

SOUTHERN FOURS AND EIGHTS

Newsletter of the Southern Morgan Group MOGSouth Vol. 3/96



Happy MOGSouth members at this years Fall Meet hosted by Betsy and Gene McOmber

1996 FALL MEET

by Sara Powell

The weather was glorious, the setting at Liberty Hall was just right and Betsy and Gene McOmber had planned a first rate slate of activities for the MOGSouth Fall Meet in Pendleton, S.C., and environs the weekend of September 13, 14 and 15. Joining the McOmbers were Mark and Andrea Braunstein, Bill and Mary Ann Phillips, Mark and Scarlett Campbell, Fred Sisson, Charlie Ligon, Pete and Shari Olson, Dave and Sarah Chiles, Tom and Sally Badger, Charlie King, Bill and Diane Yarbough (who picked MOGSouth to share their wedding anniversary with), Fred and Gay Hollinger, Bill and Sara Powell and Louise Adamson (a veteran of many MCCDC MOGs with her family, temporarily in Georgia at Mercer Law School).

Folks gathered Friday afternoon in front of the 1840's Liberty Hall to renew acquaintances, meet new friends, look over Morgans and enjoy delightful appetizers and drinks before having dinner in several different groups. Saturday

morning, we departed Pendleton for a delightful tour of upstate South Carolina, with stops on Lake Jocassee at Devil's Fork State Park and then to Whitewater Falls, just inside the North Carolina state line. We ended up at the McOmber's lovely new home on Lake Keowee for a relaxing (ask Fred Sisson how relaxed he got!) afternoon of good food, interesting conversation, boat rides, hiking, shopping and ogling the ten Morgans lined up in the McOmber's driveway and garage.

Saturday evening was a gourmet dinner at Liberty Hall sandwiched between more visits on the inviting porch lined with rockers. Sunday morning some folks said good-bye and headed for home while another contingent drove through the mountains to Dillard, GA to crash the MG Southeastern Regional Meet, but, alas, only a few stragglers remained. So we bid farewell to one another and departed, but we all agreed that the camaraderie, setting, Morgans and food had all been great.



Liberty Hall Inn, Site of the 1996 MOG South Fall Meet

MOG 26

by Sara Powell

Harper's Ferry, West Virginia was the scenic setting for MOG 26 over the 4th of July, 1996. Although the hotel was not my favorite part of the meet, its moderate prices and genuine attempts to please and rectify any confusion was gratifying. The MOG committee had worked hard to choose appropriate sites and activities and, on the whole, succeeded rather well. The turnout was disappointingly small, and those of you who missed it (which was almost all of MOG South) missed a great experience. We enjoyed spending time with friends like Dan and Nancilee Kelly, renewing acquaintances with folks from earlier MOGs and meeting new MOG aficionados.

The concours was held at a park not far from the hotel and other than having to travel a short way down a gravel and/or dirt road, worked nicely. The cars were truly lovely and the concours judges (at least the Kellys and the Powells) looked under and around and in our assigned classes with judicious

appraisal. The concours awards were announced after a welcome dinner at the hotel that night.

Summit Point was an exceptional site for the autocross and gymkhana and, also let everyone so inclined to catch a glimpse of other racers on an adjacent part of the course. No parking lot and light pole hazards here! Perhaps the most popular aspect of the day was to participate in a driver's school including time on the skidpad.

Family concerns and plans constrained us to leave before the rally on Saturday and the closing brunch on Sunday morning, but the plans sounded intriguing to us and we wished we could have stayed longer. The area offers historic sight-seeing, 19th century homes, all kinds of unusual restaurants and lovely scenery. We had not been able to make a MOG in several years, but were delighted with having chosen 1996 in which to return. Hope to see you there next year.

TIPS FROM FRED

By Fred Sisson

Phase Your Driveshaft

The universal joints in a Morgan are a common item for any driveline shop. In fact, my driveline shop tells me that they are just about the most common U-joint that they sell! Don't think that just because it is an English car that the U-joints are special or that you gotta go to a British car supplier to get them.

Check the phase of your driveshaft. A source of vibration and wear in the driveline is often a driveshaft that has been put together out of phase. Not from the factory of course, but most US Morgans have been massaged throughout the years and not always by trained mechanics. Correctly assembled, the U-joints should be dead in line with each other not at 90 degrees.

If the yokes are not in line, then re-index the two parts of the shaft at the slip joint. As long as you have the driveshaft out, you might as well have it balanced. Any driveline shop can do this for you. Once balanced, it is a good idea to mark the position at the slip joint to insure that you assemble it in the same way in the future, keeping it in balance. My shop always paints arrows on the shaft after balancing.

Some Thoughts On Assembling Brake Drums

The brake drums should be a tight fit onto the drive pins (drive pins look like big screw heads on the hub...) but should require no more than a few blows with a rubber mallet to drive home. You can hear when the drum is completely tight against the hub. Sometimes you will find that by rotating the drum a quarter of a turn at a time, that it favors one position and will slip right home. I mark my drums with a center punch (and a corresponding drive pin) so that I don't have to fiddle with them each time I re-install them.

Always back off the adjusters when removing the drums. I back the adjuster all the way out and coat the threads with anti-seize. It has to live in a pretty rough environment, so give it a little help.

Keep An Eye On Those Wheel Cylinders

Brake cylinders seldom suffer from catastrophic failure. Rather it seems that they start to weep fluid, which slowly develops into a leak. Or they corrode and seize.

Clean, fresh fluid will go a long way in prolonging the life of the brakes. Change it at least once a year. Still, the cylinders do die after a while. It is a good idea to pop the drums off at least a couple of times a year to check how everything is wearing. Better to replace the cheap shoes rather than expensive drums. Also, look for any sign of weeping around the wheel cylinder. And... make sure that the piston is indeed free in the cylinder. I do this by slightly turning the piston with a screwdriver. Replace any frozen/weeping wheel cylinders immediately. Keep spares on the shelf to minimize downtime.

Disassemble and clean the old cylinder immediately to prevent any corrosion. I also hone them immediately, clean them then and store them ready for rebuilding. They are easy to rebuild, so I find that it suits me to assemble them just before I install them. This way they do not corrode in the box.

With either new or rebuilt cylinders, it is a good idea to pop off the drum after a week or so, just to make sure that everything is right. I have had brand new cylinders leak, not often, but it can happen and I'd rather take twenty minutes to check, than find a problem far from home, late at night in the rain...

This article was contributed by and reprinted with the permission of longtime MOGSouth member Fred Sisson. Fred is in the process of printing a second book written from his personal Morgan experiences. Fred informs me that the new tome will be titled The Morgan Driver's Bedside Reader and will contain much of the information from his previous publication, Notes From A Morgan Garage, but 80% of the information will be all new and previously un-published. Release date is planned for sometime in late 1996. For your copy of The Morgan Driver's Bedside Reader contact Fred at 770 446-7124. As before, it comes with a money back guarantee!

Fred also informed me of a new quarterly newsletter, "The North American Trike". Subscriptions are \$10.00 per year. Contact:

Colin Cobb
4489 Baylor Canyon Drive
Las Cruces, N.M. 88011
505 382-9544

DUES

Dues are due January 1, 1997 for the upcoming year. The Christmas Party would be a great time to pay your dues for 1997 and for some members, it would be a great time to pay your dues for 1996 as well. If I have written "dues due" in red ink by your name on the front of this newsletter, my records show that you still owe your dues for 1996. Dues remain \$20.00 for the year. If you do not choose to pay at the Christmas party, please mail to:

Randy Johnson
1794 Fair Oaks Place
Decatur, Georgia 30033-1449
Please make check payable to:
MOGSouth

Thank you!!!

Fall HSR at Road Atlanta

by Randy Johnson

The fall HSR Vintage Race was held September 20-22 at Road Atlanta. There were no Morgans at the event but MOGSouth racer Super Dave Bondon was there with wife Marilyn in support of daughter Stacey who was racing her bug-eye AH Sprite.

MOGSouth members Fred Sisson, Lance and Connie Lipscomb, Mark and Andrea Braunstein and yours truly along with my new next door neighbor, Gerhard Bier (a Mercedes fan but we are working to change that) met for breakfast on Sunday morning prior to motoring to the track. We had four Morgans total and as usual were quite a sight on the highway.

Stacey participated in the enduro race on Sunday morning prior to our arrival and then raced in her groups eight lap race later in the day. This event marked Stacey's last race as a rookie driver and upon return to the paddock after the race the yellow "rookie stripe" was removed from her car with great ceremony and flair. Congratulations Stacey!

For Sale

5-15" 60 spoke wire wheels to fit Morgan, TR-3, etc. Need to be restored as they are rusty.

Best offer.

Gene McOmer 864 944-6037

1966 4/4 Series V, Roadster.
RH drive. Car needs work but all the pieces are there.

Information: Randy Johnson
404 634-9674



**The Human Being
The Morgan
The 1997 Calendar**

It certainly is not only the less benevolent-minded that say, that the Morgan is "the oldest new car you can buy." The thought often hidden behind this statement, but not expressed in words is obviously: envy. In addition to a rather more bust way of driving a car, a Morgan also offers incomparable driving pleasure.

This pleasure and the kind of human beings who savor it, are the subject of a very special kind of calendar. A little bit off-beat, a little bit scurrilous, but always likable- that is how it illustrates the men and women who drive this sports car and have fallen in love with it, because it has more character than virtually any other. This is not the kind of car calendar you can find anywhere. It is more a

declaration of love of the Morgan spirit and to those who are captivated by it. "The human being, The Morgan, The 1997 calendar" - 12 pages of enjoy all through the year.

The calendar is 63cm wide, 49cm high, printed in black-and-white with a spiral steel binding. Price each: DM68,00 plus 30,00 for packing and postage, all including VAT.

Please order from:
Jurgen Weber, Art Director
Villa Kayser
Uhlbacher Strasse 7, 70329
Stuttgart, Germany
Phone # +49 711 32 93 41
FAX# +49 711/326 04 39

The information regarding the above was sent to Lance Lipscomb. It might make a great Christmas for your Morgan enthusiast.

27282/0123



Dave and Sarah Chiles
P. O. Box 129
Jamesstown, NC 27282



Southern Fours and Eights
Newsletter of Morgan Owners Group South
1794 Fair Oaks Place
Decatur, Georgia 30033-1449



Sign by Joe Pearson for 1996 Fall Meet

Morgans in the McOmber's driveway and garage. 1996 Fall Meet

The Morgan Owners Group South Christmas Party

The MOG South Christmas Party is scheduled for **Saturday December 7, 1996 at 7PM**, at Mark and Andrea Braunstein's House in Marietta, GA. Buffet dinner and beverages will be provided.

There are numerous accommodation options for those coming from out of town. The Bed and Breakfasts, listed below with a ** are Historic Houses and are recommended. The numbers on the map correspond to the hotel listings below.

The Christmas Party will include the 2nd Annual 'Tacky Gift' exchange, so start searching for that *special* gift. Prizes for the most 'tacky' offering will be awarded! Last years gifts are not allowed. We don't want to see the 'plastic fruit' again!

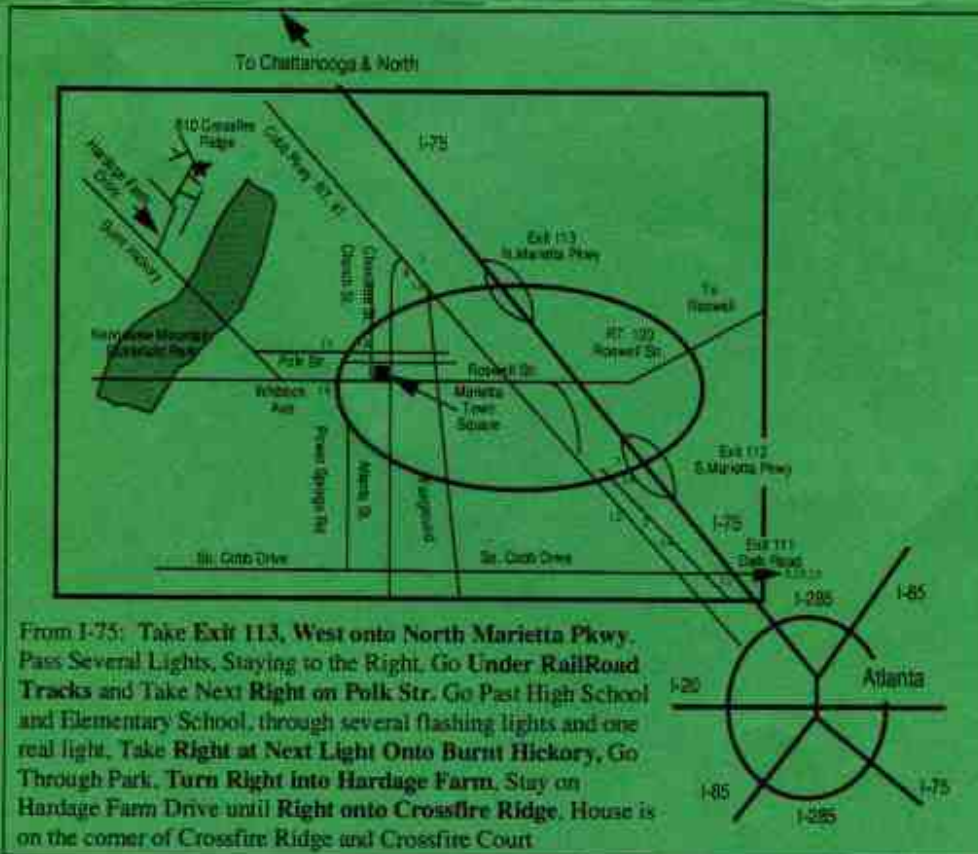
We have arranged for 'Shillings on the Square,' a very nice restaurant on the Historic Marietta Town Square, to provide us with a private **Sunday Brunch, at 9:30 AM, Sunday Morning.** Several

brunch selections are available, all reasonably priced at \$5-\$10.

Please RSVP both the Christmas Party and the Sunday Brunch. If there are any questions or any special arrangements need to be provided, please contact Mark or Andrea at work at (770) 698-5222 or at home at (770) 590-0072.

Additionally Saturday/Sunday December 7/8 is the 10th Annual Marietta Pilgrimage Christmas Home Tour. This year's tour features six warm and inviting historic homes dating from the nineteenth century located in the Whitlock Avenue Historic District. Each home is lovingly restored and filled with antique collections and Christmas Charm.

Tours are available 10AM-5:30PM on Saturday and 10AM-6PM on Sunday. Tickets are available through the Marietta Welcome Center & Visitors Bureau (770) 428-1465, \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door.



Marietta Accomodations

1. Best Inns of America
1255 Franklin Road, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)955-0004, 113 Rooms, \$37-\$49
2. Best Western Bon Air Motel
859 Cobb Pkwy SE, Marietta, GA 30062
(770) 427-4676, (800)528-1234, 39 Rooms,
\$55-\$66
3. Budget Inn
810 Cobb Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30062
(770)426-6629, 30 Rooms, \$32-\$40
4. Comfort Inn - Marietta
5000 Northwest Parkway, Marietta, GA
30067
(770)952-3000, (800)221-2222, 186 Rooms,
\$45-\$75
5. Courtyard by Marriott/Delk Road
2455 Delk Road, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)956-1188, (800)321-2211, 134 Rooms,
\$64-\$84
6. Fairfield Inn
2191 Northwest Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)952-9863, 130 Rooms, \$51-\$66
7. Hampton Inn Marietta
455 Franklin Road, Marietta, GA 30060
(770)425-9977, 140 Rooms, \$65+
8. Holcomb Motel
871 N. Cobb Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30062
(770)422-0169, 20 Rooms, \$32-\$45
9. Holiday Inn Northwest
2255 Delk Road, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)952-7581, 151 Rooms, 10 Suites, \$59-
\$89
10. Lamar Motel
525 N. Cobb Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30062
(770)424-1650, 24 Rooms, \$30-\$42
11. LaQuinta Inn - Marietta
642 N. Cobb Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)951-0026, (800)531-5900, 130 Rooms,
\$51-\$64
12. Mayflower Motel
642 N. Cobb Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30062
(770) 428-1501, 44 Rooms, \$30-\$35
13. Motel 6
2360 Delk Road, Marietta, GA 30067
(770) 952-8161, 332 Rooms, \$30-\$37
14. Ramada Limited
610 Franklin Road, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)919-7878, 58 Rooms
15. Scottish Inn Northwest
2390 Delk Road, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)952-3365, 150 Rooms, \$30-\$40
16. Sheraton Inn Atlanta Northwest
1775 Parkway Place, Marietta, GA 30067
(770)428-4400 (800)800-5798, 219 Rooms,
5 Suites, \$59-\$109
17. Sixty Polk Street Inn **
60 Polk Street, Marietta, GA 30060
(770)419-0101, (800)497-2075, 3 Rooms, 1
Suite, \$75-\$200
18. The Stanley House **
236 Church Street, Marietta, GA 30060
(770)426-1881, 5 Rooms, \$75-\$200
19. The Whitlock Inn **
57 Whitlock Ave, Marietta, GA 30064
(770)428-1495, 5 Rooms, \$75-\$85