
SMOKE & OIL

The Official Mardis Gras MGs newsletter
A chapter of the North American MGB Register.
An affiliated chapter of *THE MG OWNERS CLUB (U.K.)*

January 2008 ISSUE



Your Chairman Speaks

Greetings from your At-
more Connection...

December is always a busy time; even so, our club members were able to gather on several occasions beginning with our Christmas party on the 6th at the home of Jack and Helen Nelson. Thanks again to the Nelsons for sharing their lovely home and being such gracious hosts. Thanks also to Michelle Patton and Karen Roloson for their party organizational efforts towards making the club's Christmas party a delightful evening. Congratulations to Roger and Wanda Reetz who won the club's

Members) of the Year award for 2008! Stu Reisinger won the **Joe Btfsplk** award for his MGB "continuing" restoration efforts. Additional thanks to Don and Maribeth Malton for their work with membership and treasurer duties to an annual January start date and keeping us in the black during 2008. @008 was a good year for the club. We added several members and maintained a steady mix of activities. We enjoyed good attendance and participation at our monthly meetings.

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Club Wheels

CHAIRMAN:

Herb

EVENTS CHAIRMAN:

Dick Bishop

SECRETARY:

Karen Roloson

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Jon Gosnell

TREASURER:

Srerling Bingham



Lotus Elan SABCC Fairhope Show

Who We Are

We are a membership organization composed of MG and other British Automobile enthusiasts in the Fairhope and Eastern Shore area who have joined together to preserve and enjoy our motorcars. Since it is the cars that brought us together, our events although varied, stem around British cars. We have monthly activities of different types, including Rallies, Tours, Car Shows, Social Functions, Gymkhanas, Tech Sessions, and lessons on Valet Parking. We are affiliated with the North American MGB Register. We welcome anyone who has an interest in British cars. You do not have to own one to become a member.

FROM THE EDITOR

As you can see , the newsletter has taken on a new look. I hope everyone approves of this new format. As your newsletter editor, my goal is to provide a document which gives you, the members, a conduit for communication which will keep you informed of the club activities and events. I welcome any letters to the editor for future publication. I ask you to keep your letters short and to the point. I hope with your help we can make this newsletter informative. Comments and photos are welcome.

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REMEMBER
To check your tire pressure for winter driving. You may need to add air to your tires.

Valve Cover Races at the SABCC Fairhope Show

TECH

During cold weather, it is advisable to cover the engine oil cooler. This will help your engine warm up to operating temp. quicker.

Rubbing liquid dish detergent on your windshield blades once a month helps restore the blades and keep them from drying out.

TIPS

When changing the oil filter on MGBs that have the inverted spin on filter, it is suggested that you punch a small hole about 1/4 in diameter in the bottom of the filter. This will let the oil drain back into the engine. You will have less oil spill. You can wrap a rag around the filter where it spins onto to catch any dripping oil.



Eastern Shore Cruise In

SABCC Fairhope Show 2008



Tony McLaughlin's Morgan
SABCC Fairhope Show



Bill Silhan;s Daimler
SABCC Fairhope Show



Don Malton's Austin Healey
SABCC Fairhope Show

FEATURED MEMBER

This section of "Smoke & Oil" will be dedicated to a different member each month. Since I am Jon Gosnell the new editor of this fine manuscript. I will tell you a bit about myself. I have been involved with sports cars most of my life. I grew up around sports cars and SCCA. I became a member of SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) in 1961. At that time, I had a 1957 Triumph TR-3. I received my competition license for road racing in SCCA in 1962. I was the Regional Executive for the Gulf Coast Region of SCCA for 5 years. I raced a Triumph TR-4 for many years in Vintage Racing, and Regional SCCA competition. And drove a 1965 AC Cobra in club events. I look forward in becoming an active member the *Mardis Gras MGs*. I also look getting to know all of you.

Jon Gosnell



Talladega SCCA Regional Race

TECH SESSION

The November tech session was held at Chris Myers, on Saturday the 22nd. Dick bishop brought donuts and coffee for everyone. Dick braved the cool weather and drove his MGB with too down, as did Mike Schiebert in his XKE. Dick was concerned by the unusual amount of blue smoke coming from his exhaust pipe he noticed as he drove to the tech session. Roger

Reetz checked compression on all cylinders, (all 4 cylinders had great compression) it was decided that the heavy viscosity of his oil, and the engine not reaching normal operating temp, that the valve guides and seals may be getting worn and the oil was getting past the valve stem seals. On the way home Dicks car did not smoke any more than normal. Mike said his

XKE seemed to be starving for fuel under certain conditions. We did not have a fuel pressure testing meter, be it was determined that the fuel filter needed replaced. Although not many members attended the Tech session, a lot of good advice was shared. Dick Bishop, Mike Schiebert, Stu Reisinger, Dave Roloson, Jon Gosnell, Roger Reetz, and Don Malton attended the tech session.



Tech Session
Dick Bishop's MGB



Tech Session
Mike Schiebert's XK-E V12



Tech Session
Dick Bishop's MGB engine

NEWSLETTER ADDRESS

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Lotus SABCC Fairhope Show



Jaguar Class SABCC Fairhope Show

JANUARY EVENTS

January 7th
Monthly Meeting
Lake Forest Yacht Club
6:30PM

January 24th
Rally
Eastern Shore
Shopping Center
Greeno Rd.
Fairhope
Alabama 2PM

CORPORATE SPONSORS

CHRIS MYERS AUTOMALL

26161 highway 98 Daphne

D&D AUTOMOTIVE

506 Fairhope Av. Fairhope

FAIRHOPE TIRE

19526 Greeno Rd. Fairhope

MALONE INSURANCE AGENCY

105 Professional Park drive, Fairhope

NAPA AUTO PARTS STORE

105 N Section St. Fairhope

OLD TYME FEED & SEED

9580 Greeno Rd. Fairhope

THOMAS HOME AND AUTO

111 South section St, Fairhope

TONY'S TOWING

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Guess the make of this vehicle and the owners name and you could win!

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Rates are *cheap*, contact your editor

Chairman's Corner Continued

Please make every effort to attend our meeting on January 6th and bring a friend (and/or prospective member) to help start out the new year with a bang!

Jon Gosnell has agreed to become our newsletter editor and has been working to get the first edition in your hands just prior to the meeting. The club has recently purchased adobe Acrobat 9.0 software which will greatly help Jon turn out a quality newsletter. When he call on you please respond with your full support. A potential new member has promised to help with our web site and we look forward to him joining the club and sharing his experience with us

I talked to Don Malton just before Christmas and he reported the he had received renewal dues from over half the membership at that point. If you have not sent your check, please do as soon as you can so that Sterling Bingham, our new Treasurer can inherit the Membership/ Treasurer job with everyone in good standing as of January 2009.

The weather has been conducive to roadster running and I hope many of you are able to do so. My Mg is coming along, but I'm not quite ready to drive it without seats! Upholstery, interior and top remain to be done, but I hope to have the wheels on it very soon, **See you at the yacht club Jan. 6th**

Herb Hackman
MGMG Chairman