

# SOUTHERN FOURS AND EIGHTS

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN MORGAN GROUP MOGSOUTH VOL. 3/04

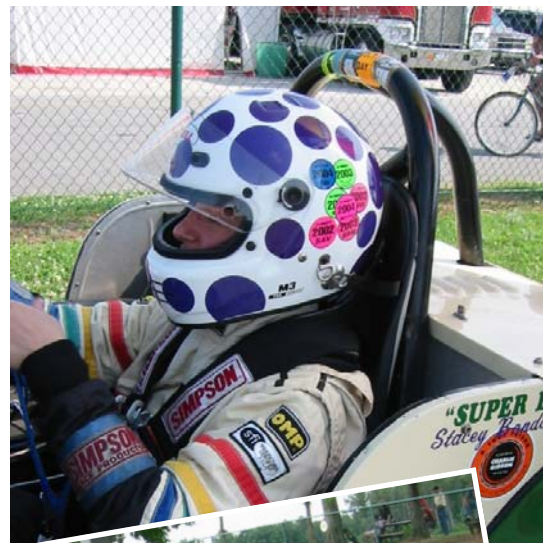
## VIR Gold Cup Historic Races

By  
Stacey Bondon Schepens

This year was a very special year for the Gold Cup races as they featured women in racing. Denise McCluggage was the Grand Marshall for the event (many of you may not know that my middle name is Denise) and she was joined by another racer from the past Suzy Dietrich. We were also lucky to have on hand Donna Mae Mims (VERY funny lady – always dressed in pink) as well as current racers Divina Galica and Audrey Zavodsky. VIR is a beautiful facility and if you ever have any reason to attend an event there you really must. It's a country club for car people with a racetrack instead of a golf course – and what a racetrack! You can take a look at it at [www.virclub.com](http://www.virclub.com) (there are some great pictures from the event on the site), but I digress. . .

Dad, George Wolf and I headed to Virginia International Raceway on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> and arrived

at about 5. We had to wait to register as someone had rented out the track for testing. While sitting outside the trailer snacking on Sponge Bob shaped Cheez Its and beer we could hear the distinct sounds of a Nextel Cup Car. George playfully joked to me that Dale Jr. was there waiting for me and all I had to do was go get him. Well it turns out it was no joke – it **was** Jr. testing at the track and apparently he happily signed many autographs after his session – ARGH!!!!!! So close and yet so far, but I digress again (*Marilyn's genes*) .



Images and Words Courtesy of  
Stacey Bondon Schepens

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Dad stayed up late on Wednesday night to add a new design to my helmet in honor of Denise McCluggage and I think you can see by the pictures the results are spectacular! There is another reason this event was going to be very special and exciting. Besides the special women's race, I was going to be racing dad's Morgan for the first time. As most of you know, that car is very fast and a big step up in horsepower from my Sprite; but we both felt I was ready. The confidence that dad had in me didn't keep me from waking up Wednesday night in a cold sweat thinking "What the hell am I doing?!".

Thursday didn't start off quite as well as we expected when a tire went flat – all I saw was smoke pouring out from under the bonnet and I almost threw up in my helmet. Thankfully the corner workers saw that it was just a tire and guided me in through a hole in the fence. They told my dad they had never seen someone so relieved to have a flat tire. Thursday afternoon was a little better and I continued to learn the track and the car. We were joined that afternoon by fellow Morgan drivers the McComber's, as well as Craig and Kerry Seibert from up north. Although always delightful to see Gene and Betsy, it was especially wonderful to see Craig. For those of you who

## *Craig on Track...*



don't know, Craig had a heart *transplant* and stroke 2 years ago almost to the day. He's back racing his +8 and it is truly inspirational.

Friday was a little better but I am hard pressed to remember a day at the racetrack that was hotter. I think we

all lost 10 pounds that day. That day I had my first chance to meet the other women drivers – 14 in all! It was so exciting to see so many of us in one place. A few I knew from my days with SVRA but many I had never met before as they came from as far as Texas and Canada. We had a media event (!) to meet the folks from Vintage Motorsport Magazine who sponsored the event and the delightful professional racers who had been invited. Over all, the day went well except for a missed shift. Of course this happened right on the front straight, right in front of Dad – OOPS! Fortunately no harm, no foul, and we soldiered on to the party greatly in need of hydration.

## *...I'm coming in*





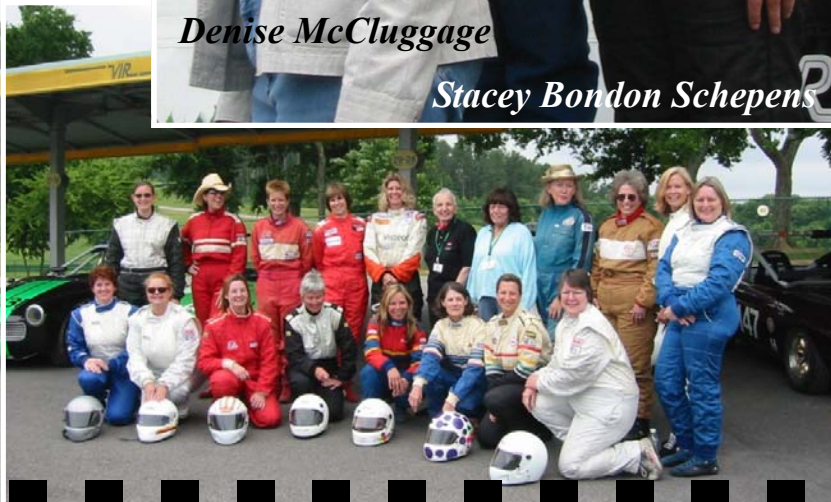
Saturday morning I was feeling too sick to go the track in the morning so Dad and George picked me up midday so I could make qualifying for the Women's Feature Race. I ended up coming in second place – **WAHOO!** – and won a \$10 gift certificate to a local restaurant. My biggest payoff yet! We were joined that day by fellow club members Jack and Emily Poteet who came to cheer me on. Gene had a great day as well passing several cars – go Gene! We all almost needed a heart transplant of our own when we watched Craig go off course. He pulled it safely back on track and we all breathed a sigh of relief. I know Kerry was in worse shape than him after the agricultural experience. That night we had a wonderful dinner with Jack and Emily and another good racer friend, Mike Camarrata, who races a beautiful Triumph GT6.

Sunday, thankfully, the weather stayed somewhat cool and I went out for 3 laps to warm up the car and the driver in the morning. I was then off to a driver's meeting where I was recognized with a Vintage Spirit Award. Longtime friend (and my first driving instructor) Peter Krause had many wonderful things to say about me and then my great family. Denise McCluggage handed the award to me and pointed out to everyone that my middle name was Denise and I think I got a standing ovation. I really can't remember – it was all a little overwhelming to be honest. My feature race immediately followed the meeting and I hung in there for 3<sup>rd</sup> place! I got to stand on the podium and was interviewed over the PA system and received a beautiful VIR scarf as a prize. Zowees! **Two** prizes in one day!



*Denise McCluggage*

*Stacey Bondon Schepens*



Well now I've been back for 4 days and last night was first night I was able to fall asleep before 1 am. Truly, the weekend could not have gone any better (well, maybe it would have been nice to meet Jr.). I'm still wowed by the awards. Heartfelt thanks to George for sleeping in the trailer just to help out Dad and me. Of course none of this would have been possible without the unwavering support of my husband, Ben, and my mom who always makes sure I have my guardian angel on when I race. At the top of the list of course is my dad, Super Dave, who has always supported me in everything I do – thanks DAD!

*Stacey*





# MCCDC MOG 34

Image Courtesy of Fred Sisson

By Randy Johnson

## Shepherdstown, West Virginia 2-6 July 2004



Fred Sisson's Racing Trike (Indiana Chapter of MOGSouth)  
Image Courtesy of John Sheally II

Dale and I, along with our son Scott in his Plus Eight, met Lance and Connie Lipscomb, Eric and Ann Cummins and Dwight Kinzer at 8:00AM on Thursday, July 1 for our caravan to MOG 34 in Shepherdstown, WV. The first day, we traveled the Blue Ridge Parkway to Fancy Gap, VA where we spent the night. Joe and Cynthia Speetjens met us that night and traveled in caravan with us on Friday. The Bondon's and Braunstein's also met us at the hotel for a parking lot party but headed to Shepherdstown via the highway. We had a wonderful drive on the Parkway and Skyline Drive with only a brief rain shower on both days. We saw numerous deer and wild turkeys and Lance and Connie said they saw a bear as well.

We were within twenty miles of Shepherdstown when our daughter Amy called my cell phone and reported that she was on the way to the hospital with an apparent attack of appendicitis. She had her appendix removed in emergency surgery that night and spent half of her three-day vacation in the hospital in Martinsburg, WV. I am pleased to say that she has recovered completely and can now laugh about her experience.

As usual; MCCDC put on a great meet with the help of many people, not only from the host club, but also from several other Morgan clubs as well, including MOGSouth. The new Concours format, announcing the class winners and then judging these cars for Best in Show, was interesting. Several MOGSouth members placed in the Concours competition and I am pleased



John Bigler (New MOGSouth resident) in his Series 1  
Image Courtesy of John Sheally II



Scott Johnson Autocrossing Randy's Plus 4 — Image Courtesy of Fred Sisson

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to announce that Morgan and Cassie Bondon's Plus Eight, beautifully restored by SuperDave Bondon, won Best in Show.

The rally on Sunday was great fun and was won by Scott Johnson and Morgan Bondon in Scott's 1976 Plus Eight. My son Adam and I felt we could do well but we ran out of gas on the first stage. Lunch mid-rally was a pig roast at a local state park and was enjoyed by all.

Monday morning was the autocross with approximately 40 drivers entering. My sons Adam and Scott and I all entered in my Plus 4 and Scott placed third in class. Next year he can pilot his Plus Eight.

Monday night was the banquet where we enjoyed good food and the camaraderie of our fellow Morgan friends. In a salute to Peter Morgan we all raised our glasses in a toast which was captured on film by John Sheally.

MCCDC's annual meets are great fun and I highly recommend that you plan to attend next year. We will be there!



Randy and Adam Johnson  
Image Courtesy of Fred Sisson



George Lowman, Dwight Kinzer & Fred Sisson  
Image Courtesy of Fred Sisson

## And the Award Goes to . . . MOG 34 Awards to MOGSouth

### Longest Distance Driven in a Morgan

Joe and Cynthia Speetjens

#### Autocross

**2nd in Class (+8) Lee Gaskins**  
**3rd in Class (+4) Scott Johnson**

#### Gymkhana

**3rd Place Eleanor Nabney—Driver, Stacey Bondon—Navigator**

#### Rally

**1st Place Scott Johnson—Driver, Morgan Bondon—Navigator**  
**3rd Place Alan Marsh—Driver, Lee Gaskins—Navigator**

#### Concours

**Best in Show Cassie & Morgan Bondon**  
**1st in Class (+8) Cassie & Morgan Bondon**  
**1st in Class (+4) Tom Perkins**  
**1st Drivers Class Lee Gaskins**

#### Peter Morgan Class

**1st Place Lance Lipscomb**  
**2nd Place Homer Deakins**

#### Mighty Morgan Ale Drawing

Trisha Gaskins, Dwight Kinzer, Dave Bondon

# Careful What You Wish For!

By  
SuperDave Bondon

**F**lash back to Watkins Glen 2000... SuperDave delivers Morgan's Plus 8 after its engine rebuild. "Boy this thing would look really great with a paint job. Next winter send it down to me in Atlanta so I can get it done cheap".

**F**ast forward a couple of years... Super started taking off the chrome bits and the wings but couldn't find an appropriate place to stop unscrewing things and start the paint process. The bare frame is lying on the floor!

**G**ad Zooks! What do I tell Morgan? He's gonna be really PeeOwed when I tell him it'll be a few years before he gets his car back.. I know, I'll tell him that his car has such potential that I really want to go all the way and take a shot at Best in Show at the Mog Meet. (I left out the year).

**T**hings got really serious around 2004 New Year's resolution time. Morgan was now asking, "What year?" and Marilyn was wondering when all the "wall art" would leave the four rooms that a disassembled Morgan takes up. **OK, OK, This is it.**

**T**his year, 2004, we will all return to the Mog meet as a family, including the Grandchildren and Morgan's sweet and unsuspecting wife Cassie. We would go for it! Best in Show or bust.

**F**ast forward again to April... All the pieces are painted, powder coated, polished and piled up ready for the tooth fairy to wave her wand and make it a car. Only the tooth fairy doesn't show up and Super is beginning to realize he is in deep doo doo. "OK, here's the plan. Marilyn, I am not going to see you again until July first when we load this thing in the trailer. Don't plan on me being part of your life until we celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary at Mog 34! I'm retiring to the basement, not to emerge until this thing is done."

**A**nd so it was... July 1<sup>st</sup> Super gets up at 5:30 and waxes the car. Ready to load at 11:00am. "Oh My God, the Plus 8 is longer than I thought! Can't get



Image Courtesy of Fred Sisson



Image Courtesy of Mark Braundstein



Image Courtesy of Mark Braundstein



Image Courtesy of Mason Stewart

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both cars in the trailer! Do I leave our trusty Plus 4 home after 40 years?"  
**No way!** 1:00pm and the trailer door closes on two bumperless Morgans.

**T**he rest, as they say, is history. Best in Show-MOG34! Now it is up to Morgan, Cassie, Maddy, and Timmy to start a new family chapter in the Bondon Morgan history book.

*Thanks Mom & Dad !!*



MOG 34 Best in Show—Morgan & Cassie Bondon's Exceptional Plus 8  
Image Courtesy of Mason Stewart





# MOGSouth Fall Meet

The Fall meet has been organized to be held in and around **Chattanooga, Tennessee, the weekend of October 1-3.**

Headquarters for the meet will be the Chanticleer Inn, a lovely Bed and Breakfast on Lookout Mountain. At this time, we have reserved the entire Inn and they will hold the rooms in the name of MOGSouth until August 15th. After that time, they will release the rooms to the general public.

Please visit <http://www.stayatchanticleer.com> for a look at the Inn and its amenities. There are 18 rooms in several different buildings and the rates vary depending upon the location and size; but please note that the rate includes full breakfast.



Dinner on Friday night will be on your own, as usual, and as usual, the Club will provide beer and wine for our Friday and Saturday night noggins. Dinner on Saturday night will be at a nearby restaurant on Lookout Mountain and is, as usual, Dutch treat. Cost should be in the neighborhood of \$25 per person.

Saturday's activity will be centered around a driving tour on Lookout Mountain and surrounding vicinity and those details will be provided later in the year.

**For reservations please call 706-820-2002** and be sure to mention MOGSouth.

Also, please note they have a somewhat restrictive cancellation policy (30 days) so please be sure you understand the terms. The cancellation policy and the complete terms are at the bottom of the rate page and include information about extra persons (including children) as well as the 30-day cancellation policy. The first of October should be a beautiful time in the Lookout Mountain area so make your plans to be there now.

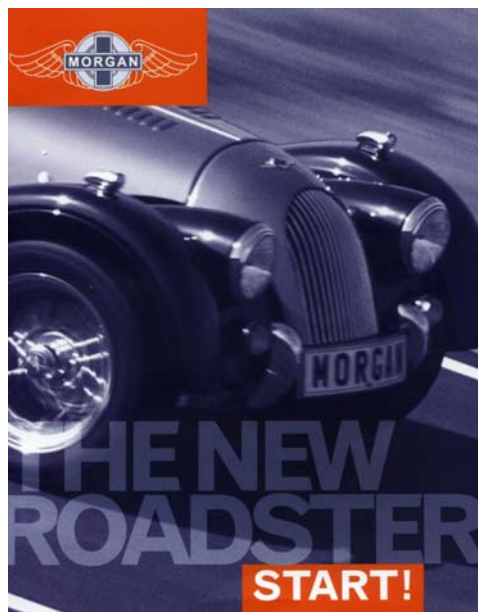


## Credits

Thank you to Stacey Bondon Schepens, SuperDave Bondon, Randy Johnson, Fred Sisson, Mason Stewart, and Mark Braunstein, for their Articles and Photos, and to Andrea Braunstein for the grammar check.

Articles and photos are always welcome and solicited. We also would like inputs for the new Web Site at <http://www.geocities.com/mogsouth/>.

Please send comments or contributions to [mogsouth@yahoo.com](mailto:mogsouth@yahoo.com)



**ROADSTER**

**Technical specification**

ENGINE	SEAT BELT AND FINAL DRIVE	PERFORMANCE
Capacity (litres) 2000 Cylinders 4 Power (kW) 114 Power (BHP) 155 Torque (Nm) 175 Torque (lb-ft) 129	2.0L 4-cyl 16v 2.0L 4-cyl 16v 2.0L 4-cyl 16v 2.0L 4-cyl 16v 2.0L 4-cyl 16v 2.0L 4-cyl 16v	0-100 (sec) 7.5 Top speed (km/h) 180 Top speed (mph) 112

**CHASSIS**

CHASSIS	CHASSIS
Front suspension Rear suspension Steering Brakes Gearbox Clutch	MacPherson MacPherson Rack and pinion Disc Disc 5-speed manual Disc

**WEIGHTS**

WEIGHTS	WEIGHTS
Capacity with fuel and load Dry weight Curb weight Gross weight	1200 kg 1200 kg 1200 kg 1200 kg

**PLEASE NOTE:** All weights for your specific vehicle will vary according to selected and optional equipment. A weight plate must be used on the front of the vehicle. All weights are in kg and lbs. All weights are in kg and lbs. All weights are in kg and lbs. All weights are in kg and lbs.

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## MOGSouth Is On the Web

**M**OGSouth now has a presence on the Web, thanks to Adam Johnson and Eleanor Nabney. We also have started an Email contact list and will use it for communication and distribution of our news letter, the 'Southern Fours and Eights'. As there still a number of members not on the Email list for one reason or another those members will receive a hard copy. By distributing the newsletter electronically, the Club will save money. If you have suggestions on using these funds to benefit the membership, please contact Randy Johnson. If you have an Email address and have not provided us with this information, please do so by contacting the Club at [mogsouth@yahoo.com](mailto:mogsouth@yahoo.com). Web Site URL— <http://www.geocities.com/mogsouth/>

### **SOUTHERN FOURS AND EIGHTS**

**NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN MORGAN GROUP MOGSOUTH VOL.3/04**

296 Lakeshore Drive  
Duluth, Georgia 30096-3030

### **Not a Member of MOGSouth? It's Easy to Join!!!**

Dues for the calendar year are \$25. They are due and payable January 1st.

To join us, please mail your check payable to **MOGSouth** to:

**MOGSouth c/o Randy Johnson, 296 Lakeshore Drive, Duluth, GA 30096**

