

Morris Gazette

September 2006

Published Monthly

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with**

**North American MGB
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(VTR)**

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

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Vice-President's Message



As you can see, I've hijacked this column from our distinguished President this month. It is not because he is now much older (read "vintage"); a sexagenarian as of August 15. No, the old boy can still do the work. I've taken over the helm this month to write the second installment on explaining the Club Officers' duties, that of the Vice President.

In our By-Laws, the Vice President's duties are defined as: *"It shall be the duty of the Vice President to act as Activities Director and Chairman of all Club Committees. In the absence of the President, he shall preside at meetings of the members and officers."*

Broad and daunting responsibilities? Not Really.

The first duty, Activities Director, does not mean that the VP does all of the work in selecting, scheduling and setting up the various club functions. Club functions are discussed at Board meetings and are selected and scheduled by unanimous consent of the Board. Different Board members volunteer to oversee events based on their proximity or familiarity. It's the VP's job to make sure that the Board member has everything under control.

The second duty, Chairman of all Club Committees, is one that seldom comes into play. I personally have been Vice President on two occasions for a total of three years and have never had to chair a special committee.

The third duty, presiding over meetings in the President's absence, used to be the scariest one for me. I was always nervous in front of a crowd and this fear was what nearly kept me from accepting the Presidency in 1996. I discovered that writing a meeting outline helped me focus on the subjects of discussion. Now, as it is so painfully obvious to my audience, that fear of speaking has disappeared.

Keith Vezina, Vice-President

IMPORTANT!!

See proposed changes to BMCNO By-laws
on pages 4 and 5
and Newsletter Opt IN Form on page 9

September 2006

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Jazz n the Vines
10	11	12 Board Meeting	13	14	15 DBE Fish & Chips	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Peachtree Show, GA
24	25	26 General Meeting	27	28	29 Final Friday	30 Brits by the River

Tue Aug 29 –General Meeting, 7:00 pm Italian Pie, Jefferson Hwy .6 miles West of the Huey P. Long bridge, across the street from Smilie's.

Sat Sep 9—Jazz n the Vines. Pontchartrain Vineyards Hwy 1082 north of Covington. Concert by Hot Club of New Orleans. Bring picnic dinner, chairs, flashlight and umbrella. South Shore convoy from Metairie Causeway toll plaza at 4:30 pm, meet North Shore at Rouse's on Hwy 190 in Covington at 5:30. Arrive at Vineyard shortly before 6 pm. \$10 admission. Wine & soft drinks available for purchase. No pets or outside alcohol. www.pontchartrainvineyards.com

Tue Sep 12 – Board Meeting Robert Rougelot 610 W. 23rd Ave Covington (985) 809-7007 Southshore Car pool leaves back of Lakeside Mall at 6:15pm

Fri Sep 15 – Daughters of the British Empire Fish & Chips fundraiser, 6—9pm. English Tea Room, 734 Rutland St., Covington. Tickets available at Aug 29 meeting or by calling Margaret Friloux at 985-845-8216. (No tickets at the door) \$15 includes Fish & Chips, soft drink & dessert bar. Southshore convoy will meet at the Causeway toll plaza in Metairie at 6pm.

Fri Sep 22 – 24 Peachtree SE British Car Festival, Dillard GA, peachtreemg.dnnsites.com

Tue Sep 26 General Meeting 7:00 pm Italian Pie, Jefferson Hwy

Fri Sep 29 Final Friday, Columbia St, Covington, 5pm. Block party & informal car show

Fri Sep 29 – Convoy to Vidalia for Brits by the River show.

Sat Sep 30 –Brits By The River Show, Vidalia, LA (across the river from Natchez) English Motor-ing Club-MS puts on their show in conjunction with the Fall Pilgrimage plantation home tours in Natchez. More info at www.msemc.org and www.natchezpilgrimage.com

Future Stuff:

Oct 7 – Memphis Show; Oct 14—Nashville Show; Oct 21 Houston show; Oct 28 - Fairhope, AL Show

July 25 Minutes

Around thirty members were present. New members Richard and Martha Porche were introduced. They have a 57 MGA.



Past Events: Jazz 'n the Vines was a rain-out. A dozen members went only to have to leave when it started pouring. The event has been rescheduled for September. (see article p. 7)

Ponchatoula has started a 3rd Saturday block party like the Final Friday event in Covington. Seven BMCNO members attended. (See article last month.) The club plans to attend this event a few more times and see if they get the kinks worked out. Final Friday for July was also hot but not nearly as hot as the Ponchatoula event.

Future Events: Plans for the UnCar Show were discussed. Members were encouraged to attend an open board meeting at the Italian Pie on August 15. The club needs new officers for next year. The 2006 Euro Auto Festival, will be held on October 20-22 at the BMW Manufacturing Co. Spartanburg, SC. The featured marque for this year's festival is Triumph. Wally Friloux reports that BMW throws a great party and there will be factory tours, an autocross and a rally. Unfortunately, that is the same weekend as the South Alabama British Car Club's annual show in Fairhope (Mobile) AL. A dozen or so members plan to attend the Fairhope show.

The Daughters of the British Empire is having a fundraiser on September 15th. The club plans to attend but be advised - **tickets must be purchased in advance** from the DBE. Call Margaret Friloux at 985-845-8216 or talk to Wally at the August 29 meeting for tickets

Member Projects: Lee de Ramus reported on the origin of the local term "brake tag" for safety inspection sticker. Many years ago, they screwed a small metal tag onto the car when they did the safety inspection. He brought in a small metal tag stamped with "Brakes tested - Parish of Jefferson 1941" to show to everyone.

Richard Porche reported on the history of his MGA. He got the car twenty years ago. He recently retired and began restoring it by taking it apart. He carefully video taped the disassembly. He then built a garage and taped building the garage - over the tape of disassembling the MGA. Oops! The car is down to a rolling chassis and the engine is apart down to the rings and bearings and the body is hanging from the ceiling of the shed. It was a real project car when he got it - the rear bumper was wood, the rear wheels were Mags and the front were wire wheels. He was a mechanic before he worked for the chemical plant, and now he's retired and gone full circle back to being a mechanic.

Keith Vezina is putting a trailer hitch on his MGB. He's found a company called DiscountSteel.com that will fabricate custom steel pieces to the nearest 1/16th inch. He's having brackets made to order.

Harold O'Reilly has a "new" 1977 Spitfire. He has no tools and no garage but he's got the car running and it has lights now. (Harold had 8+ feet of water in his home near the 17th Street Canal breach and lost his TR7, Spitfire and Thunderbird)

George Torlage was present to talk to any members interested in taking his paint class at Delgado.

Club member David Loeb, owner of Ford, Lincoln, Mercury and Nissan of Slidell spoke on how to buy a new car. (see article next month.)

Martha Porche drew the ticket for the 50/50 and pulled her own ticket! Mike Lewis and David Loeb both won T-Shirts. §

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

Board of Directors

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 504-443-5056 webmaster@bmcno.org
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Ronnie Palmisano
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 Wally Friloux
 Robert Rougelot

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 North American MGB Register
 Vintage Triumph Register
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 Harold O'Reilly 504-486-5837 haroldor@bellsouth.net
 Keith Vezina 504-443-5056 webmaster@bmcno.org

Proposed Amendments to BMCNO By-laws by Ronnie Palmisano

I would like to propose the following amendments to the BMCNO by-laws

Section 7. "Dues are payable annually during the month that the member first joined."
 Change to "All annual memberships expire on June 30."

Section 13 Newsletter:

"A newsletter shall be published once a month and mailed before the regular monthly Club membership meeting." Remove "and mailed"

The amendment to Section 7 would make all dues due in June. This would simplify accounting for both the members and the board. The By-laws do not specify the amount of dues. This allows the board to pro-rate dues for 1st year members not joining in July.

The amendment to Section 13 would permit but not require an all-electronic newsletter.



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Proposed Amendment to BMCNO By-Laws by Cathy Greensfelder

I would like to propose the following changes to the BMCNO by-laws in order to split the Newsletter Editor/Secretary office into two separate offices.

The Secretary would take the duties of maintaining the membership, recording minutes and handling proposed by-law changes and absentee ballots and would be subject to the same three year term limit as the rest of the board.

The Newsletter Editor would take the duty of publishing a newsletter and would be exempt from term limits.

The following changes are required as a group.

=====

8b: **Current:** "The exception to the term limitation being that of the office of Editor/**Secretary**."

Change: Remove "/Secretary"

8c: **Current:** "Number of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of **four** members, who shall also serve as the President, Vice-President, Newsletter Editor/Secretary, and Treasurer of the Club. "

Change: "Number of Directors: The Board of Directors shall consist of **five** members, who shall also serve as the President, Vice-President, Newsletter Editor, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Club."

9b:**Current:** "The exception to the term limitation being that of the Editor/**Secretary**."

Change: Remove "/Secretary"

8d **Current:**

"Newsletter Editor/Secretary: The Newsletter Editor shall attend all meetings of the members and officers and keep records of all minutes and notes in a book kept for this purpose. The Newsletter Editor shall publish a club newsletter as set forth elsewhere in these by-laws. The editor shall keep an updated roll of all Club members."

Change::

"Secretary: The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the members and officers and keep records of all minutes and notes in a book kept for this purpose. The Secretary shall keep an updated roll of all Club members.

Newsletter Editor: The Newsletter Editor shall publish a club newsletter as set forth elsewhere in these by-laws. "

11: **Current:** "Any full, associate or student member in good standing, by written petition submitted to the **Newsletter Editor**/Secretary, may propose an amendment to the By-Laws. "

Change: Remove "Newsletter Editor/"

12: **Current:** Absentee Voting:

Absentee ballots must be submitted to the **Newsletter Editor**/Secretary no later than 48 hours before any election or vote.

Change: Remove "Newsletter Editor/"

All other occurrences of the phrase "Newsletter Editor/Secretary" changed to "Newsletter Editor, Secretary". §

9th Annual Richard Wolf UnCarShow by Cathy Greensfelder

For the first time in several years, **it did not rain** for the UnCar Show! It wasn't even oppressively hot. Fifty four people made it to the Tap Room in Covington for this tribute to all the "also ran" cars in our club. Fourteen British cars were "entered" i.e. they made it to the event! Special mention should go to new member Tom Daughdrill. He brought his wife, his 1970 MG Midget and the Midget's fan club of 8 friends!

Past Goodwill Trophy winner Ronnie Palmisano's 1976 TR6 is progressing slowly but surely. It only won the Body Shop Award for the biggest Dent and the Interior Award (the TR6 doesn't actually have an interior).



Ronnie Palmisano's TR6

Charlie Ake's 1977 MGB took home the "Grand Canyon Award" for the biggest dash board split and the "Gunk Award" for dirtiest engine compartment. But the car is running reliably!

Jim Jones' otherwise perfect 1967 Morris Minor was given the "Dustbin Award" for dirtiest car. As Jim noted when accepting his award, black cars are only clean for about 15 minutes after you wash them.



Jim Doughtry's 1948 MG-TC

Jim Doughtry's 1948 MG-TC was awarded the "Exxon Valdez Award" This highly original car was repainted in 1950 shortly after it's original purchase and hasn't been "molested" much since. It still has all the original oil leaks!



Cliff Hughes & Jim Jones

Robert Rougelot's MGB took the "Primer Award" for worst paint. Unlike his show winning Mini Cooper, Robert's MGB is a definite "before" car.

Rick Huber's otherwise immaculate 1975 MGB-V8 took the "Spiderweb Award" for the most impressive windshield crack. There were a couple of bigger cracks, but Rick won on quality.

Mike Brown's faithful 1958 MGA won the "Duct Tape Award" for rattiest top. He had it hidden away under a cover but the judges ferreted it out



Cliff Hughes & Mike Brown



Harold O'Reilly & Spitfire

(Continued on page 7)

Rain in the Vines



Around a dozen members showed up at the South Causeway toll plaza for the convoy to the Ponchatoula Vineyards for the Jazz `n the Vines concert by the Wardell Williams Blues Band. A quick round of phone calls determined that it was not raining on the Northshore so the group braved the rain in Metairie and headed to Covington to meet the Northshore members. When we arrived at the vineyard, it looked like the rain might miss us so everyone set up chairs and ate dinner. Then it started to drizzle. The band started playing and it started to rain. Everyone but the Greensfelders took refuge in their cars. (They are Jazz Fest fans and used to listening to blues in the rain!!) Then the skies opened and it POURED! After 2 songs, the Greensfelders packed up and went to their Explorer (their MGB was back in Algiers with a clutch hydraulics problem) and the band called it quits.

Since everyone was already wet from being outside, the members in convertibles didn't get much wetter on the drive home. (We all know how well the tops on LBCs work!!) Everyone felt bad for Mike Baker who drove in all the way from Breau Bridge. At least he was in a hard-top Jaguar and wasn't in danger of drowning on the way home. Everyone got a voucher for free admission to another concert this season so we are going to try this event again in September. §

9th Annual Richard Wolf UnCarShow by Cathy

anyway. Mike's MGA also took home the "UnDo Award". This battered wire-wheel knockoff is for the least attractive wheels in the show. While no one has yet to come close the level of rust and decrepitude achieved by the original recipient, Cathy Greensfelder's MGB, Mike's were the worst on the lot.



Harold O'Reilly and his "new" 1977 Spitfire made it to the Metairie Causeway toll plaza but the car didn't make it any further so Harold will have delivered to him "Da Boot" given to the person most likely to walk home. This hideous award was flooded in last year's winner Micheal Delacerda's home during Katrina and now has an nice coating of rust.



Cliff Hughes / Tom Daughdrill

The Grand Prize, the "Goodwill Trophy" is awarded to the car most in need of total restoration. It went to Tom Daughdrill's 1970 MG Midget. The Midget would have won in the paint, dent, interior, top and engine compartment categories had it not combined all of these in one amazing cry for a total restoration! §



Tom Daughdrill's 1970 MG Midget

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: \$250

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.)

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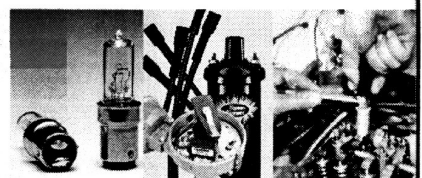
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(6/06)

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ing. \$30 John Roper 985-893-2413 (8/06)

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Two (unused and undamaged) BMCNO car
show coffee mugs. My Bugeye was down and
I was unable to get a goodie bag. Offering \$5
each for the 1st two mugs brought to me at
next meeting. Thanks - Rodger Talley(6/06)

The Morris Gazette

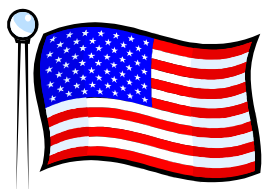
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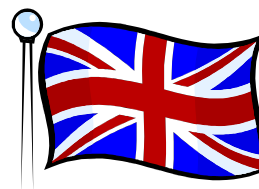


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August 2006



Sept 9—Jazz n the Vines

Sept 30—Vidalia Show

Newsletter Opt-IN Form

By-laws Changes