

Morris Gazette

April 2006

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!

Inside this issue:

<i>Calendar</i>	2
<i>Minutes</i>	3
<i>Officers</i>	4
<i>Middendorf's Run</i>	5
<i>Morris Minor Upgrades</i>	6
<i>Da Pink B</i>	7
<i>Membership Info, For Sale</i>	8
<i>New Orleans Car Show Entry Form</i>	9

President's Message



Our 16th Annual Car Day is just around the corner, and I would like to thank all of the committee chairs for a great job in signing up volunteers. With club membership down considerably from previous years, we needed all of the help that we could muster. So far, we have approximately 50 cars registered with 2 weeks still to go. Considering what most BMCNO members and our friends along the coast have endured, this is pretty remarkable. At this time we are expecting about a 100 vehicles for the show. We have made many changes this year just to hold the show, but I think it will be very successful!!!

This past Friday, March 10, a former member passed away. Fred Fabre, owner of Carriage House Garage in Baton Rouge, died after a lengthy illness. For many years Fred would invite the entire club for a tech session at his garage, and arrange for a breakfast down the street at his favorite cafe. Walking through his garage was like a time warp to the 50's and 60's. Not only did he always have several Rolls and Bentleys, he took in other British car orphans too. Fred was probably one of the most knowledgeable Rolls experts in the US. In addition to a host of British cars, he owned a garage full of British car memorabilia, and was always looking for more, including models and pedal cars that were placed strategically around the perimeter of his shop. Fred was also one of the most enthusiastic supporters of our early car shows, many times bringing 2 cars, and supporting class sponsorships. He was a fun BCO (British Car Owner) and he will be missed.

See you at the goody bag party and the Car Show in two weeks.

Thanks,

Cliff

April 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 Car Day Appreciation	10	11 Board Meeting	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 General Meeting	26	27	28 Final Friday	29 Pensacola Show
30						

Tue Mar 21 General Meeting 7:00 pm Italian Pie, 5650 Jefferson Hwy .6 miles west of Clearview.
Note: the meeting date has been moved up a week due to the car show!

Sat Mar 25—16th Annual New Orleans British Car Day. Delgado—City Park.
Pre-registered cars admitted at 8 am. On-site Registration 9 am-noon.
Show noon—3 pm. Awards approximately 4 pm.

Sun Apr 9 Car Day Appreciation 4 pm at Italian Pie, 5650 Jefferson Hwy. Everyone who worked the show is invited for sandwiches & pizza “on the club”.

Tue Apr 11 Board – Wally Friloux. 313 Jade Ct, Madisonville. South shore carpool leaves back of Lakeside Mall by Whitney Bank at 6:15

Apr 20-23 VTR Regional, Jenks, OK (Tulsa area) More info at <http://members.cox.net/gctok/>

Tue Apr 25 General Meeting 7:00 pm Italian Pie, Jefferson Hwy .6 miles West of the Huey P. Long bridge, across the street from Smilie’s. **Crawfish Boil payment DUE! Price TBA.**

Fri Apr 28 – Final Friday, Columbia St, Covington, 5pm – 10pm. Block party & informal car show.

Fri Apr 28 – convoy to Pensacola leaves 8 am from New Orleans East, Plaza Mall (I-10 @ Read), 8:45 am from the Mississippi Welcome Center, I-10 exit 1.

Sat Apr 29 Panhandle British Car Association Show, Pensacola, FL. For information call Tom Schmitz, (251) 961-7171, tschmitz@ametro.net <http://www.pbca1.com/show.htm>
Call Pensacola Beach Best Western Motel direct at (800) 934-3301 for reservations.

Future Stuff:

Sun May 7 “Crawfish” Boil. Bogue Falaya Park, Covington. You must pay at April 25 meeting!!

Jun 21–25 MG2006 All Register MG Meet – Gatlinburg, TN. www.mg2006.com

Jul 19-23 VTR National Dallas TX. www.vtr2006.com or Jim Thompson (817) 562-1500

February 21 Minutes

Thirty-six members and guests attended the meeting.

Club News: Club President Cliff Hughes, Secretary/editor Cathy Greensfelder, and Treasurer Allen Bradley will not be running for office next year. Keith Vezina will be serving as Vice President but will *not* consider being president. Elections are not until October but everyone needs to start thinking about running for one of these offices.

Past Events: Lee De Ramus reported on the Middendorf's run. It was a beautiful day for a drive and around 40 people participated. (See article)

Future Events: The Pensacola Car show will be on April 26. A number of members plan to attend. The MG National will be in Gatlinburg, TN, on June 21 to 25. A group is caravanning there, leaving on Tuesday June 20 and stopping overnight in Gadsden, AL. Keith Vezina has negotiated a special rate at the Gadsden Inn & Suites.

Car Show: The "Goodie Bag Party" will be on Saturday afternoon, March 18, 2006. Members were encouraged to come help assemble the Goodie Bags and registration packets for the car show. The club buys the pizza or chicken. Ronnie Palmisano reported that he has been working on collecting donations for the bags. If any member or their employer or business has "give aways" like note pads, key rings, pens, etc. please contact Ronnie at (504) 454-3461 or ronniepalmisano@aol.com. Bring items to Ronnie or to Lubriport Labs, 1650 Airline Hwy by the airport, behind NAPA.

Cliff Hughes is talking to a catering company about selling food during the show if Delgado is not opening the snack bar.

The Car Day Appreciation party for all Car Day workers will be in early April.

Member Projects: Dave Dupre has rebuilt the transmission on his TR4 since the last Car Day. Mike Anderson is working on removing the body from his Jenetta to begin restoration.

Sally Breithoff's MGB Scarlet Rose "went swimming" during the flood and is currently in Covington with Jim Jones. (See article p 7) Fortunately, Scarlet's new interior survived. Bill Breithoff says the seat cushions don't smell and the leather upholstery cleaned up beautifully.

Allen Bradley's Magnette is in Kiln, MS at Peter Brauen's shop. Allen is assisting Peter in tearing out the rusted body parts. They break for tea every afternoon at 3pm!! (Peter is from England.)

Wayne Aucoin's MGB has been painted. The MGB tech sessions should resume soon to reassemble it. He wants to have it ready for Gatlinburg in June.

Keith Vezina now has a home-made sand blasting cabinet that is big enough to blast wheels.

The 50/50 drawing for \$30 was won by Lee De Ramus. Wayne Aucoin and Michelle Rose won king cakes donated by Mike Brown. Mike Brown and Joey LaBranch won t-shirts. §

Club Officers – 2006

President: Cliff Hughes
 Vice President: Keith Vezina
 Treasurer: Allen Bradley
 Secty/Editor: Cathy Greensfelder

Board of Directors

985-845-8709
 504-443-5056
 504-888-6887
 504-392-9261

hugh8709@bellsouth.net
 webmaster@bmcno.org
 abmgbtr6@bellsouth.
 editor@bmcno.org



Ronnie Palmisano
 Bill Breithoff
 Wally Friloux
 Robert Rougelot

Members at Large

504 454-3461
 504 737-3677
 985 845-8216
 985 809-7007

ronniepalmisano@aol.com
 sally.breithoff@siemens.com
 twofrilouxs@bellsouth.net
 rcrougelot@charter.net

Marque Coordinators

North American MGA Register
 North American MGB Register
 Vintage Triumph Register
 Webmaster

Frazer Rice 504-314-1157
 Henry Bourgeois 504-893-7610
 Harold O'Reilly 504-486-5837
 Keith Vezina 504-443-5056

ricefrazer@yahoo
 bayouboo@charter.net
 haroldor@bellsouth.net
 webmaster@bmcno.org

OUR SERVICE PUTS US A-PART FROM THE REST.

At Little British, we know who we are and where our business comes from. As a growing company founded in the late 90's, we take pride in giving you high quality customer service. We will have the parts you need, the convenience you want, and at a lower price than you thought you would pay.

By being an online based company, we are able to keep costs low and maintain a flawless ordering system that is quick and user friendly. We have the parts for most British marques and models as well as fun collectibles and other useful items for the British car enthusiast. Log on to www.LBCarCo.com and see why we excel at what we do.



Little British Car Company www.LBCarCo.com

Jeff Zorn • 29311 Aranel Farmington Hills, MI 48334
 Phone: 248-489-0022 • Toll-free: 800-637-9640
 Fax: 248-489-9665 • Email: LBCarCo@LBCarCo.com
 Major credit cards accepted

Authorized Distributor for



**Pertronix Electric Ignitions
 and Coils**

Vintage Ads

Don Hoods

Mota-Lita Steering Wheels

Gunson Tools

Moss Motors

**Halogen Bulbs for Most British
 and American Cars**

Plus many others!



Middendorf's Run by Sally Breithoff

Sunday, February 12th was a beautiful, crisp, sunny, cold day with an endless blue sky. A perfect day to drive the LBCs. Fourteen British cars along with a healthy variety of non-British vehicles made the drive to Middendorf's for the famous thin catfish. About forty members were there for the great food and great conversation with friends. Allen Bradley gave out tickets for the \$10 prize to everyone who drove a British car. It was won by Keith Vezina.



Everyone had a wonderful time and in these post-Katrina days it was easy to see that Middendorf's has not lost their touch for serving great seafood. Can't wait till next year. §





LUBRIPORT LABORATORIES, INC.

PROUDLY SERVICING THE PETROLEUM & MARINE INDUSTRIES

PETROLEUM LABORATORY SERVICE – USED LUBE OIL ANALYSIS
 PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE ANALYSIS – DIESEL & RESIDUAL FUELS TESTING
 NEW LUBRICANT QUALITY ASSURANCE – EMISSION SPECTROMETER ANALYSIS

(504) 464-1734 – 1650 AIRLINE DRIVE – KENNER, LA 70062
 ANNE & FLOYD FRILOUX, OWNERS

Morris Minor Upgrades by Jim Jones

I enjoy upgrading my British cars. I know that this is sacrilege to many owners of British cars, but they are my cars and I can do with them as I please. At least they are not sitting in someone's back yard rusting into nothingness. I mostly own Morris Minors (a sedan, a station wagon, and a pickup). They are nice little cars, but they are primitive in many ways.

The Morris stock clutch system is operated by mechanical means. A real hassle in heavy traffic! Your left leg develops larger muscles than your right one does. The cure is to convert to a hydraulically operated system. And although I no longer see the kit advertised in the latest Mini Mania catalog, the conversion can still be accomplished with the purchase of Midget/Sprite clutch master and slave cylinders and few other miscellaneous small parts. Some metal cutting is needed. I am sure that this conversion can be applied to some other British cars as well.

The Morris brake system which has hydraulic drum brakes front & rear is just not the best. A conversion to a front Midget/Sprite disc brake system will do the trick. (Note: My '49 Austin of England Dorset had hydraulic drum brakes in the front & mechanical drum brakes in the rear! Can you figure out just why a manufacturer would do that?) This upgrade is available from Mini Mania (www.minimania.com) in three different forms.

The stock engine power is just too weak for modern driving. Converting to a 1275cc Midget/Sprite engine & transmission is the way to go. You will get all the power that you need. Actually, you will get more power than you need as the Morris Minor models were not designed to be operated like a sport car. They are just too top heavy and sit too high off the road. Virtually no changes are necessary for this conversion. All fits in place.

The lighting system needs upgrading as well. I replaced the old headlamp bulbs with halogen units. No conversion work is necessary. The top tail lamp lenses were red in color (American specification). Modern turning signal lenses are amber. If you need to replace these lenses due to damage, only the amber ones are available now days anyway.

Windscreen wiper motors on all but the last Morris Minor models were single speed units - very slow. Good for fog and mist only. If it is raining hard, you cannot see well enough to drive. I converted to a later Midget/Sprite dual speed motor for safety reasons. This is not the easiest of conversions if done properly. Creation of a metal platform to adapt the later two speed motor to the original mounting plate is necessary. The stock dashboard mounted wiper switch will not operate the dual speed motor. The easy solution to that problem is to mount a dual position switch under the dash. A lighted switch assembly would be nice.

I have more fun making these conversions and I feel safer driving my little British cars. §

Da Pink B by Jim Jones

Sally Briethoff's pink MGB was in two feet of flood water for weeks after the "Big One". It has been at my garage for a couple of months now. The high water level necessitated draining fluids in the engine, tranny, & rear end.

The wiring harnesses were in bad shape before the storm. As so often happens with British cars, previous owners had butchered things badly. No guarantee could be made for reliability with the original harnesses in place so they had to be replaced. The starter solenoid was shot and the starter itself could not be trusted. Both were replaced with locally purchased rebuilt units. The starter relay was bad. The alternator went belly up and was replaced with a '91 GM Saturn unit.



Water line on Sally Breithoff's MGB

The items that needed attention before the storm were taken care of as well: new front suspension bushes, motor mounts, right-hand motor mount bracket, transmission mounts, and a fuel tank that was so badly rusted at the filler neck that the boot smelled of gasoline all the time. All pollution gear was removed including the steel vent line that runs from the fuel tank all the way to the engine compartment.

The Weber carburetor's manual choke mechanism was broken rendering it inoperative, and the fuel inlet was on the rocker side of the unit. The fuel line passed within one inch of the front exhaust manifold. The other port was drilled and tapped. The positive crankcase ventilation port had to be drill, tapped, and a fitting installed as well.

One of the two stock radiator cooling fans was bound up. They were replaced with a rear mounted 12" pancake electric fan with adjustable thermostat.

The car didn't have functional rear brakes when Sally got it—the rear lines were pinched off. The new brake lines that were purchased before the storm have finally been found and will be installed soon.

Sally's husband Bill has been assisting me with the work despite the facts that his home and business are still not functional. A lot of other work has been done, but you get the idea! Sally will be happy with her "new" MGB.

FREE Parts & Accessories Catalogs

Choose From These Catalogs:

- Austin Healey
- MGA
- MGB & MGC
- AH Sprite & MG Midget
- Sunbeam Alpine & Tiger
- TR2 TR3 TR4 TR4A TR250
- TR6
- TR7 & TR8
- Spitfire & GT6

Order Toll Free
7 Days A Week
1-800-255-0088










Order Catalogs & Parts Online at
www.VictoriaBritish.com

Ship to Shore Marine Electric Inc.

New equipment installations



Repair

Troubleshooting

Old equipment updates

Solving electrical problems since 1982

Cort Musgrave

(504) 392-4961

For Sale

PARTS

78 MGB parts. Car flooded in Katrina. Good fenders, doors, trunk, bumpers, and any part you care to cut off shell. Peter at 228-332-0926 or pbrauen1@bellsouth.net (4/06)

78 MG midget parts . Right front fender, left door, hood and trunk. Plus bumpers. Peter at 228-332-0926 or pbrauen1@bellsouth.net (4/06)

MGB-GT left front fender fiberglass \$100. Peter at 228-332-0926 or pbrauen1@bellsouth.net (4/06)

MGB Rostyle wheels. 20 to choose from, some with tyres. \$25 for a good one, \$10 for a dinged or rusty one. Peter at 228-332-0926 or pbrauen1@bellsouth.net (4/06)

MGB 5 main engine \$100. MGB cross member, chrome or rubber \$25. MGB overdrive transmission \$450. MGB flywheel \$10. Austin Healey 100 block \$75. John Roper (985) 893-2413 (3/06)

OTHER

Haynes MGB Manuals, 2 almost new hardback editions. \$ 18.00 each. Cliff Hughes (985) 845-8709 (3/06)

WANTED

Boot (trunk) lid & factory hard top for TR6. Ronnie Palmisano (504) 319-8506 (4/06)

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.

Lifetime Membership: \$300

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

Club Regalia

– Contact Treasurer Allen Bradley for information.

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

Windscreen Transfer \$ 1.00

T-shirt \$10.00

(Please pick up regalia at the regular meeting. Shipping extra.)



official entry form
British Motoring Club—New Orleans
16th Annual British Car Day

Please print

Name	Guest (for name tag)	
Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email	
Club Affiliations (used to calculate club participation award)		

Cars entered

	Year	Make / Model / Type	Entry Fee
		<small>\$25.00 early registration</small>	<small>\$30.00 after 3-06-06</small>
1			
		<small>\$10.00 each additional car</small>	
2			
3			
4			

Total Fees	\$
-------------------	----

In consideration of this entry, I waive any and all claims for me and my heirs against the British Motoring Club New Orleans, Delgado College, 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: _____

Make check payable to British Car Day

Mail to: Car Day, P.O. Box 73213, Metairie, LA 70033

Pre-registered cars will be admitted beginning at 8 a.m.
 On-Site Registration is from 9 a.m. to Noon.
 Voting will be from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Due to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, our host hotel has been co-opted by FEMA to house emergency workers and we will **not** be able to have a Friday night reception. Hotel rooms *are* available at other hotels around the city and the situation is changing daily, so please call around. Also, we will be unable to have an awards banquet on Saturday night after the show. Awards will be given out in the afternoon as soon as the votes can be tallied and engraved plates for the winners will be distributed at a later date. This is a temporary situation and we plan to be back to normal for 2007.

For more information visit our web site: <http://www.bmcno.org>
 Or call:
 Cliff Hughes: (985) 966-0492
 Keith Vezina: (504) 722-5777

The Morris Gazette

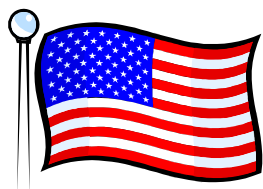
POST OFFICE BOX 73213

METAIRIE LA 70033

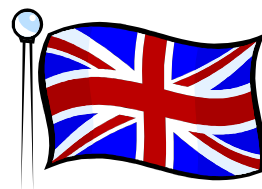


Visit us on the Web

www.bmcno.org



April 2006



Saturday, March 25—British Car Day
Delgado - City Park Campus

Sunday April 9 - Car Day Appreciation