weeks ago, and we recommended that our 16th Annual British Car Day be held as planned. We will make all announcements by the middle of November. Planning will continue through the end of February, and if we have to make some changes, we will.

Our meeting next week is scheduled for Tuesday with some very important business to conduct. Election of officers is the main item on the agenda. Several members have tossed their names into the officer hat. We do need to fill a member at large office, and the treasurers office will need help, as Allen Bradley may be leaving us early next year. He has agreed to fill the slot until his departure. (He will be missed!!!!).

A few other items of interest to our menbers is the SABCC show being held the last Saturday of this month. NO overnight accomodations are available, therefore it will be a 1 day event. A true GOF if you will. Next Friday is the last FINAL FRIDAY in Covington. This event has been well attended in the past, and for those not attending SABCC Saturday, this may be a perfect time to relax and enjoy a night out, away from the mess created by Katrina. Christmas party plans are also in progress, with several members offering to host this holiday celebration.

As per article 11 of the British Motoring Club – New Orleans By-Laws, I hereby petition the Board of Directors, Officers and Members to add the following:

3. (e) Life Members: Life membership shall be open to all persons who qualify as Full or Associate Members. Life Members shall be subject to the same regulations and entitled to the same benefits as full members. Dues for Life Membership shall be a one-time fee of 10 times the Full Member annual renewal rate.

T. Keith Vezina, Vice President & Webmaster.

# November 2005

| Sun                         | Mon | Tue                      | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                             |     | 1                        | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   |
| 6                           | 7   | 8                        | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  |
| 13<br>EE Reynolds<br>Rallye | 14  | 15<br>Board<br>Meeting   | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  |
| 20                          | 21  | 22                       | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  |
| 27                          | 28  | 29<br>General<br>Meeting | 30  |     |     |     |

**Tue Oct 25 General Meeting** - 7:00 pm. Italian Pie, Jefferson Hwy 0.6 miles West of the "Huey" across the street from Smilies'. Election of Officers. Discussion of SABCC show in Fairhope.

Fri Oct 28 - Final Friday - last one of the season. Columbia St. Covington, 5 to 10 pm

Sat Oct 29 – SABCC British Car Festival, Fairhope AL. The event is still on but has been scaled back to an exhibition & picnic on Fairhope beach. Hotel accommodations are not available so there will be a convoy leaving Saturday morning for a day trip rather than the usual full weekend. Convoy departure time & place will be determined at the Oct 25 meeting.

**Sun Nov 13 E.E. Reynolds Rallye**. Driver's meeting at the Italian Pie on Jeff Hwy 12:30 SHARP with first car out 15 minutes later. Rallye Master Rodger Talley has a route planned for us. As always, food at the finish line!!

Tue Nov 15—Board & Car Show Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm. Bill Harris 9427 Calvary Ct, (504) 737-0887

**Tue Nov 29—General Meeting-** 7:00 pm. Italian Pie, Jefferson Hwy 0.6 miles West of the "Huey" across the street from Smilies'.

**Future Stuff:** 

Sun Dec 4 Christmas Party,

Tue Dec 6—Board & Car Show Committee Meeting—7:00 pm. Keith Vezina, 3221 Maine Ave, Kenner (504) 443-5056

## August 28th Meeting Cancelled

The August meeting and all September activities except the monthly meeting (which was rescheduled from Tuesday Sept 27th to Thursday Sept 29th) were cancelled due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Several members have posted their status on the club web site www.bmcno.org in the forums section. Please check in and let everyone know how you and your cars did in the storm. The *Garage Mahal* in Uptown came through okay. It has some roof damage but is still structurally sound. This will be good when folks start rebuilding flooded cars. §

## September 29th Meeting

Seventeen members shared a meal at the Italian Pie on Jefferson Highway. They spent the time sharing stories of their hurricane experiences. Everyone was just plain tired so it was decided to postpone all club business till the October meeting. §

#### **Nominations of Officers**

Nomination of officers should have taken place at the August meeting. Due to Hurricane Katrina that meeting was cancelled. The members listed below have volunteered to run for office for 2006. As you can see, we still need a Member at Large.

In addition, Allen Bradley\*\* is being transferred out of town early in 2006 so he cannot serve as treasurer for the full term. He has graciously consented to remain in the office until he leaves, but we need someone to work with Allen and start taking over the job.

Contact one of current officers if you can help out. The club needs you. §

| Office             | Nominee            |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| President          | Cliff Hughes       |
| Vice President     | Keith Vezina       |
| Treasurer          | Allen Bradley**    |
| Secretary / Editor | Cathy Greensfelder |

| Member at Large Nominees |
|--------------------------|
| 1—Robert Rougelot        |
| 2—Ronnie Palmisano       |
| 3—Wally Friloux          |
| 4—??                     |

#### Club Officers – 2005

President: Vice President Treasurer Secty/Editor Cliff Hughes Keith Vezina Allen Bradley Cathy Greensfelder Board of Directors
985-845-8709 hugh870
504-443-5056 webmast
504-888-6887 abmgbtre
504-392-9261 cgreensf

Members at Large

hugh8709@bellsouth.net webmaster@bmcno.org abmgbtr6@bellsouth. cgreensf@cox.net



Ronnie Palmisano Bill Harris Roy Richdardson Robert Rougelot 504 454-3461 ronniepalmisano@aol.com 504-737-0887 william\_harris@email.com 504 833-4840

rcrougelot@charter.net

#### **Marque Coordinators**

985 809-7007

North American MGA Register North American MGB Register Vintage Triumph Register Webmaster Frazer Rice 504-314-1157 brice@intu.net
Henry Bourgeois 504-893-7610 bayouboo@charter.net
Harold O'Reilly 504-486-5837 haroldor@bellsouth.net
Keith Vezina 504-443-5056 webmaster@bmcno.org

#### Rubber Spares by Jim Jones

Over the years, I have found that acquiring rubber spares for my LBCs can be frustrating. For example, there are a number of suppliers for my Morris Minors, but not too much is available for the rubber spares that are unique to the utilities (pick up / van).

One such source is Scott's Old Auto Rubber. They stock many rubber parts for a lot of British cars that are not available from any other company. Hard to find spares may not be identical to the original factory parts. They may not always be shaped with curves, etc. But with a little work and thought, they can be modified to fit just fine.

Their web site is a old fashioned: no drawings, just a listing and a word description of each part by manufacturer, model, and type of vehicle. To make even harder to determine just what part you need, local Australian terminology applies. For example, the "ute" means pick up truck and the "tray" applies to the bed of the truck.

One must learn to adapt if you want that unique rubber spare for your LBC. Check them out at their web site: <a href="https://www.scottsoldautorubber.com.au">www.scottsoldautorubber.com.au</a>

Good Day, Mate!§



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#### Your Car's Battery by Jim Jones

You depend heavily on your car's battery. So, it only makes sense that you should tend to its needs.

Water is first on the list. Evaporation is how water is lost. The battery's sulfuric acid is diluted with pure water. Lost water should ideally replaced with the purest of water. This water is available at the drug store as "Distilled Water". Not bottled drinking water! Tap water from the faucet will not do as it is loaded with chemicals which can react with the battery's sulfuric acid and bring about the demise of the battery.

Second on the list are the terminals. The battery's lead terminals can and will corrode over time. It is the white powder that you often see coating the lead terminals. This is lead oxide and it does not conduct electric current at all. Enough of a build up between the lead terminals and the connectors of the battery wires and the voltage available from the battery drops. Current flow to the battery from your generator or alternator is restricted as well by the lead oxide. These units will not be able to recharge the battery as well as they normally could.

Third on the list are the battery's connecting wires. The battery wire terminals are made of lead and can, and do, become coated with current-limiting lead oxide. If the white power runs down the copper leads under the plastic insulation, the wires may be compromised. Replacement is the only sure solution. Connector/terminal covers will prevent the flow of electricity between the positive and negative terminals through moist air which is what causes the build up of lead oxide in the first place.

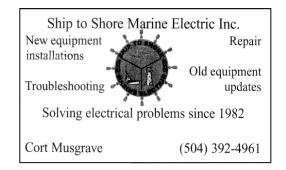
How do you get rid of this white powder? Easy—go to the grocery store and purchase a box of Baking Soda (Sodium Bicarbonate). <u>Not Baking Powder!</u> It will not work.

Dissolve about a teaspoon of the soda in a glass container large enough to allow you to insert a battery wire connector. Place a disconnected wire connector into the container. It will bubble and fizz. Not to worry—all is O.K. After awhile, remove the connector and wipe it clean with a cloth. Treat the other connector.

Make a new solution and use a cloth to clean the battery's lead terminal posts. Be careful, as you do not want to get any inside of the battery. It will neutralize the battery acid!

Now clean the connectors and terminals with a wire brush made for that purpose. Use sand-paper if that is all you have on hand. §





#### Richard Wolf UnCar Show

Fourteen British cars and 33 people participated in the UnCar Show at the Tap Room in Covington on Sunday August 21st. It was blinding hot, as usual, but it didn't rain this year.

The Duct Tape Award for worst top went to Sally Breithoff's 1977

pink MGB. They have a top, but it wasn't installed.

The Primer Award for worst paint went to Ham Ramsey's blue 1973 MGB-GT. The paint looks pretty good in the picture, but up close, it's really tired.

The Body Shop Award for biggest dent went to Karl Keiger's 59ish "under construction" race prep Bugeye Sprite. It's in the process of be-

ing assembled from a couple cars, hence the "1959ish" model year. Part of the process that is not complete is the engine. So the car also won the Gunk Award for worst engine com-

partment as there was no engine!

The Dustbin Award for dirtiest car went to Mike Brown's 1958 MGA. Of course, white cars have an advantage in this competition!!

The Spider Web Award for biggest windshield crack was awarded to Ronnie Palmisano's

1976 Triumph TR6. (This car is a past Goodwill Award winner.)

The crack runs all the way across and has forked!! Ronnie's car also doesn't really have an interior although it does have seats, kind of. So it also won the Interior

Award.



The Exxon Valdez Award for biggest oil leak went to Claudia Merrick's 1954 Jaguar XK120. The car is in beautiful condition but the same could not be

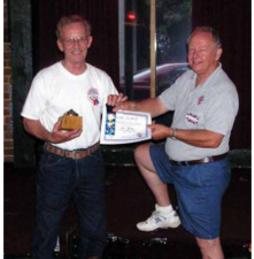






#### Richard Wolf UnCar Show

(Continued from page 6)



Jim Jones accepts the UnDo Award

said for the pavement under it.

The UnDo Award for worst wheels was grudgingly given to Jim Jones'1960 pale blue Morris Minor Traveller. Jim's

"Woody" has a long, *long* way to go to match the standard set by Cathy Greensfelder's MGB, but its wheels were the worst ones

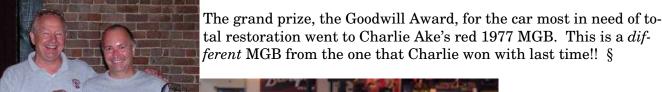
there. There was visible rust in several places.

The Boot Award is an ugly wire boot sculpture thing. It is awarded to the member most likely to walk home from the event. This year it went to Mike

Delacerda. Mike's 1990 Mini Cooper literally blew a tire on the on the way to the event. The side wall separated almost all the way around. If he had a flat on the way home, he and his son

would have been walking!!









Charlie Ake and the Goodwill Trophy.



## A Wife's Perspective by Susan Bradley

As most of your know, we have a 1970 chrome bumper MGB, a 1971 chrome bumper TR6 and now we have three. Allen purchased a 1958 Magnette on E Bay after studying pictures and talking to the owner. He and Cliff Hughes trailered the car to Metairie from Satellite, FL during New Year's Holiday 2004. He has just started working on the car which needs a lot of restoration...but he loves doing this work. This is his 3rd car to restore. He was pleased when he looked at the interior of the engine, which is now on an engine stand. He has started the body work on the doors. He used 2 doors from the parts car that Allen, Cliff



Hughes, and Mike Delacerda bought together. Then he plans on using 2 of the original doors. He has dismantled the doors taking all the windows out, which was a little tricky. Now he is prepping the doors for the body work. This will be his first stage of restoration.

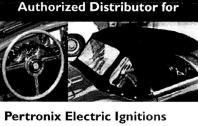
The three guys and their Magnettes are coming along pretty good with their projects. When they purchased the parts car, all the guys and one wife (no, it wasn't me) Phyllis Delacerda and their son David worked all day taking the car apart. Then each took what they needed for their own cars.

So now the car club has triplets and each owner is enjoying the camaraderie. I am sure the Magnettes will all be so beautiful when completed. So, I guess that's enough for a class at a future car show. Can hardly wait for the Magnette debuts. §

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#### For Sale

Spit-6 project car 69 GT6 chassis & bonnet with '69 Spitfire body and 74 TR6 2500cc engine Was running a year ago. Body is rusted out in rockers and doglegs. Also 69 Spitfire, good body and bonnet. engine removed and mic'd ok. with rebuild kit. Also has HARD-TOP, new soft top on a frame, new GT6 trans tunnel cover, lots of extra parts. \$1500 package deal. Mike Cousins (504) 393-8486 home, (504) 957-5976 cell. (8/05)

#### Parts / Parts Cars

**TR6 Frame**. Excellent condition, \$250. Elliott Evans, Tourist Trophy Garage, (504) 891-3979 (9/05)

**Car Trailer**. 2-axles, tool box. \$1,000. Elliott Evans, Tourist Trophy Garage, (504) 891-3979 (9/05)

69 Spitfire engine/flywheel, pulled from a running car, stored indoors (crank turns) w/ generator, water pump, exhaust manifold. 78 Spitfire engine, 1498 cc - rebuilt with Zero Miles, chrome valve cover, oil pan and timing cover. Free engine stand with motor. Other parts available. Must sell engines, no reason-

able offer refused, also fits Sprites/Midgets and go karts. Phillip Colwart, 985-542-8216 colwart@bellsouth.net (8/05)

67 **Austin Healy parts car**. Rusty but complete minus the body. Complete engine, trans, rear end, carbs, accessories. Some of the bits on the car may no longer be available anywhere. Richard Jemison, Pensacola. (850)857-1184, cell (850)516-3847. (8/05)

#### **Newsletter Submissions**

Electronic submissions are greatly preferred.

Email to editor@bmcno.org or bring to meeting.

(MSWord or plain text please.)

Bring written articles to meeting or mail to P.O. Box 73213 Metairie LA 70033

#### **Membership Info**

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

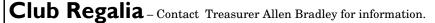
Annual Dues: \$30 first year / \$25 subsequent years.

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

New members receive a name tag and either a club license plate frame or T-shirt 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



License Plate Frame \$5.00 (2 for \$9.00)

Windscreen Transfer \$ 1.00

T-shirt \$10.00

#### The Morris Gazette

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# October / November 2005



Sat Oct 29—Fairhope Show, AL Sun Nov 13—E. E. Reynolds Rallye