

played havoc with the factory specs of the hub. It was toast! So I figure no problem, I'll go to the usual catalogs and get a new one. Guess what...no aftermarket front hubs for a steel wheels. To the rescue comes Ed Kirkland. Not only did he have the hub I needed but also he helped me pull it form the parts car and he would not take any compensation for it. Thanks to this man's kindness and generosity, I was back up and running for the May picnic.

The second incident that demonstrates the type of people in our club happened within the past 2 weeks. I got an e-mail from JP and Bill Thompson relating the tale of an MG owner who had left his car in a local (now closed) garage for restoration work ...2 years ago. Until recently, the owner was unknown. However, unexpectedly he contacted JP to enlist the aid of the club to help find his car. Several e-mails and phone call later, Bill Thompson mated the owner to the car.....well the pieces of the car....in multiple locations. On a hot, humid (remember this IS Florida) Saturday morning Bill met with the owner at the defunct shop and helped him identify and collect the scattered parts. We have an almost happy ending. It will be happy when all the pieces fit together into a running car.

These two stories give an indication as to the type of people we have in our club. Knowing there are more stories like these in our club makes me feel confident that Rendezvous 09 will be a huge success.

Our next meeting will be 6:30PM on June 19<sup>th</sup> at the Old Town Café on Timberlane Rd in Tallahassee. As always, everyone and their guests are invited to attend, the more the better. See you all then and until we meet, keep having fun out there.

## June 08 PM Message

Geez, it's gotten hot...and humid. Florida at its summer best.

I think folks from other parts of the country don't realize that we too have a down time for driving out little cars with the tops down. I know there's an optional add-on A/C kit for the MGB but somehow, it just doesn't seem right. What about the A's and the Midgets? Though I think the best solution is the sun shade that Ed Kirkland made for himself and for Mike and Julie. Still the Florida summer sun can be a bit drastic and I suspect a few cars are in the garage till the fall.

So what did we do to beat that heat? Well, naturally we had to find one of Florida's natural wonders and just keep cool. We decided to meet with the Triumph club, a group from Panama City and the NFBMC at Wakulla Springs during May. I got to the park real early so I could corral up and fight off the crowds from one of the newly built pavilions. I erected the BBMG banner and viewed myself as a conquistador claiming the site as ours. Some how that fits the Florida persona. All I needed was the funny tin hat.

In spite of the previous day's weather and notwithstanding how hot it could have been, we were blessed with a perfect day. The bright blue skies and deep greens of the forest contrasted beautifully with the multicolors of the approximately 20 cars there. We all had plenty to eat, plenty to drink and the company was great. There was talk of making it an annual event and I, for one, would enjoy it very much. In the meantime, there will be a follow-up on June 21 when the Temple of Triumph hosts a drive to the caverns in Marianna. Contact Blair Engle if you are interested.

Things are beginning to accelerate with the planning for the 09 Rendezvous. At our last meeting, Mike and Julie outlined all of the advantages of having the event at the Car Museum with the Staybridge Hotel as the event headquarters. The amenities and the services will be top shelf and at reasonable cost. A vote of everyone present carried the motion to have the event on the first weekend of May at these sites. More information is coming and we'll soon have some marketing material to get out to clubs throughout the Southeast. I think this will become a marquee event and not just another car show. I also think and anyone who attends will have a great experience.

But as you all know, Mike and Julie will need help from all of us to be able to pull this off with the flair it needs to have. I know they will be asking for volunteers for the various venues and events. I for one will have my hand in the air when they ask for those volunteers (you can tell I was never in the service). However, I know that this club will rise to the occasion and I'll tell you how I know. There are two recent events that demonstrate the caliber of the people we have in our organization.

Back in late April, yours truly was driving along, listening to the radio and just enjoying the day when all of a sudden, Pumpkin decided to make funny crunch noises and to pull hard to the right. I stopped and to my dismay, I found a completely destroyed wheel bearing. When I pulled off the hub, lo and behold I found that the trashed bearing had