

SMOKE & OIL

August 2010

The Official Mardi Gras MG's of Fairhope Alabama

A chapter of the North American MGB Register
An affiliated chapter of THE MG OWNERS CLUB (UK)



THE CHAIRMAN SPEAKS

Club Wheels

As we head into the last month of summer it looks like we might have some good news about our beautiful beaches returning to some semblance of normalcy. With the end of the flow into the gulf, and hopefull the killing of the well sometime next week maybe we will see the crowds returning, and the merchants thriving.

Our trip to the Elberta cheese farm, and the lunch at LU LU'S the last of June was very nice.

Thanks a lot to Tom Schmitz for his annual Pig Roast July 18. The food was fantastic, and I thought the turnout from all clubs was very good. The weather threatened, but it turned out to be a very nice day.

I am sorry to say that I know nothing more on what happened to Ian Brown. There was not a notice in the paper, so I don't know if we will ever know. Mike and Jenny Bamberg are in the U.K, but when the return, maybe we can get some information

CHAIRMAN

Jack Nelson

EVENTS CHAIRMAN

Dick Bishop

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jon Gosnell

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Mike Schiebert

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WHO WE ARE

We are a membership organization composed of MG and other British Automobiles in Fairhope and the Eastern shore area who have joined together to preserve and enjoy our cars. Since it's the cars that brought us together, our events stem around British cars. We have monthly activities of different types. Including Rallies, tours, Car Shows, Social Functions, Tech Sessions and Valet Parking Lessons. *We welcome anyone who has as interest in British Cars. You do not have to own one to become a member. Our meetings are held on the first*

EDITOR NOTES

send letters to the editor to: Jgosnel2@yahoo.com

web site address: www.mgmgbcc.org

*Dear MG/MG Newsletter Editor,
I read your newsletter with limited interest. I joined this club because you claimed to have a lot of functions such as rallies, and other car events other than displaying your cars. What about a poker run, or joint tour to an interesting place? Or a parts trade meet? Seems to me with all the member on your membership list, there should be a more interesting activities that everyone can participate in.*

Frustrated in Mobile

Dear Frustrated,
Thank you for your letter, I appreciate you reading the newsletter and are giving feed back. Your suggestions are taken seriously and forwarded to the board. Would you consider hosting an event? Please contact me or, Mr. Dick Bishop to coordinate any events you would like to get involved with.
Ed.



1934 Singer Nine Sports

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I have received some information from the Nashville British Car Club on a big show at Centennial park and the Parthenon for Oct 8 and 9th. I will bring more information to the meeting on Wed night. I also got an E-mail about the celebration of the founding of the first M.G. car club. The first meeting was on Oct 12, 1930, so this is the 80th year. I will bring more info to the meeting.

An executive board meeting was held at Dick Bishops house on July 21st, and we will share the thoughts at the meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone Wed night at LFYC. Come early and get a good seat . Jack Nelson

TOM and JEAN'S ANNUAL PIG ROAST 2010

The annual Pig roast at Tom and Jean's was a once again a great success. Everyone who attended had a a wonderful time, with the exception of the Pig. Tom had a simulated racing set up in his car garage, where you could try your driving skills on various race tracks. You could also admired Tom's beautiful collection of cars. Members from the Pensacola club, Mobile club, and the Fairhope club enjoyed Tom and Jean's hospitality, great food and conversation. We all look forward to doing it again next year



**YOU LOOK REALLY
STUPID WITH YOUR
HEAD LIKE THAT!**

TECH. ADVICE

Battery Maintenance

1. How to check the water level and add water:

If your battery, a device that produces and stores electrical energy as a result of a chemical reaction. A 12-volt battery has six individual 2-volt cells that contain positive (+) plates and negative (-) plates that create electrical current. A fully charged 12-volt battery produces at least 12.66 volts. The battery has removable vent caps then they can be pried off with a flat-head screwdriver. Once removed, you will see individual vent wells. Look down into each individual cell to make sure that the water is covering the lead plates and is at the proper level. Add water to any cells that are low on water. Always use distilled water. If the water level in your battery is low, Interstate Batteries recommends adding nothing but distilled water to a vehicle battery. No other additives have been proven to extend battery life and may actually decrease it. 'distilled water that is available from a supermarket to fill the battery in order to prevent chemicals from contaminating the battery.

2. How to determine the proper water level:

Ideally, the water level should be no higher than just below or to the bottom of the tubes (in a 12-volt battery there are 6 tubes) that go down into the battery. To avoid damage to the battery, make sure the fluid level never drops below the tops of the lead plates in each of the cells. Also, avoid adding too much water, which may result in acid overflow and damage around the battery.

If you have electrical items that aren't working, or were working, but have now stopped, look to the fuse box first. Since the entire car is controlled by only 4 fuses, this is an important area. The fuses need to be clean and shiny, as do their connectors. Make sure you can see the metal strip or wire inside them and that it is in tact and not burned in half. These thin strips or wires can also break away from the metal end caps, so they look in tact but really aren't. If in doubt, test with your voltage meter, or just replace them. Sometimes just spinning them in place will make a better connection and things like the horn and interior light, etc. will start working again.

MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

To continue the monthly profile highlighting our members, we want to feature our Secretary, *Karen Roloson*. Members appreciate her hard work listening and recording our monthly meetings.

Karen and her husband, David, moved to Fairhope five years ago from their hobby farm in Buffalo, MN. They realized how much they hated the winters in Minnesota and drove south until they did not see any snow plows! Minnesota's loss is truly our gain!

Karen retired after 25 years as the assistant to the Dean of the Libraries at the University of Minnesota. While working at the University, she also studied Art and English Literature.

Karen is a very talented artist, who returned to painting with the move to Fairhope. Her work is featured at the Eastern Shore Art Center and her paintings hang at other locations in Baldwin County. She has won several awards and gains much joy from her work.

When she can find time to spare, Karen loves to read, work in her garden and sew. She is also a gourmet cook – just attend one of our picnics to taste her delicious recipes.

Hey, what spare time? Karen also loves theater, museums, travel and art shows. She is on the Board at the Eastern Shore Art Center, sews costumes for Theatre 98 and supports the MGGC's with attendance at all meetings and many other events.

Karen and Dave have two British cars, a 1959 Austin Healy Bug-eye Mark 1, currently under going a frame off restoration and a newly acquired 1962 TR4. They also own a 1946 Dodge pick-up truck named "Rosie." Before the pick-up won so many awards, it was supposed to be Karen's "garden truck." Her "dream British car" would be a "new" Mini Cooper Station Wagon – big enough to hold large canvases! Another "fun toy" is a 5th wheel trailer which last fall took them on a 8 week 4000 mile trip up the Eastern seaboard and this year will take them (and the pets) back to Minnesota and the upper Midwest to visit family and friends.

A devoted mom, Karen has two sons in Minnesota and a daughter in Nevada. She also has two cats, a kitten and a great little dog named Astor. All of the furry kids travel in harmony in their fifth wheel.

Mention hurricane to Karen, she lights up, packs the animals and yells "Road trip!"

OUR SPONSORS

D&D Automotive, 506 Fairhope Av.-(251) 990-5613

Fairhope Tires, 19526 Greeno Rd, Fairhope-(251) 928-5613

Penton's Auto Trim & Truck Accessories 4810 North W. St. Pensacola Fl. -\850432-1825

Old Tyme Feed and Seed 19580 Greeno Rd, Fairhope -(251) 929-1156

Rogers's Small Engine Repair 111S. Section St. Fairhope-(251) 680-0027

Malone Insurance 104 Professional Pk. Fairhope -(251) 990-4000

Tony's Towing Inc. 8326 Nichols Ext. Fairhope-(251) 928-7334

Chris Myers Nissan- Fredrick Blvd. (near Sams) (251) 262-5558

EVENTS SCHEDULE for 2010

July 2010

7 July (Wed) - Club meeting at LFYC in Daphne

18 July (Sun) - 1200 Pig Roast at Schmitz's home in Lillian. This will be a PBCA, MGMT, and SABCC gathering.

31 July (Sat) - Road Tour and Lunch Run to Big Daddy's Restaurant.

1000 Rendezvous at Jubilee Shores Methodist Church at Hwy 181 and Hwy 32 intersection

August 2010

4 Aug (Wed) – Club Meeting LFYC

13 Aug (Fri pm) – 5 Flags Speedway with PBCA info pending

21 Aug (Sat) – Tech Session

September 2010

1 Sep (Wed) - Club Meeting LFYC

18 Sep (Sat) – Fun Run Rally

24-25 Sep (Fri-Sat) – EMC Car Show Brits by the Bay, Vidalia, LA (This is an optional club event.)

Fourth Quarter

October 2010

2 Oct (Sat) – Ice Cream Social at Cunningham's (SABCC) in Daphne

6 Oct (Wed) - Club Meeting LFYC

9 Oct (Sat) – Wales West Steam Up Meet (we have been invited)

17 Oct (Sun) – Polo at the Point at Point Clear

23 Oct (Sat) – SABCC British Car Festival at the Pier Park

November 2010

3 Nov (Wed)- Club Meeting LFYC

5 Nov (Fri) -Fairhope First Friday Car Display (1800-2000)

13 Nov (Sat) – Fairhope Veterans Day parade (starts 1000) date pending

December 2010

1Dec (Wed) Club Meeting LFYC

4 Dec (Sat) – Foley Christmas Parade (starts 1000)

11 Dec (Sat) – Lillian Christmas Parade (starts 1300)

17 Dec (Fri) – MGMT Annual Christmas Party date pending

FOR SALE

Dual SU carburetor from a 1974 1/2 MGB with the manifold. Best offer.
Ken Morrison 251-990-3325

I would like to sell this 1953 MG TD-RHD. The car is a survivor -
has had one repaint. Currently not running. Asking price: \$7000.
Please contact me at ch_msc@bellsouth.net or on my cell# at
251-421-6440



JULY FUN RUN AND LUNCH 2010



My car is whiter than yours!



He led the whole way



Permission to go to the bathroom please



Impromptu Tech Session



They came from Mobile too



Mike King and his Jag



\$5000 and you can buy this car



And Pensacola also!



Happy Birthday Betty



Bishop leading the Flotilla



Betty clicked her yellow shoes together and ended up in Kansas



It ended at "Big Daddy's"

Thank you Dick for orchestrating the Fun Run. You led us through some of the most scenic roads in Baldwin County. The drive was not too long and the weather cooperated, with no rain, but high temps. We had a total of 10 cars, which was a good turnout. We attracted a lot of attention at our rest spots. The Fun Run ended at Big Daddy's on Fish River, where the beer was cold, the food was great and the service was exceptional.....Thanks Dick