

**OCTOBER  
2014**

# EXHAUST NOTES



## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

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Happy Fall Y'all!

It's hard to believe another summer has come and gone. While many regions of the country are winding down the driving season, we find ourselves just cranking up. Although many of us drive our beloved cars year round, it isn't until September or October that we can drive most anytime without worrying about air temperature, engine temperature and oil pressure.

The calendars of local/regional car clubs are evidence of this as well. September saw club members participating in the vintage races at TWS and the All British Car Days in Round Rock. This month holds some notable events too - the Jaguar Club holds their annual car show this month as does the MG Club. Our fellow club members have indicated participation at both events.

Falling temperatures usually mean that working in the garage is again tolerable. Whether its routine maintenance like changing fluids and filters or something a little more adventurous like replacing portions of the front suspension (note - I may attempt this later this year and am always looking for moral support), cool(er) weather tends to foster dedication to wrench turning that is absent during the summer (unless of course your workspace is climate controlled).

In last month's newsletter, Terry (and others) listed a tentative plan for Club events leading up to and including Round-Up in April (a little more than 6 months away). Hopefully, we can increase participation in these events (note- there are many of you that I haven't had the pleasure of meeting yet) to add to the fun of driving (cont pg 2)

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(and maintaining) our cars.

That said, we would like to hear your suggestions for club functions - driving events, tech sessions, work sessions, whatever - please feel free to propose an event. I recognize free time is an extremely valuable commodity; however, I can't help but think it's better spend in a Healey! I look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming events, I'll be the guy in the Sprite...

Happy Healeying,  
Nathan (sitting in for Terry)



Our next meeting is on **Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of October,**  
**9:00am,** at the Canopy Restaurant:

3939 Montrose Blvd. Suite C

Houston, TX 77006

Phone: 713-528-6848

[www.canopyhouston.com](http://www.canopyhouston.com)

## October Tool of the Month

By Mike McPhail

Last month I went on and on about how a fellow could purchase a brand new distributor and retire that old worn out dizzy. It looks like the same scenario applies to the original equipment carburetors. Now don't get me wrong, I have always been a staunch supporter of OE carbs. It's my opinion that a properly rebuilt SU or Stromberg can be expected to give many years of trouble free service; however, a few of my conceptions have changed over time. I was of the belief that just hanging bigger carbs on an otherwise unmodified engine was tantamount to spitting in the wind. As of late I've had the opportunity to do some tuning on cars fitted with triple Strombergs, down draft & side draft Webers. In every case, the modifications have provided a noticeable increase in performance. Not only are acceleration and fuel economy improved, but often times the engine starts more easily, warms up more quickly, stops dieseling and idles more smoothly. Also, some of these conversion kits cost no more than a professional rebuild.



Adding a third Stromberg CD175 to your Triumph TR250/TR6 is a very popular option. [www.goodparts.com](http://www.goodparts.com) sells a really slick kit that accomplishes this nicely. The manifolds and linkages are first-rate and you can even order an optional cold air box. If you don't use three like-new carburetors with this arrangement, you'll be short changing yourself. When done properly, this is really the hot setup. Price wise, I'd say Richard Good's conversion falls somewhere between the two Weber solutions. The twin Weber down draft kit for the six-cylinder TR utilizes the original intake manifold and most of the throttle linkage. I have found the installation to be very straight forward and a car equipped with this setup is transformed to the point where the driver might think the engine was made in Japan. The only drawback to this upgrade is that it gives the engine compartment a somewhat cheesy look as the Webers and their budget air cleaners seem to look out of place. The triple Weber DCOE side draft arrangement barely seems to fit under the hood and is probably most well suited for competition work. I'll have to admit that on an Austin Healey 3000 or Triumph TR6 those three big Webers with their six integral velocity stacks are mighty impressive!

Four cylinder engines have similar Weber options. Anybody with a late model MGB, Midget, or Spitfire probably agrees with the conventional wisdom that the single Stromberg is not going to cut it. A brand new two barrel Weber down draft conversion for these *(continued)*

## October Tool of the Month *(continued)*

models can be had for not much over \$300, including the air cleaner and intake manifold. You can get this carb with a manual or automatic choke, but, of course, the choice is obvious. All Webers feature an accelerator pump and fixed jets, so all you can adjust with a screwdriver is the idle speed & mixture. Other adjustments require purchasing replacement parts. You would expect that the people designing and selling these things have installed the proper jetting, etc. and that you would never have to fool with it. In reality, no two engines have the same requirements, and my experience is that most of them will have the car running somewhat lean, so therefore a swap to bigger jets might be in order.

Side draft DCOE Webers are available for a little more money, and that race-car look is worth every penny of it. I have tried four different carburetors on my Sprite, and the 45DCOE is definitely King. They really sound off when you step on it! You can even get dual DCOE kit for the Spitfire and I don't think that you have to have a race engine to make good use of it. You will find a complete assortment of Weber conversion kits for LBCs at

[www.piercemanifolds.com](http://www.piercemanifolds.com).

The prices range from \$315.95 for an MGB 32/36 DGV down draft to \$1840.85 for triple 45DCOE for the Big Healey.



I guess a fellow trying to knock the Weber conversions might say that it's too easy to flood the engine or that there's nowhere in most cases to connect your vacuum hoses. Non-vacuum distributors with mechanical advance are designed to make up the difference, and are available brand new, for peanuts. Flooding shouldn't be a problem as long as you remember that Webers have an accelerator pump and that you should be careful working the gas pedal before starting the car. Sure, you'll have to get rid of all of that anti-smog plumbing, and you may be in want of a manifold vacuum connection. In a pinch, the aluminum intake manifold can be drilled and tapped for a vacuum connection. All Webers are very well designed and built, and are somewhat more sophisticated than their British counterparts. I think the main reason to keep what you have, is that we know the original stuff can be made to work well with little effort, and that some of us actually enjoy the idiosyncrasies of the British carburetor!

## Reader Submissions

Peter Szekeres submitted this video of John's car:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XjX5cNnsEsQ>

*(Click the link or paste into browser for youtube video)*

All British Car Show—October 25th

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# 2014 Registration is Open

## Online and Mail In Registration is Open

The **24th Texas All British Car Days** will be held **Friday, Saturday and Sunday September 26 through September 28, 2014.**

TXABCD is the largest gathering of British cars in Texas and a great place to see the cars you grew up with like Triumph, MG and Mini and to see exotic British cars you may never have a chance to see again like limited edition Jaguar, Aston Martin, Rolls, Bentley and Morgan.

### Online Registration

You can register online and pay using PayPal or a credit card **until noon on Sept 25** by clicking the following link:

[Online Registration](#)

### Mail In Registration

Mail in registration **must be postmarked by Sept 20.** A PDF that you can download, complete and mail in with a check is available here:

[Registration](#)

Both of the above registration links are also available on the Registration page our web site at [www.txabcd.org](http://www.txabcd.org).

## Register Early!

Please register early so you have the best chance of getting the shirt in the sizes you want and that you are assured of getting your dinner tickets.

**Register by Sept 15 to guarantee your shirt size is available.** Henleys will only be available pre-order!

**New this year: Help us select your class.**

The online registration form allows you to tell us which class you think your car belongs in. A detailed description of the classes can be displayed by clicking the link on the left of the registration page or by clicking [here](#).

The final selection of class for all cars will be made by the organizers of TXABCD.

## Hotel Reservations

Homewood Suites is offering us a discount. **You must make your reservation by Aug 29 to take advantage of it!** Make an online reservation by clicking [here](#).

## More Information

Car classes, show field layout, a schedule of events and more are available by clicking [here](#).

Please email me at [info@txabcd.org](mailto:info@txabcd.org) if you have any questions at all.

Thanks!

Jim Icenhower

p.s. There is more information including a detailed schedule, hotel information and pictures from years past at our web site: [www.txabcd.org](http://www.txabcd.org).

# Texas All British Car Days—September 27 & 28



2014 TEXAS ALL BRITISH CAR DAY



## EARLY REGISTRATION FORM

Fun Rallye & BBQ Dinner *Catered by Bill Pike*  
 At Sheet's Longhorn Ranch on Saturday, September 27  
 Rallye free to registrants/Dinner requires prepaid ticket  
 Dinner \$15 now /20 day of Rallye

Please join us in the fun!

Attending RALLYE YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_ DINNER YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

NAME:	_____		
ADDRESS:	_____	City/St/Zip	_____
PHONE:	_____	E-MAIL	_____
<small>(E-mail is for TXABCD notification &amp; use only)</small>			
MARQUE	_____	MODEL	_____
COLOR	_____	CLUB AFFILIATION	_____

**MUST BE POSTMARKED BY SEPTEMBER 20th**

Is your car a replica Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
**EARLY REGISTRATION FEE: 1st car \$25/2nd \$20 \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Rallye Dinner (Sat) \$15 ea QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Event T-Shirts \$ 15.00/XXL \$20

**FRONT Design** Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**FRONT Design** Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BACK Design** Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**BACK Design** Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Event Henley Shirts (button V-neck) \$25/ XXL \$30

**Back Design** Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Back Design** Size \_\_\_\_\_ QTY \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:**  
 Texas All British Car Days

**Send registration to:**  
 TXABCD 2014  
 C/O Barbara Kramer  
 8006 Bernard Street  
 Volente, TX 78641

**Host Hotel:**  
 Car Show Rate \$109/\$129  
 Homewood Suites  
 2201 South Mays  
 Round Rock, TX 78664  
 512-271-2750  
 \*Special rate ends Aug. 30th

**Waiver of Liability**

I understand my passenger(s) and I are participating in the 2014 All British Car Day at our own risk, and agree not to hold the event Organizers, its members and/or the property owners (City of Round Rock) liable for any and all damages or injuries that may occur while participating in, traveling to/from, or in any way related to this event. I understand that the Organizers cannot be responsible for the action of others and insist on care and caution throughout the event. Neither the organizers nor anyone else except me has insurance protecting me or my guests during the activities in this event.

Signature (1) : \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (2) : \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Car No

For TXABCD use - Please do not fill in.

# 2014 Club Calendar

Subject to Change

## **October 2014**

October 11— GCHC monthly breakfast meeting— Canopy's Restaurant @ 9:00am

October 25—Houston British Motor Expo—Fountains on the Lake, Stafford, Tx ([www.housontmgcc.com](http://www.housontmgcc.com))

## **November 2014**

November 8— GCHC monthly breakfast meeting— Canopy's Restaurant @ 9:00am

## **December 2014**

December 13— GCHC monthly breakfast meeting— Canopy's Restaurant @ 9:00am

Holiday Party—TBD



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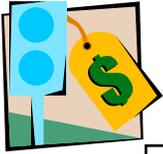


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**NEXT MEETING:**  
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ 9:00AM**  
**CANOPY'S RESTAURANT**  
**3939 MONTROSE BLVD., SUITE C**  
**HOUSTON, TX 77006**  
**713-528-6848**  
**WWW.CANOPYHOUSTON.COM**

