



The British Connection

Message from the ABCC Club President



1959 Jaguar XK150, owned by Jere and Bonita Dotten. Photo taken at recent club breakfast.

As I write this, we are under a Tornado Watch in Volusia County. What fun! I guess March is sure leaving like a lion, as the old adage goes. I hope you endured the weather, and have taken advantage of the lack of rain earlier this month to drive your little British car. I know I have.

Ron and Mary Ellen Watz took a drive in their TR3A to the Mount Dora car show. They were accompanied by Ken and Deanna DeLeeuw in their MGB GT V-6, and Ken was kind enough to write up an article for us about the show. Somebody won a trophy, but you will have to read the article further in the newsletter to find out who it was...



AWESOME APRIL ACTIVITIES

1. Meade Gardens

Hopefully, by the time you read this, you will have already registered for and attended the Meade Gardens British Car Show (Winter Park) on Saturday, April 2. This is always one of "The" events of the year for British cars, and I am looking forward to hearing about the show, and seeing the photos you send me. This event is sponsored by the All British Car Club of Central Florida, and you can get more information by visiting

<http://www.allbritishcarclub.com/carshow.htm>

2. Lunch Bunch

This month's gathering will be at the Holiday House on Woodland Boulevard in Deland. Plan on eating at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6. I hear the food is excellent there. Please contact Bob Storke,

rstorke@cfl.rr.com for more information.

3. MG GOF South

The setting this year will be with mermaids at Weeki Wachee Springs. Plan on dates of April 8 – 10. The sponsor this year is the Sun Coast Classic MG Club, and their web site is

<http://www.gofsouth.com/index.html> .

4. Golden Oldies Car Show

This will be our 5th British Car Show to honor our senior citizens at the Riviera Assisted Living Facility in Holly Hill. It will be on Saturday, April 16, 2011, from 2 to 4 p.m. This is a beautiful setting for our cars, and comments have always been very positive from both the participants and the spectators. There is no entry fee, no judging, and the presence of music, food or snacks will be available again this

CLUB OFFICERS -
Craig Colby -- President
Vice President -- Gordon Hart
Secretary -- Connie Hart
Treasurer -- Steve Bradley
Editor -- Gene Schoonmaker

**(continued from the President)**

Some of us are trading Lucas gremlins, it seems. Mark and Carol Bigelow are working on their voltage regulator and generator in their TR3A, while I am having doubts about the alternator in my MGC. Frank StAngelo discovered that one of the distributor cap hold-down clips on his car was loose, and replacing the clip solved his rough idle problems. Ed and Kathy Kufeldt need to adjust their carburetors, and Kevin Lemire had a few not-so-nice words about the freeze plug job done by a local machine shop on his MGB. Bob and Betty Storke were a welcome sight in their TR8 at the recent club breakfast, hopefully that starting issue is finally solved. Red Meyer wants to swap out the transmission in his Mini for one with a different ratio. He says he is getting tired of the high rpm's he has to run to keep up with interstate traffic. Maybe if he is a good boy, Santa will bring him a new transmission in his Christmas stocking? New member Don Cronk (welcome Don) and I recently went on a search for Castrol LMA Dot 4 brake fluid, and Don dug up some interesting facts about silicon vs. regular brake fluid. Oh, we did find the Castrol LMA fluid at 2 local auto parts stores.

I saw some Robins a few days ago, and watched them migrate north for the summer. Then I ran into Paul Suddard at the hardware store yesterday. He and his wife Ursula have migrated north to this area along with the Robins. And soon, some of our members will make their annual sojourns north in search of cooler weather. Tom and Suzanne Walters are no doubt enjoying their RV trip out West. Send us pictures, Tom.

Club membership is static at 50. Thanks to all who renewed or are first time members. 2011 dues were due by the end of March, so we are sorry to lose any faces from 2010. I sincerely hope the events we organize are what you enjoy, and as always, feel free to make suggestions for other club activities. There are about 5 different events this month for you to enjoy, read about them further in the newsletter. Your club officers are currently debating an insurance decision, as NAMGAR is making some changes in their coverage which will affect us. Stay tuned as details unfold. Need a crisp clean new ABCC ball cap? Bob Storke just ordered a dozen, and you can see his information and photo in the

classified section. You can wear yours to the Daytona Cubs British Car Show in May. I also have ABCC magnetic name badges waiting for some of you. Please see me at an event and ask for yours.

MGC ya,
Craig

(continued from the April Activities)

year. The management at Riviera can take you on a tour of the facility, plus fill you in on the history of the area from the 1920's.

5. Volusia Region Antique Automobile Club of America car show

The last Saturday of this month (April 30) at Blake Park in Lake Helen will be the last event for this month. All kinds of cars will be there. For more information and a registration form, go to <http://local.aaca.org/volusia/news/news.html>

Lunch Bunch Gets Grilled

March 2, 2011

Our Lunch Bunch dined at the Tomoka River Grill in March. As we turned into the parking lot, we were eyed by a policeman operating a radar trap, but no ticket, whew! It was Bike Week, and I guess the ticket business on U.S. 1 was booming. Lunch was good, and we didn't freeze this year like we did a couple of years ago. Braving the motorcycle traffic were Mike and Gene Schoonmaker in their Spitfire, Vic Hall in his red Jaguar, Jan Radigan, Steve and Debi Bradley, Charlie and Linde Richardson, Bob and Betty Storke, Richard Heckathorn and Joyce, and the Colbys in their trusty MGC.



Hungry patrons wait for their food on the Tomoka River.



Mount Dora Car Show

March 18-20

By Ken DeLeeuw

We had a blast!!! Ron Watz received a 1st place trophy. There were about 15 British Cars there. We made contact with a doctor from Daytona you may know who has a 63 Austin Healey. Ron gave him your contact info and he wants to join up. I didn't have a camera, so no pictures.

The drive over was really nice - the back roads Ron had us on were great for driving and they had some shade as well. We arrived in Mt. Dora very quickly. The only thing that happened was the Motel we booked in was a DUMP!! My fault, I found it. Thanks to Ron and my wife Deanna they got us out of there without having to pay! Ron found us new lodging for the same price, that was 100 times better than the E***o Lodge.

We met up with some of my old Club members, and being that they are Triumph owners, Ron and Mary Ellen fit right in. You would have thought we knew each other for years, everyone really hit it off well. We were treated on Friday night to a tour of Cindy and Jack Voller's home. They have a 1962 4 door Jaguar, which Cindy has had in her family since new. They are very much into antiques, and the house and grounds were like a step back into time. The back yard is made to look like an old Gas Station with pump and building. The garage, Jacks "Man Cave," was my favorite!! What a cool set up. With another classic 71 GTO, and a boat right out of the early 60's that runs.

The Show on Saturday was also a great time. Walking around the small town of Mt. Dora was also like going back into a time when things were so much simpler. Ron's TR-3 won a 1st place trophy. What a great little car. I had commented a couple of times how impressed I was with the way that car drove. Saturday after the Show my old Club members (Gold Coast British Sports Car Club) had a cookout Deanna and I attended.

Sunday the day began with a drive around the back roads of Mt Dora. We were joined by the Miata Club of Orlando, who made up the majority of cars. A few Detroit iron classics were also in attendance. We then drove back to the host Inn, where we had our own private room for lunch. We

were given medals for the drive as we arrived in the parking lot of the Inn. After Lunch we said our good byes, and each headed off to home. Deanna and I traveled back to Boynton Beach, since she had to go to work on Monday.

After visiting Mt. Dora, we all talked about a return trip. We found some other things to do that sounded like fun. Mt Dora has a Sunset Cruise that looks to be a good time. If any interest from the Club to go over for a night, I could arrange a Saturday picnic meet and greet with the Gold Coast Club, and the sunset cruise in the evening, and Sunday we could take a drive around Mt Dora and surrounding areas and maybe find some unique place to have lunch before we head back home. The drive time to Mt Dora was only about an hour and a half.

(Ken and Deanna drove their 1970 MGB GT, which has been modified to a V-6. Thanks for taking time to write the article for our members.)

Nobody Got Burned at the Club Breakfast

Saturday, March 19

We had a great turn out for our breakfast at the Old Spanish Mill Restaurant inside DeLeon Springs State Park. If you have never been to this place, the food is cooked just the way you like it. That's because you do the cooking, right in the middle of your table. You order what you want, it comes ready to cook on the built-in griddle, and if you burn something, the only chef you can blame is yourself. 22 members (and 8 little British cars) gained free entrance into the park, as Treasurer Steve picked up the entrance fee at the club's expense. Then, just because we were so grateful, Steve won the free breakfast raffle. Now Steve wishes he had ordered more, but that is the luck of the draw. Steve had shined and polished and cleaned up his MGA to an award-winning appearance, maybe that brought him the luck? Enjoying their breakfasts were Steve and Debi Bradley who drove their 1960 MGA, Jere and Bonita Dotten came in their 1959 Jaguar XK150, B.A. Walters showed up in her 1952 MG TD, Allan and Lois Wright attended with their 1973 TR6, Doug and Linda Rothwell toured in their 1974 MGB, Bob and Betty Storke coaxed their 1980 TR8, Burt and Celia Martin cruised in their 1975 MGB, and Vic Hall drove his Jaguar. Also included were Herb James and his brother-in-law, Richard Heckathorn and Joyce Moser-Thomas, Tommy Suddard, Jan Radigan, and Gordon and Connie Hart. Thanks to Gordon for handling the host duties, as I was home caring for our Ruby.



British cars lined up at DeLeon Springs State Park.

British Cruisers Didn't Cruise
Saturday, March 26

We had scheduled a cruise up to St. Augustine to go to the King's Head Pub just north of the city. Unfortunately, everyone's agenda was full for that date, so the event was cancelled. If you would like to do this some other time, please let me know, and we can set it up.

TIP OF THE MONTH

Drilling Holes In Our LBC Bodies

“Drilling holes in pristine bodies for attachment of fittings, press studs, chrome strip buttons, badges etc can be daunting. How can you stop the drill bit from slipping and ruining your paintwork?”

I fashioned a guide from a piece of thin (1/16" or 1.5-2 mm) aluminum sheet about 17mm x 150mm, with a 30 degree bend halfway along. Then I drilled a variety of standard hole sizes or groups of holes in 1 flat section. Then I stuck on some self adhesive closed cell foam to the underside of the drilled flat section about 3mm (1/8") thick with suitable punched holes to align with the drilled holes.

Then all you need to do is select the drill bit size, and holding the non drilled section, position it where you

want the hole press it against the body, and drill the hole. The foam prevents it from slipping, and prevents any damage from the drill hitting the plate. Easily copes with curved surfaces.”

This slightly edited Tech Tip is from John Minchin

Recipe of the Month

Walnut Chicken Salad

(No one sent me a recipe for this month, so I raided Ruby's hard drive for this one. You will like it. p.s. If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share with our members, please send it to Gene or Craig.)

- 1 ¾ cups finely chopped cooked chicken
- 1 cup finely chopped walnuts
- cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 1 celery rib, finely chopped
- 1 small onion finely chopped or green onion
- 1 tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. Garlic Powder
- assorted crackers

In bowl, combine the chicken, walnuts, mayonnaise, celery, onion, salt and garlic powder. Serve w/ crackers or a sandwich filling.

Romana Colby

Thank you Ruby!

YOUR MONTHLY MEMO FROM MURPHY

#6. The first wrench you grab for a project will be the wrong size.

#23. After changing a flat, you will forget to tighten all the lug nuts completely.





Dear Cranky,

Recently my friend Cleve and I were driving my MGB back to Orange City from Canal Point. We were just north of Okeechobee when the red machine went nuts on us, stopped dead in its tracks. My question is, how big of a rope do we need to pull it the rest of the way home and should one of us be in the car?

Respectfully yours,

Mr. Sam Garfinkle.

Dear Sam and Cleve;

You two morons are truly a dangerous duo on the Florida roads. You should leave your stupid rope trick to Houdini. But, if you are dead set and I mean dead set on wiping out the nose of your car and the rear of your tow vehicle, that rope plan is a great way of doing it. I should not waste my time on helping you jerks, but I'm all for protecting the lives of others when your dumb rope snaps. Here are some safe ways to move your broken "B" from point A.

1. If you are a member, or if you know a member, of "AAA" they will tow it at no charge.
2. If you belong to a car club, a fellow member just might loan you their trailer.
3. Rent a tow bar from U-Haul.
4. Buy a dolly, they are cheap.
5. Hire a tow-truck, one with a slide off type bed.

If these things don't work, just leave me alone, you itinerant pea brain.

Your pal, "Cranky"

ABCC RECOMMENDED WEB SITES

Our club's web site:

<http://www.volusiabritishcars.com/>

For the MGA (our club's godfather):

<http://www.namgar.com/>

For the MGB and Midget:

<http://www.mgclub.org/index.htm>

also <http://www.mgcars.org.uk/namgbr/>

For the MGC: <http://www.mgcars.org.uk/amgcr/>

For the Triumph Spitfire, GT6, Herald, Sports 6, and other small Triumphs:

<http://www.triumphspitfire.com/>

also <http://www.gatriumph.com/>

For the ABCC of Central Florida:

<http://www.allbritishcarclub.com/>

For the MG Car Club Florida (Brevard County):

<http://www.mgcarclubflorida.org/>

For the MG Classics of Jacksonville:

<http://www.mgclassics.org/mgclassics/Home/tabid/36/Default.aspx>

For a worldwide forum about MGs:

<http://www.mgcars.org.uk/>

I continue to be helped by the members of this MG forum:

<http://www.mgexperience.net/>

One of our members publishes the Grassroots MotorSports magazine

<http://grassrootsmotorsports.com/>

and Classic MotorSports magazine.

<http://classicmotorsports.net/>

Hey Members! Listen up!"

Beginning this month, only paid up members are receiving this ABCC Newsletter.

If you know a former member who has not paid their dues, and you think they might like to receive the newsletter and stay informed about what your club is doing - suggest to them that they can pay their dues and continue to receive the newsletters.

Thank you - Gene Schoonmaker - Editor



ABCC Newsletter Upcoming Events
for April, 2011

April 2, Saturday Car Show
Meade Gardens in Winter Park

April 6, Wednesday Lunch Bunch
Holiday House, Deland Contact Bob Storke
1 p.m. www.storke@cfl.rr.com

April 9, Saturday Car Show
MG GOF, Weeki Wachee

April 16, Saturday Golden Oldies
Our Club's Car Show for senior residents at
Riviera Assisted Living Facility in Holly Hill
2 - 4 p.m.

April 30, Saturday Car Show
.A.C.A. Volusia Region, Blake Park, Lake Helen

May Events

May 2, Monday Ticket Deadline
Cubs British Car Show and baseball game

May 4, Wednesday Lunch Bunch
1 p.m. location to be determined

May 7, Saturday Car Show
Big Al's Art of the Automobile,
11 a.m.-8 p.m. Downtown Daytona Beach

May 14, Saturday Car Show
Daytona Cubs British Car Show
5:30 p.m. See emails from Craig

May 28, Saturday Club Picnic
11 a.m. Washington Oaks State Park and Rocks

NEED PARTS?

Eric Salvioli may have just what you are
looking for. Contact Eric at (386) 290-7214
or esalvioli@bellsouth.net



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JUST RECEIVED!

A new supply of ABCC ball caps. Tired of
that old dirty cap? Now is the time to replace
it with a new and improved ball cap. It has a
Velcro type fastener in the back. Contact me
at rstorke@cfl.rr.com to reserve you cap. Still
\$10.00!

