



The British Connection



Mike and Gene Schoonmaker were in Hutong Village, Beijing, China this past February. They saw this car parked on one of the back streets. Will we ever see it happen?

Message from the ABCC Club President

Hot Hot Hot. Welcome to August in Florida. I thought our house air conditioner was going to spin itself off the ground yesterday because it ran so much. But hey, look on the bright side: the wildfires are extinguished, and there are no hurricanes...yet. Whatcha been doing with your little British car? Mark Bigelow has chased away the Lucas gremlins on his Triumph TR3A, only to discover the gremlins immigrated into his brake system. Steve Bradley has his re-sleeved brake master cylinder back, and states he may actually install it in the next 12 months or so.



Continuing Summer Fun

ABCC Previous Event Report - August, 2011

Lunch Bunch

The lunch for July was feted at The Dish in Ormond Beach. They set aside a special table for us, and server Sarah did a great job keeping us informed of all the menu items, and bringing our food on time. In attendance were Bob Storke, Connie and Gordon Hart, Wayne and Doris Deswert, Paul and Ursula Suddard, Richard Heckathorn and Joyce Thomas, Mike and Gene Schoonmaker, and Ruby Colby brought her driver Craig along. Parking was better than expected, and I saw a Spitfire and an MGB GT tucked in safely among the other cars.

Elusive Grape Social

July 23 was the date and Deland was the destination. Members relaxed in the cool comfort of air conditioning, while enjoying a plethora of food, beverages and conversations. The club purchased a bottle of wine for sharing with members. John MacConnell brought some great spicy sausages that I couldn't stop eating. Luke Coderre baked some drop-dead maple syrup brownies that Steve Bradley couldn't stop eating. Luke also stopped by Publix for a sandwich platter and another place for a Belini. Our Ruby baked a fresh Georgia peach pie for the group also. So there was no shortage of eats. Ruby Colby took home the raffle prize of a bottle of wine, and everyone else took home the

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Editor - Gene Schoonmaker - geneschoon@cfl.rr.com



(Continued “Message from the President”)

John Lister reports he bravely drove his MGB in this weather, and it gave him no problems. But he says he can't get the hood (top) up, so that will have to go on his October honey dew list. I'm optimistically over halfway done reinstalling Ruby's MGC GT re-sleeved brake master cylinder, and hope to finish it this week-end during the cooler hours. Gary and Sylvia Thomas are still having bad luck on Saturdays, as Sylvia recently discovered during our recent Elusive Grape event. I saw Tim Suddard on the TV show “Car Crazy” last week. Tim was being interviewed in conjunction with the *Art of the Automobile* car show held this past May in downtown Daytona Beach. John MacConnell told me the wiring harness on his MGA burned up, and will have to be replaced. John, get in touch with Kevin Lemire about replacing that harness, as Kevin did his MGB about a year ago and can provide some valuable experience tips to you. Remember what Will Rogers said, “*Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.*”

I still have some magnetic name badges for those of you who asked for them. And I am gathering a list of names for those of you who want one. If you are in either of those two categories, please get in touch with me. Be sure to talk to Bob Storke for club paraphernalia like hats, shirts, and embroidery. You can see a sample of the club logo embroidery work done on shirts the next time you see Roy and Linda Sleeper. Thanks again to Scott Keating for the wonderful job he does on our club web page.

Do you ever see British cars around your neighborhood or talk to someone with a British car? Give them one of our club contact cards. Maybe one of us can help them get their car back on the road, or garner a new member. See me for your supply of club contact cards. Speaking of new members, welcome back John, Pam and Jay MacConnell. Treasurer Steve says that puts us over the 100+ member mark. Please remember this is YOUR club, and your officers

want to hear your suggestions and comments. Got an activity idea? Want to do a cruise somewhere? Let us know.

For our members visiting up north who are reading this, please send me some cooler weather, thanks. But keep the hurricanes away.

MGC ya, Craig

(Continued “Continued Summer Fun”)

leftovers. I didn't see a single British car in the parking lot, so we had some fun comparing excuses why no one drove their British cars: “I didn't want to move the motorcycle to take out the car” and “I don't have the master cylinder in yet,” and “The wiring needs some attention,” and “It was too hot to drive that far in our car” and my favorite “I don't know how to put the top up.” In spite of the good-natured ribbing, I think the best thing about this event was getting to know everyone better. Luke liked it so much, he is already making plans for next year. The 13 in attendance were Richard Heckathorn and Joyce Thomas, Craig and Ruby Colby, Steve and Debi Bradley, Gary and Sylvia Thomas, Luke Coderre, John and Pam MacConnell, and Gordon and Connie Hart.

(My apologies to those of you who missed the email about the date change and showed up on July 16. Deland had a car show and a Tropical Nights event on the 16th, and I was afraid the crowds would be too much for us to park and enjoy ourselves.)

At *The Dish* for the Lunch





Chatting at the *Elusive Grape*

August Lunch Bunch

This month's Lunch Bunch will dine at noon, August 3, at Café 101 on the Daytona State College campus. Please contact Bob Storke at rstorke@cfl.rr.com to make your reservation.

August Event

Watch Skydivers, then lunch afterwards in Deland

As I glance at our club activity calendar, I see that the August event is for those of you who are brave at heart. If you have never visited this place, I can promise sights you have never before seen. Come watch those astounding aerial acrobats launch themselves into their perfectly performed parachute landings at, where else?, The Perfect Spot.

I scheduled this activity to occur during whatever (hopefully) may be left of the "cool" of the morning. Then, as the inevitable stifling heat sets in, we will launch ourselves to lunch in Deland.

Date: Saturday, August 13, 2011

Starting Time: 10:00 a.m.

Starting Location: **The Perfect Spot**

1600 Flightline Boulevard phone 386-734-0088

Deland Airport (just east of Deland)

Depart for Lunch Time: 11:30 a.m., arrive noonish

Lunch Location: **The Main Street Grill**

100 East New York Avenue

Deland, FL 32724 phone - (386) 740-9535

At The Perfect Spot, park across the street. If you drive a British car, park together, and create a nice photo opportunity. Then, walk through the restaurant to the patio deck. There are tables and seats outside for viewing the landing zone a few yards away. Be sure to bring your camera, as the jump suits and parachutes are always colorful. A hat will also be a well-appreciated accessory for viewing. If you get thirsty, they sell beverages inside. And if any of you want to venture into the wild blue yonder, we promise to wave at you.

<http://www.planetdeland.com/skydive/>



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Bob Storke – August 10**
- Jan Radigan – August 15**
- Allan Wright – August 21**
- Sylvia Thomas – August 24**

Hey ABCC Members – We are always looking for information from you about something you have done to your little British Car, or just how it is that you came to find your car. Why not put pen to paper and give it a try. We all love seeing our names in lights – and that little car of yours is just waiting to be a star. Send your information to Craig or Gene – we are waiting. . .





Monthly Fun Article

News Flash: ABCC member earns his BAS (Bachelor of Automotive Science Degree) in England.

We recently heard from one of our past members, a well-known gynecologist from our area. Several years ago, he had become fed up with malpractice insurance and HMO paperwork, and was burned out. Hoping to try another career where skillful hands would be beneficial, he relocated to England to become a British car mechanic in Abingdon. He went to the local technical college, signed up for mechanic's classes, attended diligently, and learned all he could. When the time for the practical exam approached, the gynecologist prepared carefully for weeks and completed the exam with tremendous skill. When the results came back, he was surprised to find that he had obtained a score of 150%. Fearing an error, he asked the instructor if there was a mistake in the grade. The instructor said, "During the exam, you disassembled the engine perfectly, which was worth 50% of the total mark. You reassembled the engine again perfectly, which was also worth 50% of the mark." After a pause, the instructor added, "I gave you an extra 50% because you did it all through the muffler, which I've never seen done in my entire career."

Note: if we missed your Birthday or Anniversary it could be you have not informed the editor of your important dates. And you are missing out. Please send an email to . geneschoon@cfl.rr.com

BARBEQUED MEATBALLS

I raided Ruby's card file again this month. She made a batch of these meatballs for our daughter's housewarming. I think they turned out rather well.

The Meatballs:

- 3 pounds ground beef
- 1 (12 ounce) can evaporated milk
- 1 cup oatmeal
- 1 cup cracker crumbs
- 2 eggs 2 teaspoon salt ½ teaspoon pepper
- ½ cup chopped onion 2 teaspoon chili powder
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder

The Sauce:

- 2 cups catsup ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 cup brown sugar ¼ cup chopped onion

The Procedure:

To make meatballs, combine all ingredients (mixture will be soft) and shape into small balls. Place meatballs in a single layer on wax paper-lined cookie sheets; freeze until solid. Store frozen meatballs in freezer bags until ready to cook.

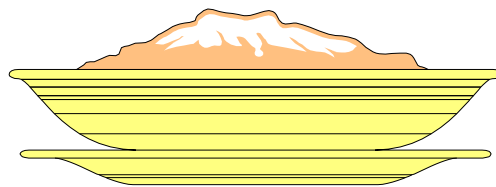
To make sauce, combine all ingredients and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Place frozen meatballs in a 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking pan; pour on the sauce.

Bake at 350° F. for one hour.

Before serving, stick toothpicks in the meatballs to make it easier to sop up the sauce and find your mouth Yield: 80 meatballs

By Ruby Colby



PLEASE SEND US YOUR RECIPES

CWCOLBY@HOTMAIL.COM - GENESCHOON@CFL.RR.COM



YOUR MONTHLY MEMO FROM MURPHY

34. On a two-lane road with a double yellow no passing line, no cars will come from the opposite direction. However, once passing is allowed, the oncoming lane will be packed.

49. When desperately searching for a parking place, one will open up just after you drive past it, and someone else will get it.

If there is a parking meter, the one you miss will have 30 minutes still left on the meter.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR AUGUST AND BEYOND

August 3, 2011
Wednesday
12:00 p.m. Lunch Bunch, 12 noon, Café 101 in the Hospitality Building on the Daytona State Campus. RSVP required. Contact Bob Storke rstorke@cfl.rr.com for additional information. Please arrive early.

August 13, 2011
Saturday
10 a.m. = watch
Noon = lunch **Club event.** Watch skydivers in the morning at the Deland Airport. Lunch afterwards at The Main Street Grill in Deland.
See article in this newsletter for details.

In the Future:

September 7, 2011
Wednesday 1 p.m. Lunch Bunch. Site not determined at this writing.

September 17, 2011
Saturday
2 - 4 p.m. **Club Event.** ABCC Salutes Our Veterans British Car Show at Emory L. Bennett Veterans' Nursing Home, Daytona Beach. Come out and show our support for these defenders of our freedom. Optional early dinner after the show at Houligan's near Destination Daytona.

September 24, 2011
Saturday
9 a.m. British Cruisers. Airboat ride out of Geneva (near Sanford). Early start while alligators are still asleep. 1 ½ hour tour, \$50 each. Lunch after the cruise at yet-to-be-determined location. Bring sunglasses & hat, camera, drinks, bug juice.

In the Far Far Future:

October 1, 2011
Saturday
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. **Club Event.** Timeless Wings and Wheels British Car Show, New Smyrna Beach Airport. Free.

October 1, 2011
Saturday
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

British Car Classic Mk XXIII, sponsored by MG Classics of Jacksonville. <http://www.mgclassics.org/mgclassics/>

October 5, 2011
Wednesday 1 p.m.

Lunch Bunch. Site not determined at this writing.

October 14 – 15, 2011
Friday & Saturday

Southeastern GOF MK XVI, Athens, Georgia
<http://semgtr.org/gof/registration.pdf>

October 21, 2011
Friday
4 p.m.

British Cruisers. Daytona Dream Cruise. Drive your little British car around a pre-determined route and get your picture taken with your car.

If you know of any other British car events going on, please let us know so we can spread the word. Thanks from your club officers.

LITTLE BRITISH CAR “TRUNKS”

One of the problems with LBC’s is that they also have “little bitty trunks” and do have flat tires, so leaving the spare at home is not a very good option. I had been thinking about finding a “mini-spare” in a junk yard and having a Spitfire four lug center welded into it... but that’s a lot of work, and so it hasn’t come up on my priority list.

When walking through Wal-Mart the other day, I went past the “trailer section” and there set a four lug trailer spare. It was rated at about the same 1,825 pounds as the Spitfire. I laid down the \$ 68.00 plus tax and took it home (you can always return stuff to Wal-Mart.)



It looked perfect!It was about four inches smaller in diameter and three inches thinner.



There was a little “adaptation”

The lug holes had to be filed in about 3/16 inch and the old spare retaining bracket bent in and down a bit. A carpeted center “disk” finished it off nicely.

It also gave my trunk lots of room



When finished...

You have about double the room, even enough for a picnic basket!

Mike Schoonmaker
1980 Spitfire



Send us some information to include in the newsletter with a picture of you and your British Car. You might be famous.

ABCC NEWSLETTER CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE:

1970 Triumph GT6+ - rare and in great condition - some mods - original paint (Signet Red) - a screamer and guaranteed to turn heads - must see and drive to appreciate - downsizing - reluctant sale - \$15,000 OBO - contact Jim McCarthy for more info - jimac49@yahoo.com or 715-456-8409.

See photo in last month's newsletter

British Car Owners and Miata Owners:

I can save you \$\$\$\$ on new Moss Motors Parts for MG, Triumph, Austin Healey, Jaguar, Mini and Miata. Just look up the parts you need in the Moss Catalog or online and note the part numbers. Give me a call and save a bundle. Large restoration project orders or small, the savings are worthwhile.

Dick Goudey
386-760-5794
727-743-9287

FOR SALE:

1968 MGC-GT - 53,000 original miles!! - rare & in great condition – BRG, manual 4 – speed, the "hot-rod" MG - 150HP - always garaged - new rear wires w/ splines - water pump replaced 10,000 miles ago - runs well - reluctant sale - need to see to appreciate - included with price MGC-GT early Sebring Replica Set - I purchased this kit back in 1996 and it's an authentic kit for the MGC - this kit has all the panels, including the wheels (fender) - the only thing that has to be done is to attach the panels to the car - no cutting etc/modification needed - \$14,500 OBO - for more info contact Jim McCarthy at jimac49@yahoo.com or 715-456-8409. See photo in last month's newsletter.

MGB Piston Set and Piston Rings For Sale

New in box. They will fit 1971 through 1979/1980 engines. Here are the particulars:

Piston rings, 4 boxes available, each box of rings is a full car set for standard bore, manufactured by Hastings, part #9526. The rings currently list for \$80.00/set. Sell for \$35.00 per set.

Pistons, one set available, manufactured by A/E, part #18802/U1. Standard bore.

Piston Set AE Hepolite Brand for MGB 1972 to 1980 Press Fit Style 8.8-1cr. Sets include pistons, rings & pins. List price \$234.00(MG parts source), www.Britanniaparts.com lists at \$319.36, Sell for \$150.00 firm.

Contact John Bellmore, owlseye@bellsouth.net, or call (407) 474-3582 (cell) to discuss availability and prices.

FRANK FREE ESTIMATES



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

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

<http://www.triumphexperience.com/> and,

<http://www.triumphspitfire.com/> and also,

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

For Jaguar: <http://www.jaguarexperience.com/>

For Austin Healey:

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

For the Austin and Morris Mini:

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

For the Morris Minor:

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

For the Land Rover:

<http://www.serieslandrover.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/>

One of our members publishes the Grassroots MotorSports magazine:

<http://grassrootsmotorsports.com/>

and Classic MotorSports magazine:

<http://classicmotorsports.net/>