



THE TIMING LIGHT



December 2023

VOLUME 32

ISSUE 12

2023 CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: MIKE FLOOD

VICE PRESIDENT: IAN O'SHEA

SECRETARY: MIKE PAYNE

TREASURER: DAVE TERHUNE

MEMBERSHIP: TERESA FLOOD

SHOW COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: SCOTT MCALLISTER

Newsletter "Copy and Paster": Bart Boyd

Upcoming Club Events:

No December Club Business Meeting

January 6, Club Monthly Drive, TBD – watch for emails and Facebook.

January 8, Club Business Meeting, Jim & Nick's, Hamilton Place, 6pm

January 20, Donut Rallye, Cambridge Square, Ooltewah, TN, 9am

January 21, Quick Everett, Cars & Coffee, 999 Riverside Dr, Chattanooga, 9am-11am.

Other Regional Events:

January – 5th, 6th, 7th
56th Annual World of Wheels, Chattanooga Convention Center

FROM THE PRESIDENT

With the end of 2023 and the start of the new year we, the club, are entering into not only a new year but also a new adventure. *The Timing Light* will only be published once every three months.

This is a good time to do my annual plea for you to drive your car this winter. It may be cold, but a good coat and gloves can make the trip enjoyable. Maybe not far, but a few miles each week. It will be Spring and time to drive your car and you want it to run. I have been a bit depressed because I had problems with two of my cars. But things are better as I drove 3 cars in a 2 day period.

The next few months seem to be lining up to go to museums. Mike Hemsley suggested we go to The Savory Museum in Cartersville, Ga to see their new display *Rolling Sculptures*. This display of European cars of the 1930's includes a 1934 Bugatti. The first weekend of April there a 4 members planning to go to Clarksville, Ga and Maggie Valley, NC to the *Miles Through Time* and the *Wheels Through Time* Museums. We have not decided on a specific times and whether it will be a a 1 night or 2 night trip. If you are let your voice be hear so we can make you part of the trip.

During February the Triumph owners will have "Drive Your Triumph Day" on February 11. This is possibly the first year that there have been enough Triumphs in the club to advertise Drive Your Triumph. It celebrates the Birthday of Sir John Black. If we can we might make a drive some where.

Valentine Day is February 14, and Saint Patrick's Day is March 14. Both of these are Sunday's. We will probably do a drive on the previous day. That is something we can talk about at the January meeting on January 8. At times I get a bit depressed when we have only 19 members at Thanksgiving and 19 at the Christmas meal. But then I quickly looked at who came to at least one event and realize there were more than 30 members participating.

On the SBCC Highways

MikeF



**Southern British Car Club
Stated Monthly Meeting
December 9, 2023**

December Meeting and Party

Meeting held at the American Grill in Spring City, TN
on Saturday December 9, 2023.

After everyone ordered their food the meeting was
called to order about 1:30PM



Eighteen members were present with one guest,
Doug, Rosie Dahl-Messer's father.

Club officers elected for 2024 were:

President	Mike Flood
Vice-President	Ian O'Shea
Secretary	Mike Payne
Treasurer	Dave Terhune

December drive will be on Saturday, January 6, 2024 to the Savory Museum in Cartersville, GA. meeting
time and place to be e-mailed and on Facebook.

Motion made and seconded for the newsletter to be published Quarterly, starting with the March 2024
issue.

Submitted by Mike Flood



The Road Less Traveled

Shows and Activities

Donut Rallye December 23rd

Several club members said it was going to be cold on Saturday, December 23. Well it was and it wasn't. I left Cleveland with the temperature at 34 and got home at 11:15 with the temp at 50. I doubt I would have gone swimming, but could have been possible. We did the normal thing of eating inside then as we got ready to leave we looked at MikeH's Alfa. A mechanic had it and he just got it back. We stood their for several minutes.

Conversation centered around, Mark Myers's dip in the pool, my desire for a red 1962 Austin Healey Sprite. Mark Badger said he knew a shipper who would pick up and deliver. We estimated the cost of about \$750. We also talked about Greyhounds, the up coming show at Dobson, NC., and the need to drive your car on a regular bases.

There were only five members present: They were: Mark Badger, Mike Flood, Mike Hemsley, Mark Myers and Scott McAllister. I guess you had to have and M in your name to brave to cool weather today.

I am sure it will be cool in January, so bundle up an "be brave" as Harry Porter said to Professor Slughorn.

Submitted by MikeF



Christmas Gathering

Saturday, December 9, 2023 was one of a misty rain. Not real cold, but you needed a heater and wipers working. Scott said it was typical English weather. Eight cars meet at Harry's in Georgetown for the drive to Spring City. Rosie's father, Doug was introduced to everyone, he rode with her in the Jensen. When we prepared to leave the American Grill, Scott said he did not think it mattered which way he went home since the weather was lousy and it would not be a good drive.

The meeting saw the current officers re-elected. Mike Flood as President, Ian O'Shea as Vice President, Mike Payne as Secretary, and Dave Terhune as Treasurer. After a brief discussion it was voted that the *Timing Light* would be published once every 3 months.

There was a brief discussion about the Savoy Museum in Cartersville, GA. The exhibit is "Rolling Sculptures" featuring European Cars of the 1930's. There will be a 1934 Bugatti on display. A trip to the Savoy on January 6th for the monthly drive.

Bruce and Sheryl Ammons had a brief game to play. A short quiz of Christmas Trivia. About 35 questions where the high score was about 80% correct.

Submitted by MikeF

Christmas in Collegedale

December 3rd

The Christmas in Collegedale on Sunday night, December 3 was Really a GREAT event. I believe they revised many things and made it more children oriented than it was in 2022. Petty zoo, and blow ups for the children really made it more of a festive feeling than last year. This year the weather was nice, jacket weather with no rain.

SBCC numbers were down some what from the previous year. Several members were out of town (state) and were unable to be there. They were missed, but we soldiered on and eventually out numbered the American Iron that was opposite us. We had six and one-half cars from the club, they were:

Bruce and Sheryl Ammons	Triumph TR4A
Mark Badger	XKE
Mike Flood	Triumph GT6
Jim Herman	Triumph TR3 (This was his brothers car)
Graham Messer	Rolls Royce
Rosie Dahl-Messer	Jenson
Mark Myers	Triumph TR-7

WHERE ARE the MGs?
On the CHRISTMAS Roads of SBCC !

MikeF





**North Georgia Jaguar Club Joins With The Peachtree MG Registry
Southeast British Car Festival
Dillard, Georgia
Save the Date**

This Biennial British car festival is once again being held at The Dillard House and grounds this coming September 12-15th, 2024 in Dillard, GA. Plans are underway to make this the biggest British car gathering in the southeast. If you haven't been before now, it's your chance to mark the calendars and help us celebrate all those English cars that came from the UK.

We'll have a drive-in movie night, self-drives, guided tours to a winery and a pottery site, a Friday night low country feast, and Saturday awards banquet. There are many more places to explore on your own as well. Black Mountain state park, goats on the roof, Bridal Veil falls and many great roads that our cars love to travel.

Our website with a link to the hotel "special" pricing should be up and running by the first of April so check back with us to reserve your space. The event site is a beautiful grass covered field right next to the hotel rooms making it easy to walk and enjoy the cars, hospitality room, the silent auctions and just to get reacquainted with old friends and make new ones in our hospitality room.

For updates, please refer to our website at www.PeachtreeMG.com and click on the Dillard tab. Hope to see you all there. Cheers.



Editorial

As the curtain falls on this whirlwind of a year, I've found myself pondering the ideal theme for a final editorial. No singular topic comes to mind; instead, a mosaic of musings fills my thoughts. The year commenced with a series of articles delving into the metamorphosis of the car hobby, exploring pop-up meets, and the vibrant cars & coffee events. It seems fitting to conclude the year by circling back to these themes.

Gary Higbee highlighted an excellent Hagerty magazine article that was published in the November edition titled "MGs, Minis, and Millennials: The Next Generation of Little British Car Enthusiasts." It is a great read, I and encourage everyone that thinks the hobby is dying to read it. I think it is spot-on. The hobby is not dying, but it will and is changing as Millennials and Gen Z buy or inherit these iconic sportscars of the 50s, 60s, and 70s. They will be a *driving crowd* that has no time and no interest in formal clubs or formal car shows. How many entries did we have in the cars show this year of people 30 or younger? Not many. These groups have all grown up connected by the multitudes of social media platforms, and they already are better connected than the Boomers or GenX.

What's striking is the frequency of Millennial and Gen Z gatherings. Millennials and Gen Z are meeting far more frequent than any club or formal group meets. They meet every few days! There is a "pop-up meet" every other day on Facebook and various other platforms. They basically send out an invite open to anyone and everyone for "tomorrow night" somewhere in Chattanooga. And they are all over Chattanooga and hosting multiple events at any given time. These are not well attended meets – but they are not grading the event based on attendance like so many of the old-school car-show guys do. They are between 10 and 20 people/cars. These are very modified cars, and they are between 20 and 30 years old – and newer. I still cannot understand why there is a large group of Chargers, Challengers and Mustangs that could have just arrived from the dealerships last week.

Looking ahead, Riverside 9 is fast approaching and is scheduled for April 5th and 6th, 2024. This is a Millennial event, designed for the Millennials, by a Millennial. I wrote an editorial on Riverside 8 many months ago in greater detail.

Riverside 9 will be in Chattanooga, and it will likely host 500 cars owned mainly by Millennials and Gen Z'ers. It will be a host of heavily modified 5-, 10-, 20-, 30- and

40-year-old cars. These 2 sociological groups are now between the ages of 11 and 42. You will not find any concours cars there, so if that is your cup of tea, this scene will not be of interest. I will say, as I said before, the event looks very, very well done. It should be. It is a for profit event. Unlike the old-school car shows that are raising money for a cause, this is a money-making venture. There is nothing wrong with that – but it is in sharp contrast to most car shows hosted by local groups today. I say event – because it is an event – and it is not a show. No awards. No classes. If you are into these slammed cars, ricers cars, late model modifieds, and etc, you should attend. I seriously doubt there is a SBCC member with a car that would even be allowed to register in the event. Why? Too original. Too restored. If you are not into these types of cars, well, don't go. I won't. I am just interested enough to write about it, but I'm not interested enough to attend. Actually, I would love for someone in the club to go and submit an article about it. I just don't really have time. I don't really have time for much of anything in the way of hobbies.

On a personal note, I find myself grappling with the challenges of maintaining my trio of "running" hobby cars, two of which are sidelined currently. It is frustrating to have 2 of your 3 cars out of action. It is undeniably a "first-world problem," that highlights the need to reassess my priorities. I don't have a lot of time, and I don't have an endless supply of money.

So, what does that mean for 2024? First, I am scaling back my participation in car functions, events, and shows, opting to spend more weekends in my garage, tending to necessary maintenance. Second, I may get myself down to only two cars and a daily driver. I know, I know. A very first world problem, again. 2 cars are all anyone really needs. You need a sportscar, and you need a GT car. Something must go. Maybe two somethings – as I do technically have four hobby cars.

Thus, my New Year's resolution for 2024 takes shape.

~Cheers



Upcoming Motorsport Events

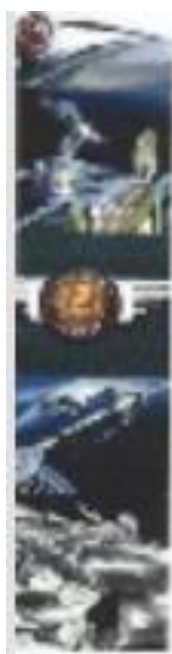
JANUARY

12 ^{Fr} -14 ^{Su}	NASA - Southeast Region	Roebling Road Raceway
13 ^{Sa}	SCCA - East Tennessee Region	Tellico Village Yacht Club
27 ^{Sa} -28 ^{Su}	Hooked On Driving - Southeast	Roebling Road Raceway

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FEBRUARY

10 ^{Sa} -11 ^{Su}	VDCA	Roebling Road Raceway
16 ^{Fr} -18 ^{Su}	NASA - Southeast Region	Carolina Motorsports Park
17 ^{Sa} -18 ^{Su}	Chin Track Days	Barber Motorsports Park
17 ^{Sa} -18 ^{Su}	SCCA - Mississippi Region	Columbus Air Force Base
24 ^{Sa} -25 ^{Su}	Chin Track Days	Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta
24 ^{Sa} -25 ^{Su}	NASA - Mid South Region	Nashville Superspeedway



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Spouse: _____ Birthday date: _____

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Contact Phone Number/s _____

E-Mail Address: _____

How do you prefer to receive *The Timing Light* newsletter? (circle one)

By E-Mail to above address / Get from SBCC website

British Cars you own:

Make/Year: _____ Model: _____ Color: _____

Make/Year: _____ Model: _____ Color: _____

Make/Year: _____ Model: _____ Color: _____

Make/Year: _____ Model: _____ Color: _____

Special Information or Comments about You or Your British Car(s):

Mail Your Completed Membership Application & Dues Payment to:

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c/o Teresa Flood
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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES \$20. PER YEAR

If you are a member of NAMGBR Dues \$15 PER YEAR

PUT YOUR NAMGBR MEMBER # _____

OR:

BRING TO NEXT MEETING AND GIVE TO TERESA FLOOD

**Time to renew your membership in the
Southern British Car Club.**



Events

Regular Calendar of Events:

First Monday of the Month:

Cambridge Square Cruise-In. Arrive early (4:30pm) for a parking spot around the square. Plan to stay for dinner somewhere. If you want to eat at 1885, make a reservation prior, because sometimes it is busy.

Second Monday of the Month (except December):

SBCC Business Meeting at Jim N Nicks restaurant. It is close to Hamilton Place Mall. Arrive at 6pm for dinner. The meeting will start after we order etc.

Fourth Saturday of the Month:

Donut Rallye at Cambridge Square. Arrive around 8:45am. If you want a sit-down breakfast at Neighbors, you will need a reservation; otherwise, it is Tasty Donuts. When weather permits, we usually sit outside.

May-Oct the third Friday of the Month:

Sonic in Ooltewah. 7pm for milkshakes, or ice cream or hamburger or hotdog.

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Happy Holidays



AND A VERY, VERY
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

