

# *The Morris Gazette*

*Official Newsletter of British Motoring Club New Orleans*

*March 2026 Edition*



*BMCNO's Annual Middelndorf's Run February 22nd*



*More on pages 19-21 of this month's edition.*



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# BMCNO





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Official Newsletter of British Motoring Club New Orleans

March 8, 2026

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Colin McCormick



The British are coming! The British are coming!

No, not to Chalmette this time; they are coming to Covington for our March 28th British Motoring Festival!

The festival is only three weeks away as of this writing, and our preparations are well underway. We have rented the Tammany Trace Covington Trailhead park and the Firehouse Events Center in downtown Covington for the festival site, secured our permits and paid for streets closures, ordered the Covington Police and the ENT details, ordered the t-shirts and the awards.

Sponsorships and donations are coming in, but we could certainly use more of those. We are depending on our members to get out and solicit those from businesses that you patronize. It is also not too late to submit items for the goody bags, but we need it now. Give items to your coordinators and they will be brought to Baton Rouge for the bag packing party at their meeting on Tuesday, March 10th.

Most importantly, we still need people for the various work groups that are required to put on a show of this caliber. Please contact your coordinator (Allen Bradley, Rick Huber, or Benny Stiegler) to volunteer for one of the work groups.

And get your valve cover racer ready for competition! Our Baton Rouge group is working to make this a great part of our show with a longer and improved track.

While preparing for the show, we have continued our interesting and fun activities. In February we had a tech session that was well attended at Richard Gaudry's garage in Kenner. Additionally, we made our usual rendezvous for lunch at Middendorf's in Manchac where we had approximately 85 attendees. And our weekly Cars and Coffee events are always well attended.

Coming events include the Proper British Breakfast at Bill and Viola Nix's house in New Orleans on March 14th, and the Covington St. Patrick's Day parade also on March 14th. In April we are invited to attend the annual Rolls-Royce regional show in Natchez on April 9th to 11th. The Panhandle British Car Club show in downtown Pensacola follows on April 18th.

Exciting reading about all of these and other events awaits you in this Issue. However, before you dive in to read, if you haven't yet, I want you to call your coordinator and volunteer for a job at the motoring festival. I look forward to working with and seeing you all there. Let's make this British Motoring Festival our best car show ever!

Keep calm and drive on,

Colin McCormick





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Official Newsletter of British Motoring Club New Orleans

March 8, 2026



## YOUR BMCNO 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>President:</b> Colin McCormick	ColinMcC65@GMail.Com
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Benny Stiegler BStieglerJr@GMail.Com

Baton Rouge Coordinator:  
Rick Huber MLandRick@GMail.com

Motorcycles Coordinator:  
Milton Franklin Densalprop@Cox.net



Get in touch with your BMCNO board members anytime by phone call, text, email or in person.

Visit our website <https://www.bmcno.org/>

Join our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/155483109234541>



# ***BMCNO Upcoming Events***

## **British Breakfast March 14th**

Bill and Violet Nix once again will host our club for a very Proper British Breakfast at their home in New Orleans, featuring homemade scones, bangers and beans, strawberries and cream, coffee and, of course, flavorful tea. Plus, see the latest in the quite fabulous Special Edition Garage. More details on page 13.



## **Covington Celtic Club Parade March 14th**

Same day as our British Breakfast, unfortunately, but we'll have club members driving British car in the parade. If you're participating, line up by 11 a.m., probably next to the Tap Room on E Lockwood. Exact lineup position and area will be sent the week of the parade.

## **St. Anthony's St. Patrick's Celebration**

**Monday, March 16th** St. Anthony's Gardens Retirement Community features our British cars in their parade around the parking lot. It's a party and a delight for the residents. The luck of the Irish will be with us! Details to come.



## **British Motoring Festival/**



## **British Motoring Festival March 28th**

Our 34th annual show will be in Covington once again this year. Save the date and plan to enter your car. Club members are encouraged to volunteer and help to make this the great show we know it can be. Registration is open now. Read our update message on pages 10-11. And we'll once again have valve cover racing presented by our BR group. Get your speedy racer ready! Rules on page 18.



## more BMCNO Upcoming Events

### Natchez Concours d'Elegance April 11th

On the bluff in front of the Grand Hotel and brought to you by the Rolls-Royce Owners Club. Spend the weekend with club friends. Entry is free, but let them know you're coming by registering. Enter your car here: <https://natchezconcours.com/> See the flyer on page 30.



### Brits on the Bay April 18th in Pensacola

Panhandle British Car Association presents their 32nd show in Seville Square. Yet another fun weekend with your British Motoring Club friends as well as our friends from other clubs. Can you stand it? See their flyer on page 31. Registration form is at the link below: <https://www.pbca1.com/show.htm>

### VINTAGE RACING May 15th - 17th

BMCNO member Karl Keiger competes in NOLA vintage races including British cars you know and love. Everyone is encouraged to attend at least one day. Read more from Karl on pages 15-16 of this newsletter.



**CRAWFISH BOIL May 24th** We'll be at Fairview Riverside State Park this year across the Tchefuncte River from Madisonville. We don't boil them, but we'll roll out our famous colorful bowls once again and fill them with fresh out of the pot crawfish. Details to come. Save the date and enjoy the park while you're there. We have the pavilion reserved all day.



# Monthly Club Meetings

## Baton Rouge

2nd Tuesday of the month

Dinner at 6, Meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Cafe American, 7521 Jefferson Hwy at Lobdell, BR

## Northshore

3rd Wednesday of the month

Dinner at 6, Meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Coscino's Italian Grill, 1809 N Causeway, Mandeville

## South Shore

Last Tuesday of the month

Dinner at 6, Meeting starts at 7 p.m.

Original Italian Pie, 5650 Jefferson Hwy, Harahan



# BMCNO Cars and Coffee

## South Shore

First and third Saturday of every month 8 a.m. Chateau Café, 139 Allen Toussaint Blvd, N.O.

## NorthShore

Saturday at 8 a.m., Liz's Where Y'at Diner 2500 Florida St, Mandeville

Third Saturday at Abita Roasting, 1011 Village Walk, Covington

## Baton Rouge

Every Saturday at 7 a.m., The Warehouse Restaurant, 12328 S Choctaw Dr, Baton Rouge






# March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 N.O., NS & BR Cars & Coffee
8	9	10 Baton Rouge Meeting	11	12	13	14 NS & BR Cars & Coffee <i>British Breakfast</i> <i>Covington Parade</i>
15	16 St. Ant'ny Parade	17 	18 Mandeville Meeting	19	20	21 N.O., NS & BR Cars & Coffee
22	23 In 1962 Mk II Sprites compete at Sebring 	24	25	26	27 <i>Firehouse Reception and Final Friday</i>	28 <i>British Motoring Festival</i>
29	30	31 Harahan Meeting				

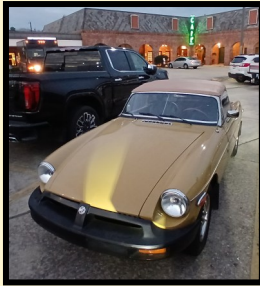
# April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 N.O, NS & BR Cars & Coffee
5 1999 Mini 40th Anniversary Edition launched	6	7	8	9	10	11 NS & BR Cars & Coffee Natchez Concours
12	13	14 Baton Rouge Meeting	15 Mandeville Meeting	16	17	18 N.O, NS & BR Cars & Coffee Brits on the Bay in Pensacola
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 NS & BR Cars & Coffee
26	27	28 Harahan Meeting	29	30		





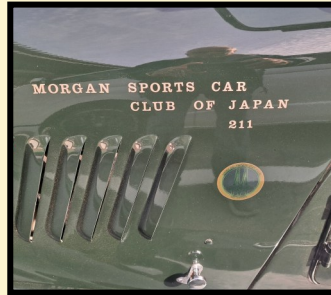
# February Meetings February 10th In Baton Rouge we had a great



meeting at Cafe' American. There were LBCs in the parking lot and good food on the tables! 21 people attended including two new members, Jim/Virginia Bruce ('69 XKE) and Dennis Reynolds ('74 B) Potential member Jim Hardey (XKE) also attended.

Rob Cowzer did a presentation on the history of British Automobiles in the Coventry area of England and reflected on his time working there, a real eye-opener! He explained how the dozen or so car companies merged into British Leyland in order to compete on a worldwide scale with companies like Ford and Chevy.

But the British company's hierarchy and resistance to correct past mistakes eventually led to the company downfall. It was very interesting and informative. Bobby had a mystery -- with Sherlock Holmes deerslayer hat and a magnifying glass. Why wouldn't his new MGB Pertronix distributor cap fit? Seems the "117" molding was just too thick for some reason, the inside diameter of the cap, the square locating tab and width of the brass connectors. Moss technical had no idea why. Rick went over upcoming events. He noted the Bill Nix Breakfast and then talked about stuffing our British Motoring Festival goody bags at our March meeting. We will be assembling 70 new bags to supplement the ones left over from last year. We also need door prizes. He took down volunteers for registration, parking and judging. Then we went out in the parking lot and checked out Rick Mol's new LED flashing brake lights. —Roving Reporter



**In Mandeville on February 18th** Preston talked about a charter fishing trip and invited others to join in. It didn't take long to fill the boat. Cliff shared some crazy old car-related magazine ads like the Lul-A- Baby Car Hammock. We looked at some photos Dan shared from Japan including a Morgan in a parking lot and Pokémon go-cart races. Actor Bud Cort of the 1971 movie Harold and Maude recently passed away. He drove a famous Jaguar in the movie, so Benny shared the car's story, how it was made and its sad demise. We reviewed the past month's events and what's coming up. Colin gave us the latest news on our British Motoring Festival and thanked everyone for helping. It was a good time with friends. —Meandering Muckraker



**In Harahan on February 24th** Lee Matthews gave everyone the scoop on the Rolls-Royce powered Austin-Healey 4000. Other members shared news of ongoing car projects, and Allen connected with everyone on the task at hand for his judging committee at our British Motoring Festival. He has a large crew of expert volunteers lined up.



Harold's Jag



From our March, 1996 Morris Gazette Newsletter

The weather was excellent the day of the run to Middendorf's restaurant. Not hot, not cold, not a cloud in the sky, just perfect! Many members and their British cars came in with the southshore convoy. Although, not many with the northshore convoy. Just myself, the Schrantz's, and the Brauen's. The combined group was sizable, filling three and a half long tables in the restaurant.



## British Motoring Festival Update

Everything is all set for our show with the City of Covington and property and business owners around the site. Our awards and t-shirts are being made to order. But there's still a lot more for us to do leading up to the big day, things like getting cars pre-registered, figuring out the classes and where they go, finishing up the volunteer list and then scheduling people, getting supplies and more. Our Baton Rouge group will be putting together goodie bags Tuesday night and they're getting the valve cover race track ready to go. Every detail has to be worked out ahead of time as much as possible so the show runs smoothly and on schedule.

We're getting a good number of door prize donations from friends and businesses. We can use more items that would be appealing to our New Orleans, Baton Rouge and out of town participants, things that aren't area specific. Maybe you have items in your garage or closet to donate. Call or email if you have items to donate.

We're hoping to get more class sponsorships, as in cash donations. You can do that and as many have found out, and easily register your car for the show on our website at <https://bmcno.org>. If you would rather do that by mail, forms are in this newsletter and on our website, but please mail it soon!

Our host hotels still have some rooms available at the Holiday Inn, 45 Louis Prima Drive in Covington, and Courtyard by Marriott, 101 Northpark Boulevard in Covington. Call and ask for the British Motoring Festival rate. Both are about 3 miles from the show site.

On Friday, March 27th we'll be loading up trucks and getting everything to the Firehouse by 4 o'clock. We'll have a short while to unload and set up before our Friday Night Reception. Everyone is invited to come by Friday night from 5 to 9 for a bite to eat and a drink. Paul Jaquillard is making jambalaya for us again this year. We'll also have the show t-shirts available for pick-up. A couple of blocks away is the Columbia Street Final Friday Block Party where we'll have some of our members park their cars. Look at the map on the next page to see where to park on Columbia street.

Things get under way very early Saturday morning. At 7 a.m. we'll set up coffee, tea, juice and donuts in the Firehouse for our volunteers setting out signs for different classes and directions, putting out flags and tables and setting up registration and the p.a. system. We can use a few more people to help us for an hour in the morning with registration, photography and parking cars. Registrants will begin entering cars in the show at 8:30. Look at the map on the next page for directions to enter your car. There is only one way to enter. Go up N Jefferson Avenue from the traffic "circle" and follow the signs.

And I trust you're working on your valve cover racer. The competition is stiff, so get your wheels greased and straightened out! Our Baton Rouge group does a great job with this and will have an improved raceway this year. It just keeps getting better. Rules and regulations are on page 18.

So let us know what you can do to help, or just let us know that you will be a volunteer and we'll find a place and time for you. Contact Colin McCormick or me, Benny Stiegler. We greatly appreciate your membership and your support. Our contact information is on page 4 of this newsletter and in our club membership directory. **THANK YOU!!**





# British Motoring Festival Update

## Show

## Schedule

### Friday

### Reception

5 to 9 at the Firehouse

### Saturday

### 8:30 to 11:30

*Check-in,  
Photos and  
Registration*

### Judging

### 11:45 to 1 p.m.

By teams.  
Bonnet must be open for judging.

### Valve Cover Practice Runs

12 to 1 p.m.  
at the gazebo

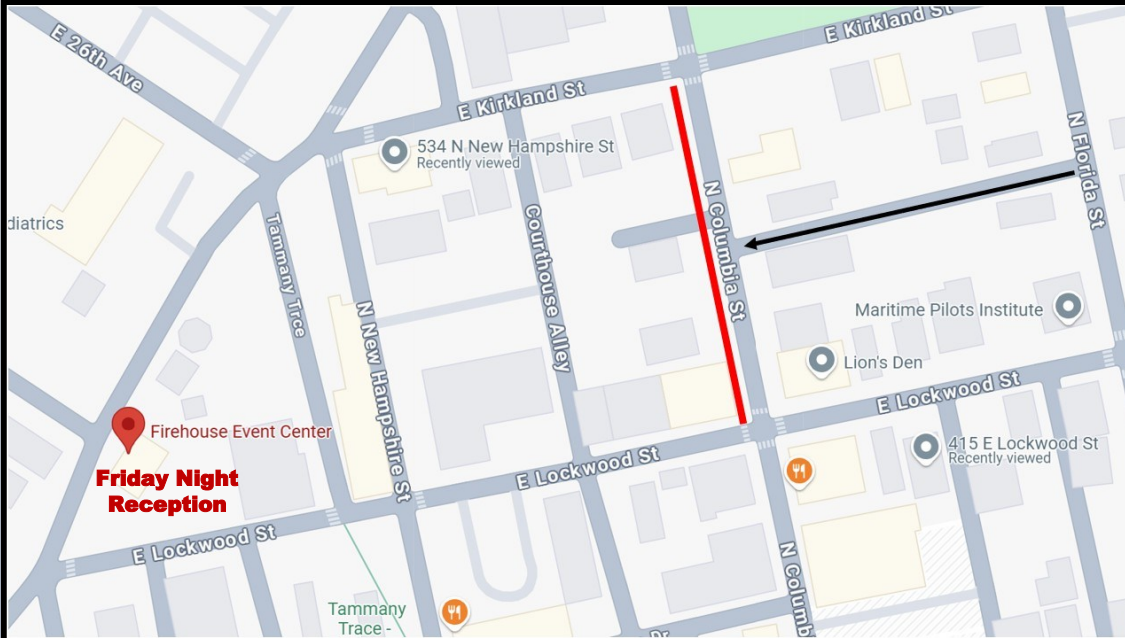
### Valve Cover Racing

1 p.m.  
Presented by our BR group

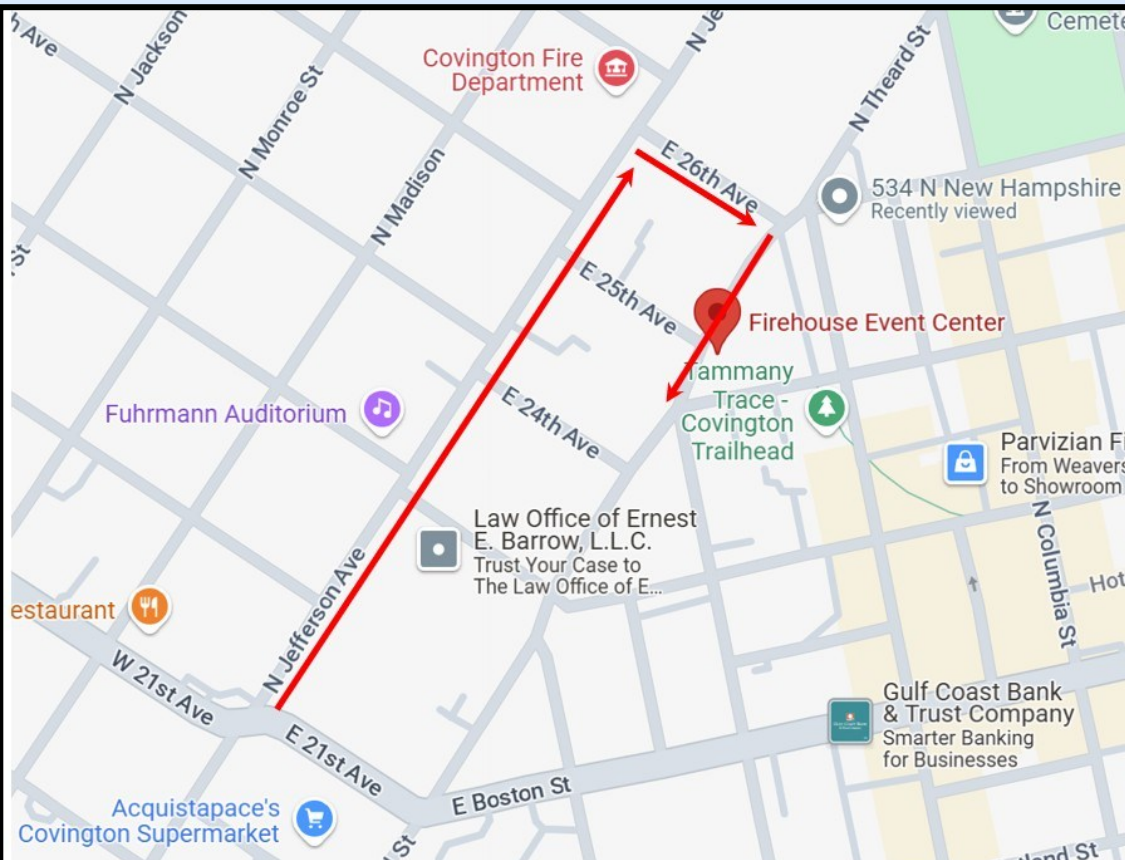
### Awards

3 p.m.  
at the gazebo  
**All entries must remain on the field until 4 p.m.**

**Soft drinks and bottled water in the Firehouse for car show participants**



Final Friday Block Party-- Park your British car on Columbia Street where the red line is, either side of the street. Arrive by 4:30 or earlier to claim your spot. Latecomers can enter by going down the alley (black line) from N Florida. The Firehouse Reception is two blocks down E Lockwood from 5 to 9 p.m.



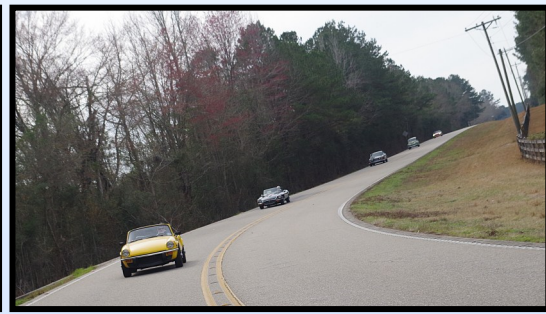
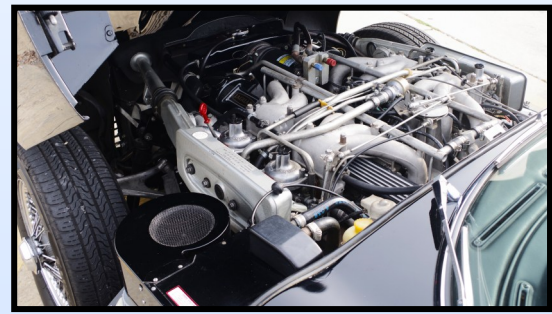
Enter your vehicle by driving up N. Jefferson, turn right on E 26<sup>th</sup> and turn right on N Theard. On N Theard, pre-registered vehicles line up on the left, day of show registration on the right.



## 2-14-26 *Cars and Coffee in Mandeville*



For Valentine's Day we filled the parking lot at Liz's with the British cars we love the most. New member Don came in the B he recently bought from the old Wally. And new guy Bill came in a beautiful black Jag E roadster. He joined a group of us for a nice drive after breakfast. Turned out to be a great morning.



## February 14th in Baton Rouge

Happy Valentines Day! Lots going on this morning at the Warehouse Restaurant in Baton Rouge. Probably due to our haphazard parking next door, that company has re-striped the parking lot and moved the handicapped spot in front of their building. LOL

Danny V, Randy, Charlie, the Kellys and I enjoyed a nice breakfast. It was nice to see Larry and Cathy again. *And* Anna the lovely waitress was back (they call her "little Anna" since the owner is "big Anna"). She was filling in for another girl who's on leave. Nice to see her again, too. No, I didn't bring her any flowers.



The place was packed this morning, and at 8 o'clock the Cushman Breakfast Club rolled in. We quickly vacated our table so Erin could seat them. Out in the parking lot where the two pastel MGBs were parked (within the lines) we compared Bobby's LED run/stop lights with Danny's incandescent bulbs. The LEDs were twice as bright. He showed us a flashing LED bulb left over from the TR-6 third brake light and noted that early MGB brake lights are on a different circuit than the later models. *--Roving Reporter*



**Texas MG Register Hosts Spring GoF in Kerrville (Gathering of the Faithful)**  
**Over 100 Classic British Cars and four days of Texas Hill Country tours and social events.**

April 29 – May 3, 2026

For more information about the Texas MG Register and upcoming events, visit <https://tmgr.wildapricot.org/>,

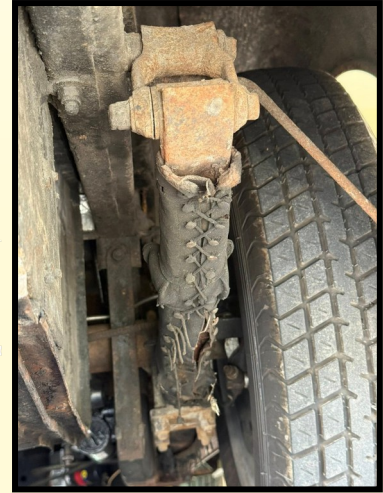
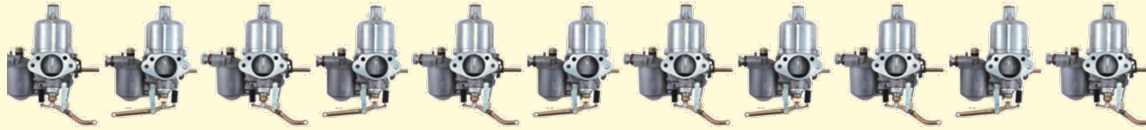


# February 21st Tech Session

A special thanks to Richard and Brenda Gaudry for hosting a fantastic Tech Session at their beautiful home! Richard's large, three car garage has two lifts allowing members to change oil, check for unwanted noises (me!) or just do an underbody inspection whilst standing! As a bonus, Brenda served a wonderful lunch of jambalaya, salad, strawberries and King Cake!! (Be sure to check out Andrew Doran's sexy leather leaf spring covers! —Bob Gordon



Thanks Richard and Brenda Gaudry for hosting a really nice tech session! The garage and the food was fabulous. I've got my adoption papers ready for you to sign. Looks like those leaf spring covers are due for replacing. I think they are missing on the roadster. Not sure whether to go to Moss or a lingerie shop. —Andrew Doran



## *A Proper British Breakfast* Saturday, March 14th

Bill and Violet Nix host A Proper British Breakfast this coming Saturday, March 14th! Everyone is invited but please RSVP now if you haven't already. Join your BMCNO friends for a breakfast of bangers and beans, hash browns, scones, strawberries, tea, coffee and other deliciousness. See the "Special Edition Garage" while you're there and check out the current restoration projects. Then after breakfast you can join us for a tour of the magnificent Bestoff Sculpture Garden which is only 10 blocks away in City Park, and take a picture of your car in front of the New Orleans Museum of Art. Please R.S.V.P. to [Jagnixwilliam@gmail.com](mailto:Jagnixwilliam@gmail.com) with your number of guests to attend so we can have the right amount of food. The breakfast will begin at 9 a.m.





# BMCNO Northshore Cars and Coffee February 21st

A crowd of early rising British car enthusiasts gathered in Covington for some breakfast and socializing at Abita Roasting this morning. It's working out well here. They have a big table ready for us with urns of hot coffee. Pour all you need to satisfy your addiction. Outside, the British car addiction was evident with a great lineup of colorful old and newer cars. And now and then there's something new to learn. Brad showed us why it's never worth spending more than a nickel on a washer.





## Vintage Racing at NOLA Motorsports May 15-17

by Karl Keiger

Vintage racing is returning to NOLA Motorsports Park this Spring. Corinthian Vintage Auto Racing (CVAR) will be holding their Marvelous May Races on May 15th through 17th.

At a CVAR vintage race you can expect to see old race cars, authentically prepared to period specs and competing in wheel-to-wheel racing. At a vintage race, the cars are the stars. The drivers are also mostly vintage too, but they are racing for real.

At last year's NOLA races, we had a little under 100 cars on track, including around 20 or so British cars, ranging from Sprites, Midgets and Minis to a Jag XK120, a big Healey, a Sunbeam Tiger, and some distinguished British Formula cars such as Lotus and Lola.



There will be six race groups running on track in their own dedicated race sessions. The following are the race groups:

Group 1: This is the big-bore "ground pounder" group populated mostly by '60's and '70's V8-powered cars such as Corvettes, Mustangs and Camaros, with a few Porsches, AMCs, Cougars, and Darts thrown in for variety.

Group 2: These are small-bore production sports cars and sedans such as Sprites, Midgets, Spitfires, MGBs, 914s, Minis and cars of similar performance.

Group 3: Formula Vees. These are lightweight bare-bones Formula cars powered by stock 1200cc VW engines. The cars are all built to the same spec and usually run in close bunches.

Group 4: This is the Corinthian Classics group and features older and less modified cars and tends to run at a more gentlemanly pace. Typical cars in this group are MGAs, big Healeys, Formula Juniors, '60's sports racers, and also Spec Sprites. You may also on occasion see more exotic cars such as Cobras and Aston Martins in this group.

Group 6: This is the Formula Car group and contains all of the vintage formula cars except Vees. Typical participants are Formula Fords, Formula A, B and C, and also various vintage sports racers.

Group 7: These are medium-bore production sports cars and sedans such as 240Zs, 911s, Elans, TR4s, 510s, 2002s, and similar cars.

The best day to attend is Saturday, May 16th, but Sunday morning is also a good time to see the action. On Saturday, there will be morning qualifying sessions followed by morning races, then after lunch there will be afternoon races for each group, and at the end of the day a feature race for 2.3 liter and under production cars. The feature race is open to most of the Group 2, 4 and 7 cars that wish to participate. There will also be track touring behind a pace car available at lunch time (for a small fee) in case you want to drive the track yourself in your own car. Hope you'll plan to come.



# the Austin-Healey 'Sebring Sprite' Raced by McQueen at Sebring in 1962

from mcqueenonline.com/sebringsprite

Steve competed in two races at Sebring in March of 1962 as part of the World Championship circuit. For the Sebring three hour race in 1962 the Donald Healey Motor Company entered four alloy-bodied Mk II Sprites driven by Stirling Moss, Pedro Rodriguez, Innes Ireland and movie star Steve McQueen.

In *Star on Wheels* William F. Nolan quotes Steve: "I drove two cars that weekend in Florida," he said. "They had a kind of warm-up race there on Saturday, a three-hour production go in which all of us BMC drivers were put in Austin-Healey Sprites. I finished ninth in a field of two-dozen plus."



This photo shows Steve's car – registered 9251 WD – that he drove in the 3 Hour event that Saturday. Sadly, the car is known not to survive. It remained in the US following the event and was purchased by B.M.C. San Francisco on the West Coast and subsequently sold to Willy Striker. He raced the car briefly, before selling it on to Peter Talbert. He continued to compete with the Sprite, but while it was parked up at the Cotati drag strip an out of control drag car collided with the little Healey virtually cutting it in half!

The Austin Healey 'Sebring Sprite' was basically either a Meki or MkII Sprite, fitted with numerous performance enhancing modifications available from the Donald Healey Motor Company, principal among which was a disc brake and wire wheel conversion (made by Girling/Dunlop). The car Steve drove was a standard shape MkII Sprite (Sebring spec') with all bodywork produced in alloy (the standard BMC model had steel panels).

Special thanks to Jonathan Whitehouse-Bird for providing the above information. Jonathan is co-registrar of the Sebring Sprite Register in the UK and is a highly respected authority on the cars, both restoring and documenting the history of the Sebring Sprite.

Karl shared these photos from a Corinthian Vintage Auto Racing event held recently in Houston.





# BR Cars and Coffee February 21st

Meanwhile in Baton Rouge:

Chris is back! Yep, Chris Savoy is back from his Western work adventures and eager to participate in British car club activities again and enjoy his beautiful new custom home. He had pictures of British car club members shops in Nebraska that he visited, and they were pretty darned cool.



We had a big crowd at the Warehouse this morning with 12 warm bodies and six LBCs in the lot next door. "Little Anna" was still there filling in for a sick waitress, and around 8 o'clock the Cushman Breakfast Club rolled in. I noticed 3 out of 5 of their rides were motorcycles or scooters, though. What's up with that?

Now is the time to get working on your valve cover racer for our British Motoring Festival on March 28th! If you need a set of rules look on the next page, or send me a message if you have any questions. The crew is working on extending the length of the track this year, so it should be even more fun.

—Roving Reporter



Here's some of the action from last year's valve cover races. We're expecting another tough competition this year.





## British Motoring Club New Orleans Valve Cover Raceway

If you haven't yet, start working on your valve cover racer so you can participate in the fun at our British Motoring Festival. You can be just about as creative as you want. The rules are very simple.

### BMCNO Race Rules

#### The Valve Cover Race Cars:

- No engines or propulsion.
- No moving weights.
- Wheel can be attached to the car in any manner, but must not extend beyond the front of the valve cover.
- Nothing can extend beyond the front of the valve cover.
- Cars shall be based on an actual rocker cover from a British automobile engine.
- Cars must have four wheels, each no more than six inches in diameter.
- Wheel must have a non-metallic surface contacting the track.

#### Critical Dimensions:

- 15-inch maximum overall car width.
- 10-inch maximum overall car height.
- 10 pounds maximum weight by official scales.
- The front of the car should have a contact point approximately 2 ½" high.

### Track Dimensions

#### The Course:

- The course shall consist of a launch incline ten feet long, followed by a level run of sixteen feet – all plywood surfaces.
- The launch incline shall be divided into two lanes, each 18 inches wide. The incline shall be about three feet high at the rearmost part.
- The official "Starting Line" is two feet from the rear edge of the incline. Rear wheels must fit within this measurement!

### Running the Race

- Double elimination brackets in heats of two cars each. (Each pair will race in each lane – 2 out of 3 if a tie)
- NOTE: The starting gate is 3.5 inches tall. Racers should have a surface flush with the front of their car approximately 2 ½ to 3" high to contact this metal tab.
- Individual starting via push buttons by each racer, following an electronic "Christmas Tree" lighting system.
- The finish line shall be marked about sixteen feet from the front edge of the launch incline.





# Middendorff's Run February 22nd

For at least the last 30 years our club has made an annual drive to Middendorff's in Manchac. This year good weather brought out 85 British car fans by Colin's count, and an impressive number of cool British cars lined up in the parking lot. Members from New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Northshore quickly filled the big dining room and a couple of extra tables in the next room. As usual, the Middendorff's staff was pretty incredible, and we enjoyed catfish, shrimp, oysters, flounder and more. Colin and Allen took the opportunity to talk up our British Motoring Festival. After a great meal together there was more socializing outside and time for some photos before everyone headed off for a pleasant Sunday drive home.





# more from Middendorf's





## Middendorf's the BR POV

What a GREAT day! Despite a bad wreck blocking I-12 West at the Amite River we had three MGBs, a Jaguar XKE coupe, Jaguar XJ-8 and a Jaguar F-Type at the Circle K this morning. The group bravely elected me cruise leader and with Randy navigating. We had a nice drive out Highways 16, 42 and 22 to Springfield. We arrived at Middendorf's around 10:35 and met up with Rick and Mary Lynne Huber and Rick and Kay Mol. We were EARLY!!! Danny thanked me for being the Roving Reporter and leading the group that morning. Said the pace was easy enough for them to stop along the way and pick me up a present?! A box of Dolly Partin chocolate chip Blondie Bar mix!

The wind was whipping so we spread out in the room and got seated. Always nice to sit by someone you don't normally visit with. Food was great, the club members all behaved themselves and Benny took a "sorta" group picture of everyone in the parking lot - less those who left early and the October Arkansas Couple Trip group, who were still meeting inside.

Rick led Mark, Randy and me back home on a slightly different route through the bayou-side. Those attending from Baton Rouge included: Rick and Mary Lynne Huber, Danny and Dana Varnado, Charlie and Jean Kay Brown, Milton and Annette Franklin, Wally and Linda Waguespack, Rick and Kay Mol, Tom and Chris Miller, James, Randy, Mark and yours truly. Also talked with Phillip Colwart (BR group from Hammond) who is the photographer for our car show. We missed the rest of you! —RR from BR





# Northshore Cars and Coffee 2/28

A terrific Cars and Coffee at Liz's this morning was made even better with new members Charles Elfert in his 2007 Bentley Continental GT and Bill in his '72 XKE, not to mention everyone else. Later, Hans in his B GT and a bunch of other drivers behind him followed me up LA 1088 to Fish Hatchery Road and then down to Lacombe where we took Paquet Road to St Genevieve Church on Bayou Liberty. Found out they have a car show coming up in May. We should go since we use their car park whenever we go that way. A corking good time was had by all, with not a grumble in sight. —Meandering Muckraker





more 2-28 *Cars and Coffee*





# March 7th C & C in Mandeville then Oil Row Garage

A cloudy and at times misty morning couldn't dampen the urge to head out for an early Saturday drive in a British car. Seems like a good number of us had the same feeling. By 8 o'clock two big tables were full and coffee-fueled conversation was well under way. It was a nice collection of cars at Liz's this morning with Austin-Healey, Aston Martin, MG, Morris, Jaguar, Triumph, McLaren and Bentley all represented. We took a semi-official vote and chose Curt Coppock, coming in a 1967 Jaguar XKE Series I Roadster, as the Cool Dude of the Day. Turns out it's a car that was owned by Rick Huber earlier this century. It's beautiful and it's getting a lot of love right now.





## more March 7th...Oil Row Garage

After breakfast, Curt in his Jag along with a group of club members headed north with our LBCs to another Cars and Coffee event at Oil Row Garage in Covington. Oil Row is the name of the short street and the garage is a recently opened collector car storage service with detailing and maintenance services. We added to the coolness factor, parking amongst the eye-catching mix of cars and bikes. What a small world! While there we ran into Snubbs and Peggy Bienvenu, two of our club's founding members. They both served on the board and Peggy said she was the club's newsletter editor! We made sure everyone there was personally invited to our British Motoring Festival. Seems like we'll see a bunch of them there.





# British Motoring Festival

Save the  
Date!



Save the  
Date!

**March 28, 2026 Covington Trailhead**

**Downtown Covington, Louisiana**

*See the Covington Trailhead and surrounding streets filled with British sports cars, trucks, bikes and other cool British vehicles!*

*Free and open to the public*

*Best public viewing 11 'til 4*

*Valve cover races 1 p.m.*

*Awards ceremony 3 p.m.*



**British Motoring Club New Orleans**

**VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND MORE INFORMATION AT [BMCNO.ORG](http://BMCNO.ORG)**



## 2025 British Motoring Festival Sponsors

British Motoring Club New Orleans offers a heartfelt thank you to these businesses, club members and friends for sponsoring this year's car show. Their generous support makes it possible to host this incredible event.

### Benefactors

Broadmoor Design Group, Mandeville Prestridge Cars Inc, 13555 Tiger Bend, Baton Rouge

### Major Sponsors

Anonymous Central Electronics LLC, 75757 Hwy 1082, Covington

Chad & Rachel Wicker, Metairie Hughes & Co, Mandeville In Memory of Celia McCormick

In Memory of Dana McCormick Serenity Funeral Home, 20419 Hwy 36, Covington

Supreme Auto Group, 1415 S Morrison, Hammond The Toasted Yolk Covington

### Sponsors

Charlie & Jean Kay Brown, Baton Rouge Chris Landry, Kenner

Dan & Mary Melesurgo, New Orleans Dan, Slidell Hamarick Classics LLC, Baton Rouge

John & Sally Brink, Mandeville Les Landon, Baton Rouge Lilly and Benny Stiegler, Covington

LuLu's Garage, 753 Brewster, Madisonville Mark Foster, Mandeville Mark Spies Sr, LaPlace

Milton Franklin, Greenwell Spring Roger & Claudia Jeffrey, Kenner Shannon Allison, Covington

Steve & Pam Lane, Covington Taber's ToyBox, Crestview FL Tom & Judith Bonner, New Orleans

## 2025 British Motoring Festival Donors

British Motoring Club New Orleans greatly appreciates these businesses, friends and club members who donated prizes. Their generosity makes the show much more enjoyable for our participants..

Abita Brewing Company, Highway 36, Covington Harbor Freight, W Thomas Street, Hammond

O'Reilly Auto Parts, Jefferson Hwy, River Ridge Pelican Pointe Carwash, Hwy 21, Covington

Tommy's Express Car Wash, N U.S. 190, Covington John and Sally Brink, Mandeville

Bill Nix, New Orleans Hughes & Co, Mandeville A Friend of BMCNO

Abita Roasting Company, Water St., Madisonville Advance Auto, 950 East Boston Covington

Aquistapace's Supermarket, E 21st, Covington Café Lynn, Florida St., Mandeville

Cilantro's Mexican Cuisine, N Columbia St., Covington John and Ginny Pearson, Baton Rouge

DiMartino's Famous Muffalettas, Carol Sue Ave., Terrytown Griot's Garage, Tacoma, Washington

Highway 21 Firestone, Highway 21, Covington Lilly and Benny Stiegler, Covington

Liz's Where Y'at Diner, Florida St., Mandeville Mandina's Restaurant, Hwy 22 Mandeville

Mark & Cathy Greensfelder, New Orleans Mattina Bella Restaurant, E Gibson St., Covington

MIMOSA Handcrafted, S. Eugene, Baton Rouge O'Reilly Auto Parts, Florida St., Mandeville

Paul and Kim Jaquillard, Madisonville Pat's Seafood Collins Blvd., Covington

Reenie & Miggin's, Lee Lane, Covington Serinity Funeral Home, Hwy 36, Covington

The Greyhound Restaurant, E Boston, Covington Tom and Pat Nielsen, Covington

Theo's Neighborhood Pizza, Hwy 21, Covington Visit the North Shore, Hwy 59, Covington



# British Motoring Festival



**Covington, Louisiana**

**March 28, 2026**



Milton Franklin

## *Calling all British Motorcycle Owners*



We're getting more people in the club lately with motorcycles and other bikes, and that's exciting. If you come across someone who owns a British motorcycle, invite them to participate in our club. Milton Franklin, Baton Rouge, would like to organize motorcycle events for owners of British Motorcycles. Harley groups are always cruising the roads so we would like to start British motorcycle cruises. We would also like to increase the number of motorcycles at our Annual Car Show. So...Continue to look for British motorcycles to tell them about our club, and give out our business cards or direct them to our website. If you need more please contact Milton Franklin at [densalprop@cox.net](mailto:densalprop@cox.net).





# Natchez Concours d'Elegance Car Show

9-11 April 2026

[www.natchezconcours.com](http://www.natchezconcours.com)

Show is open to all Rolls-Royce and Bentley Cars, all British or European Cars and Motorbikes 20 years or older, all ages of European Exotic Cars and all CCA eligible cars. We also have a special interest class for very rare or interesting cars. Other European Cars are welcome in the car corrals located on the Natchez bluff.

Show ribbon given to first 100 entries

JOIN US!

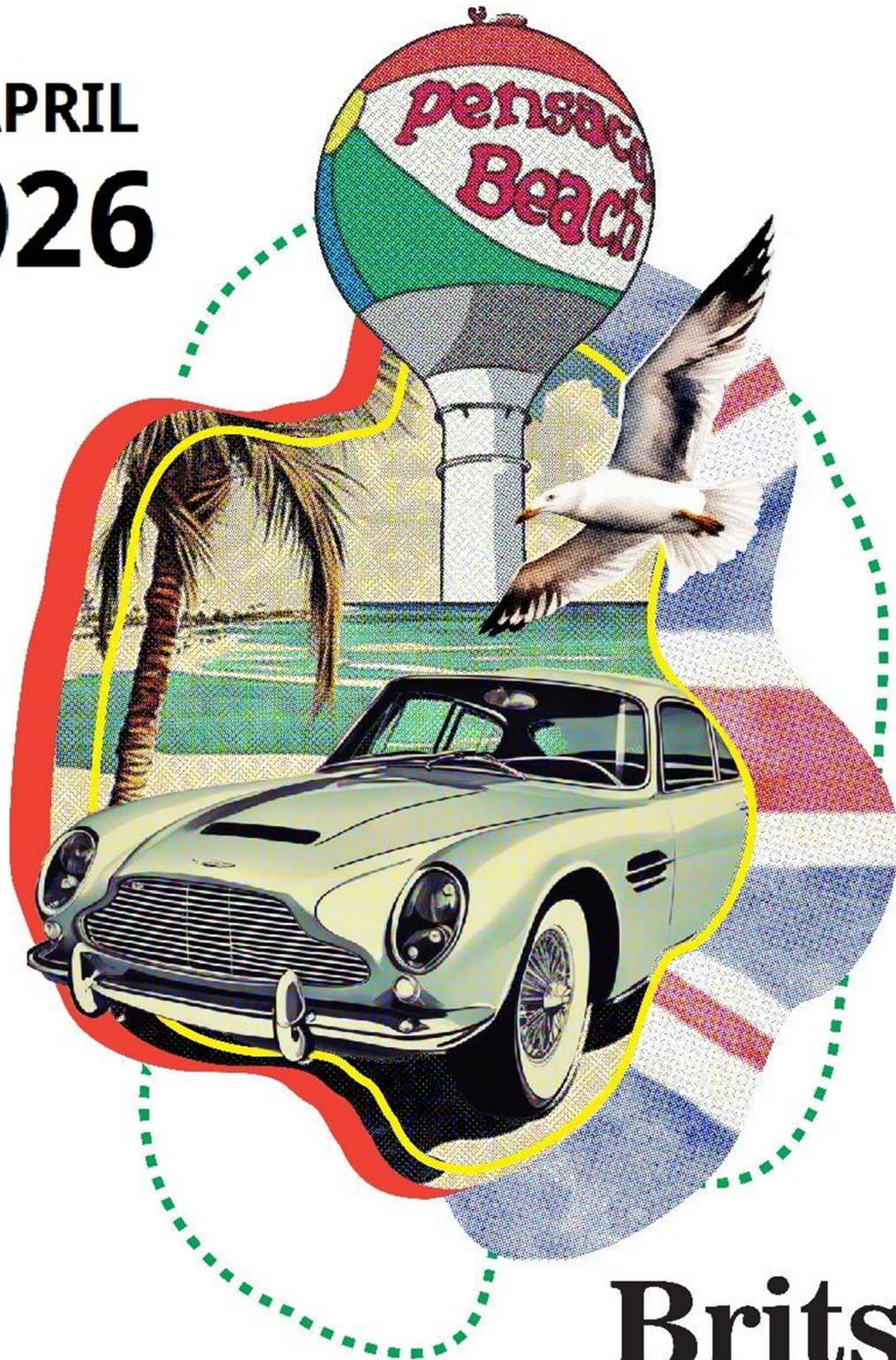
Entry is free for all eligible cars.

Show will be located in front of the Grand Hotel and along the bluff in Downtown Natchez, Bluff Park, 200-400 Broadway Street, Natchez, Mississippi

Contact Richard Branyan: [Richard@Branyan.org](mailto:Richard@Branyan.org)



**18 APRIL  
2026**



**Panhandle British  
Car Association  
32nd Annual All-British  
Car Show**



**Brits  
on the  
Bay**



**Kiwanis Club of NW St. Tammany**  
*Cruisin' Folsom Car Show and Vendor Market*

**Magnolia Park - 13296 Hwy 40, Folsom**  
General Admission/Vendor Market 9am - 2pm  
Silent Auction 9am - 1:30pm

**Show Car Registration 7am - 9:30am**

Early Registration - email us for a form

Show Car Judging starts at 11:30am

Show Car Awards will be announced at 1pm

Email: [kiwanisofnwsttammany@gmail.com](mailto:kiwanisofnwsttammany@gmail.com)  
FB: Kiwanis Club of North West St. Tammany





**NORTH AMERICAN  
COUNCIL OF  
MG REGISTERS**

**Invites ALL MG Owners  
to join us August 24-27, 2026  
in the Sandusky, Ohio / Lake Erie area  
for the every-five-year ALL-MG Event  
[mginternational2026.org](http://mginternational2026.org)**

**SHORES & ISLANDS OHIO**  
CEDAR POINT · SANDUSKY · PUT-IN-BAY

**Registration opens  
year-end 2025**





### Classified Ads and Spares For Sale



**1950 MG YA** with sunroof owned by long time club member Mike Lewis. The car won Best of Show at our 2000 British Car Day and many other awards. Mike was the founder of the New Orleans based Original Mardi Gras T's with John Pence. Mike and friends were able to keep the club growing for about 50 years. He would like the Y to have a new owner who would keep it in good shape! Please call if you are interested. 985-276-4319. Asking \$15,000.

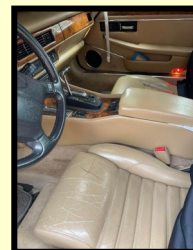


## British Motoring Club New Orleans

I have a '97 Jaguar XK8 Convertible for sale. It runs but needs some work. If interested please TEXT me first 985-259-5419 or email Sheryl at [seheavilin@yahoo.com](mailto:seheavilin@yahoo.com).



**1994 Jaguar XJS** \$14,900 **\$9,900** Reduced! Ready to drive away! Spotless inside and out Garage kept, 6 cylinder convertible, 90035 miles, AC works. Mint condition, no scratches or dents. Tan leather interior, tan cloth top in perfect condition. Call 504-610-7607,



## British Motoring Festival



March 28, 2026

**Sand blast cabinet for sale.** Primo setup, retails for \$4k. Will sell for \$2500 or make an offer. Call Gary at 225-892-8425.





more CLASSIFIED ADS AND SPARES FOR SALE

I have finally gotten too old to enjoy my cars and I am willing to sell them to a good home.

1974 1/2 MGB- Old English White, autumn leaf. I have owned this car for over 20 years. It has all available options, runs perfectly and needs not one thing. It's ready for an exciting spring. Won several awards from English Motoring Club of Mississippi.

1986 1/2 Porsche 928 S automatic. garnet red metallic, with burgundy leather. Beautiful car, not perfect, but stunning paint and appearance. Reasonably priced, located in McComb MS. Please call 601-810-9113.



Pressure Plate for TC, TD and Morris Minor 1098cc

I have this Pressure Plate from Moss Europe, who said it would fit my 948cc drive train. It does not. It fits a larger 7 1/4 "clutch. It is not available In the States. It cost me \$270.00. Please make an offer as I don't want it to go to waste.

Call Robbie Robertson, 985-445-5205 or [rarmore3@gmail.com](mailto:rarmore3@gmail.com) ><>



1976 Triumph TR6

Runs great, looks great. Comes with EZ Car lift, luggage rack, leather interior, and lots of extras asking 23k/ make an offer. Located in BR. Call David @ 225-505-2238 Also on FB marketplace with more pics.



2015 Chaparral Fish & Ski. 19' (21' with platform). 4.3 Mercruiser with 160 hours. two props, a couple of inflatables, extra fluids and accessories. Expertly maintained by BMCNO member. \$25K. Call Chris Savoy 225-287-4525.



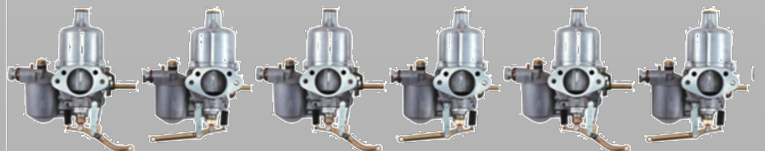
B. M. C. Restorations

Peter Brauen

3895 Firetower Road

Kiln, MS 39556

[pbrauen@gmail.com](mailto:pbrauen@gmail.com)

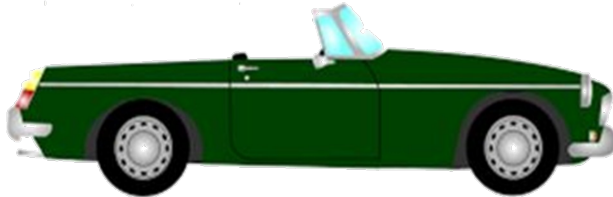




### CLASSIFIED ADS AND SPARES FOR SALE

**Hugh Coleman British Cars**

**Quality First Call 318-664-5427**



**1980 Triumph Spitfire project car. \$500.**

Details at: <http://www.paycard7.com/Spitfire/photos%20car2/>  
Call Barrett Leibe 504-451-5721.

**WANTED:** 2005/2006 Jaguar XKR Coupe. Silver exterior, black interior. Prefer the Victory Edition, no accidents, no paintwork, less than 50,000 miles, good service records. Contact Dan Melesurgo at 504-390-1119.



**1988 Avanti Convertible For Sale** Avantis were originally manufactured by Studebaker Corp. in 1962 and 1963 as a fiberglass coupe. When Studebaker ceased production, **Leo Newman and Nate Altman**, wealthy Studebaker dealers, bought the rights to the Avanti, tooling and stock to continue manufacturing the car in one of the Studebaker buildings in South Bend, Indiana. They called it the **Avanti II** to differentiate it from the Studebaker produced cars. Other owners and partners continued to manufacture coupes and convertibles under Avanti Motor Corporation until 2006. As the company ran out of most Studebaker parts, they began basing the car on GM production cars. This Avanti, manufactured under the "Michael Kelly Era" in Youngstown, Ohio, is based on a 1988 Chevrolet Monte Carlo (GM 305CID). It is a reliable and road worthy car with 77,038 miles. It doesn't burn any oil and gets average fuel mileage. It rides on 15" original chrome wire wheels. The interior is in good condition. AACA National First Senior Award, Naples FL in 2016. One of only about 250 Avanti Convertibles ever produced. **\$25k Call Fred Duplechin, 985-803-0672.**



Brand New Amco Style Center Console Armrest for 1969-1976 TR6 \$250.00 NEW SLR700S - LUCAS SPOT LAMPS CHROME for ASTON BRISTOL FORD JAGUAR JENSEN LOTUS MG \$499.00 Vintage TR6 Roll Bar, great shape \$400.00. Will take best offers. Contact Greg Lalonde [glalon@aol.com](mailto:glalon@aol.com)



# British Motoring Festival Official Entry Form

British Motoring Club New Orleans' 34th Annual Show Saturday, March 28th, 2026

Tammany Trace Covington Trailhead and Firehouse Events Center

432 N Theard, Covington Friday night reception 6 p.m. at the Firehouse

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Cell Phone	Email	
Club Affiliations		

1 Car / Motorcycle entered \$30.00 early registration \$35.00 after 3-20-2026

	Year	Make / Model / Type / color	Entry Fee
1			

More than one car - \$40.00 for 2 or more cars. After 3-20-2026, 2 or more cars \$45.00

2			
3			
4			

Want a T- Shirt? \$20 each. Pre-order yours today. We won't have many extras at the show. Order by 3/7/26.

	Small	Medium	Large	XL	2XL	Amount due	Total
Number of Shirts						___ x \$20 =	\$
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE (Registration and Shirts)							\$

Paid by Check  Cash  You may pay by Credit Card and register at bmcno.org. Hand deliver cash.

Make check payable to British Motoring Club New Orleans Car Show or BMCNO Car Show.

Mail BEFORE MARCH 13 to: Car Show P.O. Box 73213 Metairie, LA 70033

In consideration of this entry, I waive any and all claims for me and my heirs against British Motoring Club New Orleans, their officers and any sponsor of this event for injury or illness which may result directly or indirectly from my participation. I also give my permission for use of my name and / or pictures in any broadcast, telecast or any other account of this event.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Vehicles (not on trailers) should follow the signage and enter the site at E. 26<sup>th</sup> St and N. Theard St. (near the very large Covington Courthouse Building) and proceed to the Firehouse Event Center, 432 N Theard St, Covington from 9:00 a.m. until noon to be photographed, get your packets, and parking directions, or onsite registration. Please do not come up N. Theard St from W 21<sup>st</sup> Ave / E. Boston St. (N. Theard St will be blocked around E. 24<sup>th</sup> St.) Instead go up N. Jefferson Ave from the circle to E. 26<sup>th</sup> Ave. (Trailers can be parked for the day in the courthouse lot.)



British Motoring Club New Orleans  
P. O. Box 73213  
Metairie, LA 70033  
[www.bmcno.org](http://www.bmcno.org)

2026 British Motoring Festival SPONSOR FORM

Thank you for considering sponsorship of our 33rd annual show, March 28, 2026 at the Tammany Trace Covington Trailhead and Firehouse Events Center. The Trailhead and surrounding streets will be filled with British cars and bikes of all kinds. British Motoring Festival is free and open to the public. British Motoring Club New Orleans is a nonprofit social club.

For your sponsorship or door prize contribution you will receive:

- publicity in our British Motoring Festival program
- publicity at the show site
- publicity at the awards ceremony
- publicity on our club’s web site
- publicity in the BMCNO newsletter

Sponsorships also accepted on our website at <https://www.bmcno.org/2025-british-motoring-festival-sponsorship/>

**Class Sponsor: \$35, \$50, \$75, \$100 or more**

Organization/Company \_\_\_\_\_

NAME as you want it to appear in the program: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name & Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Car or bike class (if desired) \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to “British Motoring Club New Orleans Car Show” or “BMCNO Car Show” and give to a BMCNO representative or mail it with this printed form to:

BMCNO Car Show  
P O Box 73213  
Metairie, LA 70033

DOOR PRIZE DONATION: We thank you for contributing items for our club to use as door prizes and offer to you the same publicity as Class Sponsors. Please list the items below.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of BMCNO Member who contacted you:

\_\_\_\_\_

We welcome all new members Join our club using this form  
or online at <https://www.bmcno.org/join-bmcno>.



## BMCNO Membership Application

*Print this form to submit your application.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday Month Only: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did you learn of BMCNO? \_\_\_\_\_

What other car clubs do you belong? \_\_\_\_\_

Include information in the Online Web Directory    yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_

Please list me as ICE, (In Case of Emergency) willing to render assistance to members who break down in my area. yes\_\_\_ no\_\_\_

BRITISH CAR INFORMATION				
Make	Model	Year	Color	Body Style

**Membership—\$30 per year due July 1st**

**Payable as follows:**

- ⇒ On Line: <https://www.bmcno.org/join-bmcno/>
- ⇒ Check payable to "British Motoring Club New Orleans (BMCNO)" and return to:  
British Motoring Club New Orleans, P.O. Box 73213 , Metairie, LA 70033
- ⇒ Cash or Check at any monthly meeting.

*All payments need to be accompanied by this completed application form. It is imperative that we have your correct and active email address because this is how all communication is processed.*

"I agree to abide by the rules and regulations as set forth by the Club Officers under The British Motoring Club New Orleans, Inc. <https://www.bmcno.org/home/by-laws/>

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_