

February—2014

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Positively Grounded—The President's Message, John Viviani

The club had an excellent drive on the 15th along with members of Mid-Alabama Corvettes, Team Corvette of Birmingham, a few PCA, members and a few of the regulars



at Cars and Coffee. We took a nice paced stroll through the countryside. A route many in all the clubs had never driven. It wound us up to Gadsden with only 1 missed turned and the trailing Corvettes said speeds never got too much beyond the limit at any time. We toured Big Oak Garage, even having coffee and doughnuts provided by shop owner Wil Posey and his family. I think everyone enjoyed the drive, the tour and most were on the road home by early afternoon. I have been approached by a few other clubs about other drives and by adding other clubs, guaranteeing a good turn out, I have begun planning our next excursion.

The Barber Museum held an exciting event on the 8th at the museum focusing around a recent restoration of one of their 2 Lotus Mark X's (out of 6 built). The event reunited one of the earliest owners and the cars he raced 54 years ago. Bob had not seen the car since he sold it in 1960 so it was somewhat emotional. We also learned how small the racing world is, Bob who only raced in the Northeast and retired from driving in 1960 found people in attendance he knew from racing here in Birmingham. Such a small world. Finally if you wandered through World of Wheels this past weekend you would have found among the droves of Muscle Cars a few little British gems. A Fine example of Triumph's TR6 and a reported original Shelby Cobra. Really a well-attended event and something that one should visit once every few years, just to see what is happening in the other car

worlds.

That's the past, we look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meeting to discuss the future, if mother nature gives us a chance.

-Be Seeing you.

Calendar

February

11th—Regular Club Meeting—Dale's on Hwy 31, Hoover.

March

11th—Regular Club Meeting—TBA

Tidbits & Humor

An Englishman who lives in France is dead drunk and the car is pulled over by a policeman who asks "have you been drinking"? With a very slurred voice the Englishman admits that in the morning he married off his daughter. Since he does not like masses, he went to the bar and started to drink beer. Then during the dinner he drank a lot of wine, and then later on he finished off a couple bottles of black label Johnny Walker. The policeman then told him that he would have to ticket him as he was obviously driving under the influence. The Englishman then asked the policeman if he knew that the car he was in was English, that the steering wheel was on the right, and that it was his wife who was driving.

Contributed by Kim Dougherty

Hi there fellow MG enthusiast! while visiting the Crawford Auto Aviation Museum in Cleveland Ohio in 1994 I came across this in front of an MG:

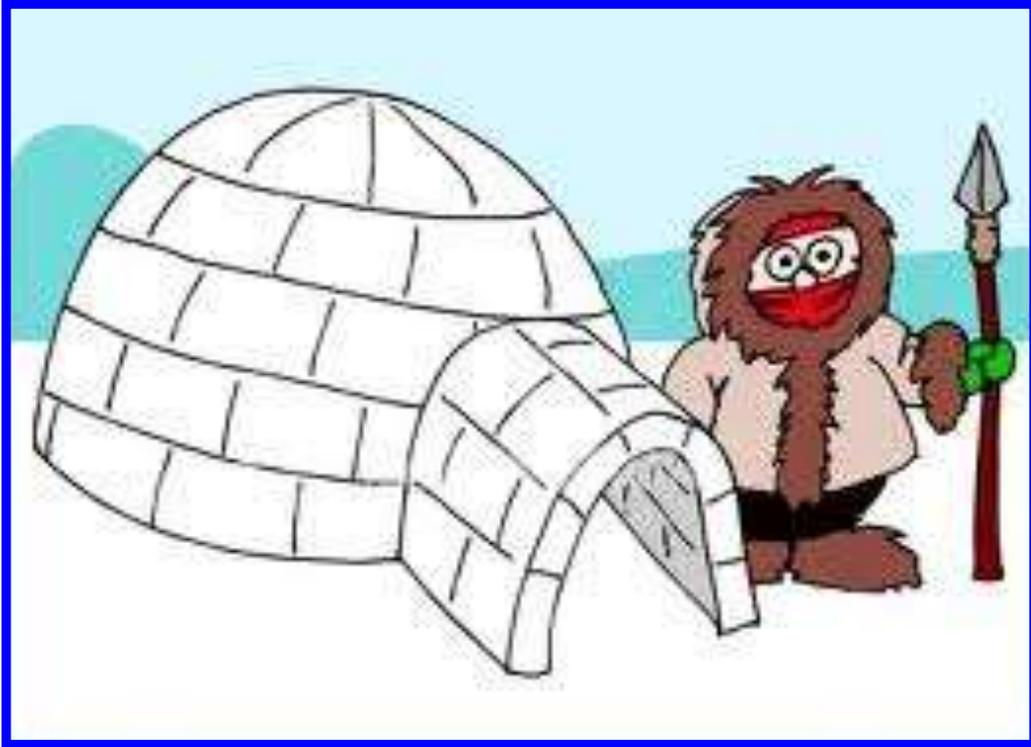
"It had no speed, no power, rode like a camel, was hot and dusty in the summer and cold and drafty in the winter, and was the best damn sports car ever made."

Contributed by Steve Neal—Massachusetts T-Party Club

- The first automobile race in the US was in 1895, Frank Dureyea winning average speed was 71.5 MPH.
- Every American spends approximately 2 weeks of their lives at red lights.
- There's one car per person in the US.
- The average driving speed in LA in 1972 was 60MPH, by 1982 that had dropped to 17MPH.
- Drivers kill more deer than hunters.
- You pay 8 times more for a gallon of Grande Latte Starbucks than for a gallon of gas
- Ferrari makes 14 cars a day
- Red cars are prohibited in Shanghai, China

Contributed by Barbara Day—Massachusetts T-Party Club

BMC Eskimo Jaunt 2014—John Viviani



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Classifieds

I have a 1977 Triumph Spitfire for sale, it is British racing green, excellent interior (shale color), good tires, 83,000 mi, a hard top, new wood dash and gauges come with it, garage kept. It has a small oil drip, some cosmetic scratches from over time, passenger door will not latch and 4th gear slips at the beginning of 4th gear. I can be contacted: e-mail skiingfoolron@aol.com or cell 601-527-0163 ask for Ronnie.



Classifieds

I have a 1980 MGB LE I've owned and garaged since 1995. It has approximately 45,300 miles, no rust that I am aware of. It has one spot where the previous owner missed a spot while repainting – I had to sand it down and add paint back and it is obvious. The tires look good, but are old and might need to be replaced if the car is going to be driven at higher speeds. I've attached a recent picture.

If you know of someone who might be interested in buying it, I can be reached on my Birmingham cell phone of 205-307-8999, or on my Tuscaloosa home phone of 205-752-6916, or by email.

Gary Bishop



Classifieds

I have a '76 MG midget that I am looking to sell . I have done some restorative work to the interior and engine. It has been running and in good shape, but now needs some work to the carburetor and I need some space in the garage. It needs a little TLC to look as great as some of the pictures on the web page, but thought you all would see its true value.

Chris Brasher
205-261-5298
Chris.Brasher@Regions.com



Classifieds



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